



THE DOWNUNDER

Journal of the
Macfie Clan Society of Australia

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For the story see page 10

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

Every two years our Society holds a general meeting. This year, our Biennial General Meeting will be held on Saturday 13th October at Perth in Western Australia. This is a break with past practice, because normally it is held close to 27th May, which is the day our clan was given official recognition as an active clan by the Lord Lyon.

There has not been a BGM in Western Australia for about 20 years, so this will be a great opportunity for members living in WA not only to meet some fellow state Clan Society members, but others who are making the trip to Perth from interstate. The meeting will be followed by a traditional Scottish dinner with a demonstration of Highland dancing and an address to the haggis.

On Sunday members and friends will have the opportunity of visiting the historic New Norcia Monastery north of Perth, where resident monk and Society member Father Anscar McPhee will be our host. A tour of the Monastery, the museum and surrounding sites with Anacar should be a great experience. This could be a terrific chance to visit WA and view the wildflowers, sample the beautiful wines in the Margaret River area, visit New Norcia and see other attractions while attending the BGM.

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Heraldry Insight

The Helmet

As we saw in a previous issue (No 114 November 2009), the shield is the foundation for a coat of arms, for without it, neither crest nor anything else can exist. So long as armour was worn, everyone who had a shield wore a helmet of some description. In heraldic achievements, the **helmet or helm** is situated above the shield and bears the torse and crest.

The style of helmet displayed varies according to rank and social status, and these styles developed over time, in step with the development of actual military helmets. In Scottish heraldry the specific forms have been assigned the following ranks:

1. Royal helmet: Gold, always shown '*affronte*' i.e. full face, the facial opening guarded by grills or bars.
2. Peers: Silver, with gold grill (usually 5 grills) and gold-garnished.
3. Knights & baronets: Steel, open visor, no grill or great tilting-helm (they being of 'tournament rank'), steel garnished with gold, where the normal open-visor helmet is incongruous.
4. Feudal barons: The great tilting-helm garnished with gold (they being of 'tournament rank'), or a steel helmet with grill of one or three grills, garnished with gold, but the tilting-helm is most used.
5. Esquires: Steel 'pot' helm, or helmet with closed visor garnished with gold.
6. Gentlemen: Steel, pot, closed visor, un-garnished.

When helmets are displayed in profile they always face *dexter* (right), except when there are two helmets above the shield. In that case they either both face dexter, or may both face the centre. The latter practice is the usual in Scotland. At right is an example of a closed or tilting helm used for untitled nobility.

(Reference: Scots Heraldry by Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, second edition)



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Front Cover: President Ian McPhee with bagpipe maker Michael Phee at the Aberdeen Highland Games.

MEMBERS IN PROFILE

Honouring A Centenarian

- SA member:** Nancy Holds (S78-434)
- Migrant forebears:** John McPhee & Mary (nee McLeod) McPhee & children Duncan 12, Donald 10, Murcoch 8, Angus 6 & an infant
- Occupation:** Shepherd
- Home in Scotland:** Isle of Skye
- Emigrant ship:** *Europa*
- Arrived Australia:** from Liverpool, 15th September 1852
- Pioneer forebears:** Donald & Elizabeth (nee McLaughlan) McPhee



Member's story in brief: Nancy was born in Hobart on 11th March 1912, the oldest child of John Cameron McPhee and Alice Bealie Crompton McPhee (nee Dean). She turned 100 in March this year. Her father, Sir John McPhee, was a long term Tasmanian parliamentarian and State Premier 1928-1934. Nancy was raised in Hobart with her 6 brothers and sisters: Donald born 1914, Margaret 1916, Mary 1918, Elizabeth 1920, Janet 1923 and John born in 1929.

Nancy attended Leslie House and St. Michael's Collegiate, following which she attended the Tasmanian University and studied law, graduating in 1931. She was articled to the law firm Butler, McIntyre & Butler and was admitted to the bar in 1934 - the first woman to achieve this honour in Tasmania. In 1936 she travelled to Alice Springs to practise law and during this time also worked for the administrator of the Northern Territory. Alice Springs at this time could well have been regarded as an 'outpost of the Empire!'

Whilst in Alice Springs Nancy met her husband-to-be, Bert (Herbert). He was working on the overland telegraph as a telegraphist and his profession influenced their early married life - moving and living at various places on 'the line'. Bert and Nancy were married in a quiet ceremony in St. David's Cathedral, Hobart, in 1939. After a honeymoon in Tasmania they returned to set up home for Christmas, in Port Augusta, South Australia. Their son, Herbert John was born there in 1941 and Alexander McPhee in 1947.

During 1948 the family moved to Tennant Creek to take up a position in the Post Office there. At this time Tennant Creek was a major gold mining town and since it was just following the war, was full of very interesting characters! In this atmosphere Nancy set up the first legal practice in the town and eventually brought a young lawyer, Bill Nobbs, from 'down south', to form a partnership.

A dramatic climate change for the young family was a year spent at Mt. Pleasant in the Adelaide hills in 1952, following which they moved to Peterborough in the mid north. It was here that Nancy had a career change, taking up teaching at the local primary school. As she was a university graduate she was head-hunted to take up the challenge.

Finally, in 1957, the family moved to Whyalla, a BHP steel making and ship building town on Spencer Gulf in South Australia. The population was about 9000, and the local lawyer approached Nancy to join his firm and when he eventually moved to Adelaide, Nancy was left to run the practice on her own and was frequently the only lawyer in town. With a postmaster, life became rather stressful, so in 1964 Nancy decided that teaching had numerous benefits, not to mention her interests in English and history. She joined the staff at the Whyalla Technical High School until her retirement in 1971.

Whyalla was expanding rapidly during these years and although Nancy was involved in her work, she made time for her church, Inner Wheel, penguins, the bridge club and the croquet club in which she was patron, president and player. To Nancy and Bert, retirement in Whyalla was an obvious choice.

Nancy has always had an interest in the history of the Macfie Clan. She has been a member of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia since 1978 and has visited Colonsay, Skye and other parts of Scotland. In recent years her school, St. Michael's Collegiate in Hobart, recognised her achievements by naming a house in her honour - McPhee House. The school regarded her as a role model of her generation who moved out of her comfort zone into communities different to those in which she spent her formative years.

GENERAL NEWS



New Members

A warm welcome to a new member & one returning to the fold:

N12-1084 Michael & Heather Phee	Gorokan	NSW
N12-1085 Bill McPhee	Aberdeen	NSW
N12-1086 Sonya Mullins	Hamilton	NSW

Donations

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

Gwen Hubert	Pearce	ACT
Sue Larkey	Chapman	ACT
Bruce Agland	Clarence Town	NSW
Margaret Barnes	Drummoyne	NSW
Robyn Hancox	Wollstonecraft	NSW
Russell Mattocks	Balgowlah	NSW
David McAfee	Taren Point	NSW
Margaret McDougal	Aberdeen	NSW
Sandy & Norah McPhee	Mt. Vincent	NSW
Andrew McPhee	Baulkham Hills	NSW
Barbara McPhee	Kurri Kurri	NSW
Geoff McPhee	Lugarno	NSW
Greg McPhee	Urunga	NSW
Joyce McPhee	Bonnells Bay	NSW
Marion McPhee	Maroubra	NSW
Michael & Mary McPhee	Vaucluse	NSW
Morris & Robyn McPhee	Cheltenham	NSW
Ross & Joyce McPhee	West Pymble	NSW
Trish McPhee	Seaforth	NSW
Stuart McWilliam	Moree	NSW
Andrew Pardoe	Bundanoon	NSW
Margaret Phee	Tea Gardens	NSW
Trevor Phee	Hamilton	NSW
Bruce Taylor	Yagoona	NSW
Sharron Benett	Paddington	QLD
Keith & Joyce Caldwell	Annerley	QLD
Jenny Hutchins	Carindale	QLD
Heather Knowles	Albany Creek	QLD
Janet Mackay	Bracken Ridge	QLD

John McPhee	Carseldine	QLD
Esmá McCarthy	Bracken Ridge	QLD
Dorothy McPhee	Bell	QLD
Keith McPhee	Tarragindi	QLD
Kevin McPhee	Port Douglas	QLD
Lorraine McPhee	Toowoomba	QLD
Sandy & Helen McPhee	Glenvale	QLD
Dale & Rachael McPhee	Woody Pt.	QLD
Helen McPhee	Eagle Heights	QLD
Dorothy Murphy	Currumbin	QLD
Jean Rushbrooke	Eagle Heights	QLD
Susan Spinks	Oakey	QLD
Robyn Young	Jimboomba	QLD
Shirley Dickson	Naracoorte	SA
Ann Leask	Mclaren Vale	SA
Ian L McPhee	Kidman Park	SA
Meg Davis	Cowes	VIC
Jan Harper	Port Melbourne	VIC
Beverley Knowles	Balwyn	VIC
Kim McDuffie	Milford Grange	VIC
Cherry McFee	Rhyll	VIC
Bernard McPhee	Middle Park	VIC
John McPhee	Doncaster East	VIC
Keith & Anne McPhee	Glen Waverley	VIC
Norman McPhee	Ringwood	VIC
Fr. Mathew McPhee	Middle Park	VIC
Ross McPhee	Rosebud	VIC
Simon McPhee	Narre Warren	VIC
Donald McPhee	Nilma North	VIC
Hadyn McPhee	Mirboo North	VIC
Julie Peters	Port Melbourne	VIC
Trevor & Rhonda McPhee	Wangara	WA

Recovering:

Best wishes go to Past President Bernie McPhee who went into Royal Melbourne Hospital in May for a 7 hour triple heart bypass operation. The operation was successful and Bernie is now recovering well.

Western Australia

Father Anscar McPhee, a long time resident of the Kalumbaru Mission in the Kimberleys has relocated to the New Norcia Monastery near Perth.

Anscar will be our guide at the historic New Norcia Monastery north of Perth. He will share his experiences at Kalumbaru Mission & also as one of the few remaining Benedictine Monks at the Monastery. Please come along for a memorable BGM weekend.

In Memoriam

It is with sadness we report the death of John W McPhee (V76-206) formally of Hawthorne East, Victoria.

**Notice & Invitation:
19th Biennial General Meeting
of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia**

Notice is hereby given: that the 19th Biennial General Meeting (BGM) of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia will be held at Gleneagles Golf Club, Marmion Avenue, Karrinyup, Western Australia on Saturday 13th October 2012.

Order of Business

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Welcome | 6. Treasurer's report and financial statement |
| 2. Apologies and greetings | 7. Election of executives |
| 3. Confirmation of the minutes of the 18th BGM | 8. General business |
| 4. Business arising from those minutes | 9. Closure of meeting |
| 5. President's report | |

Executive Committee

Nominations are now called for the following Executive positions:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • President | • Queensland Vice-President |
| • Vice-President | • South Australian Vice-President |
| • Secretary | • Tasmanian Vice-President |
| • Treasurer | • Victorian Vice-President |
| • ACT Vice-President | • Western Australian Vice-President |

NB: Nominations are to be in writing, stating the nominee's name and intended office. They are to be signed by the nominee accepting nomination and by a proposer and seconder. Only financial members can accept nomination or propose or second a nomination. Nomination forms are available from the president and close with him on 30th September 2012.

Weekend Programme

The cost for afternoon tea & dinner at the BGM is \$60.00. The dinner will be a Scottish affair which will include a display of Scottish dancing and an address to the haggis. The following day, Sunday 14th October, all members, family and friends, are warmly invited to attend a special service at the historic Benedictine Monastery at New Norcia, north of Perth. This will be a once in a life-time opportunity, as our host at New Norcia will be fellow Society member Father Anscar McPhee. Those in attendance will probably enjoy aspects at New Norcia that few ordinary tourists would have a chance to experience. After the Monastery tour there will be a luncheon break at the New Norcia Hotel. Transport to and from New Norcia will be available.

Saturday 13th October		Sunday 14 October	
Morning	At your leisure	Service	New Norcia Monastery TBA
Afternoon tea	4.30pm	Guided tour	Monastery, museum etc
General Meeting	5.00pm	Lunch	New Norcia Hotel
Society dinner	Gleneagles Golf Club,		

Attendance & Information

Members are encouraged to wear Scottish dress to the BGM and dinner. Please indicate your attendance by either telephoning, emailing or writing to either the President (see page 15 for contact details) or preferably Trevor McPhee in W.A. by the 6th October. Trevor's contact details are as follows:

Home tel.: 08 94404748
Mobile: 0423905850
Email: tma@iinet.net.au

If possible, please come along on either or both days & share the clanship spirit.

The Australian Celtic Festival

Report from Ian McPhee

On Saturday 5th May I attended the Australian Celtic Festival at Glen Innes. Located nearly 600 kilometres from Sydney it took a good 8 hours drive from home to reach Celtic Country, as the area around Glen Innes is promoted. Glen Innes is not that far from Queensland, and as the four day event coincides with the Labour Day holiday in Queensland, it attracts visitors and participants from that state.

On Saturday morning, a large crowd (pictured at right) lined the main street of Glen Innes to watch a most impressive street parade. A variety of Celtic groups which included representatives of Scottish clans were accompanied by numerous pipe bands and at least one brass band. The participants marched from the Glen Innes and District Services Club, down one side of Grey Street, the main street, turned at the post office and marched back up the other side, returning to where they started. Grey Street is wider than a six lane highway so there was plenty of room for those onlookers watching from the kerbside as well as those standing in the middle of the road where normally cars can park.



Unlike Scottish gatherings there was an amazing diversity of Celtic music, dance and cultural groups participating in the street parade. Many of them could be identified by the colourful banners they carried as they marched along. Among the dancers were the Cape Byron Celtic Dance School, Glenmore Highland Dancers, the Souleiado French Dance Group, Hunter Welsh Folk Dancers, Lismore Celtic, Sydney Irish Ceili Dancers and Oye Ritmo Spanish Dance group.

Scottish pipe bands were well represented and included the Glen Innes Pipe Band, Armidale Pipe Band, Inverell Pipe Band, Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band, The Scots PGC College Warwick Pipes and Drums and the Glens Altera Pipes and Drums. As a point of interest, The Altera Pipes and Drums is a collection of pipers and drummers who attend the festival each year but do not attend the festival with their own bands.

When the street parade had finished, people made their way at their own leisure to the festival's main venue, where the Australian Standing Stones are located. Although it was possible to walk to the picturesque site on a hill that overlooks the town, it was more appropriate to use a vehicle, or take advantage of the courtesy bus that ran from the visitor information centre to the festival site. I thought entry to the festival and the cost to take part was quite expensive. A day pass cost \$30.00, a weekend pass \$45.00 and for a clan society such as ours to have a tent (with one person), cost \$50.00. Considering the high cost of weekend accommodation in Glen Innes at festival time and expense of travel to get there, attending the event can be an costly exercise.

The Australian Standing Stones is not only the venue for the Australian Celtic Festival but is the official national monument to Australia's Celtic pioneers. The Standing Stones are constructed from 40 granite monoliths that commemorate the Celtic communities of Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Wales, Cornwall, Spain and Brittany in France. They are unique in the Southern Hemisphere and have their own Australian flavour. The stones symbolise: the 24 hours of the day, the 4 points of the compass, the summer and winter solstices and the Southern Cross. The Australis Stone, the central stone, commemorates all Australians and symbolises the link between the old and new worlds.

Each year the festival honours a different Celtic community or nation and this year it was Brittany in France, Galicia in Spain and acknowledged for the first time, Asturias, also in Spain. Both the Spanish areas are autonomous principalities in the north west of the country.

Brittany (France)

The Celts arrived in Brittany during the 6th Century BC. Julius Caesar conquered the area in 56 BC. After the Romans withdrew in the 5th Century AD, the area was settled by Celts driven out of Britain and Ireland by the Anglo Saxons.

Brittany has more in common with parts of the British Isles than it does with the rest of France. The name itself is a clue to this; The French call Brittany 'La Bretagne', and call Britain 'La Grande Bretagne' or big Brittany, if translated literally.

Significantly the western tip of Brittany is called 'Cornouailles' which is also the French for Cornwall.

The native language of Brittany is Breton, which is undergoing a revival. It is a Celtic language related to Cornish and Welsh, and more distinctly to Irish and Scottish Gaelic.

Galicia (Spain)

Galicia was inhabited by the Celts from about 3000 BC. They lived in circular stone huts surrounded by a defensive perimeter. The area was given its name by the Romans.

There are 2 other Galicias in Europe, one in Poland and one in Turkey. The one in Spain is located in the northwest of the country between Portugal and Asturias.

Galicia is an autonomous province of 3 million people, 90% of whom live near the coast in one of the major cities. The capital is Santiago de Compostela.

Galicians often see themselves firstly as citizens of their region and secondly as Spaniards. They speak their own language called Galego, have a regional parliament with autonomous powers and a Celtic culture, different to other areas of Spain.

Asturias (Spain)

Like neighbouring Galicia, Asturias was occupied by the Celts before the arrival of the Romans. It is also the only area of Spain never conquered by the Muslims.

Fronting the Bay of Biscay, Asturias is an autonomous principality in north western Spain with a little more than 1 million people. The capital Oviedo, is known for producing textiles, pharmaceuticals, metal goods, sugar and chocolate.

Asturias is noted for its mountainous peaks and spectacular scenery at places such as the Picos de Europa National Park and the Covadonga Lakes. The official language is Spanish. The Asturian language known as Bable, is spoken by about 30% of the population but is a dialect rather than a distinctive language, and thus is not used in schools like Galician, Basque and Catalan are.

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Highland Dancing Success

From Trevor McPhee WA

In February Trevor's young niece Lily, pictured at right, won the 4 & 5 year old Western Australian Highland Dancing Championships held at John Forrest High School at Embleton in Perth.

Highland dancing is a technical and athletic form of dance that takes many years to perfect. Young Lily started dancing about 12 months ago, at the age of 3. Her older sister, mother and grandmother have all been highland dancers. Lily is taught highland dancing in south Perth by Kerry Grosser of The Scottish Highland Dance Academy which was established in Perth over 30 years ago. It is one of the leading highland dance schools in Australia which has enjoyed many competitive successes. Their classes are held in Perth suburbs both north and south of the river and also the country town of Northam. Kerry has produced many champions including the top three place getters in the prestigious Cowal Games in Scotland which is the world championships.



In April Lily travelled to the Champion of Champion Championships of Australia held at Princes Wharf Shed in Hobart, a two day competition. On the Saturday the Tasmanian State Championships were held in which Lily won 4 firsts, which made her the overall winner. Then on the Sunday she received 4 more firsts. She won the 4 & 5 years old Champion of Champions Competition, which incorporates competitors from all over Australia and New Zealand.

Saint Margaret of Scotland

Those familiar with Scottish history will know about the 'Anglicising' of the Scottish nobility during the Canmore Dynasty which started with Malcolm III (1058-1093). Malcolm's second wife, Queen Margaret, was largely responsible for commencing this process, which was carried on by her sons. Through her husband, Margaret had a profound affect on Scotland.

Mael Coluim mac Donnchada came to the Scottish throne as Malcolm III after he killed Macbeth at Lumphanan in 1057 and Macbeth's stepson, Lulach 'the Fool', a few months later at Strathbogie in 1058. A tough warrior king, he became more commonly known as 'Canmore', the anglicised version of his Gaelic nickname Cenn Mor meaning big head or great chief.

Malcolm Canmore married his Scandinavian first wife Ingibjorg, the widow of Thorfinn the Mighty, Jarl of Orkney, about 1065. Their union produced two sons: Donnchad (Duncan) and Domnall (Donald). It was after Ingibjorg's death in 1069 that an opportunity arose where Malcolm Canmore could add to the influence he already had with his Scandinavian neighbours in the north by forming an alliance with the Anglo-Saxons to the south.

Several members of the Anglo-Saxon royal family sailing to the Continent, were driven ashore in Scotland during a storm. Fleeing England, the members of the family included Agatha, Edgar Etheling, claimant to the English throne (uncrowned King of England), and sisters Margaret and Christina. Malcolm Canmore gave the English exiles protection and residence in Scotland. He soon after married Margaret in 1072. It was a convenient marriage for Edgar, as he gained a military ally, and also for Malcolm, who by marrying into the Anglo-Saxon royal family extended his influence southward.

The granddaughter of Anglo-Saxon King Edmund II 'Ironside' (1016), Margaret was born about 1045 in a castle in the region of Southern Transdanubia, Hungary. She was the daughter of Prince Edward 'the Exile' and Agatha, a daughter of King Stephen of Hungary. One story asserts that Margaret's father and his brother Edmund were sent to Hungary for safety during the reign in England of King Canute (1016-1035), but no record of that fact has been found in that country. Although her early years were spent in Hungary, Margaret returned to England with her father during the reign of Edward 'the Confessor' (1042-1066). After relocating back to England, she and members of her family were forced to flee after the conquest of England by the Normans.

Married to Malcolm, Queen Margaret wielded great influence over her illiterate husband. As Gaelic traditions and culture were completely foreign to her, Queen Margaret introduced European clothes and fashions to the royal court displacing its existing manners and customs. Perhaps more significantly, Gaelic was displaced by French or Saxon as the main languages used by her retinue.

In her position as queen, all Margaret's great influence was thrown into the cause of religion and piety. Her private life was given up to constant prayer and practices of piety. According to her biographer Turgot, the royal confessor and later Bishop of St. Andrew's, she was going to become a nun prior to her marriage to Malcolm. Being brought up in Hungary where the traditional Roman Church was a dominant factor of daily life, she had a contempt and dislike for what she considered to be a backward and disorganised Celtic Church that did not offer her the level of pastoral care she had been used to. To Romanise the local church in Scotland and therefore undermine local Celtic traditions, Margaret enlisted and received the support of her husband Malcolm Canmore.

Acting as her interpreter, Malcolm helped his wife convene a synod where she sought the help of leading Scottish clerics to change the ways of the Celtic Church. Some success was achieved in this endeavour. As a result of her efforts, a number of significant reforms were instituted. The most important were the regulation of the Lenten fast, observance of the Easter communion, and the removal of certain abuses concerning marriage within the prohibited degrees.

Scotland's capital had been at Scone where the Crowning Stone, or Stone of Destiny was kept. Although the Stone of Destiny remained there, Malcolm established a new capital at Dunfermline in the old Pictish province of Fife. Dunfermline is not far from Edinburgh, but situated on the northern side of the Firth of

Forth. With her husband's assistance, Margaret wrote to Archbishop Lanfranc of Canterbury to ask that he provide a colony of Benedictine monks in order to establish a monastery beside the royal household at Dunfermline. Possibly this was to provide an English speaking royal church for her retinue which could also enshrine her personal treasures. Those included a relic of the true Cross (her greatest treasure) and book of the Gospels, richly adorned with jewels, which one day dropped into a river, but was according to legend, miraculously recovered. It is now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.

The island of Iona is considered the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland and home to the most historic religious location in the country. St. Oran's Chapel is the oldest intact church building on Iona. The existing Chapel dates back to pre-Columban times. Queen Margaret had the Chapel rebuilt in 1073. A beautiful Norman arch was added to it by the Benedictine community about the year 1200. Margaret was also responsible for a chapel built at the highest point of Edinburgh Castle which was modified by her sixth son David I. At her chapel there she would seclude herself in pursuit of her religious ideals and beliefs. In addition to St. Oran's Chapel, the chapel at Edinburgh and the establishment of the Abbey at Dunfermline, Margaret founded several other churches.

Traditionally the Highland Gaels were not kindly disposed to foreigners settling amongst them. The Norman Conquest of England saw many influential Saxons seek refuge and settlement in Scotland. They were followed by landless Norman knights and others. The idea of a monarch granting rights over land to whoever they pleased was totally different to the accepted idea of clan land and 'immemorial occupation'. Thus not only were the Gaels alienated, but the Gaelic clan system of land ownership or control was diminished in favour of a more feudal form of land tenure as practised by the Normans. Following Malcolm's marriage to Margaret, more Saxons, Normans and even Hungarians were invited to settle in Scotland and also to become part of the Scottish Court.

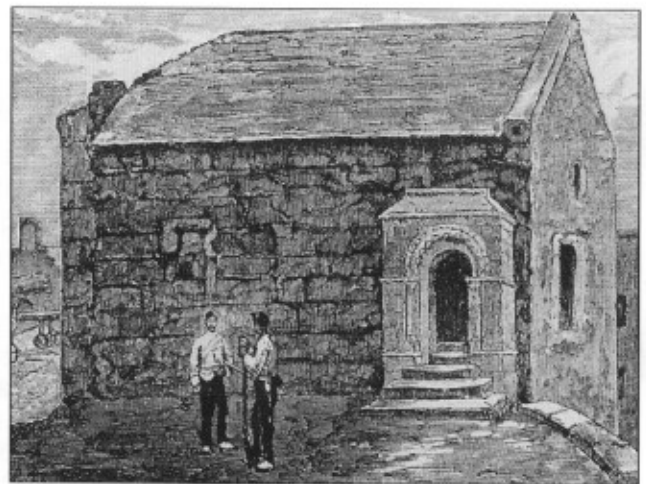
Malcolm's ambition to expand his power base into England was to be assisted through the Anglo-Saxon heritage of his Hungarian born wife and their offspring. Malcolm and Margaret had 8 children and Margaret's influence over Malcolm can be seen in the Anglo-Saxon names given to the first 4 of their sons: Edward, Edmund, Ethelred and Edgar. They are named after Queen Margaret's male forebears from father to great-great grandfather. The natural succession to Malcolm's throne should have been via the 2 sons he had with his first wife Ingibjorg - Duncan and Donald. Both however were passed over in favour of Margaret's eldest son Edward, who he named as his successor. Naturally naming a successor did not guarantee the so anointed would actually end up in that position.

On 13th November 1093, Malcolm Canmore was killed at Alnwick during his 5th invasion of England. His army retreated with his wounded son Edward who died 2 days later. Margaret's second son Edmund had the task of informing his mother of their deaths. Margaret had foretold the day of her death and died 3 days later on 16th November 1093 in her chapel in Edinburgh Castle.

It was a long held tradition that following their deaths, Gaelic monarchs were buried on the holy island of Iona, a short distance across the water from the Isle of Mull. That Gaelic tradition ended with the death of Malcolm Canmore and his wife Queen Margaret. Malcolm declined to be buried there in favour of Dunfermline where his wife wished to be buried. After her death Margaret's body was taken to Dunfermline where it was buried before the high altar in Dunfermline Abbey.

Margaret was canonised in 1251 by Pope Innocent IV. After the Reformation her relics apparently went to the Low Countries on the Continent and finally to Madrid where they seem to have been lost.

(References: Pitkin Guide to Scotland's Kings and Queens, Oxford Companion to Scottish History, The Lord of The Isles by Ronald Williams, The Kings & Queens of Scotland by Richard Oram and contribution from Past President Bernie McPhee)



St. Margaret's Chapel, situated at the highest part of Edinburgh Castle. It was commenced by Queen Margaret & modified by her son David I. Margaret virtually secluded herself in the Chapel in pursuit of her religious ideals and died there after hearing of the death of her husband and eldest son.

Former WW II Bomber Pilot Honoured



At a ceremony in London's Green Park, a £6m memorial to the 55,573 airmen of Bomber Command who died during World War II was unveiled by Queen Elizabeth at midday on 28th June 2012. The memorial, pictured at left, built in Portland stone, features a bronze 9ft high sculpture of seven aircrew. An inscription on the memorial says it "also commemorates those of all nations who lost their lives in the bombing of 1939-1945". The memorial also has a roof made of aluminium reclaimed from a Handley Page Halifax III bomber shot down over Belgium in May 1944.

Sandy McPhee from Mt. Vincent NSW, one of the founding members of our Society and until recently the Clan Commissioner in Australia, was one of the former World War II Bomber Command airmen able to represent Australia as a member of the Bomber Command Association. He travelled first class to England with his son-in-law Jim Knowles to attend the ceremony. Prior to leaving Australia, Newcastle Star reporter Mark Connors recorded an interview with Sandy. The following is an extract from that article:

"The 88-year-old Mount Vincent resident is no stranger to the air, having been a Qantas pilot for most of his working life. But it is his service to Australia as a WW II pilot that is really impressive. During the war Mr McPhee flew them all – Tiger Moth, Wirraway, Airspeed Oxford, Vickers Wellington, Short Stirling, Avro Lancaster.

Sandy McPhee was still in high school when WW II started and was eventually deployed to Britain as a 19-year-old in August 1943. He said he had been "besotted with aeroplanes" since he was eight years old. "I told them 'I'll fly anywhere you like'," Mr McPhee said. "I couldn't wait to leave school and join the air force".



Sandy McPhee, back in the cockpit of a 747 Jumbo Jet

He spent several months doing elementary flying training in the Australian rural towns of Narrandera and Uranquinty before heading to New York for more training and then on to Europe. Mr McPhee spent the next few months flying Airspeed Oxfords in Scotland as part of Australia's WW II Bomber Command team. He logged 30 flights to Germany, bombing air bases, shipping complexes and industrial complexes."

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Aberdeen Games & MacPhee Bagpipes

Each year our Treasurer Geoff McPhee and his wife Ruth do a wonderful job manning a tent to represent the Society at the Aberdeen Highland Games. It is fortunate Geoff's brother Bill is a local who can lend a hand, because setting up and spending a long day at the gathering can be taxing. This year I had the pleasure of joining them on a day that was warm and sunny.

A large crowd of several thousand were in attendance at the Games with a large number of bands, dancers, clans and exhibitors at the ground to ensure the day was entertaining and enjoyable. One of the exhibitors I was surprised to come across was Michael Phee who is pictured on the front cover of *The Downunder* in front of his stall that displayed his hand crafted 'MacPhee Bagpipes'.

Michael is originally from Scotland where he worked for bagpipe maker and Scottish outfitter Piob Mor based at Blairgowrie, a town not far from Dundee in beautiful Perthshire. As a experienced toolmaker and bagpipe player, Michael is ideally qualified to make and repair bagpipes. Michael and his Australian wife Heather relocated to Australia in 2008 and settled at Gorokan, south of Newcastle in NSW.

At Gorokan Michael started up his own business making hand crafted Highland bagpipes. He chose the brand name MacPhee because 'it sounded more Scottish' than his surname Phee. In addition to manufacturing bagpipes & practice chanters, Michael has a repair service & distributes a range of Scottish accessories. A great asset to his business is the skill of his wife Heather, who does kilt making and alterations.

Scotland News

The Scottish Wildcat

Although Scottish Wildcats (*Felis silvestris grampia*) look like domestic cats, they are not feral or farm cats gone wild. Unique to Britain and now found only in Scotland, they are a sub species of the European Wildcat (*Felis silvestris silvestris*), but are larger with a thicker coat, more heavily camouflaged and live across a wider range. The Scottish form is the largest in the wildcat family with males typically weighing between 6 - 9 kg and females 5 - 7 kg, generally about 50% larger than the average domestic cat. They are an animal that even if raised in captivity, cannot be tamed. While the wolf, lynx and bear have long since disappeared from Britain, the Scottish Wildcat is the country's only remaining large wild land predator.

Experts believe the Scottish Wildcat population has fallen to about 400 and work is underway to prevent the species becoming extinct. That involves encouraging cat owners in the Highlands to ensure their animals are neutered. Researcher Dr. Hetherington explained, "The major threat to Wildcats these days is hybridisation, or inter-breeding, with domestic cats. Although they are quite different and have a completely different temperament, they are actually quite closely related genetically to domestic cats, so they can produce fertile hybrids. If that continues we are going to lose our pure Scottish Wildcat."

A new research project in the Highlands has provided a rare insight into the secret world of one of Scotland's most endangered and elusive species. Scottish Wildcats are notoriously secretive, but conservationists are hoping to gain a more detailed understanding of their behaviour. They have attached specialised camera equipment, known as photo-traps, to trees in the Cairngorms National Park. Motion detectors and infra-red technology allow the cameras to capture images of passing animals over a period of days, weeks or even months. The project is still in its early stages, but the cameras have already provided images of the Scottish Wildcat, popularly known as the Highland Tiger, and other animals, including Golden Eagles.

The research is being led by Dr. David Hetherington of the Cairngorm National Park Authority. He told BBC Scotland, "Wildcats are very shy, secretive animals. They are active mainly at night and it's really difficult for people to get close enough to watch them properly. Douglas Richardson, of the Highland Wildlife Park at Kincaig near Aviemore (where Clan Commander Iain MacFie worked for a number of years), said, "We are dealing with an animal that's the last of its kind in the British Isles."

Western Isles regain Historic Lewis Chessmen

Six Lewis Chessmen are to be displayed longterm at a new museum on the Western Isles where the historic pieces were found. An agreement has been reached between Western Isles Council and the British Museum. The British Museum will lend the six pieces to the new museum at Lews Castle, in Stornoway, from 2014. Under the new arrangement, 6 pieces will go on show on a more permanent basis at the 19th Century Lews Castle following the completion of a major revamp of the building.

The Lewis Chessmen (or Uig Chessmen, named after the bay where they were found) are a group of 78 12th-century chess pieces, most of which are carved in walrus ivory. Discovered in 1831 in a sandbank at the head of Camas Uig on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis, in the Outer Hebrides, they are owned and exhibited by the British Museum in London, which has 67 of the original pieces, and the Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, which has the remaining 11 pieces.



The chessmen were probably made in Norway, perhaps by craftsmen in Trondheim, in the 12th century, although some scholars have suggested other sources in the Nordic countries. During that period the Outer Hebrides, along with other major groups of Scottish islands, were ruled by Norway. Almost all of the pieces in the collection are carved from walrus ivory, with a few made instead from whale teeth. The 78 pieces consist of 8 kings, 8 queens, 16 bishops, 15 knights, 12 rooks and 19 pawns. The heights of the pawns range from 3.5 to 5.8 cm while the major pieces are between 7 and 10.2 cm. Although there are 19 pawns (a complete set requires 16), they have the greatest range of sizes of all the pieces, which has suggested that the 78 pieces might belong to at least 5 chess sets.

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 sixth of this series of shipping tables, Rosemary's work is presented here detailing the clan name McFee plus one MacFee. 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
MCFEE	--- INFANT WITH	2	NOV	1905	MACEDONIA
MCFEE	--- MASTER	12	FEB	1898	WAIKARE
MCFEE	--- MISS	27	DEC	1906	WARRIMOO
MCFEE	--- MISS	19	MAY	1874	CLAUD HAMILTON
MCFEE	--- MR	36	JAN	1892	MANAPOURI
MCFEE	--- MR	31	NOV	1871	GOTHENBURG
MCFEE	--- MR	A	APR	1886	TEKAPO
MCFEE	--- MR	29	JAN	1875	TARARUA
MCFEE	--- MR	29	JUL	1874	TARARUA
MCFEE	--- MR	26	JUN	1872	TARARUA
MCFEE	--- MRS	39	APR	1893	MARAROA II
MCFEE	--- MRS	A	SEP	1882	CHILDERS
MCFEE	--- MRS	A	APR	1886	TEKAPO
MCFEE	--- MRS	51	APR	1889	MANAPOURI
MCFEE	--- MRS	30	APR	1895	MARAROA
MCFEE	--- MRS	49	APR	1879	RINGAROOMA
MCFEE	--- MRS	26	APR	1885	WAIRARAPA
MCFEE	--- MRS	A	FEB	1890	TEKAPO I
MCFEE	--- MRS	26	NOV	1905	MACEDONIA
MCFEE	--- MRS	28	AUG	1906	EMPIRE
MCFEE	--- MRS	40	MAY	1874	CLAUD HAMILTON
MCFEE	--- MRS	40	MAY	1875	ALHAMBRA
MCFEE	--- MRS	42	MAY	1881	ROTOMAHANA
MCFEE	A	24	SEP	1864	ALHAMBRA
MCFEE	A	26	JAN	1853	COLLOONEY
MCFEE	A MR	31	SEP	1871	CLAUD HAMILTON
MCFEE	A MR	37	NOV	1905	MACEDONIA
MCFEE	A MRS	32	SEP	1871	CLAUD HAMILTON
MCFEE	A MRS	A	SEP	1915	BENALLA
MCFEE	A W	45	JUL	1897	LUSITANIA
MCFEE	CHARLES	26	NOV	1909	ORSOVA
MCFEE	CHAS B	20	MAR	1872	CALCUTTA
MCFEE	D	28	FEB	1864	ALDINGA
MCFEE	DANL	28	AUG	1855	OLIVER LANG
MCFEE	DONALD	13	JAN	1853	NORTHUMBRIA
MCFEE	E J MRS	30	FEB	1922	BORDA

Family Name	First Name	Age	Month	Year	Ship
MC FEE	GEO	30	APR	1894	THERMOPYLAE
MC FEE	H MR	29	FEB	1922	BORDA
MC FEE	HILDA J MISS	5	FEB	1922	BORDA
MC FEE	J	44	FEB	1864	CITY OF HOBART III
MC FEE	J MRS	22	DEC	1913	THEMISTOCLES
MC FEE	JAMES	2	JUL	1922	DEMOSTHENES
MC FEE	JAMES WM	20	SEP	1864	WHITE STAR
MC FEE	JANE	34	JAN	1853	NORTHUMBRIA
MC FEE	JESSIE	25	JUL	1922	DEMOSTHENES
MC FEE	JNO	37	AUG	1853	ASIA
MC FEE	JOHN	36	DEC	1893	HABSBURG
MC FEE	KATE	8	DEC	1893	HABSBURG
MC FEE	M	28	DEC	1867	ALHAMBRA II
MC FEE	MALCOLM	34	JAN	1853	NORTHUMBRIA
MC FEE	MALCOLM	9	JAN	1853	NORTHUMBRIA
MC FEE	MARY	3	JAN	1853	NORTHUMBRIA
MC FEE	PATK	1	AUG	1853	ASIA
MC FEE	PETER MR	44	APR	1866	RANGITOTO
MC FEE	ROBT CAPT	-	SEP	1882	CHILDERS
MC FEE	S MR	48	MAY	1923	ESPERANCE BAY
MC FEE	SARAH	35	AUG	1853	ASIA
MC FEE	T R	-	JAN	1862	INDUS
MC FEE	THOMAS	1	JAN	1853	NORTHUMBRIA
MC FEE	W	32	MAY	1864	ALHAMBRA
MC FEE	W T MR	30	FEB	1884	ROTOMAHANA
MAC FEE	DANIEL	41	SEP	1868	LIGHTNING

EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

- Aug 19 Beechworth Highland Games, Amulet Vineyard, Beechworth VIC
- Aug 25 Gathering of the Clans at Norah Head Sports Ground NSW
- Sept 15 Clans on the Coast Celtic Festival, Tomaree Sporting Fields, Nelson Bay NSW
- Oct 13 Macfie Clan Society of Australia Biennial General Meeting, Perth, WA**
- Oct 21 Wollongong Highland Games, Viking Oval, Wollongong NSW
- Nov 4 Combined Scottish Societies of NSW Gathering, Castle Hill Showground NSW
- Nov 18 Armadale Highland Gathering, Minnowarra Park, WA
- Dec Daylesford Highland Gathering, Daylesford VIC

A Little Scottish Levity

A Scotsman and his wife walked past a swanky new restaurant last night...
 "Did you smell that food!" she exclaimed. "Incredible!"
 Being the 'kind-hearted' Scotsman he thought, "What the heck, I'll treat her!"
 So they walked past it again!

Financial Statement for 2010 & 2011

From Treasurer Geoff McPhee

		<u>2010</u>		<u>2011</u>
Income	Subscriptions	\$3,430.00		\$3,316.80
	Subscriptions in Advance	\$95.00		\$130.00
	Donations to Society	\$1,884.00		\$1,640.00
	Donations to Clan	\$520.00		\$740.00
	B G M	\$539.00		
	Interest			
		\$6,468.00		\$5,826.80
Expenditure	Downunder Print/Post	\$2,358.95		\$2,500.53
	Functions and Promotions	\$886.97		\$274.00
	Sundry Office & Stationary	\$151.45		\$515.54
	B G M	\$825.00		
	Sundry Postage	\$199.80		
	Public Liability Insurance	\$242.90		\$288.45
	Bank Fees for keeping Account	\$167.75		\$166.00
	Clan Levy			
		\$4,832.82		\$3,744.52
Surplus/(Defecit)		\$1,635.18		\$2,082.28
Opening Cash Book		\$15,721.27		\$5,356.45
Closing Cash Book		\$17,356.45		\$7,438.73
Term Deposits Established		(\$12,000.00)		
Add Term Deposits Cashed				
Total Cash at Bank		\$5,356.45		\$7,438.73
Term Deposits		\$12,000.00		\$12,000.00
Total Assets		\$17,356.45		\$19,438.73
Represented by	Trust Fund	\$6,337.17	\$6,337.17	
	Subscriptions in Advance	(\$70.00)	(\$95.00)	
	Society Travel Fund	\$90.00	\$90.00	
	Standing Stone Account	\$20.00	\$20.00	
		\$6,377.17		\$6,352.17
Net Assets		\$10,979.28		\$13,086.56
Members Funds				
	Balance 01 January 2011	\$9,249.10		\$10,979.28
	Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	\$1,635.18	\$2,082.28	
	Subscriptions received in Advance	\$95.00	\$25.00	\$2,107.28
	Balance 31 December 2011	\$10,979.28		\$13,086.56

SOCIETY OFFICE BEARERS

President*	Ian McPhee	PO Box 237 Brookvale NSW 2100	02 9938 2550
Vice President*	Margaret Barnes	201/5 Cary St Drummoyne NSW 2047	91811689
QLD VP*	Susan Spinks	Chertsey M/S 212 Oakey QLD 4401	07 4691 6206
NSW VP*	Morris McPhee	24 Cobran Road Cheltenham NSW 2119	02 9868 1521
ACT VP*	Gwen Hubert	8 Trumble St Pearce ACT 2607	02 62861058
VIC VP*	Ross McPhie	18 Faulkner St. St. Kilda VIC 3182	0421048207
SA VP*	Judith Moore	107/125 Montacute Rd Campbelltown SA 5074	08 83650220
TAS VP*	vacant		
WA VP*	Jillian King	PO Box 3320 Joondalup WA 6027	08 94054884
Treasurer*	Geoff McPhee	43 Cedar Street Lugarno NSW 2210	02 95334195
Clan Commissioner*	A (Sandy) McPhie	2 Sandalwood Drive Glenvale QLD 4350	07 46345919
Clan Armiger*	A (Sandy) McPhee	49 Rodney Rd Mt Vincent NSW 2323	02 49380350
Secretary	Lyndsay Armstrong	3 Beaumont St Rose Bay NSW 2029	93716117
M/ship Coordinator	Rosemary Szente	3/26 Seaview Ave Newport NSW 2106	02 9997 6082
Chief Historian	Trevor Phee	24 Bibby Street Hamilton NSW 2303 t.phee@bigpond.com	02 4962 2672
Historian	Jan Harper	21/9 Beach St Port Melbourne VIC 3207	03 96464113
Historian	Helen McPhie	2 Sandalwood Drive Glenvale QLD 4350	07 46345919
Society Piper	vacant		
Downunder Editor	Ian McPhee	PO Box 237 Brookvale NSW 2100	0419 382555

* Denotes Macfie Clan Society of Australia Executive

All correspondence should be sent to:

The President, Macfie Clan Society of Australia

PO Box 237 Brookvale NSW 2100

Telephone: 02 9938 2550

mobile: 0419 382555

Email: irmac10@bigpond.net.au

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.



Whisky tasting at the Aberdeen Highland Games: Downunder editor Ian McPhee and Society treasurer Geoff McPhee with Chivas Brothers whisky ambassador and native of Scotland, Laura Hay.



The street parade at the Glen Innes Celtic Festival



Geoff & Ruth McPhee manning the Macfie Clan Society tent at Aberdeen



Sandy McPhee with RAAF escort at the London Bomber Command Memorial. For the story see page 10



The opening ceremony at the Aberdeen Highland Games