

THE MACFIE CLAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Newsbulletin No 11

9th August 1976

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(Melbourne 698-7008)
Secretary: (Mrs) Helen McPhie 8 Floreat Court Glen Waverley Vic 3150
(Melbourne 232-6640)
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(Sydney 84-2257)
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(Sydney 981-1223)
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(Melbourne 233-2855)
Treasurer: Ross McPhee 8 Wendover Court Mount Waverley Vic 3149
(Melbourne 277-5274)

Seneschal of The Macfie Clan in Australia : Charles Macphee
717 Burwood Highway Ferntree Gully Vic 3156 (Melbourne 758-4428)

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS

EDINBURGH MAY 1977

No doubt by now you have all seen mention of this Gathering in the papers. It will certainly be a wonderful occasion for those lucky ones who are able to afford the time and money to go to Scotland. Investigations have shown that it is just not a proposition for the Society to endeavour to arrange block bookings for members wishing to attend - these can be successfully handled through any leading travel agency, all of which are offering assorted packaged tours to include the two weeks of the Gathering. If you wish to steer clear of the packaged tours, and can make suitable arrangements for accommodation, QANTAS is the only outfit to fly with, and the best 'air-fare' deal (exclusive of any all inclusive tour) is definitely available to you if you book excursion fare at QANTAS itself - and as far ahead as possible. If you book through an agent still insist on QANTAS if possible - that's not because its Australia's overseas airline; or because its the international airline with a safety, performance and service record second to none; or because a McPhie was one of the original share holders; or because Society Vice President Sandy McPhee is a QANTAS Jumbo pilot; or even because I have controlled their aircraft and appreciate their pilots' completely professional approach at all times - No - its because you'll get the best for less that way.

Enclosed with this Newsbulletin is a summary of the programme for the first week of the Gathering which will be centred in Edinburgh. In the second week visitors are expected to travel to their Clan's traditional homeland. As yet I have no information regarding arrangements on Colonsay - but I do know that accommodation there is limited in respect of the likely numbers expected in May. When you consider many McFie's will be heading for the island as well as assorted Canadian, American, Swedish, Australian and Scottish Macfies, things could be crowded....but what a party we could have! Duncan MacPhee of Fort William will be looking into this, as too will our Seneschal, Charles Macphee, who is actually on Colonsay as I am typing this. Too, Duncan has offered to assist with arrangements for accommodation in Edinburgh if necessary. SO - more information next Newsbulletin.

Names and addresses of a number of travel agencies in Australia and Scotland which are handling tours etc are also enclosed. Would be travellers might like to contact fellow member Miss Janet McPhee (N74-072) of Burns Philp Travel Service in Sydney to discuss or arrange bookings.

A number of members have already indicated their intention to attend. If those attending would notify the Society secretary of their travel arrangements and accommodation details etc in Scotland, Helen will be able to pass details on to others attending, and we will thus ensure that mutual contact can be made in Scotland. We will also be able to notify you personally of any Macfie Clan developments right up to the time of your departure -

FROM THE GENERAL MEETING

The two constitutional amendments submitted to members for final approval have been ratified. There were no objections. The amendments provide

for under 18 year olds not to be charged membership fees, but they do not have voting rights; and for a Society Piper - thus confirming the appointment of Donald MacPhie (V76-159) of East Burwood, Victoria, for many years one of Australia's best known pipers.

A raffle was held over the General Meeting week-end. The prize was a Macfie tartan tie and scarf, and was won by Father Bernie McPhee (V75-118) of Donvale, Victoria. The tie was donated by Donald MacPhie (our piper) - many thanks - and the raffle provided a profit of \$24.20 (less cost of the scarf when it arrives). The General Meeting and the afternoon tea were financed through the Society; the Dinner Dance on the evening of the Meeting, and the picnic day on the Sunday, were looked after by the members themselves. The balance sheet for the general meeting reveals :

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
By Afternoon tea receipts	22.00	To Room rental	40.00
Raffle	24.20	Postage	17.64
Balance	<u>28.59</u>	Printing & Stationery	6.15
	<u>\$74.79</u>	Afternoon Tea	<u>11.00</u>
			<u>\$74.79</u>

Function Cost \$28.59 + cost of raffle scarf.

SENECHAL'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND

Charles Macphee (V74-010), Seneschal in Australia of The Macfie Clan, is visiting Scotland at present. Charles left Melbourne in early June and called on Dr Earle Douglas MacPhee in Vancouver en route to Scotland. He has had a meeting with Malcolm Innes Esquire, Lyon Clerk and Keeper of the Records of the Lyon Court in Edinburgh, and is visiting Colonsay at the moment. A meeting with Duncan MacPhee of Port William is scheduled, and I'm sure Charles will go across to Sweden to meet Ulf Macfie Hagman and the Thorburn-Macfies if it is at all possible. I expect Charles back in late September, and hope to have a report on the trip etc for inclusion in the next Newsbulletin.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Membership figures have surged ahead since the last Newsbulletin. The membership number 197 has been allocated, but that 200 mark isn't quite so close, as we have lost 7 members for various reasons. A very pleasing aspect is the number of under 18 year olds who have joined - 17 in all. A breakdown of the membership figures is :

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Under 18</u>	<u>Lapsed</u>
Victoria	79	14	1
New South Wales	64	-	3
Queensland	37	3	1
Western Australia	4	-	2
Australian Capital Territory	4	-	-
South Australia	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>190</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7</u>

1976 fees are outstanding for 26 members. Reminders are enclosed for those concerned - Please give them your attention as we are unable to afford to 'carry' members for long.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

The Queenslanders had a barbeque at the home of Ian and Margaret McPhee (Q74-016 and Q75-095) early in May. Not a big roll up, but an enjoyable day I believe. More functions to follow up there too, I understand.

Sydney have a dinner scheduled for Friday 8th October next. It will be held at the Associated Schools Club, 70 Hunter Street, City - as was their last dinner. More details from NSW Vice-President Colin Macfie (N74-015) in due course.

Melbourne had an impromptu gathering of a small number of members to farewell Charles Macphee before he left for overseas - and the statement has been made to the effect that a dinner will be held there before the end of the year. More information in due course here too

HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL NOTES

Some more of Historian Margaret Phee's (175-075) early settlers :

McPHEE	Allan	34	by "New Zealander" from Liverpool for
	Jane	22	Portland Bay on 23rd August 1853. Residence
	Janet	infant	Belveguien, Kilmuir. Estate Macdonald.
McPHEE	Donald	21	by "New Zealander" from Liverpool for
	Christy	20	Portland Bay 23rd August 1853. Residence
	Donald	infant	Balgowan, Kilmuir. Estate Lord Macdonald.
NICHOLSON (sister in law)	Christy	18	
McPHEE	John	26	by "New Zealander" from Liverpool for Portland Bay on 23rd August 1853.
McPHEE (sister) (Niece)	John	34	by "New Zealander" from Liverpool for
	Flora	34	Portland Bay on 23rd August 1853. Residence
	John	3	Sawerlachasay. Estate Lord Macdonald.
	Alexander	2	
	Marion	27	
McLEAN (cousin)	Flora	21	
McPHEE (sister)	Malcolm	19	by "Sir Allan McNab" from Liverpool for
	Mary	21	Hobart Town on 28th October 1853. Residence Isle of Sanda. Estate Duke of Argyll.
McPHEE	Alexander	42	by "Utopia" from Liverpool for Portland Bay
	Sarah	38	on 3rd November 1853. Residence Corpach.
	Cathe	18	Estate Donald Campbell Esquire. ("A Healthy Elegeble Family").
	Mary	17	
	Flora	14	
	Sarah	12	
	Eliza	10	
	Arch	8	
	Christy	4	
	John	2	
McPHEE	Archibald	51	by "Utopia" from Liverpool for Portland Bay
	Vere	49	on 3rd November 1853. Residence Corpach
	Kate	24	Lochiel. Estate Donald Campbell Esquire,
	Hugh	22	Lochiel.
	Christy	19	
	Peggy	17	

You may remember in the article on the Mormon Church genealogical records in the Christmas Newsbulletin last year that I said as far as I knew there were no genealogical libraries of the Church established in Australia. Well I was wrong - there are four at present. The one in Melbourne is at 186 Westgarth Street, Northcote. Telephone Melbourne 48-4789. It is open Tuesday to Thursday 10am to 2pm; Friday 6:15pm to 10:15pm; and Saturday 10am to 6pm. The main library in Sydney is in Greenwich, but a second one has been established in Gympie. Addresses and telephone numbers for the Sydney and Adelaide libraries can be obtained from the respective telephone directories under Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. These libraries have research staff available to advise anyone wishing to use their facilities, and for a small fee arrangements can be made to have micro film reels brought from the central library in Salt Lake City for you to study. The Salt Lake City central library of the Church has the largest single holding of micro film records in the world, and as one who has used their facilities I can recommend them to anyone wishing to research their ancestors.

At Easter time next year the first Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry is to be held in Melbourne. Dates : 8 - 11 April 1977. Further info available from The Organising Secretary, PO Box 89, Hampton, Vic 3188.

We still want historical items for our records. Documents, newspaper cuttings, narrative accounts as you know it, family trees, old photographs, incomplete as well as complete ancestor charts, etc, are all acceptable. And we would like to hear from the recent arrivals in this country as well as from the descendants of the pioneers. Please forward all items direct to our other Historian : (Mrs) Norah McPhee, 47 Bellamy St., Pennant Hills, NSW 2120.

VALE

It is with deep sorrow that I record the death of Ken McPhee (N75-123) of Ullarra NSW. Ken was a very active supporter of the Society and of our Clan. He was responsible for organising a very large 'McPhee Clan' gathering on the north coast of New South Wales in the 1960s. Ken's passing was completely unexpected. Our sincere sympathy, and that of all Clan members, is extended to Jean, his widow, and to their children.

GENERAL NOTES

Trust Fund A further \$47 has been transferred to the Society Trust Fund, and \$220 from the fund has been invested in Australian Special Bonds.

What's in a Name? I take no responsibility for this authoritative (?) reply received by one of our ancestor researchers -

'In reply to your enquiry of the origin of the name MacPhee, we have traced the name even farther back and now find that your ancestors came from Ireland - the Murphies - who changed their name to McPhy, to finally MacPhy and MacPhee. It happened in this manner -

'During the time of Cromwell, there lived in Ireland, a dark swarthy Irishman named Murphy, who grew peas. He was nicknamed "Murky" Murphy of the "Black Man of Peas". He was an ardent Catholic and had lots of fun with the local colleens. Then came Cromwell who chased him all over Ireland and finally, having enough "Murky" Murphy, sprang into a boat, shouted to Cromwell 'Peas be with you' and set sail for Scotland where he was imprisoned and unmercifully tortured for two hours by having bagpipes played in his cell. He was then given the following choices -

1. More Bagpipes,
2. A Bowl of Haggis, or
3. To Turn Presbyterian.

'He voted 3, 2 and 1. He then became an Elder of the Church in order to clothe his children by using the buttons he got from the plate and lived to a ripe old age, when he chocked over a dish of Haggis and expired saying the following famous phrase, "Mick a Muckle meets a body." '

Scottish Dancing We haven't sponsored, or promoted, a Scottish dancing group - or a pipe band either for that matter - as to date no one within the Society has indicated a wish for involvement in these activities through the Society. However, we now have several pipers amongst our members, and with the increase in interest in Scottish and Highland dancing (in the Melbourne area at least) we would certainly support and encourage any efforts in this direction. A contact number in Melbourne for The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society is 877-3413 (after hours), or if you go along to the Congregational Church Hall, Riversdale Road, Camberwell, Vic, on the evening of the fourth Sunday of each month you will find plenty of Scottish dancing on the go. Saturday

The Australasian Highlander is a small quarterly magazine which gives dates and results of Scottish dancing and band competitions, amongst other items, plus a good write up before and after of Highland Games in Australia. Annual subscription is \$1.60 (posted in Australia) - write to : Mrs Colleen McEwan, 27 Chief Street, Belmont North, NSW 2280.

This Cant be True A report from the Australian Surf Championships earlier this year contained the following item -

'News from Hobart today of an intriguing experiment that took place there during the recent Australian Life Saving Championships. In spite of the generous offering of hundreds of well-fed bodies in the surf, they didn't have any trouble at all with sharks. They discovered a fool-proof shark repellent.

'During the championships somebody played the bagpipes on the beach, and there wasn't a single shark sighting. - Mind you, I understand a number of the competitors said they would actually have preferred the sharks!'

Clan Histories A further supply of the two volumes of Dr Earle Douglas MacPhee's History of the Clan is at hand. These can be obtained from the Secretary at \$7.50 for the pair, posted. (Note slight increase in price to take up adjustments in exchange rates and postage).

Caber Tossing Anyone? From the latest edition of the Australasian Highlander I notice that for the fourth successive year there was no winner of the Australian Caber Toss Championship - the 5.2 metre, 51.6 kilogram log was just too big! - But all is not lost for Australian Caber Tossers, however, as one Colin Mathieson holds the South Pacific Championship for 1976, and was the 1975 World Caber Toss Champion. (Could be 1976 too - no results yet).

Dreghorn Macfie Badges The Secretary has Macfie "Pro Rege" strap and buckle badges for sale at \$2 post free. They are a well finished silver metal brooch somewhat larger than a fifty cent piece.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to: Nevell McPhee (Q75-084) of Toowoomba Qld who has been invited to join one of the select International Consultative Groups of Rotary International.....Paul (V75-100) and Margaret McPhee of Ashburton Vic on the arrival of a son and heir, Christopher Robert. Mother and son both well, by the way, - father still walking on air.... and to Mrs Mavis McPhee (Q75-092) of Dalby Qld, who recently married Jim McQuaker of Cooranga North, our best wishes for the future ...

With kind thoughts -

Alex McPhee

Alex McPhee
President

NEW MEMBERS

N76-166	Mrs Flora Causley	Box 42	Harwood Island	NSW	2465
N76-167	Mrs Jean Goodman	31 Short St	Oyster Bay	NSW	2225
V76-168	Dr Donald G. MacPhee	24 Wilmot St	Macleod	Vic	3085
V76-169	Mrs Valerie Anne MacPhee	"	"	"	"
V76-170	James Mack. MacPhee	41 Tooradin Ave	Broadmeadows	Vic	3047
V76-171	Iain Mack. MacPhee	"	"	"	"
*V76-172	Miss Tina MacPhee	"	"	"	"
*V76-173	Miss Fiona MacPhee	"	"	"	"
*V76-174	Miss Elizabeth MacPhee	"	"	"	"
V76-175	Donald N. McPhee	3/84 Locksley Rd	Ivanhoe	Vic	3079
*V76-176	Dale McPhee	Shady Creek Rd	Milna North	Vic	3820
*V76-177	Miss Janet McPhee	"	"	"	"
*V76-178	Glenn McPhee	"	"	"	"
V76-179	Mrs Elaine R McPhee	10 Varcoe St	Shepparton	Vic	3630
*V76-180	Andrew G. McPhee	"	"	"	"
*V76-181	Miss Tania S. McPhee	"	"	"	"
*V76-182	Stewart J. McPhee	"	"	"	"
V76-183	Miss Nancy McHaffie	577 Glenferrie Rd	Hawthorn	Vic	3122
V76-184	Mrs M. J. Davis	23 Nethercote Dr	Mt Waverley	Vic	3149
V76-185	Trevor Coutts McPhee	7 Emily Court	Croydon	Vic	3136
V76-186	Arden G. McPhee	"	"	"	"
N76-187	Mrs Dorothy Tyrrell	18 Yeran St	Sylvania	NSW	2224
N76-188	Mrs Hannah Raye McPhee	12 Raward Ave	Banora Point	NSW	2413
V76-189	Mrs Francis Allan	601A Doveton St	North Ballarat	Vic	3350
Q76-190	Mrs Marie-Louise Sykes	23 Gray Ave	Corinda	Qld	4075
Q76-191	Dr Ian B. McPhee	54 Aberfeldy St	Konmore	Qld	4069
Q76-192	Mrs Roslyn McPhee	"	"	"	"
*Q76-193	Miss Katherine McPhee	"	"	"	"
*Q76-194	Robert Bruce McPhee	"	"	"	"
*Q76-195	Miss Gillian McPhee	"	"	"	"
*V76-196	Malcolm R. McPhee	385 Blackburn Rd	East Burwood	Vic	3151
*V76-197	Ross D. McPhee	"	"	"	"

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS

SATURDAY 30 APRIL 1977 - SATURDAY 14 MAY 1977

EDINBURGH & CLAN AREAS

The International Gathering of the Clans is to be held in Edinburgh from 30th April to 7th May 1977. During the following week clansmen and visitors will disperse to the traditional Clan territories throughout Scotland. The Gathering is sponsored by the Scottish Tourist Board and the local authorities in the Edinburgh area, and has the full support of the British Tourist Authority and Clan Societies in Scotland.

The following tentative programme has been arranged :

<u>Saturday 30th April</u>	Welcome by Pipers and Drummers Fiddlers' Rally in evening
<u>Sunday 1st May</u>	Dawn Service at Arthur's Seat Official Church Services Opening Ceremony and Meeting with Clan Chiefs Choral and Orchestral Concert Beating Retreat
<u>Daily Monday 2nd May until Saturday 7th May</u>	(Golf - Parade of Pipers and Drummers - Tartan Society, Crafts, and Historical Exhibitions - Lecture Series - Theatre - Highland Dancing - Clarsach Ceilidh - Beating Retreat - Pibroch at Midnight.
<u>Monday 2nd May</u>	Fashion Show Scottish National Orchestra and Concert Whisky and Haggis Tasting
<u>Tuesday 3rd May</u>	Massed Pipes and Drums Thistle Banquet and Ball
<u>Wednesday 4th May</u>	Military Band Display Gaelic Ceilidhs by combined Edinburgh & Glasgow Choirs
<u>Thursday 5th May</u>	Fashion Show Combined Churches Choral Evening 18th Century Musical Evening
<u>Friday 6th May</u>	Massed Bands of Scottish Regiments Banquet and Highland Ball
<u>Saturday 7th May</u>	Meeting of Clan Societies Parade of Tartans Highland Games Closing Ceremony Fiddlers' Rally
<u>Sunday 8th May to Saturday 14th May</u>	(Programmes of events in the various Clan areas are being arranged. Numerous tours of Highland areas are available from the various tourist agencies.

TOURIST CONTACTS ETC.

Burns Philp Travel Service
7 Bridge St or GPO Box 543
Sydney 2000 Sydney 2001
(Miss Janet McPhee)

Dalgety Travel
461 Bourke St Melbourne 60-0731
38 Bridge St Sydney 2-0524
79 Eagle St Brisbane 31-0331
41-47 Currie St Adelaide 51-0251
100 St George's Tce Perth 21-2844

Bill Nicholson (Chairman)
Tourist Promotion (Scotland)
36 Castle St
Edinburgh EH2 - 3BN
(Phone 031 226-4664)
For Clan tours of Scotland

James S. Adam
Organiser
International Gathering of the Clans
23 Ravelston Terrace
Edinburgh EH4 3EU
(Phone 031 352-2433)

In Edinburgh James B. MacGuffie owns and runs the Doric Restaurant - an excellent place, I believe.