CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (Australia)

NEWSLETTER NO.42 DECEMBER 1997

MACMILLAN

CREST BADGE : *A dexter and a sinister hand brandishing a two-handed sword, proper.*
MOTTO : *Miseris succurrere disco (I learn to succour the distressed)*
GAELIC NAME : *MacGhille-Mhaolain.*

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AUSTRALIA WELCOMES CLAN CHIEF

Message from the President

We hope that all members, families and friends who came to the Gathering of the Clan MacMillan Society of Australia on the 2 November 1997 enjoyed themselves. It was a very special occasion to welcome the Chief of the Clan, George MacMillan of MacMillan and Knap and his wife, Jane.

The Gathering was held at the United Kingdom Settlers' Association in South Yarra, Victoria. The program enabled plenty of time for people to meet and talk to George and Jane and to everyone who had come to the Gathering. There were approximately 100 people present, with apologies from members who were unable to attend. Donald Macmillan, Foundation President of the Clan MacMillan Society of Australia was present, as was Russell Harrison from Sydney who is the current Australian and New Zealand representative on the Clan Centre Committee. There were a number of people from country Victoria, and the McMillan family from South Australia, who are regulars at our AGM each year, made a special trip across.

When George and Jane arrived, they were piped in by Len Tresize and accompanied by the Chief of the Council of Clans. The Clan Society made a formal presentation on behalf of the members. George suggested that each family group should introduce themselves so that others could hear who was there and so make connections with each other. This resulted in some people making connections with others from within their family tree whom they had not met before.

June Senior, who is the Society's current Treasurer and Editor, and is also a former President of the Clan MacMillan Society of Australia was presented with an award by the Chief of the Clan. June was made a *Companion of the Community of the Tonsured Servant, honoris causa* for distinguished service to the Clan MacMillan Society of Australia. The presenting of this award was a great honor for June, her husband Max and her three daughters and their families who were all present. We were all proud of June and again pass on our congratulations to her and our appreciation for the work that she has undertaken over the years, and is continuing to undertake, on behalf of us all in the Society.

The Committee, through one of the members, Myrna Robinson, organised some displays of Scottish Country Dancing by St Andrews Mordialloc, Scottish Country Dance Group and also some Highland dancing by Tracy Watson and Michelle Stokes. George and Jane enjoyed this segment and the dancing added an additional atmosphere of celebration to this very special occasion.

We were pleased to welcome many other Clan Societies:
➤ Robert Johnstone and his wife Marion, Chief of the Council of Clans, Commissioner of the Clan Johnstone
➤ Joe Mortan, President of Clan Douglas
➤ Max MacAlister, President of the Clan MacAlister
➤ Olive McLennan, Secretary of the Clan MacLennan
➤ John MacRae, President of the Clan MacRae
➤ Don Moore, Commissioner of Victoria of the MacKenzie Clan
➤ Olive Moore, Secretary of the MacKenzie Clan
➤ Robert Mair and John Cornall Reilly, President and Secretary of the Clan Mar)

- Brian Morrison and Norma Morrison, President & Secretary of the Clan Morrison
- Barbara Morrison, Secretary of the Council of Clans and also with Howard Morrison – Committee members of the Clan Morrison
- Mairi McIntosh, Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

We received formal apologies and/or greetings from the following Clan Societies:
- Dr Ian Cameron, from the Clan Cameron and High Commissioner for Lochiel in Australia, and his wife Beth
- Ian McDougall (President of the Clan McDougall) and his wife Joan who send their greetings
- Beth Bell, Clan McNicholl (also a member of the Clan MacMillan Society)
- Ronald and Lesley Robb, President and Secretary of the MacFarlane Clan
- Clan Fraser
- Don MacMillan from the Clan MacMillan Society of America

As President, I would like to express my appreciation and the appreciation of George and Jane to all those involved in the organisation of the Gathering and also to those who attended. George and Jane have written and thanked us for our gifts and also for the *great party with many memorable moments*. The Clan Society's Committee members worked hard in the preparation for the day – thanks to all Committee members. Also we were grateful to the United Kingdom Settlers' Association for the venue and their active involvement and participation.

There were some MacMillans and Sept members present at the Gathering who were not actual members of the Society, but who have now joined. As always, we are looking for new members and when the Committee discusses membership issues, we are aware that one of the main reasons why people might choose to join is to increase their access to genealogical information and contacts.

I recently opened my email to receive a message from a person in Mt Gambier who had come across my name through searching the internet. She had started at a Web site about bagpipes and moved on from there. I have returned her email message. She told me that her family came from Corpach out of Fort William. Also I was recently contacted by another McMillan who told me that her family came from County Derry. The internet is becoming a great source of information and contacts, as is email communication - enabling us to be in touch so easily across the world and so quickly. If you are connected to email, Graeme Mackenzie from the Clan Centre has sent me a list of all the email addresses that he has of Clan members around the world. The list is not long - but perhaps we can add to it for him, if you send me your email addresses. This would also enable the Society to keep a listing of email contacts for members in Australia. My address is:

libbymcm@ozemail.com.au

We will remember 1997 as a special year when George and Jane came to our gathering and when June Senior was awarded with the Companion honoris causa by the Chief of the Clan. As Christmas approaches, the Committee wishes you all a merry and safe Christmas and a happy new year.

Community of the Tonsured Servant: A Community of Honor, affiliated with the Clan MacMillan Foundation.

June Senior - COMPANION *honoris causa*– an award presented to persons who have serviced with distinction either the Scottish Heritage or Clan MacMillan.

Who was the Tonsured Servant?

The Tonsured Servant, after whom the Community of the Tonsured Servant is named, was a married Celtic monk of a Culdee monastery at Old Sprynie near Elgin in Moray, Scotland. His Gaelic Baptismal name was *Gillchrist*, in English, *Servant of Christ*. Celtic monks wore the *Tonsure of St John*, in contrast to the form known as the *Tonsure of Saint Peter* introduced to the British Isles in the seventh century by the Benedictine monks led by St Augustine of Canterbury. Gillchrist lived in later times of turbulent change, when usages of the Roman Church were being imposed upon the Scottish Church by the descendents of Queen Margaret, canonized as a saint for her loyalty to Rome. Gillchrist held to the old ways and earned for himself the nickname of *Gillamaol, the Tonsured Servant* as a consequence of his continued use of the proscribed Celtic hairstyle. He was nicknamed *Molini* in Latin, a name then Anglicized as *Millan*. His father, Cormac, the last Celtic Abbot of Dunkeld, converted to the Roman Church and was appointed as the first Catholic Bishop of Dunkeld. Gillchrist evidently refused to follow his father's example and was banished to Lochaber. There are references to him to be found in the Latin notes in the margins of an eleventh century manuscript of the *Book of Deer* now in the Cambridge University Library. Gillchrist had a son, Malcolm, first to adopt the surname *MacMillan*, or *Son of Millan*. From Gillchrist and this son, Clan MacMillan is descended. The **Community of the Tonsured Servant** seeks to honor the rich heritage bequeathed to the Clan and its members by them.

What is the MacMillan Foundation

The Clan MacMillan is a not-for-profit educational and charitable trust founded to support the Clan Centre and a Museum at Finlaystone, the Scottish estate of the Macmillan Clan Chief, and to provide funds for various charitable and educational ventures undertaken in the Spirit of the motto of the Clan and its Chief – miseris succurrere disco - (I learn to show mercy to the unfortunate). Governance of the Foundation is to be exercised by trustees and officers representative of MacMillan Clan Societies and branches around the world and elected by their membership. At present the Foundation is being administered by the Chapter of The Community of the Tonsured Servant. When the incorporation of the Chapter has been completed, it is intended that the Community of the Tonsured Servant will be a subsidiary to the Foundation, serving primarily as the fund raising and educational instrumentality for the Foundation. The Community is the fellowship of the Companions of Honor patterned after a Celtic Religious Order to which Gillchrist belonged, he being the progenitor of Clan MacMillan and the source of its name. The Foundation will be an entity established under

Russell Harrison has kindly sent me the following information for members interested in compiling their Family History. We are very appreciative of Russell's help.

CLAN MACMILLAN

From   Russell Harrison   Phone : 0011-61-2-9804-8275 Fax : 0011-61-2-9804-8276
E-Mail   lremh@matra.com.au   Mobile 0414-754087
Date   09-11-1997
Address   PO Box 50, West Ryde or 44 Glenayr Ave, West Ryde, NSW, 2114, Australia

Dear Clan Member,

PROJECT MAOL

INTRODUCTION

At the recent Clan Gathering in Melbourne I spoke about Project MAOL (Macmillan Ancestry On Line) and a number of people were interested in submitting their Family History to the Clan Macmillan Centre. The following may be helpful. For simplicity I am making this a circular letter rather than write individually, I trust you will not mind me doing so. Any opinions are mine and are not necessarily those of the Clan Centre's Trustees.

PROJECT MAOL

Project MAOL was a proposal which started a few years ago with the aim of getting all Macmillan ancestors on to the Clan's computer. Graeme McKenzie is piloting the work. At this time it probably is fair to say that most of the work to date has been preliminary work and the entry of data on clan people has only really just been started. The project "started" about five years ago, but it was only about April 1997 that the Clan Centre was able to afford a modern computer with the capability to tackle the task. The money to do this has come from Clan Member's contributions over recent years. The project will never be finished because family history is such a dynamic thing. Over time, the data collected will be invaluable in helping Clan Members compile their own family trees, and although there may need to be some monetary charge to provide this information any monies received will go towards extending the information being gathered. There is already a large number of family tree submissions by Clan Members in the Clan Centre's Library. These have accumulated over many years and will be transferred on to the computer as time allows. All work is being done on an honorary basis and eventually more helpers will be needed to assist with computer data entry. By making use of the Internet it will be possible for helpers from all around the world to progress this project much faster than Graeme is able to do in his very limited spare time. Readers should appreciate that Graeme also does many other things on an honorary basis for the Clan Centre.

GENEALOGY SOFTWARE

There has also been problems in deciding what software to use. Ideally, what is required is a readily available program for clan members internationally. Also, ideally, it should be a low cost, user friendly computer program that clan members can use on a modest computer to enter data on the known history of their family tree, and be able to print it out on whatever type of printer they might have. One feature of the program is to be able to merge data from files created by other close family members who wish to share their information, and it is also necessary to be able to split data when sending data to other family members since normally they will only be interested in family history that relates to their direct family line. A further desirable feature is to have a sophisticated index and sorting system so that a given individual can be easily found, particularly where the data on the selected person in incomplete. The ideal program ought to be able to read files created by other computer genealogy programs.

This ideal program also needs to have the capability to handle the Clan Centre's needs which are somewhat more complex. The Centre's files will (eventually) be very large as they will be the sum of all the member's files. Additionally, the Clan Centre must be able to distinguish between people who bear the same name and who, perhaps, were born in the same place at approximately the same time. Macmillan families often replicated first names not only in the next generation (child named after a father) but often repeated a first name with the next child who was born after a child had died. It is essential the Clan Centre program can read data produced by popular programs other than the program selected for it's own use.

There are a number of other software problems to be overcome for software to meet the needs of the Clan Centre. The position is that a genealogy computer program has been selected from the many available, and it is believed it is the best compromise between the likely needs of Members and the Clan Centre. The program that has been selected is known as FAMILY TREE MAKER (FTM). This program lacks some desirable features for the Clan Centre's needs but it is hoped to eventually obtain some utility programs that will do the things the program cannot do at present. It is expected that nearly all clan members will find it satisfies their needs.

ABOUT FAMILY TREE MAKER

This program is produced by Broderbund Software, Banner Blue Division, PO Box 6125, Novato, CA 94948-6123, USA. Their Technical Support Section is at Phone 0011-1-415-510-794-6850 Fax 0011-1-415-382-4419, E-Mail Broderbund.com.

The Australian agent was (and probably still is) G&V Electronics, 71 Drumalbyn Road, Bellevue Hill, NSW (PO Box 602, Woollahra, 2025). Contact was Mr. George Sherman, phone 93620043.

In Australia the program can normally be obtained retail through Harvey Norman stores at a cost of about $80 to $150 depending on which issue of the program is purchased.

There has been over the past five years at least three versions of this program commercially available. Version 1.01 followed by Version 3.4 and recently released in USA Version 4.0a which is not yet available in Australia. Earlier issues of each version had a DOS based program on floppies, alternatively there was a Windows issue or a deluxe issue which had a large data base of USA births, death, census, marriage, and other data. The latest version runs under Windows 95 and comes on two CD's. The writer imported direct from Broderbund at about $A55.00. The parcel took about a week to arrive. With the program CD's there was an excellent handbook, and there was a set of floppies which the writer found were useless without the CD's. Some of the USA information is on the CD's. Much more similar information is available in a library of about twenty CD's supplied by Broderbund at $USA 99.00 each.

The FTM program is easy to install and use. It requires at least 15 megabyte of hard-disk space and ideally needs about 16 megabyte of Ram. The data files the user creates enable photographs of people to be scanned in and voices recorded, however the files will become very large, but thee hard disk space can be limited by having a number of files for a given family tree and storing off-line those not in use. The data files can have any number of people and the writer's master file has about 8,500 people and occupies about 3.5 megabyte of space without any photo or voice information. The program enables the file to be compressed, and my data easily fits a 3.5 inch floppy in compressed format. The program will produce a variety of GEDCOM files from your own data file and these are supposed to be suitable to read into other popular genealogy programs. This feature has not yet been tested by the writer. Also, GEDCOM files from other programs can be read into FTM. Again, this has not yet been tested and if the reader is using the latest version of Personal Ancestral File (produced by the Latter Day Saints) or some other current genealogy program then I would like you to contact me so I can arrange to test this feature.

The FTM program allows splits and merges, it also enables many charts to be printed rapidly (in black or in colour if your printer can handle colours). Charts include Ancestral, Descendant, and Outline Charts with a wide variety of choice in the information they contain. As the writer uses only A4 paper some charts are limited to showing only a couple of generations, but with a plotter much larger charts could be produced. You can produce special reports and export them to programs like WORD. You can also cut and paste text from any word-processor to FTM. The FTM program will produce a booklet of your family tree complete with an index and table of contents. Its built in word-processor is not very powerful but is satisfactory. Version 4.0a will read in data from earlier versions, and although it is not backwardly compatible you can create a GEDCOM file which can be read into the earlier versions.

SUBMISSIONS TO THE CLAN CENTRE

If you wish to submit your Family History send it direct to Graeme McKenzie, at Clan Macmillan Center, Finlaystone, Langbank, PA14 6TJ, Scotland. The phone/fax number is 0011-44-1475-540713 and the E-Mail address is Macmillan_centre@compuserve.com

Paper copies of your family tree ought to be included in your mailing and if you wish to send 3.5 inch floppies of the data files from your genealogy program please ensure all disks are labelled and please prepare a written description of what files are on each disk and detail the program used to produce them with the version number.

HELP

If you want more information please contact either myself or Graeme and we shall do our best to assist you.

DONATIONS

If you wish to support the work of Project MAOL send your donations direct to the Clan Centre or to the Australian Clan Macmillan Society.

Best wishes,

Russell Harrison

appropriate legal authority to receive, invest and disburse funds in accord with a charter setting forth the purposes and limitations which are to govern the Trustees in the stewardship of assets of the Foundation.

Official Regalia of the Community of the Tonsured Servant

The Community of the Tonsured Servant is not an Order of Chivalry, but rather a company of companions patterned after the Celtic Religious Community of which Gillchrist was a member. Its regalia is therefore ecclesiastical. *The Official Regalia* consists of three elements: the Medallion, the Badge, and the red Sash. *The Medallion* is derived from the back of the monumental MacMillan Cross at Kilmory Knap. It is an equilateral cross, gold and engraved with an irregular Celtic knot design. Both men and women, alike, wear it with formal attire suspended from the neck by a one inch red ribbon or from a short red ribbon on the left breast pocket. *The Badge of Honor* is adapted from a design which incorporates a St Andrews Cross. It has rays emanating from between the arms of the cross to the four points of the Compass. The Cross is *argent (silver)* and is surmounted by a MacMillan belted crest *or (Gold), with a background of gules (red)*. The belt is inscribed with the Clan motto - *miseris succerrure disco - I learn to the show mercy to the unfortunate*. The badge is worn by men on the left breast pocket of the doublet and beneath any military or civil decorations. Ladies wear their badges at a comparable place on their gowns, or else on the sash.

The Sash of 4"(gules) ribbon is approximately 6' long depending on the height of the wearer. While most such sashes are worn over the right shoulder, and joined at the left hip, ours is placed deacon-wise over the left shoulder and joined with a rosette on the right hip. A clan crest or Celtic pin is attached to the rosette from which a gold tassle is suspended. Ladies may wear their sash over their gowns, but under a tartan sash if such is worn. Men wear their sashes at formal events under a doublet and over the shirt.

The Objects of the Community of the Tonsured Servant

> To serve Christ and our neighbours
> To learn to succor the unfortunate
> To support our Chief and our Clan
> To encourage pride in our heritage

Classes of Membership

1. COMPANIONS *ex officio*– Officers of Clan MacMillan
2. COMPANIONS *regular* – the contributors of $US500 (or $US250 for their spouses)
3. COMPANIONS *honoris causa* – persons who have serviced with distinction either the Scottish Heritage or Clan MacMillan

Dear June,

        We've just arrived home, after a most enjoyable journey round the world. We have so many people to thank for it that it would be a tremendous help if you could circulate our thanks in your newsletter, if it is not too late.

        We both enjoyed the party on 2 November enormously. The E.S.U was a very nice place to have it, and the room turned out to be just the right size for the job. The food was delicious; and we seemed to receive a constant supply of drinks of all kinds, mainly, I suspect furnished by Harry. I'm afraid I didn't manage to get talking to everybody - probably because I spent so much time with old friends. But it was nice to meet some new ones, specially from among the younger generation.

        It was especially good of the non-MacMillans to come along and pipe and dance for us - inspired, no doubt, by Myrna. I ought to have taken particulars of the dance they produced in honour of the occasion.

        I've not yet had a chance to start playing those CD's - a hugely generous present - but Iam very much looking forward to settling down to them. They'll not only be good listening in themselves, but will remind us both of a really enjoyable family occasion. Jane loves her stole too, and thanks everybody very much for it.

        It's very nice to think that there's now an Australian member of the Community of the Tonsured Servant - though I hasten to add that it's in recog- nition of past services, and brings no obligations for the future. I do feel that one thing we ought to be doing is encouraging younger kinsmen and women to establish links with others round the world who share their heritage. For our part, we welcome people here, and are delighted to act as a base for youngsters coming here for the first time.

        Please give very best wishes to Max and the rest of your family. It was very nice to see them there in such strength.

Yours ever,

From left: Russell Harrison(Sydney), Libby McMillan(President), June Senior,
        Our Clan Chief George MacMillan of MacMillan and Knap, and his wife Jane.

THANK YOU TO MEM

Our President Libby McMillan has written an excellent report on our Clan gathering on 2nd November, when we welcomed Clan Chief George and his wife Jane to Melbourne. It was a wonderfully happy occasion and members who were unable to attend will enjoy reading about the event Iam sure.
The Committee would like to thank all members who made a special donation. We presented Jane with a lovely white stole, hand knitted with Tasmanian merino wool, and to George we presented four CD's featuring Australian artists and music.
Your donations have also allowed us to give A$405.00 to the Clan Centre at Finlaystone, and this will be forwarded with our annual donation A$280.00, making a total of A$685.00 for 1997.
As well as a big thankyou to all our members for their generous donation, I would like to thank the St.Andrews(Mordialloc) Scottish Country Dance Group for their donation. I received a letter from their Secretary Margaret Folley who wrote: "Thank you for the opportunity for our Group to dance at your Clan Gathering. We enjoyed the afternoon and appreciated the friendliness shown to us by your group. After hearing of the work being done by your clan to set up a Clan Research Centre, our group would like to make a donation of $50.00 towards your Centre". Thank you to President Keith Smith, Margaret and the Dancers of the group.

SOCIETY FEES NOW DUE

As from October, subscription of $10.00 is due for 1997/1998. It would be appreciated if this amount could be forwarded to Mrs. J.Senior, Treasurer, at 41 Lincoln Ave, Glen Waverley Vic. 3150.

NEW MEMBERS

A big welcome to Mr & Mrs Raymond Bell, 17 Burke Rd, Lalor Park, Seven Hills N.S.W. Mrs Margaret Peachey, 29 Erskine Cres, Wheelers Hill Vic. 3150, and Ian McMillan, 4/18 Duke St, St. Kilda Vic. 3182. Margaret and Ian both attended our gathering and we were very happy to meet them.

CLAN NEWSLETTERS

Thank you to the Clans who send us their Newsletters. These are read with interest. May we extend Seasons Greetings to all our friends in other Clans.

COMING EVENTS
Berwick Gathering mid-February 1998
Geelong Gathering mid-March 1998
Ringwood Gathering 29 March 1998

A group of our members at the gathering enjoy time to become acquainted.

Season's Greetings