



# The Macfie Clan Society of Australia

## PRESIDENT

Squadron Leader Alex McPhie  
Headquarters Support Command  
R.A.A.F.  
Victoria Barracks  
MELBOURNE V. 3004  
(Phone ML 698-7008)

## SECRETARY

Mrs Helen McPhie  
8 Floreat Court  
GLEN WAVERLEY V 3150  
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NEWSBULLETIN No 14

16th MAY 1977

## 'INVITATION - TO - JOIN' A SUCCESS

The response to the general mailing of Invitation-to-Join brochures to all 'Macfies' has been terrific - just on 100 new members so far - names and addresses appear later. This is certainly better than we had anticipated and makes the effort and expense of the whole programme well worth while.

## SOCIETY PROGRAMME

For the benefit of our new members, a few comments on our methods of operating, and an outline of our future programme, follow.

The Society and the Clan are separate entities. Membership of the Clan is automatic as a birth right, or can be acquired through marriage or by the pledging of allegiance. Membership of the Society must be applied for and is open to all Clan members who are interested on payment of an annual subscription.

The Society has been formed on a national basis, this prevents meetings of the Executive being held, and business is conducted by mail. State or local sub-groups are entitled to form if they so wish and will certainly be encouraged.

A Society constitution does exist. It is planned to include copies for all members with the next Newsbulletin.

Apart from a Biennial General Meeting we do not hold regular meetings of any sort. The next biennial general meeting - our second - is tentatively scheduled for Sydney in the first quarter of next year.

Office Bearers are elected for a two year term prior to biennial general meeting, and normally commence their term of office from the date of the meeting. Nominations for the various positions will be called for later this year. We will be looking for some 'doers'.

An Official Dinner is held at the time of the General Meeting. Other social functions are conducted on a purely local basis and range from formal dinners to informal gatherings at members homes. Apart from the Official Dinner they must be self supporting financially. Next time there is a Society function near you why not go along and meet some of your cousins? - you'll be surprised what a great lot they are..... If you are interested in arranging something in your area, Society Secretary Helen McPhie will help with names and contacts etc.

The collection of historical records - press items, family trees, photographs, documents and family histories in narrative form etc - relating to Clan families in Australia is one of our major aims. It is intended to (one day) supplement Dr Earle MacPhee's history of the Clan with a volume dealing with the Clan in Australia. But that is a long way off; for the present we must concentrate on researching and recording. Many members have forwarded items to the Secretary or our Historians Norah McPhee and Margaret Phee in Sydney - thank you. More is required and any contributions are welcome - can YOU help?

The Society has established a trust fund to assist Clan members in need. It is administered by three trustees ( Society President, Treasurer, and one appointed by the Executive - currently Neil McPhee of Ivanhoe Vic.). Moderate funds are invested in Government Bonds; no disbursements have been made to date. Donations are always acceptable -

Another major aim is to see a Clan Chief proclaimed. This will be a long and painstaking task, but the machinery has been set in motion. Not the least of the problems, of course, is finding a suitable and willing candidate for the Chiefship.

Finally, one may well ask "Just what is in it for an ordinary member?" The answer could well be that apart from the enclosed brochure on Colonsay, nothing more than four Newsbulletins a year! - that is unless you are willing to take an altruistic view and are interested in joining and supporting an international movement designed to re-establish our Clan and see it accorded the recognition of centuries past. Really a lot will depend on what you expect from, and are willing to contribute to, your membership. We need 'doers' to help and we need the support of all Clan members.

MELBOURNE PARTY NIGHT  
FRIDAY 22 JULY 1977.

A Party Night is scheduled in Melbourne for Friday, 22 July 1977. To be held at The Olympia Room, Olympic Park, Swan Street, Melbourne from 7:30 pm to midnight.

SMORGASBOARD DINNER                      PIPING AND DANCING  
MEMBERS, GUESTS AND FRIENDS ALL WELCOME

A notice is enclosed with this Newsbulletin for Victorian members - Interstate visitors will be most welcome too - Tickets and further details if required are available from Secretary Helen McPhie. Cost \$12 per person all inclusive.  
Note: This is the only function scheduled for Melbourne this year -

THE COLONSAY BROCHURE

A brochure on Colonsay is enclosed with this Newsbulletin for each member of the Society. They are the standard tourist handout from Colonsay and were obtained from there. The text of the brochure was written by Lady Jane Strathcona whose husband owns Colonsay and Oronsay.

HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL NOTES

A story which doesn't concern any Macfies directly but which will be of great interest to all of you should appropriately be told in this Newsbulletin as it is about Colonsay and Prince Charlie's return to Scotland in 1745. It is taken from John de Vere Loder's work Colonsay and Oronsay (Oliver & Boyd 1935).

"The Southern Islands were almost entirely unconcerned with the Jacobite rebellions of 1715 and 1745. Campbell authority was firmly planted and any inclination some of the people may have had to support the Stewarts had little opportunity of manifesting itself. Nevertheless, there is a Colonsay tradition of considerable interest in connection with the rebellion of 1745.

If the information collected by Grievie has any basis in fact, Colonsay must have been the first place on Scottish soil touched at by Prince Charlie. The date traditionally assigned to the incident, the latter part of July, tallies with that of the Prince's journey; but it must be observed that none of the subsequent statements of the Prince and his companions give the slightest indication that land was ever sighted between the departure from France and the arrival off the island of Barra, which was the intended destination. The details of the Colonsay story had best be given, for what they are worth, in Mr Grievie's own words -

The islanders were unable to tell me the ship's name as it anchored near Eilean Olansay, a small island of the east coast of Colonsay, and about two and a half miles north of Scalasaig. As the ship would be some distance from the land it would be difficult to read the name even if the name were visible. Evidently the party on board were acting with caution, as they sent an officer on shore early in the day to make enquiries and to sound the island chief, Mr Donald McNeill, as to whether the Prince could depend on his assistance. The McNeill chief received the officer and treated him hospitably; but when he heard that it was proposed to land the treasure for a military expedition of some kind upon Eilean Olansay, and also to get him to accept responsibility for its safe custody, he declined to have anything to do with the matter. The officer told the chief that the Prince who was on board the ship had been told that it would

be quite safe to leave his treasure at any place where heather grow, as the people could be trusted. The officer returned to the ship very much disappointed and conveyed to the Prince the chief's message.

Immediately Prince Charles and several of his officers landed and went over to Kiloran House, where Mr Donald McNeill and his brother, Mr Archibald McNeill, received them with politeness, and they had a prolonged discussion, but all their arguments did not alter the decision of the chief. Mr Archibald McNeill explained that Eilean Olansay and even Colonsay was far too small a place to store treasure in. He had by this time got an inkling of what the expedition of the Prince was for, and told him that as he and his clan were loyal in their allegiance to the Clan Campbell and the British Crown, he could have nothing to do with the expedition.

The Prince and his officers tried to argue the matter, but they failed to persuade the chief of Colonsay to alter his mind.

The visitors explained that the treasure consisted of gold coins packed in small kegs, and that they had been told that if the McNeills would take charge of it, it would be quite safe. None of the islanders from whom I got this information could give me any description of what the kegs were like. However, from the valuable nature of their contents, we may judge that they must have been very small. Failing to get any encouragement about the safe custody of the money, the Prince then asked if he could be supplied with two pilots, as they were not well acquainted with the navigation of the islands and the Scottish coast.

While the chief did not want to be disobliging, he did not in any way wish to compromise his position. He therefore told the Prince that while there were pilots on Colonsay, he did not know whether any of them would go with him on his expedition.

Some of the chief's retainers having heard of the request for pilots, immediately spread the news abroad and a number of competent men came to hear particulars. The Prince and his officers tried to negotiate with them, but found it very difficult, as the Colonsay men had a high appreciation of the value of their services. Hours went past, and as it was getting late in the day they must soon return to the ship, the visitors were very anxious to arrive at some arrangement. Two of the islanders had particularly attracted their attention, and the Prince pressed them to enter his service. They were two brothers of the name of Macmillan, and after a lot of haggling, these two men agreed to act as pilots, each to receive a small keg of gold coins for his services. However, a hitch arose, as the Prince wished to pay after the service was rendered, while the pilots demanded that the two kegs of gold should be landed on Colonsay before they started. As he could not get the Macmillans to alter their conditions, the Prince had to come to terms.

The two pilots were allowed a short time to go home and make the necessary arrangements before leaving, and were told to hurry as the ship was to sail that evening.

The Prince then sent for the two kegs of gold coins, which were duly handed over to the two Macmillans, who left them in charge of some of their relatives.

So much time had been put off that it was too late to sail that night when they got on board. However, as it was the time of the year when the nights on Colonsay are short, it was determined that the ship should not sail until dawn.

After getting on board, one of the pilots, named Hector Macmillan, learned enough from some of the crew to make him suspicious about the purposes of the voyage. So during darkness he slipped overboard and got ashore. Whether he swam to the shore or stole a boat, no one could tell me, but that he escaped every one knew. He kept his keg of gold coin, and is said to have prospered. His descendants were quite well known to the old Colonsay people.

The other brother Macmillan went as pilot to the French ship, and remained with her until after the Prince was enabled to escape to France. He is said to have liked the French and remained in their service and married a French woman. Ultimately he settled in Dunkirk, and is said to have died there. He kept up a regular correspondence with his relatives in Colonsay, but never

revisited the island. I was told the Christian name of this man was Ian. As I was anxious to verify the foregoing information, I told the late Sir John McNeill GCB, who was at one time proprietor of Colonsay, what I had heard about the landing of Prince Charles Edward on Colonsay.

He told me the story was quite true, but he had forgotten the names of the pilots. However, he added, you may trust the islanders to have told you the truth, as they do not forget incidents of the kind. Besides the Macmillans were recognized as one of the clans met with on Colonsay, having been introduced by the McNeills from Knapdale about 1700 AD, the time they got possession of Colonsay and Oronsay. He mentioned that his progenitor, the Laird of Oronsay, had to act diplomatically during the visit of the Prince, as they knew most of the islanders were in favour of the Stuarts, and against the Hanoverian Government.

When towards the end of the Rebellion a summons was received by the Laird of Colonsay to send as many recruits as possible for the Hanoverian army, there was considerable difficulty in getting any of the islanders to agree to fight against Prince Charles Edward.

In 1881, I was told by the late Mr Murdoch McNeill, a descendant of the Barra family, who was then over ninety years of age, that his two grandfathers were among the few who went from Colonsay. There were only eight men who left the island to join the expedition, and they were ordered to report themselves at Inverness. They proceeded very leisurely upon the journey and travelled through the big glen, and only arrived at their destination the day after the battle of Culloden. They saw no fighting, and after a short time in the Hanoverian service were sent home.

I was told this story by so many old people on the island that I think there is no doubt about it being true. They all also believed that Colonsay was the first place in Scotland at which Prince Charles Edward landed in 1745."

Those First Macfies in Australia? Historian Norah McPhee has come to my rescue with a rerun of earlier information supplied, but mislaid by me -

A Daniel McFee was given 7 years at the Wiltshire Assizes on 21st April 1789, and arrived in Australia on the Admiral Barrington in October 1791.

Also noted was a Sarah Margaret McFie who was christened at Scots Church Sydney on 22nd January 1827 (Born 11 January 1827), the daughter of a Daniel McFie and Sarah Moor. The father was a private soldier in the Veterans Company.

I wonder if this was the same Daniel - perhaps having joined the Army to shorten his sentence? Or this Daniel may have been a son of the original man -

#### TRAGEDY IN SWEDEN

It is with heavy heart that I record the tragic death of Ralf Thorburn and three of his family. Ralf was President of The Thorburn-Macfie Family Union in Sweden. He perished along with his daughter (who was also a member of the Family Union board) and her two children when they were caught in a blizzard while skiing.

I have asked Ulf Macfie Hagman to convey our deepest sympathy to the family at this sad time.

#### INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS

As I write this the International Gathering of the Clans is underway in Scotland. We had twelve members scheduled to attend including National Vice-President Sandy McPhee and wife Norah from Sydney, and Victoria Vice-President Bruce McFie and wife Betty from Melbourne. But whether anyone or everyone got away or not due to strikes by petrol tanker drivers and aircraft refuellers I don't know - and when they'll get back if they did get away is open to debate the way these (civil) air traffic controllers are carrying on. I don't suppose these Unions are full of Sasennachs by any chance ???

#### MEMBERSHIP FEES

Reminder notices are enclosed for members who have not paid their 1977 membership subscriptions.....Please Give The Matter Your Attention.....

GENERAL NOTES

- \* Did you know that a Duncan MacPhee was Queen Victoria's Piper at one time? or that Rev. Kenneth Macleod (1871 - 1955) who wrote 'The Road to the Isles' was minister on Oronsay?
- \* Best wishes to Victoria Vice-President Bruce McPhie and brand new wife Betty, they're honeymooning in Scotland at present.
- \* The Sydney Dinner on 25th February went off well - but not a large rollup.
- \* Society Secretary Helen McPhie has copies of Dr Earle MacPhee's history of the Clan available at \$8.50, and Droghorn Macfie strap and buckle badges at \$2. Both post free. Also available are copies of the music of Society Piper Donald MacPhie's tune 'Clan Macfie Resurgence', and a crochet pattern for a Macfie tartan rug.
- \* Canongate Publishing Ltd of Edinburgh have written pointing out that they are now Scotland's largest and busiest general book publishers, and that they have specially printed a number of new Scottish books to coincide with the Gathering of the Clans. Their address is 17 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh EH1 1DR, Scotland. One brew which could be worth trying comes from their book 'Traditional Scottish Recipes' and is for 'Whisky Punch'.  
Take 1 bottle Whisky, 2 pints water, 3 lemons, 8oz sugar.  
Finely peel the three large lemons, squeeze out the juice, and put all in a bowl with 8oz sugar - brown or Demerara for preference. Pour on two pints of boiling water, and when cold, strain and mix in a bottle of whisky. Serve well chilled.
- \* Any overseas travellers?  
Don't forget SWEDEN - where the Thorburn-Macfie Family Union have their biennial meeting on the 2nd July 1977.  
or U.S.A. - where The McDuffie Clan of America Inc will have their annual meeting at the Grandfather Mountain Scottish Gathering in North Carolina during the second week-end in July.  
Contact Ulf Macfie Hagman or Jamie McDuffie  
Bavergiljan 12 PO Box 1328  
S - 451 00 Uddevalla Hendersonville NC 28730  
SWEDEN U. S. A.

With best wishes for a not too cold winter,

*Alex McPhie*  
Alex McPhie  
President

NEW MEMBERS

N77-236	Neville Phee	23 Buchan Pde	Coona	NSW 2630
N77-237	Donald McPhee	6 Beech Street East	Leeton	NSW 2705
N77-238	Mrs Mac McPhee	6 Beech Street East	Leeton	NSW 2705
*N77-239	Donald Andrew McPhee	6 Beech Street East	Leeton	NSW 2705
*N77-240	Craig John McPhee	6 Beech Street East	Leeton	NSW 2705
N77-241	Robert Bruce McPhee	13 David St	Earlwood	NSW 2206
N77-242	Gregory Robert McPhee	'Woodhenge'	The Channon	NSW 2480
N77-243	Paul William McPhie	'The Warren'	via Berridale	NSW 2628
N77-244	Karl McPhee	24 Bowes Ave	Edgcliff	NSW 2027
N77-245	Malcolm Angus McPhee	4 William St	Young	NSW 2594
N77-246	John Robert McPhee	'Hoyjon' 9 Darwin Dr	Lapstone	NSW 2773
V77-247	Henry Patrick McPhee	11 Marearetta Ave	Murrumbidgee	VIC 3163
V77-248	Vernon Sutor McHaffie	93 Berringa Rd	Park Orchards	VIC 3114
V77-249	Mrs Conah Frances McHaffie	93 Berringa Rd	Park Orchards	VIC 3114
V77-250	Mrs Grace A. McPhee	23 Godfrey Cres	Dandenong	VIC 3175
N77-251	Mrs Helen Haggath	14 Georgina St	Newtown	NSW 2042
Q77-252	Mrs Claire Burchgart	2 Frank St	Coolum SUNNY	QLD 4573
N77-253	Nathan Thomas McPhee	590 Blonde St	Broken Hill	NSW 2860
N77-254	Michael H.W. McPhee	202 Bexley Rd	Earlwood	NSW 2206
S77-255	Mrs Gladys McIntosh	63 Kyle St	Glenside	SA 5065

S77-256	Mrs Shirley Martin	Hawker Ave	Flympton Park	SA	5038	
T77-257	Donald C. McFie	36 Tregear St	Moonah West	TAS	7008	
T77-258	Mrs Valerie L. McFie	36 Tregear St	Moonah West	TAS	7008	
N77-259	Miss Brenda C. McPhee	17 Smith St	Rozelle	NSW	2039	
N77-260	Mrs Margaret Martin	5 Moore St	Rozelle	NSW	2039	
R77-261	Kevin Andrew McPhee	3 Wallis St	Alice Springs	NT	5750	
V77-262	Horace A.A. McPhee	13/13 Argyle St	Mildura	VIC	3500	
N77-263	Henry McPhee	40 Gordon Avenue	Summerland Point	NSW	2259	
V77-264	Miss Ruth Alison McPhee	4 Carson St	Kew	VIC	3101	
V77-265	Gary P. McPhee	32 Vanbrook St	Forest Hill	VIC	3131	
Q77-266	Alfred W.I. McGuffie	20 Miawela St	Seven Hills	QLD	4170	
Q77-267	Nool Napier McPhie	18 Rathlyn Ave	Corinda	QLD	4075	
N77-268	Mrs Noreen G.	29/129 Burns Bay Rd	Lane Cove	NSW	2066	
N77-269	Neil McPhee	23 The Circle	Jannali	NSW	2226	
N77-270	Mrs Heather McPhee	23 The Circle	Jannali	NSW	2226	
*N77-271	Miss Lyndal McPhee	23 The Circle	Jannali	NSW	2226	
Q77-272	William Athol McGuffie	1 Wenlock Court	Weipa	QLD	4874	
Q77-273	Mrs Hanora C. McGuffie	1 Wenlock Court	Weipa	QLD	4874	
*Q77-274	Miss Norrie Kay Kindopp	1 Jacaranda St	Holloways Beach	Cairns Q.	4870	
Q77-275	Cpl William A. McGuffie	35 SQN	RAAF Base	Townsville	QLD	4810
Q77-276	Mrs Patricia N. Gregory	1 Jacaranda St	Holloways Beach	Cairns Q.	4870	
W77-277	John Donald McPhee	11 Inglis St	Boypup Brook	WA	6244	
V77-278	Stan McPhee	112 Victoria St	Kerang	VIC	3579	
V77-279	Alexander M. McPhee	45 Glen Rd	Glen Waverley	VIC	3150	
S77-280	Brian Michael McHaffie	23 Berrima St	Glenolig North	SA	5045	
*S77-281	Stuart James McHaffie	23 Berrima St	Glenolig North	SA	5045	
S77-282	James Arthur McHaffie	21/13 Croker Rd	Morphotville	SA	5043	
N77-283	G.S. McPhee	53 Myall St	Concord West	NSW	2138	
Z77-284	Allan McPhee	106 Courtney Pl	Wellington	NEW ZEALAND		
Q77-285	Ian McPhee	8 Bussian St	Toowoomba	QLD	4350	
Q77-286	Mrs Aileen McPhee	8 Bussian St	Toowoomba	QLD	4350	
S77-287	Miss Lorraine M. McPhee	3/32 Maons St	Lockleys	SA	5032	
V77-288	Rupert John McPhee	127 Summerhill Rd	Footscray	VIC	3011	
V77-289	Mrs Cheryl Threadgold	41 Second St	Black Rock	VIC	3193	
V77-290	Mrs Brenda W. Higgins	1 Brackon Crt	Highton	VIC	3216	
*S77-291	Bruce Allan McPhee	10 Camelia St	Tea Tree Gully	SA	5091	
S77-292	Mrs Bornice E. McPhee	10 Camelia St	Tea Tree Gully	SA	5091	
S77-293	Donald James McPhee	41 Fairview Cres	Ridgehaven	SA	5097	
S77-294	Mrs Susan Jean McPhee	41 Fairview Cres	Ridgehaven	SA	5097	
*S77-295	Miss Sally Ann McPhee	41 Fairview Cres	Ridgehaven	SA	5097	
W77-296	Terence Douglas McFie	1 Highbury Cres	Cannington	WA	6107	
W77-297	John Stuart McPhee	77 Enfield St	Victoria Park	WA	6100	
W77-298	Mrs Phyllis Esme McPhee	77 Enfield St	Victoria Park	WA	6100	
N77-299	John McPhee	Palmer's Channel	Palmer's Island	NSW	2160	
V77-300	Donald George McPhee	82 Fornsidge Ave	Briar Hill	VIC	3088	
V77-301	Murdoch Roy McPhee	12 Paywit St	Preston	VIC	3072	
V77-302	Mrs Elizabeth E. McPhee	12 Paywit St	Preston	VIC	3072	
N77-303	George Macfie Poole	7 Millie St	Arncliffe	NSW	2350	
S77-304	Henry Baxter McPhie	43 Branksome Tce	Dover Gardens	SA	5048	
S77-305	Donald John Macphee	45/1 Beans Rd	Thebarton	SA	5031	
T77-306	Hector McFie	'Rothesay' 78 Stewart St	Devonport	TAS	7310	
T77-307	Mrs Toni McFie	'Rothesay' 78 Stewart St	Devonport	TAS	7310	
V77-308	John C. McPhee	McPhee's Road	Whittlesea	VIC	3757	
W77-309	Mrs P. Wyer	Stabliplaz 300	5223 Riniken	(AL) SWITZERLAND		
N77-310	Cedric Thomas McPhee	590 Blende St	Broken Hill	NSW	2880	
N77-311	Mrs Heather M. MacPhee	'Veretta'	Cullen Bullen	NSW	2744	
*N77-312	Digby Warwick MacPhee	'Veretta'	Cullen Bullen	NSW	2744	
*N77-313	James Lennox MacPhee	'Veretta'	Cullen Bullen	NSW	2744	
*N77-314	Andrew Lachlan MacPhee	'Veretta'	Cullen Bullen	NSW	2744	
Q77-315	Lincoln Gray McPhee	4 Scholtz St	Stanthorpe	QLD	4380	
Q77-316	Donald James Fee	14 Fifth Ave	Mount Isa	QLD	4825	
Q77-317	James Fee	M/S 76	Lanternmoor Beach	Yeppeon	QLD	4703
V77-318	Allan Douglas McPhee	Flat 16	3 - 5 James St	Mordialloc	VIC	3195
N77-319	Nigel Bruce McPhee	Soldier's Point Rd	Soldier's Point	NSW	2301	
V77-320	Mrs Phonie Rogers	74 High St	Kangaroo Flat	Bendigo	VIC	3555
*V77-321	Bruce Stephen McPhee	3 Parkstone Ave	Pascoe Vale	South V.	3044	
N77-322	Mrs Marelle Lee	'Tynlee'	Tyndale	via Grafton	NSW	2460

\* denotes member under 18 years of age.

I have 13 more names, but have miscalculated the space required

so will include them next time. Apologies to those concerned.