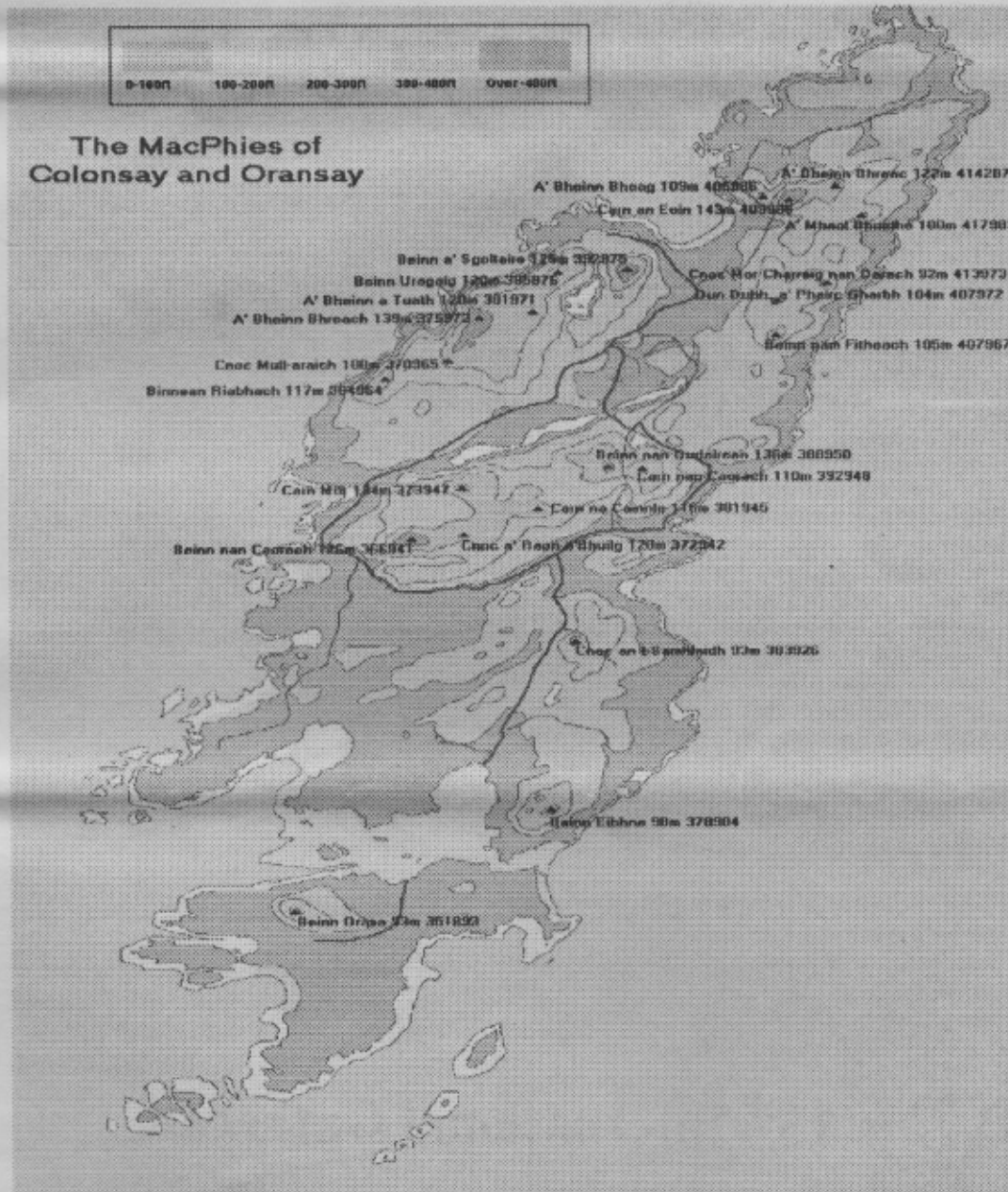


Macfie Clan Society Newsbuletin

Founded in Richmond NSW on 3rd May 1974)

Number 88	March 2001
All Correspondence should be addressed to: The President: The Macfie Clan Society of Australia 4 Figtree Court, North Adelaide. SA 5006	Telephone and Fax: (08) 8239 0038 Email: hmmcphce@betta.net.au Clan Macfie Home Page: http://userzweb.lightspeed.net/~macfie



OBAN AND COLONSAY 2001 WHAT A GREAT IDEA !

Clan Macfie Society is a Member Society of Clan Macfie

The Macfie Clan Commander, A.C. (Sandy) McPhee

10 Havana Street, Townsville QLD 4810

Telephone/Fax: (07) 74771 2607

Email: macfie@ultra.net.au

From your President

In the first year of the new millennium I have pondered where a number of things will be in 1000 years from now including our Macfie Clan Society. Of course I don't know but looking one year ahead things look really good.



Brian and Walter Colonsay
1993

In September this year the Clan will gather in Oban from 4th to 9th and then it's across by ferry to the Isle of Colonsay, our ancestral home. It's a fantastically interesting island with great walks and beaches, although swimming by Aussie standards is not on. This, when we gathered there last in 1993 did not, however, deter Di McPhee, a Bananabender and

Robert McFie of Glasgow doing so at 3am. It must have been cold as they were still cuddling to get warm 3 days later.

Whilst there I can safely predict we will go through Macfie's Cave, visit the Standing Stone, and walk to Oronsay where the amazing MacDuffie Priory still stands.

Some of us may even play golf as I did in 1993 with Bengt, a Swedish member and Walter, a local crofter and our host for the game. My job was to interpret what Walter said for Bengt's benefit as we looked for balls that had run down one of the many rabbit burrows on the course. Walter's accent was just so broad I was guessing most of the time but I did understand him when he said it didn't matter if we hit one of the many sheep on the course because their wool was so thick it wouldn't hurt them. Bengt and I weren't so sure so aimed our shots at them to make sure we didn't go near them!

It's such great fun to be with so many Macfies. A ceilidh or two will no doubt eventuate led by Clan Piper Bob McFie with brother Iain and his wife Fiona adding their fine voices. So those of you who would like to join in and visit our Clan's home and have a ball with the rest of us contact: Iain & Fiona McFie, (Email: iain@coulintyre.fsnet.co.uk) Coulintyre, Kincaig, Kingussie PH21 1LX Scotland

Take good care of each other,
Yours in Clanship,
Brian McPhee

MY WORK AND FRIENDSHIP WITH CAPT. ALEXANDER (SANDY) MCPHEE ON THE CLARENCE RIVER 1925 TO 1935



I first met Capt. McPhee in 1925, I was then about 11 years old and I remember because it was when he towed a 'Flat Top' (punt) with a complete cottage, gravel, cement, paint everything to build

this pre-cut, made for erection by my father Ainslie Fairweather, now deceased.

With his small tug 'Sandy' bought this punt from Grafton down river to Iluka -through the small opening and into Iluka Bay, on high water pushed the punt up onto the beach where the Fishermans Co-op is today. We, our father, my brother and myself, moved all this material to the cottage site about 250 yards away.

I would say every-one knew 'Sandy' McPhee on the river, it would be about the height of the depression in 1932- I was around 18 years old, an out of work carpenter at the time. I had built a number of 12 foot to 16 foot sailing skiffs, to start a sailing club among my friends. Capt. McPhee used to tie up his tug at the Prince St Wharf- and I used to sail hitch to his rail and have a talk from time to time.

It was at one of these meetings that 'Sandy' gave me the job of deckhand I had with him for nearly a year. A 'deck' hand I said, there are no decks except a little round the stern so you could get to the 'dunny'

Our work at this time was towing 'flat' top punts to Seelands Quarry to bring back blue metal to the Council Crusher near Frazers Mill. We also used to move river gravel, also from up Seelands way this was brought off the river bottom by a grab mounted on a stern Paddle Wheel drougher.

For the quarry job we used to leave Prince Street Wharf at 5 O' clock - that meant 'Sandy' would have to be over an hour earlier to fire the boiler bring it to a head and popping. Undo the lines, turn and head for the crusher up the river.

The men at the quarry started at 7.30 and we were there ready to receive. This is where I had to throw in too, a hard job for a new 'deck' hand- my first barrow load of stone went off the plank to the bottom - I had to follow it down, put a hooked rope on the barrow and 'get back to work. Come 5 O'clock the quarry workers go home. We had already turned the tug around and are soon on our way to the crusher, which usually takes about 2 to 2.5 hours but against a stiff run in much more. Sometimes we would leave the quarry on the last of a ebb tide, and usually just get stuck in the 'narrows' - an island and the south shore, this used to be an all night vigil.

Never a dull moment with Capt. McPhee. One afternoon we left the quarry - a full load an outgoing ebb tide about half way down and we are away - going through the narrows on a half ebb, you have to give her full steam to maintain control - up comes 'Sandy' out of the hold grabbed the wheel spun it to the starboard, and there we were - stuck and in trouble. We had to wait till the tide went right out then turned on the make enough to lift the punt turn it, then fight the incoming tide all the way home - back and tied up by 12.30 lunch time.

'Sandy' used to have a bicycle on the roof of the boat - but I never saw him ride it.

He used to smoke only Cedar Boxed Dutch Cigars which, with his little dovetail saw, - saw through the box and the cigars, bringing them to half their size - not called 'Sandy' for nothing. He drank only whiskey 'Johnny Walker black label' and spent a lot of time in the stoke hole, especially in winter when river fogs used to hang on half the day, these days I used to get a couple of nips too, it warmed you up.

It was sometime in the 30's 1932 or 33 that 'Sandy' built his BIG flat top on the piles of the old Fishers Store Wharf at the Grafton Villers Punt approach. I wasn't working for 'Sandy' at this time, having started back in my trade as a carpenter with Smith Brothers, doing all their alterations and additions but used to see him at the punt site. He took on a big job and he did most of the work himself but at times had to have some help.

The time I knew him he owned at least 3 boats all seemed to be the same in looks and size. The one I worked on wasn't in bad condition, but badly in need of a few coats of-paint as was the others too. The boiler was the full width of the in side width of the boat and used to burn my feet as I used to walk the gun-walls.

Alexander McPhee was a fine man in my books ~ his job was the end of my Tom Sawyer existence on the

Clarence River and anything said about him is only said with affection.

Ainslie A Fairweather (Balgownie NSW 1984)

Note: Bonnie Bush (nee McPhee) remembers I had the honour to spend many hours with Ainslie before he died talking of the boats of the Clarence River. We had something in common the little steamboats of the river. Ainslie called them 'Sandy' boats some of the names of these boats I have heard my Father speak of, Atalanta, Fairtrader, Pearl, Vrill, Ibris, Otm, as my father seem to acquire these boats near the end of their lives it is very hard to find out anything about them. As they were not registered and all in need of a coat of paint as Ainslie said very hard to get a photo with a name. I was born in 1927 I have often wondered why I went to St Mary's convent as a small child. My father building his punt right at St Mary's and carting stone for the convent and we lived in Duke St now I know why. The story Ainslie wrote for me I think is wonderful it explains some much of those early days. When I see the river fog now I can see those 'Sandy' boats steaming along with their punts. MY Father never got warm all his life would always head for the fire. It is a shame the history of these little boats was never written it is lost for ever now.

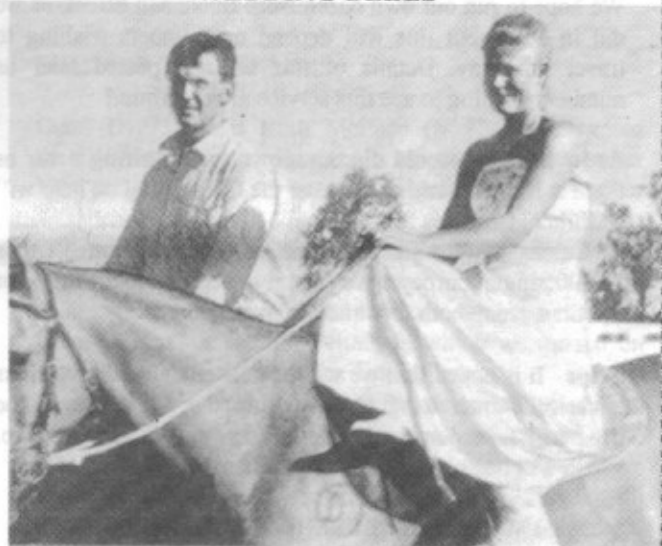
Bonnie Bush (nee McPhee)

141 Napoleon St

Sans Souci 2219

21.6.1993

WEDDING BELLS



Congratulations to Campbell McPhee and Kylie Keys (above) who were married at Boggabri Showgrounds. Campbell the younger son of Jon and Helen McPhee of Culcairn.

Colonsay 2001

Clan Macfie 13th International Gathering and 8th Parliament

The 2001 Clan Gathering coordinators are Iain and Fiona McFie, Coullintyre, Kincaig, Kingussie. PH21 ILX Scotland, Tel/Fax 01540 651 391.

Iain and Fiona have sent the following information for those members thinking about making the trip.

General information sheet No 1

Travel to Oban. As mentioned elsewhere Glasgow is the gateway to Oban. Travelling from anywhere other than the Inverness area will require you to travel to Glasgow and then on to Oban. If you are in the Inverness area you first have to travel to Fort William by bus where you will probably have to change to an Oban bus.

Edinburgh to Glasgow is relatively easy as there are trains from Waverley Station every quarter of an hour. These are fast comfortable trains. You arrive at Glasgow Queen Street where trains leave for Oban. There are three trains a day to Oban. See Scotrail web page entry point on Gathering web page

St. Andrew Square bus terminal in Edinburgh has coaches leaving every hour for Glasgow Buchanan Street. These are fast, clean and non smoking. There is a regular bus service to Oban from Buchanan Street. Queen Street railway station is about a half a mile from Buchanan Street, but it is all uphill. A taxi from Queen Street to Buchanan Street will cost you about £3.00. Travel by bus is cheaper than by train. Gathering web page has portal for City link bus Company.

We hope to run our own coach from Buchanan Street, as we did in 1993, but this will depend on numbers wishing to travel this way. Details of this will be posted later as numbers wishing to use this service are determined

As in 1993 we would discourage you from hiring a car as there is limited parking space at the Oban Hotel. There will be little opportunity to use it while at Oban or for that matter on Colonsay. The ferry fare to Colonsay for a small car is £47.00 single journey. We intend to seek discount fares for the Clan group both foot and car passengers.

Trips. It is hoped that we will be able to enjoy trips to various historically interesting places within the Argyll area. The trips will take place in the afternoon except for trip two, which will be an all day visit to Kilmartin House.

SCOTLAND'S RICHEST PREHISTORIC LANDSCAPE

Argyll has its significant place in Scotland's story. Kilmartin valley in Mid Argyll comprises Scotland's richest prehistoric landscape with a concentration of cairns, standing stones and other impressive remains which have dotted the landscape from around 3000 B.C. Many of these monuments are easily accessible to the public and the award-winning museum at **Kilmartin House** provides an interpretation of the sites and artefacts. However, almost every area of Argyll

& Bute contains visible and often dramatic evidence of pre-historic occupation.

Argyll also formed a key role as cradle of the new Scottish nation and of its Christian faith through the arrival of the "Scotti" from Ulster to form the Kingdom of Dalriada in Argyll from around 500 A.D. With the hill fort at Dunadd in Mid Argyll as their initial capital, they enlarged their political and spiritual kingdom with the assistance of St. Columba and the infant Celtic church until, in 843 A.D. a King of Scots (and Scotland) was created in the person of Dalriadan king, Kenneth MacAlpine.

Entry fee to Kilmartin House is £3.10 (group rate) Lunches and snacks are available from £3.00 to £7.00.

Another trip will be to Inveraray Castle. Entrance fee £5.50 Seniors £4.50. There is a discount of 20% if twenty or more in group. Additionally you can enjoy a visit to Inveraray Jail and get involved in the re-enactment of 19th Century prison life. There is an entry fee.

There is another trip to be arranged. Has anyone any suggestions?

Please note that all payments to the co-ordinators must be in pounds sterling (£).

GENERAL NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

A very big welcome to new members:

Lynette Mok (Z00956)
Auckland NZ

Ian McPhee (N01 957)
Brookvale NSW



VALE

With regret we record the death of

Cedric Thomas McPhee (N77-310) of Coorangong in September 2000 aged 99 years

Donations

The following members have kindly made donations to the Clan and Clan Society which are warmly acknowledged and appreciated.

Colin Macphee	Sutherland NSW
Russell Mattlock	Balgowlah NSW
Frank McPhee	Glen Iris VIC
John McPhie	Penrith NSW
EW (Bill) Smith	Fountain Gate VIC
Ann Leask	McLaren Vale SA

Thank you



Figure 1 Capt. Alexander McPhee

Letter to Bonnie Bush (1964)

Mr Lindsay C. Sabien writing to me in 1964. Belmont. I have read your letter of 24.12.1964 with deep interest, and you are the daughter of Capt. Alexander McPhee whom I knew so well. In fact I probably met you as I can recall meeting your father and mother in the street in Grafton at different times I suppose that they were shopping and I am sure they had one or more children with them.

I might say that I had many trips with you father on the "Atalanta" and other boats from Copmanhurst (where I lived then) to Grafton. I would catch one of Capt. Charles Pullen's down river boats the "Lady Beatrice" or the "Favorite" and go on to Maclean perhaps to Highland Gatherings or such like. I stayed many times with the Mackays of Woodford Leigh and knew most of the old highlanders all around those parts. They were grand people and I am very sorry that I did not interest myself in their histories while they were still alive. It would have been easy to get the histories from them. However it is most absorbing work for me as I grow older I seem to be getting more interested than ever.

Lione Roberts (nee Massey) writing to me 7.1.1986. Mylneford. I was particularly interested in your Fathers name as Dad often talked of him, speaking of him as one of the best river boat Captains, Dad said McPhee was the only one who could handle "Hells Gate" near Copmanhurst. You probably know of my Father the late Jim Massey Dad lived here all his life, he was 89 when he died two years ago.

I was talking last week to another man who knew your Father well Ossie West. Ossie said he remembers your Father, he used to allow him (Ossie) to steer the boat "Pearl". Ossie spoke of

Capt. McPhee with warm affection. So many of the boats you mentioned, I've heard dad speak of. The "Atalanta" was the fastest boat on the run, dad said.

Sent in by:
Bonnie Bush (nee McPhee)

Five Generations of McPhee's in Ballarat.



L to R: Marie Hodges, Pearlie McPhee (V79-463) Caitlyn being nursed, Nicole and Ken McPhee

The McPhee family in Ballarat recently celebrated the birth of Caithyn to make it five generations. Co incidentally there was a quirk of ages. Pearlie McPhee (V79-463) was 88, son Ken 66, Granddaughter Marie 44, Great Granddaughter Nicole 22 and Great Great Granddaughter Caithyn two months. **Well done it must be the healthy cold weather in Ballarat.**

Since then Pearlie has celebrated her 89th birthday in January 2001 and visited the hospital a few times with hip problems. Get well soon!!

SUMMER TRAVELLERS

Geoff (N77339) and Ruth McPhee (N77340) celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in singapore on December 17th on their way to spend Christmas with daughter Elisabeth, husband Glenn and daughter Samantha (Titmuss) in Chartres, about 80 kilometers south-west of Paris where Glenn is headquartered. Whiler there Geoff celbrated birthday number 70. We took the opportunity to Globus-Toiur the Iberian Pennisula which we missed on previous visits to the northern hemisphere.

Temperatures were somewhat different to ur accustomed December-January variety-snow between Christmas and New Year then off and on until the day of eventual departure after a twenty seven hour delay in Parris with engine problems- de-icing the aircraft was a challenge. Temperatures were mainly in the minus 2 to +5 range but we did strike it warmer on the Mediterranean coast and appreciated after snow in Madrid.

Now we are back to look forward to Bundanoon on april 7th and wondering whether or we can get back to see our granddaughter?.

Bagpipe Music

Pipe Major Donald MacPhie

Ted Smythe (N74-064F) recently handed on a manual of bagpipe tunes that were either composed, transposed or arranged by Donald MacPhie (past Clan Society Piper). This includes the Strathspey 'Clan MacFies Resurgency'. This music was first published in Newsbulletin No 19. There are many interesting and challenging tunes in the manual and the Pipers among us may wish to try a few tunes. The manual is being held by Glen McPhee ACT VP, Glen can be contacted on (02) 6258 6058, EMAIL: gmcphce@webone.com.au

GENEAOLOGY

Looking for lost family members, contact:

Scottish Birth, Death & Marriage Certificates and Transcription Service

Joy Murrin Family History Service

PO Box 278 Oatley NSW 2223

Telephone: (02) 9585 1187 FAX: (02) 9585 1486

EMAIL: murrinj@ozmail.com.au

Family ReUnion- Kay

A family reunion will be held at Wardell NSW on the 23d of September 2001 and will be a gathering of the Kay family, which includes McPhee, McLucas, McGregor and Ellem. Advertisements will be placed in the Northern Star, Lismore and the Grafton Examiner. As well a book is being put together on this family, if anyone is interested in a copy of this book, let me know and I will find out about the cost etc.

Note: the Kay family are looking for someone to play the bagpipes at the reunion, and if anyone can help out could they could get in touch with

Marie Smith

14 Osprey Place

Surfside 2536

Bateman's Bay NSW.

The Maltland Family History Group Inc has available on CD Rom Morpeth Catholic Cemetery Head Stone Photos pre 1993 (Hunter Valley NSW). Containing approx 960 photos of headstones and inscriptions.

The CD is set out like a web page to be viewed through a browser. The cost is \$35 postage included within Australia. Overseas requests will be notified of cost. You can see a sample of what is available on their web site at <http://atlas.sp:iccNrts.com/~mfhc/> Some web sites that might be of interest to some.

Thehistorychannel.co.uk/index.htm

Belfasttelegraph.co.uk/emigration/menu.htm

<http://www.gsu.edu/~gsO7map/words/words4.htm>

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

A book is to be written on the Riverboats of the Clarence River. 'Can you remember' stories, people who worked or travelled on them. Have you copies of photos?

Let's get it down before it is lost forever.

Dear Editor

I'm writing to acknowledge receipt of the latest information on the Mulgi which we will file away with all the other material you have kindly sent us from to time regarding the Pullen Line of riverboats.

We believe that the time has come to attempt a history of shipping and boating on the Clarence River and have put in an application for a grant to assist with the research, writing and publication of the project.

I've been asked to put the book together. Our overall plan is to make the Pullen Line the central and most important section. For content and background there would be a brief section called 'Making Contact'. This would be about how settlers used ocean steamers to get there and keep in contact with the world at large through the various shipping lines culminating in the NCSN Company. The main part would be called 'Keeping in Touch' about how the riverboats, droghers and ferries affected the day to day lives of the settlers and their descendants up to just before World War II when the Mulgi went to Sydney.

The section on Riverboats will look briefly at the predecessors to the Pullen Line - mainly boats owned by Gerard's and McKittricks' including the *Woolwich* and *Iolanthe* later purchased by your grandfather (also an earlier one, also called the Favourite).. Then, drawing heavily on the material you sent us over the years I'd like to give an extensive account of the Pullen line and its boats. When I come to attempt to write this up I will get in touch with you for permission to quote from any of the material you sent us and to clear up points of interest. If you are interested also I would like to draw on you as a consultant by sending the first drafts to you for criticism, comments and suggestions as you see fit.

(English, Scottish)

(Irish)

(Hall of Superior Words)

It's early days yet as we haven't got our grant, but I will push on regardless since I think it is so important that the Pullen story be told before there is no one left with first hand memories.

With kind regards,

Stuart Lee (Research Officer)

The Port of Yamba Historical Society

PO Box 100 Yamba NSW 2464

Letter from:

ALISTAIR (Alec) CAMERON Professional Genealogist,
Record Agent.
(Family History Centre Assistant.)
P.O. Box 215, BUNDANOON, N.S.W. 2578,
AUSTRALIA
EMAIL: acameron@hinet.net.au

I am personally interested in the Kilmonivaig and Kilmallie areas in Scotland and will check the 1841, 1861 or 1881 Census with Compliments for any individual or couple that is of interest. But I have to have sufficient identifying details, to locate a target. Such as- Surname, Given name, approx. age or birth year: ESSENTIAL! Occupation, village name: DESIRABLE Maiden surname of spouse: DESIRABLE

In 1841 Una Cameron, the ancestress of Bonnie Bush, was already in Australia. Bonnie said, her father was Alexander Cameron, farmer in Lindally. At Lindally in 1841 I found an Alexander Cameron aged 57 with Kate Cameron 50 plus five children, one named Una, probably a niece or cousin of Bonnie your correspondent. In the house next door, Duncan MacPhee a tailor 60 and Ann aged 45. Circumstantial evidence, quite strongly links this family to that of Bonnie.
bye! from OZ.

The Landscape

I look over the Landscape of genealogy
To discover the footprints
Of those who went before me
My Ancestors.

I am awed by their feeble attempt
To speak to me
Through their paper trails, photographs and hearsay
Of where and how they lived.

When I meet with them
At the threshold of history
The discovery is so exciting
To reconnect.

With those whom I have never seen
And some whom I never knew existed
It is a family reunion
On the plains of imagination.

It is like meeting them
This side of heaven
Before the grand finale
of personal passage.

The sad note is
The wall
That stands as a divider

Between me and them to be discovered.

There is always hope
Of another discovery
Today - maybe - tomorrow
On the Landscape of Genealogy.

Nicknames in the Tinker World'

Alex Stewart, commenting on his ability to give family names to 'Travellers' he was meeting for the first time, said;

'Family nicknames are generally based on inherited physical family trait, or features. If the feature is one which is commonly associated with particular species or animal, then that animal gives its name to the family.

You come tae recognise certain features as belongin' tae certain families: the shape o' their eyebrows, their nose, the shape o' their face. A broad face w' cheekbone, stickin oot, that's a Johnson or a Williamson.

The Whites is a mair delicate sort person, very small narrow face and a pointed nose. And there's the MacKerizies, the *Rabbit-faced MacKenzies* we ca' them, because they're narrow-jawed and the,, cheekbones stick oot and they've big buck-stickn'-oot teeth. The Whites are the *Squirrels*, but they're sometimes cad the *Wheedleties*, the *Wheedety- Whites*.

The Wilsons are kent as the *Needeheds* because they're awfw sharp-featured, The MacMillians are the *White Mice*, 'cause they're a' white-heidit when they're young, nearly blin white [albino].

The MacPhees are the Spotties. The Townsleys are the Beetles, and the Kelbys are the *Reid Herrin's*. The Douglasses are known as the *Goats*. The, Stewarts are the *Brochans*, the porridge-eaters, they liked their parritch made the nicht before so that they'd aye be sure there was something to eat in the mornin'. The Robertson's, the Hutchisons and the Higgins are a' *Brochn* though the Higginses are sometimes ca'd the *SlaveryHiggins*, because they're aye dreepin' at the mooth. There's anither branch o' the Stewarts ca'd the *Tearrlachs* (Charleses). Then there's the Drummonds o' Inverness that we ca'd the *Drummond Castles*.

The MacGregors are ca'd the *Frosties*, they're cauldribe folk and some say they're a stone-mad and they had to put frost on their heid tae cool their brain. Noo, the MacCallums, they hae a gey rauch [rough] nickname: they're ca'd the *Skittery MacCa.llums* because they aye shite their troosers when they get drunk.

Then there's a hantle o' folk, different families that we ca'd Screeves. They're a' ca'd *Screeves*. They think they're better than the rest o' the tinker folk and we're supposed to be the rubbish so we just ca'd them *Screeves*. I dinnae ken what the meanin' is, they're just a class on their own. (SOURCE UNKNOWN)

**From Robert Bain's Clans & Tartan of Scotland
MACFIE**

House of Dreghorn

Crest Badge: A dem-lion rampant proper

Motto: Pro Rege (for the King)

Origin of Name: Gaelic, MacDhubhshith (darkl of peace)

Plant Badge: Pine, Oak

Colonsay is the ancient home of the Macduffies or Macphees, a branch of the great Clan Alpine. The early history of the clan is unknown, but Donald Macduffie witnessed a charter at Dingwall in 1463. The clan was prominent in the history of the Western Highlands, and Macfie of Colonsay was one of the principal chiefs who met Bishop Knox and signed the famous "Statutes of Iona" in 1609.

Colonsay passed out of the possession of the clan some years later. In 1615 Malcolm Macfie of Colonsay joined in the rebellion of Sir James MacDonald, and was later delivered to the Earl of Argyll by Coll Kitto MacDonald.

In 1623 Coll Kitto was charged with the cruel slaughter of Malcolm and several of his followers. Colonsay passed to the MacDonalds and then to the MacNeils who brought fame to the island.

When the Macfies were dispossessed, some of them followed the MacDonalds and others settled in the Cameron country of Lochaber, and supported that clan at the Battle of Culloden. In Galloway the name took the form of Macguffie and Machaffie.

Ewen Macphee who lived in the middle of the 19th century was famous as the last of the Scottish "outlaws." He enlisted in the army, but deserted as the result of a misunderstanding and settled with his family on an island on Loch Quoich. He recognised no law and no landowner, resided rent free, and defended his home with firearms, his wife being as proficient in their use as her husband. He held it until in his old age when he indulged in sheep stealing for which he was ejected.

Macfie up in the air

As I write this message a piece of Clan Macfie Tartan is due to go aloft with one Henry Cathey as NASA's Ultra Long Duration Balloon (ULDB) flight lifts off from Alice Springs in the centre of Australia. The ULDB project has a comprehensive scientific programme calling for the circling of the globe at a flight altitude around 35 km or 115,000 feet. Henry Cathey is the Balloon Vehicle Manager for this flight and participated in earlier test flights in New Mexico when he was responsible for the development and proving of the new balloon design. This balloon will have the shape of a giant pumpkin when deployed at altitude and have a volume of some 600,000 cubic metres. The flight is scheduled to circle the globe once taking 12 to 20 days and land back in Australia. A follow-on flight is planned from Christchurch in New Zealand for the end of the year to last 100 days and make numerous circuits of the earth again at 35 km altitude and 600,000 cubic metres volume. The

ULDB project was a feature article in the November 1999 issue of "Scientific American".

Clan Commander Sandy McPhie

COMING EVENTS

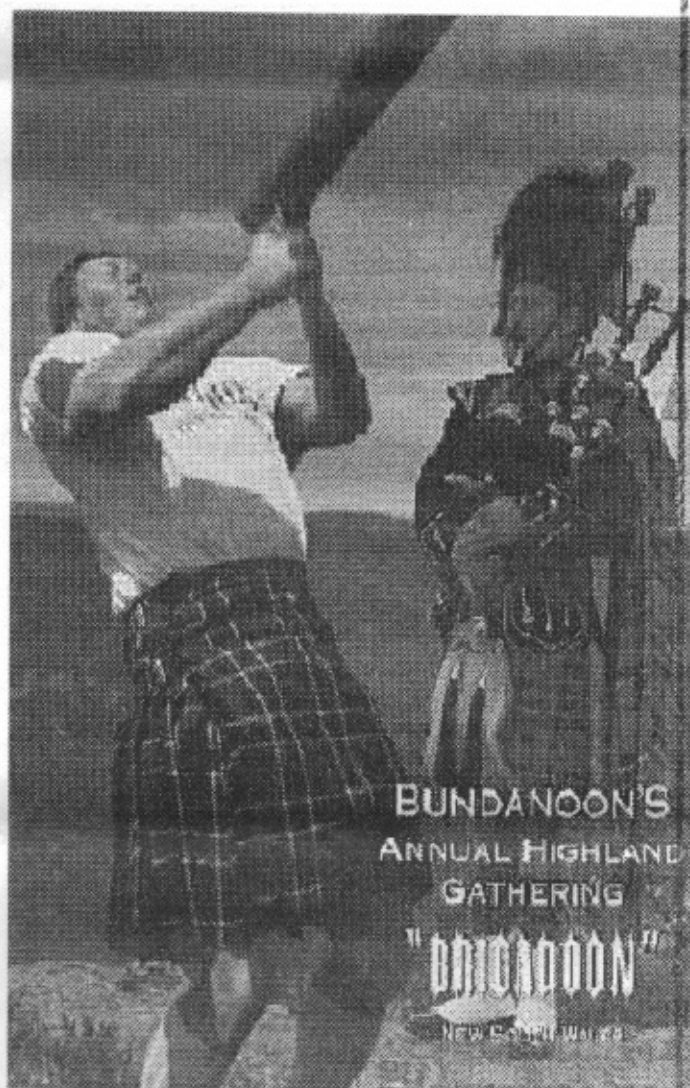
Saturday 7th April 2001; - Bundanoon Highland Gathering

Thursday 11th April 2001; - Simon Fraser University Pipe Band. Sydney Opera House, Tickets (02) 92664800

27th May 2001 Macfie Day

7th July 2001; - Aberdeen Highland Games, Jefferson Park Aberdeen NSW

21st July 2001; - Scottish Ball, Mittagong RSL, contact Rod Parker (02) 48683325



**VISIT THE MACFIE TENT AT
BUNDANOON**



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 7 4771 2067

EMAIL: macfie@ultra.net.au

CLAN MACFIE HOME PAGE: <http://www.orishanet.com/clanmacfie/>

(also available at: <http://www.seanet.com/~efunmoyiwa/ClanMacfie>)

No: 29

NOVEMBER 2000

13th INTERNATIONAL GATHERING AND 8th CLAN PARLIAMENT OF CLAN MACFIE ROYAL HOTEL, OBAN, AND ON COLONSAY, 4TH TO 12TH SEPTEMBER 2001

Clan Gathering Homepage Established at <www.mcfie.org.uk>

Clan Gathering Co-ordinators, Iain and Fiona McFie in Scotland, have established a special Homepage site for next year's International Gathering and Clan Parliament. It can be found at <www.mcfie.org.uk>. This page has been specially set up for the Clan by Iain and Fiona's son, Robin.

The latest arrangements, programmes and instructions etc., for accommodation, function and tours, will be found on the Gathering Homepage. Alternatively, they can be obtained by contacting the Co-ordinators direct at: Coulintyre, Kincaig, Kingussie. PH21 1LX, Scotland. Tel/Fax: 01540 651 391, Email: <iain@mcfie.org.uk>. **Please Note:** Iain and Fiona use their surname spelling in their email address, not the Clan name spelling as was given in error in the July Clan News. The Secretariat apologises for any difficulties or problems this caused and will be more careful in future.

Arrangements are being steadily progressed. The International Gathering of Clan Macfie commences on the afternoon of Tuesday 4th September with registrations at the Gathering Centre, The Royal Hotel, Argyll Square, Oban and an early evening Clan Commander's Reception. The 8th

Parliament of Clan Macfie will be opened on the following

CLAN TIME CAPSULE ON COLONSAY

Earlier this year Lloyd McPhee of Burlington, ON, Canada, raised the possibility of burying a Clan time capsule beside the Standing Stone on Colonsay. The capsule to contain current newspaper, family and Clan papers and photographs and be placed there during a mid year visit by Lloyd, his two sons and his 15 year old grandson, Colin. The intention being for Colin to return in 50 years to open the capsule and retrieve/update the contents as required for future generations. Lloyd's grandmother was born on Colonsay and married his grandfather who emigrated from Islay in 1850 to Canada. Lloyd has been back to Colonsay on a number of occasions. In agreeing to the project the Clan Commander felt it fitting that it be undertaken by direct descendants from Colonsay, and Canadians at that. He believed the proposal was enhanced by Colin being there when the capsule was buried and was committed to returning in 50 years time. Ownership of the time capsule has been conferred on Clan Macfie by Lloyd and his family.

morning, Wednesday 5th. It is expected that all purely Clan matters will be dealt with in this first session of Parliament. Clan Society business will be scheduled at subsequent sessions of Parliament. The programme for these sessions, and for visits, tours etc., has yet to be finalised. A formal Clan Macfie Dinner will be held at the Royal Hotel on the evening of Friday 7th September. The Closing Session of Clan Parliament is scheduled to be held on Saturday 8th.

The second part of the Clan Gathering will be held on Colonsay immediately following proceedings in Oban. Dates/timings etc., are presently in abeyance pending the release of the CALMAC 2001 ferry timetable.

Bookings for functions, tours and accommodation in Oban are to be arranged through the Co-ordinators. Please do not try to book direct. Iain and Fiona will forward a booking and registration form to all likely participants in the early part of next year provided you let them know you are interested in attending. It is intended that bookings for the Colonsay Cottages and on the CalMac ferries can be made on this registration form. However, those wishing to stay at the Colonsay Hotel, Chalets or B & Bs will be required to make their own accommodation bookings on the island - addresses etc., are available from the Co-ordinators or on the Colonsay homepage <www.colonsay.org.uk/index.html>.



At the Standing Stone preparing to bury the Clan time capsule are (l to r) Bradley, Colin, Gregory and Lloyd McPhee, all from Canada. Colin, the son of Douglas (who did not attend) is committed to returning in 2050 to update the capsule contents for future generations.

VALE

Again, we sadly record the death of a Clan elder -

Bobbie McFee James passed away at Banner Elk, North Carolina, on 7th August. She had been in ill health for some months. Bobbie and husband, Bill, were long term and active members of the MacFie Clan Society of North America and strong supporters of Clan Macfie. In fact, they were the first to come forward to support Scott McPhee when he responded to Dr. Earle MacPhee's request over twenty years ago for a Clan Macfie Society to be formed in the United States. Bobbie will be sadly missed, but lovingly remembered, by all who knew her. Deepest sympathy has been extended on behalf of all Clan members to Bill and their family.

CLAN DIARY

(The 27th May each year is Clan Macfie Day)

2000	18	November	Canada. BGM of the Macfie Clan Society in Canada, Yorkminster Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street, Toronto ON 2.00 p.m.. (Contact Nancy Duffy 416-760-8442)
	-	November	Clan Macfie Society (Ireland) AGM due
2001	-	April	New Zealand. McPhee Clan Society of New Zealand AGM due
	27	May	Clan Macfie Day worldwide
	7	July	Sweden. Thorburn-Macfie Family Society. TGM (Contact Ulf Hagman 0522-136-70, Email: <ulfmh@swipnet.se>)
	4/5	August	U.S.A. Cathey Reunion Association BGM Salisbury NC (Contact Jim Epperson 704-633-8023)
	4/5	August	U.S.A. Coffey/Coffee Reunion Association of Texas. Amarillo TX (Contact Ilah Merriman 972-934-8360, Email: <ICMerriman@aol.com>)
	4/12	September	Scotland. 8 th Clan Parliament and 13 th International Gathering of Clan Macfie Royal Hotel, Oban, and on Colonsay. (Contact Secretariat or Gathering Co-ordinators Iain and Fiona McFie, Scotland, 015-40-651-391 or email <iain@mcfie.org.uk>)

AROUND THE CLAN SOCIETIES

Clan MacFie Society of North America members have continued hosting Clan Macfie tents at Highland Games in the U.S. this past summer. Venues included Paducah, KY; Estes Park, CO; Loon, NH; Charleston, SC; Fort Smith, AK; and, of course, Stone Mountain, GA, where the tent was shared with MacDuffee/Macfie Clan Society members. The AGM weekend at Stone Mountain was great with wonderful weather and enjoyable fellowship. Rev. Jim McAfee continues as President with Archie McAfee the incoming Vice-President.

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia members in New South Wales had the Clan tent at the inaugural Highland Games at Aberdeen in the Hunter Valley on 1st July and are now looking at a special Hunter Valley Gathering of "Macfies" for Easter next year.

Scotland and Canada. As these notes are being compiled

the Clan Macfie Society in Scotland and the Macfie Clan Society in Canada are holding, or preparing to hold, their General Meetings. Scotland's AGM at the Waverley Hotel in Perth on the afternoon of 28th October, Canada's BGM in the Friendship Room at Yorkminster Baptist Church in Toronto on the afternoon of 18th November. Members of the Clan Societies will respectively enjoy fellowship beforehand at lunch or afterwards at afternoon tea.

The MacDuffee/Macfie Clan Society of North America members were scheduled to hold their Annual General Meeting at the Clan Macfie Tent at the Stone Mountain Highland Games, Atlanta, GA, on Saturday 21st October with a Dinner to follow.

The Coffee/Coffey Reunion Association of Texas had 65 members in attendance for an enjoyable reunion weekend at San Antonio, TX in early August.

CLAN MEMBERS NEWS

- ◆ Our man in South Africa, **Basil McCathie**, has moved about 20 km north west of his old address in Pietermartizburg to 97A Main Street, Howick, 3290.
- ◆ Canadian, **Gary MacPhie**, and family are thriving at their home in Moshi, Tanzania, where Gary is head of the Primary section at the International School. With Mt. Kilimanjaro nearby, the school provides day and boarding facilities for a wide cross section of local and international students.
- ◆ **Jim McAfee**, Clan MacFie Society of North America President is back to good health after a serious mid year illness.
- ◆ Doyen of the MacDuffee/Macfies, **Fritz McDuffie** of Oak Ridge, TN, was in dock for major spinal surgery in late September. Latest reports indicate Fritz is progressing well.
- ◆ **Ilah Merriman** of Dallas, Texas, and family were in Sydney for the Olympic Games. She reported such friendly people, perfect weather, efficient transport and the games being fun that it makes you wonder why the Scots didn't settle there at Day one.
- ◆ **Fritz McDuffie** has a new email address: <fritzmc@ispchannel.com>

The rare opportunity is still there to obtain a bottle of very exclusive (and quite tasty) Colonsay Village Hall Vatted Malt Whisky. It is available at £20 per bottle from Mrs. Rhona Grant, Secretary, Colonsay Hall Committee, Colonsay, Argyll PA61 7YT Scotland or email <rhonag@colonsay.swinternet.co.uk>

OR for the last bottle at £5 a ticket, in a Special Hogmanay Raffle with proceeds going to the Hall. Please contact Rhona direct to purchase by the case, bottle, ticket..... or all three!

LORD LYON TO RETIRE

Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight, KCVO, has announced his intention to retire as Lord Lyon early next year. As Lyon Clerk in the 1970s when Dr. Earle MacPhee commenced his work to reactivate Clan Macfie, Sir Malcolm was most helpful with guidance and advice during those formative years. His appointment as Lord Lyon in 1981 virtually coincided with recognition being extended to our Clan as, once again, being an "honourable community" or active Clan.

Sir Malcolm has continued this interest in the well being of Clan Macfie providing friendly support and helpful guidance whenever the occasion arose. Your Clan Commander has warm memories of visits with the Lord Lyon when in Scotland for Clan functions. Discussions covered the whole

ambit of Clan and Clan Society matters and well beyond on these special occasions.

Best wishes and sincere thanks have been extended to the Lord Lyon by the Clan Commander on behalf of all Clan Macfie members. In acknowledging these, the Lyon spoke of his pleasure in seeing Clan Macfie go from strength to strength over the years. He sent his very best wishes to the Clan for the future.

An announcement of the appointment of a new Lord Lyon is some way off yet. In fact, for the first time, the position will evidently be advertised. There is no doubt though, that the friendly and helpful attitude of the Lyon Office will continue as too, will its ties with Clan Macfie.

PREHISTORIC HUNTERS IN THE HEBRIDES

Between 1978 and 1981 a Cambridge University research team carried out field work on Islay and Colonsay seeking traces of the earliest inhabitants on these and other Hebridean islands. The following extracts are from the teams report at that time. Further work was programmed.

The first people to live in the Hebrides arrived over 8,000 years ago. They came after the last ice age when the islands were covered in thick woodland. Archaeologists refer to that period at the 'Mesolithic'. These people lived by hunting animals such as deer and wildfowl, by gathering wild plants and by exploiting coastal resources such as fish and molluscs. Farming was not to be introduced into the Hebrides for another 3,000 years. They were a mobile people moving around the islands to exploit whatever resources were 'in season'. They had few possessions. Unlike their descendants they did not erect standing stones, construct burial tombs or build stone huts. Almost the only record of their way of life are scatters of flint tools, and the waste from their manufacture, sealed below the peat and blown sand of the Hebrides. It is from these that archaeologists reconstruct the Mesolithic lifestyle.

The earliest known human settlement in the Hebrides is the Mesolithic site of Kinloch on Rhum which was occupied 8,500 years ago. On Jura, a series of Mesolithic flint scatters has also been discovered while on Oronsay there is a unique set of 'shell middens' - large heaps of shellfish, bird, fish and mammal bones which were the food refuse from Mesolithic settlements. But most of the Hebridean islands remain archaeologically unexplored for Mesolithic occupation. This project began with the discovery of new sites on Colonsay and Islay.

There are likely to be hundreds of Mesolithic settlements in the Hebrides but finding them is no easy task. Searching for tiny pieces of flint is rather like looking for needles in

haystacks! Three methods were used to locate sites. First any disturbed land was examined, either that which had been ploughed or where ditches, drains or quarries had been dug. These may have accidentally disturbed a buried site and brought flint to the surface. Second, areas were searched where settlement may have occurred by digging many small 'test pits' through the soil to discover if there were any archaeological remains below. Third, the knowledge of residents and visitors to the islands was drawn on. Often farmers notice flint in their fields and some have made valuable collections. Gleann Mor and Bolsay Farm on Islay, and Staosnaig on Colonsay are the main sites excavated. Traces of Mesolithic settlement have also been found at Machrins and Scalasaig on Colonsay.

The site at Staosnaig was discovered by the project team in 1989 after a small field in this sheltered bay had been ploughed. Sampling of the site by test pitting indicated two flint concentrations. During the summer of 1991 one of these was excavated. The flint at Staosnaig was not as dense as at Gleann Mor or Bolsay Farm. The site is believed to be a palimpsest of small camping sites made by groups of hunters visiting Colonsay. Preservation is poor due to recent farming activity but the remnants of two Mesolithic fireplaces were found. When excavating these, it is easy to imagine hunters arriving on the island after crossing in their small boats from Jura and Islay and making herb tea or cooking fish before departing to search Colonsay for game. While relaxing on the beach they would have repaired their hunting gear - discarding broken tools and flint waste for us to excavate thousands of years later.

A recent press item reports **Clan MacDonald** as gathering on Islay for the first time in 500 years. Ranald Alexander MacDonald, Captain of Clan Ranald, was there to welcome the Clan en masse, including the families of the three MacDonald Chiefs. Traditionally the Macfie Chief on Colonsay was Keeper of the Records for the MacDonald Lords of the Isles until their power was taken by King James IV in 1493.

Why 18 Holes on a Golf Course? The St. Andrews Society of Baltimore (and with a name like that they should know) claim the reason we play 18 holes of golf is that the canny Scots inventing the game figured out that a fifth of Scotch would last exactly 18 holes. With the size of a "wee one" being about 1.4 ounces, a fifth of whisky containing 25.6 ounces would produce the necessary 18 nips for a most enjoyable round - of golf, that is - a good Scottish pastime!

Scots/Scotch? Another enlightened comment from the United States is that in British English as opposed to American English (Ha!) "Scotch" refers only to a drink and not to the people. The people are "Scots", everything there is "Scottish" except their whisky which is "Scotch".

Despite their Scots/Scotch problem above, Scottish immigrants and their descendants have contributed significantly to the **political history of the United States**. Consider these statistics:

- More than 100 governors of pre-Revolutionary colonies and post-Revolutionary States were of Scottish birth or descent.
- 35 U.S. Supreme Court Justices have been Scots.
- Of 73 Great Americans in the Hall of Fame, 25 were of Scottish blood.
- Nearly half of the Secretaries of the U.S. Treasury and one-third of the Secretaries of State have been of Scots origin.
- Of the 56 signatories of the Declaration of Independence, nine were directly or indirectly descended from Scots.
- Nine of 13 Governors of the newly created United States were Scots or of Scottish descent.
- Of 50 judges of the Supreme Court from 1759-1882 at least 15 were of Scottish ancestry.
- James Pollock (1810-90), responsible for putting "In God We Trust" on the U.S. coinage, was of Scottish descent.

- Woodrow Wilson said of the Scots, "Every line of strength in American history is a line coloured with Scottish blood."

(From "The Highlander" Jul/Aug 2000)

Sydney, Australia's **Olympic and Paralympic Games** have been held and a great time was had by all - competitors, spectators and viewers. No great Clan participation or activities to report - but they did have their lighter moments. One lady at Olympic Park saw a man carrying a long rod. She went up to him and asked, "Are you a pole vaulter?" "Nein," he said, puzzled, "I am German. But how did you know mein name vos Valter?"

Clan Pioneers in America

James Cathey, his two brothers and a sister came to America in the early 1700s. Descendants Andrew Cathey and his sons Daniel and Benjamin moved west to California from Haywood County in North Carolina in 1849 during the gold rush. In 1851 they returned east to collect their families, then living in Benton, Arkansas. The following year Capt. Andrew D. Cathey led twenty families west by wagon train to settle in California. To-day, Cathey's Valley, east of San Jose, commemorates their settlement. Several years ago a Reunion was held there with Cathey relatives visiting from North Carolina, Arkansas, Washington, New Mexico, Oregon and Nevada.

James Beaty Mahaffie, a farmer of Rensselaer, Indiana, moved westwards with his wife Lucinda and five children to settle at Olathe in Kansas in 1857. Mahaffie purchased a farm north east of Olathe on the Santa Fe Trail the following year. By the end of the Civil War he had become the largest landowner in eastern Kansas. The Santa Fe Trail stagecoaches from Westport, Missouri, used the Mahaffie Farmstead as the first eating station for westbound passengers on their 700 mile trip to Santa Fe in New Mexico. Commencing in March 1863 this stagecoach stop was used until 1869/70 when the arrival of the railway at Olathe made it redundant. J.B. Mahaffie helped incorporate, and served as a director of, the Kansas Neosho Valley Railroad which came through Olathe.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Safe and Successful New Year

from Clan Commander Sandy, and Helen McPhie



CAPT. ALEXANDER (SANDY) McPHEE
S.S. "ATALANTA"



DAILY EXAMINER GRAFTON 24.2.1916.

S.S. "Atalanta" leaves foot of Prince St every morning at 7am, Sunday excepted for Copmanhurst arriving 10 O'clock leaving Copmanhurst at 12 noon for Grafton. Bread, Butter and Ice have always been delivered free to customers.

A.McPhee Master & Owner

• D.E. 11.3.1916.

Private D.B. McPhee brother of Capt. Alexander McPhee of the "Atalanta" returns to Enoggera on Monday. Since enlisting Private McPhee has had a period of serious illness in Queensland from which he is quite recovered.

• D.E. 23.3.1916

Copmanhurst to Yamba Next Saturday
 S.S. "Atalanta" leaves Copmanhurst at 11.30 on Saturday next 25th March and Grafton at 2.30 leaving Yamba for Grafton 5pm next day. Single Fare for return trip. A.McPhee Master & Owner.

• D.E. 29.3.1916

The "Atalanta" while on a return trip from Copmanhurst yesterday afternoon struck a rock damaging her hull and was beached at Moleville. The passengers were transported to the "13osker" and brought to Grafton. Capt. Alexander (Sandy) McPhee skipper.

• D.E. 8.12.1916. TRIP TO YAMBA

"Atalanta" leaves Copmanhurst at 11.30. Grafton 2.30. returning next evening. 3 shillings return from Grafton.

A.McPhee

• D.E. 23.12.1916 BOXING DAY

"Atalantall Excursion to Copmanhurst leaves Grafton at 7am four

hours stay. Single fare for return. A.McPhee

• D.E. 20.12.1916.

TRIP TO YAMBA NEW YEARS EVE

S.S. "Atalanta" leaves Copmanhurst at 11.30. Grafton 2.30 Return fare from Grafton 3 shillings.

Return Sunday or Monday for same fare. A.McPhee

D.E. 20.12.1916 NEW YEARS DAY

S.S. "Atalanta" leaves Grafton 7am for Copmanhurst. Four hours stay. Fare 2/6 return. A.McPhee

D.E. 3.1.1917. PASSENGER SERVICE TO COPMANHURST

S.S. "Atalanta" leaves foot of Prince St every morning at 7am, Sunday excepted for Copmanhurst arriving about 10 O'clock leaving Copmanhurst 12 noon for Grafton.

"Atalanta" open for charter any evening. A.McPhee Master & owner

• D.E. 26.1.1917 EXCURSION TO COPMANHURST

S.S. "Atalanta" leaves Grafton 7 this morning Anniversary Day for Copmanhurst. Four hour stay. Fare 2/6 A.McPhee

• D.E. 31.1.1917. EXCURSION TO YAMBA

S.S. "Atalanta" will leave Grafton at 2.30 for Yamba to-morrow (Saturday) after noon returning 3.30. Sunday. Fare 4/- return. A.McPhee Master & Owner.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscription notices are included in this Newsbulletin for this year and some reminders for those you have forgotten their 2000 subscription.

Please pay subscriptions promptly as it helps to get the Newsbulletins out to our members. Our Society does not pay GST, receipts will only be sent on request.

Please send subscriptions to :

Ian McPhee
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 Kidman Park SA 5025

Member's Profile

About me - Kaye Macphee V74-023



I was born and grew up in Sydney. I am the second child of Charles and Margaret Macphee, with my big brother Ian, I had a fairly idyllic and happy childhood, though being of a rather mischievous, rebellious nature, I was often in strife.

I left school when I was accepted into the Nursing School at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. It was a real culture shock coming from the safe cocoon of the North Shore to the slums of Sydney. I will always think of these years as being my growing up years, which shaped me into the person I am now.

After 35 years in many different fields, nursing and I parted company on health grounds and I have carved out a new career for myself I now work as a pension officer with my local R-S.L. liaising with the Dept. of Veteran Affairs We look after veterans from all theatres of war including U.N. peace keeping forces to get them justice of course.' The majority of our current customers are Vietnam Veterans and they seem to come to us from all over the country not just the state, so I guess the bush telegraph has been busy. My medical knowledge and skills are in constant use, so all is not wasted. The courses I have done (try 6 last 'year) keep the little grey cells ticking.

You will see by my number, that along with my father Charles (whom many of you will remember), I joined the Clan Society When Sandy first formed it. I have been brought up in the Scottish tradition with its history, literature, music art and retain a great love of our ancestor's land which I have visited many times, and all things to do with it.

I have been state vice president for Victoria for about 10 years and prior to that Sandy appointed me to the executive. I remain a director of Clan Macfie Associates with amongst other things is responsible for the maintenance of the Standing Stone on Colonsay. Through my father's friendship with Lord Strathcona and his efforts of those of Ulf Macfie Hagrman of Sweden there would be no Standing Stone. Lord Strathcona gave us the land and I don't think sufficient recognition has been given to their efforts. I hope I have given something back to the clan whose name I proudly bear. I have certainly met some great people whose friendship I value, though this is definitely my last term as Victorian President, so think hard my fellow Victorians about nominating for the position. It is not an arduous task but I have other things I wish to do with my life.

I have many interests and hobbies to pursue and have a busy social life. With one of my cousins, Barry Hopkins, I am gradually working on our family tree in general two military profiles in particular. One is of my uncle Edward McPhee who went to the first WWI and the other is of my aunt Jess McPhee who served with the British Army with Queen Alexandra's Nursing Services in WWII. I am currently waiting to collect her war service medals that she never bothered to collect.

Kaye Macphee

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