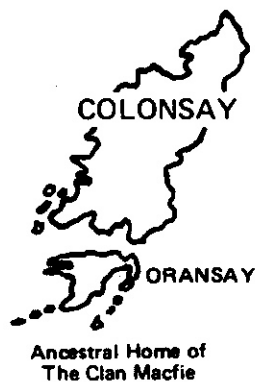


# *The Macfie Clan Society of Australia*

(Founded in Richmond NSW on 3rd May 1974)



## **Newsbulletin**

**No 22**

**May 79**

## From Your President

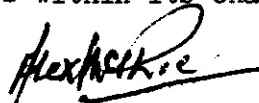
This Newsbulletin marks the fifth anniversary of the formation of our Clan Society. Twenty three of the thirty one members approached supported a proposal to organize a society and it formally came into existence at Richmond NSW on 4th May 1974. We have come a long way since that date and now have over four hundred members scattered throughout all States of Australia, plus some overseas members.

The Clan Society has been very active in a number of ways during its first five years. Organization and administration has been established on a sound and permanent base; contact made with all Clan members in Australia whose names appear in the Australian telephone directories (1977 mailing - 855 addressees); contact established with other societies of our Clan in Scotland, Sweden, Canada and the United States of America; we have participated in, and financially supported, the Mhic-a-Phi Standing Stone restoration project on Colonsay - a significant undertaking in itself as it is the first on a Clan wide basis for centuries! - and above all we are actively supporting the world-wide move to have a new Clan Chief proclaimed.

Membership number 455 has been issued, and although we have lost members over our brief period of operation, we can certainly claim to represent the majority of interested Clan members in Australia. Current membership list is enclosed with this Newsbulletin, and membership statistics are included in it - they are representative of each State's Clan Macfie population. More importantly, they give an indication of our strength and, in this regard, are vital to our case at some future date when we join with the other societies of our Clan to bring a candidate for Clan Chiefship before the Lyon Court in Edinburgh.

I realize there are gaps in our performance to date as a Clan Society - social gatherings could increase in number, variety and attendance; Scottish and Highland dancing and pipe band participation are non-existent on a Society basis; other Clan Society activities are needed to bring members together for greater contact in all centres. However, help is required in arranging these activities support is needed when they are arranged, and funds are not plentiful. These shortcomings can be rectified in time.

Our annual membership fee of \$3.00 per member is not great when offset against the cost of four Newsbulletins per year - an approximate cost of \$2.00 per member. But it is essential that we maintain financial membership numbers close to the present figure if we are to avoid increasing fees. A number of members have not paid their 1978 subscriptions as yet and, in accordance with our constitution, their membership will shortly be terminated if outstanding amounts are not paid. Please think carefully before letting your membership lapse - we need your support, and the Clan needs your support, in our great undertaking to find a new Chief; we need your financial support to continue to function on a cost effective basis; and I do believe that in time our Clan Society will develop, with your support, into the desired vital organization providing for all members needs and interests within its charter.



Alex McPhie  
President

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President : Wing Commander Alex McPhie, Headquarters Support Command, R.A.A.F.,  
Victoria Barracks, Melbourne. Vic. 3004.

Vice-President : Sandy McPhee, 47 Bellamy Street, Pennant Hills. NSW 2120.  
(Telephone Sydney 84-2257)

Secretary : Mrs Helen McPhie, 8 Floreat Court, Glen Waverley. Vic. 3150.  
(Telephone Melbourne 232-6640)

Treasurer : Ross McPhee, 5 Wendover Court, Mt Waverley. Vic. 3149.  
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INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS

Nova Scotia                      Canada

28 June to 12 August 1979

This is the first International Gathering of the Clans to be held outside Scotland. Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother will open the Gathering on 28th June. Opening ceremonies will include a Royal Tattoo. Activities will continue for six weeks in fourteen separate areas within the Province. In all, there will be 28 major Scottish events and 99 other community activities. Over thirty three Clans (including Clan Macfie) will be participating. The prime thrust of this major tourist promotion is to celebrate Nova Scotia's Scottish heritage - but the Gathering will also feature many family activities which can be enjoyed by visitors and travellers regardless of their ethnic origin. Nova Scotia has broad tourist appeal. The topography of the northern part of the mainland and Cape Breton Island is reminiscent of the Scottish Highlands and about 70% of the population is of Scottish descent.

Information regarding the Gathering can be obtained by writing to :

The Gathering  
P.O.Box 130  
Halifax      Nova Scotia    B3J 2M7  
CANADA.

or by contacting your preferred tourist agency.

CLAN MACFIE functions, arranged through the Clan MacPhee Societies in Canada, are scheduled for 30th June - 2nd July at Dartmouth and 16th - 17th July at Antigonish. At Dartmouth there will be a parade for Clan members at the opening on 28th June and the Canadian Societies will hold a general meeting, then at Antigonish a general meeting of all Clan members will be held....plus Social Functions at both localities.

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SOCIAL NOTES

Nothing of a definite nature to announce - however, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide groups are looking into the matter of social functions.

Adelaide members were active again in March and April with a get-together at Vice-President Brian McHaffie's home in Glenelg North early in March and a Barbeque in Rymill Park on (of all days) 1st April.

Melbourne members enjoyed a pleasant afternoon picnic in Fitzroy Gardens on 24th March.

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MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

A list of Society Members is enclosed. State by state statistics are :

	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	TAS	WA	NT	ACT	O/seas	Honorary	Total
Members	65	124	110	23	8	11	1	3	9	2	356
Under 18	11	17	22	6	1	5	-	-	-	-	62
Total	76	141	132	29	9	16	1	3	9	2	418

## HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL NOTES

### Descendants of Sir James Cameron McPhee.

Newsbulletin No 20 carried notes on the late Sir John Cameron McPhee, a former Premier of Tasmania. As a direct result of these notes, Allan Douglas McPhee (V77-318) of Mordialloc Vic. wrote with further family details. He is a nephew of the late Sir John. His father, Reginald Michael McPhee, a younger brother of Sir John, was born at Yan Yean or Bairnsdale Vic. on 16 August 1887. Educated in Bairnsdale, he moved to Melbourne in the early 1900s, lived at Northcote and was employed as an engine driver. Married in 1912, he served in France during World War I and won a Military Medal for gallantry in the field. After the war the family moved to Thornbury where they lived for over fifty years. Reginald McPhee died on 2nd January 1974. Four of his six children are still living. He had three brothers and a sister living in Melbourne, all of whom had predeceased him.

Norman McPhee (V75-121) of Camberwell Vic. is also related to Sir John.

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### Lt General James McHaffie's letters

Phillip Island at the mouth of Western Port, south east of Melbourne, was discovered by George Bass in 1798. For many years it was used as a base for sealers and became a hideaway for escaped convicts. In 1842 William and John McHaffie, who had been farming at Moonee Ponds on the outskirts of Melbourne, arranged to rent 24,320 acres on the island for £10. per annum. Crops and livestock flourished as the McHaffies developed the island, and to-day it supports many prosperous farms plus a thriving tourist industry.

Society members in Victoria -

Miss Nancy McHaffie	(V76-183)	of Hawthorn,
Mrs Margaret Davis	(V76-184)	of Mt. Waverley, and
Vernon Suter Wemyss McHaffie	(V77-248)	and
Mrs Oonah Frances McHaffie	(V77-249)	of Park Orchards

are direct descendants of the original Phillip Island settlers. In a recent letter Oonah wrote of her great-grandfather, Lt General James McHaffie, the father of William and John, and mentioned letters in her possession which were written by the General to his wife in Scotland when he was stationed on the island of Sicily during the Napoleonic wars.

These letters are most interesting and with Oonah's permission I am reproducing them in this and our next Newsbulletin.

Oonah writes :

"Over one hundred and sixty years ago, during the Napoleonic wars, my great-grandfather, James McHaffie, was serving as a captain in the 21st Royal Scots Fusiliers in Sicily. The regiment was with the British Forces under the command of Sir John Stuart. The troops were guarding the Strait of Messina, as the French were still occupying Italy.

"I have in my possession several letters, written by James McHaffie to his wife in Ayr, Scotland, during the period 1810 to 1811. They are yellowed with age but still legible. Each letter has been written on a folded sheet of paper but only three sides could be used, as it was then folded, much as our aerogrammes are to-day, with the back of the last side used for the address and then sealed with sealing wax. In order to save space and postage, when the three sides were used up, the writer, if wishing to communicate further, commenced again at the first sheet and wrote across the previous writing.

"James McHaffie, the writer of these letters, was a Lt General at the time of his death, but had been on the retired list for sometime. Before his retirement from the Army he had served in Italy, Sicily, France, America and the West Indies. He commanded the skirmishers in the attack on the French near Messina in 1810, where one thousand prisoners were taken with one stand of colours. He was at the taking of Genoa in 1814, and went to America in the same year, where he served as Brigade Major to Colonel Paterson's Brigade in the actions of Bladensburg and Washington, as well as Godlywood, near Baltimore. He was taken prisoner with six other officers when engaged in front of New Orleans.

"James McHaffie was born at Puffock in Kirkcubright, Scotland, on 22nd January 1776 and died at Torhousemuir, Wigtownshire on 22nd November 1865.

"His wife, the lady to whom the letters were written, was Hannah Douart Rankine, daughter of Captain Macquorn Rankine, of Drumdow, Scotland, and my great-grandmother. A water colour painting of Hannah hangs on a wall of our living room. It was copied by Hannah McGowan, an artist in Edinburgh, from a miniature on ivory.

"James and Hannah had eight children, but the third, a daughter, died at sea on the way to America in 1814 aged about eight months. She was born at Messina, Sicily, on 31st December 1813. Mrs McHaffie had joined her husband there probably about the end of 1811 as in January, 1812, her mother wrote to her urging her to leave the island and return to Scotland as the newspapers had reported that the troops had all left Sicily to assist the Russians. However this did not eventuate as, after the taking of Genoa in 1814, Hannah and two of the children accompanied Major McHaffie when he was sent to America. This letter from her mother is also in my possession.

"There is a link with Australia. Of the three sons of Lt General McHaffie, William, the oldest left Galloway in the "Palmyria" and reached Melbourne on 23rd November 1839. The youngest brother, James, accompanied him but did not reach Melbourne. He died of typhus fever on board ship and was buried at sea near Adelaide.

"William, sometime after his arrival, sent for his younger and only surviving brother, John David, who arrived in October 1842 in the "Thos Arbuthnot". They obtained the lease of Phillip Island where they grazed sheep and also bred pedigreed cattle and horses. Later, William returned to Scotland but John David and his family remained on the island until 1883. (See "Phillip Island in Picture and Story", compiled by J.W.Gliddon).

"Throughout the letters the longing for news of home and family predominates. The first of the letters is dated 29th April 1810, and has been sent from Rocco, Madura, near Messina, Sicily. It is addressed to Mrs Captain McHaffie, in the custom of those times."

My Dearest Dear Hannah,

I have determined on your plan of keeping a journal of the transaction of every day and to send them to you by every opportunity. I shall commence from the day I wrote you by the last Packet.

(The packet was the boat which carried the mails. Owing to the Napoleonic Wars, and the vagaries of the weather, some weeks would elapse between packets and delivery of letters was very erratic.)

29th April. I wrote you yesterday by Colonel Darrah who goes home in a bad state of health. I like my present quarters here very well, and there are only two officers along with me, we mess together and live a very quiet sober life. We are to remain here seven weeks when we will be relieved by two other companies.

1st May. Fine warm weather. I have commenced sea bathing. I get up every morning at five o'clock, our parade is at six, so to Bathe at

seven and Breakfast is at eight, from that time until dinner I read History and study the Italian language. I dine at half past four, our evening parade is at six, after it I take a long walk and generally return after eight. I then read until nine when I go to my lonely bed.

I have had some good shooting for about a week past, the Quail are now on their passage from Africa to the Continent of Europe and when the wind happens to be contrary for them getting forward they are to be met with here in great abundance.

2nd May. I am for duty this day.

3rd. Weather very fine and country looking beautiful. I am extremely sorry to learn by the French papers that Sir Francis Burdett has been committed to the Tower for disrespect to the House of Commons and that there have been riots in London in consequence. However I sincerely trust it is not quite so bad as represented. I am very sorry to see that things do not go on so well as one could wish at home. The House of Commons instead of being a place of cool and temperate discussion is become quite the contrary. God only knows how matters will terminate, for at present they do not look nice.

(Apparently debates in Parliament could get out of hand as much in those days as in the present time! History relates that this trouble occurred after criticism of the Government following mis-management of the ill-fated Walcheren Expedition, supposedly caused by the incompetency of the commanders of the army and the fleet.)

6th. We are to be reviewed by the Commander of the Forces tomorrow and are busily employed making preparations this day for it.

7th. We have had a very favourable day for our review, the wind being in the north cooled the air and made it very pleasant. Sir John expressed himself much pleased with our appearance and manoeuvres. One half of the Regt. were invited to dine with him this day and the other tomorrow.

10th. No news. We had a field day, the weather is now becoming too hot for the field and I hope this will be the last one we will have until the month of October next.

12th. I am now busily employed copying a plan of this Island and Italy. It is variety for me when I tire reading. I shall adopt one hour every day to it.

13th. I dined in Messina this day with a merchant from Belfast. There were five others besides myself. He gave us a good dinner, and some good Irish Claret. However I do not think I shall dine any more in town as long as I am quartered here, the distance being too great to walk after dinner.

14th. I remained at home all day. I begin to look out anxiously for the Packet.

18th. Still no appearance of the Packet. It is three weeks last Sunday since the last one sailed.

21st. I had my company inspected by Colonel Adam. It took almost all day. He expressed himself perfectly satisfied with it.

22nd. No news of the Packet, it has been due for upwards of ten days but at this season we may expect it to be very irregular owing to the easterly winds being so prevalent.

24th. We were mustered this morning at five o'clock. Afterwards I breakfasted with our friend Baron Wright, who was making kind enquiries after you. He is quartered about a mile from where I am, we often meet and walk together in the evening. He had strawberries at Breakfast, they are not so good as those in Britain. They put me in mind of the pleasant parties we had at Belfast when we used to go to the strawberry garden with Colonel and Mrs McGaskill (I wish to God I was there with you now.)

25th. I had a Sicilian Gentleman to dine with me this day, he lives near this and was very attentive and obliging in giving me the use of his guns and dogs.

27th. There is no account of the Packet and in all probability there will be two about the same time which will make you long of hearing from me.

29th. I was on a Court Martial all day. This day twelve months I sailed from the Cove of Cork. I never spent so dreary a year in my life, indeed I never had the same cause you and the children are never out of my mind. I trust that we will not be much longer separated. It is a very severe punishment for me. The only thing that makes it supportable at all is that I will be enabled to save you a little money to make us more comfortable afterwards.

30th. The people are busy cutting down the wheat and barley.

2nd June. Packet arrived from England this forenoon but to my great grief no letter from you, Dearest Hannah. I sincerely trust that I shall be more fortunate in the next which is expected in the next fortnight. I went in for the English papers which came out with the Packet. I am happy to learn that Sir Francis Burdett is not so much to blame as was at first reported here. I trust he will recover damages from the Speaker of the House as it appears by the papers that he has exceeded his duty.

4th. This being the King of Great Britain's birthday the Commander of the Forces had out all the troops in Messina and its vicinity to fire a feu de joie in honor of the day and afterwards he gave a Ball to all the garrison. I was on duty and of course did not go to it which I was not sorry for as the distance is too great to return in the night and to be up next morning at five o'clock.

(The King at this period was George III).

6th. The Packet is to sail Saturday first. I intend going into Town tomorrow to try to get you a bill upon London for a little more money. I trust by this time you have received the £50 I sent you by the Packet before last.

7th. I came into town this morning and I have been able to procure you a bill upon London for one hundred pounds sterling which I trust will be honored in course. I had some difficulty in procuring this as King Joachim is at present on the other side and making a great number of vain threats that he will invade this country in the course of a month. Everyone here laughs at the idea except the merchants who wish to make the best of everything of the kind. We have nothing to fear from here as long as we are Masters of the Sea, which I trust we will be for a long time to come, indeed I have not the smallest doubt of it.

(King Joachim had been one of Napoleon's Generals, and he was married to his sister, Caroline. Napoleon had made his brother, Joseph, King of Naples in March 1806, but by 1808 had taken Joseph from Naples in order to give him the throne of Spain, and had made Joachim Murat King of Naples.)

Do write to me my dearest love on receipt of this. You cannot conceive how much I am disappointed at not hearing from you by the last Packet. I trust to God I will hear from you by the next.

Remember me kindly to all enquiring friends and with my most sincere wishes for your health and happiness, I beg leave to remain, my most Dear and much loved wife,

Your most affectionate and loving husband,

James McHaffie.

Give Cornie and Anne Jane a thousand kisses for me.

(These were his two oldest children and his only children at that time. Eventually he had four daughters and three sons living. Another daughter died in infancy.)

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FOOTSTEPS - AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By Dr Earle Douglas MacPhee

(Versatile Publishing Co.Ltd., Vancouver, 1978)

Dr Earle Douglas MacPhee was born in 1894. His autobiography begins with the description of life in the little village of Lower Millstream in New Brunswick, Canada. His parents were of pioneer stock. His Father, a sawmiller, was a man of high intelligence and firm ethical principles inherited from his Scottish forebears. Earle Douglas grew up in a close-knit village community where friendliness and mutual support characterized personal relationships, and the churches set the standards of social life. These were influences that were to last a life time.

In the fullness of time, and by his own unswerving efforts, Earle Douglas became a teacher, and was already, at the age of twenty, a High School Principal. After a traumatic period of service in France during the First World War (in which he was decorated for bravery), and having obtained his degree at the University of Edinburgh, he returned in 1920 to Canada to become a university lecturer. Psychology was his chosen field, teaching his natural inclination: he joined them both. He followed this path for the next ten years - years of hard work, rapid promotion, invigorating contacts, widening experience.

At this point he made what was, in the circumstances, a surprising, even courageous, decision: he changed direction and entered the world of business. By 1931 he was Controller of one of the largest industrial firms in Canada. At a time when many businesses were suffering from the effects of the Great Depression, he did pioneer work in management consulting, a new area of enterprise which took him, in 1937, to England as Chief Executive of the famous glove firm, Dent Allcroft Ltd..

Wartime in England was, understandably, no picnic. He quickly became involved in the production of the Sunderland Flying Boats and the Stirling Bombers. In a later venture he established Alginate Industries Ltd., organizing research into the possible uses of alginic acid extracted from seaweed harvested on the coasts of Scotland - a project that brought much satisfaction to Earle Douglas as it also provided much needed employment for the Scottish crofters. - And who indeed could resist the tale of the intriguing properties of alginic acid which enabled it to be used in the manufacture of products as disparate as beer, camouflage nets, transparent paper, fine worsted cloth, and cold puddings?

Looking down from the eminence of age and experience, Dr. MacPhee comments on things seen in retrospect. He views them with the impartial eye of the trained observer, yet always one senses the ghostly presences of those pioneer forebears, transmitting their Protestant ethic down the years. Without bias, he balances the profit and loss of modern developments in education. He welcomes the increase in freedom of the individual (if only it is tempered with self-discipline); he regrets the diminishing of family influences and parental guidance. In the Depression of



the 1930s, he notes, inadequate provision was made for the unemployed; nowadays the individual too easily divests himself of personal responsibility and makes excessive demands on society. He considers the role of the university professor; he speaks of student disaffection, and hopes that universities may engender 'breadth of cultivation and liberality of mind'.

In 1950, with the great expansion of tertiary institutions, Earle Douglas is invited to develop a School of Commerce at the University of British Columbia. Thus the two paths converge at last: the university professor and the business administrator meet in happy conjunction. Having passed from Director of the School to Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, and thence to Dean of Financial and Administrative Affairs, Dr MacPhee is now, in retirement, Emeritus Dean. 'Retirement' however, is hardly an appropriate term. He has simply continued to be immersed in a variety of commitments of national importance. Since the age of seventy-six he has devoted himself to research and writings on clan and family history.

It may be in this exclusive concentration on work that the key to his success lies. The world of the arts seems to have passed him by. The ordinary social pastimes are not for him. He preferred to direct his considerable energies to determined goals. His single-mindedness did not prevent his involvement in a multitude of social matters outside his immediate programme. His experience and direction were constantly sought, and freely given, in such areas as High School curricula, programmes for the mentally retarded, the Maritime Provinces Trade Commission, the Tree Fruit Industry, the manning of tugboats, the problem of Quebec and national unity.

From this record of a crowded life, Earle Douglas himself emerges as a man of outstanding competence and wide achievement; a man of genial temperament, a lasting friend and an affectionate family man; a man of courage in the face of personal vicissitudes; a man of loyalty and integrity. To quote from the citation delivered at the conferring of one of his degrees honoris causa: 'a man of pretean energy and warm human quality'.

Kay H. McPhee  
(V74-006)

Dr Earle is, of course, well known to Clan Society members as the one solely responsible for initiating the move to reactivate our Clan. He is also our first Honorary Member.

Footsteps is available through Society Secretary, Helen, at \$6.50 posted.

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VALE

With sorrow I record the passing of the following members :

V76 - 132 Edward Singleton McPhee of North Balwyn Vic.

V77 - 262 Horace A.A. (Sonny) McPhee of Mildura Vic.

Both were returned servicemen living in retirement. Sonny served in the RAAF during World War II; Edward, a Gallipoli veteran and Military Medal winner with the AIF in World War I, was also a former President and Treasurer of the Royal Caledonian Society of Melbourne.

Sincere sympathy on behalf of all members has been extended to both families.

## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Reminder notices are attached for those who have not paid their 1979 membership subscriptions of \$3.00 per person. A number of members also have not paid their 1978 subscriptions and letters are enclosed drawing their attention to this.

Please give these accounts your early attention.

We need your support, but cannot continue to extend membership rights to unfinancial members.

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### NEW MEMBERS

V79-446	Robert Donald	McPhee	10 Carrathool Street	Bulleen Vic	3105
V79-447	Colin A.	McPhee	36 Wellman Street	Box Hill Vic	3128
V79-448	Mrs Isabel	Coombe	59 Beleura Hill Road	Mornington Vic	3931
V79-449	Thomas Norman	McPhee	52 Swanston Street	West Heidelberg Vic	3081
V79-450	Laurence Norman	McPhee	11 Murphy Street	Clayton South Vic	3169
N79-451	Mrs Pauline	Duffy	RAAF Base	Richmond NSW	2755
*V79-452	Shaun	Duffy	RAAF Base	Richmond NSW	2755
*V79-453	Grant	Duffy	RAAF Base	Richmond NSW	2755
*V79-454	Andrew Stuart	McPhee	33 Saxonwood Drive	East Doncaster Vic	3109
*V79-455	Miss Suzanne E.	McPhee	33 Saxonwood Drive	East Doncaster Vic	3109

\* Under 18 years of age.

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### GENERAL NOTES

- \* Sally McPhee (N74-080) of Pennant Hills NSW was one of two girls to receive their Bachelor of Building Degrees from the University of New South Wales earlier this month. A fine effort, Sally, congratulations.
- \* Society Piper Donald MacPhee (V76-159) of Burwood East Vic. and son, Grant (V76-230) of Oakleigh Vic., were members of the Victoria Police Highland Pipe Band performing at the recent Melbourne Military Tattoo. Grant was the Lone Piper at the closing ceremony on two nights - an honour Donald has received on a number of occasions at the Edinburgh Tattoo. The Melbourne Tattoo was a great success and the closing ceremony with all participants packing the centre of the Melbourne Cricket Ground under floodlights was a magnificent and colourful spectacle.
- \* Congratulations to Helen Rice (Q74-044) and husband Michael of Scone NSW on the birth of their first child, a son.
- \* Queensland Vice-President Nev McPhee and wife Linley of Toowoomba leave early in May for the Rotary International Convention in Rome. Nev is a former Governor (1974-75) of District 255 R.I. and still active in Rotary affairs.
- \* Donald MacPhee (S77-305) of Thebarton SA returned earlier this year from a six month visit to Scotland. He writes of joining a Canadian for a cup of coffee on a small ship in the Hebrides - to find he was a Douglas MacPhee heading for Benbecula where his grandfather was born. Then again in Fort William Donald struck up conversation with a fellow spectator watching a plumber's shop burn down - not only was this man the shop owner, but he too was a MacPhee! And, I believe Donald found the Highland salmon still taste as sweet as ever - if caught in the approved manner.
- \* Get well wishes to Bob McPhee (V76-151) of Vermont Vic. who is taking it easy (for a change) on doctor's orders.
- \* Clan member and four times All-round Australian Rodeo Champion, Gary McPhee, was in action at the Marysville rodeo in Victoria recently, winning the calf roping event in a record time of 11.8 seconds.

*with the compliments of*

Kevin and Christa Byrne

*Isle of Colonsay Hotel*

*Argyll, Scotland*

*Tel: Colonsay 316*



**OBAN – COLONSAY FERRY SERVICE**

Operator: Caledonian MacBrayne

Tel: Oban 2285 Telex: 77556

Schedule            Until Oct. 21            From Oct. 21

Outward – Ex Oban (F)15.30 (MW)19.30            (MWF)09.00

Inward - Ex Colonsay (TTh)06.00 (F)18.30            (MWF)11.45

Journey Time: 2½ hours.            Single Fare: £2.65

Bar and meal service aboard.

**AIR – SERVICE**

Colonsay Airfield is available at own risk to private and charter aircraft; grass strip, 500 metres. Prior permission only – Tel: Colonsay 312.

Charter Operators:-

Loganair – Tel: (Glasgow) 041-889 3181;  
possible cost to charter Islander Aircraft for seven passengers, Glasgow to Colonsay £168 + 8% VAT.

Edinburgh Flying Services – Tel: (Edinburgh)  
031-334 9219.

Burnhills Aviation – Tel: (Glasgow) 041-887 7733;  
operate helicopters to carry four passengers. A typical charter Glasgow to Colonsay might cost £160, depending upon route.

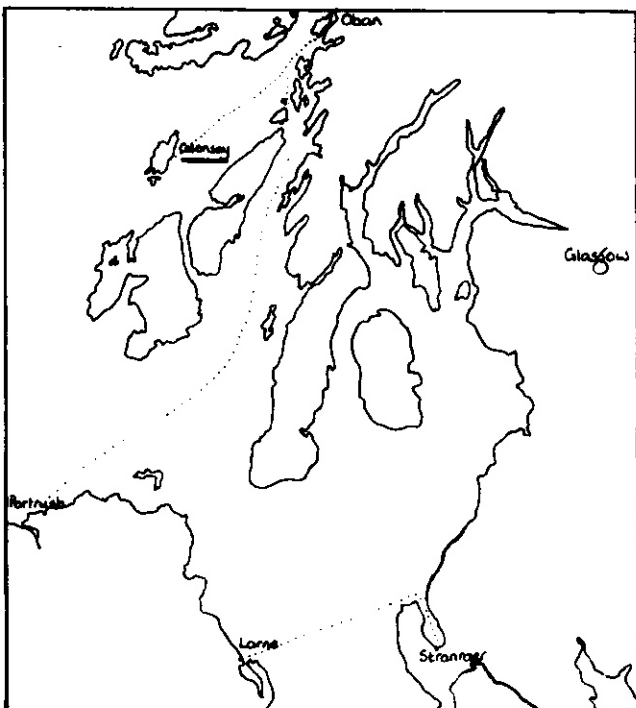
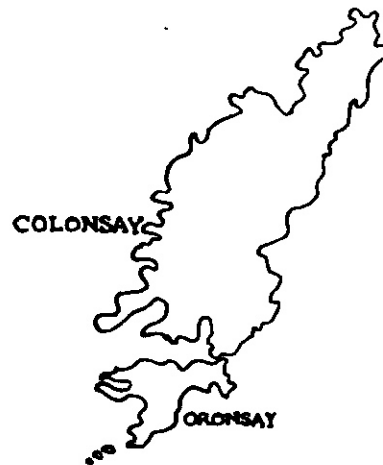
**Autumn - Winter - Spring**

on

Colonsay

and

Oronsay



*Isle of Colonsay Hotel*

*Argyll, Scotland*

*Tel: Colonsay 316*

## COLONSAY and ORONSAY

Although only 2½ hours from Oban by steamer, Colonsay and neighbouring Oronsay are perhaps the least 'artificial' of the Hebrides; they have retained their native population, and have not become a nature reserve, research station or defence outpost - neither have they been turned over to hunting lodges and untrammelled tourism. The economy remains agricultural, enjoying low rainfall, mild winters and long hours of summer sunshine. Naturalists will note gannets, fulmars, wigeon, teal, lags, geese, eider and many other birds; the seals are readily observed, but otters, sharks and even whales are seen by some. Botanists may wish to study some at least of the 500 recorded species of local flora, and of course to visit the gardens of Colonsay House, amongst the most noted in Scotland.

A detailed, illustrated brochure devoted exclusively to the islands is available on application to the hotel. The following should be available through a good reference library (Catalogue ref. XDA 1596):-

Grieve S. 'Colonsay & Oronsay'; Oliver & Boyd 1923  
Loder J.V. 'Colonsay & Oronsay'; Oliver & Boyd 1935  
McPhee J. 'The Crofter & The Laird'; Angus & Robertson 1972  
Mercer J. 'Hebridean Islands'; Blackie 1974.

The visitor with any interest in the fields of archaeology, Natural History and Geology will be struck by the extraordinary wealth of material to be explored.

The hotel (a listed building) is in a sheltered position overlooking the harbour at Scalasaig; fully licensed, it has recently been taken over by Kevin and Christa Byrne whose former premises, an Irish country house, enjoyed a high reputation among the leading guide-books, both for comfort and cuisine. With again a strong emphasis on table d'hôte, the cuisine at Colonsay is based on the best of fresh produce; wherever possible, local supplies are used and of course, in season vegetables are from the hotel's own garden.

Facilities include a public bar, sun-room, drawing room and library; a television is available. There are wash-hand basins in every bedroom, although private bathrooms are at present rather limited. Bicycles are available gratis, and the hotel courtesy-car will meet guests at the pier or airfield; it is additionally available to collect guests by pre-arrangement from any point on the island, so that rammers need not make every walk a round-trip.



### Getting There .....

Drive to Oban, where the hotel can arrange for your car to be kept in the security of a garage .....

Or come to Oban by British Rail - there is an excellent service from any point in Great Britain, a wide range of excursion fares can make it quite inexpensive, and the station is at the pierhead .....

..... and continue by Caledonian-MacBrayne's ferry boat to Colonsay (2½ hours), where you will be met by the hotel courtesy-car .....

..... or if you prefer, bring your own car to Colonsay - all sailings are car ferries.

### Tariff to April 1st 1979

Accommodation and full breakfast	£ 8.00 single
	£12.00 double/twin
Bar or packed luncheon	£ 1.50
Dinner	£ 5.00

VAT included; there is no service charge.

Example:-

- i) 4 nights accommodation and all meals £48.50.  
Depart Oban any Friday to October 21st at 15.30, arrive back in Oban on Tuesday 08.30.
- ii) 3 nights accommodation and all meals £37.50.  
Depart Oban any Friday from October 22nd at 09.00, arrive back in Oban on Monday at 14.15.

Note : The brochure, released in mid-1978, was aimed at the tourist intake immediately ahead hence the heading Autumn - Winter - Spring (Sep 78 to May 79 in the north). Kevin and Christa assure me that they are delighted to have summer guests. Preparation of a summer brochure was delayed pending details of a new air service. Tariff has been increased after 1st April 1979 to Single £8.50 and Double/Twin £14.00. The Oban - Colonsay Ferry service detailed in the brochure as until October 21 will also apply after 1 April 1979. It is advisable to book ahead, especially if staying more than a day or two or during May and August.