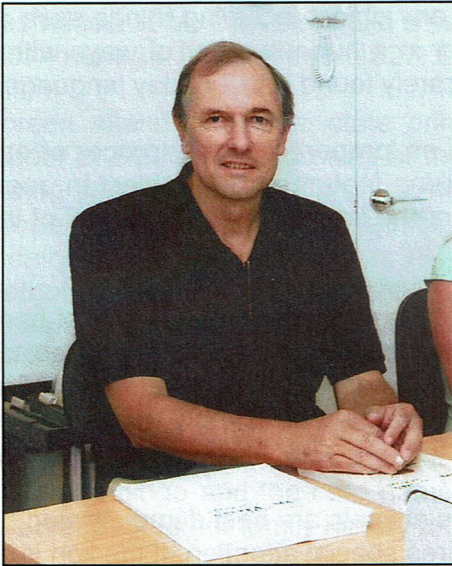




THE DOWNUNDER

news bulletin of the
Macfie Clan Society of Australia

Issue 116
July 2010



President's Message

When writing anything in *The Downunder*, I can always be assured it is perused with a keen eye by our former President, former Clan Commander and current Clan Commissioner Sandy McPhie from Toowoomba.

Some good feedback was received about the article in the last issue of *The Downunder* titled "Clan Name Research". That article asserted in part that no comprehensive mail outs had been conducted to attract new members. It drew a swift response from Sandy.

Sandy pointed out that 'two mailings in the 1970s were done without the use of computers or printers'. Referring to the early days soon after the Society was formed Sandy stated: 'The initial mailing brought a very welcome response with some 300 new members joining, the follow up a few years later was hardly worth the effort.' I always appreciate Sandy's input and thank him for drawing attention to my oversight. Mind you it's been a long time between drinks, as those two mail outs were done about 30 years ago, you could say a generation ago!

That article also drew a wonderful response from Cecil Kirby of Brassall in Queensland, for which I thank him. Cecil was kind enough to send in a list of all the Mahaffey's and Mahaffy's in the 2010 Brisbane White Pages Directory. Contributions like Cecil's are always greatly appreciated and put to good use.

The 2010 BGM held in Sydney was a successful and most enjoyable event. See page 6 for a summary of the meeting on the Saturday and the Sunday church service, and BBQ hosted by Geoff and Ruth McPhee.

It wasn't deliberate or the intention to dwell on a morbid subject, but this issue of the newsletter has more than one article where death features prominently. There is also more than one article about the historical files and artefacts held privately in Scotland. It is incredible how much of that country's

continued page 2

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



ancestral home of
Clan Macfie

Over the past few months the Society has been represented in Sydney on Anzac Day and at the Benson noon Highland Gathering by NSW Vice President Morris McPhee and his wife Robyn. Geoff and Ruth McPhee, as they have done previously, manned a Macfie Clan tent at the Aberdeen Gathering.

Ian McPhee

.....

Heraldic Animals

Heraldic animals are referred to as a 'charge'. Perhaps the best known is the lion, which features on the royal flag of Scotland as a 'lion rampant'. Any animal, indeed almost any object including things such as unicorns can be used on a coat of arms. Heraldic images can appear in a huge number of ways with a wide variety of terms used to describe them. Many of those terms are rarely found in every day language.

When animals are depicted in their natural colours they are described as 'proper'. Whether proper or otherwise, heraldic images are usually shown emphasising the most striking features of the object in question. Like a cartoonist, the heraldic artist tries to bring out the ferocity of the lion or the 'oakishness' of the oak-tree so that the shield on which it appears is instantly recognisable.

It is the rule in heraldry that every object which is not facing the front (*affronte*) is shown on the right hand side i.e. facing dexter. If however, the left hand side is shown i.e. facing sinister, then it is termed 'contourne' or contrary, and that fact must be stated in the description of the arms. If two creatures are facing each other and of fierce nature they are termed *combatant*, otherwise they are simply referred to as *respectful*.

Some of the most common positions occupied by the bodies of heraldic animals are best demonstrated by the lion in the images below. Unless it is facing forward, the head requires special attention. If the lion is full faced it is *guardant* but if turned backwards it is *regardant*. Whenever part of an animal appears, the description must state how much of it is shown and whether it is cut with a clean line i.e. couped or jagged line. (Ref: The Science of Heraldry, T. I Leary)



lion rampant



lion passant



lion sejant



lion stantant



lion couchant



lion passant regardant



lion sejant guardian erect



two lions rampant combatant

MEMBERS IN PROFILE

QLD member: Doreen Gordon (Q82-512)

Migrant forebears: Donald & Catherine (nee Cameron) McPhee
Occupation: gardener in Scotland
Home in Scotland: Strontian, Loch Sunart, Ardnamurchan
Emigrant ship: Departed Tobermorey, on the Brilliant
Arrived Australia: Sydney Harbour NSW 1838
Pioneer forebears: Hugh McPhee mar. 1st cousin Mary McPhee



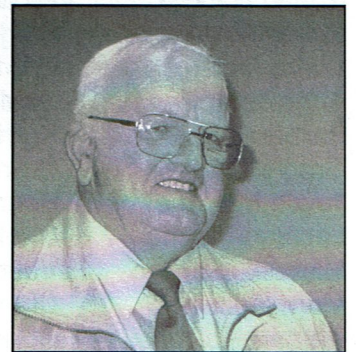
Member's story in brief: Born in 1926, Doreen is a descendant of the Clarence River McPhees. The daughter of Edward and Olive (nee Gibson), she was raised at Mt Gravatt in Qld where her father had a 15 acre farm and grew pineapples. She grew up with 4 siblings; Duncan born 1927, Olive 1929, Edward 1934 and Leslie 1939.

Doreen attended several state primary schools including Currumbin and Tallebudgera before leaving school at 14. Her first job was at the Diamantina Hospital (now Princess Alexandra Hospital) as a maid. During WW 2, aged 16, Doreen joined the air cadet corps for 2 years, after which she returned to work for her parents who were share farming a dairy farm at Pimpama. From there she moved with her parents to a dairy farm at Beaudesert. In 1946, Doreen married farm worker William Gordon at the Holland Park Methodist Church. Their only child Annette was born in 1948. For 34 years Doreen worked at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in the laundry as a supervisor. Her husband worked for W D & H O Wills for 20 years before passing away in 1981. Sadly, Doreen's daughter Annette Moore who did not have any children, died in 2004 .

At 84, Doreen is active and continues to live in her own home. She is a member of 2 seniors' clubs where she plays bingo and the card game hoy. She participates in day trips every month, is a keen gardener, has researched her family history and enjoys her membership of the Macfie Clan Society.

NSW member: David McAfee (N08-1061)

Migrant forebears: Samuel & Elizabeth McAfee
Home in N. Ireland: Cookstown, capital of County Tyrone
Emigrant ship: Orient line ship the Asturias
Arrived Australia: 5th March 1949



Member's story in brief: Samuel & Elizabeth's son David was born in 1938 and lived in Cookstown (near Belfast) Northern Ireland. His siblings were Elizabeth, born 1937 (dec. 1937) and Thomas 1943 (dec. 2000). His father was an agent in Cookstown for Esso Petroleum.

The McAfees were sponsored by a cousin as '£10 migrants'. On arrival they lived with their cousin & her husband for a year in a 1 bedroom house at Guildford in Sydney. There David slept on a verandah & became acquainted with mosquitoes. After renting briefly, the family lived at the Riverwood Housing Commission Camp until a permanent commission home was found for them. They rented and then purchased the Jannali residence from the Housing Commission. David attended Canterbury Boys High School and was in the same year as former Prime Minister John Howard. After leaving school he worked as a clerk & salesman, before joining the NSW Police Force in 1959. In 1962 he married Janne Robertson at St. Jame's C. of E. Wyong and soon after they had a home built at West Como. They raised 2 children there, Andrew born in 1967 & Susan in 1969. Discharged after 29 years with the police force as medically unfit, David set up his own business as a private enquiry agent which he ran for 15 years until retiring in 2004.

Now divorced, David is a self-funded retiree. In addition to his children and 4 grandchildren, his main interests revolve around the Sutherland branch of the Sing Australia Choir and Gynea Probus Club.

GENERAL NEWS



New Members

A warm welcome to the following new members:

V10-1078	Brendon Cathie	VIC
Z10-1079	Erina Wood	NZ
N10-1080	Andrew McAfee	NSW
Q10-1081	Paul Roberts	QLD
N10-1082	Martyn Roberts	NSW

Donations

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

Robyn Hancox	Wollstonecraft	NSW
Russell Mattocks	Balgowlah	NSW
Claire McGuffie	Drummoyne	NSW
Andrew McPhee	Baulkham Hills	NSW
Barbara McPhee	Kurri Kurri	NSW
Greg McPhee	Urunga	NSW
Joyce McPhee	Bonnells Bay	NSW
Lachlan McPhee	Cheltenham	NSW
Michael McPhee	Vaucluse	NSW
Morris McPhee	Cheltenham	NSW
Nathan McPhee	Cooranbong	NSW
Ross McPhee	West Pymble	NSW
Trish McPhee	Seaforth	NSW
Stuart McWilliam	Moree	NSW
Martyn Roberts	Moree	NSW
Rosemary Owens	Warners Bay	NSW
Linda Waddington	Belmore South	NSW
Gwen Duff	Tewantin	QLD
Mary Goodall	Plainland	QLD
Heather Knowles	Albany Creek	QLD
Donald Knowles	Yeppoon	QLD
Dorothy McPhee	Bell	QLD
Dr Ewen McPhee	Emerald	QLD
Keven McPhee	Port Douglas	QLD
Lorraine McPhee	Toowoomba	QLD
Marie-I McPhee	Sinnamon Park	QLD

donations continued

Helen McPhee	Eagle Hts	QLD
Helen Rice	Buderim	QLD
Alison Siddins	Goondiwindi	QLD
Ann Leask	McLaren Vale	SA
Ian McPhee	Kidman Park	SA
Marlena Turner	Ulverstone	TAS
Nancy Collie	Bentleigh East	VIC
Anthony Gartland	Box Hill Sth	VIC
Beverley Knowles	Balwyn	VIC
John McPhee	Doncaster East	VIC
Keith McPhee	Glen Waverley	VIC
Fr. Mathew McPhee	Middle Park	VIC
Simon McPhee	Narre Warren	VIC
Donald McPhee	Nilma North	VIC
Hadyn McPhee	Mirboo North	VIC
Ross McPhee	St Kilda	VIC
Julie Peters	Port Melbourne	VIC
Dene Rutledge	Doncaster East	VIC
Norma Dunn	Dunsborough	WA
Trevor McPhee	Wangara	WA
Bruce McFee	Singapore	

Get Well Wishes

Ruth McPhee, wife of Society Treasurer Geoff McPhee has recently undergone a hip replacement operation. The operation was successful and Ruth is recovering well.

Clan Society Piper Bob McPhee's wife is recovering from a long illness. We all wish her well.

Rosemary Szente's mother and former member is recuperating after a mild heart attack.

Every Dog Has its Day!

In the July 2009 issue of The Downunder, NSW Vice President Morris McPhee was pictured outside the Macfie Clan tent at Bundanoon with a deerhound. Its owner, a member of the Campbell Clan, was a little peeved because the dog's name, Archie Campbell, was not provided with the photo. The omission is regrettable. How the dog felt about it remains unknown.

In Memoriam

It is with sadness we report the passing of life member Norah McPhee's sister, Molly Pickering. Molly had lived with Sandy & Norah McPhee at Mt Vincent for the 25 years she lived in Australia.

Poetry Competition

from Bob McPhee, Deepwater NSW

Society Piper Bob McPhee wears another hat as chairman of the Northern Tablelands Irish Association, an organisation he founded. As he did for the Macfie Clan Society some years ago, Bob has organised a bush poetry competition. After a 'poets breakfast' at the Blue Belle Cafe, the event was held at the Commercial Hotel in Deepwater. Prize money totalled \$1,000.00 - 1st prize \$700.00, 2nd prize \$200.00 and 3rd prize \$100.00. The event was given front page coverage by the Glen Innes Examiner in their issue of 30th March, a slightly edited version of which is reproduced below:

'The first annual Deepwater Bush Poetry competition was heldwith an appearance by special guest Federal Member for New England Tony Windsor. The theme was Celtic and Chinese Tin Miners Revue.

Organised by the Northern Tablelands Irish Association, the written section was well supported, with entries coming from Queensland, New South Wales, Western Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

Chairman of the Northern Tablelands Irish Association Robert McPhee said the entries were of an exceptional standard.

"I've been involved in conducting bush poetry competitions for unpublished verse over a period of 30 years and all the entries in this competition have been excellent," Mr McPhee said.

The chief judge for the written section was Liz Ward from Esk in Queensland, a retired school teacher and a former vice president of the Australian Bush Poets Association.

..... Each competitor was required to recite two poems, one poem following the theme and another of their choice.

The winner was Paddy O'Brien from Murwillumbah and runner up was Tony Kelly from Tenterfield.

Mr McPhee said that the competition is intended to become an annual occurrence and could be held in any city, town or village throughout the Northern Tablelands.'

In addition to organising the poetry competition Bob has joined the Scottish Clans Congress of Q'ld Inc. This is an organisation apparently our former Commander and President Sandy McPhie helped establish. Bob writes:

'...I refer to the Scottish Clans' Congress of Q'ld Inc; ...not long after it was formed I became the Clan Macfie delegate to the Congress when I was appointed Qld V/President. At the first meeting I attended I was appointed Secretary and Treasurer of the Congress, and I was to be Secretary for 4 years, then President for 1 year.

The Congress is an incorporated body carrying its own Public Liability Cover. Membership for affiliated clan societies was \$30.00 per year, which I paid on behalf of our Society. During my time as Secretary and President, the Congress performed very well and was highly regarded in the Celtic community of South/East Qld. Main functions then were (1) Annual Kirking of the Tartan (2) Annual Combined Clans' Ceilidh (usually 3 clan societies each year for organising it), and of course supporting other individual Clan functions ...'

News from South Australia

from Judy Moore, Vice President SA

Judy is a great stalwart of Clan Macfie and represents the organisation at various Scottish functions in Adelaide. She has struck up a great friendship with Jan Mullighan, the South Australian representative of Clan Campbell, and also attends many of that Clan's functions. Recently Judy joined members of Clan Campbell on their table at the annual Clan MacLeod's lunch held at the Adelaide International Motel Glenelg. Judy sent in the following report about some of the activities she is involved with:

'I'm a member of the South Australian Scottish Association and have some very enjoyable times through them. The Campbell Clan have a picnic every February, a genealogy day and a dinner mid year. They even having a Christmas lunch during the year which I will be attending.

The MacLeod's have a dinner each year (or lunch) and I attended it this year again. Also a quiz day which was great, although my table didn't do very well!

The Kirking of the Tartan at St. Augustine's in Unley organised by Clan MacLeod was very successful. An interesting sermon was delivered to a packed church, the pipes were played and Scottish banners flown.

I also hope to attend the Celtica Festival which sounds very interesting.'

2010 Sydney BGM

The 18th Biennial General Meeting of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia, was held at the Bowlers Club in the heart of Sydney on 22nd May. Those present were secretary Lyndsay Armstrong, ACT Vice President Gwen Hubert, David McAfee, Bernadette McPhee, President Ian McPhee, NSW Vice President Morris McPhee, Robyn McPhee, treasurer Geoff McPhee, Ruth McPhee, Trish McPhee, Clan Commissioner Sandy McPhie, Helen McPhie, Joanna Moore, SA Vice President Judy Moore, Anne O'Grady, Rosemary Owens, Historian Trevor Phee and Linda Waddington.

Presidents Report

The Presidents report reiterated and expanded on the annual report published in the March edition of *The Downunder*. Mention was made that the increased subscription rates had generally been well received with no decline in member donations. The meeting was also updated on the general state of the membership with particular reference to those members who were un-financial. Providing the option for members to pay their subscription via a direct bank deposit was presented to the meeting. While overdue, there are administration difficulties for the Society with this type of payment.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Geoff McPhee presented his report which, in contrast to the one for the previous year, had a more detailed list of Clan Society expenditure. Geoff also advised the meeting he intended to have the Society's accounts audited by a registered auditor. The financial statement can be seen on page 13.

Executive Election

The existing executive (with the exception of the Tasmanian V P), were all nominated and elected unopposed. The executive members can be seen in the list of Society Office Bearers on page 14.

General Business

At this meeting there were no pressing or controversial issues. In a relaxed and friendly atmosphere all members contributed in a positive way to discussion on a variety of issues.

NSW Vice President Morris McPhee advised the meeting that the executive had approved expenditure for new gonfalons, a type of hand held banner, ideal for kirkin o' the tartan etc. The meeting was shown the proposed shape, size and design which met with approval.

A new banner displaying the Clan tartan and the words 'The McPhees' was displayed at the meeting. The banner, one of 3, was designed and their purchase organised by Treasurer Geoff McPhee. He explained to the meeting that spelling the name McPhee rather than Macfie was appropriate for gatherings because more people identified with it. Not even Commissioner Sandy McPhie from Toowoomba took issue with Geoff's logic and expressed his delight with the banner. The new banner can be seen on page 16.

Setting up a website for the Society was discussed at length. Most attendees were enthusiastic about this, but Commissioner Sandy McPhie expressed some reservations as did President Ian McPhee, citing cost, cost/benefit and maintenance of a website as issues. Joanna Moore from Sydney, being the most enthusiastic supporter of engaging with the internet, was appointed to pursue the matter.

A letter from Clan Society Piper Bob McPhee from Deepwater, requesting the position of Vice President for Northern NSW be created was discussed. Requiring a constitutional amendment, the matter could not be considered.

Sandy McPhie put forward the suggestion that the BGM could be held at another time of year perhaps to coincide with a major Scottish event such as a Highland Gathering. It was pointed out that May was a popular time for many members to take overseas holidays.

Waterloo Medal at BGM

Trish McPhee from Sydney was thoughtful enough to bring along two historical war service medals to share with participants at the BGM. One was a Battle of Waterloo medal inscribed 'George P. Regent' and the words 'Waterloo June 18 1815' below on one side. The other was a service medal inscribed on one side 'To the British Army 1703-1814' and on the reverse side inscribed 'Victoria Regina 1848'. It also listed beneath one another, the battle honours 'Toulouse, Nive, Nivelle, Pyrenees, Corunna.'

The medals had been awarded to Donald MacPhee, who fought with the 79th Cameron Highlanders, commonly known as 'The Queens Own'. Donald MacPhee arrived in Sydney as a Lieutenant with the 28th Regiment (formerly the Cameron Highlanders) on the Portsea on the 18th December 1838. A widower he emigrated from Scotland with 2 children and his widowed mother, after which, his name was always spelt McPhee. Trish's husband Bill McPhee (deceased) was a descendant to whom the medals were passed down.

Church Service & Lunch

The Society members who attended the church service at the Lugarno Presbyterian Church were embraced by the friendly congregation and resident minister. The minister had been well prepared for our presence by the congregation's session clerk, Clan Society Treasurer Geoff McPhee. He also organised for a piper to play outside the church and for the kirkin o' the tartan. It's always a pleasure to see our tartan honored on such occasions. Afterwards Society members joined the congregation for morning tea.

Assisted by their 2 daughters and their husbands, Geoff and Ruth McPhee put on a beautiful barbecue lunch at their Lugarno home. In addition to the wide range of food that was prepared, Geoff and Ruth provided some traditional Scottish fare in the form of haggis. Our thanks and appreciation go to Geoff, Ruth and their family for the great job they did.

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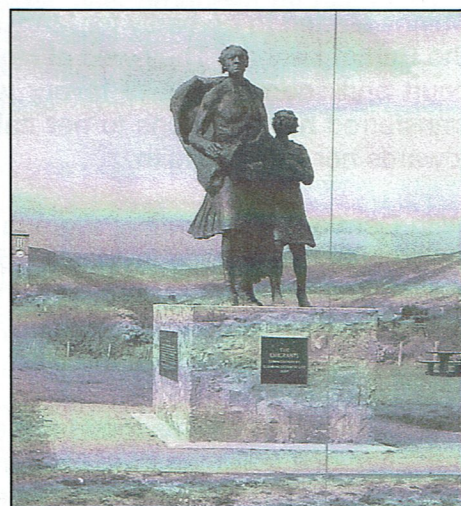
Highland Clearances Memorial

Those familiar with Scottish history would be aware that some of the most brutal clearances of people from their land occurred on the Duke of Sutherland's estates in the Scottish Highlands.

A memorial statue to those affected by the Highland Clearances was unveiled in 2007 at Helmsdale, by Scotland's First Minister at the time, Alex Salmond. Situated in Sutherland Shire, Helmsdale is a coastal village north of Inverness where the Strath (river valley) of Kildonan meets the sea.

The memorial was created by sculptor Gerald Laign based in the Black Isles and depicts a family leaving their home. When it was unveiled, Mr Salmond said, "This statue is a reminder of the men, women and children who left Scotland and took their skills, their strength and their stories across seas and shared them around the world. While we deplore the clearances we can be proud of the contributions that those cleared have made to humanity'.

The 3 metre high bronze statue was commissioned by the Clearances Centre Limited, a charitable company established to celebrate the achievement and resilience of the many Scots who were forced to leave the Highlands and Islands during the Highland Clearances. Canadian mining millionaire Dennis Macleod, who was born in the Strath of Kildonan, was one of the instigators of the memorial and helped establish the Clearances Centre.



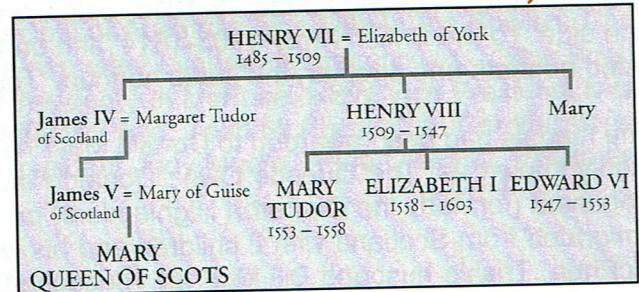
Interestingly, the original plan for a commemoration by a group of campaigners was to obtain permission to knock down a controversial statue of the laird involved in the clearances, the Duke of Sutherland, which towers over the town of Golspie. That never happened, and they got together with Mr Macleod, resulting in the abovementioned memorial.

Mary Queen of Scots

Early Life

Mary the daughter of King James V of Scotland and French aristocrat Mary of Guise, was born in Linlithgow Palace on 8th December 1542. Six days after Mary's birth her father died and Mary was crowned Queen of Scotland when she was less than a year old.

The English & Scottish Crowns were linked by the marriage of Margaret Tudor, the sister of Henry VIII to James IV of Scotland. Henry VIII sought to unify England and Scotland by having young Mary betrothed to his 5 year old son Edward, who was born in 1537. When the Scots rebuffed his intention, he invaded Scotland (called the 'Rough Wooing') to secure his demand. For her safety, 5 year old Mary was sent to France. There she lived a luxurious life among the French nobility, and French became her first language. In 1558, when Mary was 15, she married the son of Henry II of France, 14 year old Francis, Dauphin of France in Paris' Cathedral of Notre Dame.



In the year following the wedding, Henry II died after being injured in a jousting accident and Mary became Queen of France. Her reign was cut short however when her husband contracted an ear infection and died in December 1560. Her mother also died in the same year.

In 1561 the 19 year old widowed Mary returned home to assume the Scottish Crown. During her 13 year absence, Scotland had undergone radical change, becoming a Protestant country. In 1559 with the support of John Knox, a group of Scottish nobles called the 'Lords of the Congregation' had overthrown Mary of Guise's government and set up a Protestant parliament.

Queen of Scotland

With the aid of her illegitimate half brother the Earl of Moray, staunchly Catholic Mary was able to take her place as the Queen of Scotland (and an heir to the English throne) and soon captured the heart of the Scottish people. She was able to practise her faith in private but was never accepted by John Knox who spoke out against her.

Things started to go badly for Mary after she married her cousin, Lord Darnley (Henry Stewart), the son of the Earl of Lennox. They wed at Holyrood in July 1565. Darnley was a greedy fop who alienated the royal court and soon fell out of favour with his new wife. Despite being pregnant with Darnley's child, Mary transferred her affections to her Italian secretary, David Rizzio, who encouraged her to be more forceful towards her Catholic faith.

With Darnley's cooperation, a group of Protestant nobles murdered Rizzio in the Queen's antechamber at Holyroodhouse Palace in March 1566. In June 1566, Mary's son James was born and soon after Mary moved against Darnley, turning to the Earl of Moray and the Earl of Boswell for help. The house at the Kirk o' Field in Edinburgh where Darnley was recuperating from an illness was blown up in February 1567 and although Darnley escaped the blast, he later either died or was murdered.

The Earl of Boswell was tried for the murder but found not guilty by an Edinburgh court intimidated by the presence of 4,000 men from his personal army in the city. In April Boswell imposed on Mary (by some accounts accosted her) and she stayed with him at his castle in Dunbar. On 7th May Boswell divorced his wife, on 12th May Mary made him the Duke of Orkney and on the 15th May they were married. Darnley had been dead only about 3 months.

Abdication

The people and nobility of Scotland were appalled at Mary's behaviour. A group of nobles led a superior force against Boswell, Mary and their army at Carberry Hill near Edinburgh. Boswell's army surrendered and he escaped to Dunbar Castle. Mary was returned to Edinburgh and then imprisoned on an island in Loch Leven. There she was forced to abdicate in favour of her son James. Her half brother, the Earl of Moray was declared regent until the king was 17.

Mary eventually escaped from Loch Leven Castle in May 1568 and raised an army of 6,000 men. Her army was easily defeated by Moray at Langside, which is now part of suburban Glasgow. Mary escaped and fled to England where she sought the mercy of Queen Elizabeth. Mary, however, was imprisoned in various castles for the next 18 years.

Execution

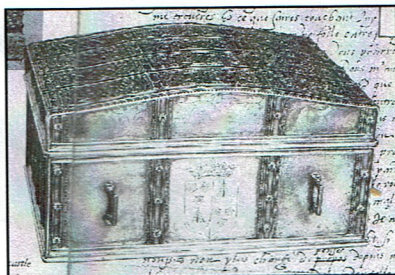
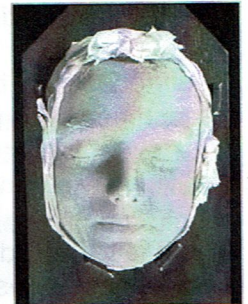
Elizabeth and Mary never met. After years of appealing to Elizabeth for her release Mary turned to supporters for help. Various attempts were made by those who regarded Mary as the rightful Queen of England to remove Elizabeth, but without success. When it was discovered in 1586 that Mary was involved in one such plot called 'The Babington Plot', her fate was sealed. At her trial in the Great Hall at Fotheringhay, she was found guilty of treason and sentenced to death.

Two strokes of the axeman's blade were required to sever Mary's head when she was beheaded on 8th February 1587. The next day, after a Protestant service with no Scots or Catholics present, she was buried in Peterborough Cathedral. Mary's son James did not try to stop his mother's execution, but later achieved what many wanted - becoming King of England and Scotland following Elizabeth's death in 1603. In 1612 James had his mother's remains exhumed and reburied in London's Westminster Abbey.

The Death Mask

Death masks were usually made of plaster, wax or metal from a mould taken from the dead. In medieval England death masks were used for the royal funeral effigies that lay in state. They were then placed in the atrium of the family's home, where family members were reminded what the deceased looked like and of their life with the person when they were alive.

Made of wax, Mary's death mask was placed over her face after she was beheaded. Eyelashes, hair and paint were later added to provide a more life like appearance.



Mary's Silver Casket

When Mary was held in England, an enquiry was held into the death of Darnley. During the enquiry, Mary's silver casket containing incriminating letters, allegedly written by Mary to Boswell, was produced by Lady Lennox, Darnley's mother. The letters were forgeries and Mary avoided being returned to Scotland where she faced execution. She was kept a prisoner in England for fear she and her Catholic sympathisers may reassert her claim to the English throne.

Mary's Artifacts on Display

It is amazing how many of Scotland's historical treasures are in private hands. Mary Queen of Scots' sapphire ring, her silver casket and death mask have been housed in the castle like home called Lennoxlove House, owned by the Duke of Hamilton.

Over 700 years old and originally called Lethington, the house is set on a 460 acre estate at Haddington near Edinburgh. It was originally owned by the Gifford family, but it passed to the Maitlands in 1345. William Maitland (1525-1573) became Mary Queen of Scots' Secretary of State. The estate was purchased by Frances Stuart in 1703 who renamed it Lennoxlove after her title the Duchess of Lennox. She never visited the house and after her death it passed to the Duke of Hamilton. The Hamilton family still own the mansion, and Mary's treasures have been in their possession for over 250 years.

The house is undergoing a 2 year restoration after which it will become an exclusive venue for special occasions such as weddings and corporate events. During the restoration Mary's artifacts will be exhibited in the UK. (Ref: www, Collins Encyclopaedia of Scotland, Pitkin Biographical Series Mary Queen of Scots, A Short History of Scotland, R Killeen. Oxford Companion to Scottish History, M Lynch, The Kings & Queens of Scotland, R Oram.)

GENEALOGY

Death & Death Records Part 1

Many in our society (myself included) are interested in genealogy and family history. To compile a family tree or write up a family history, death records in their many forms are an essential resource.

The death certificate is the main resource. Unfortunately, those going back to Scotland will find that reliable death records did not start until a comparatively late stage. Prior to the early 1800s, deaths were rarely even recorded in Scotland. When they did commence to be recorded, they were done so on an ad-hoc basis by the church in parish registers, and many of those records have been lost over the years. It was not until 1855 that individuals in Scotland were legally required to report deaths to a government authority i.e when civil registration became mandatory.

Death certificates were recorded by all the Australian colonies prior to Federation, and since that time, by all state and territory governments. They are readily available to those who seek them. The details contained in Australian death certificates are reasonably comprehensive but not always completely accurate. Unlike births and marriages, details may have been supplied by a well meaning 'informant' who simply supplied information which was incorrect.

Cemeteries can be a wonderful place to find invaluable information about family members. Cemetery headstones and memorial plaques for those who have been cremated, not only provide death dates etc, but may sometimes have other information. It may be another family member, a religious inscription, a motif signifying an organisation such as a Masonic Lodge or even a nickname.

Death is treated differently today than it was even a few years ago. In times past, a service conducted by a minister or priest followed death, and people were buried in a grave over which a memorial such as a headstone was placed. Cremation is now more popular, after which the ashes are sometimes interred and there is a memorial plaque. In more recent times, scattering the remains after cremation (a Hindu tradition) has become popular. Services for a deceased are now more frequently conducted by a 'celebrant' without any reference to Christianity or religious faith.

Many of our younger members not so familiar with funerals may be interested to know how customs have changed, that cremation in times past was not necessarily acceptable to all Christians. To that end I asked Bernie McPhee, a Past President and former priest, for an insight into how burial was once viewed.

Catholic Burial

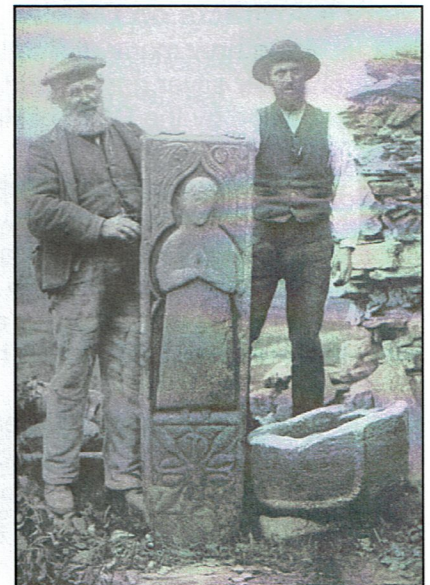
From Bernie McPhee, Vic.

Until quite recently it had been the custom for deceased Catholics to be buried in the earth, and those burial places were blessed or 'hallowed'. To have the deceased's body cremated was seen as challenging and denying the belief in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

Cremation was seen as disrespectful to the body which in its lifetime had been the temple of the holy spirit. And for genealogists and family historians there was certainty that Catholics would be laid to rest somewhere in the earth. Many of their names were recorded in the long lasting stone memorials and grave stones.

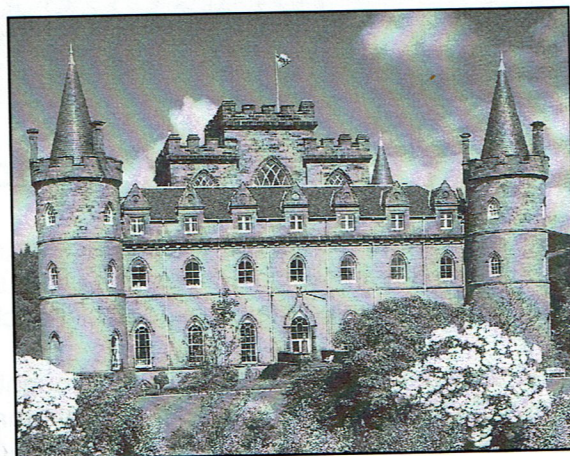
Nowadays however, the Roman Catholic Church has changed its tune and sees that cremation is no threat to the beliefs of its adherents. Since about the early 1970s cremation is no longer prohibited for Catholics.

A stone monument discovered on Islay in early 1800s →



The Duke of Argyll's Archives

Many historic records pertaining to large numbers of ordinary clans folk, (including many Macfies) who once lived on the Duke of Argyll's vast Highland estates, are stored at Inveraray Castle. The castle, pictured at right, is still home to the head of the Campbell Clan, currently Torquhil Campbell, the 13th Duke of Argyll. Those records are his personal property and have not been available for family research by members of the public for many years.



The archives were housed in one of the castle's 4 towers but have recently been moved to a high security, fireproof building near the castle. The cost to house, catalogue and maintain such an extensive collection of documents is huge, and many members of the Campbell Clan have donated money so they may be preserved.

It is to be hoped, that in the not too distant future, the old records from the Argyll Estates may be available to the general public. There are plenty of Macfies who would love to access those files, to find out what happened to their ancestors who were cottars, crofters & other tenants living on the Argyll Estates.

Mull Genealogy

Quite a few Society members can trace their origins to the Isle of Mull, particularly the western end of the island known as The Ross of Mull. The Ross of Mull Historical Centre offers visitors to the island who are descendants of those who once lived there, a wonderful opportunity to conduct family research. Not so long ago the centre moved from their temporary home in a small 'porta cabin', to Milbrae Cottage, next to the ruins of an old grain mill on the outskirts of Bunessan.

The centre operates under the direction of a board of 6 directors and has 2 staff members. It functions with the assistance of government grants, which unfortunately are not a permanent source of funds. The Centre may be contacted via email: www.romhc.org.uk or via mail: Milbrae Cottage, Bunessan, Isle of Mull Argyll PA67 6DG.

Mull Genealogy initiated out of the Rootsweb Isle of Mull list, is another source of information for Mull descendants. It has been operating since 1997 and has records pertaining to 47,000 individual ancestors, descendants etc. It also has recorded details of 7,000 place names. Ian Phillips has had a long association with Mull and administers an extensive mailing list for those interested in Mull. Anyone who wants to join the Isle of Mull mailing list can do so via: SCT-ISLEMULL@rootsweb.com

Can you Help?

Before emigrating, Archibald McPhee, his wife Verica (or Vere) and their children lived at Corpach, a few miles north east of Fort William on the estate of Donald Cameron Esq., head of the Cameron Clan.

On 3rd November 1853, Archibald 51, his wife Verica 49, daughter Kate 24, son Hugh 22, daughter Christy 19 & daughter Margaret 17 sailed from Liverpool on the Utopia & emigrated to Australia. They did so with the help of the Highland and Island Emigration Society who paid £36 7s 2d towards their passage.

Unfortunately Archibald died soon after the vessel sailed. The Utopia arrived at Portland Bay, Victoria on 25th January 1854. Soon after arriving, Verica and her family were engaged by J Carfrae and J C Jervis to work on 'Rosebank Station', a large grazing property about 25 miles (40 km) south of Horsham, to the north of Hamilton.

While it is known what happened to Archibald and Verica's daughter Margaret, what happened to the rest of the family is a mystery. Does any Society member have a connection to this family, know what happened to any of its members or know of any descendants? (NB all replies to the President thank you)

HISTORICAL ORGANISATIONS

by Ian McPhee

Guilds & Oddfellows

The earliest guilds can be traced back to the 8th century and followed the establishment of the Christian Church in Britain, which advocated setting up of local fraternities for mutual support and protection. Those early guilds enabled members to assist each other materially and socially.

The arrival of the Normans in 1066 brought a marked change in the role of guilds. From the 12th century onwards they functioned also to regulate markets and trade. The earliest were known as merchant guilds - representing all tradesmen from a particular town. With the expansion of trade, individual trade guilds sprang up, responsible for training craftsmen. They introduced three separate 'degrees' of membership.

These were apprentices (the trainees), fellows (wage earners paid by the day) and masters (the bosses and owners of businesses). A Grand Master headed each guild whose role included judging the completion of apprentice training which included a sample of their work - a masterpiece to prove their skill.

By the 13th century, trade guilds had been established in cities, towns and villages throughout the country. Guild meetings were usually held in churches - the only public buildings large enough to hold such gatherings - but more prosperous guilds began to build their own halls for their meetings & feasts.

During the 14th century, a split developed in the guild organisation. Originally, when training was complete, every apprentice could expect to become a fellow, and fellows could expect to become masters and then go into business.

With the growth in trade there developed a merchant class of master craftsmen who not only wished to pass their business on to their children, but to restrict competition. They sought to stop paid employees (fellows) setting up as rivals. Thus began the first industrial disputes. These masters decided to exclude the lower orders from a guild by introducing expensive uniforms and regalia (or 'livery') which members had to buy and wear at guild meetings. Many of course could not afford such apparel.

To combat this nefarious practice, the fellows started to set up their own rival guilds. These were commonly called yeoman guilds as distinct from the 'Livery Guilds' of the masters. This led inevitably to the first organised industrial actions - and attempts to suppress the yeoman (fellows) guilds.

In time, the yeoman guilds were accepted. In smaller towns and villages, however, there were usually insufficient numbers of fellows of a particular trade to form dedicated guilds. To overcome this, fellows from all trades in a town banded together to form one guild - these guildsmen could be called Odd Fellows because they were fellow tradesmen from an odd assortment of trades. The term oddfellows described a type of guild and nearly all adopted the name of a chosen patron saint or a religious title.

Guilds suffered a setback in England when Henry VIII's broke with the Roman Catholic Church. In 1545 the Crown confiscated all their property. During the reign of Elizabeth I a Statute of Apprentices was passed, which removed the right of guilds to control apprentices. Some guilds survived by adapting their role - freemasons & oddfellows being two such examples which established branches called 'lodges'.

When the Catholic King James II lost the British Crown to Dutch Protestant William of Orange in 1688, the Oddfellows split into 2 factions. The Order of Patriotic Oddfellows favoured King William & the Whig Party, while their rival, the Ancient Order of Oddfellows favoured the Scottish Stuarts (Jacobites) and the Tory party. Their support was strongest in Scotland and the north of England.

After the Jacobites were defeated at the Battle of Cullodin in 1746, rivalry and animosity gradually abated. In 1789 the two rival factions joined to form the Grand United Order of Oddfellows. They abandoned all political & religious matters, in favour of promoting the interests & welfare of their members.

Financial Statement for 2008 & 2009

		<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	
Income	Subscriptions	\$2,525.00	\$2,420.00	
	Subscriptions in Advance	\$155.00	\$325.00	
	Donations to Society	\$1,882.50	\$1,730.85	
	Donations to Clan	\$582.50	\$700.00	
	B G M	\$345.00		
		\$5,490.00	\$5,175.85	
Expenditure	Downunder Printing	\$1,275.00	\$1,600.00	
	Downunder Postage	\$1,234.97	\$1,075.75	
	General Postage	\$230.10	\$313.10	
	Functions and Promotions	\$422.45	\$1,266.00	
	Pull-up Display Banners (8)	\$1,700.00		
	Sundry Office/ Stationery	\$885.21	\$581.99	
	B G M	\$414.00		
	Clan Levy	\$700.20		
		\$6,861.93	\$4,836.84	
Surplus/(Defecit)		(\$1,371.93)	\$339.01	
Opening Cash Book		\$16,754.19	\$15,382.26	
Closing Cash Book		\$15,382.26	\$15,721.27	
Total Cash at Bank		\$15,382.26	\$15,721.27	
Total Assets		\$15,382.26	\$15,721.27	
Represented by	Trust Fund		\$6,337.17	
	Subscriptions in Advance		\$25.00	
			\$6,362.17	
	Society Travel Fund		\$90.00	
	Standing Stone Account		\$20.00	
			\$6,472.17	
Net Assets			\$9,249.10	
Members Funds		Balance 01 January 2008	\$9,957.02	
		Surplus/(Defecit) for Period 2008-2009	(\$1,032.92)	
		Subscriptions received in Advance	\$325.00	
		Balance 31 December 2009	\$9,249.10	



NSW Vice President Morris McPhee with his daughter Joanna, at the Bundanoon Highland Gathering



At the Sydney BGM: L to R Rosemary Owens, Robyn McPhee, Lyndsay Armstrong and Anne O'Grady



At the BGM: Joanna Moore with her mother S.A. Vice President Judy Moore



Luncheon host Ruth McPhee at left, with Helen McPhee in front of the new McPhee banner at the Sunday barbecue



Back: Geoff McPhee, Helen & Sandy McPhee, Ian McPhee, Morris McPhee, Ruth McPhee & Gwen Hubert. Front: Judy Moore & Robyn McPhee, taken at Geoff & Ruth's home at Lugarno



At the Sydney BGM, Trish McPhee with the Waterloo medals. For the story about the medals, see page 7