

## **Barbara Beckers-Lingener**

Kuhlertstrasse 16

D-52525 Heinsberg / Germany

mail: [babs.beckers@icloud.com](mailto:babs.beckers@icloud.com)

mobile: +491719306199

Member of Clan MacKinnon Society since 2019



1970- I was born in Bonn, Germany, as the only child of a dentist and a lecturer in philosophy and German studies.

1988 Abitur at the Albert Einstein Gymnasium

1988-1991 Education in dental technology

1991-1997 Studied dentistry at the Friedrich Wilhelm University in Bonn, Germany

Since 1999, I have been a self-employed dentist in my dental clinic in Sankt Augustin, Germany, specialising in paediatric dentistry and dental hypnosis.

From 1997 onwards, Curricula with diplomas from the German Society for Dental Hypnosis DGZH, German Society for Hypnosis DGH, Milton Erickson Society for Hypnosis M.E.G., German Society for Paediatric Dentistry DGKiZ

From 2000 to now, I have been a Trainer, speaker, and supervisor for paediatric dentistry and paediatric dental hypnosis and a developer of the Concept of "RVF-Ritualised Behaviour Management."

2008-2012: I was a German Society for Dental Hypnosis board member.

2015-2023, with my husband Lothar, organisation and host of the International Congress for Hypnosis and Communication "allesGozo", Gozo/Malta.

Since 2004, in partnership and married to Dr Lothar Beckers, dentist, Heinsberg/Germany

Together, we have four children:

Jonas (32, master carpenter), Lucas (28, physiotherapist), Paulina (24, police officer), and Constantin (17, pupil at Strathallan School Scotland, Bagpiper in the Strathallan School Competition Pipe Band, British Champion 2024 in his category, second place Scottish School Pipe Band Competition, Kilmarnock. In the next Academic Year, he's elected Vice Captain of the School. He will be doing A-Levels in 2025 and wants to study economics or music/traditional music in Scotland).

We have lived in Heinsberg/Germany since 2012 and have a large dog, two cats, two Icelandic horses, five alpacas and a few chickens - depending on how many the fox gets :-)

Apart from the many short trips to Scotland, we like to spend our holidays in our little wooden summer house in the west of Iceland.

Privately, I have been travelling to Scotland and Ireland every year since I was a child and - passed on by my parents - I am enthusiastic about music and Culture, the world music and Culture in general, but most of all, the cultures of the Celtic Culture.

I dreamed of learning the bagpipes at a very young age, and I joined The Castle Pipers Wassenberg / Myhl with Constantin and Lothar in 2018.

The Castle Pipers are primarily members of the MacKinnon Society, and we proudly wear the MacKinnon Tartan. So, we also joined the MacKinnon Society as a family as soon as possible. Since then, we have been visiting the Dutch and French members of the Society around Marc André and Robert at Burns Nights, Remembrance Days, and Aubigny-Sur-Nère whenever possible.

I have been managing the social networks and the Castle Pipers homepage for several years, being the band photographer and secretary on the Board. Lothar is the first Chairman in his second term in office. In this role, we did our best to persuade the Castle Pipers to attend the MacKinnon Society meeting in Scotland 2024 as a band and provide musical accompaniment. Still, unfortunately, this failed due to the financial means of most of the band members.

In our function as Castle Pipers board members, as members of the German chapter of the Society, and because we privately picked up our Son Constantin for the summer holidays in Perth/Scotland, we had the great pleasure of spending the Festive Evening in the SkyBar in Edinburgh with the Clan MacKinnon Society, seeing our friends from the Netherlands, Belgium and France again and getting to know many new dear people and now connecting faces with the names we have known for years, as well as introducing ourselves.

I read with interest the call for applications to the Board of Directors and have allowed a few days to consider whether and how I could contribute effectively to the work of the Clan MacKinnon Society.

I realised that as a European, I would be an exotic member of the Board. But on the other hand, I know many active members in France, the Netherlands, Belgium, and, of course, Germany. We have friendly and regular contact with Robert and Marc André. The German Commissioner Thomas Goebbels is a member of our band, and I see him every week.

Thanks to my contacts in Scotland, Constantin's bagpipe teacher, Josh Fraser, is also an instructor for The Castle Pipers, as well as other teachers at the school, I can shorten and facilitate Contacts to Scotland.

My lifelong enthusiasm for Scottish Culture, especially traditional music and clan life, my decades of experience as a speaker, my ability to address large groups, my experience with the press and media, and my work organising major events mean that I can help present Clan MacKinnon Society to the outside world.

My idea is—if wanted—to create a common appearance of the active Clan MacKinnon Society F/NL/B/D as a European part of the whole Clan MacKinnon Society, thus extending the society's network even more clearly to Europe and informing and attracting more people to Scottish Culture and engagement.

Barbara Sedws-LLS