



# THE DOWNUNDER

Journal of the  
Macfie Clan Society of Australia

Issue 119  
July 2011



Colonsay



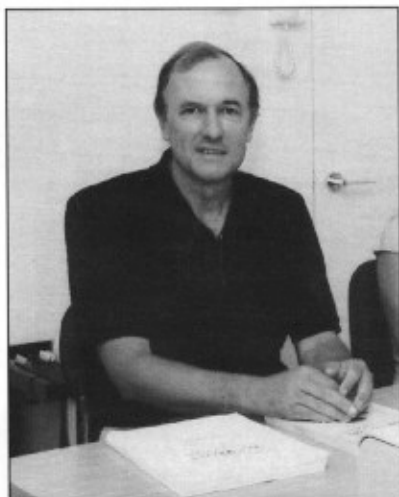
*Ancestral home  
of Clan Macfie*

Oronsay

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia  
was founded at Richmond,  
New South Wales in 1974.

[www.clanmacfie.co.uk](http://www.clanmacfie.co.uk)





## President's Message

Clan Macfie Day was on the 27th May. It was on that day in 1981 that the Lord Lyon recognised Clan Macfie as an active Scottish clan. Clan Ceann Cath (Clan Commander) Iain McFie sent the following Macfie Day message which I would like to pass on to all members:

'James Hunter in his book "The Blood is Strong" told how being in some distant part of the world only increases our ties and longing for Scotland. Although we may be separated by many miles our connection through family and history will be celebrated on Friday, in many corners of the world. We have a proud heritage and I thank you for continuing to carry the torch for Clan Macfie.'

.....

## The Science of Heraldry

Heraldry is a simple and practical science, invented and used for convenience of everybody, in days when few could read and write, and education was an elementary standard.

French was the international language of the Middle Ages, so a number of heraldic terms are of Old French origin. Their use has made heraldry of international convenience, because from a blazon or written prescription, any European herald can draw any coat of arms.

The term 'coat of arms' is derived from the armorial jacket or 'tabard' worn by knights over their armour. This coat still survives in the heraldic tabard, the significance of which originated in the theory that the herald, when arrayed in his master's coat, actually represented him. In the Highlands, the saffron-dyed *leine croich* interfered with the general adoption of the armorial surcoat, except in cases where the charges were easily depicted on the yellow surface of the *leine croich* itself. The shield, however, was made heraldic, as soon as the science of armory came to Scotland, as evidenced by the number of Celtic sepulchral slabs, such as that of Maclean of Ross of Mull (shown at right). In the late 15th and 16th centuries, when the armorial surcoat became a close fitting *jupon*, it became the practice to depict the arms upon an escutcheon embroidered on the middle of the back and breast, instead of over the whole surcoat as in the tabard. In Britain this fashion was peculiar to Scotland.

'Coat of Arms' is now a generic term loosely applied to the entire armorial device (including helmet, crest, motto, etc.) technically called an 'Achievement'. (ref: Scots Heraldry by Sir Thomas Innes of Learney)

Monument at Iona: An effigy of Maclean of Ross of Mull, showing *leine croich*, or saffron shirt, and armorial shield, which bears: a galley in chief, a lion rampant contourné in base, a border per fess, invected in chief and embattled in base.



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**Front Cover:** The massed bands at the Braemar Highland Games in Scotland.

## MEMBERS IN PROFILE

**NSW member:** Clyde Smythe (N74-059)

**Migrant forebears:** Donald McPhee, his 2 daughters and mother

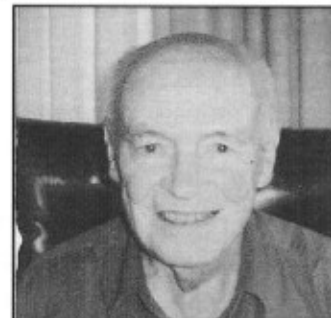
**Occupation:** military officer

**Home in Scotland:** Achnacore of Glen Coe (Fort William)

**Emigrant ship:** Portsea which departed from Portsmouth

**Arrived Australia:** Sydney Harbour NSW, December 1838

**Pioneer forebears:** Alexander McPhee & Mary Ann O'Brien



**Member's story in brief:** Clyde was born in 1931 at Erigolia, a WW 1 soldier settlement town near Griffith in NSW. He is the grandson of Alexander Duncan McPhee and his wife Harriet, both of whom had a major influence on his upbringing.

When the Griffith farm failed in the Great Depression and drought of 1938, the family moved to Sydney and stayed with the McPhees at Pennant Hills for 2 years. The Smythes then moved to a new house in the same street as the McPhees. While Clyde was living at Pennant Hills, WW2 was raging. Family and relatives volunteered for service which aroused Clyde's interest in military history. Clyde studied at the University of NSW where he initially worked as a tutor. In 1956 Clyde married Barbara Jupe and had 2 daughters, Jane and Debbie. After completing a master's degree in building science, he was appointed a senior lecturer in the faculty of the built environment where he stayed until his retirement in 2006. During his time at UNSW, Clyde was particularly interested in the structure of glass and concrete in buildings.

Clyde is a foundation member of the Macfie Clan Society which he joined at the invitation of his cousin Sandy McPhee in 1974. His passion has always been military history, especially the WW1 battlefields where his father and uncle served. He was the military historian for our Society for many years. Clyde currently lives in Turramurra, a northern suburb of Sydney, where he has resided for the past 52 years.

**NSW member:** Trevor Phee (N89-720)

**Migrant forebears:** William Phee & wife Beatrice McKay

**Occupation:** coalminer

**Home in Scotland:** Airdrie/Bellshill, Scotland

**Emigrant ship:** Stirlingshire from Glasgow

**Arrived Australia:** Townsville QLD, November 1882

**Pioneer forebears:** Albert Alexander Phee & Ellen Arbuckle



**Member's story in brief:** Trevor was born in 1952, the eldest son of coalminer Richard Phee and his wife Doreen (nee Stewart). He was raised in the Newcastle suburb of Rathmines on the shores of Lake Macquarie with his younger brothers Colon and David.

After leaving Toronto High School, at the age of 15, Trevor obtained an apprenticeship as a motor mechanic, specialising in diesel trucks. He spent 21 years in the trade and then 14 years in the security industry. Today he is a jack of all trades in a hospital in Newcastle NSW. He married Suzanne Mae Wilkinson at Newcastle in March 1971. Not long after their marriage, Suzanne became a nurse, and has been a registered nurse since 1993. Trevor and Suzanne have a daughter called Dianne and a granddaughter.

Trevor is a dedicated genealogist who has researched his family extensively. He is an active member of our Society and has been its chief historian for many years. In that role, he has gained a terrific knowledge of many families within the Macfie Clan Society. He has produced three family history books, held three family reunions and is on his fourth family tree at the moment. This he started back in 1989 before the days of computers. Since 1993 Trevor and Suzanne have travelled widely within Australia and to many overseas countries. Their next trip is to Borneo. Collecting beer coasters is one of Trevor's favourite hobbies, and he now has a huge collection of coasters from his travels. He is also a keen gardener, growing mainly orchids, cacti and succulents.

# GENERAL NEWS

## Lost Touch

If you know how to contact the following member who has moved from the address listed below, kindly advise President Ian McPhee

Paul J Roberts      14 Gympie St  
Landsborough QLD

## 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 March and the end of July 2011, are an essential part of our funding and greatly appreciated.

Gwen Hubert	Pearce	ACT
Ian R McPhee	Scullin	ACT
Bruce Agland	Clarence Town	NSW
Margaret Barnes	Drummoyne	NSW
Russell Mattocks	Balgowlah	NSW
Margaret MacDougall	Aberdeen	NSW
Claire McGuffie	Drummoyne	NSW
Andrew J. McPhee	Baulkham Hills	NSW
Barbara K. McPhee	Kurri Kurri	NSW
Greg McPhee	Urunga	NSW
Joyce McPhee	Bonnells Bay	NSW
Michael & Mary McPhee	Vaucluse	NSW
Morris & Robyn McPhee	Cheltenham	NSW
Nathan & Elsie McPhee	Cooranbong	NSW
Robert J McPhee	Deepwater	NSW
Ross & Joyce McPhee	West Pymble	NSW
Mrs Trish McPhee	Seaforth	NSW
Beryl McPhie	Nowra	NSW
Stuart McWilliam	Moree	NSW
Andrew D Pardoe	Bundanoon	NSW
Mairi Petersen	Shellharbour	NSW
Trevor Phee	Hamilton	NSW
Zillah & R. Scott	Yamba	NSW
Clyde & Barbara Smythe	Turramurra	NSW
Rosemary Szente	Newport	NSW
Bruce Taylor	Yagoona	NSW
Linda Waddington	Belmore South	NSW
Keith & Joyce Caldwell	Annerley	QLD
Gwen Duff	Tewantin	QLD
Donald A. Knowles	Yeppoon	QLD
Sally R. Mellick	Cleveland	QLD
Janet R. Mackay	Bracken Ridge	QLD
Esma F McCarthy	Bracken Ridge	QLD
Dorothy J. McPhee	Bell	QLD
Dr Ewen McPhee	Emerald	QLD
Kevin A. McPhee	Port Douglas	QLD
Nevell J. McPhee	Victoria Point	QLD
Sandy & Helen McPhie	Glenvale	QLD
Grigor McPhie	Hendra	QLD

Helen McPhie  
Dorothy Murphy  
Lyndal & Andrew Wallace  
Robyn M. Young  
Shirley Dickson  
Ann Leask  
Ian L. McPhee  
Sr Mary M. Barnes CSB  
Iris M Beavis  
Meg Davis  
Anthony Gartland  
Jan Harper  
Gwen D. Jarvis  
Beverley Knowles  
Kim McDuffie  
Cherry McFie  
Bernard P. McPhee  
David McPhee  
Dr Ian McPhee  
Keith & Anne McPhee  
Norman R McPhee  
Peter B McPhee  
Ross McPhee  
Simon McPhee  
John W. McPhee MBE  
Frances McPhee-Allan  
Donald J. McPhie  
Hadyn M McPhie  
Julie Peters  
Jennifer L. Robertson  
Dene Rutledge  
Norma Dunn  
Margaret E McPhee  
Suzie M. McPhee

Eagle Heights QLD  
Currumbin QLD  
Bulimba QLD  
Jimboomba QLD  
Naracoorte SA  
Mclaren Vale SA  
Kidman Park SA  
Albert Park VIC  
Bunyip VIC  
Cowes VIC  
Box Hill South VIC  
Mont Albert N. VIC  
Dandenong VIC  
Balwyn VIC  
Milford Grange VIC  
Rhyll VIC  
Middle Park VIC  
Traralgon VIC  
Rosanna VIC  
Glen Waverley VIC  
Ringwood VIC  
Abbotsford VIC  
Rosebud VIC  
Narre Warren VIC  
Hawthorn East VIC  
Ballarat VIC  
Nilma North VIC  
Mirboo North VIC  
Port Melbourne VIC  
Merino VIC  
Doncaster East VIC  
Dunsborough WA  
Nedlands WA  
Duncraig WA

## Nearing a Century

Congratulations to SA member Nancy Holds who turned 99 in March. Her son John says she still looks forward to reading The Downunder.

## In Memoriam

It is with sadness we report the passing of:

Dr John McPhie S74-018 of North Adelaide SA

Nancy Collie V75-128 of Bentleigh East VIC

Inez Rosser Q84-541 of Toowoomba Qld

Judith Smythe N79-445 of Downer ACT

Ulf Hagman, a former president of the Thorburn-Macfie Family Society of Sweden.



## Story of the Low Road

An old Celtic belief, current still not only in Scotland but also in Ireland, Wales and Brittany, has it that when a man meets with death in a foreign land, his spirit returns to the place of his birth by an underground fairy way ..... the Low Road.

In 1745, during the retreat of the Scottish army following its invasion of England, several of the wounded, unfortunately, had to be left behind in Carlisle as they could not struggle further. Many of them fell into the hands of the English and were flung into the Carlisle Gaol. The song '*The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond*' which was undoubtedly written during that period, tells of two Scottish prisoners, one of whom was to be released, and who would take the High Road home to Scotland, whilst the other, who was to be executed, would take the Low Road. As the release of one and the execution of the other were timed for the same hour, the dead, travelling by the Low Road with the speed of a spirit, would, naturally ... or supernaturally .... be in Scotland before the living, who would have to tramp several weary miles of the High Road before he could hope to cross the border.

'*The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond*' is a lovely traditional Scottish song first published in 1841 in *Vocal Melodies of Scotland*. The song is often the final piece of music played during an evening of revelry in Scotland, a phenomenon not seen in other parts of the United Kingdom. If the legend above were better known, we might have *The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond* sung more in the spirit in which it should be sung!

NB    braes        - hillsides  
      gae         - go  
      gloaming - twilight  
      waefu      - woeful

## The Bonnie Banks O' Loch Lomond

By yon bonnie banks,  
And by yon bonnie braes,  
Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomond,  
Where me and my true love  
Were ever want to gae,  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

Oh, ye'll take the high road and  
I'll take the low road,  
And I'll be in Scotland afore ye;  
But me and my true love  
Will never meet again  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

'Twas then that we parted  
In yon shady glen,  
On the steep, steep side of Ben Lomond,  
Where in purple hue  
The Highland hills we view,  
And the moon coming out in the gloaming.

Oh, ye'll take the high road and  
I'll take the low road,  
And I'll be in Scotland afore ye;  
But me and my true love  
Will never meet again  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

The wee birdie sang  
And the wild flowers spring,  
And in sunshine the waters are sleeping,  
But the broken heart it kens  
Nae second Spring again,  
Tho' the waeful may cease frae their greeting.

Oh, ye'll take the high road and  
I'll take the low road,  
And I'll be in Scotland afore ye;  
But me and my true love  
Will never meet again  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

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## Tartan Dress Offer

Margaret Book-Smythe, the daughter of recently deceased Canberra member Judy Smythe, has kindly donated a Macfie tartan 'ladies wrap around skirt' hand woven on the Isle of Skye, to the Society. The Society is very grateful for the gift, and will endeavour to see it is put to good use.

The interesting thing about the skirt is that it is made using the not so common ancient McPhee tartan. It could probably best be described as a large size. This may be a great opportunity for anyone wanting some Macfie Clan tartan. If not required for its original purpose, the skirt could quite easily be altered to make something else in tartan, perhaps a table runner etc.

To raise money for the Society, the skirt is being offered to members in a 'blind auction'. Interested members can submit bids for the dress in writing to the president. The highest offer will be rewarded and will be treated in confidence. Anyone making a successful offer must also pay the cost of postage and packaging. A modest reserve has been set and if bids are judged inadequate another offer will be made.

# Clan Macfie News No 59

from Ceann Cath Iain McFie

A Clan Parliament and gathering is held every 4 years in Scotland. The last one was the 17th International Parliament and Clan Gathering at Nethy Bridge, Scotland in 2009. In between Clan Parliaments, one of the Clan Societies is encouraged to organise a 'mini gathering'. It can be hosted anywhere in the world.

## United States Gatherings

'The Macfie Clan is to be the honoured clan at both the Charleston, South Carolina and Scotland County, North Carolina, Games this coming September. The dates for these are 17th September for Charleston and 1st October for Laurinburg (Scotland County). Commissioner (for the USA) Jim McAfee and his wife Ginger are managing the Charleston Games. Vision Committee Chair John Rosser and his wife Marty are heading up the Scotland County event.

This is a huge milestone for the Macfie Clan to be the honoured clan at both gatherings, and it's important to repay the honour by having a large number of clan folk at both events.'

## Birthday Milestones

Commander Iain McFie celebrated his 75th birthday on 10th March this year. It is hard to believe this energetic, vibrant man is really 75! It obviously runs in the family as the Scottish Society's President, and Commander's brother, Bob McFie, had an even more auspicious milestone when he turned 85 on 6th March. Given their boundless energy and enthusiasm, perhaps we should change our diets to whatever it is that they're eating! We are fortunate to have these incredible Macfies supporting the Clan.

## Kilted Skiers Raise £900 for Charity

'The Cairngorm Mountains that I look onto from our home have, over the last two years been the backdrop for a charity event that is quite unique. The Cairngorm Mountain Company Ltd., who operate the ski slopes on the range, organise a ski event where the participants must wear a kilt to enter.

This year 180 skiers and snowboarders headed off from the Ptarmigan, a restaurant near the top of the mountain, and made their way 2.5 kilometres downhill to the car park at the base station. A piper and a drummer from the local Badenoch and Strathspey Pipe Band led the way. The turn out was less than last year, which was a disappointment as it was hoped this year would break the world record for the number of kilted skiers and snowboarders in previous years.

Each participant paid £5.00 to take part, and the total sum raised was presented to representatives of Maggie's Highland Hospice and the Strathspey and Badenoch School's Skiing programme.'

## Clan Gathering 2013

'Attendance at the last three or four gatherings has been somewhat low, and I would like to find out how we can increase participation in the future. It would be helpful to the gathering co-ordinators if we could have feedback from those who have attended in the past. And, if 2013 would be your first gathering, we'd like to hear from you, too.

1. If you have been to more than one gathering, what do you think we could add or change to improve the event?
2. If you have attended only one meeting, why have you not returned?
3. If you are considering attending in 2013 for the first time, what would you hope to gain from the experience?

Clan Gatherings are a mixture of Clan and Society business, with business meetings scheduled in the morning. Interesting events and tours are planned for afternoons, and a *Ceilidh*, or Scottish party, is usually held in the evening. There is always a 3 day trip to the Isle of Colonsay ... This takes place at the end of the Gathering. Everyone is made to feel welcome, and you can take in the activities that you like, arrange your own time, extend your stay in Colonsay - or whatever you choose.' ( NB Commander Iain McFie can be contacted by email at: [imcfie103@btinternet.com](mailto:imcfie103@btinternet.com) or at his address: Coulintyre, Kincaig, Kingussie, PH21 1LX, Scotland).

# GENEALOGY

## The 1911 Scottish Census

The 1911 Scotland Census was taken on the same date as for England and Wales, the night of Sunday 2nd April. The returns gave a population of 4,759,445, which comprised 2,307,603 males and 2,451,842 females, an increase of 287,342 from 1901.

Access to the Scotland 1911 Census differs from that in England and Wales. The Census in Scotland is devolved to the Scottish Parliament and Administration and the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 exempts personal Census records from disclosure until after a 100 year closure period. So, while 1911 Census information for England and Wales was made available at the start of January 2009, the Registrar General for Scotland only released the Scottish 1911 Census information just after the date of the 2011 Census (27 March 2011), by which time "the 100 year closure period had ended".

The Registrar General for Scotland believed that "this strikes a balance between the interest of the records to family historians and the privacy of the people recorded by the Census, some of whom will still be alive. People who completed the 1911 Census were promised confidentiality. Although that is a long time ago, it is important not to call into question the validity of the equivalent promise on modern Census forms. That could deter people from filling in the Census form, reducing the response rate and making the Census results (which are so important for many aspects of Scottish life) less accurate".

The Census was released on 5th April 2011 via the [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk) website. Payment is by pay-per-view credits - there is no plan to introduce subscriptions. The cost is 1 credit to view the index and 5 credits to view the actual page from the enumerator's book. For people in Scotland there is a little publicised Scotlands People Voucher Scheme which allows public libraries to sell discounted vouchers directly to the public for non-commercial use. You have to visit the library in person. It is also available in the Scotlands People Centre in Edinburgh. Unfortunately the current daily rate of £10 went up to £15 at the start of April although they do offer a one hour free taster session, first come, first served at certain times of the day.

Note also that, unlike in England and Wales, the individual household schedules for the Scottish 1911 Census have been destroyed so it is not possible to view these. Instead the enumeration books have been digitised, similar to that for the 1901 Census, except that the entries for each person go across a double page. This includes the 'fertility' questions for married women, that is years married, number of children and how many were still alive. Unlike previous censuses, there is no plan to make the actual enumerators' books available to the public at New Register House in Edinburgh.

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## Australian Newspapers Digitisation Program

The National Library of Australia, in collaboration with the Australian State and Territory libraries, began a program in March 2007 to digitise out of copyright newspapers. From March 2007 to November 2009 the program was in 'project phase' whilst it was being established.

In July 2008 Australian Newspapers was released to the public via a free online service that enables full-text searching of newspaper articles. The service includes newspapers published in each state and territory from the 1800s to the mid 1950s, when copyright applies. By 2011 the service will comprise 40 million searchable articles from over 4 million newspaper pages.

The Australian Newspapers Digitisation Program is being integrated into the library's Trove service. Trove provides a single access point to over 90 million resources of different types which can be searched simultaneously. The website address is: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper> For any aspiring genealogist this is a great place to search for ancestors.



## Scotland's Braemar Games

The Braemar Highland Gathering is probably the most prestigious Highland Gathering in Scotland. It is held on the first Saturday in September each year and attracts many visitors from around the world. It is an event any Australian visiting Scotland around September should try and put on their itinerary.

The village of Braemar is situated in the Parish of Braemar and Crathie. Originally two separate parishes, that of Braemar & Crathie, it is now one of the largest, highest & most remote parishes in Scotland. Set in the wonderful Cairngorms National Park, it is approximately equidistant from Aberdeen, Inverness and Perth.

The area around Braemar has many connections with ancient Scottish royalty. Perhaps the earliest visitor to Braemar of national importance was Angus McFergus, King of the Picts, who in the 8th century built a timber fort at or near where the current Braemar Castle stands. The fort was an important stronghold, as it controlled one of the main fords across the River Dee.

About two centuries later it is believed Kenneth II visited Braemar on a hunting expedition. King Malcolm (Canmore) III and his army camped here before going on to defeat Macbeth at a battle near Lumphanon in 1057. King Malcolm III ruled Scotland until 1093 and was king at the time of the Battle of Hastings in 1066. During his reign it is said that he called the clans to the Braes O' Mar that he might 'by keen and fair contest' select his hardest soldiers and fleetest messengers. That great gathering could be called the original Braemar Gathering.

On 6th September, 1715, one of the more memorable Braemar Gatherings took place when the 24th Earl of Mar (John Erskine), raised the Standard for the son of deposed King James VII and II on a spot now occupied by the Invercauld Arms Hotel. The standard raising ceremony, watched by many Jacobite clan chiefs and about 2,000 Highland clansmen was followed by a great hunt in the Forest of Mar. The Jacobites however were defeated by the Hanoverian army at the Battle of Culloden, after which Scottish Highland gatherings were outlawed for over 30 years. The Earl of Mar lost his land, much of it ending up being owned by William Duff (created Earl of Fife) and John Farquharson who purchased Braemar Castle. Balmoral Castle was eventually purchased by the Earl of Fife who sold it to Queen Victoria in 1852.

Highland games as we know them are a relatively recent phenomenon. The current Braemar Gathering and Highland Games can trace its roots back to 1815, when wheel wrights and square wrights or joiners, formed the Braemar Wrights' Friendly Society. It did so as a result of enabling legislation, designed to encourage the formation of mutual assistance societies. The Society was formally registered the following year, six months to the day after Napoleon's defeat at the Battle of Waterloo. In 1817 it was registered as a Friendly Society. To join, members had to pay 10 shillings plus a quarterly fee of 1 shilling. The benefits were an annuity for members reaching the age of 70, a sickness benefit, a death benefit and a widow's allowance. It is now the oldest surviving Friendly Society in the world.

### Crathie Kirk

Crathie has been a place of Christian worship since the 9th century when a church was built on the banks of the River Dee. A later church was built on the current site in 1804 and a larger one built in 1893.

Queen Victoria worshipped at Crathie Kirk from 1848, and every British monarch since has worshipped there. Queen Victoria's decision to attend the Kirk initially caused a scandal, especially after she received communion there, because she was head of the Church of England. Victoria asserted that as Queen of Scotland, she was entitled to worship in a Scottish Presbyterian Church, and further, Crathie Kirk was the closest church to Balmoral Castle.

Traditionally the Royal Family attend a church service at Crathie Kirk on the day of the Braemar Gathering.

In 1826 the name of the Society was changed to The Braemar Highland Society. At that time the wrights had given their name to the annual procession culminating in what is now the Braemar Gathering. In 1832 the Braemar Highland Society decided to give £5 for prizes at the Gathering and the 'athletics' competition was held under the auspices of the Society for the first time in that year.

The early Games were usually held on the last Thursday in August but occasionally delayed to early September. In 1848, however, the Games were delayed until mid-September to allow Queen Victoria, coming to Balmoral for the first time, to attend.



Obviously she enjoyed the event because she became patron and regularly attended the Games thereafter and was always consulted about the date. On occasion she hosted the Games at Balmoral Castle and donated the money to be used for prizes. In 1866 she ordered that the title 'Royal' should be added to the name of the Society. In 1900 she requested that no Games be held out of respect for those who had died in the South Africa (Boer) War. There were no Games the following year for she herself died on 22 January 1901.

During Queen Victoria's reign the Gathering was attended by three neighbouring clans, representing the three large estates; the Balmoral Highlanders, Duff Highlanders (from Mar Estate) and the Farquharsons from Invercauld Estate. (Other Highlanders such as the Forbes and Lonach Highlanders sometimes took part.) The site of the Games changed regularly, each estate playing host. Sites included Balmoral Castle, Mar Lodge, Braemar Castle (often referred to simply as Mar Castle) and Clunie Park, close to Invercauld House. In 1906, however, a site close to Braemar village centre was donated by the Duke of Fife of the Mar Estate for permanent use of the Gathering. This pretty site, The Princess Royal and Duke of Fife Memorial Park, is where the Gathering is held today. It was only after this donation that an entrance fee to the Gathering was charged - to allow for the upkeep of the ground.

In 1971, the Lord Lyon King of Arms granted Letters Patent to the Society, which thereby became armigerous, or bearing its own Coats of Arms. Braemar Royal Highland Society has no function other than as a Friendly Society, but it wholly owns two limited liability companies: Braemar Highland Gathering Limited which runs the Braemar Gathering and Braemar Royal Highland Charity.

Queen Elizabeth II and various members of the Royal Family attend the Games each year and have their own pavilion from which they can watch the action in comfort. The Games function much as they have done for many years with 11 pipe bands competing against one another, performances by Highland dancers and the oldest foot races in the world. The Queen is the patron of the Gathering and presents shields and trophies to the winning competitors. The event retains an intimate, friendly character and usually attracts about 15,000 spectators.



## Assisted Immigration

Membership co-ordinator Rosemary Szente is a keen internet explorer. From the 'Index to Registers of Assisted British Immigrants 1839-1871' which is available on the internet, Rosemary has compiled a list of assisted immigrants to Australia with our clan names. The full list runs to many pages so it is impossible to provide them all in one issue of *The Downunder*. Other clan names on the list will thus be featured in future issues of our journal.

In the third of this series of shipping tables, Rosemary's work is presented here detailing the clan name Duffy. It is rather unfortunate that unlike the original shipping lists, which show family groups, this list is compiled alphabetically using the Christian name of the immigrant with a clan name.

Family Name	Given Name	Age	Month	Year	Ship
DUFFY	002 INFANTS WITH	1	JUL	1849	HOPE
DUFFY	ALICIA	20	NOV	1854	CLARA
DUFFY	ALICIA	23	OCT	1855	BALNAGUITH
DUFFY	ANN	1	JAN	1855	BIRMINGHAM
DUFFY	ANN	24	AUG	1861	ATALANTA
DUFFY	ANN	20	MAR	1864	COLDSTREAM
DUFFY	ANN	19	SEP	1841	MIDDLESEX
DUFFY	ANN	25	DEC	1851	STEBONHEATH
DUFFY	ANN	25	DEC	1851	STEBONHEATH
DUFFY	ANN	49	APR	1853	SACRAMENTO
DUFFY	ANN	23	OCT	1853	CHARLES
DUFFY	ANN ELIZA	20	MAR	1864	COLDSTREAM
DUFFY	ANNE	28	AUG	1861	ATALANTA
DUFFY	ANNE	25	SEP	1857	CHANCE
DUFFY	ANNE	23	OCT	1841	CATHERINE JAMIESON
DUFFY	BRIDGET	22	AUG	1845	CATARAQUI
DUFFY	BRIDGET	16	DEC	1848	LADY KENNAWAY
DUFFY	BRIDGET	16	DEC	1848	LADY KENNAWAY
DUFFY	BRIDGET	16	DEC	1848	LADY KENNAWAY
DUFFY	BRIDGET	21	NOV	1857	JESSIE MUNN
DUFFY	BRIDGET	20	MAR	1864	COLDSTREAM
DUFFY	BRIDGET	20	MAR	1864	COLDSTREAM
DUFFY	BRIDGET	28	JUL	1857	MALDON
DUFFY	CATHERINE	11	JAN	1855	BIRMINGHAM
DUFFY	CATHERINE	23	AUG	1857	UNDAUNTED
DUFFY	ELEANOR	25	MAY	1853	BRIDE
DUFFY	ELIZA	22	NOV	1841	WALLACE
DUFFY	ELIZABETH	24	AUG	1857	UNDAUNTED
DUFFY	ELIZABETH	18	AUG	1857	ECHUNGA
DUFFY	ELIZABETH	8	APR	1853	SACRAMENTO
DUFFY	ELLEN	19	AUG	1857	ECHUNGA
DUFFY	ELLEN	20	OCT	1855	THAMES
DUFFY	ELLEN	34	JUL	1849	HOPE



DUFFY	FANNY	17	MAR	1850	DERWENT
DUFFY	FANNY	17	FEB	1850	DERWENT
DUFFY	FRANCES	2	JUL	1849	HOPE
DUFFY	HANORA	23	JAN	1870	CADUCEUS
DUFFY	HONORA	23	JAN	1870	CADUCEUS
DUFFY	HONORA	21	SEP	1857	HORNET
DUFFY	JAMES	22	JUL	1857	MALDON
DUFFY	JAMES	22	JUL	1857	MALDON
DUFFY	JANE	22	AUG	1857	ECHUNGA
DUFFY	JANE	36	JUL	1840	THERESA
DUFFY	JANE	21	JUL	1848	PALMIRA
DUFFY	JANE	21	JUL	1848	PALMIRA
DUFFY	JOHN	1	JUL	1840	THERESA
DUFFY	JOHN	26	SEP	1841	MIDDLESEX
DUFFY	JOHN	34	JUL	1849	HOPE
DUFFY	JOHN	20	OCT	1855	BALNAGUITH
DUFFY	JOHN	27	JAN	1855	BIRMINGHAM
DUFFY	JOSEPH	19	APR	1853	SACRAMENTO
DUFFY	KYRAN	4	JAN	1855	BIRMINGHAM
DUFFY	MARGARET	35	JAN	1855	BIRMINGHAM
DUFFY	MARGARET	20	JUL	1855	TORNADO
DUFFY	MARGARET	21	JUL	1862	BOANERGES
DUFFY	MARGARET	20	SEP	1851	STATESMAN
DUFFY	MARGARET	24	JUN	1852	MANGERTON
DUFFY	MARGT	-	JUL	1862	BOANERGES
DUFFY	MARGT	21	JUL	1862	BOANERGES
DUFFY	MARY	20	MAR	1862	SHACKAMAXON
DUFFY	MARY	20	AUG	1860	OCEAN HOME
DUFFY	MARY	14	JAN	1855	BIRMINGHAM
DUFFY	MARY	18	AUG	1857	ECHUNGA
DUFFY	MARY	22	SEP	1852	MARCO POLO
DUFFY	MARY	22	JUN	1852	MANGERTON
DUFFY	MARY	16	JAN	1850	DIADEM
DUFFY	MARY	16	JAN	1850	DIADEM
DUFFY	MARY	16	FEB	1842	REGULUS
DUFFY	MARY	18	AUG	1845	CATARAQUI
DUFFY	MARY	27	MAR	1853	THAMES
DUFFY	MAY	20	AUG	1860	OCEAN HOME
DUFFY	RICHARD	26	SEP	1851	STATESMAN
DUFFY	ROSANNA	26	DEC	1854	VIOLET
DUFFY	SETH	6	JUL	1849	HOPE
DUFFY	SUSANNAH	25	DEC	1852	TICONDEROGA
DUFFY	THADY	18	JUN	1858	ATALANTA
DUFFY	THOMAS	47	APR	1853	SACRAMENTO
DUFFY	THOMAS	17	APR	1853	SACRAMENTO
DUFFY	WINIFRED	16	DEC	1848	LADY KENNAWAY
DUFFY	WINIFRED	16	DEC	1848	LADY KENNAWAY
DUFFY	WINIFRED	16	DEC	1848	LADY KENNAWAY
DUFFY	WM	32	JUL	1840	THERESA

# Scotland News: 2011 Elections

## Background

The original Parliament of Scotland (or "Estates of Scotland") was the national legislature of the independent Kingdom of Scotland, and existed from the early 13th century until it merged with the Kingdom of England under the Acts of Union 1707 to form the Kingdom of Great Britain. As a consequence, the Parliament of Scotland merged with the Parliament of England to form the Parliament of Great Britain, which sat at Westminster in London.

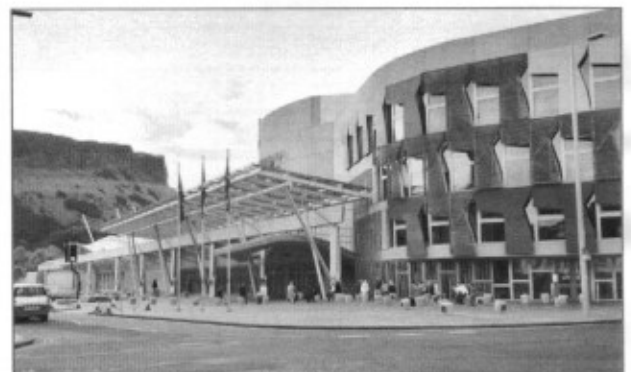
While the Scots lost their independence with the Act of Union, many of them did not lose their nationalistic fervour and desire to recapture their freedom from the Westminster Parliament. It is probably fair to say, that applied particularly to those in the Highlands and Islands. Politically, those aspirations are now represented by The Scottish National Party, whose core goal is securing Scotland's independence. As a way of addressing the perennial problem of Scottish nationalism, in 1997, the Labour Government agreed to give Scotland its own Parliament and a greater say over how to spend their money in such areas as health and education.

Following a referendum in 1997, in which the Scottish electorate gave their consent, the current Parliament was established by the Scotland Act 1998, which sets out its powers as a devolved legislature. The Act delineates the legislative competence of the Parliament – the areas in which it can make laws – by explicitly specifying powers that are "reserved" to the Parliament of the United Kingdom: all matters that are not explicitly reserved are automatically the responsibility of the Scottish Parliament. The British Parliament retains the ability to amend the terms of reference of the Scottish Parliament, and can extend or reduce the areas in which it can make laws. The first meeting of the new Parliament took place on 12 May 1999.

The Scottish Parliament (in Gaelic: *Pàrlamaid na h-Alba*, i.e. *The Scots Pairliament*) is the devolved national, single chamber legislature of Scotland. It is a democratically elected body comprising 129 members known as Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs). Members are elected for a 4 year term under a mixed proportional representation, or additional member system. As a result, 73 members are elected on a first past the post basis for each constituency, and another 56 are elected from 8 regions each of which covers a wider geographic area than the constituencies (i.e. 7 members from each of the 8 regions). This system tends to favour the formation of multi-party governments rather than one with a single party capable of governing in its own right.

## Parliament House

The new Parliament House (pictured right) is located at Holyrood, within the UNESCO World Heritage Site in central Edinburgh. Construction of the building commenced in June 1999 and Members of Parliament held their first debate in the new building on 7 September 2004. The formal opening by Queen Elizabeth II took place on 9 October 2004. Enric Miralles, the Catalan architect who designed the building, died before its completion.



The building and its construction was controversial. The choices of location, architect, design, use of non-indigenous materials e.g. granite from China instead of Scotland, and the construction company were all criticised by politicians, the media and the Scottish public. Scheduled to open in 2001, it did so in 2004, more than three years late, with an estimated final cost of £414 million, many times higher than initial estimates of between £10m and £40m. A major public inquiry into the handling of the construction of the building criticised the management of the whole project from the realisation of cost increases down to the way in which major design changes were implemented. Anyone visiting Holyrood to see the new Parliament building could not help but be struck by how unusual the building is (some might say ugly) and how out of character it is to the historic buildings around it.



## 2011 Election Result

In the elections held on 5 May 2011, the Scottish National Party (SNP) won an historic majority, allowing it to control the parliament and govern for the first time in its own right. It is the first majority government since the opening of Holyrood. The party's leader is Alex Salmond who retains his position as Scotland's First Minister in charge of the government. The Scottish National Party was once seen as a fringe party, whose main policy agenda was to secure independence for Scotland. That has now changed.

The Scottish National Party won 69 seats, the most the party has ever held at either a Holyrood or Westminster election. The SNP gained 32 constituencies, 22 from the Scottish Labour Party, 9 from the Scottish Liberal Democrats and 1 from the Scottish Conservatives. Such was the scale of their gains that, of the 73 constituencies in Scotland, only 20 are now represented by MSPs of other political parties. The Scottish Labour Party lost 7 seats and suffered their worst election defeat in Scotland since 1931. The Scottish Liberal Democrats were soundly defeated; their popular vote share was cut in half and their seat total reduced from 17 to 5. For the Scottish Conservatives, the election proved disappointing as their popular vote dropped slightly and their number of seats fell by 5. A vote summary is as follows:

Constituency vote		Regional vote	
Scottish National Party	45.4%	Scottish National Party	44.0%
Scottish Labour Party	31.7%	Scottish Labour Party	26.3%
Scottish Conservative Party	13.9%	Scottish Conservative Party	12.4%
Scottish Liberal Democrats	7.9%	Scottish Liberal Democrats	5.2%
Others	0.5%	Others	6.6%
Independent	0.5%	Scottish Green Party	4.4%
		Independent	1.2%

The composition of the Scottish Parliament comprising 129 members is as follows: Scottish National Party 69, Scottish Labour Party 37, Scottish Conservative Party 15, Scottish Liberal Democrats 5, Scottish Green Party 2, Independent 1.

The win turned the Scottish Nationalists from being a slightly quirky one issue party into a mainstream one, able to offer a credible alternative to the established major parties. The Scottish National Party's win however puts it in a somewhat difficult position. Having long promised to hold a referendum on independence, the party's leader Alex Salmond has no choice but to go ahead. The polls however show that a majority of Scots oppose independence. Apparently as one observer put it, the Scottish people 'seem to like a government that fights within the union' that makes up Britain i.e. England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Apparently they feel they do not need independence. A "no" vote would likely be a severe blow to the Nationalist's credibility. (ref: [www.thetimes.co.uk](http://www.thetimes.co.uk); The Times, July issue The Australian Financial Review )

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## EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

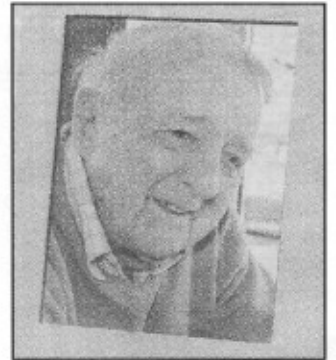
Aug 7	Beechworth Highland Games, Amulet Vineyard Beechworth VIC
Aug 27	Gathering of the Clans at Harry Moore Oval Toukley NSW
Sept 17	Clans on the Coast, Port Stephens Celtic Festival, Nelson Bay NSW
Sept 18	Manly Warringah Pipe Band Contest & Highland Gathering, Manly Oval NSW
Oct 15	Wollongong Highland Games, Viking Oval, Wollongong NSW
Nov 6	Castle Hill Pipe Band Contest, Castle Hill Showground NSW
Nov 12	Armada Highland Gathering, Minnawarra Park, WA
Dec 3	Daylesford Highland Gathering, Daylesford VIC

## Obituaries

### **John Milroy McPhee (S74-018) 1919-2011**

John Milroy McPhee, known as Mac or Johnny, was born to Greta and assistant bank manager Archie McPhee, then living at Ceduna, South Australia. Living at Cleve he was home schooled by his mother before beginning his formal education there aged 8. His sister Beth was born in 1924.

The family moved to Balaklava and Mac continued his secondary education as a boarder at Scotch College in Adelaide. He was gifted academically and participated in athletics and played hockey. After high school he enrolled at the University of Adelaide to study medicine. In his 3rd year, Australia declared war and he immediately joined the army via the Citizens Military Force. He was excluded from the army proper because it wanted him to finish his studies. At university he was an active student representative and captained the hockey team.



After university, the army wanted all medical graduates to have done some resident training in a surgical unit before joining, so Mac went to the Army General's 100-bed unit. He spent 6 months at a camp at Loveday, near Berri, where Adelaide's Italian and German citizens were held. He was then posted to the Northern Territory for one year. He later transferred to the Australian Army's 17th Brigade/Medical Corps, serving in New Guinea until the end of the war. He was pleased to avoid being sent to Japan.

Mac married Joan Mahood in 1946 at Hawthorn. They had 4 daughters. He is survived by daughters Ann, Margie and Sandy, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

### **Inez Lavinia Rosser (Q84-541) 1926-2010**

Inez was born at Biggenden, the 4th child of Robert and Jeanie Martin of Coalstoun Lakes. She grew up on an AIS stud dairy farm.

Attending Maryborough High School, Inez won an open scholarship to the University of Queensland where she graduated with honours in English and French. She then went on to become a teacher. In 1950 she married David Rosser and together they made their home in Warwick. Inez taught senior English and French at Warwick High.

In 1968 a property called Carabeen was purchased, on which grew rainforest inhabited with the Albert's Lyrebird. About 1978 they bought a farm at Killarney where, after retirement, they ran cattle which became their pride and joy. Inez and David joined the Society for Growing Australian Plants and Inez became an active environmentalist. Her first major environmental campaign involved opposing the proposed SEQ Eastlink electricity power line link from NSW to QLD. Later she became involved with the Dan-Pork campaign to oppose a proposal to build a piggery and abattoir near Pratten on the Condamine River. For her, the real issue was about land use and effluent disposal.



After becoming a member of the Condamine Headwaters Landcare Group, she moved to have Carabeen declared a nature refuge to protect a habitat for the Albert's Lyrebird and to preserve a remnant area of rainforest. Carabeen became a gazetted nature refuge in August 1968, the first in the Condamine catchment. Inez will be remembered as a dedicated teacher, passionate environmentalist, and one who was determined to see that right prevailed.

### **Nancy Collie V75-128**

A note from Nancy's niece, Donna Young, advising the Society of her death stated: "Our aunt was very proud of her heritage and no one was surprised when she left the request to have the bagpipe rendition of 'Highland Cathedral' played at the end of her memorial service."



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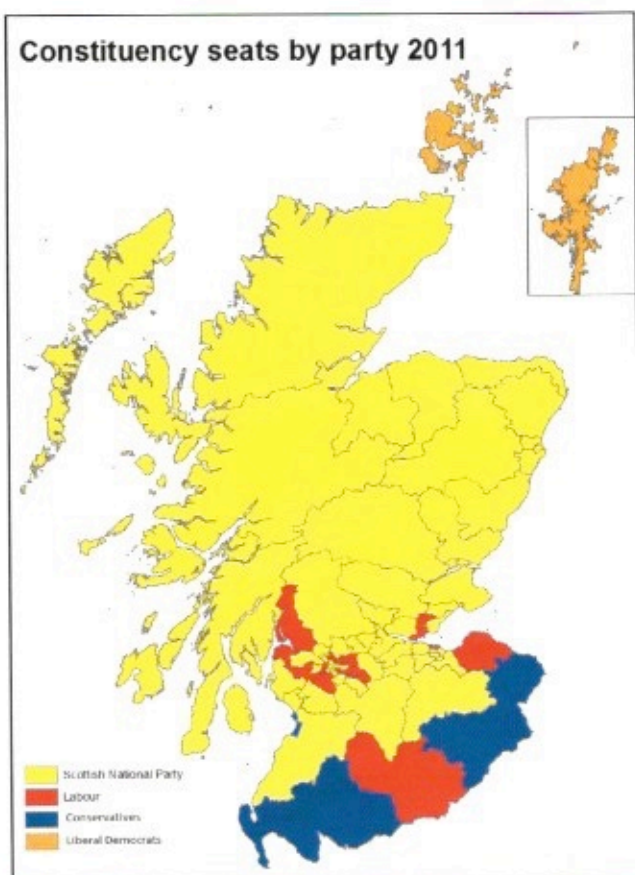
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## Disclaimer & Note

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. All contributions submitted for publication are subject to alteration and editing.



The Scottish National Party won an historic majority in the 2011 Scottish elections. The seats they won are depicted on the map of Scotland above in yellow. Seats won by Labour are shown in red; by the Conservatives in blue and by the Liberal Democrats in orange. For the story see pages 12 & 13.



The Macfie Clan Society tent at the Aberdeen Highland Gathering manned by Geoff and Ruth McPhee



The Scone RSL Pipe Band in their Macfie Clan tartan at the Aberdeen Highland Gathering.



The kilted skiers at left raised money for charity. For the story see page 6.