



CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (Australia)

Newsletter No 18, October 1989

MACMILLAN

CREST BADGE : *A dexter and a sinister hand brandishing a two-handed sword, proper.*
MOTTO : *Miseris succurrere disco*
(*I learn to succour the distressed*).
GAELIC NAME : *MacGhille-Mhaolain.*

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has been a very interesting year for our Clan. We attended the Ringwood Highland Games at Ringwood and became aware of the Council of Clans — and they of us! At the Kirkin 'O' the Tartan service at the Scots Church, Melbourne in August, 26 Clans were represented. Also at that service the Church Moderator, Rev. Norman Pritchard was inducted as first Chaplain to the Council of Clans.

I have been fortunate also to be invited to two Ceilidhs — firstly the Chieftain of the Clans. Ronald Robb invited Max and myself to the McFarlane Ceilidh where we had a lovely evening of fellowship and entertainment. Recently we had another great evening when the Morrison Clan held their first Ceilidh. There was a wonderful evening of friendship and entertainment and we were privileged to be invited.

We are attending the Daylesford Highland Gathering on the first Saturday in December. We are taking this opportunity to hold our Annual General Meeting at these games and we do hope many of you will be able to attend. It will be a wonderful day's entertainment for all the family. Do come along to the MacMillan tent and share some time with us.

Looking forward to seeing you at Daylesford,

Kindest Regards
June Senior
President.



ANCESTRAL DATA

Thanks to Verna and Alec McMillan of Bendigo for their family ancestral details. If anyone else has ancestral details available please contact me and I will send a form to complete.

CEILIDH (ka li)

For those who may be wondering what a Ceilidh is (pronounced 'Ka li') the meaning from the Oxford Dictionary reads:

An informal gathering for song and story in Highlands of Scotland; festive gathering for dancing etc. in Ireland. [Gael]

Bob McMillan-Kay
Archivist/Editor/Treasurer

HIGHLAND GAMES AND AGM

The committee has decided as mentioned in our last newsletter to have the next AGM and Clan Gathering at Daylesford, in country Victoria, to coincide with the Highland Games to be held there on Saturday 2nd December. As it is always difficult to get a large attendance at our AGM's we thought that an occasion such as this might be of more interest than just a normal AGM. It will be a great opportunity to take the family on a pleasant day trip or even the weekend. As neither I or my family have ever been to Daylesford, I'm certainly going to make the trip. It is reputed to be the largest Scottish Highland Gathering outside Scotland, so please try and come along. We will have our AGM at lunch time so if you intend coming along it would be appreciated if you could at least call in for the meeting. We have hired a tent and a site for the day through the organisers, so look out for us and hopefully our banner which we are trying to prepare.

See the enclosed insert for all details, including a map of Daylesford.

Bob McMillan-Kay
Archivist/Editor/Treasurer

HELP WANTED

I am researching my mother-in-law's McMillan families. Mr Cecil Rae from Shoreham mentioned the society in his letter.

My mother-in-law is the daughter of the late George Baggaley and Agnes Annie McMillan. Agnes Annie was born in Launceston about 1881 (5-8-1880 or 1881) to Hugh McMillan and Agnes (nee McMillan). They moved to the Armidale NSW, area. After Hugh's death, Agnes married his brother, Lennox and they moved to Comboyne, NSW.

Agnes McMillan was born on 2-2-1862, Launceston, Tasmania to Alexander McMillan and Christina Armour/Armagh. They also moved to the Armidale area. Hugh McMillan was a son of Alexander McMillan and Agnes Cameron. I don't know if Alexander and Agnes moved to Australia, but another son, Lennox was living in the Armidale area.

I have been unable to get any info on these Alexander McMillan's as there were at least 5-6 living in the Armidale area in the 1880's. On the certificate it shows Scotland as place of birth, which isn't very helpful. I have written to a number of McMillan's and Historical Societies in that area but have not had any luck.

I was wondering if some of the members of your society may have come across any of the abovementioned McMillan's or could you suggest where I could start? The Tasmanian Archives found the following:

Birth Certificates for 3 children to Alexander and Christina:

- 1 Agnes 65/1862 Launceston
- 2 Wilhelmina 543/1871 Launceston
- 3 Un named male b. 8.12.1864, 1277/1864 presumably John Henry McMillan.

Yours Sincerely
Joy Von Harten
54 Dale Street
Narrabri
NSW 2390

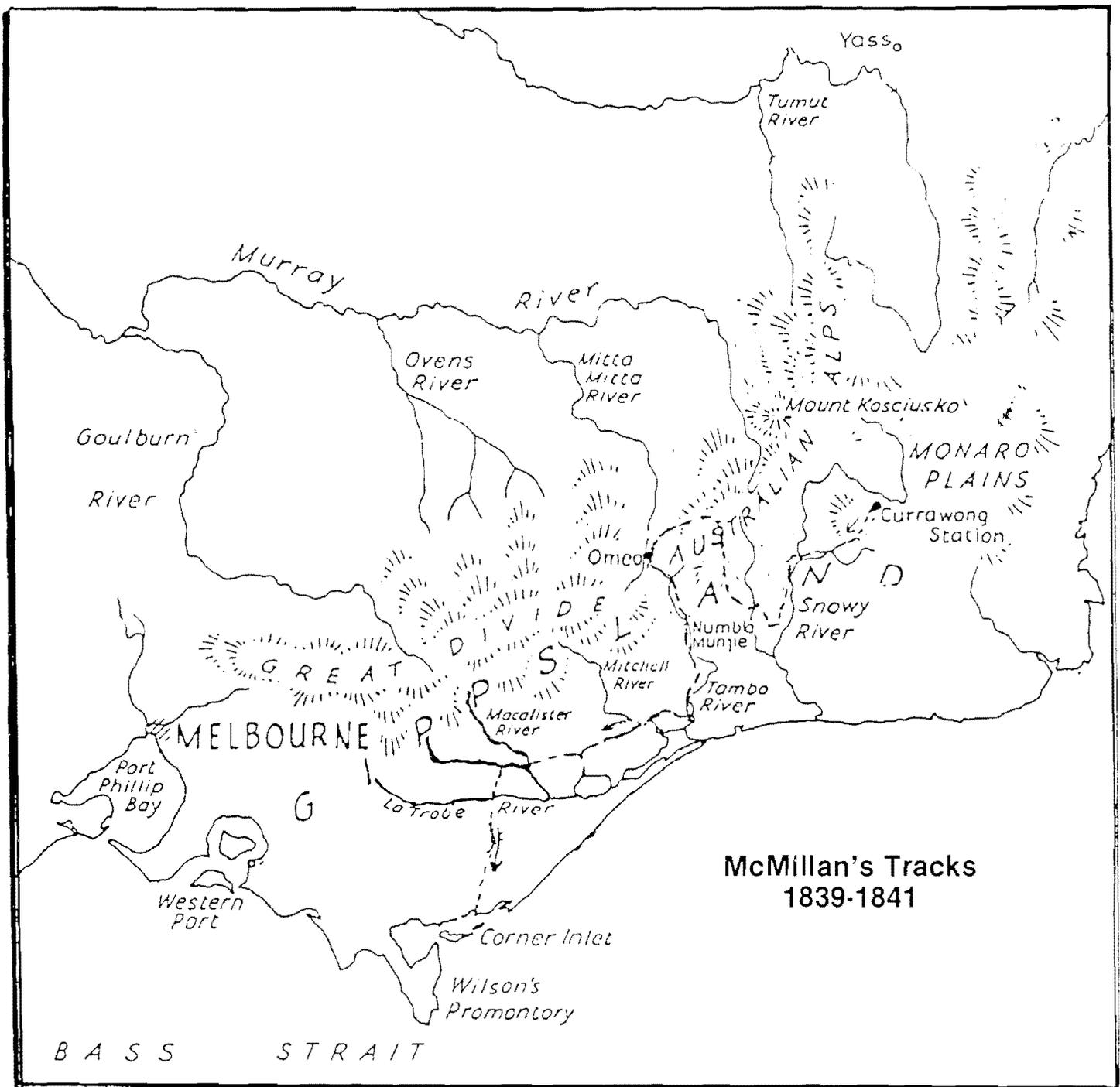
ST ANDREWS DAY CEREMONY

It may be of interest to some members that on St Andrews Day (Scotland's National Day) there is to be a Scottish Remembrance Ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance, St Kilda Road, Melbourne on Sunday 26 November at 2.30 pm. This is of particular significance to us as a Scottish Society. The ceremony includes Beating the Retreat by massed Pipe Bands, Procession of Clans and a memorial service. Post ceremony activities are to be held at 184 Albert Road, Army Dept. South Melbourne, which includes Highland and Country Dancing. Refreshments are available.

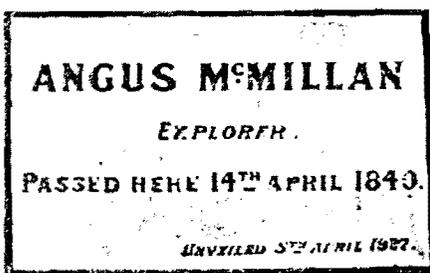
CLAN SOCIETY FEES

Once again it is necessary to remind some people about renewal of their annual fees. It's important that fees are paid to enable us to print our newsletter as regular as we do and also allow us to be in a position to join organisations such as the Council of Clans and purchase items for our library. So, those who are behind in their fees could they please make the effort and send them as soon as possible. While on the subject of fees, I wish to pass on thanks to those members who, along with the payment of fees, passed on donations to the society. It is very much appreciated and assists in retaining our fees at the present level.

Bob McMillan-Kay
Archivist/Editor/Treasurer



Above is a map found by a workmate who knew I was interested in McMillan items. It was in a magazine called 'Surveying Australia' about The Life and Times of Angus McMillan, Gippsland Explorer by Piergiorgio Moro.



Plaque at Bruthen.



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Kirkin O' the tartan



● Bearing their clan's tartan, from left, Colin McKenzie, Bill Watts, Bill Straede and Alan Slater gather after the blessing at Scots Church.

IN the mid-1700s Scots could be sentenced to death or transported to Barbados for wearing their traditional Scottish kilts and tartans.

Fortunately the English law which forbade them to wear highland dress was repealed after 35 years in 1782.

Yesterday Melbourne's Scottish community celebrated the anniversary of the law's repeal with a blessing or Kirkin O' the Tartan.

Members of 26 clans decked out in full tartan regalia gathered at Scots Church. Two members of each clan carried a piece of their tartan into the church to be blessed.

Victoria's Council of Clans chieftan, John Campbell, said the 26 clans represented two-thirds of Victoria's clans.

"But this is only the second time we've had the service in Melbourne," he said.

"Next year there will probably be 30 or 40. They are all sizes from the very big clans like the Campbells and Camerons — there's 12 million Campbells in the world — to the other Scottish families like the McPhersons and Urquharts which are much smaller."

Mr Campbell said about 13 per cent of Victorians had Scottish descendants.

The Scots were the largest group in Victoria when the Scots Church was built, Mr Campbell said, but the population

By HELEN CARTER

had changed over the years.

He said the ban on tartan stemmed from the days of Bonny Prince Charlie, the pretender to the throne.

"After his unsuccessful rebellion legislation was

passed in Westminster banning Scots from carrying arms and they were not allowed to wear the national garb — anything tartan."

Church moderator, the Rev Norman Pritchard, led the service and was inducted as first Chaplain to the Council of Clans.

"Today the kirkin ex-

presses common traditions, inheritance and shared values and aspirations," Mr Pritchard said.

During the service the new Council of Clans flag, the Saltire, was blessed.

Mr Colin McKenzie donated the flag in memory of his son, Colin Alexander McKenzie, a policeman killed several years ago.

NEW MEMBERS

The committee welcomes five new members to our society and we hope that they enjoy our friendship and kinship and are able to attend some of our gatherings as well. The new members are:

- Michael McMillan.....Gladstone Park, Vic.
- John McMillan.....West Brunswick, Vic.
- Paul McMillan.....West Brunswick, Vic.
- John Bernard McMillan.....West Brunswick, Vic.
- Noel McMillan.....Chatswood, NSW

I must apologise to Fred McMillen of Bayswater for referring to him in our list of new members in our last newsletter as Freda, instead of Fred. Purely a typographical error Fred!

Bob McMillan-Kay
Archivist/Editor/Treasurer

CLAN SOCIETY STAMP

You will all no doubt have noticed this stamp on the back of your envelope identifying our society. The Committee considered this a worthwhile purchase to give us an identity on our correspondence.



Clan MacMillan Society
of Australia