



# THE DOWNUNDER

news bulletin of the  
Macfie Clan Society of Australia

Issue 108  
November 2007

## President's Message

In what seems like the blink of an eye, another year has almost disappeared. It is again a pleasure to have the privilege of saying a few words in *The Downunder* about the year just ended.

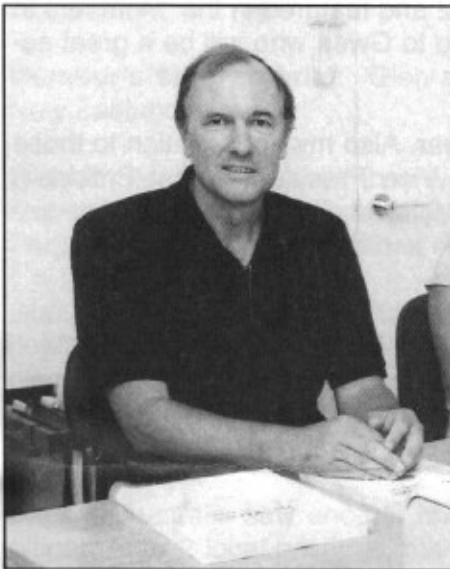
Over the past twelve months I have received numerous notes and letters from members. The majority express encouragement and best wishes, but some also raise matters of interest. All those communications, no matter what the form, are always welcome. To all those who have contacted me – thank you. Two members raised matters this year which are pertinent to many of us.

Firstly, Bruce McPhie from Melbourne, who has been a Society member for many years, drew attention to the fact that a great deal of important historical information is disposed of when someone passes away. The issue he raised should concern all those interested in history and genealogy. Bruce made the point that it was imperative that the owner of family photos, memorabilia and historical material should make arrangements to protect it while they have their faculties. This can prevent it being inadvertently disposed of by descendants etc who are unaware of its significance. I couldn't agree more.

Secondly, I had an email from Malcolm Threadgold who responded to a request in the July issue of our newsletter from NSW Vice President Morris McPhee to share information. Malcolm suggested a section of *The Downunder* be available to assist members with genealogical research and for putting members in touch with one another. The suggestion has great merit.

Genealogy is fundamental to the Society, and certainly I would like to see the Society's newsletter fully utilised in this area. Historian Trevor Phee also feels strongly about this. *The Downunder* has a 'general news' and 'genealogical section', either of which are ideal spaces for Malcolm's suggestion. I invite and encourage any member to write in with any requests for information, via the newsletter. Malcolm's request for information is on page 6.

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The Macfie Clan Society  
of Australia was  
founded at Richmond NSW  
in 1974.



ancestral home of  
Clan Macfie

In August, I was taken aback to learn that our ACT Vice President and *The Downunder* editor, Glen McPhee, was leaving us. Not leaving the Society, but leaving Australia. Glen and his wife Glenda have moved to New Zealand to be near their daughter Darlene and her family. Their departure is a big loss to our Society. For many years Glen has been on the Society's executive, edited and published *The Downunder*, and manned a tent with his wife at the Bundanoon Highland Gathering.

Glen's expertise in putting together our newsletter has been reflected in the high quality of its content and presentation. In addition, as an editor who was also not the president, he added a new dimension to it. Glen and Glenda have been inspirational in the work they have both done for the Society – a wonderful team effort. On a personal level I will not only miss Glen's input and assistance, but as a fellow piper, will miss seeing him at pipe band contests and Highland gatherings. As a tribute to Glen, he is featured in this issue's 'Members in Profile' section. To Glen and Glenda, all in the Society wish you well.

Glen's move to New Zealand meant our members in the ACT had no representative. It is an ill wind that blows no good and the good news is that Canberra resident Gwen Hubert stepped forward to take on the role of Vice President for the ACT. Gwen has been a member since 1962 and featured in the 'Members in Profile' section of the March issue of *The Downunder*. Congratulations go to Gwen who will be a great asset to the Society.

I would like to thank all members for supporting the Society again this year. Also my appreciation to those who have assisted me personally throughout the year – all the State Vice Presidents, Past President Bernie McPhee, fellow office bearers, in particular Geoff McPhee, Bob McPhee, Trevor Phee, and secretary Rosemary Szente. To all members I extend my best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas.

**Ian McPhee**



← 'The Oxford Companion to Scottish History' was presented to Glen as a going away gift. He is pictured here with Ian McPhee.

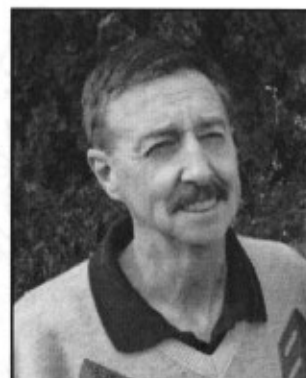


→ Glen and Glenda McPhee pictured in the backyard of their Canberra home a few days before their departure for New Zealand.

# MEMBERS IN PROFILE

## Farewell tribute to Glen McPhee

<b>ACT member:</b>	Glen Campbell McPhee (V77-357)
<b>Migrant ancestors:</b>	Donald McPhee & Jessie Cameron
<b>Occupation:</b>	Labourer in Scotland, farmer in Australia
<b>Home in Scotland:</b>	Lanark
<b>Emigrant ship:</b>	Departed Liverpool on the <i>Admiral Boxer</i>
<b>Arrived Australia:</b>	Adelaide, South Australia, August 1855
<b>Pioneer ancestors:</b>	Donald McPhee & Hanora Skipworth



**Member's story in brief:** Glen and Glenda McPhee have recently pulled up stumps and headed off to New Zealand to live.

Glen & Glenda met whilst they were in the RAAF serving at Brookvale NSW. They married in mid 1964 and travelled around Australia for over 20 years on postings to Richmond, Penrith (NSW), East Sale, Perth, Melbourne and Canberra.

Glen served in Vietnam in 1968-69. Following his return to Australia, he gained qualifications as a public health inspector. This provided Glen an opportunity to change direction in the RAAF and work as a hygiene inspector. In 1977-78 he served 6 months with the United Nations Emergency Force 11 (UNEF 11) whose job it was to monitor peacekeeping between Egyptian and Israeli forces. The public health work undertaken by Glen in Egypt was critical to the operation of the UNEF 11.

Back in Australia saw another change in direction. Glen joined the medical branch as an environmental officer. After 2 local postings, the family spent two years in Malaysia in 1984-86. During this time daughters Darlene and Kelly attended many schools across the country and Kelly also attended the RAAF School in Penang. After completing his Malaysian tour of duty, Glen was posted to Defence Headquarters in Canberra as the Senior Environmental Health Officer for the RAAF.

After leaving the RAAF in 1990, the family settled in the Canberra suburb of Evatt for 18 years. Glen worked for the CSIRO. Being keen Macfie Clan Society members, they produced the Macfie Clan Society news bulletin, with lots of help from members, for some 8 years. The ACT Clan Society members have hosted two very successful BGMs in the ACT. Glen and Glenda also attended BGMs in Brisbane, Adelaide, and Sydney. The annual Bundanoon Highland Gathering was always a great day to look forward to and with the help of Ruth and Geoff McPhee and lately Robyn and Morris McPhee, they enjoyed the outing and making new friends.

The most recent move, somewhat of a surprise, came in August this year when they announced the move to New Zealand. They resigned from their jobs and sold the house and cars. They are now living in Pukekohe, New Zealand, about 50 km from Auckland. Glen is working at the Auckland University of Technology and Glenda is working hard, settling into the new house and spending money.

Of course the main reason for the move, you may be wondering, is that their daughter Darlene and her family live close to Pukekohe. Darlene and Russell have two boys, Cameron and Daniel. Glen and Glenda's daughter Kelly moved to the UK 10 years ago on a two year working visa and has been there ever since. Kelly is currently a speech therapist working in Sheffield Hospital. Glenda and Glen spent some time with Kelly in Stirling and then Sheffield during a trip to Scotland in 2006 as part of the City of Queanbeyan Pipe Band's trip to the World Piping Championships in Glasgow.

The move to New Zealand is working out wonderfully, with opportunities to spend time with the grandchildren, explore the new country and watch the rain come tumbling down.



# GENERAL NEWS



## New Members

A warm welcome to the following 2 new members:

Kelly McPhee	(Z07-1055)	United Kingdom
David Cooze	(N07-1056)	Blackheath NSW

## Lost Touch

If you know how to contact any of the following members who have moved from their address listed below, kindly advise our president Ian McPhee:

Tanya A Burston	28 Railway Pde Baulkham Hills NSW
Heather Cork	PO Box 127 Barraba NSW
Eve Mason	2/4-6 Gladstone Pde Lindfield NSW
Neil McPhee	23 The Circle Jannali NSW
Gwen McPhie	2A Stomoway Rd Camberwell Vic
Ross McPhie	3 Grandview Road Box Hill Vic

## Donations

Many thanks to the following 6 members for their generous donations made to the Society and the Clan. Those donations received between the beginning of July and the end of October are an essential part of our funding and greatly appreciated.

Marion McPhee	Maroubra NSW
John A McPhee	Carseldine QLD
Alexander McPhie	Fairfield Gardens QLD
Colleen McAllister	Read Court SA
Roger Hughes	Beaconsfield VIC
Trevor McPhee	Wangara WA

## Around & About

We wish Sheila Cogan of Williamstown in Victoria a very happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday

South Australian Vice President Judy Moore is now back in Australia after a month's holiday in the United States and Canada.

Past President Bernie McPhee, together with brothers Mathew and Pat are having a couple of weeks away for a holiday. They are staying at Pearl Beach on beautiful Pittwater north of Sydney.

Sandy and Norah McPhee at Mt Vincent NSW, Clyde Smythe at Turrumurra NSW and Geoff McPhee from Lugarno NSW have had health problems recently. We wish them a speedy recovery and return to good health.

If anyone should wish to contact Glen and Glenda McPhee, their address in New Zealand is:

Postal: 4 Thomas Moore Place,  
Pukekohe 2120, New Zealand.  
Email: [glenmcphee@xtra.co.nz](mailto:glenmcphee@xtra.co.nz)

## Special Thanks

In many ways, *The Downunder* is the glue that binds the membership of our Society together. It is crucial to our success or otherwise.

Glen's personal experience and expertise in editing and publishing our newsletter could not be replaced, but the newsletter had to continue.

When it became necessary for me to take over Glen's role, I did not know where or how to start. Skills involving a new computer programme and scanning were just two hurdles to overcome.

Two friends - Annette Lutze & graphic artist Anna Blacka spent many hours at the computer helping me get started, and to eventually produce this newsletter. As president and on behalf of the Society a big thank you to them for their assistance.

## In Memoriam

Alvin Green	(Q93-807)	MacLean NSW
Margaret Mulherin	(V75-115)	Williamstown VIC
Kaye Macphee	(V74-023)	Noble Park VIC
Teresa McPhee	(VO5-1005)	Port Fairy VIC

## Aberdeen Highland Games

by treasurer Geoff McPhee

In early 2000 the main employer in Aberdeen, the meatworks, closed with the loss of about 400 jobs. To provide a lifeline for the town of some 1750 people, a committee created the Aberdeen Highland Games held on 1<sup>st</sup> July that year and on the first Saturday in July each year since. "Kirking The Tartan" completes the Games on Sunday morning.

Clan Macfie has been present every year, both as a Clan Tent and as the Scone Pipe Band, whose members are resplendent in Macfie Tartan.

I was born in Scone and have Camerons, Kennedys and McMullans among others as "Family". Because of my family links, Charles Cooke invited me to take a tent on behalf of Clan Macfie to the inaugural Games (Charles is a member of the committee) and has ensured that we had a spot at each succeeding gathering. Ruth and I have attended each year and have been ably abetted by Sandy and Norah McPhee and Trevor Phee as time would allow them. We have been joined by various local Clan members from time to time and have always tried to keep the Clan in good standing. In future years I will try to enlist my brother Bill as tent-partner, but will always welcome all members as helpers.

In 2007 we had a typical beautiful Highland type day – when the rain really started after lunch the only people visible were the competitors who carried on unperturbed. There was a good market for Inverness Capes.

We plan to be back in 2008 with an improved presentation and will again be promoting our Clan wherever possible.



Ruth McPhee at The Macfie Clan Society tent at the Aberdeen Highland Games.



Reserve Forces March. The NSW Scottish Regimental Association passing by Parliament House in Macquarie Street, Sydney on 1st July this year. At the front in the suit is Bill McPhee from Seaforth.

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## Can you Help?

### Family:

Malcolm MacPhee was born about 1785 in the Bracadale area of the Isle of Skye and married Margaret Morrison (daughter of Angus Morrison, wife unknown). Malcolm died before 1841 and his widow Margaret, with sons Archibald, Angus and Donald & their families – migrated to Australia in 1852 on the *Priscilla*. Their other sons Duncan and John plus his wife Mary (nee McLeod) and their son Donald migrated on the *Europa* earlier the same year. The families settled in Yan Yean, Victoria.

### Questions:

1. Does any member have information on Malcolm's ancestors, wife, death, burial, etc. or on Margaret McPhee and her son John – where they lived, their occupations, etc?
2. Does anyone know where the McPhee families of Yan Yean are buried?
3. Donald McPhee (grandson of Malcolm and Margaret MacPhee) and his wife Elizabeth (nee McLaughlin) lived around Seymour, Victoria – possibly the Ghin Ghin Rd area - during the 1800s. Three of their children were born there: Sarah in 1882, Angus in 1883 and Reginald Michael in 1886. Does anyone have information about the location of the family home, occupations, etc?
4. Does anyone know of a Donald McPhee of the Cameron Highlanders at the Battle of Waterloo and where he fits into the family?

Replies to: Malcolm Threadgold  
 PO Box 215 Black Rock Vic 3185  
 or email: [mthreadgold@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mthreadgold@optusnet.com.au)



# In Scotland Today

## Museum of Scottish Diaspora.

A proposal by Kenny MacAskill MSP for a Museum of Scottish Diaspora has been enhanced by his recently published book, co-authored with Henry McLeish, called "Wherever the Saltire Flies". The book summarises the journey MacAskill made in 2006 to visit and observe the nature and work of many Scottish Societies around the world. The proposed museum will record the history of Scottish communities worldwide, from the Scots' original travel from Scotland to the present day, and will recognise their achievements both individually and collectively. The book is available from Luath Press Ltd., 543/2 Castlehill, The Royal Mile, Edinburgh, EH1 2ND, Scotland, or on line at [www.luath.co.uk](http://www.luath.co.uk).

## Napier Report Online.

The report by the Royal Commission chaired by Lord Napier in 1883 entitled 'Conditions of Crofters and Cottars in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland' can be found on line at [www.highland-elibrary.com](http://www.highland-elibrary.com). Over 4,000 pages in length, the report resulted in the Crofting Reform Act of 1886 which stopped the Scottish "clearances" and gave crofters security of land tenure.

## National Anthem Anyone?

In a national poll in Scotland in 2006 for their "own" national anthem, "Flower of Scotland" was favourite with 41% of the votes, followed by "Scotland the Brave" at 29%. This probably was connected to "The Scotsman" newspaper poll which found 51% of Scots favoured independence for Scotland from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland which first formed in 1707. Since 1999, Scotland has had its own parliament and control over most of its internal affairs, but only 39% preferred the status quo in the above poll while the remaining 10% were undecided.

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## Hallowe'en

from Trevor Phee, chief historian

One of the few pagan - rooted traditions still observed today, Hallowe'en is derived from the ancient pagan festival of Samhain (pronounced Sah-win). With Christianity's rise in the pagan Celtic nations, the custom was adapted into a vigil for the feast of All Saints' Day (November 1) and observed on October 31, otherwise known as All Hallows' Eve. Thus the modern word, *Halloween*.

It was believed that on this night the veil that separates the world of mortals and the normally inaccessible "Otherworld" became thin or disappeared completely. This allowed the inhabitants of that dimension, spirits of the dead and the magical faeries (also known as the *sidhe*), to freely enter the world of the living.

On this perilous night, Celtic peoples of the British Isles lit bonfires to keep these malevolent spirit visitors at bay. But with the Celtic love of a good time, they also spent the evening enjoying a variety of sports and games. Fortune telling was also practised. Many people engaged in a custom that came to be known as "the guisers" - they would wear disguises resembling all manner of supernatural hosts, and masquerade around the villages to confuse the spirits, which evolved into the modern tradition of trick or treat.

On a more sombre note, the Festival of Samhain marked the end of summer and the beginning of the dark half of the year, winter. In fact, some sources indicate that the Celts began their year at this time, making November 1 a sort of New Year's Day. That they may have started the year with darkness lends credence to the theory that Celts also began their days at dusk, instead of dawn, leading Julius Caesar to call them "the people of the night".

It is amazing the number of people who think that Hallowe'en comes from America.

# Lachlan Macquarie

1762-1824

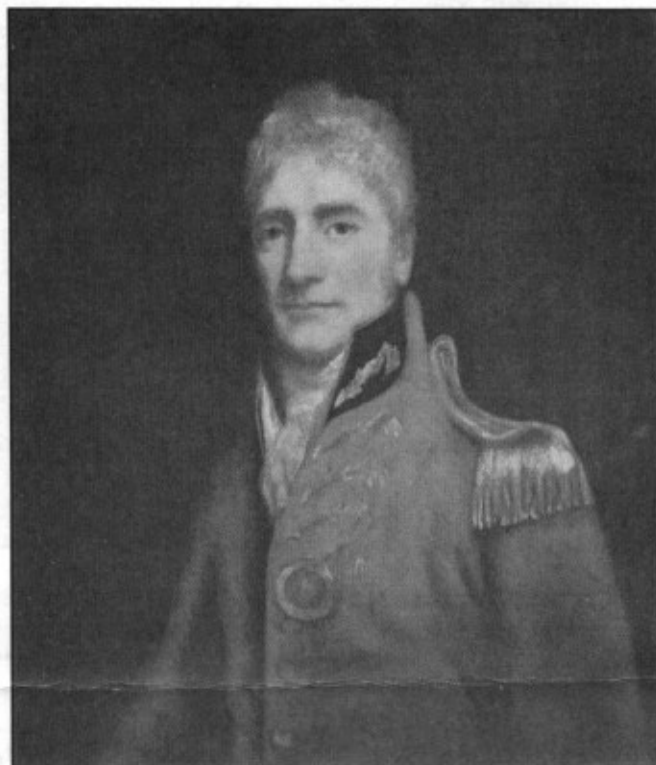
## 'The Father of Australia'

Lachlan Macquarie was born on Ulva, the small island a stone's throw from the larger island of Mull.

At the age of 14 he volunteered for military service and was with Highland regiments in America, Jamaica, India and Egypt. In 1807, as a lieutenant-colonel, he returned to England from India, overland through Persia and Russia.

In 1809 Macquarie was ordered to leave with the 73rd Regiment under Major-General Miles Nightingale for the colony of NSW to replace the discredited New South Wales Corps. Before sailing Nightingale resigned and Macquarie was appointed governor elect.

Macquarie, with his second wife Elizabeth, arrived in Sydney in December 1809 and was sworn in as governor on 1st January 1810.



Macquarie at once set about reconstructing the neglected and demoralised colony that Governor Bligh had left. He set new standards of paternal government. He controlled alcoholism and prostitution. He closed many public houses, enforced religious attendance, founded schools, fostered the work of religious and charitable institutions and promoted community gatherings such as fairs and horse races.

Macquarie actively encouraged exploration and by the end of his administration the frontiers extended 200 km inland. Realising the importance of opening up new agricultural land, he organised the construction of roads and highways to outlying areas as they were opened up. In 1815 he crossed the Blue Mountains on the newly constructed road, choosing the site of Bathurst. He selected and laid out several towns, naming Windsor and Richmond and founding Wilberforce, Pitt Town and Castlereagh as market centres for the Hawkesbury district. Today, the five towns bearing those names are known as 'Macquarie Towns'.

Amongst administrative changes he established the colony's first coin currency and in 1817 helped found the Bank of New South Wales. Macquarie also carried out an ambitious public works programme with the assistance of ex-convict Francis Greenway, commissioning more than 250 public buildings, including churches and hospitals.

Macquarie's belief that ex-convicts, or emancipists, should re-enter society and freely participate in the affairs of the colony attracted disapproval and often hostility from many free settlers and military officers. Influential citizens, including Samuel Marsden and judges Ellis and Jeffrey Bent, refused to co-operate in the appointment of emancipists to public office. Macquarie's kindness towards the ex-convict population and liberal attitude towards the aboriginal population did not endear him to his contemporaries.



He acted humanely and with some foresight towards aborigines. Organising a school for aboriginal children called the Native Institution, a village at Elizabeth Bay for the Sydney aboriginal tribe and an aboriginal farm at George's Head were among some of his initiatives. Regrettably the local aborigines were ungrateful and became hostile, forcing Macquarie to drive them out.

Governor Macquarie's wife, Elizabeth Campbell Macquarie (1778-1835), was a remarkable woman. She often accompanied him on his trips through the colony. Apparently on some of those trips she used to give away iris bulbs, brought from her native Scotland, to settlers she met. Elizabeth was a refined woman who loved nature, especially plants. She took a practical interest in agriculture and supported her husband's emancipist policies and public works. Among the geographical features named in her honour is Mrs Macquarie's Chair, a stone seat overlooking Sydney harbour from The Domain.

Macquarie was a fine example of that breed of Scottish administrator that helped build the British Empire. He was an outstanding leader who unfairly incurred the wrath of his superiors in the home government. He was accused of extravagance and leniency. In 1817, Commissioner J T Bigge arrived in Sydney to enquire into the affairs of the colony.

Lachlan Macquarie resigned in 1820 and was replaced by Sir Thomas Brisbane. Thanks to the biased Biggs report, which took an unfavourable view of Macquarie's emancipist policy and 'absurd' public works, by the time he returned to England in 1822, his reputation was badly tarnished .

Back in England, Lachlan and his wife Elizabeth retired to Scotland, settling at Gruline on the Isle of Mull. Despite a life of service and achievement, former Governor Macquarie retired in poor circumstances and without a government pension. He died on a visit to London and his body was returned to Mull for burial.

It is not surprising Governor Macquarie is referred to as 'The Father of Australia'. He is honoured and remembered for the outstanding contribution he made in transforming the country from an iniquitous gaol into a thriving colony, and Sydney from a shanty settlement into a fine city. In addition, he was the longest serving colonial governor.

Sources: Lachlan Macquarie His Life, Adventures and Times by M. H. Ellis second edition; Collins Encyclopaedia of Scotland edited by John Keay and Julia Keay; The New Australia New Zealand Encyclopedia published by Bay Books.



The Macquarie Mausoleum at Gruline on the Isle of Mull

# GENEALOGY

## Historian's Report

from Trevor Phee

Given the success of our book *'McPhees From Scotland To Australia'*, I am going to put together another book which will follow on from the shipping book. This next book will tell what happened to the families that stepped off the ships which arrived in the 1800's.

There are over 100 families documented in regard to Scottish families arriving in Australia in the 1800's and a lot of information will be drawn from these files. However, I would like Clan members to get involved in this project by putting down what they would like to have documented in this upcoming publication.

There are photos of some of our early McPhees, but not a lot. For those who may have photos of their ancestors and who have not already sent a copy to me, I would appreciate if you could indeed send one with as much information of the person and family associated with said photo.

In regard to another publication that I am working on, *'The Fighting McPhees from Culloden to Vietnam'*. A number of members have sent me photos and information on their family members who were in the military, but I know there are a number of members who I have made contact with who have not replied to me either, to say they will or will not contribute to this project.

There are members whom I have not made contact with who I know had serving family members in the military, but who have not contributed to this publication. To date there are over 110 typed pages in this regard plus numerous photos.

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## Update on Family Research

To many, genealogy – the tracing of pedigree, is a significant reason for being involved with in our Society. Genealogy is a quest being undertaken by thousands of Australians. According to their president Malcolm Saintly, The Society of Australian Genealogists alone has 6000 members.

A recent newspaper article by David Humphries features professional family researcher Jan Worthington. It draws the reader's attention to some interesting aspects about genealogy. The following extract makes interesting reading for family history buffs.

"Today, document searches are made far easier by the internet and websites that can contain billions of entries – from births, deaths and marriages, to war service, to shipping records, to cemetery records and so on. There are pitfalls though ....The user doesn't know how accurate the stuff on the internet is, nor, importantly, what's missing from the internet.

There is one pitfall of internet research. Global attempts to suck up all detail, to index and catalogue it, and to digitise each record, have met resistance for reasons that range from intellectual property argument and disputes over compensation, to jealousy and interdenominational suspicion.

For instance, in the middle of the last century the Mormons started filming English parish registers of baptisms, marriages and burials – which can go back to 1538 – so they could baptise ancestors into their faith.

What's there is pretty accurate, but a lot of churches in England didn't like the idea and refused to have their records filmed by the Mormons, Saintly says. 'So there are big holes in it, and that can lead to big errors.'

Digitising records – and feeding what the University of Sydney's Dean of Arts, Professor Stephen Garton, calls democratisation of knowledge, is expensive and time consuming.

Consider, for instance, the challenges of digitising (photographing or scanning into a digital, retrieving image) the documents State Records has at its Kingswood archives in western Sydney.

'If the cartons of records were put side by side, they'd stretch for 60 kilometres,' says its manager of public access, Christine Yates. 'Seventy-five per cent of our clients – 20,000 of them – are doing family histories,' she says of the agency's Rocks and Kingswood reading rooms.

If records could be digitised externally, with State Records keeping a master copy for security, access would dramatically improve, says Yeats, who says State Records has negotiated with Ancestry.com, a non-Mormon website in Utah with more than 5 billion records online. Ancestry.com arrived in Australia about a year ago and has been buying access to records at a hectic pace.

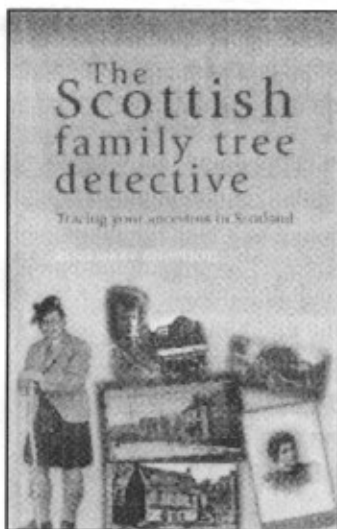
Garton foresees Australia missing the boat, because universal access to the 'cultural riches of our institutions' has been done on the cheap, with technical inadequacies...."

Source: Sydney Morning Herald 22-23 Sept 2007

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## The Scottish Family Tree Detective

by R. Bigwood



Some good news for genealogists.

Compiling the family tree and researching family history has some tough challenges for people with Scottish ancestry. Australians determined to explore their past need all the help they can get. Here is a new book which may offer some assistance. For those who have already been down this path, this is a book many would have loved to have been able to buy.

The author has followed in the footsteps of Dr Colin Rogers (*The Family Tree Detective ...*), and has written a most usefully detailed and precisely instructive guide to Scottish research. On page 2 she explains the organisation of the book into five sections, all well detailed in the contents pages and easily followed, so that the reader can go from Scottish problems – language and handwriting – to 'heritors', 'probative writs' and 'sasines' at a glance. This simplicity is matched by the index, making the book easily accessible to all despite any unfamiliarity with the terminology used.

In simple explanatory, interrogative language with many useful bibliographical references and a clearly sequenced layout, the author has provided genealogists with an impressive array of information which will be most welcome. The appendices will be a great help to those looking for legal and archival records also.

*The Scottish Family Tree Detective, Tracing Your Ancestors in Scotland*, by R Bigwood, M.UP. Manchester, UK, 2006. The book is a 292 page paperback, with index and bibliography. It is available from Footprint Books and costs \$38.95.

Source: Society of Australian Genealogists Sept 2007



## Obituaries

### **Ailsa Kaye Macphee (V74-023)**

Known as Kaye, was born in Sydney NSW. just after the end of World War II and trained as a nurse at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Both Kaye and her father, Charles, were "original members" of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia, being two of the 24 "Macfies" who formed the Clan Society in 1974. Kaye moved to Melbourne in 1975 with her father. She served as an "invited" member of the Clan Society Executive from 1988 to 1991 and then as Vice President in Victoria from 1992 to 2002.

Kaye and husband Graham Powell lived in Scotland for most of 1991 before Kaye returned to Australia. Always an ardent worker for and supporter of Clan Macfie and The Macfie Clan Society of Australia, Kaye had diminishing involvement of Clan affairs in her latter years due to ill health. During recent years she worked as a nurse and counsellor with veterans of the Vietnam War. She will be missed by her brother Ian McPhee, his wife Julie, and son Scobie. She died in Melbourne on 21st August this year.

### **Teresa McPhee (V05-1005)**

Teresa died on 18th October, 2007. She lived most of her married life with her husband Don at the McPhee property at Dunkeld, a farm which had been in the McPhee family since the 1850s. Don and Teresa moved to Port Fairy Victoria in retirement some 8 years ago. She is survived by her sisters Ursula and Dorrie and sister-in-law Jean McPhee. Don and Teresa joined the Society about 3 years ago.



### **Margaret G Mulherin (V75-115) 1933 – 2007**

Margaret Genevieve Mulherin, known as Maggie, was the only child of Keith and Viva McPhee.

Maggie was raised in the eastern Melbourne suburb of Deepdene. She spent 13 years at Fintona private school between 1938 and 1950, and continued her studies at Melbourne University where she did an arts degree.

After completing university, Maggie headed off to England to study, work and travel. For a period she was a governess in Rome. After missing a passage home from England with her parents, they provided Maggie with a first class ticket on the *Oronsay*.

On the *Oronsay*, Maggie met a highly decorated Canadian soldier, Herbert William Mulherin, known as William. He was heading to Australia to attend the Commonwealth Staff College at Queenscliff. Back in Australia Maggie and William married at the McPhees' home

church in Deepdene, with plenty of fanfare, a guard of honour and McPhee tartan. A honeymoon followed en route to a life in the military in Canada.

There were various postings in Canada before Soest in Germany, where Maggie's son Chris was born. Back at Picton, Ontario, Maggie's daughter Pam was born and also her second son, Peter. Eighteen months after Peter's birth, Maggie lost her husband. At 33 she was a widow with 3 young children. Maggie and the children returned to Melbourne to be near family and friends.

Back in Melbourne, Maggie settled at Irilbarra Rd Canterbury where she resumed teaching on a part time basis and raised her family. Maggie was a gracious, highly articulate, fun loving adventurer who enjoyed travel, books, theatre and the arts. She had an uncompromising commitment to her children.

About 4 years ago Maggie moved to Williamstown in Melbourne where she was involved with bridge, book club, art classes, the church, Italian lessons and keep fit classes. Maggie had been a member of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia for over 30 years. She was Vice President in Victoria from 2002 - 2006.

# Clan Macfie News No 49

FROM: CLAN COMMANDER A C (SANDY) MCPHIE

## 16<sup>th</sup> GATHERING REPORT



Our cousins in Sweden did us proud in hosting the 16<sup>th</sup> International Gathering of Clan Macfie in early July. With some 150 or more in attendance during the four days of the Gathering, those there had a busy and most enjoyable time. A full programme of activities was arranged by the host Clan Society, the Thorburn-Macfie Family Society of Sweden, and ran in conjunction with that Society's regular Triennial Family Reunion. International visitors came from Scotland, Ireland, New Zealand, U.S.A. and Holland to join with their Swedish cousins for the celebrations. Regrettably, due to circumstances beyond their control, Clan Commander Sandy McPhie and wife, Helen, were unable to travel to Sweden from their home in Townsville, Queensland. The Clan Commander was represented at the Gathering by Iain McFie Esq., Commissioner for Clan Macfie in Scotland. Guests at the Clan Gathering were welcomed by Mr. Arne Wallin, President of the Thorburn-Macfie Family Society and Ulf Macfie Hagman Esq., Commissioner for Clan Macfie in Sweden. Mr. Christer Hemberg was the Society's co-ordinator for the Gathering and Clan Macfie is in debt to all of them for a most successful event.

The Gathering, centred on the Gustafsberg Badrestaurant in Uddevalla, had the usual Welcome, Registration and Get-together on the first day, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July, followed by a bus tour, luncheon and evening ceilidh the next day. On Saturday, the Clan Society held their family reunion with a guided tour of the local area, a Clan Luncheon at midday and Society Meeting in the afternoon. In the evening members gathered at the old hunting lodge, "Trollgild", for an evening of relaxation. On Sunday, the final day, Clan Society members took their overseas visitors to a number of places of local interest. Some rainy weather and washouts on the main road from Copenhagen to Uddevalla did not cause undue problems for those attending the most enjoyable weekend of celebrations. Formed in 1937, the Thorburn-Macfie Family Society commemorates the arrival in Sweden in 1823 of William Thorburn and his wife Jessie Macfie from Scotland. Their descendants prospered and very much remained in Sweden to form this strong group of "locals" acknowledging their Scottish roots. Although Thorburn is the dominate surname line within the Family Society, several other Macfies came to Sweden in the early days and their descendants remain today, all being proud of their Scottish Heritage. In 1992, Clan Commander Sandy McPhie and wife, Helen, were guests at the Thorburn-Macfie Family Society Reunion in Uddevalla and thoroughly enjoyed their visit. Following discussions at that time, the Clan Commander in 1995 executed a "Deed of Acceptance" in favour of descendants of William Thorburn and Jessie Macfie as Members of Clan Macfie should they wish to be so recognised.

# OTHER ORGANISATIONS: NO 3

by Ian McPhee

## The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Incorporated



In this series of 'Other Organisations', Scottish umbrella groups in NSW, Victoria and South Australia have been discussed. It is now the turn for sunny Queensland. Unlike the three south-eastern states just mentioned, it seems Queensland does not have a single or dominant body primarily responsible for co-ordinating Scottish activities throughout the state or liaising with government.

I have not been able to obtain much in the way of background information about The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Incorporated. Unfortunately the group's secretariat could not provide any details about who was responsible for its formation or how its incorporation came about. I have been advised however, they held their inaugural meeting in October 1994.

The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Incorporated has aims consistent with representative groups in other states. As their secretary Margaret Campbell advises, they are a 'non-profit, non-sectarian group, simply promoting the culture of our Scottish forebears'. They are a socially orientated group and Margaret refers to them as a club. The current membership application form lists the following three aims:

1. To promote the involvement of those with Scottish Heritage and to promote and maintain Scots culture and heritage in Australia.
2. To strengthen links between those of Scottish heritage within Australia and worldwide.
3. To establish links with kindred organisations and to organise and promote festivals of Scottish nature for the benefit of the entire community.

Perhaps best known for promoting International Tartan Day, The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc organises and runs Tartan Day in Brisbane. This gathering is held on the first Sunday in July each year, at the South Bank Cultural Forecourt. It is a free day for the public, with a non-stop programme commencing at 9.00am and finishing at 4.30pm. Like other Scottish gatherings, the day features pipe bands, Highland dancing, Scottish country dancing, re-enactment groups and numerous stalls. This year over 12,000 people visited the event. Tartan Day costs the organisers about \$21,000 and they raise the majority of the funds themselves with little assistance from outside sources.

The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Incorporated has monthly meetings (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month) at the Toowong Community Centre, 27 Josling Street, Toowong. The management committee meets on the second Monday of each month to conduct the club's affairs, which gives members an opportunity to socialise when they gather for the Sunday meeting. A sausage sizzle is held prior to the Sunday meeting, which commences at 11.00am, and later, Scottish music or videos are played or topics of interest discussed. In addition to meetings, a newsletter called Aussie-Scots News is put out every two months. About 180 copies are sent to members and others.

There are 100 members, composed of about 90 individuals and 10 organisational members that make up The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Incorporated. Annual membership for individuals and organisations costs \$16.50. Organisations such as clan societies and pipe bands are only permitted as associate members, and as such, have no voting rights. The Macfie Clan Society of Australia is not a member of this body, but our Society's Vice President Bob McPhee is a member.



# SOCIETY OFFICE BEARERS

<b>President*</b>	Ian McPhee	PO Box 237 Brookvale NSW 2100	02 9938 2550
<b>Vice President*</b>	Bob McPhee	PO Box 31 Deepwater NSW 2371	02 6734 6202
<b>QLD VP*</b>	Susan Spinks	Chertsey M/S 212 Oakey QLD 4401	07 4691 6206
<b>NSW VP*</b>	Morris McPhee	24 Cobran Road Cheltenham NSW 2119	02 9868 1521
<b>ACT VP*</b>	Gwen Hubert	8 Trumble St Pearce ACT 2607	02 62861058
<b>VIC VP*</b>	Vacant		
<b>SA VP*</b>	Judith Moore	34 Lakeside Cres Highbury SA 5089	08 8264 1739
<b>TAS VP*</b>	Bertul Sundstrup	1337 Pipers Brook Rd Pipers Brook TAS 7254	03 6382 7222
<b>WA VP*</b>	Jillian King	PO box 3320 Joondalup WA 6027	08 94054884
<b>Treasurer*</b>	Geoff McPhee	43 Cedar Street Lugarno NSW 2210	02 95334195
<b>Clan Commander*</b>	A (Sandy) McPhie	76 Lindeman Ave Heatley QLD 4814	07 47796328
<b>Clan Commissioner*</b>	A (Sandy) McPhee	49 Rodney Rd Mt Vincent NSW 2323	02 49380350
<b>Secretary</b>	Rosemary Szente	3/26 Seaview Ave Newport NSW 2106	02 9997 6082
<b>Chief Historian</b>	Trevor Phee	24 Bibby Street Hamilton NSW 2303 t.phee@bigpond.com	02 4962 2672
<b>Historian</b>	Norah McPhee	49 Rodney Rd Mt Vincent NSW 2323	02 4938 0350
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<b>Historian</b>	Jan Harper	62 Relowe Cres Box Hill VIC 3129	03 9890 5834
<b>Historian</b>	Helen McPhie	76 Lindeman Ave Heatley QLD 4814	07 4779 6328
<b>Society Piper</b>	Bob McPhee	PO Box 31 Deepwater NSW 2371	02 6734 6202

\* Denotes Macfie Clan Society of Australia Executive  
Clan Macfie web site: [www.clanmacfiehomepage.org](http://www.clanmacfiehomepage.org)

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## Disclaimer

As the newsletter of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia, The Downunder is produced solely for the information and enjoyment of the Society's members. It has been compiled with due care and in good faith from a variety of sources. Any views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the executive or members of the Society .

# SCOTTISH EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Date	Event	Location	Contact
<b>ACT &amp; NSW</b>			
4-5/11/07	Pipe band contest/gathering	Castle Hill	Glenda Mason 98239450
18/11/07	Macfie Clan Scty Church service	Scots Church Sydney	Morris McPhee 98681521
25/11/07	Scottish Wk celebrations	Hyde Park 12-3.30pm	Morris McPhee 98681521
26/11/07	Scottish Wk heraldic display etc	Martin Place 12.00 noon	David Campbell 95223631
30/11/07	Scottish Aust. Cairn inspection	Mosman 6.30pm	David Campbell 95223631
20/12/07	Neil Morrison extravaganza	Sydney	92206100
24/2/08	Pipe band contest/gathering	Moss Vale	Ian McPhee 99382550
<b>Queensland</b>			
1/1/08	Scottish gathering	Nambour	Peter Keddie 54918436
27/1/08	Clans Congress Burns Supper	171 Elizabeth St Brisbane	0412 166260
<b>South Australia</b>			
24/11/07	St Andrew's Day celebrations	Port Adelaide	Judith Moore 82641739
17/2/08	Mt Barker gathering	Mt Barker	Judith Moore 82641739
<b>Tasmania &amp; Victoria</b>			
10/11/07	Celtic Festival	Beechworth	Pheona Donaldson 57282225
18/11/07	Macfie Clan Scty church service	Melbourne	Bernie McPhee 95039907
1/12/07	Highland gathering	Daylesford	Paula Wheeler 53481793
1/1/08	Highland gathering	Maryborough	Max Martin 54611904
10/2/08	Highland gathering	Berwick	Marg Johnston 98700980
16/3/08	Highland gathering	Geelong	02 53434276
23/3/08	Pipe band contest/gathering	Jubilee Park Ringwood	Sue McLeod 98764140
<b>Western Australia</b>			

## Diary

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia Biennial meeting: Toowoomba Qld, 24-25/5/2008

### Historical Anniversaries

Friday	30/11/2007	St Andrew's Day
Monday	31/12/2007	Hogmanay
Friday	25/1/2008	Robert Burns' Birthday
Tuesday	1/1/2008	Lachlan Macquarie's birthday