



CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (Australia)

NEWSLETTER NO. 53 JULY 2001

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MACMILLAN

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

Have you visited the Clan MacMillan Society (Australia) Web Page?

<http://clanmacmillanaus.freemembers.com> (see page 6)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Recently I had the opportunity to take part in a very exciting event which was "Our Nation on Parade" on Sunday 6th May. The sun shone on the 96 entries and Swanston St. was lined with people 6-8 deep. I walked with the National Council of Women Victoria, all women dressed in white bearing numerous placards plus 3 wide banners acknowledging notable women, viz. Vida Goldstein (Equal Say), Muriel Heagney (Equal Pay) and Ada Norris (Equal Rights).

Not far behind us was the float of the Scots of Victoria which was a construction of steamship "SS. Scotia" with over 100 participants drawn from

Pipe Bands, Armorial & Heraldry Society, Clan and Society Banners, Highland Dancers, Scottish Country Dancers, Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club, Gaelic Choir, Highland Pipe Dancers, Scotch College Cadets, 42nd Royal Highland Regiment, Scottish Heavy Games Association, First Fleet Fellowship and Descendants of Convicts Society.

It was an impressive sight and after marching a Scottish Concert was presented on the Lawn Stage of the Vic. Arts Centre. It was an opportunity to showcase the contribution the Scots have made to the Australian community.

In May several members made a visit to the **Family History Library** of the Church of the Latter Day Saints where records (especially Irish) kept on microfiche can be viewed.

The Ringwood Highland Games took place on Easter Saturday and Sunday and featured the Australasian Championships of Pipe Bands. Canada and New Zealand were represented. The massed bands made a formidable sight in the Opening Parade. The MacMillan banner was carried with enthusiasm. This day is a relaxed social occasion and a time to meet members of our society and also members of other clans. It was quite busy in the MacMillan tent. The AGM of Council of Clans was held when Douglas McLaughlan was elected President.

The Kirkin' of the Tartans took place on 1st July in Scots Church, Melbourne. The 20 Clans made up a procession into the church, each clan carrying a piece of tartan, representative of that clan. This ceremony was first held in 18th century to protest against the British Government ban on the Scots wearing their tartans and is now held to request God's blessing on the Clans and all that they represent. We were very impressed by the wonderful sounds of the new organ!

Kaye O'Reilly has been busy creating a **website** for us and is constantly adding more information for which we are very grateful.

Cont'd page 2

Welcome to our new members.....And I want to thank the many members who have made donations to Clan MacMillan Society this year and in the years past. This has meant we can make a contribution to the Clan MacMillan Centre in Finlaystone to aid their research in tracing family histories.

Please mark in your diaries the date of our **AGM** which is Sunday 7th October,(details page 3). Hope to see you there and hear your ideas for future plans.

June Danks.

Queen's Castlemilk Cuppa

As part of a "meet the people" strategy of the royal family, the Queen dropped in for an informal chat and a cup of tea at a house in Castlemilk. "The Mulk" has a reputation as a rough, tough area of local authority housing on the outskirts of Glasgow. Not too many Rolls Royce limousines like the Queen's are expected to park there. Many of the blocks of flats have been replaced by bungalows and it was in one of these that the Queen visited Susan McCarron, a widow, and her 11-year-old son. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh also visited (but did not participate in) a local keep-fit class during a visit to a sports complex in the area.

Poached Salmon for Prince

When the Prince of Wales dropped in to see the entertainer Sir Jimmy Saville at his cottage in Glencoe he was given a meal of baked salmon. Afterwards, there were dark rumours that the salmon had been delivered to Sir Jimmy's door by a well known local poacher. But all those involved were keeping quiet - "we don't want to end up in the Tower of London" said one. Sir Jimmy is well known for his charity work and has completed scores of sponsored charity marathon runs.

Whisky Flavoured Short Bread

Surprisingly, it would appear that no-one has tried to make shortbread laced with whisky. But Walkers of Aberlour in Banffshire have now produced what they claim is the world's first malt whisky-flavoured (and champagne flavoured) shortbread. So when party-goers go "first footing" at Hogmanay they can leave the half-bottle of whisky at home?



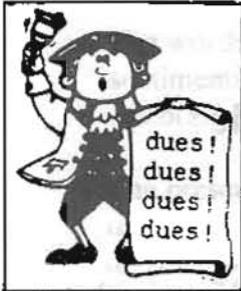
Outside Scots Church, Melbourne, after Kirkin'o'the Tartan service.
Photo: M. Senior.

A.G.M. AND ANNUAL GET TOGETHER

Our A.G.M. will be held on Sunday 7th October 2001 at the E.S.U. and United Kingdom Settlers Assn's rooms at 146 West Toorak Road, Sth Yarra. (reference Melway map 2L D5. It is opposite Fawknar Park.

12.30 p.m.- 4.30 p.m.

Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. We do hope you will be able to come. We are arranging for a Speaker on genealogy. Come and enjoy a social time with other MacMillans and associated families.



SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE 2000/2001

A big thank you to members who responded so well and sent their subscriptions after the March newsletter. There are still a few subs. outstanding and a reminder sticker will be attached to this newsletter for members who have not yet paid..... J. Senior, Treasurer.

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome new members Ken MacMillan of Belmont, Victoria and Stanley and Joan Bell of Longueville, New South Wales. We do hope you all enjoy our kinship and newsletters.

SCOTTISH VETERANS BANNER

We received a letter from a member of the Scottish Veterans Ass'n. Bert Nicholson is an Ex Seaforth Highlander and each year leads the Scottish Veterans in the Anzac Day Parade. They are badly in need of a new banner. We have sent a small donation and a piece of MacMillan tartan as requested. This will be used with other tartans to form the edge around the banner, front and back, giving the banner a true touch of the Clans of Scotland.

SCOTS OF VICTORIA CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Members may not be aware of the SVCC which has recently formed. Their Charter:

To communicate with the various Scottish organisations within Victoria and Facilitate activities which impinge on the whole Scottish community.



There are currently 156 Scottish organisations, made up of:

- *Clan Associations
- *Highland Dancing Societies
- *Genealogy Society
- *Armorial & Heraldry Society
- *Caledonian & Scottish Societies
- *Highland Pipe Bands
- *Highland Gathering Associations
- *St.Andrews Day Remembrance

We have sent a subscription to join the SVCC.

Mr Bill Gibson of The House of Scotland(see Advert. page 8) rang to tell me recently that he had some Clan MacMillan rugs in stock. If you are interested, a phone call or visit will give you further information.

A TIMELY DISPLAY -The "One O'Clock Gun" has been fired every day at Edinburgh Castle since 1861, apart from the two world wars. Now "Tam the Gun"-Staff Sergeant Tam Mackay-who has fired the gun for the last 20 years-has joined forces with Historic Scotland to plan an exhibition in the Castle to tell the story of the ceremony. The gun was originally connected to a time ball on Calton Hill by the longest electric cable in Europe at that time.



SCOTS of VICTORIA

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

WEB NEWS

Radio/Television commentary – “Our Nation on Parade”

SCOTS OF AUSTRALIA

Consisting of nearly 200 people representing 155 organisations throughout Victoria, the Scottish entry commemorates the varied groups of Scots who have arrived in Australia since the early days of European settlement. Two First Fleeters and two descendants of convicts, dressed in clothing appropriate to the late eighteenth century, acknowledge the presence of Scots during the early convict days, but the emphasis of the entry is on the experience of Scots in Victoria before and after Federation. Port Phillip Pioneers dressed in clothing of the mid-nineteenth century take us back to the beginnings of the colony when Scottish free settlers made a disproportionate contribution as explorers, business investors and pastoralists.

The centrepiece of the entry consists of a float representing one of the steamships that were built on Clydeside at a time when Scottish shipyards produced much of the merchant and passenger shipping of the world. Ships such as these brought many Scottish emigrants to Australia around the time of Federation. Marching alongside the float are representatives of Scottish organisations that go back in some instances to the mid-nineteenth century when Scots were attracted in large numbers to the Victorian goldfields. These organisations keep Scottish cultural traditions alive and well in this new millennium. They include, not only the Caledonian and Robert Burns Societies which provide busy calendars of Scottish events throughout the year, but also an interesting Scottish Fiddle Club that provides modern Australians with a form of music that has enjoyed a remarkable revival and reinterpretation in recent years.

Many of the marchers wear kilts and other forms of colourful tartan clothing. They include massed pipe bands and members of military regiments, Gaelic choirs, clan societies, athletic and dancing groups. Their unmistakable image is the one that Scots have carried with them wherever they have settled. They trace their origins back to a Highland, Gaelic-speaking culture that was disrupted, often brutally, during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. At that time much of the Highland population was forced into emigration by the Highland Clearances when people were displaced to make way for sheep and the sporting ranges of the landowners. Through the societies that they set up in their new Australian homeland these Highland emigrants reclaimed a sense of their old culture.

Cont'd Page 5

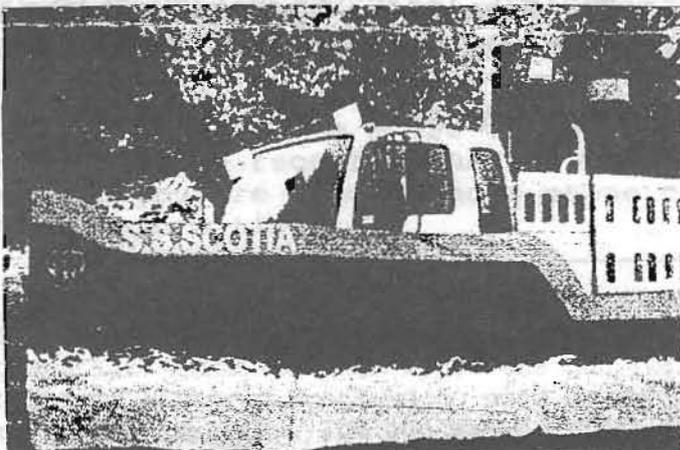
They have not been clannish in the worst sense of that word. They have reinterpreted their traditional culture by throwing it open to their fellow Victorians who flock to the many Highland Games and Gatherings that are held around the state each year.

The words used by the Maryborough Highland Society (founded in 1856) voice the warm sentiments of those who bring this sense of Highland Scottishness to today's Federation celebration: 'Come one, come all'.

The presence of cadets from Scotch and Haileybury Colleges points to one of the sources of the purposeful and successful future that so many of the Scottish immigrants enjoyed in Australia. The Lowland Scots who formed the majority of the Scottish immigrants were not the impoverished peasants of legend. They were a resourceful, skilled and highly literate group who founded Presbyterian churches, set up schools and mechanics institutes, influenced the emerging Australian university tradition and generally made a major contribution to the religion, education, business, politics and intellectual life of present-day Australia. They include some very well known names in Australian history. One of them was the Rev. J.D. Lang. In the course of a long and turbulent career Lang brought large numbers of Scots to mid-nineteenth century Australia, promoted various forms of education and found time to pioneer the demand for an independent, federated republic of Australia. Catherine Helen Spence, a native of Melrose, was another prominent reformer. She became one of the early women's suffragists. The names of Ebenezer and David Syme are associated with one of Australia's longest lasting and most influential newspapers, the *Age*. Scots became MPs and ministers in colonial parliaments, and after Federation two men of Scottish birth, George Reid and Andrew Fisher, became Prime Ministers of Australia. In later years Sir Robert Menzies was one of many Australians who often spoke of their Scottish ancestry. His name is still commemorated in Edinburgh as a member of the Order of the Thistle, one of Scotland's oldest honours. The story goes on. The enduring legacy of the Scots can be seen in the large number of leading figures in Australian politics, business and culture who have attended schools that were founded under Scottish influence.

Alex Tyrrell (Scots of Victoria Coordinating Committee)

Our thanks to Alex Tyrrell for his informative commentary "Our Nation on Parade". I am sure all members who were unable to witness this spectacular historical event will enjoy, and learn much from, the article.....Editor.



The S.S. SCOTIA waiting to sail into the Parade with 1st Officer Graeme McIntosh and 2nd Officer Andrew Murdoch.

Photo courtesy of:
The Thistle Newsletter
June 2001.

SCOTS of VICTORIA

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

WEB NEWS

<http://clanmacmillanaus.freesevers.com>

An overview and updates on the Australian Clan MacMillan Web Site

The "Home" page gives information about us and offers Links to the Clan Center in Scotland. There, you can find out just about all you want to know about MacMillan's. You can read their Newsletter or ours. We also have membership & contact details for The Australian Branch. At the bottom of the page there are links to the Family Histories of Archibald McMillan and Katherine McTaggart as well as James McMillan and Jessie McLennan, from Scotland to Australia. I have put in a counter so that we can see that "someone" is visiting our site.

The "Parish Extractions" page has had a name change to "Index's", this better reflects the contents. As well as the past extractions you can check out "MacMillan's in the "Tasmanian Pioneer Index." Other states will soon be added. We have a page detailing where to go for information on Military service, and our Research help offers, just that, here there is a link to another page with details on how to purchase Australian Birth, Death and Marriage certificates.

The "Cemetery" is our largest page. It details MacMillan's in a given cemetery, the newest addition is The Melbourne General Cemetery. Ballarat Old and New are also here with Links to other on-line cemetery Index's at the bottom of the page.

The "Members Interests" page has these and we are waiting for you to send in yours for inclusion.

The "Shipping Index's" now include MacMillan's into New South Wales, compiled by Kay Morris.

The "Guest Book" has had some encouraging messages left and these can be viewed by pressing the "submit my information" button.

In the last few months our web pages have grown to include some data bases that I hope members in other areas will find useful in their research. Due to the size of some of these I have moved them to another site that has easier editing tools. This is my personal site <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~kayemac> The links on the Clan page will take you to these automatically and at the base of the page is the link back or use the back button on the menu bar.

Happy Surfing, *Your Webmaster*, Kaye O'Reilly nee McMillan.



Marilyn McMillan

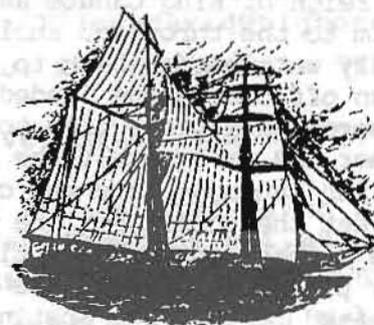
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3 October 2000

Mrs June Senior
41 Lincoln Ave
Glen Waverley
Victoria 3150



Dear June,

We are members of the NZ Clan MacMillan and Margaret Pool gave me your address to see if you could perhaps put a notice in the Australian Clan MacMillan newsletter asking for information on my behalf.

We are seeking information on my husband Jim's GGGrandfather and family.

Donald (1801-27 Oct 1880) and Mary (nee McLean -Jan1812 - 21 July 1897) McMillan and their children (all of whom were born in Kintra, Isle of Mull), Peter (born 3 March 1836), Margaret (25 May 1838 - 22 Dec 1900), Hugh (9 April 1840 - 30 Jan 1881), Charles (Jim's GGGrandfather: 8 July 1844 - 23 June 1928), Catherine (born 17 May 1846),and Ann (born 11 August 1849) must have gone to Australia sometime after 1851. I have located them in the 1841 and 1851 census records for Iona, but have not found any trace of them on any census records anywhere in Argyllshire in 1861.

On 27 April 1867 the family left Melbourne on the "Taratua", and arrived in Nelson, NZ.

The passenger list gives the names of those who were on board as:

Donald, Mary, Johanna (?), Hugh, Margaret, Charles, Ann(e) and John (aged 10 years).

My questions are:

1. When did the family arrive in Australia from Scotland (Kintra)?
2. Was Catherine with them? If not she must have died before they left Scotland. If so, she must have died in Australia - can that be checked?
3. Peter didn't come to NZ with the family in 1867. Had he come on ahead or did he come later, or not at all? So far we can't find a death for him in NZ.
4. Who was Johanna? (one possibility - Peter's wife) Is there a marriage record out there somewhere?
5. John was born c1857 (give or take 3 years when we look at the other ages given on the Passenger List). We cannot find a reference to his birth in Scotland, so we suspect he was born in Australia.

Maybe there are descendants of Peter still in Australia. If so we'd love to hear from them.

Thank you for your time. I hope we can find some answers.

Sincerely

Marilyn and Jim McMillan

I do hope one of our members can help you find your "lost" family.....Editor

St. Margaret (1046-1093)

Margaret was a descendant of King Alfred. Her father, Edward, was exiled during the reign of King Canute and Margaret was born in Hungary. Her brother had a claim to the throne of England but came to terms with William the Conqueror. The family were headed back to the continent from Northumbria when their ship was blown off course and landed in Fife. The Scottish King, Malcolm 111 (known as Canmore) gave protection to the family and married Margaret. Malcolm was devoted to her and as a result she exercised considerable influence. She introduced the English language into the court in place of the Gaelic spoken by her husband. She set the agenda for the church in Scotland and as a result the Roman church made inroads into the Celtic Church in the north of the country. Margaret was very pious, caring for the poor and orphans and damaged her own health by repeated fasting and abstinence. As she lay on her deathbed after a long illness, she was told that her husband and eldest son had been killed in battle. She thanked God for the pain this had brought her as it might cleanse her own sins. She is buried in Dunfermline Abbey and was canonised by the Pope in 1251. St.Margaret's Chapel in Edinburgh Castle is the oldest surviving building there and was constructed by King David 1, Margaret's son.

If unclaimed, please return to:

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