

My major occupation is as an Air Force Officer - not as the President of a Clan Society, although sometimes I have my doubts. As a career serviceman, postings from one locality to another at regular intervals have become part of my way of life and frequently I seem to have as much stability in my home life as some of those clansmen had years ago in their Highland Glens. One of these moves is underway now with a transfer to Canberra actually on the go at present, thus continuity in Society affairs may be lacking for a

was while. The Society address of -
8 Forest Court, Glen Waverley, Vic. 3150.
remains good for the present - I should have a Canberra address for

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia

(Founded in Richmond NSW on 3rd May 1974)

Sunday late in May to early in June. It was a very enjoyable day and Helen and I were most appreciative of the kind contacts. The society... Victoria Vice-President, Bruce McKinnon, for organising the meeting and so Father Matthew McKinnon for making facilities at Donald's available - what a picturesque setting! Many thanks for the time taken not so thoughtfully provided for the cold nights in Canberra. It's been most useful.

General Meeting time is fast approaching. Our Third Annual General Meeting, it is scheduled for Adelaide on the Australian Day week-end next January. What about coming along? The Adelaide members are past service with our Society in arranging social functions so an excellent time is guaranteed. Various details to the General Meeting are included in this Newsletter - arrangements for social functions etc will be in the next Newsletter.



Ancestral Home of The Clan Macfie

Also in this Newsletter is a report on the establishment in Scotland of a limited company, Glen Waverley Associated Limited, which has been registered to hold the Macfie family lands surrounding the Macfie-a-Pit Standing Stone - the transfer of the lands from Lord Strathcona has been formally completed. This is a most significant step towards the re-constitution of the Macfie Society and the first tangible result of many months of correspondence between the various societies of our Clan which was aimed at bringing them together on a common basis.

able to include in this Newsletter such details of the Clan business sessions at the recent International Gathering of the Glens in Nova Scotia. They were held on the 15th and 16th of July, but as yet no reports are to hand - no doubt thanks to a mail exchange at Redfern. Further progress in the activities of our Clan should be forthcoming from Nova Scotia.

Newsletter

My thanks to all members who responded so readily to my call for early payment of outstanding subscriptions. Finances are looking far healthier now, but regrettably we appear to have lost none of the members who have left us through the year.

No 23

AUG 79

From Your President

My major occupation is as an Air Force Officer - not as the President of a Clan Society, although sometimes I have my doubts. As a career serviceman, postings from one locality to another at regular intervals have become part of my way of life and frequently I seem to have as much stability in my home life as some of those clansmen had years ago in their Highland Glens. One of these moves is underway now with a transfer to Canberra actually on the go at present, thus continuity in Society affairs may be lacking for a wee while. The Society address of -

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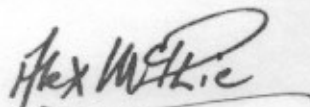
remains good for the present - I should have a Canberra address for the Society with the next Newsbulletin.

A number of Melbourne members gathered at short notice one Sunday late in May to wish me well on the way to Canberra. It was a very enjoyable day and Helen and I were most appreciative of the kind gesture, the company and everybody's good wishes. My thanks to Victoria Vice-President, Bruce McPhie, for organizing the function and to Father Matthew McPhee for making facilities at Donvale available - what a picturesque setting! Many thanks too for the fine tartan rug so thoughtfully provided for the cold nights in Canberra, its been most useful.

General Meeting time is fast approaching. Our Third Biennial General Meeting. It is scheduled for Adelaide on the Australia Day week-end next January. What about coming along? The Adelaide members are pace setters within our Society in arranging social functions so an excellent time is assured. Various details re the General Meeting are included in Newsbulletin - arrangements for social functions etc will be in the next Newsbulletin.

Also in this Newsbulletin is a report on the establishment in Scotland of a limited company, Clan Macfie Associates Limited, which has been registered to hold the land on Colonsay surrounding the Mhic-a-Phi Standing Stone - and any other item we wish to formally acquire or hold. The transfer of the land from Lord Strathcona has been formally completed. The formation of Clan Macfie Associates is a most significant step forward in the re-activation of Clan Macfie. It is the first tangible result of many months of correspondence between the various societies of our Clan which was aimed at bringing them together on a business footing. Additionally, I hope to be able to include in this Newsbulletin some details of the Clan Macfie business sessions at the Second International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia. They were held on the 16th and 17th of July, but as yet no reports are to hand - no doubt thanks to a mail exchange at Redfern. Further progress in the reactivation of our Clan should be forthcoming from Nova Scotia.....

My thanks to all members who responded so readily to my call for early payment of outstanding subscriptions. Finances are looking far healthier now, but regretfully we appear to have lost some of the members who have let their membership lapse through non-payment of last year's fees. Is it possible to find new members to replace them and continue to increase our membership numbers? I believe it is if you will help -



Alex McPhie
President

SOCIAL NOTES

SYDNEY OPEN DAY

SUNDAY

16th SEPTEMBER 1979

New South Wales Vice-President John Phee and wife Margaret (one of our two Historians) will hold an Open Day at their home at 12 Pitt Road, North Curl Curl on Sunday 16th September, from 10am onwards.

All members will be most welcome.....Please phone Sydney 93-5399 by Thursday, 13th September, to advise numbers attending and whether you wish to bring a picnic lunch or barbeque ingredients.

Remember : Sydney Sunday Sixteenth September!

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....The Royal Caledonian Society of Melbourne is holding a Festival Dinner on Thursday 22nd November...Clan tables available...Cost \$17.50 per person. Contact their President, Dr Norman Long, on Melbourne 24-4672 for further details.

....Thirty nine members and friends attended the farewell barbeque in Melbourne for Society President Alex McPhie on 27th May.

....Adelaide is the venue for our Third Biennial General Meeting on the Australia Day week-end next January. Further details next Newsbulletin.

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ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE SOCIETY EXECUTIVE

In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Society Constitution, nominations are now called for the election of the following members of the Society Executive for the 1980 - 1981 term of office :

- President
- Vice-President
- State Vice-Presidents for New South Wales
- Victoria
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Western Australia

Treasurer

Nominations close with the Society Secretary at 8 Floreat Court, Glen Waverley, Vic.3150, on 27th September 1979, and are to be in writing specifying the nominee's name and nominated office. Nominations are to be signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder.

Note Only financial members of the Society are eligible to accept nomination for office or to propose, second or vote for nominees for office. Additionally, in the case of a State Vice-President, only financial members in the State concerned are eligible to accept nomination for such office or to propose, second or vote for nominees for State office.

If a ballot for election of Executive members is required, ballot papers will be mailed by 11th October and be returnable by 8th November. Results will be notified in Newsbulletin No 24 at the end of November, while transfer of responsibilities of office will take place at the time of the Third Biennial General Meeting in January 1980.

THIRD BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING - AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Items for the Third Biennial General Meeting of the Society are to be submitted in writing to the Society Secretary at 8 Floreat Court, Glen Waverley, Vic.3150, by 8th November 1979. The Meeting Agenda will be notified to members in Newsbulletin No 24 at the end of November.

From Father Bernie McPhee (V75-118) of Port Melbourne comes this call for a FAMILY REUNION of the -

JOHN AND BRIDGET MCPHEE FAMILY

(Late of Natimuk, Vic.)

TO BE HELD AT SHEPPARTON, VIC.

on 13th and 14th October,

1979

ABOUT THIS REUNION :

With so many McPhee families in the "Macfie Clan Society of Australia" it could be confusing to readers when a "Family Reunion" is announced. The particular McPhee family concerned in **this, their first ever reunion, are the descendants of John McPhee and Bridget Loney.** The grandchildren of their second son, Archibald McPhee, have taken the initiative and called the **family together.**

John McPhee, the father of the family we're talking about, was a shepherd, like his father before him, in Inverness, in Scotland. When he alighted from the ship, the "Childe Harold" in 1853, he was a braw youth of 18 years. On the three month journey from Liverpool to Geelong (Vic.), he had the company of his father, his three brothers and three sisters. His father had employment guaranteed him at Wardy Yalloc, as it was called then, for the princely sum of £165 for six months with food and rations provided. Very soon however, young John took a position with Mr. Wilson at Vectis station. He became the overseer for the older Mr. Wilson's property, and with the later subdivision of the property, was able to select a choice block. The Wilsons, in those early years, proved to be more than employers and they became firm friends of the McPhee family. Hector Alexander McPhee, born in 1887, the youngest of John's twelve children was named after Hector Alexander Wilson. A silver christening cup commemorates this event.

Bridget Loney:

In 1839, a newly married couple, a tailor and his wife, from Tipperary, in Ireland, walked from the ship "Westminister" to have their first look at the village of Melbourne. The two young people, Samuel and Catherine Loney (she was a Landrigan) procured some land in the village, in pleasant Collins Street. In June, 1845, their daughter Bridget was born. Father Walsh, assistant to Father Geoghegan, baptized Bridget in the little Melbourne Church of Saint Francis, in the same month of June, 1845. "The husband followed his avocation, tailoring, in the infant settlement for nine years until he ventured northwards with his family to take a situation as shepherd at the Vectis station, owned by Firebrace. Mrs. Loney was the first white woman to appear in the district." This little quotation from Coughlin's Horsham Parish History of 1943 indicates in passing how the Loney family came to settle in the same area as John McPhee. John McPhee married Bridget Loney at Stawell on the 17th June, 1863. John was 28 and Bridget was 18 at the time.

Family :

Of the twelve children of John and Bridget McPhee, two of the girls in the family died when still quite young : Alice died in 1905 at the age of 25, and Janie died in 1904 when she was 19. Both these are buried beside their father in the Natimuk cemetery. There were five boys in the family ; two sons married girls by the name of Murphy who were sisters - Archie married Mary Murphy and Jim married Julia Murphy. Two other sons of the family, Robert and Hector McPhee married girls called Liston who were sisters - Robert married Bridgie Liston and Hector married Katie Liston. The eldest son of John and Bridget **McPhee**, also called John, did not marry. The remaining five girls in the family married as follows : Charlotte married Bill Brasier, Margaret married Harry Sisson, Mary Ellen married Jim Bernasochi, Emily married Jack Murphy who was the brother of Mary and Julia Murphy mentioned above, and Kate McPhee married George Hassall who was the grandson of the pioneer Anglican missionary to Australia, Rowland Hassall, who arrived in Sydney, N.S.W. in the "Nautilus" on 14th May, 1798.

It would be too long a pleasure to list the names of all the grand-children of John and Bridget McPhee, many of whom we hope to see anyway at the REUNION, as well as many of the two hundred or so great-grand-children. None of the family of John and Bridget are alive today. The widow of the youngest son Hector McPhee, (late of Mont Albert, Vic.) and mother of several "Macfie Clan Society" members firmly intends to journey to Shepparton for this reunion. All branches of the family are grateful to the Archie McPhee family for organizing what we anticipate will be a very happy event.

Family members to contact :

The Chairman of the Reunion Committee is : Ray McPhee, 43 McEwan St., Shepparton, Vic.
Telephone (058) 21 4125
The Secretary " " " " : Ron Holland, 28 Leithen St., Shepparton, Vic.
Telephone (058) 21 3508
Melbourne contact : Rev. Bernie McPhee, Carmelite Priory, 95 Stokes St., Port Melbourne,
Vic., 3207. Telephone (03) 64 2574

CLAN MACFIE ASSOCIATES LIMITED

On 12th December 1978 Clan Macfie Associates Ltd was incorporated in Edinburgh under the Companies Act 1948 to 1976. Floating of this limited company was necessary to hold the land which was gifted to our Clan by Lord Strathcona and surrounds the Mhic-a-Phi Standing Stone on Colonsay. The company has three issued ordinary £1. shares, one each to -

- Duncan MacPhee, Fort William. President) Clan MacPhee Society
- Ralph MacPhee, Fort William. Vice-President) of Scotland
- Miss Keerie MacPhee, Taynult. Keeper of the Clan Records

who are Directors of the Company with Duncan, a solicitor, also the company secretary. The company is established in such a way that it can function on behalf of our Clan, if necessary, in other areas in addition to that of holding the Standing Stone land.

Duncan reports -

"...It is perhaps ironic that after all our discussions about the Clan name, the once proposed international body, and more recently this limited company, the Registrar of Scottish companies had to be persuaded over a period of at least six weeks to allow the use of "Clan Macfie Associates Limited" ! I showed him all the correspondence I have on the question of clan names etc. to persuade him that to reject our proposed company name could set us back indefinitely. The Scottish registrar had to consult the English registrar about it, and you can imagine the trouble we had trying to explain all about Scottish clans to an Englishman, particularly one who thought the clans had been banned since the 1745 rebellion! I think we can regard ourselves as having established some kind of a precedent for similar clan companies....."

The BBC noticed the flotation of Clan Macfie Associates Ltd, and as a result Duncan gave two radio interviews. One was a live telephone interview with a news reporter which was broadcast by BBC Radio Highland in their morning news programme, and the second was recorded at the BBC studios in Edinburgh and broadcast throughout Scotland.

The formal Deed of Conveyance making over the site of the Standing Stone to Clan Macfie Associates Ltd has now been executed by Lord Strathcona for registration in the Register of Sasines (Land Register) in Edinburgh. It will be held by Duncan along with the Company documents etc.

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HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL NOTES

Continuing Lieutenant General James McHaffie's Letters -

In our last Newsbulletin we gave some background information on the McHaffie family of Phillip Island in Victoria, and through the courtesy of Mrs Onnah McHaffie (V77-249) of Park Orchards, Vic., reproduced the text of one of the letters her great-grandfather James McHaffie wrote to his wife, Hannah, when he was serving as a captain in the 21st Royal Scots Fusiliers in Sicily during the Napoleonic Wars. James McHaffie's sons, William and John, arranged the first renting of Phillip Island in 1842 at a cost of £10 per annum for the assessed 24,320 acres.

I now reproduce the text of a further three letters from Captain (later Lt. General) McHaffie.

Contessa, 23rd August 1810.

Letter from Captain James McHaffie to Mrs Captain McHaffie at Blackburn, Ayr, A.B..

My Dearest Beloved Wife,

I sent you off my last journal on 27th July enclosing my second of exchange for thirty five pounds one shilling and ninepence which I trust was duly honored. I put it under cover to Mr. McPherson, father of our hopeful, to save you postage as I was told by him that his father never pays postage for his letters he being in the barrack department. However, I shall send this direct for fear that the other might be detained by Major McPherson being from home.

(Postage at this time was paid for by the recipient, and was costly. This letter to his wife is marked 3/4, as are two others, but one is actually marked 6/8!)

July 28th. The Packet sailed for England this day with a fair wind.

There was a convoy of the Enemy boats taken and sent into Messina this day by H.M. Frigate the Thames and two Sloops of War. They consisted of six gun boats and thirty one other vessels loaded with provisions and military stores from Naples to Scylla. Besides these captured there were thirteen sunk.

31st. This being, my dearest beloved, the anniversary of our Marriage, I dined at home with two of my particular friends and spent as happy a day as ever I can expect to do while absent from you.

1st Aug. No news except a cannonade between our boats and the French but we generally have this kind of amusement every day without doing much harm to either party.

2nd. The weather is now extremely hot, the thermometer being as high as 86 deg. in the shade for several days past.

5th. Sunday. We have had a heavy cannonade all this day between our gun boats and ships of war and the French. We had two boats sunk at anchor at the Faro and two or three men killed and wounded from the batteries on the other side. The loss of enemy is not known but it is believed to be more than ours. The two boats that were sunk were not up again. The French we are told are getting very sickly on the other side.

There was a drummer of a French Regiment swam across on the 3rd inst. from Scylla to the Faro. He confirms the above report. The poor fellow was upwards of five hours in the water, being carried backwards and forwards by the different currents which are very strong here. When he got ashore he was quite unable to walk being so overcome by fatigue.

14th. Being the eve of the Birthday of Napoleon the Great they commemorated great

rejoicings on the other side. They lasted until the night of the 15th. There was a grand display of fireworks in the French Camp which had a very fine effect here, the illuminations were so extensive that at this distance it looked as if the whole face of the country was on fire.

The packet arrived this day from England but unfortunately has brought me no letters from my beloved Hannah.

17th. I have adopted all this day in reading the English newspapers, they seem to be barren of interesting news.

18th. There is another rejoicing on the other side, this day, it being the birthday of Murat.

20th. We are still kept on the alert here being under arms every morning an hour before daylight, but there seems as little chance as ever of the French attempting to come over. Indeed I believe they have too much sense to attempt it as they must be pretty certain they would get an unmerciful beating, every individual of the Army being so much annoyed at their giving so much trouble and would be happy at having an opportunity of taking revenge.

I am still of the opinion that their object is to obtain a considerable proportion of our disposable force in this island and by that means prevent us annoying them in a much weaker quarter. However you may depend on my giving you every packet a just statement of the proceedings that may take place here and I would have you be very cautious in believing what you may hear or see in the public papers or in soldiers' letters as they are very often incorrect.

(Actually about a month after this date, on 18th September, a force of three thousand five hundred men landed about seven miles to the south of Messina. Murat hoped to drive the British out of Sicily and Ferdinand IV, King of Naples, and his Court with them. Having landed in Sicily, they attacked the right wing. Sir John Stuart made haste to bring up other troops but before he arrived Colonel Campbell defeated the invaders, taking many prisoners. The enemy retreated rapidly to their boats having suffered heavy losses. Murat made no further attempt to seize Sicily though he kept his camp on the heights behind Reggio and Scylla for two years longer.)

The Resistance Frigate arrived here last night. She brings the news of Lucien Bonaparte having arrived at Gibraltar, with his family. He has given himself up to the British Minister and I believe he will be sent to England. His leaving France is said to be owing to his refusing to assist his brother in some of his ambitious plans of marrying him to some branch of the Royal Family of Russia. Whatever the cause may be he is now under our protection and it must have been something of consequence that would have made him leave his country.

I shall be very anxious for the arrival of the next packet as I am pretty certain I shall have letters from you. I could hardly expect any by this, as it came so soon after the one before it. I have never heard whether or not you received the bills that I sent you and if they were duly honored, however I sincerely trust they have as I was at considerable trouble in getting them as good as I possibly could and paid more for them on that account. Including this last bill I have sent you in all two hundred and seven pounds eight shillings which is all I possibly could save since I came here and I can assure you I have been as frugal as I possibly could be since I left you, indeed it is the only thing that can make absence at all supportable to be enabled to save a little money to make us more comfortable when we retire. You know there is nothing I detest so much as being dependent.

We are still quartered in Contessa where I hope we shall remain for some time longer. It is one of the best quarters in the island and out of the way of that petty warfare that we are carrying on at present by throwing shells and shot for no other end but to annoy each other's troops without effecting any good whatever for the general cause.

I expect to hear a great deal of news by your next letter. Remember me in the kindest manner to your worthy mother and father. I shall never forget their kindness and attention to you and our dear little ones in my absence. Remember me kindly to my mother and sisters when you write to Galloway. Give a thousand kisses to Cornie and Anne Jane.

I dreamed before last that you had arrived here but when I woke how grievously was I disappointed to find it was not the case.

I have again to request, my Dearest, lovely Hannah, that you will make yourself as comfortable as you possibly can during my absence. I sincerely trust that it will not continue much longer. I here assure you I look forward with pleasure to a time when we shall retire to enjoy each other's society in peace and quietness which period I trust is not far distant.

Your ever faithful and loving husband,

James McHaffie

Pistunera, 6th February 1811.

My Dearest Hannah,

I wrote you by the last packet which sailed from this on 24th December last which I trust you received in due course.

We have no particular news, nor any occurrence worth mentioning as we are still in perfect peace here, and have little or nothing to do.

I dined by myself in my lodgings on Christmas Day for the purpose of thinking on you, my dearest love, and all my friends in Scotland and that you and they may have many many returns of the season is my sincere prayer to God.

I had great pleasure in reading over your kind letters after dinner, indeed that is the only real happiness that I enjoy when absent from you.

I moved with my company from Contessa to Pistunera on the 4th January. It is about an English mile to the south of Contessa. We take it by turns of two months. It is a very beautiful country village and excellent quarters, both for officers and men, the only drawback to it is that it is too far to dine at the mess; however, that is of no consequence to me as my servant is a tolerable good cook and I have no objection to live retiredly for two months, indeed I prefer doing so.

16th January. There were six large troopships arrived here this day from the Tagus. The report is that they are sent to take three thousand men from this Army to that of Lord Wellington's but Sir John Stuart has remonstrated against letting them go, so there is no chance of any going until he hears from England, which will take two months at least. The regiments here are all anxious to go but it is not yet known who they are to be.

Col. Adam is in hopes that ours will be one, if any go. It would be a good thing for me if they did as he has promised that he will try to get me some situation and if we remain there is no chance of getting anything as he and Sir John Stuart do not pull very well together, besides Sir John has such a multitude of his own friends to provide for that I have little chance as long as I remain here. If I could get a staff situation for a short time it would be of considerable advantage as it would enable me to save nearly double of the money I can do at present and that I can assure you is my great ambition for I should be very unhappy indeed if I was not enabled to leave you and my dear little ones in a comfortable independence, which I hope to be able to do if my life is spared for a few years.

(Actually he lived until he was nearly 99 years of age. He was 34 when he wrote this letter.)

I see by the newspapers that the King is still in a bad state of health and that his mind has been so deeply affected by the death of the Princess Amelia that he is unfit for any further business and that there will be a Regency. I am very sorry for His Majesty. He is certainly a very good man and has had a very troublesome reign besides his share of family distresses and vexations etc.

We have still a very mild winter here. Indeed the winters here are better than our summers at home, if you take them at an average. The markets are reckoned very high here at present, beef is from tenpence to one shilling a rotolo, which is thirty ounces and the quality is so bad that no person would buy it if in England, the inhabitants take no pains in feeding and, if they were inclined, they have not the means at present of doing so. Butter is two shillings and sixpence the pound of fifteen ounces, a fowl two shillings and sixpence, eggs twelve pence a dozen, a turkey or goose six shillings. Indeed the only thing that we have cheaper than at home is wine. We get a very good country wine from fourpence to a shilling a bottle, the tea and sugar are likewise cheaper, green tea we have for eight shillings a pound and good loaf sugar seven pence a pound of fifteen ounces.

Milk is extremely dear. I pay two pence a day for the half of a small tumbler. The only milk to be had in this part of the islands is goat's. They feed them during the day on the high mountains in the neighbourhood and in the evening they drive them into Messina in great droves and stop at doors of their customers and there milk them what quantity they want. There is one advantage attending this mode that we are sure of getting the milk in the pure state.

I must now bid you adieu, my Dearest love, and in anxious hopes that I shall hear good accounts from you by the next packet,

I remain, My Dearest beloved wife,
Your ever affectionate and loving husband,

James McHaffie.

Messina, 21st September 1811.

My Dearest Beloved Hannah,

The packet from England arrived here some days ago but brought me no letters. This is the third that has arrived without bringing me any account from you which makes me very unhappy indeed. The only way I can account for that silence is that you expect that I am on my way home. But I am extremely sorry to inform you that I have been refused leave at last after using every means in my power to obtain it. I here send you a copy of the answer I have got to my last application -

Messina, 4th Sept.

Sir,

Having laid the cases and the requests of Captains McHaffie and Green before the General commanding the Forces, I have to acquaint you that it is not deemed expedient to give leave of absence to either the one or the other of these officers at present.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obliged humble servant,

J. Campbell
Adjt. General

directed to Major Ross, Commanding 21st Regiment.

From this you will see, my Dearest love, that it is impossible to get

off at present but I have still hopes that I shall get leave by the Spring as there is a strong detachment on their way out from the Second Battalion with Captains Pringle and McLean. When they arrive I will again renew my application if everything remains quiet here. I hope I shall meet with better success. Indeed by the spring this country must be in a more settled state as Lord Wm. Bentick on his return from England will bring out the determination of the British Government on the articles of dispute between the two Courts.

I am of the opinion we must either use strong measures or give up the country entirely as it is pretty evident the Queen of Sicily is in the French interests. However, we are perfectly safe, having possession of all the strongholds in the country and nearly all the inhabitants are in favour of the English and are ready to give their assistance if required.

However, I do not think these matters will be pushed to such lengths when the Queen sees that we are determined to assist the people (which I hope we will) she will be obliged to alter her policies or make up her mind to lose Sicily.

The packet before this I had a letter from your father's friend, Mr Dickie. He mentions that you had not heard from me for a long time which I cannot account for, as I have written you regularly by every packet and my letters have always reached you safely before this. I take every precaution by writing my name on their backs and carrying them to the post office myself.

I mentioned to you in my last that I had been confined for three or four days with an inflammation in my foot which the Doctor thought was a slight touch of the gout. However, he was mistaken as it turned out to be a bite of some insect, which got perfectly well in the course of a few days. I was certain I had no pretensions to gout. It only attacks the rich. It must have made a very bad mistake if it had visited me.

All the men from about Ayr are well, indeed the Regiment is in general very healthy now. There was a slight fever got amongst them during the summer months but it has now ceased. However it was so slight that we did not lose a single man by it.

For God's sake, my dearest Hannah, write to me often. If you only know how miserable I am when I do not see letters from you, you would pity me. Indeed, I cannot describe to you the state I have been in since this last packet arrived.

Give each of my dear little pets a thousand kisses from their papa and in anxious expectation of hearing that you are well by next packet,

I remain, my Dearest, beloved wife,
Your most affectionate and faithful husband,

James McHaffie.

Captain McHaffie had commanded the skirmishers in the attack on the French near Messina in 1810 when over a thousand prisoners were taken. He was at the capture of Genoa in 1814, and went to America in the same year. There he fought in the actions of Bladensburg and Washington and at Godlywood near Baltimore. He was taken prisoner at New Orleans.

Mrs McHaffie joined her husband in Italy in late 1811 or early 1812, and sailed with him when he went to America in 1814.

Copies of old letters, family histories, press cuttings relating to Clan members, family trees and any similar items are always welcome for inclusion in the Society Newsbulletin.

FROM NOVA SCOTIA - A BRIEF REPORT

A letter from Dr Earle MacPhee of Vancouver, written as he returned home from the International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia, gives brief details of our Clan interests at the Gathering -

A tremendous time was had by all and sundry.

Clan members attended from all parts of Canada, plus several from Scotland, Australia and USA.

The business meeting of our Clan at Antigonish on 16th July passed a number of resolutions and made several appointments - full details in our next Newsbulletin.

Next International Gathering of the Clans will be held in Scotland from 22nd to 28th May 1981.

Society Vice-President Sandy McPhee and wife, Norah, of Sydney attended the Nova Scotia Gathering and represented our Society at the Clan business sessions. On the 16th, Sandy was co-chairman of the meeting. In addition, they attended the meeting of the Canadian Clan MacPhee Societies on 2nd July; went to Prince Edward Island where a local Clan MacPhee Society was formed; and participated in a series of meetings resulting in the formation of a Clan MacPhee Society of Nova Scotia...and they evidently assisted in the assembly rooms, at the tents on the playing fields and took leadership in discussions. (They're relaxing at Oshkosh on the way home, watching flying of a type which Sandy can't copy in his QANTAS 747 - thank goodness).

Earle celebrated his eighty fifth birthday several days after the Nova Scotia Gathering. Our congratulations and best wishes go to him at this time.

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GENERAL NOTES

Mhic-a-Phi Standing Stone Again many thanks to those members who have contributed to the Standing Stone Fund this year. Donations will always be welcome. The plaque and fence have been completed, and as reported elsewhere, the transfer of land finalized. We hope to have some photographs in the next Newsbulletin.

A Missed Acknowledgment. We are indebted to The Australasian Highlander for the diagram and article on the Bagpipe in Newsbulletin No 20 (Nov '78). The Australasian Highlander is published quarterly. Editor is Mrs Colleen McEwan, P.O.Box 163, Belmont N.S.W. 2280. Annual subscription ...\$2.00.

Nancy McPhee, a Canadian writer and broadcaster, has recently joined the list of Macfie authors - but with a difference. She has written 'The Book of Insults, Ancient and Modern'. She has collected a wide range of examples of verbal warfare from a golden age, not so long ago, when insult was indeed an art. In the dedication to her book, Nancy demonstrates the art is still alive ..."To my family, without whose solicitous concern and helpful suggestions this book would have been finished in half the time". (A.E. & A.W.Reed. \$9.95).

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VALE

With deep regret we record the passing of Miss Janet McPhee (N74-072) of Potts Point NSW on 13th July 1979, after a brief illness. Janet was one of our more active members in Sydney and will be sadly missed. Our sincere sympathy is extended to members of her family.

MEMBERS' NEWS

- .Keith McPhee (R77-328) is surely our most mobile or footloose Macfie. Keith is a geologist and hails from Bell in Queensland. We first made contact when he was operating out of Alice Springs. From there he went to Kalgoorlie in Western Australia. Now he is working his way slowly through western New South Wales and Queensland and on into the Northern Territory again. Newsbulletins necessarily go to Bell until Keith slows down a little....
- .Noreen McPhee (N78-268) of Lane Cove NSW reports a family member on holiday in Scotland stopping for a picnic lunch in the country when a local came by and stopped for a yarn - his name? - Yes, that's right, he was a Macfie.
- .Congratulations to David and Heather Grove (N76-212 and N75-141) of Albury on the birth of a son.
- .Jean McPhee (N76-213) has moved to Maclean on the NSW north coast after 59 years on the land (and in some floods) at Ulmarra.
- .Peter Hastings (N75-106) of Grafton NSW and Jan Marchant, who were married at Gilgandra NSW on 30th December last, have settled at Lavington NSW.
- .Treasurer Ross McPhee and wife Betty (V75-107 and V76-155) of Mt Waverley Vic. have been holidaying at South Molle Island on the Barrier Reef. Ross is back to his old form again after being hit by a car last year.
- .South Australian members have established contact with the Adelaide Caledonian Society and are joining them at social functions.
- .Duncan MacPhee, President of the Clan MacPhee Society in Scotland, has moved from Edinburgh and is now back at Fort William where he has opened a new office for a firm of solicitors. Duncan's address is 'Rhu Mhor', 18 Achintore Road, Fort William, Inverness-shire if you happen to be in Scotland....
- .New South Wales Vice-President John Phee and wife Margaret (N74-043 and N74-075) of North Curl Curl have been in Fiji for several weeks.
- .Ulf Hagmann (H2) and wife Nanna from Uddevalla, Sweden, have been holidaying in Scotland. Needless to say visits to Keeper of the Clan Records, Keerie MacPhee, at Taynuilt and to Colonsay were high on their list of things-to-do....From two postcards they write - 13th July. Staying with Keerie and having a wonderful time. This evening we go to Colonsay and hope weather permits a ceremony at the Standing Stone to-morrow. Love to all kinsmen in Australia..Nanna and Ulf. With a P.S. from Keerie..Nice to have a chance to send personal greetings - I envy these two going off to Colonsay.....20th July. We had a very nice ceremony at the site of the Standing Stone at Colonsay, with speeches by me and the islanders and toasts in pure malt whisky for absent kinsmen and for the Colonsay islanders and for a good piper. Bad weather though... Ulf.
- .John McPhee (N78-428) of Leeton NSW reports he is "off overseas to meet some of the Clan at Ayrshire and Isle of Bute after an absence of sixty years..."

NEW MEMBERS

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|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------|----------|
| V79-456 Mrs Janet | Staff | Hillcrest Avenue | Eltham | Vic 3095 |
| Q79-457 David Robert | Macfie | Spantur MS 781 | Maryborough | Qld 4650 |
| Q79-458 Mrs Christine | Macfie | Spantur MS 781 | Maryborough | Qld 4650 |
| S79-459 Mrs Barbara Joy | McPhee | 15 Chatswood Crescent | Kidman Park | SA 5025 |
| V79-460 Mrs Alison | Anderson | 25 Virginia Street | Geelong | Vic 3220 |