



THE DOWNUNDER

Journal of the
Macfie Clan Society of Australia

Issue 128
September 2014



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



Acting President's Message

Morrison McPhee Acting President.

The arrangements for the visit of our Clan Commander and his wife, and the BGM to be held in Adelaide, are well under way.

The more Clan members that can be involved the better. Whether it is just being able to meet with Iain and Fiona at some time while they are in Sydney, Adelaide or Canberra, or attending the BGM, the more members that can be involved the more memorable the visit will be, not only for Iain and Fiona, but also for the individual Clan members.

Our draft itinerary allows for a great deal of flexibility during Iain & Fiona's time in all three cities, so if you have the time to meet and talk with them, please let us know and we should be able to tailor their schedule to accommodate most if not all requests.

The article on pages 6 & 7, an extract from The Kalgoorlie Miner, which was contributed by Trevor McPhee from WA, was to be included in the March 2014 "Downunder" to coincide with Anzac Day, but as this edition ended up being the July edition, it was not included.

As we are approaching the 100th Anniversary of Gallipoli next year and there are many references to this in the press and on television, I thought it appropriate to include the article in this edition. Although we have received a number of contributions regarding member's ancestors involvement, if any members have any information or documents relating to the involvement of an any Macfie (or with any other spelling) in the Gallipoli campaign or any other part of World War One that they might like to share with other members of the Clan, please forward these to me and I will endeavour to include them in future editions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those members who have renewed their membership for 2014, and additionally thank all those who also made a donation. The Clan Society's only income is from Membership dues and donations. This income allows for the publishing and distribution of the "Downunder" and the involvement in Scottish events. These events all require some expenditure and many now require having the necessary insurances to be allowed to have a presence at the event.

Part of this income has recently allowed us to purchase two additional new larger gonfalons to supplement the original new larger one purchased last year. This initial new gonfalon had its first outing at the recent Aberdeen NSW Highland Gathering where I was privileged to be able to carry it in the opening parade and then have it displayed at the front of our stand. As soon as I have been able to prepare the support stands to enable the two additional ones to be displayed, they will be on display at the BGM and at other occasions during the Commander's visit. They will then be available to be used at events in any state. We have purchased flag bags which, with suitable outer packing, will allow the gonfalons to be able to be transported at minimum cost between states as required.

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On the Cover

MACFIE MANOR TASMANIA

44 McFie Street Devonport, TAS, 7310

Perched proudly in one of Devonport's heritage areas, with one of the best views in town, sits this historic property - Macfie Manor. This stunning 411m2 (approx.) circa 1890's residence beautifully exemplifies the architecture of the Victorian period, with sympathetic upgrading

MacFie Manor offers quality heritage style accommodation at Devonport on Tasmania's north west coast. Be the lord or lady of the manor in this large and gracious residence of a prosperous Victorian. On the shady upstairs balcony, decorated with iron lace, breath deeply of the fresh air and look out over the Mersey River and Bass Strait - a huge view. MacFie Manor's rooms are spacious with high ceilings, and the ambience of a luxurious past is recreated with their period decor and antique furnishings. Two rooms have four-poster beds. All the bedrooms have their own en-suite facilities, hairdryer, tea and coffee making facilities, television, and telephone. There is an ironing room and off street parking is available. A full breakfast is served in the dining room each morning, and is included in your tariff. Relax in these quiet surroundings. And there's no disturbing the peace when you're ready to visit the centre of the city, with its restaurants, galleries, shops and the Ti-garra Aboriginal Cultural Centre, it's only a three-minute walk. After a delectable dinner in a city restaurant enjoy a gentle stroll back to your grand city mansion. MacFie Manor is a smoke free establishment.



MacFie Manor was being operated as a B&B up until recently, but was recently put up for sale. The wording above is from the Real Estate advertising.

I am not sure at this point in time whether it has been sold and what its future may be. If any member has any additional information, I would be eager to hear from them.



40th Anniversary Bi-Annual General Meeting

REMINDER

2014 is the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia in 1974. Fortunately we will be able to mark this important milestone in the society's history with the attendance at our BGM, to be held in Adelaide on the 8th November, of our Commander, Iain McPhee and his wife Fiona, who will be in Australia after spending some time in New Zealand.

Any member of the Clan Society who is able to, is encouraged to attend the BGM and meet with the Commander and his wife as well as many other members from all over Australia. If you have not been able to attend a BGM before now is the opportunity to combine this with meeting our Clan Commander. This would be an ideal time to possibly combine an extended visit to Adelaide and the other many attractions of South Australia starting or finishing with the BGM.

The BGM and associated activities are being organised by our South Australian Vice President, Judith Moore and Brian McPhee, a past President of the Society.

For more information on the BGM and associated activities and to notify Judith and Brian of your attendance, please contact Judith on 08 83650220 or Brian on 08 82390038 or email bmcphoe@internode.on.net. I am sure they will also be able to offer some advice on the many other things to see and do if you plan to combine the BGM attendance with an extended holiday in SA. Alternatively, please contact Morris McPhee on 02 98681521 or by email at colonsay@bigpond.com.au

MEET YOUR CLAN COMMANDER (Cean-Cath)

If you are unable to attend the BGM, we would encourage you meet with Your Clan Commander (Cean-Cath) while he is in Australia. Iain and Fiona will be spending some time in Sydney, Adelaide and Canberra, and would enjoy meeting as many Clan members as they are able to. Unfortunately the short time they will be in Australia will preclude travelling to other states.

They will be arriving in Sydney on 30th October and be staying in Sydney most of the following week before flying to Adelaide for the BGM. They then plan to fly to Canberra and spend some time there before returning by car to Sydney, and will be flying out at 11:30 am on Friday 14th November.

The proposed schedule is shown on Page 11

To enable as many Clan members as possible to meet with them, and to assist in the detailed planning of the visit, we would ask anyone who would like to be part of this memorable visit to contact the following executive members and let us know of your interest.

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Morris McPhee | email: colonsay@bigpond.net.au | Sydney area |
| Brian McPhee | email: bmcphoe@internode.on.net | Adelaide |
| Heather Grove | email: heathergrove1@hotmail.com | Canberra |

Notice & Invitation: 20th Biennial General Meeting of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia

Notice is hereby given: that the 20th Biennial General Meeting (BGM) of The Macfie Clan Society of Australia will be held at 4 Figtree Court, North Adelaide, South Australia on Saturday 8th November 2014.

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 Address by the Clan Commander |
| 5 President's report | 10 Closure of meeting |

Executive Committee

Nominations are now called for the following Executive positions:

President Vice president Secretary Treasurer ACT Vice President
NSW Vice President Queensland Vice-President South. Australian Vice President
Tasmanian Vice President Victorian 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 the nomination and by a proposer and seconder. Only financial members can accept nomination or propose or second a nomination.

A Nomination Form is included with this edition of the Downunder

Attendance & Information

Details of the functions taking place over the weekend were sent previously with the annual subscription notice.

Members are encouraged to wear Scottish dress to the BGM and dinner.

If you have not already done so, please indicate your attendance by either telephoning or emailing Brian McPhee in S.A. by the 6th October.

Brian's contact details are as follows:

Home tel.: 08 8239 0038 Email: bmcphree@internode.on.net

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

WILLIAM ALEXANDER McPHEE (Lieutenant)

TRANSCRIPT FROM THE *KALGOORLIE MINER* 3 JUNE 1915 (via Trobe).

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT
AN EX-KALGOORLIE VOLUNTEER
AT THE DARDANELLES

A letter of great interest to Kalgoorlie people has been received from Private W.A. McPhee by his mother, who resides in Hanbury Street. Private McPhee, who was a member of the machine gun section of the 9th Infantry, 3rd Brigade, was wounded recently while fighting on the Gallipoli Peninsula in connection with the forcing of the Dardanelles, and at the time of writing was confined to a hospital at Cairo. He enlisted in Queensland, and until a few years ago resided for a long time in Kalgoorlie where he went to school. He is now only 22 years of age but a tall man and of splendid physique. The letter describing the fighting that he was engaged in follows:

Kasr-el-aini Hospital, Cairo 3/5/1915

Dear Mother, As you all know by this, we have all landed at the Dardanelles and done some wonderful work. Just a little about our landing. The 3rd Brigade, which consists of the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Battalions, was chosen as the landing brigade, a great honour, and we were all given to understand that we would have to fight to the last man if necessary.

At 12 o'clock on Saturday night we all embarked aboard destroyers, and they took us into the landing place by daylight. A and B Companies of the 9th were the covering party for the rest of the brigade and they had no sooner landed than we were under a heavy fire from the forts and the Turks. As soon as our boys all got ashore we charged the ridges and drove the Turks back, capturing a machine gun and a 4 inch Krupp. At 9 a.m. just as we were getting entrenched, the enemy were seen coming in over the ridges in thousands. We had orders to get our No 2 gun on the right flank to cover the advance of our boys and try and stop the enemy, but they were fully five times our number, and a big howitzer battery began to throw shells all around us. I was No 2 on the machine gun, and we simply dropped them as they came over the ridges. At 9:45 my mate was shot, hit with shrapnel. I then took his place, as the others of the gun section came up to assist me they were shot down by three. It was terrible. I advanced with the gun until word came to get under cover. I had only gone a few yards when the gun was smashed off my shoulder by a shell. The only thing I could do then was to stick in with the infantry for the rest of the day. Although our casualties were large we held them back, and thus won the day. We went on fighting Sunday night and Monday night and on Tuesday morning the order was given for about 12 of the best shots to advance 30 or 40 yards to try and silence several machine guns that were playing on us. I had already bagged six Turks and we had just got into position. I felt a stinging pain, in my side. I put my hand up to see if I had been badly hit, and found the bullet had only grazed me, but the second one was a better aim, and got me in the leg, just grazing the bone.

I will be here for about 10 days and then back to the front to have another shot. Same address will find me if I am still kicking. Hope to be on our way to Constantinople when you receive this.

Best love and kind regards to all from your loving son. Will

Private McPhee also sent a short letter to his mother on April 8 last, prior to the one above but pointed out at the start that he was permitted to write of very little apart from family affairs.

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT THE POZIERES ADVANCE

OFFICER FROM KALGOORLIE WOUNDED HALF HOUR BEFORE

Lieut. William McPhee, whose mother resides in Kalgoorlie was wounded half an hour before the advance by the Australians on Pozieres and while getting ready for the order to go forward. The wounded officer is now confined to the County of London Hospital. He enlisted in Queensland as a private and went through the whole of the Gallipoli campaign.

I had every chance of losing my left arm above the elbow he writes, but Captain McGee of Melbourne saved it for me. I have had six weeks of agony and the doctor told me that for only putting up with so much pain and my courage I would certainly have lost my arm.

We had a terrible fortification allotted to us to take at Pozieres but unfortunately I was hit half an hour before we had to advance. I would have loved to have led my boys to the German second line which was my objective, but I could not do it. I held out as long as possible, and then I gave my sergeant and corporal instructions as to when we attacked but the corporal was killed shortly afterwards and several of the men. When I was hit a shell burst just in front of me. Luckily I only received a couple of pieces of shrapnel which absolutely shattered the bone in my left arm. Septic poisoning set in and from then I had a rough time. I have been under four operations. I have had twelve incisions made in the arm and am the only patient who has had his arm drained from the elbow. I am certain not to have the use of my arm for five or six months. I certainly would like to go back with my boys, as they thought a lot of me."

Notes on letters:

Gallipoli:

Army records show he was wounded on first day (April 25) but his letter says they landed on Sunday morning before 9.00 am, fought Sunday and Monday and he was wounded Tuesday morning 27th.

His letter dated 3 May says that he anticipated being back at the front in about 10 days but he didn't re-join unit at Gallipoli until July 10.

France:

Following withdrawal from Gallipoli, spent time in Egypt and unit arrived in Marseilles April 5 1916.

Was wounded at Pozieres July 22, 1916. His subsequent letter home was undated but printed in *Kalgoorlie Miner* October 21. This letter says he was at County of London War Hospital Epsom. Records show he was admitted to Duchess of Westminster Red X Hospital July 25 1916 and it appears he was transferred to County of London Hospital on August 4th. Discharged from County of London Hospital February 13 1917 for repatriation to Australia same day. Army records show his wound as Gun Shot Wound to left forearm but his letter says the wound was caused by two pieces of shrapnel from a shell that burst in front of him.



Why we came here - No.1

THE HIGHLAND CLEARANCES

by Laurie Nilsen

The Jacobite Rebellion ended with defeat at the Battle of Culloden on 16th April, 1746. Afterwards the English army spread out over the Scottish Highlands subduing the clans and searching for Bonnie Prince Charlie. The Prince escaped but the clans were destroyed.

The estates of the rebels were forfeited and the Highlanders were disarmed and forbidden to wear the tartan. Still smarting from this insult, they soon found themselves facing a new danger. In 1760 a landowner in Balnagowan evicted his tenants and leased his land to sheep farmers from the south. There was indignation that a laird should thus betray his people and leave them to shift for themselves.

It was the first sign that the clan system had broken down and the chieftains no longer considered themselves responsible for the welfare of their clansmen.

By the late eighteenth century the Highlands were already over-populated. The old style subsistence farming would no longer feed the people. The Highlanders still used the medieval farming technique of open field cultivation. It was a collective method which fitted their clan organization, but it was inefficient and produced only low yields. As the population grew, the food supply fell short so that there was insufficient grain to last through the winters. Then grain had to be purchased from the Lowlands, often at high prices. The money came from the sale of cattle.

When times were good, this arrangement worked. A bad season, however, was dreaded. A wet summer and an early winter might ruin the crops. This happened in 1782 and a famine followed in which those with no money to buy grain lived on cockles on the seashore.

It was sheep that both saved and destroyed the Highlands. Highland sheep were small in size and few in number. A new breed from the Border, the Cheviot, produced more meat and wool and the sheep farmers from the south offered the Highland landowners high rents for pasture for their Cheviot flocks. However, it had to be clear. They could not share with cattle or subsistence farmers on the open field system. The landowners, usually the former chiefs of the clans, often burdened by debt, began to evict their tenant farmers to make way for them.

These were the Highland Clearances.

Those who believed in agricultural improvement defended the clearances as removing surplus population who could not feed themselves, just as the English had been doing for centuries, and bringing a cash economy to the Highlands. Others said that the

*Laurie Nilsen works as a
Librarian in New South Wales*

Highlands were ruined for all time by removing their greatest resource: people. The debate continues to this day.

In his book *The Highland Clearances*, published in 1963, John Prebble claimed that the clearances were motivated by greed and characterised by brutality, while Eric Richards' book *A History of the Highland Clearances*, published in 1982, takes a more balanced view and shows the strains on Highland society which caused its breakdown.

In 1784 the forfeited estates were returned to their owners, many of whom began to clear them for sheep to pay their accumulated debts. Macdonnell of Glengarry cleared Knoydart on the West coast in 1785. Many of his evicted clansmen emigrated to Canada.

By 1790 the Cheviot had reached even Ross and Cromarty in the north.

In 1801 the Camerons were cleared from Lochaber and their huts were burned behind them. They walked to Fort William but there was neither work nor shelter for them there and those who could raise the passage money emigrated to America. The song "Lochaber No More" with its sad chorus of "No, no, never ... I never will see Lochaber no more", became the farewell song of the emigrants. It was later adapted in Australia as "Wild Rover No More".

These early clearances were orderly. The men still accepted the authority of their lairds and walked away from their homes weeping.

Emigration to Australia had not yet begun. The voyage from the sea lochs of the west coast of Scotland to Canada was relatively short: about five weeks as against five months to New South Wales.

When the Napoleonic Wars broke out at the end of the eighteenth century they indirectly benefited the Highlands.

Prices for cattle improved and industries developed to supply items which could no longer be imported from the continent such as fertiliser, wool and cloth. The fertiliser was made from kelp or seaweed washed up on the west coast and islands. It became a thriving industry and the population of the Hebrides increased because work and money were there. Also, over 72,000 men were recruited into Highland regiments. While the war lasted money came in from kelp, cattle, spinning and weaving and the soldiers' pay. But when peace returned in 1815 a severe depression set in.

Then the clearances took on a more brutal character. Resistance became common and riots broke out as the evictors set fire to the houses as soon as they had forced the residents out. The army was often called in to keep order.

On the huge estates of the Countess of Sutherland the clearances were part of an elaborate improvement plan. The countess and her English husband planned a whole new economy with the interior of the country devoted to sheep and new villages on the coast living by fishing, coal mining, brickmaking and tanning. The idea was good but the new industries failed to take root due to the post-war depression and the fact that the Highlanders knew nothing of these activities. They only knew the old ways and most of them only knew the Gaelic language. This might have a dozen words to describe lochs and islands or mists and mountains, but none for factories or industry. In spite of the failure of the coastal villages, the clearances continued and houses were ruthlessly burnt. One of the Sutherlands' agents, Patrick Sellars, was tried in 1816 for causing the death of an old woman whose home he had burned, but he was acquitted.

By the 1830s it was widely agreed that emigration was the only solution to the problem of destitution in the Highlands.

In 1832 there was an epidemic of cholera and in 1836 the potato crop

was ruined by blight and a famine followed. The town of Tobermory on the isle of Mull was crowded with starving families, as was the island of Skye, where clearances had been widespread. The emergency relief committees petitioned the government to take these people to the colonies.

The government chartered two ships, the *Midlothian* and the *Brilliant*, and they sailed for Australia in 1837.

When they came to Sydney the Highlanders refused to disperse and they were finally allowed to settle in a group of the lower Hunter River. The grave of Donald Cameron and his wife, who both came in the *Brilliant*, may still be seen in the churchyard at Stroud.

Australia received few Highland immigrants in the first half of the nineteenth century. The voyage was long and at first they were not popular with employers because of the language problem. The Highlands & Islands Emigration Society began sending people to Australia on an

organised basis after 1851. The discovery of gold in the same year made Australia a much more popular destination and Australian employers, now desperate for labour, were willing to accept Highlanders. Victoria took the most.

In 1852 a large group of tenants cleared from Lord MacDonal's estates in the Hebrides was sent to South Australia and Victoria. Two years later a similar group of MacDonal tenants was sent.

The last clearance took place in Ross and Cromarty in 1854. It ended in a riot during which police baton-charged a mob of stone-throwing women. Twenty of the women were seriously injured and one later died. By this time public opinion had been roused against clearances and although emigration continued, it became voluntary. Young people left for the colonies not as outcasts and exiles as the Highlanders had done, but in hope of a better standard of living.

Immigration and the new settler

Russ Bell in the first of a series discusses how the immigration system worked

Russ Bell is a writer on genealogical subjects

This is a major topic for genealogists, because if ancestors were not convicts, and not members of the civil or military service, then they came to Australia as immigrants.

In this category we have three main classes:

- (a) Immigrants whose passage was entirely paid by either the government, or a commercial firm or individual.
- (b) Immigrants whose passage was subsidised by the government; these are called "bounty" immigrants.
- (c) Immigrants who paid their own passage unassisted or "free" immigrants.

(a) These migrants had to pay only £2, to cover the cost of a bedding and mess kit, which then became their property. Whole

ships were chartered by the government, or by traders like A.C. Smith & Co, Thomas Gore & Co., Robert Campbell, the Australian Agricultural Co. etc; and the contract, or indenture, signed by the ship owner and the importer led to the Ship entries of the immigrant's particulars becoming known as the "indents". These records may be studied by researchers at the Archives Office. Certain people were ineligible: persons in debt, or receiving parish relief; widows or widowers with young children; families without all the children under seventeen; husbands without wives; wives without husbands; single women under 17 or over 50

Those granted assistance had to provide: 6 shirts & 2 warm flannel shirts (or 6 shifts & 2 prs flannel petticoats); 6 prs stockings; 2 prs new boots or shoes; 2 suits strong clothing (or 2 warm gowns); 4 towels; 2 lbs best yellow soap; and 2 lbs marine soap.

(b) Governor Bourke suggested the idea of "bounty", or assisted, immigrants, whereby the government would help with the cost of their passages. Arrangements proclaimed in 1835 stated: "The sum of £30 will be granted to every man, and to his wife, neither of whom shall exceed 30 years of age, and £5 for each child over the age of twelve months. A sum of £15 will be allowed for any unmarried female, between 15 and 30 years of age, who shall come out under the protection of a married couple. A bounty of £10 will also be allowed for every unmarried male, between 18 and 25 years, brought out by any Settler, who at the same time brings out an equal number of females, accompanying and attached to a family, as hereinbefore described."

Thus we find mentioned in the ship indents of such vessels, that a certain female passenger, aged seventeen years, as "under the protection of Mr & Mrs Jennings". Strange to say, I have found entries for such "protected" immigrants, but no evidence at all of the "protectors" being passengers on the ship; for this historical period (the '30s and '40s) we are fortunate that there are actually three shipping lists to consult - the Immigration Board lists; the "bounty" lists; and the entitlement certificates.

(c) "Free" immigrants were not encouraged in the very early years. The first to actually arrive were probably a group of farm labourers, on a ship called the *Bellona*, in 1793. They settled in an area called Liberty Plains (around where Strathfield is today). Through these early years few records of the arrivals were kept; and one's best hope of data lies in the pages of our first newspaper, *The Sydney Gazette* (1803). When records of these immigrants can be found, the usual entry is of the nature of: "Mr & Mrs Jones & children"; "Mr Brown, Intermediate passenger"; or inclusion in a group designated "Also 72 steerage passengers".

To assist in any search concerning immigrants, you need the duplicated publication from the NSW Archives Office, entitled *Guide to Shipping and Free Passenger Records*" (\$9).

This reveals the wide, though incomplete, range of records that can be searched for arrivals. Any family historian having ancestral deaths after 1856 (first year of civil registration) should obtain a death certificate. This will indicate the number of years in the colony, and thus supply an arrival date.

There are then card indexes, book lists and microfilm reels which can be searched.

Also available in books are: Cumpston's *Shipping Arrivals and Departures, Sydney, 1788-1825*; and the sequel by Nicholson, for 1826-1855. James McLelland, in his series of duplicated guides, also has some titles covering immigrants and ship arrivals.

The Archives Office has, in the foyer, card-indexes of the names of all arrivals known for 1826-53; 1844-59 and 1860-79. Also for purchase is the book *Shipping Passenger Arrivals 1876-1895* (\$25). Archives are now publishing a series of wonderfully-useful references, which are alphabetical indexes of all the immigrant arrivals, giving names of family members, ship and date of arrival, and the reference to a microfilm reel for further research.

The series so far includes: Immigrants to Moreton Bay (Brisbane) 1848-59: Guide 27 (\$12), Immigrants to Sydney 880-96: Guide 21 (\$15), Immigrants to Sydney 1860-79: Guide 28 (\$25) (Next in the series will be 1844-59)

Notwithstanding the afore-mentioned records at Archives, it is not unusual for a genealogist to have an ancestor who must have arrived as an immigrant, but for whom no arrival record can be located. We have mentioned using death certificates and early newspapers to help. Some other aids, which may be searched, include:

- 1 Naturalisation records.
- 2 Musters and Censuses
- 3 Electoral Rolls.
- 4 Colonial Secretary's Correspondence
- 5 Land records grants and allotments.
- 6 Ship Surgeons' journals
- 7 Historical Records of N.S.W. (and of Australia).
- 8 Records of the Aust. Agricultural Co. (a good book for reading is *Pure Merinos and Others* by Penny Pemberton).
- 9 The Freeman Journals (Roman Catholic references).

Other vital statistics at Archives include: Persons on "bounty" ships 1838-96, 1839-44, and 1848-51; convicts' wives and families on "bounty" ships 1849-55; German immigrants; persons on migrant ships; and Entitlement Certificates. Some big firms, like the Australian Agricultural Company, brought out many migrants as employees; and from 1825 to 1862 ships carried some 700 men, and their families, for this company, all the ships being listed separately.

The "bounty" and free immigrant indents of the mid-century ships are especially helpful, for from them can be ascertained: name, ship, native place, parentage, occupation, age, religion, literacy, and details of wives and children. These immigrants had to supply personal details on two separate occasions: when they filled out an application, in their home country, for a ship passage to Australia; and when they arrived in Australia, and were interviewed by shipping agents or government officials. It is apparent that some agents were well-educated, careful and precise - as their entries bear witness. Others, unfortunately for us, were not well-educated, were awful writers, and atrocious spellers.

What compounds the difficulties is that many of the migrants were just untutored farm labourers. They could not read or write, they could not spell their own names, and many were very unsure of their "native place". They spoke with thick, local accents, so consequently, when the ship agent listening to them didn't hear correctly, or couldn't spell himself, or just guessed when he was unsure, we have many entries which tax one's patience to interpret.

(a) There were two single siblings on a ship, and different agents had attempted their surname: Gutsill Godsell Galsel Gatsell, with the first three struck out. As I recorded the last effort, I did wonder if that was really the correct surname! -

(b) A brother and three single sisters were recorded thus: John Bergan; Maria Burgan; Judy Bargain; and Bridget Burgen. (The correct surname was Burgoyne!)

YOUR FAMILY TREE 19

Extract from original article in "Your Family Tree" magazine January 1987

Macfie Clan Society of Australia: Draft Itinerary for Clan Commander's Visit 2014

| Day | Date | Proposed Activity | Location |
|-----|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Thu | 30/10/14 | Arrive from NZ 15:45 QF 144, stay with Ian McPhee | Sydney Airport |
| Fri | 31/10/14 | By car to Akuna Bay, West Head, Palm Beach, Northern Beaches | Sydney |
| Sat | 01/11/14 | Day trip by car to Blue Mountains, 3 Sisters, Katoomba, Leura etc. | Sydney Region |
| Sun | 02/11/14 | AM-PM Mosman Cairn, Taronga Zoo, Nth Head, Sydney Harbour | Sydney |
| Sun | 02/11/14 | PM , function: Society members with Commander Iain & Fiona | Sydney |
| Mon | 03/11/14 | Iain & Fiona, own leisure: Sydney sites, opera house etc | Sydney city |
| Tue | 04/11/14 | Iain & Fiona own leisure: city sights Harbour Bridge walk etc | Sydney city |
| Wed | 05/11/14 | Day trip to Hunter Valley / South Coast | Sydney Region |
| Thu | 06/11/14 | AM Iain & Fiona, own leisure | Sydney |
| Thu | 06/11/14 | PM Iain & Fiona fly to Adelaide: 4:25 PM flight | Sydney/Adelaide |
| Fri | 07/11/14 | Visit to Adelaide Hills &/or Barossa Valley, other sightseeing | Adelaide Region |
| Sat | 08/11/14 | 40th Anniversary BGM, Lunch and Celtic Night Function | Adelaide |
| Sun | 09/11/14 | Church service, farewell lunch, fly to Canberra 3PM flight | Adel./Canberra |
| Mon | 10/11/14 | Mt Ainslie, Parliament House, War Memorial etc | Canberra |
| Tue | 11/11/14 | Tidbinbilla Nature Res., The Arboretum, meet Society members | Canberra |
| Wed | 12/11/14 | To Sydney by car through Southern Highlands Lunch at Bundanoon | Canberra/Sydney |
| Thu | 13/11/14 | Free for a day trip, general sightseeing & farewell Lunch/Dinner | Sydney |
| Fri | 14/11/14 | Depart for Hong Kong 11:25 flight Cathay Flt 197 | Sydney Airport |

SOCIETY OFFICE BEARERS

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | President* | | Treasurer* |
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Disclaimer & Note

As the journal 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.



Macfie Clan Society of Australia



A Chance to Chat with Iain & Fiona

Lunch Invitation:

Society members and partners are invited to an informal lunch in Sydney, to meet the Commander of Clan Macfie, Iain McFie and his wife Fiona. Details of Iain and Fiona's itinerary while they are in Australia can be found in *The Downunder*.

The lunch will also provide an opportunity to meet with other Macfie Clan Society of Australia members, including Morris McPhee, who is the NSW Vice President and acting President, his wife Robyn, who is the secretary, Treasurer Geoff McPhee and President Ian McPhee.

Hosts: Ian & Judith McPhee

Date: Sunday 2nd November 2014

Time: 12.30 pm

Address: 9 Forbes Place
Allambie Heights NSW

RSVP: 20th October 2014

Morris McPhee 02 98681521
 0439 407492

or

Ian McPhee 0419 382555



Macfie Clan Society of Australia

(Founded in Richmond NSW on 3rd May 1974)

24 Cobran Road
Cheltenham
NSW 2119

Ancestral Home of
Clan Macfie

Tel: 02 9868 1521
Mob: 0439 407492
Email: colonsay@bigpond.net.au

Executive Nomination Form

I (print):of

Address:

Member Number.....

Hereby accept nomination for the executive committee of the Macfie Clan Society of Australia to be elected at the Biennial General Meeting on Saturday 8th November 2014 at North Adelaide.

Position of:.....

Signature of nominee:.....Date:

Signature of proposer:.....Date:

Proposer name and Membership number.....

Signature of seconder:.....Date:

Secunder name and Membership number.....

Please return the completed nomination form to The Acting President at the above postal or email address. Forms must be returned by 17th October 2014.