



# CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (Australia)

NEWSLETTER NO. 47 JULY 1999

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MACMILLAN

**CREST BADGE** A dexter and a sinister hand brandishing a two-edged sword, proper  
**MOTTO** Alexis succurere disces  
(I learn to succour the distressed)  
**GAELIC NAME** MacGhille-  
Mhathain

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our day at the Family History Library at Braeside was a great success. A team of volunteers, including Alex Glennie, was there to help us search the records on computer. We traced birth, marriage and death notices as well as passenger lists of ships that came to Sydney or Port Phillip in the early days. In my case I found listed 2 of the 3 family members who emigrated on the "Africa". I have since heard that someone has written an article based on the diary of a passenger on that same vessel, so perhaps I will find the missing 3rd person. It is so interesting to learn more of our background.

I am sure that many of our members would like to unravel something more of their past. We were fortunate to have such able assistance at the Library and wonder if members would like to visit again if it could be arranged. Perhaps you could let us know.

The Ringwood Highland Games took place on 28th March despite the heavy deluge of rain the night before the event and the showers of rain continued during the morning which meant that some of the Highland dancing was moved to local halls for safety reasons. However later some dancing did take place as well as games for the children and of course the formalities. The Pipers performed well and our Clan tent attracted a satisfactory level of interest - thanks to the enthusiasm of June and her husband Max.

I am looking forward to meeting many current members and some potentially new members at the A.G.M. on Sunday 24th October.

Kindest regards to all,

June Danks.

# OUR ANNUAL GATHERING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on Sunday 24th October 1999,  
at the  
English Speaking Union and the U.K.S.A. Venue,  
146 West Toorak Road, South Yarra (Melway reference 2L — D4),  
12.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

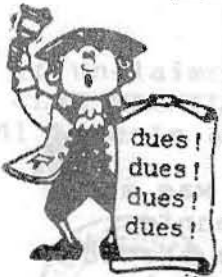
BYO lunch — Tea and Coffee will be available

Scottish family history librarian Mr Alex Glennie will speak on The Highland Clearances and members will be able to learn more on genealogy. We do hope you will join us for a relaxed social gathering.

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## FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Our long time member Beryl Pitches passed away in May. Beryl was a dearly loved cousin of mine and will be sadly missed by her family and friends.  
June Senior.



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## SOCIETY FEES

There are still some '98/'99 subscriptions outstanding. As this is the last newsletter in our financial year I will place a sticker on your newsletter if subscription has not been paid. Please send \$10 (annual sub.) to: Mrs J Senior, 41 Lincoln Av., Glen Waverley Victoria 3150.

## MACMILLAN CLAN CENTRE

I have recently received my bi-annual Clan Centre newsletter compiled by Graeme Mackenzie which is full of interest and activities from MacMillans world wide.

The exciting news is that the Clan MacMillan Centre now has a web site. I have printed the general information on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter. Those of you with access to the Internet will be delighted at all the information available. Next newsletter I will add information from the website about the Clan Centre and details of the Friends Scheme. Your donations to the Friends scheme supports the Clan Centre so it is very important. I have added a subscription form on page 5 if you would like to help in this way - more in the November newsletter.

## CORRESPONDENCE

I'm appreciative of your letters so thank you for keeping me in touch. Thank you for the items you send me for the newsletter. On pages 6 & 7 Kaye O'Reilly is seeking help with her family tree.

## CLAN NEWSLETTERS

Thank you to the Clans for their newsletters- they are read with great interest.

## COMING EVENTS

A Journey to Mississippi 1799-1999 - An International Gathering of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America August 12 -August 22nd, 1999. Clan members Myrtle and George Beitlich will be in America at this time and will visit Part 3 of the gathering. We know they will have a really fantastic time and we wish them well from all Australian Society members.

St. Andrews Day Remembrance Service at the Shrine, Melbourne, 21st November.

Daylesford Highland Gathering on Saturday December 5, Victoria Park, Daylesford.

## CLAN MACMILLAN GATHERING

The "Argyleshire Advertiser and Lochfyneside Echo" of Wednesday, December 4, 1907, says: Some interesting speeches were made at the recent gathering of the Clan MacMillan Society in the Grand Hotel, Glasgow, with a bearing on North Knapdale History.

In the course of his address the chief of the Society (Bailie MacMillan, J.P., Patrick) explained that the term "coat of arms" belonged to the period when warriors wore coats of mail, and a cylindrical helmet covered the whole face, rendering recognition all but impossible. It was then that a sign or mark was put upon the warrior's shield, and the sign or mark of arms was also sewn on the surcoat which was worn over the armour to protect it from the weather, and hence the term "coat of arms". The following was an exact copy of the arms of MacMillan of Knapdale, as registered in the office of the Lyon King at Arms, Edinburgh, in 1742:-

"Duncan MacMillan, of Dunmore, Esq., representative of the ancient family of MacMillan, of Knapdale, whose son and representative is Alexander MacMillan, of Dunmore, Esq., writer to His Majesty's Signet, bears a lyon rampant sable, armed and langued, gules, and in chief three mollets azure. Crest: a dexter and sinister hand issuing from the yorse, grasping and brandishing aloft a two handed sword proper. Motto: "Miseris succurrere disco (I learn to succour the distressed)".

Replying to the toast of "Kindred Clans," Mr Peter McDonald, of Carlton Place, Glasgow, said he was pleased to be present supporting their honored chief, as in the olden times - about the 11th or 12th century - when McDonald "Lord of the Isles" was in power the Clan MacMillan were the vassals of that once powerful chief, and fought on his side in many a battle until Lochiel got possession of both sides of Locharkaig - the birthplace of the MacMillan's. In the 11th century, the MacMillan clan were evicted from Lochaber, and the most powerful branch took up their abode in Knapdale. Here they gained great power and influence and were called "The great MacMillans of Knap". There was a large stone or rock at Knap head with MacMillan's title to Knap carved on it in Gaelic: "MacMillan's right to Knap shall be while against this rock shall wash the sea". There was an old ruin of a castle in Knapdale called Castle Sween, which at one time was a stronghold of the "Lord of the Isles". According to Skene, it had a tower known as the MacMillans' tower, which was possibly added to the building by that Clan. There was also a stone cross 12ft. high in the churchyard of Kilmory (Knap) on one side of which was a figure of a highland chief, and written underneath "Alexander MacMillan. It was easily seen that the Clan MacMillan held nearly all that countryside, and it was said they got their large possessions through their handsome, good-looking men, who were sought after by the heiresses of the district.

(The rock or stone mentioned in the above is on the farm Ballymore, where our old and respected townsman, Mr. Alexander MacMillan, of High Street, spent his boyhood days. Mr MacMillan's father lived and died on the farm, as did his ancestors. - Ed.I.C)

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Clan member Anne Archer of Lawrence, N.S.W. sent me the above article. Anne wrote: "I am enclosing a copy of a certificate my grandfather had framed. It was of great value to him and also my father!" The copy Anne sent me was not clear enough to reprint so I have typed it out exactly as set out on the certificate.

Thank you Anne for sharing this with members.  
Editor.





## Welcome to the website of the Clan MacMillan Centre at Finlaystone the home of Chief George MacMillan

From this homepage you can access separate pages  
with information on the following topics:

### The Clan

An outline of its *History*; a map of its *Historic Sites* in Scotland; a listing of the *Septs* - including a page on the *Bells* - a look at the *Symbols & Tartans* and the *Organisation Today* of Clan MacMillan

### The Chief

About Chief George MacMillan and his *Family - Past and Present*

### The Centre

Its purpose, contents, and administration; information about *Finlaystone* and where to find it; and details of the *Friends Scheme* for keeping in touch and supporting its work

### The Genealogy

A listing of 190+ M'Millan *Spellings*; the compilation of all the clan's known genealogy on computer as *Project MAOL*; and tracing your ancestors with the Clan Genealogist's *Highland Roots* service

### The News

News of the international clan's recent activities with extracts from the Clan Centre's newsletters; information about the latest *Products and Publications* from the Centre; the *Clan Calendar* of regular and special events involving MacMillans around the world, and the latest on Plans for the *Scotland 2002* International Gathering

### The Connections

Details of how to contact the Chief and the Clan Centre by phone, fax, snail-mail and email and hot-links to the websites of Clan MacMillan Societies, and other relevant sites, around the world.

CLAN MACMILLAN GATHERING

Please note that this site is still being developed, and further pages will be added from time to time. It is however primarily intended to provide basic information about The MacMillans and the Clan Centre, so your comments on its contents in that respect would be welcomed. You can email us via: ClanCentre@ClanMacMillan.org

The site has been compiled by Clan Centre Curator and Genealogist Graeme Mackenzie and while he is happy to deal with further enquiries about the clan - especially genealogical ones - please bear in mind that there are thousands of M'millans in the world, hundreds of whom are in contact with us, and many demanding attention to difficult individual queries. The Clan Centre has no full-time staff, and Graeme has no secretarial assistance, so enquiries may take a considerable time to answer.

Priority will always be given to those who have demonstrated their commitment to the work of the Centre by becoming Friends, or to the Clan by joining one of its societies; but the same constraints apply even to their enquiries.

General Enquiries: Info@ClanMacMillan.org  
Genealogical Enquiries: Genealogy@ClanMacMillan.org

Clan | Chief | Centre | Genealogy | News | Connections

**APPLICATION TO BECOME A "FRIEND OF THE CLAN MACMILLAN CENTRE"**  
Annual Membership will run from 1st January to 31st December.

SURNAME:..... FORENAME(S):.....  
NAME OF SPOUSE/PARTNER:..... DATE OF APPLICATION:.....  
ADDRESS:.....  
TOWN/CITY:..... STATE/PROVINCE:.....  
COUNTRY:..... ZIP/POSTCODE:.....  
TEL.NO:..... FAX NO:..... EMAIL ADDRESS:.....

Please ring below the amount sent. N.B. Non-Sterling subscriptions include exchange costs.

- SUB FOR THIS YEAR - AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE 30TH OF EACH YEAR - at UK £10; US \$21; CAN \$31; AUS \$35; NZ \$40
- SUB FOR THIS AND NEXT 2 YEARS - 3 YEARS AT BARGAIN RATE - UK £25; US \$50; CAN \$75; AUS \$85; NZ \$100
- SUB FOR THIS AND NEXT 9 YEARS - 10 YEAR HEDGE AGAINST INFLATION - UK £100; US \$210; CAN \$310; AUS \$350; NZ \$400

ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS SENT (Show amounts against appropriate categories):

Donation to Clan Centre Appeal Fund:.....  
Donation to Project MAOL Fund:.....  
Any others (Please specify):.....

TOTAL SUM SENT & HOW (Cash; Personal Cheque; Bank Draft: made out to Friends of Clan MacMillan).....

**CLAN MACMILLAN CENTRE, FINLAYSTONE, LANGBANK PA14 6TJ  
RENFREWSHIRE, SCOTLAND**

My McMillan Research. ( **Kaye O'Reilly nee McMillan** )



**Robert James McMillan** son of William McMillan and Mary Jane Kearns b abt. 1831 in Dundee Scotland married **Elizabeth Fitzpatrick** (b abt 1842) in Collingwood Vic. on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1858. They are next found in Kyneton where my Great grandfather **Robert James** was born abt. 1864. I have been unable to trace birth records for him or his elder siblings, **Sarah** abt. 1860 and **John** abt. 1862. From there they lived around Creswick where **William** was born in 1866 he died the same year. There next son **William** (McMillen) was born in 1868 followed by **Thomas** 1869 and **Ann** (McMullan/Betsy Fitzpatrick) in 1870. **Elizabeth** b 1873 died the same year. **Andray** was their next child born on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1874 in Bungaree Vic. Andray is never heard of again. There was then another **Elizabeth** b apx 1878. Robert was more often known as James and also as John. He and His wife Elizabeth are buried in the Creswick Cemetery. Robert James McMillan died 31 January 1885 in Clarkes Hill, Bungaree Victoria and Elizabeth died apparently on the 22 October 1909 according to the MI.

**Robert James McMillan** b 1864 married **Bridget Guthrie** at the Parsonage of St James and St Marth's in Ballarat on the 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1885. Bridget was the daughter of Patrick Guthrie and Mary Tierney. This couple had 13 children mostly born in Dean although Thomas lists his own birth place as Clark's Hill.

**Robert James** 1886 Bungaree, **Mary** b. d. 1887, **Thomas** 1888, **Marie Jane** (Mamie) 1890, **William** 1891, **Mathew John**, 1894, **Helen** (Nellie) 1896, **John Patrick** 1898 d 1910 residence Bullarook, **Stephen** Gpa. 1900, **Elizabeth** 1903, **Patrick** (Pi) 1904, **Bridget Ann** (Annie) 1907, Bungaree and **Joseph Michael** born in Garfield 1911.

Robert was a Carter at the time of his marriage and later a farmer.

Robert moved the family from the Dean area to Cora-Lyn where he worked on the drains in the Koo-Wee-Rup swamp. Many of his children stayed in this area and their descendants are still there today. Both Robert and Bridget are buried in the Bunyip Cemetery.

**Stephen McMillan** b 1900 married **Sophie Joyce Baxter** in Malvern 1922. He farmed around the Bunyip area where his 5 boys were born. **Terance James** b 1924.

**Brian** b 1925. **Cheyne** b 1931. **Barry** b 1936 and **Wayne Peter** born in Koo-Wee-Rup 1944. Sophie later moved to Frankston with Pete while Steve worked in NSW at Yama Station for about 10 years. Terry, Barry and Pete all lived around Frankston with their families while Brian and Cheyne moved to the Moe area where work was to be had at the Yallourn mine. Stephen and Sophie are buried in the Frankston Cemetery.

**Brian McMillan** b 1925 married **June Mary Fitzgerald** in Iona 1948. They had 4 of their children while living in Bunyip, **Carol** b 1949. **Gary** b 1950. **Kaye** b 1951 and **Graham** b 1954. Their youngest child **Timothy** was born after their move to Moe in the Yallourn Hospital in 1967. Brian died after a long battle with Leukemia in 1986. He is buried in Yarragon Cemetery.

Continued Page 7



**Descendants of Brian and June McMillan**

- Carol** married **Kevin Ainsworth** and they have 4 children. Three of whom are married with 5 children between them. All live between Morwell and Traralgon.
- Gary** has married twice and has two children one of whom has a child. He lives in Hastings.
- Kaye** married **Thomas O'Reilly** and they have 3 children and one grandchild. All live in Churchill except their daughter Mandy and her family who are currently in Puckapunyal soon to be in Darwin.
- Graham** and his partner have 3 children and live in Boolarra.
- Timothy** is single and lives with Kaye and Tom in Churchill.

This is a short version of my family to date. Due to the high number of Robert James McMillan's I haven't as yet found the ship he came to Australia on. My best bet is the Conway in September 1858 under John McMillan, My Robert James buried in Bunyip is listed as son of John.

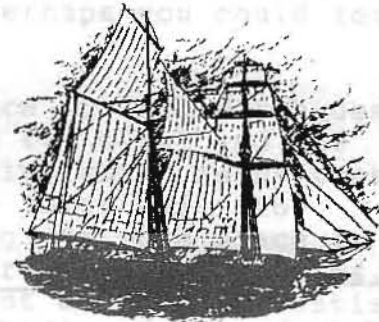
I am at present trying to track down what became of Great Great Grandmother Elizabeth. Without a death reg. I can't find her birth date or place. I applied for it using the MI and NO RECORD FOUND.

From shire of Creswick rate books I have an Elizabeth McMillan on land at Dean 1889-1893. In 1895 I have an Elizabeth McMillan Dairy keeper, herself owner in a Tenement at Spring Hill. Oscar McMillan was living next door, as far as I know he is not related to us. Elizabeth's death date also matches with the time Robert2 moved his family to Cora-Lyn.

I haven't found any birth records in Dundee Scotland for William Mc and Mary Jane Kearns. Or any records for William McMillan / Mary Jane Kearns. All my records are for Victoria. I haven't found any in other states

If you have any information on any of the names listed or believe we may have a family match up please get in touch with me.

Kaye O'Reilly nee McMillan  
 28 Dunbar Grove  
 CHURCHILL 3842  
 Victoria  
 Phone: 03 5122 1282  
 Email: oretk@i-o.net.au



Some Scottish humour for which we thank member Jean McMillan:

An Englishman, Irishman and Scotsman were each left £5000 by a rich man on condition that after his death they would each put £100 into his coffin in case he needed it in the after life.  
 The Englishman and the Irishman duly put in their £100. The Scotsman took out the £200 and put in a cheque for £300!



**THE HOLLY**



Long associated with Celtic spirituality, the Holly still grows by Loch Arkaig, where it was first adopted as the **Plant Badge** of the MacMillans. The plant-badge was worn in a Highlander's bonnet to indicate his clan.

(From "Our Clan MacMillan Heritage" by Rev. Chris McMullen, Past President, New Brunswick Chapter, Clan MacMillan Society of North America.

If unclaimed please return to:  
CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (AUSTRALIA)  
41 Lincoln Ave, Glen Waverley Vic.3150




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