

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia

(Founded in Richmond NSW on 3 May 1974)



Newsbulletin



CLAN MACFIE AT STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES, OCTOBER 1991

Number 61

November 1991

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT
AND CLAN COMMANDER.



A report on our overseas trip is included in the centre of this Newsbulletin. It is part of a new four page publication "Clan Macfie News" which I hope all Clan Society Presidents (there are twelve of them) will include in their respective Newsbulletins to give members a reasonably up-to-date report on Clan activities. The Clan News will also go to a number of key Clan members worldwide - some of whom might not be members of a Clan Society at present.

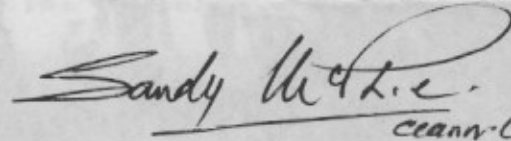
The trip was excellent. The two Highland Games most spectacular and the warmth of the Macfie welcome wherever we went is something we will treasure always. Certainly the Clan is alive and well in both countries and many of the Clan Societies there are very active with strong leaders and active membership.

On the Australian front, details are given opposite for a Clan Dinner in Sydney on Saturday 30th November and of Clan participation in Sydney's Scottish Week Celebrations. (The full week's programme is at page 4). Also included (at page 11) are more details of our Ninth Biennial General Meeting in Perth on 25/26th April next year and of a Clan Dinner in Adelaide on Thursday, 16th April, 1992. Final details for both these functions will be included in our next Newsbulletin in March next year.

Our past year has been a good one for our Clan Society and for the Clan as a whole. The future is most encouraging but can only really be capitalised on by member participation at all levels. Certainly, a greater member turn out at functions would be appreciated by the organisers....What about it?

While I have accepted nomination for a further two year term of office as Clan Society President, I feel it is time for someone else to take on that leadership role to leave me free for other Clan duties.

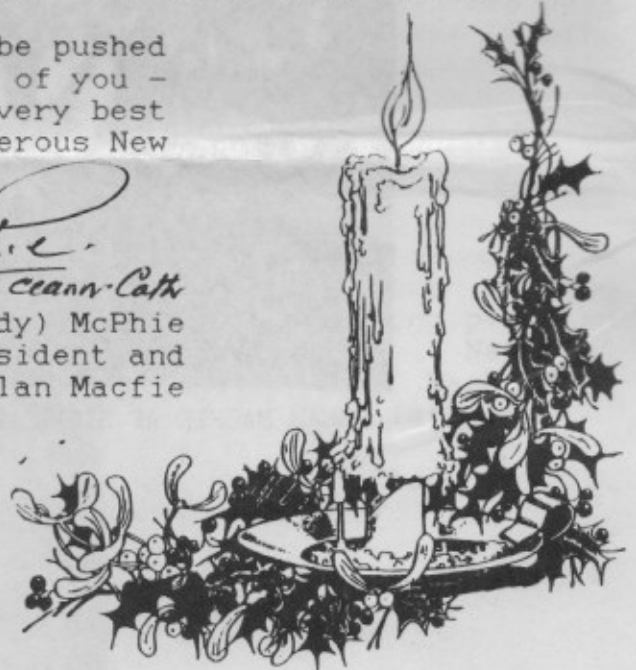
In the meantime, while I wait to be pushed aside by heaps of volunteers, I wish all of you - and Helen joins with me in this - the very best for Christmas and for a happy and prosperous New Year.


Sandy McPhie
Clan Macfie

Toowoomba
8th November 1991

A. C. (Sandy) McPhie
Clan Society President and
Commander of Clan Macfie

Merry Christmas



All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary:

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

Telephone: (076) 32 3469

SYDNEY CLAN MACFIE DINNER

Saturday, 30th November

Royal Automobile Club

6.30 for 7.15 p.m.

89 Macquarie Street.

Run as part of Clan Macfie's participation in Sydney's Scottish Week Celebrations, this Dinner will be held in the Vintage Room on level 5 in the Royal Automobile Club. Clan Commander Sandy McPhee and wife Helen of Toowoomba, Q., will be attending as too, will be Clan Commissioner in Australia. Sandy McPhee and wife Norah of Mt. Vincent, N.S.W. and Clan Society N.S.W. Vice-President Bill Tyrrell of Sylvania.

\$40 per person,
Dinner and pre-Dinner Drinks
(Dinner Drinks extra)

RSVP Bill Tyrrell
(02) 522-6420
By Wednesday 27 Nov. 91

**1991 SYDNEY SCOTTISH WEEK PROGRAMME
SUNDAY 24th NOVEMBER TO SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER**

The two Chiefs of the MacLeods are special guests at Sydney's Scottish Week Celebrations this year. The full Scottish Australian Heritage Council programme for the week is on the next page. Enquiries should go to the Council Office - (02) 232-2473.

CLAN MACFIE PARTICIPATION

- Sunday 24th**
 - 11.00 am Kirkin' of The Tartan at Scots Church, Magaret Street (Commissioner Sandy and Norah McPhee and V-P Bill Tyrrell attending)
 - 12.30 pm Gathering and Picnic in the Domain (as for 11.00 am)
 - 1.30 pm Clans March down Macquarie Street (Commissioner Sandy and Norah McPhee attending)
 - 2.30 pm Scottish Concert at Opera House (as for 1.30 pm)
- Monday 25th**
 - 12 NOON Scottish Week Opening in Martin Place (Commissioner Sandy and Norah McPhee attending)
- Saturday 30th**
 - 2.00 pm Garden Party hosted by City of Holroyd Council, Central Gardens, Memorial Ave., Merrylands. (Clan Commander, Clan Commissioner and wives attending)
 - 6.30 pm Clan Macfie Dinner, Royal Automobile Club, Macquarie St., (Details above)
- Sunday 1st**
 - 8.30 am Highland Gathering and Games at Rawson Park, to Mosman (Clan Commander Sandy McPhee and wife Helen, Clan Commissioner Sandy McPhee and wife Norah and Clan Society N.S.W. V-P Bill Tyrrell attending)

Clan members may well be attending other functions during Scottish Week. In any case, please contact N.S.W. V-P Bill Tyrrell (02 522-6420) if attending any functions or requiring further information.

NINTH BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING

PERTH, W.A.

25/26 APRIL 1992

Details on Page 11

THE SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME - SCOTTISH WEEK 1991

Saturday, 23 November

7.00 p.m. Dr. & Mrs. Hayes Reception for Chiefs (\$60.00) to be finalised.

Sunday, 24 November

10 a.m. Kirkin' of the Tartan - Barbara McLennan - (047) 542484 After hours.
12.30 p.m. Gathering of the Clans - Picnic Lunch, The Domain.
1.30 p.m. March of the Clans to Opera House - Ken Curran - 451 8449.
2.30 p.m. Opera House Concert - Dorothy Kerr (B) 211 0742 (H) 337 4807. Free.
6.00 p.m. Reception for visiting Chiefs - by invitation only.

Monday, 25 November

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each week day. Information Centre opens in Convention Room at C.T.A., 35 Martin Place, Sydney. - Joan Nix - 232 2473.
12 noon Scottish Week Opening Ceremony in Martin Place amphitheatre. Lord Mayo: to attend. Paul Gregor - 419 7159.
1.30 p.m. Lunch at Parliament House - limited tickets. To be hosted by members of each party, each with Scottish background. Gwen MacLennan - 449 334
7.30 p.m. Seminar on the Present State of Scotland. At C.T.A. Club. To be chaired by John Maitland and Malcolm Broun. Supper provided.

Tuesday, 26 November

Noon to 2 p.m. Martin Place Activity - June Jay - 949 2797.
8.30 a.m. Golf Day at Cromer - All inclusive or Lunch only. Bill Broun - 969 935
2.15 p.m. Afternoon Seminar at C.T.A. Club. Subject to be decided.
5.30 p.m. Lord Mayor's Reception - by invitation only. Gwen MacLennan - 449 3342

Wednesday, 27 November

Noon to 2 p.m. Martin Place Activity - June Jay - 949 2797.
Noon Scottish Race Day. Venue and details - Rob Hirst - 662 1444.
7.30 p.m. City Ceilidh in Ferguson Hall, St. Stephen's, Macquarie St., Sydney. Supper provided. Duncan McLeod - 50 8455.
7.30 p.m. Patrons' Dinner - Limited tickets at \$200 ea. Malcolm Broun - 232 3606

Thursday, 28 November

Noon to 2 p.m. Martin Place activity - June Jay - 949 2797.
11.30 a.m. Opening of Scottish Art work and memorabilia in the Macleay Museum, the Old Geology Building, Cnr. Gosper Lane and Science Rd., Sydney University by Mrs. Elizabeth Cameron, wife of the Master of St. Andrew's College. Visitors may become "members for the day" at the University Club on campus near the Museum, and an excellent lunch can be enjoyed at very reasonable Club prices. Frank Davidson - 331 1938 or Office - 232 2473
7.30 p.m. Southern Ceilidh - Venue to be advised but will be in Sutherland area. Jim McConnell - 521 7054.
7.30 p.m. Sydney Society for Scottish History evening. Possible subject "The Great Debate" - Was the Reformation in Scotland a Grass Roots Movement or the work of a few? Malcolm Broun - 232 3606. Supper & wine provide.

Friday, 29 November

Noon to 2 p.m. Martin Place activity - June Jay - 949 2797.
7.30 p.m. Grand Scottish Ball at the Roundhouse - University of New South Wales, Kensington. Wendy Broun - 232 2733.

Saturday, 30 November - St. Andrew's Day.

2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Garden Party by Council of the City of Holroyd, Central Gardens, Memorial Avenue, Merrylands. Highland dancers, Pipe bands, Marching girls, Performance of "Brigadoon" by Holroyd Musical and Dramatic Society, etc. Helen McWilliam - 682 0511.
8.00 p.m. Western Ceilidh at the Celtic Club, 380 Guildford Road, Guildford. David Campbell - 523 6877. Supper provided.

Sunday, 1 December

8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Highland Gathering and Games at Rawson Park, Mosman, the site of our bi-centennial Cairn. Traditional games and activities, Pipe Band Association and Highland Dancing competitions, Country dancing, Army and Navy displays, multiple stalls, etc. Pamela Urquhart - 969 4248.

OTHER FUNCTIONS, SUCH AS OPENING OF EXHIBITION OF SCOTTISH HISTORY STILL TO BE ADVISED
FULL DETAILED PROGRAMME IN OUR ANNUAL - TO BE OUT IN OCTOBER.

NOW, PLEASE CHOOSE YOUR PROGRAMME - HELP YOUR CONVENORS TO MAKE ADEQUATE AND COMFORTABLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOU!

Telephone:
02 232-2473

The Booking Officer, Scottish Australian Heritage Council,
G.P.O. Box 421,
SYDNEY. 2001.

Cheques, etc., to:
"The Scottish Australian Heritage Council".

(The following article appeared in the Jan/Feb 1988 edition of The Highlander, the American Scottish journal. The Viking connection is one many of us overlook when casting back into our beginnings.)

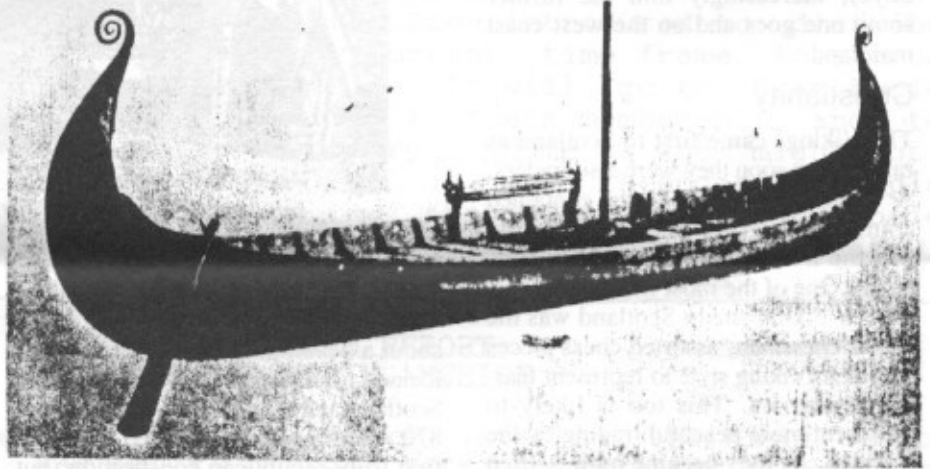
The Vikings in Scotland

By Alan MacQuarrie

The Scots, whether at home or abroad, think of themselves mainly as a Celtic people, whose ancestors spoke Gaelic and who settled in Scotland originally from Ireland. Indeed, the very word *Scot* originally meant an Irishman, and was applied to the people of what is now Scotland because they had come from Ireland! But if your surname is MacLeod, MacQueen or MacCorquindale (to name only a few), your ancient ancestry is very different. For MacLeod means "son of Ljotr", MacQueen is "son of Sveinr", and MacCorquindale is "son of Thorketl". These are Norse names, and the ancestors of the people who bear them were Vikings.

Viking Raids

Shortly before the year 800 AD, the age of the Viking raids began. Norway was overpopulated, its farmlands minutely subdivided; and the Norse were perfecting techniques of shipbuilding and navigation which would make them masters of the western seas, eventually carrying them to the New World itself. The first landfall west of Norway is Shetland, and it was here that the Vikings first struck. Under the little church at St. Ninian's Isle, Shetland, has been found a horde of silver treasure with Pictish decorations, which had evidently been buried by its owner so that it would not fall into Viking hands. The owner never came back to reclaim his treasure, so there is a suggestion of the violence for which the Vikings were notorious. The first Viking raid in historical record was a burning and pillaging of Iona in 793. Thereafter Viking raiders were active off the west coast of Scotland almost every year. They moved swiftly in small highly mobile bands, relying on surprise and terror for the effectiveness of their raids. Their main objective was the seizure of moveable wealth which could be transported back to Norway. Their earliest targets were undefended religious sites, monasteries and churches, from which they looted valuable religious objects: crosses and crucifixes, cups and bowls and plates made of precious metals and encrusted with precious stones. On the rare occasions when the victims of their raids put up resistance, the Vikings exacted terrible revenge. In 806 they



A Viking Ship, The Oseberg, built c. 800.

slaughtered sixty-eight monks of the island monastery of Iona who had tried to defend themselves; in 825, on the same island, they cruelly tortured and murdered the monk Blathmac for refusing to reveal to them where the precious shrine of St. Columba had been hidden from them.

These devastating raids had a number of consequences. The monasteries found ways of defending themselves; at Iona, the community withdrew to Kells in the plain of Meath in central Ireland, safe from seaborne attack; later, the monks began to build round towers with their doors high off the ground as refuge from Viking raiders. There are many of these towers in Ireland, but only two survive in Scotland, at Brechin in Angus and at Abernethy in Fife. They probably date from the tenth century. Kings and lords also began to organise defence against the Viking raiders, and on occasion were able to intercept and destroy small bands of Vikings. As a result, from about 830 onwards, the Vikings began to move in much bigger armies, which could challenge local land armies in the field. From being small, mobile bands of raiders menacing churches, they became a powerful military force which could threaten kingdoms and their armies. Thus in 839 there was a great battle in central Scotland between a Viking army who had sailed from Ireland and a mighty host assembled by the kings of the Picts and Scots. The Scots were easily defeated, and the battle ended with a terrible massacre of Pictish

noblemen. This appalling disaster for the Picts left the way open for an obscure Scottish aristocratic adventurer, Kenneth MacAlpin, to stake his claim to the kingship of all Scotland during the 840's. It is from him that the kings of Scots were descended.

The larger armies which the Vikings had begun to assemble from the 830's onwards were less mobile than the earlier small, swift, raiding bands, and they involved greater manpower. From about this time the Vikings began to settle in the lands which they had previously terrorised, becoming farmers and shepherds during the times when they were not involved in military campaigns. They brought their wives and families over from Norway to the Orkneys and Shetlands, the Hebrides, Caithness and the West Coast. They gave names to the places where they settled, and these names tell us much about the pattern of settlement and the Vikings' way of life.

Place Names

One Norse place-name element can serve as an example. The Norse word *bolstathr* means a farm which has been divided among the heirs of the original owner, so it shows Viking settlement after the first generation. It is also a two syllable word, so Gaelic speakers would tend to pronounce it differently from Norse speakers. In Gaelic, the stress falls on the first syllable, in Norse on the last. Thus in Shetland we find names like Kirkbister and Scrabster, where the second element was original-

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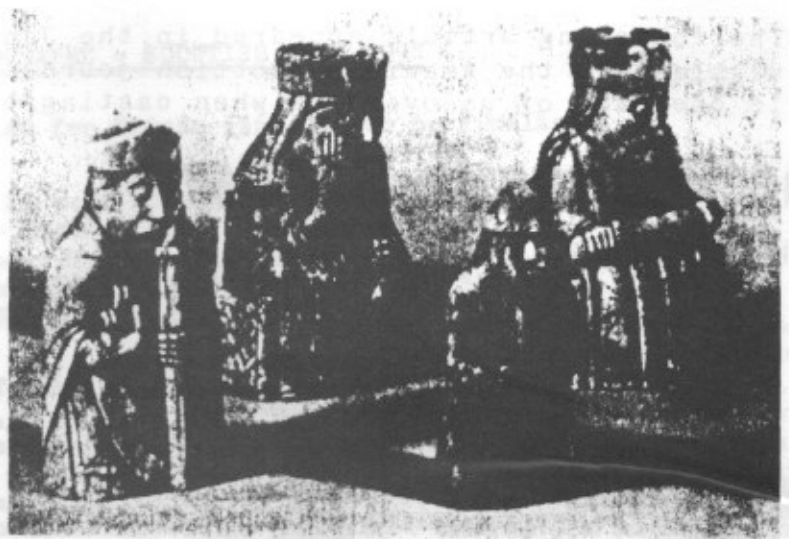
ly bolstathr. In Lewis there are names like Shawbost and Habost, on the north-west mainland, however, we find Unapool and Ullapool, and in Islay names like Lyrabolls and Collabols. These show a much stronger influence of Gaelic speech on the mainland and in the southern Hebrides. In general, Norse names are thickest in the Northern Isles and Caithness, slightly less so in the northern Hebrides (Lewis and Skye), increasingly thin the further south one goes and on the west coast mainland.

Christianity

The Vikings came first to Scotland as raiders, but soon they were also traders. A Viking grave on Colonsay contained coins and weighing-scales, suggesting that the man buried there was a merchant. One of the most important finds from a Viking site in Scotland was the Lewis chessmen, assorted chess pieces carved in Viking style to represent fearsome warriors. This too is likely to represent more peaceful trading by the Vikings. As they became more settled on their lands it was inevitable that the Norsemen would have to learn to live in peaceful co-existence with their neighbours, to trade with them as well as to conduct commerce further afield, conveying wealth from Ireland, England and Europe back to Scandinavia.

One of the most important ways in which the Vikings were influenced by their new Scottish neighbours was in their adoption of Christianity. This was at first hesitant and mixed with traditional paganism, the worship of the Viking war-gods Odin and Thor. One Viking grave, which can be dated to about 850 AD, contained weapons and other pagan grave-goods, and the bodies of sacrificed animals; but it also contained a Christian cross. After about 900 AD, pagan grave-goods tend to disappear from Viking burials, suggesting the adoption of Christian burial practices. There is one example, from the Isle of Barra, of a gravestone with a Christian cross on one side, and on the other a Norse runic inscription commemorating the deceased. This may date from about 1000 AD, by which time the Norse inhabitants of Scotland were almost entirely Christian.

More settled conditions brought



Chessmen carved from Walrus Ivory, found on the Isle of Lewis. They were probably carved in the early 13th Century.

about a developing political structure. Iceland (colonised by Vikings from Scotland and from Norway from about 870 AD onwards) developed Europe's first truly republican constitution, but the Viking parts of the British Isles were still governed by kings and earls. There was a "Kingdom of the Isles" with its headquarters on the Isle of Man, which included the Hebrides, as far north as Skye and Lewis; in the Northern Isles there was a line of Earls of Orkney ruling over Orkney and Shetland from a base at Jarlshof (earl's house) in Orkney. The Earls of Orkney were, in name at least, directly subject to the kings of Norway; in practice they were largely independent. They also ruled over Caithness and Sutherland (southern land, i.e., the southern part of Caithness) on the Scottish mainland, lands which they held under the kings of Scots, though again with a large measure of independence.

These political structures had a long lifetime before they were eventually absorbed into the Scottish kingdom. King Alexander II died in 1249 AD just as he was setting out on an expedition to subdue the Hebrides; his son and successor Alexander III achieved this when he defeated a Norwegian army under King Hakon at Largs in 1263, and forced the cession of the Hebrides by the Treaty of Perth (1266). The Orkney and Shetland islands remained part of the kingdom of Norway for even

longer. The earls themselves were members of a Scottish family, the Sinclairs, by the fifteenth century, but the islands were still Norse until 1469, when King Christian of Norway and Denmark pawned them to the Scots as a pledge for his daughter's dowry in her marriage to the Scottish king James III. The dowry was never paid, and the islands were forfeited to the kingdom of Scotland.

That was, in a sense, the end of Scotland's "Viking connection". But the Northern Isles, Shetland in particular, have always retained a strong Scandinavian identity in speech and culture. In the Hebrides, it is mostly just the many ancient Norse place-names which serve as a reminder of the dark days when these waters were the lair of Viking longships.



Running out of steam

Our electric kettle had packed up and my wife said to me, "Shall I take it to the repair man and make it last another year, or do you want to work on it and then get a new one?"





CLAN MACFIE NEWS

From - Clan Commander A. C. (Sandy) McPhie
8 Panorama Cres., TOOWOOMBA, Q. 4350 AUSTRALIA
Telephone (76) 32 3469

No. 1

November 1991

OUR NEW NEWSHEET Clan Macfie News has been introduced to distribute items of Clan interest in a reasonably current time frame, to a cross-section of Clan members around the world. It will go to Clan Society presidents for inclusion in Newsbulletins to their membership, and to a limited list of Clan members in each country - some of whom might not be members of an active Clan Society. It is not intended to replace existing Clan Society Newsbulletins or the need for Clan Society membership. Hopefully, the reverse will be the case and it will encourage membership in, and activity by, the Clan Societies.

CLAN COMMANDER'S REPORT 1991 VISIT TO NORTH AMERICA

Following receipt of invitations for Helen and me to be Distinguished Guests at both the Grandfather Mountain (July) and the Stone Mountain (October) Highland Games this year, we set about planning a Clan oriented itinerary for the intervening period.

It was quite a task as you may well imagine. We planned to use a campervan to contact as many Clan Societies, Clan leaders and Clan members as possible in both the United States and Canada - and to allow time for some sightseeing too.

We met hundreds of Clan members including officials of all the Clan Societies in both countries, we attended some excellent Clan functions on our trip and are most grateful for the warm welcome and friendly, generous and thoughtful hospitality extended to us wherever we travelled - and that totalled 14,875 miles over ninety four days!

Our first experience of this North American hospitality was on arrival at Atlanta in early July when we were surprised by Ken and Sonja McFee who had come to look after us while we changed planes for Chattanooga (and Grandfather Mt.). It was fitting that they could have dinner with us sixteen

weeks later on the night before we left Atlanta for home after the Stone Mt. Games.

In Chattanooga we stayed several days with old friends Bruce and Wini McDuffie, before travelling with them to Grandfather Mt. Bruce is my Commissioner in the United States and President of The MacDuffie Clan of America Inc. Some thirty Clan members from the local area were at a function at Bruce and Wini's home the day before we left for Grandfather Mountain.

Grandfather Mountain is something special. I have long known these Games to be amongst the best in the United States - and what an impressive spectacle they were this year. They are held on a tree fringed meadow about two football fields in size and some 4,000 feet up in the Appalachian Mountains. On the Thursday night preceding the Games the traditional fiery cross to summons the Clans was lit at a torchlight ceremony. The Games ran all day Saturday and Sunday with the meadow a magnificent and colourful spectacle with some 130 Clan and society tents around its perimeter.

We attended a number of functions connected with the Games and stood with Honoured Guest the Earl of Dalkeith as he

took the salute when the Clans marched past - Clan Macfie being one of the most impressive groups. But major highlight for us was the International Gathering of Clan Macfie, hosted by the MacDuffee Clan of America Inc., and run in conjunction with the Games. Well over a hundred Clan members attended over the weekend with visitors from Scotland and Canada as well as from all over the U.S. Some sixty four sat down to the Clan banquet on the Friday night - a very enjoyable occasion.

Bobbie McFee, president of the Clan Society in Scotland, was there, competing with some success in the piping competitions, also brother Iain and wife Fiona, plus a team of their American cousins. Sylvia McPhee, Clan Commissioner in Canada and Clan Society leader there, was present too, along with sister Jean - and lots of others, all enjoying themselves thoroughly, renewing old and making new friendships.

From Grandfather Mountain we travelled to Florida with Scott and Marvene McPhee. There Scott had arranged a noisy welcome early one morning from four F 16's from the local Air Force Base as they set out on their training mission. We collected our rented campervan and after a few days checkout by Scott were turned loose on the unsuspecting American public to drive on the (wrong) right side of the road - not so difficult really though we did have our moments. Helen shared the driving and proved very adept at wheeling the van through the traffic.

At Orlando we met Walter and Dinah Cathey with whom I'd been corresponding for some years. We visited Disneyworld and Cape Canaveral and travelled from there via New Orleans to Charlotte in North Carolina for the Cathey Reunion Association's meeting - over 126 there on the Sunday. Boyt and Mary Grace

Cathey were our hosts, Boyt being the Clan Society President.

From Charlotte we moved north to stay with friends in Washington and then on to Boston to visit Mr. and Mrs. Ike Colburn, owners of Oransay. They were most interested in Clan Macfie doings and will be there when the Clan returns to Conolsay and Oransay in September 1993.

Nova Scotia was next with Harvey and Ann McPhee looking after us. We had a great afternoon at a Clan ceilidh at Upper Rawdon some 80 km. south west of Truro, with over 145 Clan members in attendance. On to Cape Breton the next day and a gathering of 35 or so Macfies at Peter and Marie McPhee's home at Glace Bay - then across to Prince Edward Island, up to Quebec and on to Montreal where Doug Macfie had mustered a dozen Clan members for lunch.

In Toronto Iain and Paddy McHaffie were our hosts and held a ceilidh at their home on a Saturday afternoon (32 there) before we left for Niagara Falls. Sylvia not in her usual good form having badly injured an ankle in a fall a week earlier. From Niagara we went to Guelph for an enjoyable dinner with old friends Ken E. and Ellie MacPhee and Ken G. and Evelyn McPhee. Then on to Thunder Bay to visit relatives before setting out across the prairie for points west.

A most interesting drive as so much of the prairie is like the farm land west of our home in Toowoomba. We took it in easy stages staying at such places as Moose Jaw and Medicine Hat as well as larger cities. We stopped in Calgary with a friend and then up to Edmonton, centre of the Clan Society in Alberta. June Bulat and Betty McPhee had organised a formal dinner (14) and barbeque (44) for us to meet Clan members and arranged, I'm sure, the spectacular display of the northern lights one cold and frosty night.

Cont p/10



Clan Macfie waiting to march off at the opening of the Stone Mountain Highland Games.

l. to r. Clan Commander's Banner-Bearer Bill James, Brenda McAfee, F.B. McFee, Lance McAfee, Ken McFee, Macfie Clan Society of North America Chaplain Rev. James McAfee, Clan Commander Sandy McPhie and (partly obscured) Macfie Clan Society of North America President Scott McPhee.

THE CLAN TARTAN

Earlier this year as Commander of Clan Macfie, I petitioned the Lord Lyon seeking the official recording of the Clan Macfie Tartan in the Books of the Court of the Lord Lyon. I have now been advised that following consideration of my petition by the Lord Lyon's Tartans Advisory Committee, the Lord Lyon is happy that it should be so recorded.

This is wonderful news as our tartan now stands alongside the official tartans of other Clans and is protected by law. That is something we have not previously achieved as our last Chief, Malcolm, was murdered in 1623 - many years before the requirements and implications of the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings of Scotland had been acknowledged in the Western Isles and well before the emergence of Clan Tartans as they are to-day.

The Clan Macfie Tartan is recorded as:

2 White/Yellow, 24 Red, 4 Green, 2 Red, 32 Green

In this context the "ancient" and "modern" setts are considered the same as there is no differentiation between colour shades.

Additionally, as Commander of our Clan, I have taken out Clan Macfie membership of The Scottish Tartans Society. This Society maintains a register of all types of tartans and has some 2,000 different setts recorded - including two for Clan Macfie. The Society also maintains two museums, one at its Headquarters in Comrine in Perthshire and the other in Highlands, North Carolina, U.S.A.

I am currently clarifying the position in regard to the two tartans recorded with the Society and will have further information on them in due course.

COLONSAY - SEPTEMBER 1993

At the beginning of September 1993 Clan Macfie will return as an organised body, to its ancestral homeland, the Islands of Colonsay and Oransay for the first time since our last Chief was murdered in 1623 - 370 years ago.

Planning is well advanced. An update on bookings/prices etc., will be included in the next Clan News. Already the Hotel is booked out, but ample accommodation is expected to be available in self contained flats at Colonsay House and in adjacent holiday cottages.

From Edmonton we crossed the Rockies to Prince George and a night with Bob and Betty McPhee, then on down the Fraser Canyon road and in to Vancouver where we stayed with old friends Bruce and Nan McPhee. There we lunched with Clan Patron Jennie MacPhee who, in a few days, celebrates her 100th birthday (6th November). Another day we lunched with a Clan group before crossing to Vancouver Island for a brief visit with Bruce and Nan prior to crossing back into the United States.

We visited Yellowstone National Park, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park and the Grand Canyon, called on Bill and Pat McPhee in Lander, Wyoming and stayed several days in Salt Lake City where Joseph and Marylu McPhee looked after us so very well and hosted a late afternoon function for local Macfies (21) to meet us.

We completed our odyssey with a run across the southern United States from Grand Canyon to Atlanta in Georgia. Here we were well looked after by Scot and Marvene McPhee and their Clan Society members. We attended the Clan Society Annual General Meeting and excellent Clan Dinner - over eighty members attended the weekend.

Not as big as Grandfather Mountain but equally impressive, the Stone Mountain Games commenced on the Thursday night

with a Military Tattoo and 10 bands marching and counter marching with magnificent music. The setting for the Games is on two arenas in the woodlands of the Stone Mountain Park with Clan tents etc., set along the picturesque walks amongst the trees.

I was proud to lead Clan Macfie in to the arena for the Parade at the Stone Mountain Games - the Clan being honoured to march third behind the Carmichaels and Hendersons whose respective Chiefs were present.

From Atlanta we headed home - a long trip without stopovers, but one which went well with aircraft running on time and luggage (booked in Atlanta) arriving with us in Brisbane 40 hours and five stops later. It's great to be home!

We came home though, with wonderful memories of people and places, of friendships made and renewed, of warm and generous hospitality and of being made very welcome wherever we went. We sincerely thank all Clan Society leaders and members for looking after us so well in so many ways and for the many treasured gifts and mementos from our visit. We know very definitely that Clan Macfie is alive and well in the United States and Canada and look forward to continued contacts over the years.



Clan Macfie marches past the saluting base at the opening of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.

NINTH BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING WEEKEND

PERTH. W.A. - 25/26 APRIL 1992

MEETING. The Ninth Biennial General Meeting of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia will be held in Perth, W.A., on Saturday 25th April 1992 at a time and venue to be notified in our next Newsbulletin in March 1992.

WEEKEND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS: W.A. Vice-President Trevor McPhee (W88-662) has planning well in hand for a Dinner on the Saturday night (25th) following the General Meeting and for a Picnic Day on the Sunday. If you are intending to visit Perth that weekend, please contact Trevor at 18 Beckington Way, Karrinyup, 6018 (Telephone 09 447-8270).

AGENDA ITEMS: Agenda Items for the Ninth Biennial General Meeting should be forwarded to reach Secretary Helen at 8 Panorama Crescent, Toowoomba, Q. 4350 not later than 21 Feb 92. A business Agenda for the Meeting will be included in our next Newsbulletin in March 1992.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR 1992 - 1993

In accordance with paragraph 9 of the Clan Society Constitution, nominations are called for the election of the following members of the Clan Society Executive for the 1992 - 93 Term of Office:

President

Vice-President

State Vice-Presidents for:

New South Wales	Victoria
Western Australia	Queensland
South Australia	* Tasmania
Australian Capital Territory	
* Northern Territory	

Treasurer

* Not currently appointed.

Nominations are to be in writing stating the nominee's name and nominated office. They are to be signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder. Only financial members of the Clan Society are eligible to accept nomination for office or to propose, second or vote for nominees for office. In the case of State Vice-Presidents, only financial members of the State or Territory concerned are eligible to participate in the respective elections.

Nominations close with the Society Secretary at 8 Panorama Crescent, Toowoomba, Q. 4350 on Monday 23rd December 1991.

The call for nominations for election to the Clan Society Executive is required to be made at least three months prior to the proposed declaration date of any ballot. If a ballot is required in this instance for any position, ballot papers will be mailed by the 6th January 1992 and be returnable by the 3rd February 1992. The poll will then be declared on 24th February 1992. The incoming Executive will assume office at the Ninth Biennial General Meeting in Perth.

CLAN DINNER - ADELAIDE. THURSDAY, 16th APRIL 1992.

South Australia Vice President, Brian McHaffie, will be organising a Clan Dinner in Adelaide on Thursday, 16th April next year. Clan Commander Sandy McPhee and wife Helen will be attending en route to Perth for the Biennial General Meeting. Full details will be included in our next Newsbulletin in March next year.



Jeanne McFee and F.B. McFee
at Stone Mountain

(p. 70)

THIS PAGE. Top. Clan Leaders confer at Grandfather Mt, front 1. clockwise: Bruce McDuffie, Wayne McAfee, Scott McPhee, Boyt Cathey, Clan Commander Sandy and Helen McPhie.

Centre. In Vancouver, 1. to r., Bruce McPhee, Clan Commander Sandy and Helen, Nan McPhee with (in front) Clan Patron Jennie MacPhee.

Bottom Left. Peter and Marie MacPhee, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Bottom Right. At Grandfather Mt Ball, 1 to r Fritz and Bette McDuffie with Ruth and Otis Johnston.



OPPOSITE PAGE. Top Left. The Official Party move forward for the Opening at Grandfather Mt. Clan Commander Sandy McPhie (x) is second row right behind Honoured Guest, the Earl of Dalkeith.

Top Right. At Grandfather Mt., Clan Commander Sandy with two local identities from the hills of Tennessee.

Centre Left. 1 to r. Bill James (Z87-583) Helen and Sandy, Bobbie James (Z87-584) and Scott McPhee (all Florida) at G/father Mt

Centre Right. 1 to r. George and Mary Roussos with Sonja and Ken McFee at the MacFie Clan Society of North America AGM at Stone Mountain.



Bottom. Kirkin' of the Tartan at Grandfather Mountain. Bruce McDuffie (x) is on the left of the front group of banner-bearers with Clan MacFie tartan.

Below. Ken McFee in serious conversation with Brenda and Lance McAfee (Colorado) at Stone Mountain.



GENERAL NOTES

* ISLE OF SKYE COMMUNITY HALL. The Portree Community Centre Association has launched an appeal for funds to provide a community centre and concert hall for Skye and the Lochalsh district. Past and present Skye folk, and those with a love of Highland culture, are being asked to contribute, with special naming rights for those who contribute from £ 50 (a chair) to £ 50,000 (the centre itself). Contributions at any level are acceptable and should go to T. MacKenzie, Portree Community Centre Association, 1 Wentworth Street, Portree, Isle of Skye, Scotland.

* IRISH ANCESTORS HOMECOMING FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 1992. Clans of Ireland Ltd., 2 Kildare St., Dublin, 2, Ireland has written confirming this Festival will definitely be held throughout the 32 counties of Ireland. Organisers are calling for Clan Rallies to be held during September next year. Given the Ulster connections etc., of Clan Macfie, Miss Belinda Mahaffy (Z87-581) has been appointed as our Clan co-ordinator for this and any enquiries should go to her at Blackrock, Lifford, Co Donegal, Ireland.

* GET WELL SOON and other good wishes to Lorna Whytcross (N85-554) of Wagga Wagga, N.S.W., and Colin McCathie (V88-642) of Berwick, Vic. - Lorna in hospital for treatment and Colin for a major operation.

* CONGRATULATIONS to Elizabeth Wilson (Q82-510) of Beaudesert, Q., Julie Ann McCormick (Q77-325) of Bongaree, Q., and Katrina McPhie (Q76-165) of Toowoomba, Q. on the birth of brand new daughters earlier this year.

* They're at it again - the "McPhies" are on the mailing list of Family Heritage, North Parramatta, seeking buyers for an alleged all-singing all-dancing book on family history for \$40.90 + p & p. Not very good value - and from the proffered speil - containing claims which are really open to challenge. The book is not recommended by the Clan Commander (a McPhie himself) or your Clan Society.

* THE ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN in Edinburgh has an Appeal running for funds to build and equip a new wing to take the old hospital and its facilities into the 21st century. If you would like to make a donation send it to:

The Royal Hospital for Sick Children Appeal
1A Rillbank Terrace
EDINBURGH EH9 1LN SCOTLAND

* THE SALTIRE SOCIETY has an appeal going for funds to restore the statue at Dryburgh in the Scottish Borders, of Sir William Wallace. Unveiled in 1814, the massive statue is now in need of urgent repair.

Donations to: The Saltire Society (Wallace Statue Appeal)
9 Fountain Close
High Street
EDINBURGH EH1 1TF SCOTLAND

* Good wishes to Merle Kortlang (Q80-473) of Benowa on the Gold Coast, Q. Merle (a McGuffie) has married again some years after her late husband died and is now Merle Kaluza. Kortlang is a Dutch name, Kaluza is Polish, but both husbands had the same middle name - "McGill" - both their mothers being McGills before marrying, but not related!

* How is this for a busy partying time? Geoff and Ruth McPhee (N77-339 & 340) of Lugarno N.S.W. celebrated their 30th Wedding Anniversary

last 17th December, Geoff had his 60th birthday on 27th December, daughter Fiona (N88-603) was 21 on 12th March this year and graduated from the University of Western Sydney in May, while sister Elizabeth (N88-604) married Glenn Titmuss of Peakhurst Heights, Sydney, on 12th April! Congratulations and good wishes from all of us to all the family. Geoff and Ruth have survived all this and are starters for Colonsay in 1993.

* Glen Innes - Official Home of the Australian Standing Stones. The Celtic Council of Australia chose Glen Innes in New South Wales for a ring of stones, uniquely Australian, to commemorate the contribution of the Celtic races to the building of the Australian nation. The first stone was erected in September and a special Dedication and Inauguration Ceremony will be held on 1st February 1992. Clan Commander Sandy McPhie will be attending and will welcome other Clan members able to be present.

* New Zealand Clan Society stalwards, Eric and Carolyn Wadsworth of Petone (which is really part of Wellington) visited Queensland for the World Lion's convention last June. They stayed with Sandy and Helen in Toowoomba and met local Clan members before heading off to the convention, the Reef and Home - in that order.

* Montreal in far off Canada celebrates its 350th birthday next year - if you are planning to be over that way the Scottish Festival will be held from 13th to 23rd of August. Doug Macfie of St. Lambert (and a Dreghorn Macfie descendant) will be delighted to see you -

* A Name Change. At their General Meeting at Grandfather Mountain this year MacDuffie Clan of America Inc., changed its name to the MacDuffee/Macfie Clan Society of America Inc. to better reflect the Clan Society's status and operation.

THEY'VE MOVED.

Mrs. Ann Ingrey (N89-703) from Young N.S.W. to District Hospital, Grenfell, N.S.W. 2810.

Bernie McPhee (V75-118F) from Inverlock, Vic., to 26 Peverill Crescent, Wonthaggi, Vic. 3995.

Ross and Betty McPhee (V75-107 and V76-155) of Red Hill, Vic., who haven't moved but now use the new address of 379 Arthur's Seat Road, RMB 5795, Main Ridge, Vic. 3928.

Donald McPhee (V76-175) from Casterton, Vic., to RMB 1374, Creswick, Vic. 3363.

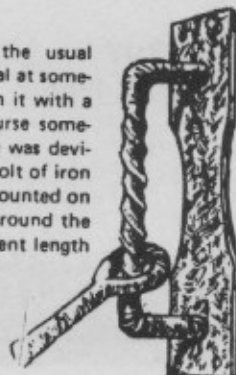
Bruce, Hamish and John Macfie (N74-086 and N77-342/3) from North Turrumurra, N.S.W. to c/- P O Box 1342, Lane Cove, N.S.W. 2066.

Kaye Macphee-Powell (V74-023) who had moved from Ferntree Gully, Vic., to Scotland is now back home at 63 Wandsworth Road, Surrey Hills, Vic. 3127.



THE TIRLING PIN

In Scotland in ancient times the usual method of announcing your arrival at someone's front door was to pound on it with a fist, stick or weapon. In due course something considerably more effective was devised - the Tirling Pin. This was a bolt of iron twisted into a rough spiral and mounted on a back plate of wood or metal. Around the bolt was an iron ring with sufficient length to form a handle.



An ear-splitting racket was produced when the ring was worked vigorously up and down; from this noise the device was sometimes called a 'rasp'.

The first use of the tirling pin is lost in antiquity but mention of it can often be found in the legendary ballads of Scotland. That it was a common enough object is clear from casual reference to it as in this stanza from the traditional 'Sir Roland':

'When he cam to his ain luv's bowir
He tirl'd at the pin,
And see ready was his fair fause luv
To rise and let him in.'

Later types of tirling pin incorporated a door handle and a neck of a draw bolt. Eventually the knocker and bell pull came into more general use but the tirling pin must have existed through many centuries.

VALE

Again it is our sad duty to record the passing of two of our early members. Both have been great supporters of the Clan Society and helped, especially in the formative years, in its development. Both are sadly missed. Condolences on behalf of all Clan members have been extended to both families.

Miss Kathleen H. McPhee (V74-006) of Black Rock and Kew, Vic., in July 1991. A University lecturer and French linguist, Kay was one of the original members to respond to Dr. MacPhee's call for the formation of a Clan Society in Australia in 1973.

Mr. Stewart L. McPhee (V75-113) of Croydon, Vic., in June 1991, aged 93. Stewart was born at Apollo Bay, Vic., when there were no roads or telephones in the area - supplies (and presumably news) came by sailing ship. A true pioneer, Stewart remained active and involved in life until the very end.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members who have joined the Clan Society since our last Newsbulletin:

Q91-760	Mrs. Elizabeth Garrad	53 Chevallum Rd., PALMWOODS. Q. 4555
W91-761	Mrs. Zoe McGuffie	37 Todd Ave., COMO. W.A. 6152
Q91-762	Mr. Grigor McPhie	7 Lorrieket Cres., ARANA HILLS. Q. 4054
N91-763	Mr. Keith Warland	455 Port Hacking Rd. CARINGBAH. NSW 2229
Q91-764	Mr. Norm Chambers	2838 Logan Rd., UNDERWOOD. Q. 4119
Q91-765	Mrs. Jean Rushbrooke	11 Tweed Heads Ave., EAGLE HEIGHTS. Q. 4271
N91-766	Miss Helen McPhie	1 Belgravia St., MOREE. NSW 2400
N91-767	Mrs Judith Parrish	32 Kensington St., PUNCHBOWL. NSW 2196
V91-768	Mr. Philip Mackey	24 Drysdale St., FRANKSTON. V. 3199

1991 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Accounts are attached for those few members who have still not paid their 1991 subscription of \$6.00 per member or \$12.00 per family resident at the one address.

Please give them your prompt attention - the Clan Society finances do not permit unfinancial members to be carried for very long.



The gravestone marking the last resting place in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington D.C. of the late United States Army Four-Star General and Clan Member, Fred Mahaffey.