



THE DOWNUNDER

Journal of the
Macfie Clan Society of Australia

Issue 120
November 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



President's Message

Apart from our members, *The Downunder* is undoubtedly the most important asset the Society has. It is the glue that binds members around Australia together. The big improvement in the quality of the journal this year has been most pleasing for me. Apart from the better quality paper and colour image on the front cover, it now has an index which will pay dividends in the future. Since the Society's inception, *The Downunder* has provided a wonderful historical record and being able to access that information with an accurate index is an important step forward in its development.

On the subject of *The Downunder*, all members are invited to submit articles of interest for our journal. Likewise if you have a good photo that may be used, please send it in. It may end up on the front cover. The 3

images that have appeared this year on the front cover I have taken myself but being a pretty poor photographer, I would love to receive some interesting photos from members.

In August this year I was fortunate to have the opportunity of attending the launch of a book written by Society member Father Anscar McPhee. As that involved travelling from Sydney to Melbourne, where the book was launched, I took the opportunity to visit a number of our members not only in Melbourne, but throughout rural Victoria. Country hospitality is still well and truly alive. During my 10 days away I travelled about 2,500 kilometres and saw numerous Society members I would otherwise not have met. I would like to express my great appreciation to all those I was lucky enough to spend some time with, share a 'cuppa' with, and when time permitted, a meal with. We will learn about some of those interesting people in the 'Members in Profile' section of this and forthcoming issues of *The Downunder*. Details of Father Anscar's book can be seen on page 5.

The Macfie Clan Society's 19th Biennial General Meeting will be held in 2012. As President I have expressed the desire on several occasions to share such a function around the states rather than confine them to the 3 eastern states.

I am hoping next year we may be able to hold the function in Western Australia, as it is many years since one has been held there. As for timing, a consideration will be given to a spring rather than the usual time of May. At the last BGM in Sydney, Clan Commissioner Sandy McPhee suggested it may be worth holding it at a different time of the year to coincide with a Scottish event. As many people are away overseas in May when it has been held near 'McPhee Day', I think that is an excellent suggestion. If any member has any thoughts on the issue, please make them known so the executive can consider them before making a final decision early next year.

I wish all members of the Society a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. To all those who have sent in articles that have appeared in *The Downunder*, a big thank you. In particular to contributors Past President Bernie McPhee from Melbourne, Clan Society Piper Bob McPhee from Deepwater, Sandy McPhee from QLD and historian Trevor Phee from NSW. Thanks also to Rosemary Szente from Sydney for producing *The Downunder* labels. Also my appreciation to Morris, Robyn, Geoff and Ruth McPhee who have represented the Society at Scottish gatherings. Many thanks to all the executive members and those who have helped throughout the year.

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Front Cover: "Puppy", depicting a West Highland White Terrier outside the Guggenheim Museum, story page 7

MEMBERS IN PROFILE

VIC member:	Ian R McPhee (V77-333)
Migrant forebears:	John McPhee & 7 children: Margaret, Alexander, John, Ann, Isabella, Robert and Archibald
Occupation:	Shepherd
Home in Scotland:	Killiechonate, Shire of Inverness
Emigrant ship:	<i>Childe Harold</i>
Arrived Australia:	from Liverpool, Geelong 16 th June 1853
Pioneer forebears:	John McPhee & Bridget Loney



Member's story in brief: Born in 1956, Ian is the son of Robert and Lily (nee Collander) McPhee. His father was a blacksmith, welder and motor mechanic and his mother a nurse. Ian was born and raised in Shepparton with his siblings, Norman, born 1952, Colleen, born 1955, Geoffrey, 1959, and Vicki in 1960. After attending Shepparton East Primary and completing school at Shepparton High, he trained as a postal clerk in Melbourne where he stayed for 3 years.

In 1978 he married Shepparton girl Heather Barton whom he had known at high school. After their marriage they moved back to Shepparton where Ian worked as an office manager at a car yard and Heather continued her nursing. Living in Shepparton, their daughter Belinda was born in 1981 and Amy in 1982. After a stint as a credit controller & accountant at Dalgety's, Ian worked at TAFE in the administration area for 17 years. A major change for both Ian and his wife took place about 13 years ago when Heather set up a company called 'Leap Frog P/L'. The company was the vehicle used to utilise a quality management system Heather had developed involving quality, policy and procedures applicable especially for aged care facilities. While Heather deals directly with clients, which involves travel, Ian does all the administration and computer work from home.

Like his father, Ian is a hands on, practical person. When a rural property was purchased out of Shepparton a few years ago, Ian built a new home from scratch and also set up a computer system for Leap Frog Pty Ltd. He has been a member of the Jaguar Car Club in Shepparton for 30 years and loves restoring and riding motor bikes.

NSW member:	Marie Kathleen Tattam (N89-718)
Migrant forebears:	Robert Mahaffey & Mary A Mansfield
Occupation:	Not known in Ireland, hawker in Australia
Home in Scotland:	Loughbrickland, County Down, Ireland
Emigrant ship:	Possibly <i>Kate</i> 1855 or <i>Palmyra</i> 1859
Pioneer forebears:	William J Mahaffey & Catherine E Brown



Member's story in brief: Marie is definitely a bush girl. The daughter of Manus & Edna Sweeny, Marie was born in 1935 at Moree in far north western NSW. She attended Catholic primary schools in Moree and Narrabri before going to high school at St. Mary's College, Gunnedah. She was a boarder at the school run by the Mercy Nuns.

After completing her schooling, Marie worked as a clerk in the Moree branch of the Department of Lands. In 1961 she married Terrence Tattam who was a dental mechanic and butcher. Not long after their marriage they moved on to a sheep-cattle and wheat property out of Moree called 'Tuncooey'. There Marie and her husband raised 4 children – Charles, Paul, Anne Marie and Louise.

When her husband Terrence passed away in 1994, Marie remained on their property and her two sons Charles and Paul continued to run 'Tuncooey'. The property now has few livestock and concentrates on producing grain crops such as wheat, barley, chick peas, sorghum and sunflower. Marie has been a dedicated genealogist for over 30 years and is also a member of the Gwydir Family History Society. She is also secretary of Moree Day View Club.

GENERAL NEWS

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 August and the end of December 2011, are an essential part of our funding and greatly appreciated.

Rosemary Szente
G Bruce McFee

Newport NSW
Singapore

News from Glen McPhee in NZ

It was a big loss to our Society when former ACT Vice President and former editor of *The Downunder* Glen McPhee and his wife Glenda (V77-357) relocated to New Zealand. Glen and Glenda have retained their membership of our Society, and as can be seen from the membership number, have now been members for 34 years.

In addition to their own membership, Glen and his wife have maintained the membership of their two daughters, Darlene who resides in New Zealand and Kelly, who with her husband has recently relocated back to Australia.

Glen is now also a member of the McPhee Clan Society of New Zealand and has recently been elected to the position of Vice President. With Glen's enthusiasm for Scottish heritage he will be a great asset to our friends across the ditch.

Glen reports that the New Zealand Society has slowed down a bit in recent years but its members are now trying to ramp up their activities and profile. Glen has requested information from Australia about the banners we have had made and any merchandise we may be able to source. In addition he asked if we had "any ambitions to get the Clan Commander to visit Australia and maybe NZ".

On the Move

Over the past few months Father Anscar McPhee (Pat McPhee) from Western Australia has been staying at the Carmelite Priory in the Melbourne suburb of Middle Park. Staying there he is in good company with his brother Mathew and not far from his other brother Past President Bernie McPhee.

Fr. Anscar's time at the Kalumburu Mission in the Kimberley area of Western Australia has now come to an end. He will miss life on the mission, but failing eyesight and other issues have made the move

necessary. In the new year he is relocating to the Holy Trinity Abbey at New Norcia located about 130 kilometres north of Perth.

Iona Public School

Society member Rosemary Owens from Warners Bay near Newcastle in NSW is a registered nurse and has recently retired from her role in community nursing.

Rosemary is a relation of Commissioner Sandy McPhee in Qld and now that she has more free time, is looking forward to delving into her McPhee family history. She has a particular interest in the Iona Public School at Woodville, which is a small rural school situated between Maitland and Patterson. A school has existed on the site since 1850.

Rosemary's pioneering forebear John McPhie arrived in Australia on the *Minerva* with his mother Ann and 5 siblings. He rented 1,140 acres of church and school lands at Woodville in 1847 and called the property "Iona". When the land was subdivided and sold in 1868, John purchased the homestead block of 321 acres. The family has an historical association with the land on which the Iona Public School stands.

In Memoriam

Long term member Nella Rutledge died at home on 22/9/2011.

Victorian member and Melbourne resident Jan Harper attended Nella's funeral and sent in the following report:

"I went to Nella's funeral last week. It was very nicely run and featured the McPhie clan on the Order of Service, with tartan and the crest. There were mostly relations so Dean had a lot of support. I was the only Clan member there.

The flowers I got from the McPhie Clan were put up the front under the lectern. They were red, yellow and green in a box and were wrapped in McPhie tartan paper (made by photocopying my McPhee scarf) with a card with the crest."

Many thanks to Jan for the terrific effort she made not only to pay her respects and support Dean, but to represent our Society.

News from Bob McPhee, Deepwater

Society piper Bob McPhee has been actively involved in Scottish affairs again this year. He sent in the following report about a Clan Campbell function he attended:

"In May this year I received an invitation from Clan Secretary for Clan Campbell in Q'ld, Mrs Morag A. Campbell-Hutton, inviting the clanspeople of Clan Macfie, to join Clan Campbell to hear Ann Swain Bs.Sc.Dip.Ed., immediate Past President of the Qld Family History Society speak on 'The Truth About Scottish Convicts to Australia', to be held on Sat. 21 May 2011, Morag is an old friend of mine from when I first attended Clans' Congress meetings quite some years ago, and I was elected Secretary and remained in that position for 3 years, and was then elected President.

I received rather short notice of this function but did travel to Brisbane and attended. I was also accompanied by my cousin, Doreen Gordon (nee McPhee), Doreen being a Macfie Society member who resides at Mt. Gravatt, Brisbane. There was a good attendance of Clan Campbell members and a few other clanspeople. The speaker Ann Swain gave a most excellent speech on the subject and answered numerous questions from the audience. The speech was followed by an excellent afternoon tea. The Clan Campbell members present were very friendly and both Doreen and I enjoyed the afternoon."

Bob is currently a member of The Scottish Clans' Congress of Queensland, and by virtue of that membership has been able to represent The Macfie Clan Society of Australia. Bob was unable to attend this years AGM but has sent in the following (edited) note about the Congress following its annual general meeting:

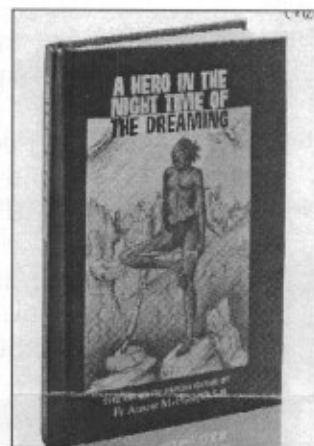
"The Clans' Congress has a new Secretary, Mr. George Leslie, (Clan Leslie Society of Aust. & NZ). The President is Mr. Ernest Thompson.... The President and Secretary are looking to conduct its first ever Highland Gathering in South/East Q'ld and have already obtained a park to run it in at no cost etc. And they are looking at around mid 2012."

McPhee Book Launch

Many Society members would be familiar with the large family that includes Father Anscar and his brother Past President Bernie McPhee. Father Anscar is a Benedictine monk who has spent 28 years living on an Aboriginal mission called Kalumburu in the remote north east Kimberley area of Western Australia. In that time he became a loved and trusted friend of many of the old people of Kalumburu who shared their wonderful oral history with him.

Inspired by these largely undocumented accounts of Kalumburu bush life, Father Anscar wove their wonderful tales and traditions into a magnificent story: that of Penda Gudje, a leader of supreme integrity and gifted in Aboriginal cultural ideals. His book is called *A Hero in the Night Time of the Dreaming*.

The story of Penda Gudje is a dreamtime story of how a great warrior inspired his people to unite against the poisonous scourge of the Two Body Monster Malan and his wicked spirits the *Djimis*. Set around Kalumburu, the story is enriched with words from the traditional P'la language, spoken by the Kuini and Kulari people in years gone by, and uses photographs of local ice age rock art to assist in the story telling. *A Hero in the Night Time of the Dreaming* will delight and entertain anthropologists, students of Aboriginal language and culture, rock art enthusiasts and anyone who enjoys a tale of triumph over evil.



Father Anscar's book was launched on 12th August at the Carmelite Hall at 214 Richardson Street, Middle Park. With talks by a retired bishop (who was an anthropologist), Father Anscar and one of his former young Aboriginal charges from Kalumburu, it was one of those inspirational functions that struck an emotional cord in everyone who attended. As such it will live long in the memory of those who were there. As President of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia, I felt privileged to receive an invitation to the launch and was fortunate to have the opportunity to meet numerous Society members on the journey from Sydney through country Victoria to Melbourne. *A Hero in The Night Time of the Dreaming* is a hardcover book that costs \$25.00 and can be obtained online from www.dreamtimehero.com or by contacting Bernie McPhee on 03 96999820.

McPhees in the Spotlight

Miss Rodeo Australia

Miss Rodeo Australia is a nation wide organisation that brings together rodeo enthusiasts for a yearly pageant and competition to select and crown Miss Rodeo Australia from among Australian's rodeo queens. The entrants, having already spent a year as reigning queen for their representative states, converge for a week long competition in January to select one deserving young woman to reign as Miss Rodeo Australia for the coming year. The winner will naturally be an accomplished equestrian and serve as an official spokesperson for the sport of professional rodeo.

Young 20 year old Caitlyn McPhee won the Miss Warragul Rodeo title in March 2010 and went on to win the Miss Rodeo Australia title at the Texas Rodeo in Queensland run by the Australian Professional Rodeo Association (APRA).

Caitlyn, who is from the small Victorian township of Millbrook near Ballarat. She and siblings Chris, Nicole and Ashlee were all born into a family that has had a long association with horses and competition in rodeos. Her New Zealand born father moved to Australia when he was 14 and rode in buckjumping, bull riding and roping competitions. Her mother was also an accomplished horse rider, competing in barrel racing and other events at rodeos.

Caitlyn was riding a horse before she could walk and competed in her first rodeo when she was just 4 years old. She has grown a lot since that time and now has a commanding presence being about 188 cm (6 feet 2 inches) tall. Although she competes in several rodeo events, her pet competition event is the sport of barrel racing. Caitlyn works as a horse breaker and horse trainer, a job where she often has to start at 3 am, a tough task on a cold winter morning. (sources; www, Brisbane Courier Mail)



Caitlyn McPhee

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Chris McPhee Takes a Stand

The following story about antiques dealer Chris McPhee (pictured below, who is not a Society member) has been extracted from an article written by Mathew Dunckley under the heading 'Chapel St traders in fees revolt' that appeared in The Australian Financial Review on 18th July.

"Chris McPhee isn't the trendiest denizen of Chapel Street but he knows more than most about what is arguably Melbourne's premier shopping strip.

It was in 1924, long before fashion labels, funky food outlets, 24 hour clubs and doof-doof blasting cars made their way to the strip, that McPhee's Fine Antiques opened its doors on Chapel Street. Mr McPhee has now worked there for 56 years.

During that time, he has tried to stay out of the many public rows about the shape or future of the street but a proposed doubling in the special rate used to market the street has put him front and centre of a row with the council and Streets Ahead, the body that administers the charge.



Mr McPhee said he was unhappy the traders were assumed to support the increase if they had not responded to a letter notifying them of the change. The initial official result was 42 percent of the 1202 traders affected had formally opposed the increase. But McPhee said many traders were simply too busy to read through all their mail and would not have responded.

A petition organised by Mr McPhee and some friends raised 243 signatures, 92 per cent of them opposed to the increase. McPhee does not buy into the argument that extra spending on marketing can bring extra business".

The West Highland White Terrier

Affectionately known as Westies, The West Highland White Terrier is a small white long haired dog which stands about 30 centimetres high and weighs about 7 kilograms. It is a game, confident, hardy little dog which despite being very friendly, makes an excellent watchdog. It originated in Scotland.

Scottish white terriers were recorded during the reign of James I of England (James VI of Scotland) 1567-1625 during which time a dozen terriers were procured from Argyll for a gift to the Kingdom of France. Sandy and brindle coloured dogs were more common than white and considered harder than their white counterparts. Terriers were commonly used as working dogs to hunt game and control vermin such as rats on farms.

At various times The West Highland White Terrier has been considered a white offshoot of both the Scottish Terrier and the Cairn Terrier. It is generally accepted however that the modern breed was developed by Edward Donald Malcolm, 16th Laird of Poltalloch, who bred Cairn Terriers. Poltalloch is situated near Kilmartin between Lochgilphead and Oban on Scotland's west coast. The story goes that after a reddish-brown terrier was mistakenly shot for a fox, the Laird of Poltalloch decided to select white puppies from his Cairn Terrier litters which eventually gave rise to a distinctive new breed of dog.

The breed was originally known as Poltalloch Terriers after the landowner who developed it. The Laird however decided he did not want his title to be the name of the breed and insisted it be changed. It was re-named the West Highland White Terrier, a name which first appeared in a publication called *Otters and Otter Hunting*, published in 1908. Similar breeds of dog developed around the same era. They include the Roseneath Terrier bred by George Campbell, 8th Duke of Argyll and the Pittenweem Terrier developed from a white Scottish Terrier by Dr. Americ E Flaxman from Fife.



The West Highland White Terrier is particularly popular in the United States. Contemporary American artist and sculptor Jeff Koons apparently had a soft spot for the breed. When commissioned in 1992 to create a piece of art for an exhibition in Germany, the result was 'Puppy', a large topiary structure with 20,000 plants depicting a West Highland White Terrier. The artistic piece was a non-permanent one and dismantled and discarded when the exhibition ended. Coons developed a sturdy permanent 'Puppy' that was displayed outside the Museum of Contemporary Art on Sydney Harbour in 1995. It was commissioned as a highlight for the 1996 Sydney Festival. The 12 metre tall sculpture displayed 60,000 plants and flowers through steel mesh and had a permanent internal irrigation system.

'Puppy' was later dismantled and re-erected on the forecourt outside the Guggenheim Museum at Bilbao in northern Spain. It was so popular with the people of Bilbao and the tourists that visited the museum, it was purchased by the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation and kept as a permanent display. As can be seen on the front cover, It is indeed a remarkable piece of public art based on a little Scottish dog.

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The Glebe Project on our Ancestral Home, Colonsay

Starting in March 2011, an attempt is being made to identify and record all forms of natural history within the confines of The Glebe, and earlier records will be included where available. Volunteers are asked to contribute and it is hoped that the ongoing record will be published online. This echoes pioneering work by John and Pamela Clarke in the 1980s, but on a more modest scale.

The Glebe is about 50 metres north of the Medical Centre at Scalasaig, with a map at the main access point. The total distance on the west side of the road is 1 km. The total distance on the east side of the road if taking the shoreline walk is 1 km. A leisurely circuit takes up to 90 minutes. Some of the birds spotted at The Glebe from the shoreline recently include Common Cuckoo, Greenland White-fronted Goose, White-tailed Eagle, Baleromindubh, European Robin and Red Kite.

Robert Burns

Robert Burns was born on 25th January 1759 in Alloway near Ayr, south of Glasgow. He is Scotland's National Bard and one of the greatest poets of the 18th Century. A literary genius, Burns had a remarkable talent for portraying the truth of what he saw in daily life. His 'innocent' mind enabled him to capture in words the exact truth, without any thought for the consequences.

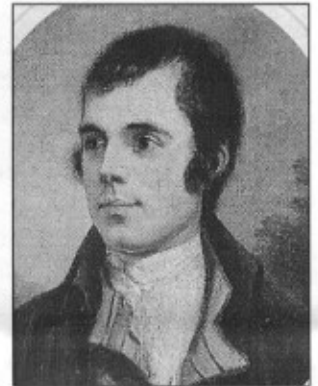
In addition to poems, many lovely old Scottish tunes would have been lost but for Burns' putting words to them. His song 'My Luvie is Like a Red, Red Rose' is a stunningly beautiful love song, which is an amalgam of several old ballads. His brilliant song 'Auld Lang Syne' shows the depth of his humanity and is still sung right around the world, especially at New Year.

At the age of 38, Robert Burns died on 21st July 1796 in his home at Mill Street, Dumfries. He was buried with full military honours in St. Michael's churchyard. The poet was a well respected member of the Royal Dumfries Volunteers. Two regiments were in Dumfries at the time of his death, that of the Fencible Infantry of Angusshire and the Cinque Ports Cavalry. Both were in attendance at Burns' funeral. In 1815 his remains were transferred to a mausoleum erected in his honour in the same churchyard.

The Burns' Supper

Robert Burns' talent was recognised during his lifetime, but he became a legend following his death. The cottage where he was born which was built by his father, is now world famous. In 1801 nine of Burns' friends met there and had supper to celebrate his life. That gathering started the Burns' Suppers. Burns' Suppers are now held on or around the 25th January each year to celebrate and commemorate the life of Robert Burns. His world acclaimed song Auld Lang Syne is always sung during those evenings.

No Burns' Supper would be authentic unless haggis was part of the menu. On such occasions (and at formal Scottish functions where it is served), it is accompanied with a recitation of Robert Burns' poem 'Address to a Haggis' which he wrote in 1787. Robert Burns immortalised one of Scotland's old traditional meals.



Haggis

Haggis is assumed to originate in Scotland, but there is no evidence to substantiate that assumption or attribute its origins to any particular place. In that regard it is a little bit like the origin of bagpipes. It is difficult to identify exactly when the Scottish haggis as described by Burns, came into existence, but it is definitely an old Scottish dish. Apparently the first known written recipe for a dish with the name 'hagese' appeared in the cookbook *Liber Cure Cocorum* around 1430 in Lancashire, north west England. The origin of the name is also unclear. It may have had its origins in links to Scandinavian "hag" meaning to "hew" or the French "hageur" meaning "to cut".

In the days when hunting was a means of basic survival, all parts of a dead animal had to be used. The skins were used as clothing, the gut and tissue used as thread for sewing, with the main carcass and organs used as food. The bulk content meat was often dried or salted and proved suitable to keep for later consumption. The innards and organs of the beast were the most perishable parts and had to be consumed first. It was recognised that the stomach made an excellent cooking vessel, and that mixing the organs with seasoning and meal, and cooking it provided an excellent dish for the table. This basic method of cooking has been traced back to Greek and Roman times.

Haggis is made up of a sheep's 'pluck' i.e. the heart, liver and lungs, minced with onion, oatmeal, fat, spices and salt to create a very rich, unusual, but none the less delicious meal. In years gone by haggis was prepared in roughly the following manner: The liver, lungs & heart of a sheep were boiled. The meat was then minced and mixed with chopped onions, toasted oatmeal and seasoning. The mixture was then put into a cleaned sheep's stomach, sown up leaving enough room for expansion and boiled. Today only top quality meats, spices and oatmeal are used which are contained in a synthetic skin instead of a sheep's stomach. Good quality haggis can be much better than your average sausage. Haggis is traditionally served with 'neeps and tatties' - boiled and mashed swedes, turnips and potatoes, accompanied with a glass of Scotch whisky known as a 'dram'.

Address to a Haggis

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin-race!
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,
Painch, tripe, or thairm:
Weel are ye wordy o' a grace
As lang's my arm.

The groaning trencher there ye fill,
Your hurdies like a distant hill,
Your pin wad help to mend a mill
In time o' need,
While thro' your pores the dewes distil
Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic Labour dight,
An' cut you up wi' ready sleight,
Trenching your gushing entrails bright,
Like ony ditch;
And then, O what a glorious sight,
Warm-reekin, rich!

Then, horn for horn,
they stretch an' strive:
Deil tak the hindmost! on they drive,
Till a' their weel-swallow'd kytes belyve,
Are bent lyke drums;
Then auld Guidman, maist like to rive,
"Bethankit!" 'hums.

Is there that owre his French ragout
Or olio that wad staw a sow,
Or fricassee wad mak her spew
Wi' perfect sconner,
Looks down wi' sneering, scornfu' view
On sic a dinner?

Poor devil! see him ower his trash,
As feckless as a wither'd rash,
His spindle shank, a guid whip-lash,
His nieve a nit;
Thro' bloody flood or field to dash,
O how unfit!

But mark the Rustic, haggis fed,
The trembling earth resounds his tread.
Clap in his walie nieve a blade,
He'll mak it whistle;
An' legs an' arms, an' heads will sned,
Like taps o' thrissle.

Ye Pow'rs wha mak mankind your care,
And dish them out their bill o' fare,
Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware
That jaups in luggies;
But, if ye wish her gratefu' prayer,
Gie her a haggis!

Standard English Translation

Fair is your honest jolly face,
Great chieftain of the pudding race!
Above them all you take your place,
Stomach, tripe or guts:
Well are you worthy of a grace
As long as my arm.

The groaning platter there you fill,
Your buttocks like a distant hill,
Your skewer would help to mend a mill
In time of need,
While through your pores the dewes distil
Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic labour wipe,
And cut you up with ready slice,
Trenching your gushing entrails bright,
Like any ditch;
And then Oh what a glorious sight,
Warm steaming, rich!

Then spoon for spoon,
They stretch and strive:
Devil take the last man, on they drive,
Until all their well swollen bellies by-and-by,
Are bent like drums;
Then, the old Master of the house most like to burst
'The grace! hums

Is there that over his French ragout
Or olio that would sicken a sow,
Or fricassee would make her vomit
With perfect disgust,
Looks down with a sneering scornful view
On such a dinner?

Poor devil, see him over his trash,
As feeble as a withered rush, (reed)
His thin legs a good whip-lash,
His fist a nut;
Through a bloody flood or field to dash,
Oh how unfit

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed,
The trembling earth resounds his tread.
Clasp in his ample fist a blade,
He will make it whistle;
And legs, and arms and heads will crop,
Like the tops of thistles.

You powers who make mankind your care,
And dish them out their bill of far,
Old Scotland wants no watery ware
That splashes in small wooden; dishes
But if you wish her grateful prayer,
Give her a haggis!

Clan Macfie News No 60

from Ceann Cath Iain McFie

Coffey/Coffee 75th Anniversary Celebration: Commander Iain writes:

The 75th Anniversary of the Coffey/Coffee Reunion Association was celebrated in Lubbock, Texas, on June 24, 25, and 26, 2011.

"Fiona and I travelled to Dallas, Texas, where we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Association's founding along with the members of the Coffey/Coffee family. Texas was wonderful! Everything they say about it being **BIG** is no overstatement. Even the temperatures are big. While in Lubbock, where the Coffees were meeting, the temperature reached 114 F. and it was never out of the hundreds during our stay.

What a wonderful group of people! Fiona and I felt as if we were at one of the Clan Parliaments. Everyone was so friendly and happy to meet us and learn more about the Clan, Colonsay and the Gatherings. There were approximately 40 in attendance including children. The numbers attending are usually greater but Lubbock, while interesting and exciting to Fiona and me, does not have many attractions that would encourage young families to attend."

The Biggest Small Country in the World ! Commander Iain writes:

"Scotland's strength has always been in its diversity. In the poem, *Scotland Small*, Hugh MacDiarmid challenged those who would diminish us with stereotypes: *Scotland small? Our multiform, our infinite Scotland small? Only as a patch of hillside may be a cliché corner to a fool who cries "nothing but heather".*

The point he is making is that even the smallest patch of hillside contains enormous variation – of birch trees, bluebells, blueberries, bracken crowberries, mosses, etc. And MacDiarmid isn't done yet, adding that the description of Scotland as "nothing but heather," is: *Marvellously descriptive and totally incomplete.* And from other notables. . . . *"Describing Scotland as small is simply misleading. Scotland is not small. It is not small in imagination, and it is not short in ambition. It is infinite in diversity and alive with possibility."* (The First Minister, Alex Salmond, addressing the Scottish Parliament at Holyrood after his Party's recent election achievement.)

"Of all the small nations of this world, perhaps only the ancient Greeks surpass the Scots in their contribution to mankind." (Winston Churchill.)

Footnote: Iain hopes to develop this theme in future issues of Clan Macfie News

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Origin of the Name Bruce

Bruce is a French word which means from the brush. It is also a place name derived from the Chateau d'Adam at Brix, a place between Cherbourg and Valognes in Normandy, France. Originally a surname, it probably first came to prominence in Britain after the Duke of Normandy, William the Conqueror, won the Battle of Hastings in 1066. It seems Robert de Brus led the Brus contingent in William the Conqueror's army. After the battle, William became William I of England, the first of the Norman kings to rule the country. From that time on, members of the Norman nobility and their influence spread not only through England but also Scotland.

After the death of William Wallace at the hands of the English in 1305, Scottish noble Robert de Bruce seized the opportunity and declared himself King of Scotland (1306-1329). After a number of years uniting the country behind him, he defeated the English at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314 and became the acknowledged King of Scotland. Ever since that time the name Bruce has been a celebrated one in the history of Scotland.

Bruce first became a Christian name in the 1800s. It has been a popular name in Australia and New Zealand, particularly during the first half of the twentieth century.

GENEALOGY

From Chief Historian Trevor Phee

I look forward to presenting a number of articles in *The Downunder* about some of our early pioneering McPhee families. Hopefully some of those stories will be accompanied by photographs of those early Australian settlers.

The first of these articles is about the 'Cooma McPhies'. Sonia McPhie (N77-236) who is the wife of my cousin Neville Phee of Cooma, sent me a newspaper article some time ago from the Cooma Monaro Express. I have cut out pieces relating to McPhies from the paper to include additional information about the Cooma McPhies.

The Cooma McPhies

"We start this family with Archibald McPhie and Janet Gentles. Archibald, the son of Malcolm McPhie and Marion Shaw, was born at Kilchomar, Isle of Skye, Argyle, Scotland on 15th August 1804 and died at Round Plain, near Lake Eucumbene, NSW on 6th April 1871 and is buried in the Round Plain Cemetery in Grave 9.

He married Janet Gentles at Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland on 25 November 1831. Janet, the daughter of John Gentles and Mary Gibb, was born at Dumblane, Perthshire, Scotland on 8 March 1809 and died at Round Plain on 4 September 1883. Seven children were born in Scotland between 1832 and 1849. Twin girls were born in Sydney, NSW in 1849 with one of the twins (Jean) dying that same year. The family sailed from Plymouth, England on board the *Walter Morris* on 25 October 1848 arriving in Port Jackson, NSW on 12 February 1849. Archibald was a ploughman who could read and write, while Janet was a farm/house servant who could read only. They both belonged to the Church of Scotland.



Archibald McPhie



Janet Gentles

They settled near the town of Cooma in New South Wales where they had a property called 'NIMMO'. This family spread from Cooma to Moree in NSW and to Roma in Queensland.

In the March 2010 edition of *The Downunder*, there was a member profile on Mr Ross McPhie. He is a descendant of Archibald and Janet. In the same issue three brothers were mentioned who were in the RAAF during WW II. They are also descendants of Archibald and Janet. (Editor's note: Ross is a descendant of David McPhie and Margaret Robertson. In the November 2010 issue of *The Downunder* there was a member profile on Russell Mattocks, who is also a descendant of the Cooma McPhies. He is a descendant of Malcolm McPhie and his wife Janet Robertson).

On Easter Sunday 2010, the church service at the Round Plain Presbyterian Church marked the 140th anniversary of the old church which had been opened on 10th April 1870. It took a single stonemason 12 months to build the church at a cost of 300 pounds. It is the third oldest church in the Monaro district of New South Wales.

Should any member wish to contribute any written history in regard to this family, please do so and send it to me. You can send said information by email, a CD or by snail mail (post).

There are a number of clan members who are descendants of Archibald and Janet (other than the ones mentioned above). Should anyone like to make contact with members of this family, just let me know."

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 fourth of this series of shipping tables, Rosemary's work is presented here detailing the clan name Duffee, Duffie and Duffey. 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	First Name	Age	Month	Year	Ship
DUFFEE	MICHAEL	26	SEP	1857	SEA NYMPH
DUFFIE	C H MISS	24	JUL	1921	BELTANA
DUFFIE	HELEN MISS	2	AUG	1913	NORSEMAN
DUFFIE	J MISS	19	DEC	1922	BELTANA
DUFFIE	JAMES	29	JAN	1879	LUSITANIA
DUFFIE	JAMES MASTER	7	AUG	1913	NORSEMAN
DUFFIE	JOHN	29	JAN	1879	LUSITANIA
DUFFIE	JOHN	70	JUL	1898	ORIENT
DUFFIE	JOHN	30	APR	1913	CANBERRA
DUFFIE	MARY	20	MAR	1862	SHACKAMAXON
DUFFIE	SUSAN MRS	28	AUG	1913	NORSEMAN
DUFFIE	THOS	34	JUN	1866	ALBION
DUFFEY	--- MISS	28	MAR	1909	ORONTES
DUFFEY	--- PRIV	23	DEC	1915	WIMMERA I
DUFFEY	A F MR	40	FEB	1905	ORTONA
DUFFEY	A MRS	43	DEC	1886	AUSTRAL
DUFFEY	AGNES	19	AUG	1865	ELIZABETH KATE
DUFFEY	ANDREW	33	MAR	1855	RED JACKET
DUFFEY	BERNARD	34	OCT	1864	MARCO POLO
DUFFEY	BERNARD	2	OCT	1864	MARCO POLO
DUFFEY	C	26	OCT	1907	SUFFOLK
DUFFEY	CHARLES	36	NOV	1869	BLACKBIRD
DUFFEY	CHRISTOPHER	23	APR	1888	OROYA
DUFFEY	CHRISTOPHER	24	AUG	1887	ORIENT
DUFFEY	D MISS	24	DEC	1915	MALOJA
DUFFEY	D MISS	11	APR	1922	PALOONA I
DUFFEY	ESSEY	26	OCT	1864	MARCO POLO
DUFFEY	F	45	OCT	1861	MERRIE MONARCH

Family Name	First Name	Age	Month	Year	Ship
DUFFEY	FRANCIS	31	AUG	1865	ELIZABETH KATE
DUFFEY	HONORA MRS	45	OCT	1873	JULIET
DUFFEY	JAMES	32	MAR	1855	RED JACKET
DUFFEY	JAMES	32	JUN	1891	OROYA
DUFFEY	JANE	74	MAR	1855	RED JACKET
DUFFEY	JANE	22	MAR	1855	RED JACKET
DUFFEY	JOHN	35	MAR	1875	GREAT BRITAIN
DUFFEY	JOHN	24	SEP	1879	SULTAN
DUFFEY	JOHN	26	OCT	1862	DONALD MCKAY
DUFFEY	JOSEPH	30	JAN	1902	ORMUZ
DUFFEY	M MRS	35	AUG	1913	HAWKES BAY
DUFFEY	MARGT	20	OCT	1862	DONALD MCKAY
DUFFEY	MARY	29	OCT	1892	OPHIR
DUFFEY	MARY	20	AUG	1887	ORIENT
DUFFEY	MARY JANE	24	MAR	1855	RED JACKET
DUFFEY	MICHAEL	24	AUG	1855	MERLIN
DUFFEY	MICHAEL	40	OCT	1873	JULIET
DUFFEY	P MISS	3	AUG	1913	HAWKES BAY
DUFFEY	PATK	22	OCT	1862	DONALD MCKAY
DUFFEY	PATK	26	AUG	1879	JOHN ELDER
DUFFEY	PATRICK	28	APR	1903	SOPHOCLES
DUFFEY	ROBT	17	JAN	1856	SULTANA
DUFFEY	SUSAN	4	MAR	1855	RED JACKET
DUFFEY	THOMAS	4	OCT	1864	MARCO POLO
DUFFEY	THOS	22	MAR	1855	RED JACKET
DUFFEY	V S MR	45	APR	1922	PALOONA I
DUFFEY	WILLIAM	32	AUG	1905	NARRUNG

EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

- January 2 Maryborough Highland Gathering, Princes Park Maryborough, Victoria
- January 22 Burns BBQ, Sandford Hall, South Arm Rd, Sandford, Tasmania
- January 25 Burns Night
- January 26 Australia Day Celtic Festival, Bradfield Park, Milsons Point, NSW
- February 11 Berwick Highland Gathering, Akoonah Park, Berwick, Victoria
- February 19 Mt Barker Highland Gathering, Mount Barker Oval, Mt Barker, South Australia
- March 18 Geelong Highland Gathering, Geelong Showgrounds, Geelong, Victoria
- April 21 Bundanoon Highland Gathering, Bundanoon, NSW
- May 3-6 Glen Innes Celtic Festival, Glen Innes, NSW
- TBA The Macfie Clan Society of Australia's 2012 BGM

Scotland News

St Andrew's University 600 Year Anniversary

2011 marks the 600th anniversary of the University of St Andrew's. The University, informally referred to as "St Andrew's", is the oldest university in Scotland and the third oldest in the English-speaking world after Oxford and Cambridge. The university is situated in the town of St Andrews, Fife, on the east coast of Scotland.

Teaching began in the community of St Andrew's in 1410 during the earliest days of the European Renaissance. Independently minded artists and thinkers were re-examining the Greek and Roman Classics which had begun to flow back into the West from the Muslim world, preserved in Arabic translations throughout Europe's Dark Ages. The University was formally constituted by the issue of Papal Bull in 1413 by Pope Benedict XIII.

Celtic Chieftan's Fort Discovered

Archaeologists working in Perthshire have made a major discovery which could possibly change our understanding of some of Scotland's earliest history. The project from the Strathearn Environs and Royal Forteviot (SERF) recently uncovered an exquisitely preserved Iron Age broch (i.e a drystone hollow walled structure) filled with evidence of early contact between the Picts and Roman Empire.

It is the first of its kind to be discovered in the Scottish Lowlands in about 100 years. The dwellings are located at the top of a hill to offer occupants a clear view of the surrounding countryside and is surrounded by drystone dyke walls which stand approximately two metres high and five metres thick.

Professor Stephen Driscoll, Professor of Historical Archaeology at the University of Glasgow who leads the team, said, "There can be no doubt that we have located one of the major centres of Pictish power from the 1st and 2nd centuries. The scale of the architecture is colossal and the tower-like structure would have visually dominated its surroundings." (Source: The Scottish Banner October 2011)

Scottish Nationalists

This year has proven to be an important moment in history for Alex Salmond's Scottish National Party (SNP). Not only is the party in government, but also support for an independent Scotland is growing and economic data is suggesting that a break away from the United Kingdom would be the best thing for Scottish citizens.

One of the Scottish National Party's key policy platforms is to breakaway from the UK and to build an independent Scotland. Recent polling has found that support for independence has risen sharply over recent months. In Scotland, the proportion supporting independence was up 11 points over the period at 49 percent. Some 37 percent disagreed - down by nine points. Another poll showed that 33 percent of Scots favoured giving Scotland control over tax benefits while remaining in the UK.

The case for an independent Scotland under the Scottish National Party has been bolstered by recent economic data. Scotland has run a current budget surplus in four of the five years 2009-10, while the UK hasn't run a current budget surplus since 2001-2. Scotland accounts for 8.4 percent of the UK population, but in 2009-10 contributed 9.4 percent of overall UK tax revenue - £1,000 extra per person in Scotland.

The Scottish National Party says that an independent Scotland would be prosperous and fair, and that having full control of the Scottish economy would provide better outcomes for Scottish citizens. (Source: The Scottish Banner Vol 35, No 6)

Glasgow's Riverside Museum

In June a new museum of transport was opened in Glasgow. The new development, called "The Riverside Museum", is located at Pointhouse Quay on the north bank of the River Clyde adjacent to the confluence of the River Kelvin, in the regeneration district around Glasgow Harbour. It houses over 3,000 exhibits with 150 interactive displays. The site enables the Clyde Maritime Trust's sailing ship *Glenlee*, and other visiting craft to berth alongside the museum. The new facility cost £74 million.

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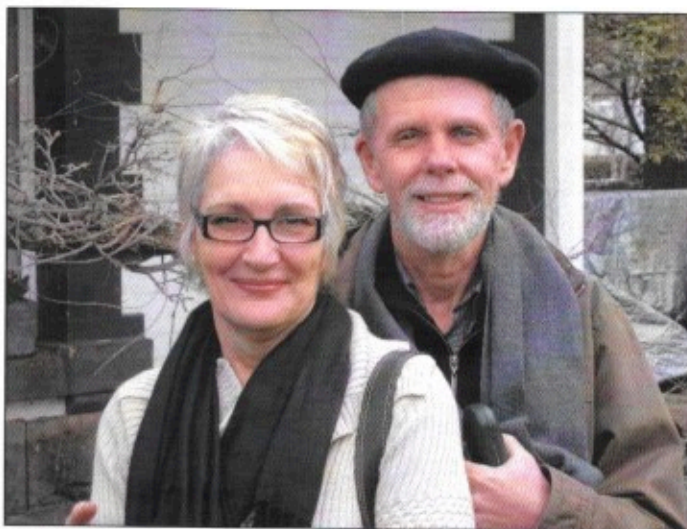
As the newsletter of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia, The Downunder is produced solely for the information and enjoyment of the Society's members. It has been compiled with due care and in good faith from a variety of sources. Any views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the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



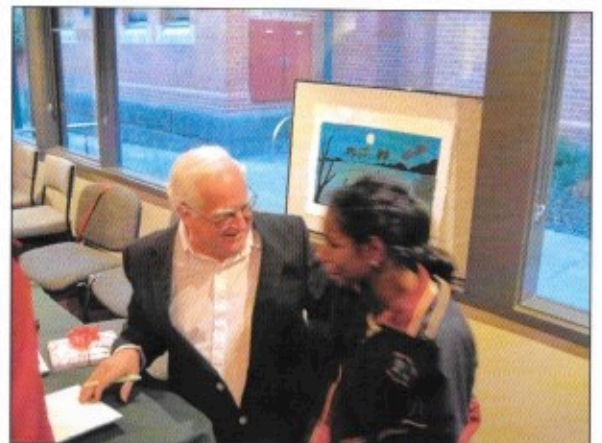
The Arms of former Clan Commander and now Australian Clan Commissioner Sandy McPhie, which he inherited 'undifferenced' from his late father Hector Kitchener McPhie on 25th September 1985.

They are described as: Per fess indented Azure and Or, in chief a sword Argent point downwards, hilted and pommelled the second, between two pheons also pointes downwards of the last, in base a lymphad Sable under sale of the third and flagged of the first, a border chequy Or and Azure for difference. Above the shield is placed a Helmet befitting degree, with Mantling Azure doubled Or, and Wreath of liveries is set for Crest a demi-lion rampant Sable charged with a pheon point downwards Or, and in an Escrol over the same Motto "PRO REGE".

The Round Plains Presbyterian Church has been an important part of this McPhie family as their forefathers founded the church back in 1870. Pictured in top row from the right are Elaine, David McPhie snr and Ian McPhie. David junior pictured below, married his wife Sally at the church, and their two sons William and Angus, were both baptised at the church. David is a 5th generation McPhie. For more details, see the story on The Cooma McPhies on page 11 →



Victorian member Frances McPhee-Allan with her husband in front of their Ballarat home



Father Anscar McPhee at the launch of his book *A Hero in the Time of the Dreaming*, with a former resident of Kalumburu Mission. For the story see page 5