

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia

(Founded in Richmond NSW on 3rd May 1974)

NEWSBULLETIN

Number 82

March 1999

All Correspondence should be addressed to:
Phone and Fax: (08) 8239 0038
Email: b&mmcphee@ezinet.com.au
Clan Macfie Home Page: <http://userzweb.lightspeed.net/~macfie>

The President
The Macfie Clan Society of Australia
12 Figtree Court,
North Adelaide, SA 5006

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

My humble apologies for this late Newsbulletin. Late last year Merilyn & I went to Sydney to welcome Campbell Angus McPhee into the world. Whilst there we were delighted to travel down to Canberra to join Glen(ACT VP) & Glenda and some 10 local members for a wee gathering at their home, a highlight of our trip for both of us. It was then back to Adelaide to amongst other things prepare a Newsbulletin in December. However I fell under a surgeon's knife which put paid to that. If there was a December in 1998 I can't remember and in January I was neither use nor ornament to anyone. So now away we go again and may 1999 be a great year for all members. Please forgive the fact that the Clan Macfie News is dated November. That's when Sandy & Helen sent it to me.

BUNDANOON HIGHLAND GAMES

Yet again another honour has been bestowed on our Clan Commander, Sandy McPhie. He has been invited to be Chieftain of the Games to be held at Bundanoon on Saturday 17th April 1999, and Glen(ACT-VP) & Geoff(NSW-VP) will have a Macfie tent there. On Friday night there will be a banquet; on Saturday evening a ceilidh, and on Sunday morning a Tartan Kirking. It's going to be a great weekend and a great chance for lots and lots of us to gather and meet again.

Senior Historian for Clan Macfie Society of Australia

I am delighted to announce that Trevor Phee is our Society's Clan Historian. Our families' histories are in good hands with Trevor who has conducted enormous research over many years. Trevor will be assisted by Historians:

Norah McPhee Jan Harper Helen McPhie, and Clyde Smith

For all their good work we are very grateful.

On becoming President of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia, Trevor wrote to me and his letter is set out below. Like Trevor I hope this letter may inspire members to pass information of their family to him.

Dear Brian

Given that you are taking over from Sandy McPhie, I thought I should write this letter to put you up to date in regard to what the Clan Historians have been up to, who has been carrying out the research and who is holding said information. Because word has come to me that some Clan Members do not know just who is carrying out said research and who is holding it.

As you know Norah McPhee and Margaret Phee (who is married to a cousin of my father) have for the last 20 years spend hundreds of hours in various institutions all over Australia researching McPhees/McPhies, both Scottish and Australia Records, and as of some 2 years ago now I have taken over from both ladies.

All of the information that has been gathered by Norah and Margaret has been passed onto Sandy and Helen. Also everything that I have gathered has been sent onto Sandy and Helen. However, I do have quite a bit of information to pass onto the Clan.

The following is a list of what we have, and where we are up to. I must point out that most of the information is in regard to McPhees and McPhies, but we do have some information in regard to some other Clan Name spelling.

NOTE: Trevor's address is 24 Bibby St Hamilton NSW 2303

Scottish Records

Marriages in Argyll from mid 1700s to 1830.
Marriages in Inverness from mid 1700s to 1830.
Kilmalie Births 1773 to 1840s.
Kilmalie Marriages 1784 to 1838.
Isle of Mull Births 1766 to 1854.
Arndnamurchan Births 1777 to 1819.
Islay Births and Marriages 1782 to 1811.
Isle of Bute Birth, Death and Marriage records from the mid 1700s.

Shipping Records from Scotland and England into, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australian and Tasmania. Norah did the bulk of the Victorian shipping, Father Burnie McPhee did some as well. I myself researched NSW, SA, WA and Tasmania shipping records, both from overseas and some coastal. Queensland Shipping has yet to be done.

Australian B, D and M records

New South Wales

Births from 1788 to 1918
Marriages from 1788 to 1945
Deaths from 1788 to 1945

Victoria

Births 1837 to 1920
Marriages 1844 to 1930
Deaths 1845 to 1980

Queensland

Births 1829 to 1914
Marriages 1829 to 1929
Deaths 1829 to 1934

In regard to the above B, D and M records, Norah carried all research up to the 1980's and I carried on from there. I sent a copy of the Victorian BDM records to Jan Harper and she is going to attempt to put them into Family Groups.

South Australia

Births 1842 to 1900
Marriages 1897 to 1916
Deaths 1842 to 1970

Western Australia

Births 1886 to 1905
Marriages 1897 to 1920
Deaths 1841 to 1905

Tasmania

Births 1803 to 1905
Marriages 1803 to 1919
Deaths 1803 to 1905

In regard to the above records, I researched all of South Australia, Norah did some early WA and TAS records and I continued on from there.

It has only been in the last 10 years that all Birth, Death and Marriage information has been put onto Microfiche, before that one had to look at Parish Records, Newspaper Articles etc.

Even though Norah has hung up her Research Cap, we talk on the phone quite regularly (in regard to Clan research etc) and sometimes my wife and I will go and stay at Norah and Sandy's for the weekend.

Norah is going to put all of the Queensland McPhees/McPhies into family groups, Marleana Turner (a Clan Member) from Tasmania is going to put all of the Tassie McPhees/McPhies into family groups, and I will put together the NSW family groups. South Australia and Western Australia families are so small that there is no need to put them into family groups.

As well I am always writing to clan and non clan McPhees in regard to gathering information on their families. At the moment I am assisting 3 different families in regard to putting together their Family Trees, 2 are clan members the other is not. It was this assistance that persuaded Marleana Turner from Tassie to join the Clan about 12 months ago. I have also been in touch with the New Zealand McPhee Clan. To see if any McPhee families over there have a connection with Australia, so far I have 2 connections.

As well as Clan Research, I am also researching all four of my Grandparents, and some of their offshoot families, and I have just had a 222 page book published on my own Fee/Phee Family, of which the Clan will be given a copy.

Would it be possible to put into the Clan Newsbulletin, details of all of the information that we are holding, so that Clan Members can see what we have, and in the hope that it might inspire some of them to pass on their own information.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Trevor.

Society Poetry Competition

The Bard of the Outback Poetry Recital Competition held recently at the Cunnamulla Pub in outback Queensland was a great success. It was to have been held at Hungerford but due to flooding was held at Cunnamulla. Bob McPhee, our V.P. in Queensland, hired a mini-bus and took a bus load of poets from Glenore Grove to Cunnamulla where yarn spinning and poetry recital events were contested. Bob reports the standard was excellent. Bob held the written poetry sections in December. After the recital section was held Bob writes:

A lovely young lady from Bourke, Carrie Locke, who has never previously competed in a poetry competition, and who came to compete in the Novice Section, also competed in the Open Sections, and gave an outstanding performance, winning not only the Novice Section, but the Will Ogilvie Open Section, and the runner-up trophy for the Bard of the Outback title. Carrie has written a letter of thanks to our society and me and I am enclosing a copy.

August 1998

Dear Bob

Just a short note to say thank you to you personally, and the members of the "Clan Macfie Society" for such a wonderful day on Saturday. Such an event obviously required a fair amount of time to organise. That time invested provided a happy weekend for lots of people.

Obviously, it was a great thrill (and encouragement) for me to come home with three trophies. They're beaut trophies. I rang the Oasis in Thargo this morning to thank them for their sponsorship of the novice section.

I look forward to seeing you at Hungerford next year. (Just a thought - if Hungerford should get rained out again, the old Baringun pub, 130 kms South of Cunnamulla on the major highway, may be a thought. It's not unlike the Hungerford pub - very "outback", and being located only a few km's from "Belabe". Could well have been a watering hole for Ogilvie!)

Thanks again.

Carrie

General Notes

Married recently was South Australian member **Rowan McPhee** (S77-363) to Julie Newbauer. Rowan is the son of member Judith McPhee and the late Malcolm McPhee

Welcome home to **Kate McPhee** (S80-487) who has returned home from working in England. Kate spent time working for a division of Grundy's Pearson TV in London. Parents Colin and Wendy McPhee (S80-483) are pleased to have her back home in Adelaide.

Congratulations to **Louise Brook** (S78-390) and Damian, of Adelaide on the birth of their son Bailey Jack in July - a grandson for Ian and Barbara McPhee of Kidman Park, SA.

Neil McPhee tells that his daughter Sue is now Rev Sue McPhee-Wright and is the curate at St Georges Malvern Melbourne

CLAN HISTORY IN AUSTRALIA



The lists below, and on the following pages, contain further basic details on the arrival of Clan Macfie immigrants in Australia. In NB 79 (Nov 97) and NB 80 (Mar 98) information was given on arrivals in Sydney, and some in Geelong, up to the end of 1849. The information below covers a number of shipping Arrivals at ports other than Sydney during the 1850s. As before, only basic details are included due to space constraints. Additional information, if known, can be obtained by writing to Society Historian Helen McPhee of 10 Havana Street, Townsville, Q. 4810.

During the period in question a body known as The Highland and Island Emigration Society formed in Edinburgh and was responsible for bringing some 4,917 people, including a number of Macfies, to Australia (mostly to Victoria) in 29 ships between 1852 and 1857. Eleven of these ships carried Macfies and details as we have them are included in these Arrival Lists. Society ships are annotated HIES in the lists below, many carrying

other passengers in addition to those assisted by the Society. The assistance of Mr. Bill Clarke of Bicheno, Tasmania, is acknowledged in providing the following brief information on the Society's operation.

The Highland and Island Emigration Society was formed in Edinburgh following the potato famine in the late 1840s in order to assist destitute families in Scotland's north west. Originally intended to help families on Skye it was soon expanded to include mainland families and those from a number of other western islands.

Passages to the Australian colonies were provided by the Society for selected needy able-bodied men and women of good character, not exceeding a certain age. A proportion of children was acceptable and whenever possible, families were kept together. Ages were often deliberately misstated in order to fit in with the specified criteria. This should be borne in mind by family researchers to-day, as too, are varying surname spellings.

The scheme was designed so that the Estate proprietors in Scotland contributed one third of the passage cost with the remainder contributed initially by the Society. The assisted passengers were then urged to repay the HIES contribution from wages received following their arrival in Australia. In theory the Society funds would thus remain intact but this was not the case in practice. Not only was it impossible to keep track of the migrants in Australia but many of the Estate proprietors were bankrupt and unable to meet their commitment.

The Society had the benevolent support of the Royal Family and a number of influential people throughout Britain. It came under the control of the Assistant Secretary and Administrative Head of the British Treasury, Sir Charles Trevelyan. It was successful in moving many destitute families to Australia from north western Scotland. However, by the late 1850s changing circumstances had significantly reduced the number seeking HIES passage and the Society was disbanded having achieved its aims to the best of its ability. Society records were forwarded to the Register House in Edinburgh.

ARRIVALS AT PORTLAND BAY (VIC)

<u>Arr. Date</u>	<u>Ship's Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Passenger</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Note</u>
4 Dec 1852	Marmion (HIES)	Liverpool (28 Aug 1852)	McPhee Duncan	27	Oronsay
			Mary	24	wife
			McFee Donald	50	Mull
			Mary	50	wife
			Neil	30	
			Hector	28	
			Catherine	26	
			Mary	24	
			Alexander	22	
			Angus	19	
			Margaret	14	
			Flora	11	
			McPhee Neil	33	

Note: The "Marmion" passengers were originally scheduled to sail for Moreton Bay but the emigration commissioners were unable to obtain a charter for a vessel to there. The "Marmion" sailed to Portland Bay (Vic) arriving on 4 Dec 1852 to unload her passengers.)

<u>Arr. Date</u>	<u>Ship's Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Passenger</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Note</u>
30 Nov 1853	New Zealander (HIES)	Liverpool (23 Aug 1853)	McPhee John	26	Skye
			(McLeod) Anne	22	wife
			McPhee Allan	34	Skye
			(McQueen) Jane	32	wife
			Janet	Inf	
			McPhee Donald	21	Skye
			(Nicholson?) Christina	20	wife
			Donald	Inf	
		(sister-in-law)	Nicholson, Christina	18	
			McPhee John	34	
			(McLean) Flora	34	wife
			John	3	
			Alexander	2	

			Marion	27	sister
			Flora	21	niece
			McLean Effy	17	cousin
25 Jan 1854	Utopia (HIES)	Liverpool (3 Nov 1853)	McPhee Archibald	51	Corpach wife
			Vere	49	
			Kate	24	
			Hugh	22	
			Christy	19	
			Peggy	17	
			McPhee Alex	42	Corpach wife
			(Cameron) Sarah	38	
			Catherine	18	
			Mary	17	
			Flora	14	
			Sarah	12	
			Eliza	10	
			Archibald	8	
			Christy	4	
			John	2	

(Note: Archibald died on the voyage)

19 Sep 1854	Arabian (HIES)	Liverpool (3 Jun 1854)	McPhee John	28	Skye
			Ann	21	
			McPhee Flora	20	Skye
3 Sep 1854	Edward Johnston (HIES)	Liverpool (17 Jun 1854)	McPhee Ann	49	Morven
			Mary	24	
			Donald	22	
			Hugh	17	
			McPhee Margaret	50	Skye
			John	25	
			(McDermid) Christina	23	wife
			Norman	19	
			Neil	17	

ARRIVALS AT GEELONG (VIC)

<u>Arr. Date</u>	<u>Ship's Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Passenger</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Note</u>
4 Oct 1852	Araminta (HIES)	Liverpool (20 Jun 1852)	McPhee Archibald	30	Skye
			Anne	35	wife
			Anne	8	
			Catherine	4	
			William	2	

ARRIVALS AT MELBOURNE (VIC)

<u>Arr. Date</u>	<u>Ship's Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Passenger</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Note</u>
8 Feb 1853	Allison (HIES)	Liverpool (13 Sep 1852)	McPhee Catherine	51	Argyle
			John	30	
			Alexander	26	
			William	18	
			Mary	22	
			Ann	1	
			Donald	15	
			Duncan	9	
			Maine Elizabeth	21	
(Note: Catherine McPhee, nee Weir. Husband Allan died before the ship sailed)					
24 Feb 1853	Priscilla (HIES)	Liverpool (13 Oct 1852)	McPhee Margaret	60	Skye
			Christina	29	
			Alexander	26	

(Note: Margaret is the widow of a Malcolm McPhee)

McPhee Archibald	36	Skye
Christina	36	
Christina	13	
Mary	10	
Norman	8	
	June	4

(died on voyage)

(Note: Archibald is a son of Margaret McPhee above)

McPhee Angus	34	Skye
(McLeod) Euphemia	34	
John	13	
Mary	10	
Effy	8	
Christina	2	
	Infant	

(born on voyage)

(Note: Angus is a son of Margaret McPhee above)

McPhee Donald	36	Skye
(Cameron) Marion	36	wife
Angus	13	
Marion	12	
Margaret	8	
Norman	6	
	Mary	3
Neil	Inf	

(died on voyage)

<u>Arr. Date</u>	<u>Ship's Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Passenger</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Note</u>
3 Aug 1853	Hercules	Campbelltown	McPhee John	31	
Inverness	(HIES)	(26 Dec 1852)			

(Note: The Hercules left Campbelltown with passengers for Australia but was forced into quarantine in Cork for 3 months due to outbreaks of smallpox and typhus. She sailed from there on 14th April 1853 with 380 emigrants, 56 of the original passengers had died, 17 returned home, while the remainder took passage on other ships.

ARRIVALS IN HOBART (TAS)

<u>Arr. Date</u>	<u>Ship's Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Passenger</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Note</u>
Dec 1838	Portsea	Plymouth	McPhee Family McPhee Lt. D. M.		
1846	Palmyra		McPhee Robert	28	Convict
1 Feb 1854	Sir Allan McNab (HIES)	Liverpool (28 Oct 1853)	McPhie Malcolm (sister) Mary	19 21	Isle of Sanda
14 Oct 1855	Conway	Liverpool	McPhee Duncan Agnes Daniel Edward Robertson David	41 39 6 2 23	Paisley wife
			(Note: Their eldest son, Matthew, (b 4 Oct 1839) stayed behind in Scotland to complete an apprenticeship and came to Hobart five years later)		
1857	Broomielaw		McPhee Alexander	20	
1857	Forest Monarch		McPhee John	22	

ARRIVALS IN ADELAIDE (SA)

17 Mar 1855	Grenada	Auckland N.Z.	McFie D.		
			(Note: The master of the "Grenada" was a Mr. McFie)		
21 Aug 1855	Admiral Boxer	Liverpool	McFee Donald	21	Lanark
			(Note: Married Jessie Cameron in 1856 who was also on the ship)		

12 Sep 1855	Switzerland (HIES)	Liverpool (16 Jun 1855)	McPhee Malcolm (McQueen) Mary Lachlan John Angus	34 32 8 3 Inf	Skye wife
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McPhee Murdoch	50	Skye
Mary	45	wife
Mary	25	
Margaret	27	
Neil	17	
John	14	
Mary	11	
Rory	3	

20 Sep 1858	Frenchman	Liverpool	McFee Colin Isabella Malcolm Dugald John	38 36 11 8 3	Lanark wife
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(Note: Colin McFee snr. Was recorded as dead on arrival in Adelaide)

Colin I

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scotland in 1999

clan macfie society



invites

Members of Macfie Societies from around the world
to a

Mini-Gathering in Edinburgh

9th - 13th September 1999

Please bring your Macfie Charm, your smiles, voices,
family friends and join your kin in Scotland

For fun and friendship

NO ORGANISED MEETINGS - happy informal
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VALE - NEIL RAYMOND McPHEE QC

Clan Member Neil McPhee QC died in Melbourne in October this year. Born into a western Victoria farming family in 1929, Neil was educated at Geelong College and the Royal Military College, Duntroon. He served in Japan and Korea. Following his military service he studied Law and with an abiding interest in the media he appeared in many media oriented court cases from the 1960s onwards. He was appointed a Queen's Council in 1971. He played a key role in the 1980s in changing the restraint of trade provisions that governed Australian Rules Football.

Outside of law, Neil McPhee was a keen yachtsman and horse racing fan, owning a ketch which he kept in Townsville and shares, at different times, in a number of racehorses. He did not become a member of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia, though invited to do so. He did, however, run his professional eye over the Clan Society's constitution when in the final draft form. He is survived by his ex-wife, Cosima, and their three sons, Richard, Hugh and Patrick.

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DIARY

1999

- 28 Mar Ringwood Highland Games, Victoria. Jubilee Park, Greenwood Ave. (03 9876 4140)
17 April Bundanoon Highland Games
9 - 13 Sep Clan Macfie Society, Scotland, Gathering in Edinburgh

2000

- 27 Sep-01 Oct Ninth Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry, University of Western Australia, Perth, W.A.

2001

- September In Scotland, 8th Clan Parliament and associated International Gathering of Clan Macfie.



The Scots Link

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Clan Macfie News

From: Clan Commander A. C. (Sandy) McPhie

Clan Macfie Secretariat

10 Havana St. Rowes Bay, Townsville. Q. 4810 Australia

Telephone/Fax: 61 74771 2067 Email: macfie@ultra.net.au

Clan Macfie Home Page: <http://www.orishanet.com/clanmacfie/>

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DECEMBER 1998

STONE MOUNTAIN 1998 - HONOURED CLAN - AN UNFORGETTABLE WEEK

When we set out to attend the 26th Annual Highland Games at Stone Mountain in October, Helen and I knew they would be a wonderful spectacle. We had not, however, fully anticipated just how great they would be or the warm welcome we would receive as the Honoured Guests everywhere we went, or the generous and thoughtful hospitality extended to us by the Games organisers and the Clan Macfie members present.

The Games were a most significant time for Clan Macfie with over 150 members present during the four days of functions and the place of honour extended to the Clan at all times. Stone Mountain 1998 will surely stand with Edinburgh in 1981 and Colonsay in 1993 as the most notable occasions for our Clan this century.

We travelled to Atlanta by flying north to Tokyo then direct to Atlanta the following day on a great circle route which curved close to Alaska and down across Canada. A long way. The return trip by the same route was even longer in time with jet stream head winds making the Atlanta/Tokyo flight over 15 hours. But it was well worth it to be guests at Stone Mountain. We arrived on Monday before the Games, relaxed that day, shopped and looked around in downtown Atlanta on Tuesday and Wednesday and had dinner with the Directors of the Games Association that evening. On Thursday we moved into the Honoured guest role properly at the Stone Mountain Tattoo. Nine internationally renowned Brass and Pipe Bands from America and Canada, plus Scottish Dancers and singers provided a top programme of over three hours of magnificent musical entertainment. The individual band performances were of the highest standard, but the massed bands under Performance Director Ron Scott were breathtaking in their presentation.

The setting for the Games and the Tattoo is the Stone Mountain Park, a 3,200 acre area surrounding Stone Mountain, the world's largest granite monolith, second only in overall size to Australia's Ayers Rock. Of undulating, heavily wooded country, the park, on Atlanta's eastern boundary, is a most attractively maintained area. The venues for the Tattoo and Games were ideal. Some 105 Clan tents were set up adjacent to the Games Field plus 14 or so commercial tents and numerous food outlets etc.. Attendance in the order of 70,000 was entertained with a non-stop programme of Scottish games, competitions and dancing during the weekend. A magnificent spectacle with Australian type weather provided throughout - the hosts certainly knew how to make us feel at home! Too, we both so appreciated the warm welcome we received from the Games spectators with many coming up to us to say how much they enjoyed our being there as guests or simply "Thank you for coming".

Atlanta is a large city, well laid out with highways and

masses of trees, but very spread out. Our travel to and from the Games themselves was handled by the Clan, mainly Jim McAfee and Ken McFee who met our schedules to the minute. As Honoured Clan we had a special tent beside the Reviewing Stand for the Games and the MacFie N.A., MacDuffee/Macfie and Cathey Clan Society members made good use of it throughout. With some fancy footwork in the transport area we were able to attend the Annual General Meetings of the MacFie N.A. and MacDuffee/Macfie Clan Societies on the Saturday evening following the Games and still go on to the official functions that night. On Sunday I even had the privilege of assisting at the morning worship service when six young Scots-Americans were baptised. Later we had the great honour to lead the collective Clan Macfie members onto the field at the commencement of the Parade of Tartans and then take the salute as all Clans marched past.

We are home now and have wonderful memories to cherish of a magnificent week...the generous hospitality of Games President Richard Swanson and his Directors and their wives, the great "Clan" atmosphere as all Macfies came together over the four days of entertainment, our surprise and great pleasure on seeing Iain and Fiona McFie of Scotland had made the long trip, and renewing friendships with so many Clan members who have become dear and special friends over the years. Amongst a number of beautiful and treasured gifts we received at the Games were an intricately carved cromak of English birch wood with a Macfie demi lion rampant as headpiece and a set of four replica Thomas Jefferson pewter cups.

Our sincere thanks go to the Stone Mountain Highland Games Association for inviting us as their Honoured Guests for the 1998 Games, to Clan Macfie members collectively for attending and making the Games that much more special from our viewpoint and to Jim and Ginger McAfee and their Clan Society members for bringing it all together for us and assisting so generously, along with the MacDuffee/Macfies in meeting Helen's travel costs to Atlanta. We could not have been more warmly welcomed or better looked after. Thank you all.

Sandy McPhie
Clan Commander

THE HONOURS OF SCOTLAND

The following interesting article on The Honours of Scotland was spotted in the September 1997 Clan Cameron Australia Newsletter. Through the Cameron Society, we obtained permission for this reprint from the author, Mr. John Cooper of Glen Waverley, Vic., a member of the Melbourne Scots. It is produced below with due acknowledgement and thanks to Mr. Cooper and the Camerons.

Scotland has her own Crown Jewels, with a history extending well beyond the English Crown Jewels which are on display in the Tower of London. Known as The Honours of Scotland (sometimes referred to as 'The Honours Three') they consist of the Crown, the Sceptre and the Sword of State. They are the symbols of Scotland's status as an ancient independent kingdom.

The Crown in its present form dates from 1540 when it was remodeled for James V. This remodeling 450 years ago according to one legend, is said to have incorporated a double gold coronet with which Robert the Bruce was crowned in 1306. If this claim is correct, the oldest part of the Scottish Crown is around 700 years old. This golden double circlet was thought to have been given to Bruce for his Coronation by the Abbot of Scone because the English, under Edward I had carried off and destroyed the ancient Regalia, including Scotland's then hereditary crown. Edward also took the Stone of Destiny. You will have noticed from TV and the Press that in November 1996 the Stone of Destiny was returned to Scotland, 700 years after being forcibly removed.

The last time the Scottish Crown was used for its intended purpose was in 1651 for the Coronation of Charles II at Scone. He was the last king to be crowned at Scone and the last to be crowned with the Scottish Crown. That the Crown in its present form has survived since 1540 is remarkable to say the least. It pre-dates the English regalia in the Tower of London because when Charles I was executed in 1649, the English Regalia was destroyed by order of the English Parliament in what can only be described as a senseless act of vandalism. Included amongst the items destroyed was the Crown of Alfred the Great. The Scots' provocative act in using their own Regalia to crown Charles II so shortly after English Regalia was destroyed would have enraged Cromwell. The same search and destroy treatment was intended by Cromwell for the Scottish Regalia because while it survived, it remained a symbol of Scottish independence.

Before dealing with how the Scottish Regalia was saved, I return to deal with the other two items in the 'Honours Three'. The Sceptre which is a symbol of the Monarch's authority was presented by Pope Alexander VI to James IV in 1494. It was remodeled shortly afterwards in 1536 for James V. The head of the Sceptre carries the figures of the Virgin and Child, St James and St Andrew. The head is surmounted by a globe of rock crystal and the silver finial on the top of the Sceptre carries a large Scottish pearl.

The third item is the Sword of State. This was presented to James IV in 1507 by Pope Julius II. It was made in Italy by craftsmen working for the Pope. The blade carries the Pope's legend and figures believed to represent St Peter and St Paul. All this ancient Regalia is now on public display in the Crown Room in Edinburgh Castle.

Cromwell sent an army to Scotland in 1651 to teach the Scots a lesson and to carry off and destroy the Regalia. English intelligence suggested that the Regalia had been taken north (i.e. North from Edinburgh). The English army first took the town of Perth but the Regalia was not found. Dundee was then taken and 800 men and 200 women and children were put to death. Cromwell's army then advanced on Aberdeen. The Aberdonians were horrified at the reports of the slaughter at Dundee and opened their gates to the English army. The city escaped with a fine of £1,000 but still the Honours were not located. The might of the English Army then descended on Dunottar Castle, having finally tracked down where the Honours had been taken for safe keeping. The decision to deposit the Regalia there was indicative of Dunottar's reputation as a place of safety. The Castle

was (and is) a cliff stronghold, surrounded on three sides by water but it had a garrison of only forty men under Sir George Ogilvy of Barras. Under Major-General Monck, Dunottar was besieged for eight months through a bitter winter but it could not be taken by force. However, no food was getting in and when the garrison was on the verge of starvation, Sir George Ogilvy surrendered. On entering the castle, the English forces found the Regalia was not there. Cromwell was said to be furiously angry.

Sir George Ogilvy and his wife were threatened with torture and death if they did not reveal where the Regalia was. Sir George said it had been sent away without his knowledge - his wife said she had entrusted it to a son of the Earl Marischal who had taken it to France. The couple were not executed but they suffered long imprisonment. Lady Ogilvy died in prison from ill treatment but neither gave up the secret of where the Regalia was.

Now we come to the popularly accepted story of a resourceful and redoubtable minister's wife. Mrs Grainger, wife of the minister of the neighbouring parish of Kinneff (near Inverbervie) was friendly with the wife of Sir George Ogilvy, Governor of Dunottar. She went to the castle taking with her a maid carrying a distaff and a bundle of flax as though they were to spend the day spinning. She presented herself to the Colonel commanding the English army requesting permission to visit the castle saying she was sure English gentlemen did not make war upon women. She may have forgotten what this same army did in Dundee! They were allowed to enter and later, when ready to leave for home, with Lady Ogilvy's assistance, she pushed Scotland's Crown up under her skirts and wrapped the Sceptre and sword in lint to look like a distaff. With her maid carrying these, she made a presumably awkward exit. Apparently the besieging army did not notice that she did not look pregnant when she went in but must have looked very pregnant when she left a few hours later.

She got the Regalia safely back to Kinneff Kirk where she and her husband hid them initially beneath their box bed in the manse. Later, for better security, the Minister buried the Crown and Sceptre beneath a flag-stone in front of the pulpit. They remained there for eight years while the English Army searched in vain. Keeping the secret was helped by putting about a rumour that the Regalia had been taken to France. During that time the Minister dug them up at night every three months to air them and see they did not deteriorate with damp. The Sword of State was buried separately at the other end of the Kirk.

Whatever the absolute truth of the story of the Minister's wife, what is factually known is that Rev. James Grainger, Minister at Kinneff received the Regalia from Dunottar. In case he died before the Regalia was claimed, he prepared a document recording where it was buried. At the Restoration in 1660 the Regalia was returned to Edinburgh Castle. A very informative display and commemoration plaques at Kinneff Kirk record the story of danger and courage through this long period during which the minister and his wife virtually stood alone between the English Army and the destruction of the Scottish Regalia.

When the Scottish and English Acts of Union were passed in 1707, the Honours of Scotland were delivered to the Commissioners of the Treasury who locked them in a heavy oak chest in Edinburgh Castle. Early last century, Walter Scott (later Sir Walter) was deeply interested in discovering the whereabouts of the Honours of Scotland. Although one of the provisions of the Act of Union was that the ancient Honours of Scotland were never to be removed from Scotland, rumours had long been circulating that they

had been taken to England. In fact, on a visit to London, Scott had seen an ancient crown at the Jewel Office in London which was said to be the Scottish Crown. About 20 years earlier in 1794, a half hearted search had been made. A heavy brass bound locked chest had been found in what is now the Crown Room in Edinburgh Castle, much covered with dust, but as no keys were found and it sounded empty when shaken, it was not broken open. This seemed to confirm the long-standing rumour of yet another English confiscation of Scottish Regalia.

At Walter Scott's insistence, a Commission of Enquiry to locate the Honours of Scotland was set up under the Duke of Buccleuch. The end result was that a select company of around twelve eminent persons assembled in Edinburgh Castle in 1818. Masonry was removed and Scott describes the scene thus.

"Nothing could have been more awe inspiring than the procedure. There were massive doors of oak and iron to be unlocked before they entered the chamber dimly illuminated by a barred window where the dust indeed lay thickly. Workmen were summoned to attack the chest for which no keys had been found. I have the satisfaction to assure you that the Regalia of Scotland were this day found in perfect preservation. There they lay wrapped in folds of old linen - the Crown, dating basically perhaps from the days of Bruce, of pale gold, set with uneven stones, the Sword of State, a gift from Pope Julius II to James IV (the scabbard richly decorated with filigree work of silver, double gilded, representing oak leaves and acorns) the Sceptre of James V, with a large beryl as finial, the silver mace of the Treasurer of Scotland".

From the above quote we note that in addition to the 'Honours Three', the chest also contained the silver mace thought to be that of the Treasurer of Scotland. Scott was very emotional about the recovery of the Regalia and he, more than anyone, understood its antiquity and historical significance. The day after the discovery, Scott took his daughter Sophia to see the Regalia. Several Commissioners of the Jury Court were also present. Scott's deep emotion had been transmitted to Sophia to such a degree that when the lid was slowly lifted she nearly fainted. As she was drawing away from the circle around the chest to sit down, she heard her father exclaim sharply in anger and despair. One of the gentlemen was about to place the crown on the head of one of the young ladies present. At Scott's loud reproach, he immediately laid down the Crown but the group was embarrassed by this attempted frivolous act and Scott's justifiably angry reaction. Scott and Sophia walked across the Mound down to Castle Street shortly afterwards. Sophia said her father never spoke all the way home but every now and then, she felt his arm trembling.

The recovery of the Regalia aroused considerable interest in Scotland and it was recognised that the Crown Room containing the Regalia was likely to become a tourist attraction. Scott did all in his power to obtain the position of Keeper of the Honours for his close friend, Adam Ferguson and eventually was successful. At one stage the King suggested that Scott himself should be appointed Keeper, without salary, but with the rank of Baronet. Eventually when Adam Ferguson was appointed Keeper, he was knighted and concurrently Walter Scott was created a Baronet. This would have been partly in recognition of his having recognised the historical significance and for initiating the search leading to the recovery of these important symbols.

When you visit Edinburgh Castle, go to the Crown Room. When you look at the Regalia, reflect not by comparing it with the dazzling display in the Tower of

London but on its antiquity and the story of the loyalty, determination and courage of those known and many more unknown, who put their lives and liberty at risk to save it from being destroyed.

John Cooper
November 1996)

May 1996 (Updated)

Finial - Ornamental top

Beryl - Precious stone, especially green and including emerald

Distaff - Staff with a cleft end used in conjunction with a spinning wheel for holding flax or wool.

Bibliography:

Edinburgh: Capital City - Edinburgh Corporation 1966 pp 16,185

The Wizard of the North pp 220-222

The Queen's Scotland - The Eastern Counties

The Leopard Magazine - January 1993

The Honours of Scotland - Historic Scotland 1993

DIARY

14 - 21 Nov 98 International Scottish Gathering, Dunedin, New Zealand 150th Anniversary of Dunedin and the Province of Otago. (Bill McDonald, 12 Keinan Ave., Milton, N.Z.)

21 Nov 98 Biennial General Meeting of the Macfie Clan Society in Canada. Further details from President Sylvia McPhee on 416 925 9757.

1st Sat. Aug 99 BGM of Cathey Reunion Association in North Carolina, U.S.A.. (Boyt Cathey 540 380 4467).

9 - 13 Sep 99 Clan Macfie Society Gathering in Edinburgh, Scotland (Mrs. S. Mackay, 80 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh EH9 2AF)

Sep 2001 International Gathering and 8th Parliament of Clan Macfie, Scotland. (Clan Secretariat in Australia (07) 4771 2067

In America the story goes that an unnamed family of Scottish descent were proud that their ancestors had arrived shortly after the "Mayflower". They were proud of their family. Their line had included senators and Wall Street wizards. They decided to compile a family history, a legacy for the children. Only one problem arose - how to handle that great-uncle who was executed in the electric chair. The author said he could handle it tactfully and when the book appeared it read: "Great-uncle George occupied a chair of applied electronics at an important government institution. He was attached to his position by the strongest of ties and his death came as a real shock."

Reader's Digest Australian Edition in October carried an interesting article on **Pipes That Rouse the Soul** by one Tony Barrell. It included a photo of a piper in full regalia including his Macfie kilt - and, no, it wasn't Clan Piper Bobbie of Glasgow.

Colonsay Questionnaire A questionnaire asking Clan Society members to indicate whether or not they thought a visit to Colonsay was an important part of our quadrennial Gatherings for Clan Parliament in Scotland was distributed to the Societies in August last year. Few

Societies have responded, and of those who did, few of their members responded. But of the replies received, YES, a visit was definitely considered to be important.

Congratulations to Sheila Duffy of Edinburgh who has matriculated Arms from those of her late husband Rev. James Duffy. In the form of a lozenge, her Arms feature the Galley common to most Macfie Arms, the Celtic Cross and Open Book of James' Arms, but with a silver Hedgehog (from her maiden name) in lieu of James' Cogwheel recognising his father's engineering qualifications. The motto "Pro Deo Et Rege" (For God and the King/Queen) has been retained. Sheila becomes our fourth Lady Armiger and the twenty first on our current list of Armigers.

Welcome to Clan Macfie Society (Ireland) The Clan Commander has extended formal recognition to the Clan Macfie Society (Ireland) as being a Member Society of Clan Macfie. David Morgan, of Solihull, England, acted as Convener of this Society, drawing on his many "Macfie" contacts in Ireland and on the Isle of Mann for his membership. He has been the Society Chairman throughout. Although not strong in membership numbers at this juncture, the new Society is a welcome addition to the Clan family embracing important areas of Clan population and history.

Aviemore '97 Finances. Final figures for the Clan Parliament and Gathering at Aviemore in 1997 have been provided by Co-ordinator Iain McFie. They disclose a 1997 surplus of £83.81 to be added to the £962.69 credit brought forward from 1993. A copy of Iain's financial statement has been forwarded to each Society President.

Genealogy Committee Chairman. After many years as Chairman of the Clan Parliament Genealogy Committee, Boyt Cathey of 620 Halton Road, Greenville, SC 29607 U.S.A has indicated it is time to hand over the reins to someone younger. During his time as Chairman Boyt has completed a massive amount of work for the Clan archives. He is sincerely thanked for this and warmly congratulated on a job well done. He will be missed at the helm. If you are interested in taking up the challenge from Boyt, or know someone who might be interested in this important role, please contact your Clan Society Secretary with details.

General Meetings. Little information has come through from the recent General Meetings of the Clan Societies. At time of writing, nothing has been heard from Sweden (Triennial in July) or Scotland (Annual in October). Rev. Jim McAfee continues as President for MacFie of North America from their AGM in October, while the MacDuffee/Macfies tasked a selection committee at their AGM, also in October, to find a successor for retiring President James McDuffie and Ireland continued with David Morgan as Chairman following their October AGM.

Colonsay Hotel Sold. Kevin and Christa Byrne completed the sale of the Colonsay Hotel last July. The new owners are Claude and Christine Reysenn. Claude, a Belgian, is a Master Chef and has been involved in the British hotel trade for over 30 years. Christine is a Scot and will attend to the front-of-house. Both are looking forward to continued Macfie custom and contacts. Kevin and Christa will remain on Colonsay at their residence "Homefield". They have retained ownership of the 4 self-catering chalets adjacent to the Hotel as well as other interests and Kevin, of course, will continue with his writing and publishing business.

House of Lochar is Kevin Byrne's publishing company on Colonsay. Amongst its recent publications is Kevin's own work "Colkitto!" and a book of Gaelic poems by the late Donald MacNeill entitled "moch is anmoch". "Colkitto!" gives extensive detail on the background to these troubled and treacherous times which, amongst other events, led to the death of the Macfie Chief, Malcolm, in 1623 and Colkitto's ascendancy on Colonsay. It is a well researched work which is a must for anyone interested in our Clan's history. "moch is anmoch" is a small volume of poems by Donald MacNeill (1924 - 1995) of Colonsay. It contains Donald's poems in Gaelic and English translations by Alastair MacNeill Schouler, also of Colonsay. The volume is a fitting tribute to a true Islander and the poems reflect his deep understanding of his background and environment, often with a sense of merriment. They are a treasured part of Colonsay's heritage. In the pipeline for Kevin are, amongst other items, "Colonsay 1690 - 1904 and the Diaspora" and a guide book for visitors to Colonsay.

Scotland - B, D and M Records. General Register Office for Scotland has placed a fully searchable index to historic Scottish births, deaths and marriages on the World Wide Web at <<http://www.anywhere.co.uk/news.html>>. The index, one of the world's largest databases of genealogical information, including over 30 million names, covers births/baptisms and banns/marriages from the Old Parish Registers dating from 1553 to 1854, births, marriages and deaths from the Statutory Index for 1855 to 1897, and census records for 1881 and 1891. Users will be able to order register extracts (e.g. a birth certificate, a census entry) from the GRO(S) via the Web.

National Tartan Day (U.S.A.) On March 20th this year the U.S.A. Senate unanimously carried Resolution 155 designating 6th April each year as National Tartan Day to recognise the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish Americans to the United States.

Scotland's Own Campsie Character Thomas Craven, a Lennoxtown man in Scotland, has turned his hand to writing following a bad accident at work. His short stories about the Campsie area and its inhabitants have been published by Craw Road Publishers and can be found on the net at <<http://www.linkcafe.co.uk/craw-road/>>

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Clan Commander Sandy and wife Helen wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

