

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia

(Founded in Richmond NSW on 3rd May 1974)



Ancestral Home of
The Clan Macfie

Newsbulletin

No 26

May 80



1981 The Year of the Scot

Highlights include:—

International Burns Supper—January.

The industrial, commercial and cultural achievements of 20th Century Scotland.

Gatherings throughout Scotland during the season.

Edinburgh May 22 to May 30: Concerts, Ceilidhs, Banquets and Balls.

Tours of clan, home and family territories—June 1 to June 6.

Inverness Games and Clan Tents—July.

The 35th Edinburgh International Festival. The greatest Music and Arts Festival in the world. 16th August to 5th September 1981.

International St Andrew's Day Dinner—November.

The National Trust for Scotland celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 1981 with a special programme, including its highly popular Scottish cruise.

International Curling Competition

The International Gathering Scotland 1981 will open with an International Burns Supper in January and will close with an International St Andrew's Day Dinner in November. From Friday, May 22 and until Saturday, May 30 it will be based in Edinburgh. From June 1 to June 6 the visitors will disperse to every corner of Scotland for further reunions throughout clan, family and home territories. In early July the Inverness Games will take place, with exhibitions and a "village" of Clan Tents round the field.

Overseas visitors will be given opportunities to share in the industrial, commercial and cultural achievements of 20th Century Scotland.

The underlying success of the 1977 International Gathering stemmed from the family atmosphere of the Ceilidhs, Dinners and Dances. The International Gathering Scotland 1981 will be based mainly on supporting what the appropriate organisations propose by way of functions for their visitors.

Although the central fortnight will make a strong appeal there will be visitors for whom the attraction will be the annual and ongoing events taking place elsewhere at other times.

The full programme will, in due course, carry details of the activities from May 22 to June 6, but will also provide a guide to other activities throughout Scotland during the whole of the season.

The International Gathering Scotland 1977 has been followed by the International Gathering, Nova Scotia, 1979, to be opened on June 28 by H.M. the Queen Mother and covering a six-week period to August 12. It is hoped that this will be the forerunner of many such International Gatherings organised in response to the growing wish of overseas Scots to build on their heritage.

The International Gathering now under planning, with its broader concept of extending the scope to make 1981 the Year of the Scot, is a further stage in using established ethnic links to strengthen international friendship.

From Your President

I am delighted that the Society Executive has appointed A.L. 'Sandy' McPhee (N74-012) of Pennant Hills N.S.W. as Clan Seneschal in Australia. Sandy is one of the original members who started our Society in 1974 and has served as Treasurer (3 May 74 - 31 Dec 75) and Society Vice-President (20 Nov 75 - 15 Apr 80). He is our most travelled member too, being a Qantas pilot and has made personal contacts with many members of the Clan throughout the world. Sandy's wife, Norah, is well known to many of you as one of our hard working Historians. Their three children, Barbara, Sally and Andy are Society members also; Andy being Vice-President in Western Australia.

The Clan Seneschal post is established in our constitution to provide a Clan leader in Australia when there is no Chieftain resident in this country. The Executive thus recognizes the Seneschal as titular head of the Clan in Australia. In this capacity I am certain that Sandy will continue his record of unselfish service to the Clan and I can think of no one, past or present, better able to fill this appointment. Sandy has been assured of my support and that of the Society Executive; too, I am sure all members will be fully behind his appointment.

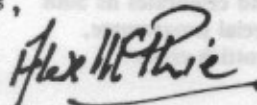
Several weeks ago I received a letter from Mrs Bessie McPhee of Oatley N.S.W. asking if she could continue her late husband's membership of the Society. John McPhee was one of our original members and his passing had been sadly recorded in the last Newsbulletin. Of course Mrs McPhee was made most welcome and her name is duly recorded in this Newsbulletin with other new members joining at this time. Surely this is a true example of Clan spirit moving out to gather all members into one large family circle through contacts established by our Society.

When writing the last Newsbulletin it had been cause for added personal concern in that, though John and I had exchanged letters over a number of years, we had never met, nor did I know very much about him. While a wish for privacy of family life must always be respected, I am sure the Society will benefit if members consciously make an effort to extend their contacts within the Clan. This can be done in many ways in addition to attending social gatherings - but the initiative for this rests with each of you as individual members. One area in which everybody can help is to forward any local press cuttings or photographs with 'Macfie' items from your locality to our Secretary, Helen.

This Newsbulletin includes an item on the appeal for funds to restore and maintain the Abbey on Iona. I commend this appeal to you for all Scots surely consider this to be the cradle of Christianity in Scotland. Our Clan is closer linked to Iona than many, however, for not only is Iona just to the north of Colonsay but St Columba is said to have been on our islands before settling on Iona; the Priory on Oransay even being of the same era.

On a recent overnight stop in Hobart when reviewing air-space management arrangements in Victoria and Tasmania, I had the pleasure of meeting member Norman Duffy (T78-415) in the Mess at Anglesea Barracks. Norman has recently retired and is interested in making contact with Tasmanian members - more details within.

With kind regards,



Alex McPhee
President

CLAN SENESCHAL IN AUSTRALIA

APPOINTMENT OF A.L.(SANDY) McPHEE

OF PENNANT HILLS N.S.W.

The Society Executive has appointed Alexander Lachlan McPhee of 47 Bellamy Street, Pennant Hills N.S.W. as Clan Seneschal in Australia for 1980-81.

Sandy, as he is known to all, is a great-grandson of Captain Donald McPhee of the 79th Regiment, Cameron Highlanders, who settled in Australia in 1844 on retirement from the army. Captain McPhee served as a volunteer at the bombardment of Copenhagen in 1807; in the expedition to Sweden in 1808; in the Peninsular War; and was wounded at the battle of Quatre Bras. He first came to Australia in 1838 in charge of male convicts on the 'Portsea', but served in India in 1842 and 43 before returning. At one stage he owned portion of Brickfield Hill in Sydney and sold to one Anthony Horden who wished "to build a bigger drapers shop". Sandy's father was an Officer in the Australian Forces in both World Wars, being decorated with the Croix de Guerre with Star for rescuing fellow soldiers under fire in France - his grandfather had been decorated for bravery at Waterloo some hundred years earlier!

Sandy joined the RAAF in 1942 and completed training at Banff in Scotland in 1943. He served in 149 Squadron of No 3 Group of Bomber Command and completed a tour of 30 operations over Germany. While serving in England he met and married a member of the WAAF from the Squadron Meteorological Office. At the end of the war, Sandy and Norah returned to Australia where Sandy flew with Australian National Airways for 5 months before studying Engineering at Sydney University for two years. He joined QANTAS, Australia's international airline, in 1948 and is still flying.

The Society Constitution provides in two notes to paragraph 10 -

- i When there is no Clan Chieftain resident in Australia the Society Executive may appoint a Seneschal to act in place of the Chieftain. Such appointment is to be for a 2 year term which may be extended, as required, by the Society Executive.
- ii The duties and responsibilities of the Seneschal are to act as Clan Custodian in Australia; to guard the Mythology, Traditions, History and Perquisites of the Clan within Australia, until such time as a Chieftain, resident in Australia, is appointed.

The Society Executive recognize the Seneschal as the titular head of our Clan in Australia.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE We have forwarded C\$100 to Dr Earle MacPhee in Canada towards his expenses as Clan Seneschal. On appointment as Clan Seneschal in Australia, Sandy McPhee resigned as Society Vice-President. A new appointment will be made shortly .

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS RATIFIED Constitution amendments submitted to all members from the Third Biennial General Meeting to adjust Trust Fund accounting and to waive membership fees for members over the age of 75 years have been ratified.

SOCIETY ADDRESS is 6 Keats Place, Melba A.C.T. 2615.

From PARADE we acknowledge this article on Restraints on Family Research in Tasmania.

I have corresponded on several occasions with the Deputy Registrar-General in order to find out what information is given on Tasmanian certificates and for what periods. I was only partly successful.

So far as I can ascertain it is:

Births 1837: When born, name if any, sex, name and surname of father, maiden name and surname of mother, rank or profession of father. Signature, description and residence of informant. Registration details. (1896) date and place of parents' marriage (1902) age and birthplace of parents (1909) previous issue.

Marriages 1837: When and where married, name and surname of parties, ages, rank, signature of parties, name of celebrant, rites used, registration details (1896) full particulars.

Deaths 1837: When died, name and surname, sex, age, rank or profession, cause of death, signature, description and residence of informant. (1897) birthplace of deceased (1914) age at marriage, number of issue.

I am not sure what "full particulars" includes on the marriage certificate. Perhaps one of our readers could help?

Tasmania was the first colony in Australia to implement a system of civil registration, but the certificates do not contain as much information, as say, those of Victoria which brought in civil registration in July, 1853.

It never has been necessary to give details of parentage of the deceased on a death certificate, except for an unmarried person.

There are certain restraints upon searches and the information supplied, and it is worthwhile to set them out in detail because similar restraints apply in all other States.

1. The legislation authorises the Registrar-General (and his deputy) to refuse any application for search, or to refuse issue of a copy or extract from a record, if he considers that the applicant has no proper reason for search, or that it would be improper to make such search or issue such document.

2. The powers of restriction exist to protect equally each person's rights to privacy, and an application appearing likely to involve an obvious breach of these rights will not be acted upon.

3. No information as to results of search will be given orally to an applicant and no person may have physical access to any Departmental index, register or record, except as directed by the Registrar-General.

4. An application for search to be made for genealogical purposes may be lodged by an agent, but (unless special circumstances apply) must have been made in writing by a person who is either directly or closely related to the person whose record is sought, and that relationship must be specified in, or in conjunction with, the application.

5. Records of events which occurred later than 1900 are not accessible to search for genealogical purposes unless the applicant is either a person named in the record or a direct descendant of such a person.

6. No claim of genealogical interest will knowingly be permitted to override another person's right to privacy through the disclosure of any record, whether the person of that record is living or dead.

7. Acceptance of an application for search should not be taken as a guarantee that information will be given on the result of search.

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Alison Anderson (V79-460) of 25 Virginia Street, Geelong, writes of her forebears -

"My father was Dr Robert George McPhee who died in Geelong in 1946, aged 70. His brother, J.C.McPhee, a padre in World War I and later Deputy Commissioner for Repatriation, was father of several Society members. My mother died two years ago, aged 88. She was a nursing sister and served in Salonika during World War I, meeting my father on the ship returning to Australia after the war. Dad was a doctor serving in France and Belgium, and was a leading practitioner in Geelong for 46 years.

"My husband, J.C.Anderson, and a cousin of his, have done some research into Anderson family history. Their grandparents arrived in Australia from Scotland about 1853. Our grandfather, Dugald McPhee, arrived in Australia from Fort William (I think) about 1869 and was a school teacher in Victoria and an elder of the Presbyterian Church in Geelong."

CALLING ALL TASMANIAN MEMBERS -

Norman Duffy (T78-415) of 10 Rowana Court, Glenorchy, Tas. 7010 would like to make contact and rally the Clan as it were in the Apple Isle - something he should do with gusto after years of marshalling Hobart's Anzac Day March. Norman can be contacted on Hobart 72-2822.

TO FIND A CHIEF

(President Alex McPhie)

At the Third Biennial General Meeting in Adelaide earlier this year, several members asked questions relating to the process involved in having a Clan Chief proclaimed. While I am far from an expert in these matters, I have endeavoured to summarize the position as it relates to our Clan in the following paragraphs and to indicate the steps ahead as I see them.

History records that one Malcolm McPhie, Chief of Clan Macfie, was murdered on Colonsay in 1623. Following this foul deed the Clan was dispossessed of its lands and became a broken Clan without Chief or homeland. In 1970, following the death of a MacPhee in Canada who many believed to be the hereditary heir to the Clan Chiefship, and his son's decision not to claim such acknowledgement, Dr Earle Douglas MacPhee of Vancouver initiated inquiries into the position of the Chiefship. Advice from the Lyon Court, the Heraldic Court and authority on Clan matters in Edinburgh, was that no proven line has been recognized from Malcolm to the Canadian family thus the present official position was that Clan Macfie had been without a Chief since 1623.

Dr MacPhee was of the opinion that our Clan should have a Chief, that the Clan should be recognized as an active clan, not a broken one, for many 'Macfie' families throughout the world had men and women of significance amongst their ranks and many fine achievements and honours had been recorded in the 'Macfie' name, especially in the new world countries since the seventeenth century. He was supported in this view by numerous Clan members he contacted.

The Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland is maintained by the Lyon Court and was commenced in 1672 - 49 years after Chief Malcolm was murdered and our Clan broken. Therefore, there is no record as such of a Macfie Chief, his arms or his tartan; however, despite this lack of official documentation, our Clan is accepted as being one of the most ancient Scottish Clans and the existence of its Chiefs acknowledged. On 18 November 1864 Armorial Bearings were granted to one Robert Macfie of Langhouse; these arms are the ones commonly depicted as being the Clan Arms, and are referred to as the Dreghorn Macfie arms. Several other members subsequently matriculated arms in the latter part of last century. Robert Macfie was a cadet of the Clan and, indeed, would have been regarded as an important Chieftain of the Clan. In this regard it was possible to have a Chieftain even though a Chief had never been (formally) recorded - the implication being that a Chief was entitled to certain Ensigns Armorial on apparencey, but that the entitlement to the arms had not been taken up. Until recently the Dreghorn Macfie family remained the only members of our Clan with arms recorded in the Public Register and for that reason the name Macfie has been used by the Lyon Court in referring to our Clan and we have used it as our Society's definitive name. When our Chief is proclaimed, he may, should he so wish, petition the Lyon Court to alter the spelling of the Clan name.

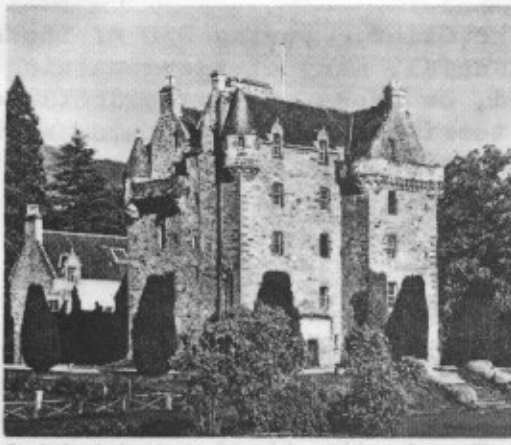
The position to-day is that no direct line can be traced from Chief Malcolm who was murdered in 1623; no direct line has been taken back to Malcolm from the Canadian MacPhee thought by many to be the rightful heir to the chiefship, nor does he wish to pursue such investigations; and no claims have been advanced

by descendants of the Dreghorn Macfies in this regard. There is provision under Scottish law for a Clan Chief to be proclaimed when a rightful Chief cannot be established by succession. This is done by means of an ad hoc derbhfine which is basically a form of election of a Chief by the landed men of the Clan. For the purpose of an ad hoc derbhfine it has been held that the bearing of arms (which are an incorporeal fief) is analagous to holding land and therefore armigers are entitled to form the ad hoc derbhfine. It is doubtful if there are any landed 'Macfies' within this context, thus we must provide the required number of armigers to form the ad hoc derbhfine. This body will then bring forward a candidate (probably from within its own ranks) for the Clan Chiefship and petition the Lord Lyon and Lyon Court requesting proclamation. Approval is not automatic. It is of course preferable that the person who is selected should have as long a genealogy as possible so that some sense of continuity and tradition can be achieved. The candidate should be a person of significance tracing a line of significance to a family of significance in Scotland. It is desirable that the candidate have private means.

The formation of an ad hoc derbhfine, and the procedure it involves, is in no sense a type of general election by everyone of the name 'Macfie'. However, there is of course no harm in those landed or armigerous members of the Clan who form the ad hoc derbhfine sounding out the feelings of as many 'Macfies' as possible before they decide upon a suitable candidate for the Chiefship. The full procedure involved is explained in Appendix X of Frank Adam's definitive work 'The Clans, Septs & Regiments of The Scottish Highlands'. The ad hoc derbhfine should consist of nine persons.

In his systematic approach to the task, Dr Earle MacPhee first established the major centres of Clan population throughout the world - and in so doing wrote his comprehensive history of Clan Macfie, 'The Mythology, Traditions and History of MacDhubhsith - MacDuffie Clan'. He then encouraged the development of Clan Societies in the major centres; finding existing societies in Sweden and U.S.A. and having ones form in Canada, Australia and Scotland. During this time Armorial Bearings were granted to Dr MacPhee and Victor McPhie of Dalby Qld. and other members of both families matriculated arms also; several other 'Macfies' have petitioned the Lyon Court for arms; and the search has continued for a suitable candidate for the Chiefship. To-day we are fast approaching the time when an ad hoc derbhfine can be formed; we have strong Clan Societies established in all major centres of Clan population except New Zealand; and it is expected that senior members of the Societies of our Clan will meet with representatives of the Lyon Court in Edinburgh at the time of the International Gathering of the Clans in Scotland in May/June next year to review progress to date and to determine the next steps in this significant undertaking.

Personally, I am confident of ultimate success in this task but hesitate to suggest a date for completion. I acknowledge that at present we do not have without question, a candidate for the Chiefship who has all known attributes for this position, and who is universally supported as the Chief elect and is willing to serve; but this difficulty has not been addressed in committee as yet. Our appointment of Clan and Regional Seneschals has established a basis for further development and a structure to permit straightforward transfer of authority on appointment of a Chief and subsequent Chieftains. Three Clans have had Chiefs appointed recently after many years without them, while none of their circumstances duplicate ours, there are a number of parallels in their stories on the next page to show it has been done - and it can be done again.



Castle Leod, Strathpeffer, home of the Earl and Countess of Cromarty.



The Earl of Cromarty.

Mackenzies and Forsyths find their chiefs

Clan Mackenzie has been without a chief for 164 years, since the main line of the Earls of Seaforth became extinct. Now, the Lord Lyon Court has recognised the Rt. Hon. Roderick Grant Francis Mackenzie of Kintail, 4th Earl of Cromarty, a lively and enthusiastic 75-year-old. He lives at Castle Leod, near Strathpeffer, in Ross and Cromarty, and for many years has acted for the Clan in answering letters from overseas kin.

The 4th Earl has a distinguished career behind him, having served with the Seaforth Highlanders, part of the 51st Highland Division, during the last war. He has been Convener of Ross and Cromarty County Council, is an honorary Sheriff, Deputy Lieutenant of Ross and Cromarty and the first Freeman of the Region. Lord Cromarty's claim is based on the fact that his forebear, Sir Rorie Mackenzie, born in 1574, was the son of the then chief, Colin of Kintail.

Good news also for the Forsyth family. Alistair Charles William Forsyth was installed as their chief and head of name at Falkland Palace. The Forsyths were part of the Royal Stuart household at Falkland until the seventeenth century, when the family scattered. There are estimated to be approximately 100,000 of the name throughout the world and there are Clan Societies in Australia, New Zealand, the United States, as well as in Great Britain.

Alistair Forsyth of that ilk.



clan macleannan association australia sydney branch

CHIEF: RONALD G. MacLENNAN of MacLENNAN, Croix de Guerre, O.D.P.E., F.R.H.S., F.I.S.T.D., F.S.A.Scot.

CHIEFTAIN: W. F. F. (Bill) MacLENNAN

THE CLAN THAT FOUND ITS HEAD

by E. R. MacLennan, Lismore, N.S.W.

In 1645 on May 9th, King Charles' representative, the Marquis of Montrose, confronted an army of Covenanters, led by Sir John Urray, in the vicinity of a village named Auldearn, Scotland. Rain was falling as the battle commenced, and among the 3,500 foot and 400 horse assembled under Urray's command was Ruairidh MacIain Domhnull Bhain MacLennan, 33rd Chief of the Clan, defending the standard of Lord Seaforth. A tall, rugged, red-bearded highlander, he fought savagely and desperately in the ensuing clash, during which Urray's forces were slowly overwhelmed by a flanking movement of the Gordon cavalry. Ruairidh and his two brothers were ultimately killed, along with many more MacLennans in that segment of the battle.



For the next 330 years the Clan had no Chief. During 250 of those years due to pressures, political and financial, many of the remaining clansmen and their descendants were forced, or chose, to leave Scotland to seek survival in newly discovered global territories. Many septs, with names distorted by usage or altered for practical purposes, have resulted. Some of the names associated with the clan are:

LOBAN, LOGAN, MACALINION, MACALONAN, MACLINDEN, LINDEN, MACLENAGHAN, MACLYNDON, LENANE, LEENON, MACLELLAN, MACLENDON, MACCLELLAND, CLELLAND, KNELAND, MACWILNAME, MACKILLIGAN, GILFINAN, GILFILLIAN.

In 1969 one, Ronald George MacLennan, the son of George, son of Alex, son of Roderick, son of Duncan, son of John (Ian Ban Mor), son of Gen. John, son of Chief Ruairidh MacLennan, declared his intention to claim the right to be the 34th Chief. Due to the tireless energy of this vital, proud Scot, the Clan now recognizes his legal right to this position. Thirty years of tenacious searches and researches have been rewarded with the matriculation of Arms, and the acknowledgment of the Lord Lyon, King of Arms, Scotland. The full title of the new Chief is Chevalier MacLennan of MacLennan, and the ceremony in Inverness in 1978 was the first such ceremony to be performed for at least two centuries.

Apart from his teaching profession, Ronald George MacLennan works consistently for community welfare, and his efforts to raise funds for charities have earned him the knighthood of the most ancient Order of St. Lazarus. His apparently inexhaustible store of energy has also enabled him to compile a genealogy of the clan and have published a "History of the MacLennans" containing short histories of clan establishments on the far flung shores of the Commonwealth and the U.S.A., as well as some very interesting facts and figures about the activities of the Scottish ancestors.

Membership of this Clan may be regarded with ancestral pride. Many who bear the name have made outstanding contributions to the world's communities in the fields of Art, Literature and Science, as well as to rural and commercial development of their countries of birth or adoption.

In 1979 Chief Ronald and his family were made welcome by more than 600 members of the Clan from all corners of Canada and the U.S.A. at a Gathering in Nova Scotia and Games in Longbeach, U.S.A. In 1980 (July), Chieftain (2 IC) William Forrester MacLennan of Castle Cove, Sydney, will welcome his cousin Ronald to a World Gathering of the Clan in that City. Hopefully a very large number of Australian Clan members will endeavour to attend the functions, official and social, that are being arranged.

"Though our restless feet have wandered far, and severed wide we be,
The children of a royal stock, a clan till death are we." (History of the MacLennans p.66)

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Alistair Forsyth of that Ilk visited Australia last year - Society Vice-President Sandy McPhee and wife Norah attended a special Ecumenical Church Service during which Edward Forsyth of Sydney was invested as the Clan Forsyth Chief's Commissioner for Australia. Clan MacLennan Chief, Ronald George MacLennan of MacLennan, will visit Australia later this year for a number of celebration functions. He will be welcomed at a Grand Ball in Sydney on 12th July by his cousin, Chieftain William MacLennan of Castle Cove N.S.W.. Our members have been invited to attend this Ball; if you are interested or require further information, contact Historian Norah McPhee on Sydney 84-2257 - there is a Macfie party attending. Tickets are \$36 double.

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CONSIDER then, the MacKenzies without a Chief for 164 years; the Forsyths for 300 years; the MacLennans for 335 years; and our period of 357 years does not seem so insurmountable after all.....

IONA APPEAL

The National Trust for Scotland and The Iona Cathedral Trustees have opened a world-wide appeal for funds to carry out urgent maintenance and repair work on the Abbey and surrounding buildings on Iona. A total of UK£500,000 is needed to enable the Cathedral Trustees to discharge their duty of permanently maintaining the heritage in their care, to ensure that "Iona shall be as it was".

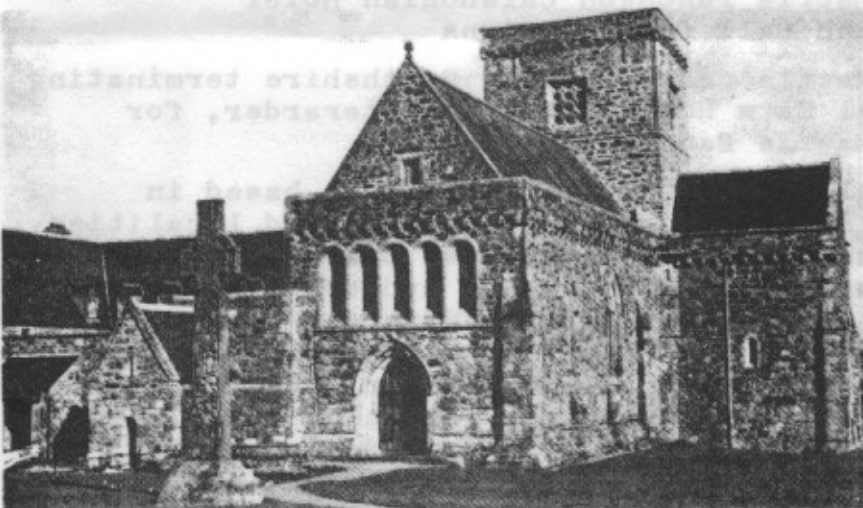
Considering its history, Iona is a treasure of all Christendom. A thousand years before the Protestant Reformation, the Celtic branch of the Christian church functioned separately from the Popes in Rome. In 563 St Columba and his disciples arrived from Ireland to establish the church in Scotland. In time the itinerant monks from Iona carried the Gospel through Scotland and the North of England and into Europe, travelling as far east as Kiev in Russia. St Columba was a member of the Irish royal family and the record of his life, prepared by a disciple after his death in 597 to document his sanctity, is one of the few existing records of this early Scottish period.

The present monastic buildings stand on or near the site of those of St Columba. Of the latter, little trace remains to-day for they were burned by the Vikings on at least three occasions. After 1164, the monastery was rebuilt; a papal bull of 1203 confirms its foundation as a Benedictine house. The Augustinian Nunnery followed a year or two later.

Kenneth MacAlpin, the first King of all Scotland, is buried on Iona and since then some sixty other Kings (Scots, Irish and Norse) have been interred on the island, including Macbeth and Duncan of Shakespeare fame. These great ceremonial burials of Kings took place before 1500 although Highland Chiefs have been buried there since.

The familiar Celtic Cross used universally in many Christian churches to-day is based upon the remarkable stone grave markers found in Ireland and western Scotland. Probably the most famous of these is St Martin's Cross which stands before the main door of the Abbey on Iona.

The Abbey of that time forms the greater part of the foundation of the present buildings. It was briefly elevated to be the Cathedral of the Isles, but after the Reformation the monastic life decayed and ceased with the Abbey and its monastic buildings falling into ruin. In 1899, George, 8th Duke of Argyll, whose family had owned Iona since



about 1693, gave the sacred buildings and sites into the care of the Iona Cathedral Trust. It was his declared wish that the Abbey be restored for public worship and that members of other Christian denominations be allowed to hold services there. Quite recently the Hugh Fraser Foundation has made it possible for Iona to be acquired from the Argyll Estates as a gift to the nation in memory of the late Lord Fraser of Allander.

IONA CATHEDRAL on site of original Abbey. Tenth century St. Martin's Cross in foreground.

[British Tourist Authority photo]

Donations may be forwarded to
Iona Appeal
c/- National Trust for Scotland
5 Charlotte Sq., Edinburgh. EH2 4DU.

Mrs Sheila Duffy of Auchterarder, Perthshire, has been appointed the Clan Macfie representative in organizing the International Gathering of the Clans in Scotland in 1981. Sheila and husband, James, attended the Gathering in 1977 and Sheila made the trip to Nova Scotia for the 1979 Gathering. In a brief pen sketch of her family, Sheila writes:

"My husband, the Rev. James Walter Duffy, is the elder son of James Duffy, who was born in Glasgow but removed with his family at the age of about six to Birmingham, where my husband was born and brought up. My husband's grandfather - also James Duffy - who, in his time amongst other things was a schoolmaster, was the elder son of yet another James Duffy, who had emigrated to Glasgow from Clones, County Monaghan in the 'hungry forties' so the family originally came from Ireland.

"My husband was ordained in the Church of England and served in the Diocese of Birmingham until 1970. We were married in 1958, and in 1970 went to live in Ballachulish, North Argyll, where he was Rector of St John's Ballachulish and St Mary's Glencoe. In 1974 we moved to Auchterarder, where he is Rector of St Kessog's Episcopal Church. We have two daughters, Gillian (19) a student at Edinburgh University, and Jacqueline (17) who will be going to university in October. I was born in Edinburgh and brought up on the West Coast. I now teach part-time in Edinburgh. We have a flat in Edinburgh and hope to retire there in a few years' time."

The main period of the International Gathering is from 22nd May to 6th June with activities concentrated in Edinburgh from 22nd to 30th May, but there will be events throughout Scotland during the whole year. A tentative programme for Clan Macfie members has been mapped out on the following lines:

Friday 22 May - Registration in Edinburgh

Saturday 23 May - Opening Ceremony

Monday 25 May - 'Meet Your Clan' Macfie Gathering in Assembly Rooms

Wednesday 27 May) Clan Macfie Societies' business sessions

Thursday 28 May)

Friday 29 May - Clan Macfie luncheon Caledonian Hotel
Highland Ball for all Clans

Saturday 30 May - Clan Macfie coach tour of Perthshire terminating at Coll Earn House Hotel, Auchterarder, for Clan Macfie Banquet and Ceilidh

Sunday 31 May) Several options exist. (1) To be based in

Friday 5 June) Perth and take day trips to selected localities

Tuesday 9 June) such as Culloden, Inverness, Braemar, Glencoe etc and with a day trip by hydrofoil from Oban to Colonsay and return on Saturday June 6 (2) To depart Perth on Monday June 1st by coach through the Highlands to arrive Oban on Friday 5th June and proceed to Colonsay, returning early morning Tuesday 9th June. (3) A variation of both options/staying in Perth for the week and then going to Colonsay for the week-end.

Of course there will be a multitude of other activities in

addition to the above, especially in Edinburgh. Hotel accommodation is not cheap, but Sheila is working on a plan to provide budget priced accommodation for Clan members who require it.

Secretary Helen McPhee has full details for those who will be making the trip, or who hope to. Please contact her as soon as possible to assist in planning what should be a wonderful two weeks or for as much longer as you may wish to stay.

1980 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Reminder notices are enclosed for those members who have not paid their 1980 membership subscriptions of \$3.00 per member. Please give them your due attention as our financial position is not the best.

A number of members remain unfinancial for 1979 as well as 1980. Our membership fee covers little more than the printing and mailing of four Newsbulletins per year, thus, much though we might like to retain contact with as many Clan members as possible, we are unable to carry these members and membership rights will be withdrawn until subscription obligations are met.

GENERAL NOTES

- * No, we're not increasing the number of Newsbulletins per year - the last one was late, this one should be out on time thus the spacing between these two is closer than usual.
- * A balance sheet was included in Newsbulletin No 25 for each of the Biennial General Meetings. Not included in the figures for the last meeting was an amount of \$87.40 for printing copies of the meeting minutes and reports for distribution to members. It is the first time we have done this and members are certainly entitled to copies - but it turns the small loss for the meeting of \$24.36 into a far larger loss of \$111.76.
- * A number of members and prospective members gathered at the home of President Alex and Secretary Helen McPhee in Melba ACT on Friday 18th April. During the evening Mr Ian Poyitt, a member of The National Trust for Scotland, gave an interesting presentation on Trust properties in Scotland.
- * Looking for a beaut coffee shop in St Ives, Sydney? Bob and Margaret Macfie (N74-086 and 087) are in business there with all sorts of snacks, cheese plates, pancakes, shortbread and continental cakes available.
- * At Easter time there was a gathering of some fifty members of one McPhee family at the Lindsay Gallery in Springwood NSW. But no details - we haven't tracked down a Society member amongst the attenders as yet. Can anyone help with information please?
- * The Australian winter school of Scottish Country Dancing is to be held in Toowoomba Qld this year from May 11 to 18. It will be hosted by the South-east Queensland branch of the Royal Scottish

Country Dance Society. Conduct of winter schools in Australia is a relatively new idea. The first was held in 1976. Schools have previously been held in Newcastle, Melbourne and Canberra. The Toowoomba school will be attended by dancers from all parts of Australia and from New Zealand.

NEW MEMBERS

Q80-473 Mrs Lillian Merle Kortlang, 56 Benecia St., Wavell Heights Q.
N80-474 William Donald McPhee, 10 Avona Cres., Seaforth NSW 2092
N80-475 Mrs Patricia Nance McPhee, 10 Avona Cres., Seaforth NSW 2092
V80-476 Mrs Beverley McPhee, 24 Trent St., Newborough Vic 3825
N80-477 Mrs Grace McPhee, 53 Woronora Pde., Oatley, NSW 2223

MORE SCOTTISH COOKING -

Nettle Soup. The common nettle, now despised as a weed, was long used as a vegetable in Scotland, especially in the Highlands. The original recipe is from one Sam Hay, the curator of the Bachelors' Clab at Tarbolton, where Robert Burns attended dancing classes. The open grate there, with its humble pots, lends itself well to such a simple yet delicious dish.

Ingredients : 1 quart good chicken stock 1 oz flour
8 large handfuls of young nettle tops 1 oz butter
1 onion salt
pepper

Method : Chop the onion and add the well washed nettle tops. Cook in butter till soft. Add the flour and stock and season well. Bring to the boil, simmer for 5 minutes and then sieve. Reheat, adjust seasoning and add a little cream if desired.

Roast Lamb with Rosemary & Anchovy. Sheep farming did not spread to the Highlands until the end of the eighteenth century. Now it is one of the mainstays of their economy. At Ben Lawers, famed for its wild flowers, the National Trust for Scotland mountain centre has an exhibition telling visitors more about sheep. This recipe, which combines the piquancy of rosemary and anchovy to the natural goodness of the grazing, adds a new dimension to lamb.

Ingredients : 1 leg of lamb 2 cloves garlic
1 tin anchovies 2 tablespoons rosemary leaves

Method : Pound together in a mortar the anchovies and rosemary leaves, adding a little of the anchovy oil if necessary, to form a thick paste. Cut small slits in the lamb and insert slivers of the garlic. Score the lamb with a sharp knife and spread the paste over, thickly. Roast, uncovered, in a pre-heated oven at 300° for 20 - 25 minutes per pound.

Puddings - A Very Old Highland Dish. The original recipe, from Balmacara, opposite the Isle of Skye, recaptures much of the simplicity of life in the Highlands - before the advent of bottled milk and sliced bread. It requires one to carry the bowl to the side of the cow and milk a pint of warm milk into it! The dish is as delicious as ever to-day, but you can now make it without the necessity of being able to milk the cow....

Ingredients : 1 pint milk ½ pint cream
2 teaspoons rennet 2 tablespoons soft brown sugar
nutmeg

Method : Warm the milk and add the rennet. When set, lift the curd on to a sieve and press the whey through until the curd is quite stiff. Flavour with the sugar and nutmeg. Whip up the cream adding the remaining sugar and more nutmeg and combine with the curd. Grate a little nutmeg over the top.

(From Patsy Blacklock's Let's Try Some SCOTTISH COOKING)