



The Macfie Clan Society of Australia

(Founded in Richmond NSW on 3rd May 1974)

No 39

May 84

Society Aims

1. TO ACT as the representative body of all Clan members in Australia in transacting Clan business with overseas organizations.
2. TO ENCOURAGE the research and recording of Clan history in Australia.
3. TO PROMOTE fellowship and social contact amongst members of the Clan in Australia.
4. TO TAKE AN INTEREST in the welfare of any disadvantaged members of the Clan in Australia and, where possible within the means of the Society, to assist those in need.
5. TO ESTABLISH and maintain close ties with other Societies of our Clan throughout the world.

- - - o o 0 o o - - -

Society Secretary:

Mrs Helen McPhie,
8 Panorama Crescent,
Toowoomba Q 4350.

Telephone: 076 32 3469

From Your President

The Fifth Biennial General Meeting was held in Toowoomba Q. in January and covered the usual enjoyable Clan week-end for those attending - some from as far afield as Victoria.

What a pity though, that more members, aspecially from amongst the locals in South Eastern Queensland, didn't attend for I have always found that those who do have a great time. What about making an appointment now to attend the next Biennial General Meeting in Adelaide in 1986?

A full report on the General Meeting appears elsewhere in this Newsbulletin, while business aspects are covered in the enclosed Meeting Minutes.

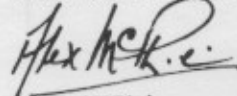
At the Clan Macfie Parliament in Nova Scotia last year, a resolution was carried calling for nominations for the position of Clan Commander. The intention being that any nominations be passed on to the ad hoc derbhfine when it forms to consider selection of a candidate for the Commandership. An ad hoc derbhfine is the traditional body of armigers of the Clan responsible for finding a new leader from within Clan ranks when an hereditary successor is not clearly identifiable.

After a great deal of discussion amongst our Executive, including reference to the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Edinburgh, no action will be taken in response to this call for nominations. The selection of a candidate for the Clan Commandership will thus be left to the traditional body responsible for this task which will be able to proceed with this matter in its own time and as it sees fit. The decision not to respond to in the call for nominations by the Clan Parliament was not unanimous amongst our Clan Society Executive.

My personal view is that the Clan Parliament exceeded its authority in this regard as the responsibility for selecting a candidate for recommendation to the Lyon Court as Clan Commander (or for that matter, as Clan Chief) rests solely with the adhoc derbhfine. Thus, no other body or person is competent to make proposals in this context. Clan Commissioner in Australia, Sandy McPhee of Sydney disagreed and felt we should participate as the Lord Lyon had ruled the call for nominations could be made but it would in no way replace the responsibilities vested in the ad hoc derbhfine - that is, it would be an interesting exercise which, though it may produce several nominations, would not replace or save work to which the derbhfine must attend.

Writing a Newsbulletin takes quite a few hours of work just in the putting together stages alone. More significantly, it is something which is very difficult to do piecemeal over a period of time. Hence this Newsbulletin is dreadfully late as I just haven't been able to devote the time to it that is required for continuity in the drafting processes. My apologies.

With best wishes to all


Alex McPhee,
President.

Toowoomba.
25th May, 1984.

FIFTH BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING WEEK-END

The Fifth Biennial General Meeting of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia was held in Toowoomba Q. on Saturday, 28th January, 1984 at the home of Society President Alex and Secretary Helen McPhie. Minutes and Reports from the Meeting are enclosed with this newsbulletin.

A Clan Dinner at the Caledonian Society and Burns Club on Saturday night and a Luncheon at Picnic Point on Sunday ^{were} associated with the General Meeting. Caledonian Society Chieftain Bill Affleck was our special guest at the Clan Dinner and Entertainment was provided by Country and Traditional Dancers. Bob Nixon of Toowoomba proved an able stand-in for Society Piper Grant MacPhie of Melbourne who was unable to be present.

As in previous years, a number of different members attended each function - totals were: Meeting 21, Dinner 23, Picnic 29, with 18 members attending all three functions. Visitors to Toowoomba came from as far afield as Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney as well as Bell, Dalby, Brisbane and Warwick in Queensland. An enjoyable time was had by all.

A keynote just before the General Meeting was a phone call from Clan Commissioner Ulf Hagman in Sweden to wish us all the best.

The following Executive Members were elected at the General Meeting for the 1984-85 Term of Office:

President :	Alex McPhie (Q74-001) Toowoomba Q.
Victoria Vice-President :	Bruce McPhie (V75-096) Melbourne Vic.
NSW Vice-President :	Bill Tyrrell (N78-395) Sydney NSW.
ACT Vice-President :	Ted Smythe (N74-064) Canberra ACT.

Vacancies on the Executive were filled by the Executive in accordance with Paragraph 9(5) of the Society Constitution and Office-Bearer appointments made, at an Executive Meeting following the General Meeting. A full list appears elsewhere in this Newsbulletin.

Bob McPhee (Q77-353) of Cairns won the General Meeting Raffle for a kilt length of Macfie Cloth.

The amendment to our Constitution to allow for an Immediate Past President was passed at the General Meeting and is now subject to ratification by the Clan Society Membership as a whole in accordance with paragraph 15 of the constitution. Ratification will be considered automatic provided not more than five objections are received in writing from financial members within four (4) weeks of mailing of this Newsbulletin.

General Meeting/Clan Dinner Balance Sheet

<u>By Receipts:</u>	Clan Dinner	515.00	
	Raffle 151 tickets @ 50c	75.10	590.10
<u>Less Expenses:</u>	Clan Dinner Catering	331.00	
	Hall Hire (Dinner)	60.00	
	Official Guest at Dinner	10.00	
	Piper's Fee	20.00	
	Raffle Prize & Postage	137.90	
	Printing of notices	24.00	
	General Meeting/Picnic	nil	582.90
<u>Profit on Week-end (to General Account) --</u>			<u>\$7.20</u>



VISITORS from Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney were among 26 guests at the gathering of the clan Macfie in Toowoomba on Saturday. The gathering was organised by Member for Toowoomba North Mr Sandy McPhie, pictured here with his wife Helen and the Australian head of the clan, Mr Sandy McPhee (right) of Pennant Hill, Sydney. Mr McPhie, M.L.A., founded the 350-member society in 1974 and has been president ever since. After a clan dinner in the Caledonian Society hall on Saturday night, clan members concluded celebrations with a picnic at Picnic Point yesterday.

MP hosts Macfie gathering

The Macfies are coming. Toowoomba this weekend will see a gathering of the clan.

Local Member of Parliament Mr Sandy McPhie on Saturday will host the fifth biennial general meeting of the Macfie Society of Australia.

He founded the 350-member society in 1974 and has been its president since then.

The general meeting at his home in Panorama Crescent will be followed by a clan dinner in the Caledonian Hall.

About 30 representatives are expected to come from Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and the Downs.

Among them will be the clan commissioner or head in Australia, retired Qantas pilot Mr Sandy McPhee from Pennant Hills, Sydney.

"Clan Macfie was only a small clan based on the island of Colonsay in the Outer Hebrides," Mr McPhie said yesterday.

"Their last chief, Malcolm, was murdered in 1623. The clan was dispossessed of its homeland and became a broken clan."

In the 1970s, the late Dr Earle Douglas MacPhee of Vancouver, Canada, reactivated the clan.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions at the rate of \$5 per member or \$10 per family domiciled at the one address, are now due. Accounts are attached for those members who have not already paid. Prompt payment is requested, please.

Members under the age of 18 years, or over the age of 75 years, are not required to pay membership subscriptions. Notification of age is required, however, especially in the latter instance.

---ooOoo---

Welcome to:

MacPhee Clan Society of the United States.

Ron MacPhee (Z78-405) of Hawaii, who is also a member of our Clan Society, formed the MacPhee Clan Society of the United States last year to cater especially for the many MacPhees throughout the United States of America. Our congratulations and best wishes go to Ron and his wife, Mert (Z78-406) in this undertaking.

The MacDuffee Clan of America Inc., has been established as the Clan Macfie representative in the U.S.A. for some 22 years. However, their area of prime interest has (naturally) been directed to the MacDuffee people in several States and did not actively cover the whole country or service all "Macfies". In 1982 a Macfie Clan Society of North America was formed by Scott McPhee of Florida and though possibly still functioning, did not meet requirements for full recognition, hence Ron's action in forming this Clan Society.

Membership numbers are building fast in Ron's society, principally on the mainland of course. Another of our members in Hawaii, Mrs Inez MacPhee Ashdown (Z80-490) is a regional Vice-President of the new Society.

The following agreement has been signed by the MacDuffee and MacPhee leaders for both Clan Societies to work together at all functions. Too, meetings are being held with a Cathey Association in the U.S.A. to include them as another approved Clan Macfie Clan Society, in this agreement.

The Federation of the Approved Macfie Clan Societies in the United States will be called the MacDuffee/MacPhee

Federation, and will consist of the MacDuffee Clan of America and the MacPhee Clan of the United States

These Societies agree hereby to display these names equally

at all Society events and public appearances such as Scottish

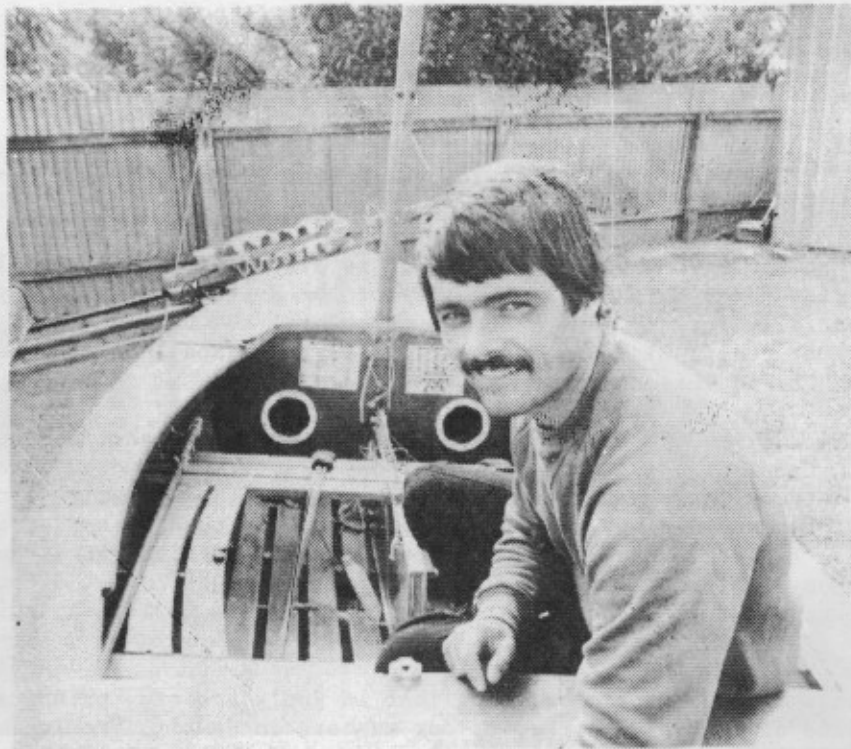
Games.

Signed DeVane B. Minkleton
MacDuffee Clan of America, Inc.

Signed Louis R MacPhee
MacPhee Clan of the United States

Ron's address is:

Louis R. MacPhee,
99-040 Kaamilo Street,
Aiea, Hawaii, 96701.
U.S.A.



Messenger Photo Sales

• Craig McPhee of Mitchell Park with his yacht *Eigen Vector*.

Yachting champ misses LA

PORT River Sailing Club's Craig McPhee is proving to be one of Australia's best up-and-coming sailors.

But he won't be travelling to the Los Angeles Olympic Games with the rest of the national contingent.

The Heron class yacht which Craig has mastered is not recognised at Olympic level.

Craig, 22, is the first South Australian to win both the national and State Heron titles for three successive years.

His latest triumph in his boat *Eigen Vector* was at the Australian championships in Perth in December and January, followed by another win in the SA titles in late January.

Craig does not mind sailing in a class even though he is missing out on competing against the world's best.

"I enjoy the class," he said. "I've got a lot of friends in it and I'm going to keep in it for the next five years or so."

Craig of Mitchell Park has been sailing since he was 12.

He started with Coffin Bay Yacht Club when his family lived at Port Lincoln and joined the Port River club when the McPhees came to Adelaide five years ago.

He started off in non-competition sailing with Holdfast trainers and 470s before his father bought a "beat-up old Heron."

He got it in shape and started entering races.

He gave notice of his talent with a win in the junior State titles several years ago and has gone from strength to strength.

Craig said the Heron was "radically different" from other yachts.

"It's short, fat and slow," he quipped.

"It's mostly a family boat and they are all very similar, which makes racing close.

"In the last few years there have been up to 100 boats in the nationals and five or six could have won it."

Craig, who was at teachers college for 4½ years but is currently unemployed, has had about 15 crew members in his short competitive career.

Clan Maclean Association. The Hamilton Branch of the Clan Maclean Association organised their first National Gathering at Halls Gap on 13th November last with over 250 attending. The Hamilton Branch is the Parent Branch of Clan Maclean Association in Australia. Their Secretary is Mrs Mavis Roper of 56 Park Street, Hamilton, V., 3300. Telephone 055 72 1710.

Clan Cameron, Australia has formed Branches in New South Wales and South Australia and is steadily increasing membership numbers - 200 attending the public meeting called on 12th February this year to form the South Australian Branch. Their Secretary is Miss M. Cameron, 18 Royal Avenue, Glenhuntly, Vic., 3163. Telephone 03 211 2723.

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS
& CLAN MACFIE PARLIAMENT, SCOTLAND 1985

The 1985 International Gathering of the Clans will be held in Scotland, with the major week of Clan activities being in Glasgow from 23rd to 29th June.

The Clan Macfie Parliament will be convened on or about those dates. Tentatively, our kindred Clan Society there, Clan Macfie (Scotland) has suggested a Clan Macfie Day in Edinburgh on Thursday, 20th June, a Clan Macfie visit to Colonsay on the week-end of 21st to 24th June and the remainder of the time in Glasgow at activities there.

Two sessions of Clan Parliament have been proposed for the 20th June - two hours in the morning and three hours in the evening - to be followed by a Clan Dinner and Ceilidh that night. Further details will be included in future Newsbulletins - what about planning to make the trip? President Alex and Secretary Helen McPhie hope to.

Officials of the Clan Macfie (Scotland) are:

President	:	The Revd. James Duffy
Secretary	:	Mrs Shiela Duffy

of 120 Cockburn Crescent, Balerno, EH14 7HD (Balerno is a village seven miles from Edinburgh).

And if you are attending, don't forget the Annual Meeting of the MacDuffee Clan of America is to be held at Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina on the second week-end in July.

***STOP PRESS** Sylvia has programmed 25 May to 8 June for Clan Macfie Activities - This will be clarified in the next News Bulletin.

"The Pipers' Rest"
Tenterfield N.S.W.

"The Pipers' Rest" is a twenty-bedroom Hostel at Tenterfield in North Eastern New South Wales, run by the McCabe Family.

As the McCabes are Pipers and drummers, they recognise a need for anyone travelling to be able to practice, to learn, or to pass on information to their fellow bandsmen. They are keen to help anyone to a better understanding of the pipes, and at times they have visits from some of the top pipers in Australia. They hope to eventually turn the Hostel into a Piping College.

Tenterfield with a population of some 3,500 has a very good Pipe Band and for the past 96 years has held a great New Year's Day Highland Gathering when the town plays host to the Pipes and Drums from Scots College, Sydney, and to many other visitors. It is an ideal place for a country holiday. At "The Pipers' Rest" accommodation is not palatial, but is friendly and cosy with very competitive bed and breakfast rates.

Telephone number is 067 36 1232
Address: 189 Pelham Street, Tenterfield NSW 2372

- - - o o 0 o o - - -

MEMBERS' LETTERS

Mrs Allison Hale (nee MacPhee) of 6 Oricon Court, Springwood, Q., 4127 writes:

"I recently went through some papers of my fathers and found a letter concerning the tracing of the MacDuffie/MacPhee Clan. I have also started tracing my family tree and hope that the little information I have may be of some use to you.

I will go from the present day back

1. Alastair MacPhee b. 9.4.1925 Glasgow
Arrived in Sydney, Australia when approximately two years old.
m. Molly Chippendale, 26.2.1954
Children. Allison, Margaret, Donald.
d. 1977 (approximately)
2. Donald MacPhee b. 3.3.1890 Holmsdale, Duirimish,
County of Inverness.
Arrived in Sydney approximately 1927/28.
m. Jessie Ellen Bell, 31.12.1920-Glasgow.
Children. Phia (died when young)
Alastair, twins born dead.
d. 18th August 1948, Sydney
3. Alexander MacPhee b. Glendale, Skye
Occupation. Mason's contractor
m. Margeret McPhee 23.2.1883 at Kilcaldmorell
Children. Donald-Archie (married Lexie -
children John & Catherine & Callum.
lived at Glendale 1939-40)
Murdoch (lost in action WW·I)
Angus
Malcolm - moved to Canada
Donald
John
Margeret McPhee b. December, 1861
lived at Colbost Skinidin Skye with a Mary (??)

I have a letter written by Margeret McPhee to her son Donald in Australia 1940. I mentions names of Allan Stewart
Norman and Family
Malcolm and Family
Marion and all
Alex and wife

written from Glendale. I also have a number of photos of the MacPhees in Scotland - some of whom I don't know.

- - - o o 0 o o - - -

FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEETING

IN TOOWOOMBA ON 29 JAN 84

The Sixth Biennial General Meeting of our Clan Society will be held in Adelaide in 1986 to coincide with the South Australian sesquicentenary celebrations. The Seventh Biennial General Meeting will be in Sydney in 1988 and the Eighth in Melbourne in 1990.

Originally it was planned to hold the Sixth Biennial General Meeting in Melbourne as it was Victoria's turn by rotation, but the change was agreed to mark the South Australian and Sydney milestones. It is now intended to hold a special Clan Dinner in Melbourne during the latter part of this year or early next year. Further details in our next Newsbulletin -

Society Executive and Office Bearers. A full list of members of the Clan Society Executive and of Office Bearers appears on page 12 of this Newsbulletin. The Executive made appointments to fill the vacant Treasurer, and South Australia and Queensland Vice-President posts and reappointed the present Office Bearers. No appointments were made to fill vacancies as Society Vice-President or Western Australia Vice-President.

Membership Fees for 1985 and 1986 were set at \$5.00 per member, or \$10.00 per family resident at the one address. No charge will be made for members under the age of 18 years or over 75 years.

The Future. The Executive considered a number of proposals to increase Clan publicity with the object of increasing membership and strengthening our image. These will be further developed in due course.

- - - o o 0 o o - - -

CONGRATULATIONS

Our sincere congratulations go to Ulf Hagman in Sweden and Robert Macfie in England following the recent Grants of Arms by the Lyon Court.

Ulf Macfie Hagman is Clan Macfie Commissioner in Europe and secretary of the Therburn-Macfie Family Union in Sweden. Ulf was born on 8th September, 1927, lives at Uddevalla with wife Nana and is an engineer with Volvo. They have a daughter and a son. Ulf is an Honorary Member of our Clan Society.

Robert James Macfie is an engineer also. Born 3rd April, 1951 he lives at Luton, Beds., with wife, Sue. They have one daughter. Robert is a direct descendant of the Langhouse Macfies who with their relatives the Dreghorn Macfies, ^{were} the first Clan Macfie members to matriculate Arms (in the 1840's) since the Register of All Arms of Scotland was commenced in 1672.

Ulf and Robert are related too, for the Macfies who migrated to Sweden in 1845 and the Langhouse and Dreghorn Macfies of Scotland are one not so far back in history.

GENERAL NOTES

**Kaye Macphee (V74-023) of Ferntree Cully Vic., was in Scotland last year and reported Colonsay was in absolute chaos with workers galore laying pipes to supply the island with water, gas and electricity from the mainland. Notwithstanding, the island has a cared for look now with a great sense of purpose and industry. Commissioning date for these new facilities was in October last year.

**Sally McPhee (Q77-045) of Brisbane, Q. is in America for twelve months on a Kellogg Foundation Scholarship where she is doing a Masters course in Nursing at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Last report was from Texas where she was snowed-in on her Christmas vacation!

**Lyndal McPhie (Q76-163) of Toowoomba, Q. commenced nursing training at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane on 12th March this year - and loves it, from all reports.

**Clan Member Jamie McPhee of Adelaide captained the Australian Under 19 cricket team in the recent series against Sri Lanka.

**Congratulations to Scot McPhie (Q76-164) of Toowoomba, Q. on receiving his Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award.

**Clan Member John McPhee of Canberra, ACT is Curator of Australian Decorative Arts at the Australian National Gallery

**Barbara McPhee (N74-079) of Ryde, NSW, is an ergonomist -- and one of the best-known ones in NSW too, if not Australia. A physiotherapist by training, Barbara tutors in occupational health at the Commonwealth Institute of Health at Sydney University and serves as a government consultant in ergonomics to employers in both public and private sectors. Ergonomics, by the way, can be defined as the scientific study of the efficiency of man in his working environment and can range from ferreting out the cause of a typist's backache to designing a handier public telephone. Barbara is the elder daughter of Clan Commissioner Sandy, and Norah McPhee of Pennant Hills, NSW.

**Bonnie Bush (N74-007) of Sans Souci NSW and Betty Hastings (N75-102) of Grafton (066 42-1077) are organising a Get-Together on Saturday, 1st September, at the Maclean Showground for all who were associated with the Pullen River Boats. A lot of McPhees were in the Clarence River district of Northern New South Wales in the early days and their descendants are there now. The aim of the Get-Together is to record the history of the Pullen Boats and an invitation is extended to all who were connected with or travelled on them.

**SYDNEY SCOTTISH WEEK 1984. Official opening by the Lord Mayor - Saturday 24th November; Grand Scottish Ball - Friday 30th November; Clans Gathering, March and Closing Concert - Sunday 2nd December.

**NEW MEMBERS. A big welcome to:

T83-538 Nathan MacFie C/- P.O., Richmond, Tas., 7025
T83-539 Lachlan MacFie C/- P.O., Richmond, Tas., 7025
V83-540 Robert MacPhie 'Sunnydale', Eversley, Avoca, V., 3467

But where are the new members for 1984?

THE SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

COMHAIRLE OIGHREACHD ALBANNACH

PATRON-IN-CHIEF OF SCOTTISH WEEK IN NEW SOUTH WALES:
His Excellency Air Marshal Sir James Rowland, K.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., K.St.J.,
Governor of New South Wales

PATRONS OF SYDNEY SCOTTISH WEEK:
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of Sydney,
Alderman Douglas W. Sutherland, A.M., J.P.

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Forres

The Hon. L.J. Ferguson, M.P.,

SECRETARIAT:
3, 'Rosemont',
410, Edgecliff Road,
WOOLLAHRA, N.S.W. 2025

AUSTRALIAN TARTAN DESIGN COMPETITION.

The SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL in association with JOHN VICARS and CO. LTD. and FLETCHER JONES and STAFF PTY. LTD.

is conducting a COMPETITION for an

AUSTRALIAN TARTAN DESIGN.

There will be a FIRST PRIZE of \$1000-00 and a SECOND PRIZE of \$500.

The Tartan is intended to be worn by all Australians of Celtic descent.

The Judging panel will consist of:

Mr.P.Alexander, C.M.G., O.B.E., (Council of Scottish Gaelic).

Mrs.Rosemary Nicolson Samios (Scottish Australian Heritage Council).

Mr.John Vicars (John Vicars and Co., Ltd.)

Ms.Claire Dunne (Celtic Council of Australia).

Mr.Duncan MacLeod (Native Gaelic speaker and Skye man). (Radio 2EA).

Mr.Ramsay Craig (Fletcher Jones and Staff Pty. Ltd.)

ENTRY FEE is \$2 per entry.

PROCEDURE.

Send in your design(s), in colour, on paper, not exceeding foolscap size, indicating the width of colours. Technical details of threads, setts and pivots are not essential but could be helpful if available. But they will be worked out if necessary, by the manufacturers. Entries should be sent, by mail only, to Australian Tartan Design Competition at the above address.

COMPETITION RULES.

1. The decision of the Judges will be final and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the decision;
2. Complete Entry Form and forward with your design not later than 12 noon on 1st September 1984.
3. Property in the winning design will rest with the S.A.H.
4. The winning designs will not necessarily be used.
5. Results will be announced during Scottish Week 1984.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL:

Chairman:

The Much Honoured William MacLennan,
Chieftain in Clan MacLennan

Vice-Chairman:

D.H. Scotland, B.E.M.

Secretary:

Mrs. R.J.N. Samios

Treasurer:

Mrs. D.B. Kerr

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES:

New South Wales

Sydney:

Chairman: (02) 407 3320

Secretary: (02) 328 6867

Canberra (062) 47 6782

Newcastle (049) 43 1241

Wollongong (042) 29 4320

Blue Mountains (047) 58 6820

Southern Tablelands (046) 57 1351

Central Coast (043) 84 5349

Northern Rivers (066) 86 3388

Victoria

Melbourne (03) 544 5496

South Australia

Adelaide (08) 339 1916

Queensland

Brisbane (07) 397 3808

(07) 397 1592

Tasmania

Hobart (002) 59 1226

New Zealand

Gore 7440

Napier 59468

Dunedin 54399

Auckland 688266

Bay of Plenty 5971

EXECUTIVE & OFFICE BEARER

APPOINTMENTS FOR 1984-85

- President : Alex McPhie, 8 Panorama Crescent, Toowoomba Q 4350
(076 32 3469)
- Qld Vice-President : Nevell McPhee, 6 Eymard Street, Toowoomba Q 4350
(076 35 8454)
- N.S.W. Vice-President : Bill Tyrrell, 18 Yeran Street, Sylvania NSW 2224
(02 522 6420)
- Vic. Vice-President : Bruce McPhie, 8 Calypso Court, Forest Hill V 3131
(03 878 7071)
- A.C.T. Vice-President : Ted Smythe, 12 Fenton Street, Downer ACT 2602
(062 41 5430)
- S.A. Vice-President : Brian McHaffie, 13 Schroder Crt, North Haven SA 5018
(08 248 5164)
- Clan Commissioner
in Australia : Sandy McPhee Esq., 47 Bellamy Street, Pennant Hills
(02 84 2257) NSW 2120
- Armigerous Member : Hector McPhie Esq., 1 Newmarket St, Toowoomba Q 4350
(076 34 1433)
- Treasurer : Miss Lorraine McPhee, 103 Mackenzie St, Toowoomba
Qld 4350
- Secretary : Mrs Helen McPhie, 8 Panorama Cres, Toowoomba Q 4350
(076 32 3469)
- Historians : Mrs Norah McPhee, 47 Bellamy Street, Pennant Hills
(02 84 2257) NSW 2120
- : Mrs Margaret Phee, 205 Hudson Pde, Clareville NSW 2107
(02 918 3524)
- : Clyde Smythe, 8 Avoca Road, Turramurra NSW 2074
- Piper : Grant MacPhie, 35 Eastgate St., Oakleigh V 3166
(03 569 5894)
- Trustees : Neil McPhee, 1/15 Bath St., Mornington, V., 3931
(059 89 2473)
- : President and Treasurer

Note : No appointment has been made to the Society Vice-President position.



CLAN MACFIE IN BOOKS

THE PEAT-FLAME FIRE: FOLK-TALES AND TRADITIONS OF THE HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

by Alasdair Alpin Macgregor

The MacPhees of Colonsay

Belief that drowned persons sometimes assumed the form of seal-men and seal-women, and that they were able periodically to lay aside their seal-skins and assume human proportions during the night-time and return to the sea as seals at sunrise, was prevalent in Ireland, in the Western Highlands, in the Outer Hebrides, in the Orkneys and Shetlands, and in Scandinavia.

Tradition has it that the MacPhees of Colonsay, an island of the Inner Hebrides, are of the stock of a seal-woman, whose seal-skin was discovered on a rock one day, and carried off to a house near at hand by an unthinking islander. However, the owner did not rest until she recovered her seal-skin, whereupon she returned to her life in the sea.

One of the MacPhees - so it is believed in Argyll and in the Hebrides - was retained in captivity in a cavern by the shore of Colonsay by a seal-woman, who ministered to all his requirements, except to the need he always expressed for his freedom. Came a day when MacPhee, taking advantage of the seal-woman's temporary absence, affected his escape. But, on returning to find that he had gone, the seal-woman instantly gave pursuit. MacPhee fled to the protection of his home, where he kept a dog, black of hue, and fierce, so fierce, in truth, that the Colonsay folks dreaded it, and often tried to persuade MacPhee to dispose of it. But MacPhee consistently gave them the same reply. 'The Black Dog's day is yet to come!' he always urged, this being a Gaelic equivalent of the saying, 'Every dog has its day!'

Now, the seal-woman overtook the fleeing MacPhee by the shore; and she would have captured him, had not the black dog engaged her. And the old folks of Colonsay, reciting island folk-lore at their ceilidhs round the peatfires on winter nights, narrate that the contest between dog and seal-woman, continued until the black dog killed the seal-woman, and the seal-woman killed the black dog!

How MacPhee escaped from Colonsay

There is a cave at Urcuaig Beag, in Colonsay, of which the following story is told. The last of the MacPhee lairds of Colonsay had been defeated by his enemies, the MacNeils, and took refuge along with his three dogs in the cave, which had an entrance from the sea, and another from the land. At the sea entrance MacPhee placed his three dogs on guard against his enemies, while he himself took up a defensive position in a recess about halfway down the cave, where there was just room enough to enable him to wield his sword. At this point the main cave is so contracted that it is necessary for one to get on all-fours in order to pass through. As MacPhee saw the head of each of his pursuers emerge in turn from the contracted passage, he promptly beheaded him, and dragged his corpse into the cave. When this fate had befallen five or six of his foes, the remainder, unable to obtain any response to their enquiry as to how fared their accomplices, took alarm. After consultation, they agreed to dig down into the cave from above. This, MacPhee realised, would mean his disaster. Meanwhile recognising the tide to have risen sufficiently at the sea entrance to prevent his enemies from gaining ingress except by swimming, he decided, while their attention was diverted in digging above, to escape by swimming across Kiloran Bay, along with his dogs,

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING
 1983-84

a distance of about a mile. He had not completed a bow-shot's length of this arduous undertaking, however, when his foes noticed him, and discharged a flight of arrows at him, one of which pierced his hip. MacPhee now made for a rock lying a little ahead, landed thereon, and extracted the arrow. Since that day the rock has been known by a Gaelic name meaning The Black Skerry of MacPhee.

Thereafter MacPhee and his dogs completed their swim across Kilgoran Bay. They then wandered along the shore until they came to Baile na h-Airde. There MacPhee found a coble with a plank stove in, lying amongst iris-flags above high-water mark. Cutting a sward with his knife, he plugged the leak, and launched the coble. And, taking his dogs with him, he rowed across to Jura. In this wise he escaped from the cave on Colonsay that to this day is known as MacPhee's cave.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AS AT 31 DEC 83

RECEIPTS

Subscriptions	81	4.00	
	82	72.00	
	83	1,174.50	
	84	99.05	
	85	5.00	
	86	5.00	\$1,359.55
<hr/>			
Donations			
- General fund		\$ 19.00	
- Trust account		20.00	39.00
<hr/>			
Sales			
- Badges		\$ 13.00	
- History		10.00	
- Diaries		71.67	94.67
<hr/>			
Bank Interest		21.59	
Raffle (5 6m)		50.10	
<hr/>			
Balance b/f 1 Jan 83		570.00	
<hr/>			
		\$2,134.91	

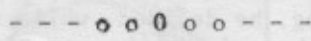
EXPENDITURE

Newsbulletin	\$ 696.96
Postage	45.70
Printing/stat	52.24
Telephone	30.65
Federal tax on debits	.70
Bank debit	3.80
<hr/>	
Transfers	
- Commissioners expenses	102.19
- 1983 Clan Parliament exp	41.81
- Standing store (bal re '82)	61.00
- Clan commander's expenses ('82)	239.20
- Trust fund ('82)	49.26
<hr/>	
Affiliation fees:	
- SAHC	20.00
- Sydney Clan Assn	10.00
- Diaries	52.00
<hr/>	
	\$1,405.51

Notes (1) Bank debit of \$3.80 is being investigated and will be explained/reversed in due course.

(2) The Summary of Assets as at 31st December 1983 appears as Attachment C of the enclosed Minutes of the Fifth Biennial General Meeting.

Balance as at 31 Dec 83 729.40
\$2,134.91



COLONSAY

Clan
of
Destiny

From Silkie birth, or from the stars,
Whence came this Clan Mac Phee?
Older than Scotland's oldest names
and lost in History.

Of Gabhran fame, the Sons of the Dark Peace,
Black Fairies from the sea.
To Iona, Dunkeld and Colonsay,
Where died our chief Mc Phie.

A renegade from a friendly clan,
in 1623,
Cost us our land, our chief and all,
in slaying Malcolm Mc Phie.

Our people ran, and some were sent,
to lands beyond the sea.
For more than 300 years,
a broken clan - Mc Phie.

Now from the nations of the world,
and lands beyond the sea.
From the ashes of the ancient past,
Forever - Clan Mac Phee.

Commissioned by the "King of Arms",
as Ceann Cath of MacFie,
Dr. Earle has returned to life
the Clan of Destiny.

« — »

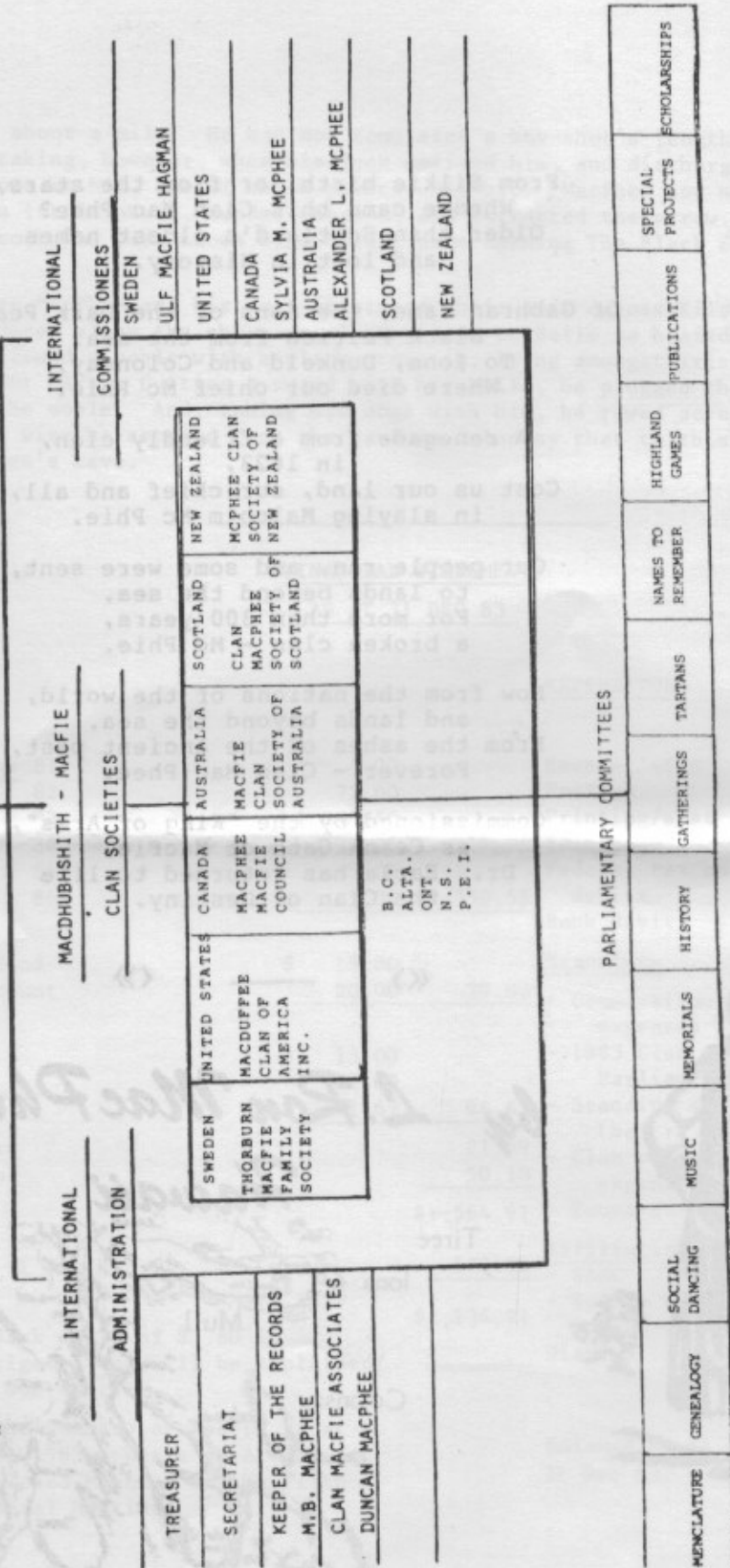
by L. Ron MacPhee

Hawaii





CLAN MACFIE
COMMANDER - CEANN-CATH



*Dr. Earle's design —
for our World Family*

"Clan family is beyond and outside the divisions between nations, countries and continents ... it takes no note of age and sex, rank or wealth, success or failure. The spiritual link of clanship embraces them all."

Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod,
1876-1977