



# CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (AUST)

## Newsletter No. 70 March 2007

### 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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### **Clan Luncheon**

Held on Sunday, 4th March, 2007. at "Berth" 45 New Quay, Promenade, Docklands.  
A pleasant and convivial get together enjoyed by all in attendance. [Ed]

## ADVENT 2006

While wars and natural disasters continue to ravage the globe, life for me here has been almost eerily tranquil, with only a handful of brief sorties.

In March John, Blinder and I fought our way out of snowdrifts to fly to Pisa to spend a week with our younger brother Andrew and Berta on their Tuscan farm. I think we were their first guests since they completed the renovation of the house a process that must have lasted a decade. No holiday would be complete without a project. This year's centre-piece was the excavation of a hole for a compost heap. Other activities included some olive-pruning, the strengthening of defenses against porcupines ('spinosi'), which are death to any potato, and an interesting drive to an archaeological site at Vulci. We also accounted for large quantities of local wine and healthy food both at home and in several interesting restaurants.

We returned to an unusually showery spring: we even managed some sleet for our charity garden opening in April. While England roasted throughout the summer, ours was slightly more temperate.

The high point of the summer was the return of Arthur and Barbara with Rory and Hugo (then 10 and 9) to take up residence in the big house. The boys seem to be doing well in their new school just outside Edinburgh.

Malcolm and Tadpole, with Emily, Fergus and Jamie, are still in their nice house overlooking a local golf course. They are exasperated by a developer who is building houses on their 'blind side'. While he can't interrupt their view, he has managed to sever their water, electricity and telephone.

Autumn saw a flurry of brief excursions to Jane's brother Michael's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on the Medway and to her cousins Thomas and Anthony's seventieth in Wiltshire both highly enjoyable family events. (The twins' mother, Jane's Aunt Judy, turned 100 on 7 November). In mid-October I was taken by my sons, their wives and their children + five dogs to a comfortable farmhouse in Galloway. Football broke out, as usual, and there was quite a successful attempt at some golf in blustery conditions. It was a weekend, of which Jane would have approved strongly. As usual, the middle generation got the heavy end of it.

Life here hasn't been completely free of mishaps. In early summer someone set fire to our life-sized wooden replica of a Glasgow tram, so producing a huge crop of disappointed children. We're hoping to rebuild it this winter. We can't let the terrorists beat us.

Several old friends have given me great pleasure by coming to spend a couple of nights here. I hope the habit will catch on.

In late July we had an informal Clan picnic with makeshift highland games, which we all enjoyed till the rope broke at the climax of the tug-of-war. Luckily, everybody got up again. Next year we hope to meet in Inverness at the time of the Highland Games (around 23 July). Why not join us?

I can't help reflecting on how lucky I have been, thanks to many of you (hence this year's poem). [*The poem can be found elsewhere in the Newsletter. Ed*]. But that also reminds me of those who haven't been so fortunate.

May 'angels and ministers of grace defend' you also this Christmas and in the uncertain years ahead.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS



**Subscriptions** are now due and will remain at \$15.00 for 2006. We only have 3 opportunities a year to remind members about their subscriptions, so please respond, and make the treasurer's job that much easier. So, if members could forward their Subscriptions to:

**Mrs. J. Senior, 41 Lincoln Ave, Glen Waverley, Vic 3150.**

Also, if you would like to receive this Newsletter by E-mail (a saving on postage costs), could you please include your E-mail address with your Subscription.

## COMING EVENTS

**Kirkin 'o' the Tartan**                      **Sunday, 1st July, 2007. [11:00 am]** Scots Church, Melbourne.

**Bundanoon Highland Gathering**    **Saturday, 28th April, 2007**

An invitation to attend the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bundanoon Highland Gathering is on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2007. For further information visit: <http://www.highlandsnsw.com.au/brigadoon/>

**Scottish Heritage Day**                      **Sunday, 27 May, 2007**

Dandenong Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc. Dandenong Showgrounds, Greaves Reserve, Bennet St, Dandenong [Melways Ref: 90-A6/A7]. *[See Brochure elsewhere in this Newsletter. Ed]*

**Scottish Societies and Clans of Victoria Ball**                      **Friday, 4 May, 2007**

The Annual [56<sup>th</sup>] Scottish Societies and Clans of Victoria Ball will be held at the Williamstown Town Hall on Friday, 4 May, 2007. 7:30 pm – 12:30 am, Pre-dinner drinks are at 6:30 pm with a Three course dinner to follow. There will be

**Scottish Resource Centre**

The Scottish Resource Centre at The Celtic Club,  
Level 2, 316 – 320 Queen Street, Melbourne.  
Office hours: 10:00am – 3:00pm Monday to Friday.

The Co Ordinator Ian Murdoch would appreciate more helpers, so if you are retired and would like to help out for a few hours contact Ian on: [03] 9670 6766 or A/H [03] 9787 5961

## Vale

*[The following article was taken from "Scots Connection", Publication of Scottish House, Number 22, - Spring/Summer2006].*

".....**Jean Bell 1931-2006:** It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Jean. With husband Ray, she had been a member of Scottish House since its inception. I first met Jean at a New Years Day Highland Gathering at Wentworth Park too many years ago to remember. I was on the Clan Campbell Stall and we had a long chat and when she left she was a member of our Clan society.

Jean was a woman of many talents, too many to mention here. She was a gifted musician, singer, and teacher (of remedial English, drama, music and speech). Because of her expertise, this remarkable woman taught English teachers at a new teachers' college in Beijing in 1979.

By hosting musical gatherings at her home in Westmead, she and Ray helped raise funds for our Clan and provided entertainers for many events held over the years.

Jean received recognition for her teaching methods in Great Britain, Australia and the country of her birth, New Zealand. She will be missed....."

*[Jean Bell was also a member of Clan MacMillan Society of Australia. Ed]*

## Connections:

[If anybody can help with information/believe they have a connection with any of the following E-mails could you please contact our Webmaster at: [macore@tadaust.org.au](mailto:macore@tadaust.org.au) ed]

*From:* Leanne McMillan

Hi Kaye,

Have been looking on line for family connections. My Dad came out from Scotland in 1951. He has a Livingstone connection I believe and he was born illegitimately in Stirling on 31 .7.1926 to Jeannie Ford and Henry McMillan, he was named Henry McMillan Ford. His mother married a man named Mitchell. He and his brothers and sisters were put in an orphanage and he did not know he had a mother till he was 10 when she came to see him on his birthday, he had sisters Eva and Cathy brother twins Jim and Bob they are all deceased half brother my uncle Bruce is still alive and I have an address etc. but have not been in contact. The family was not close, I have relatives I have never met and don't know where they are. My Dad was in the British army and was in Palestine cleanup operations after 2nd world war. He drove busses in Glasgow and lived on the Garrscube rd. (spealt as my Dad pronounced it) a Glaswegian would probably know the rd. I hope to hear from you as I would like to join and meet people and make connections. Thank you sincerely Leanne McMillan.

*From:* Gabrielle Iriks

Dear Kaye,

Hi, my name is Gabrielle Iriks (husband is Dutch) and I'm from Perth WA. My grandmother was a McMillan. Her fathers name was Alexander McMillan (c1842 in Grey Abbey, County Down, Ireland, came to Australia in 1853 (Chewton, Victoria 1865) and died in Perth WA. 1908. (His father was Nathaniel McMillan and his mother was Agnes McLeod) and her mothers name was Elizabeth Ann Owens (c1846 London, England, and died 1929 17th August in Boulder, WA and her parents were Owen Owens and Jane Owens.) He was a contractor and a blacksmith/miner. My grandmothers name was Amelia Florence born 18/1/1882 at Manfred Station N.S.W. She married Claude Henry Stubbs in 1905. She had 3 brothers and 5 sisters. From oldest to youngest was Emily 29/19/1865 (died 3/12/1877 from sunstroke) and Henry 29/9/1865 (born at Castlemaine, Victoria), Marian Keith 1870, Owen James 1873 (married Mary Esther James Cook in 1900), Nathaniel 1875, Elizabeth Anne 27/5/1880 at Hatfield N.S.W., then Amelia, then Madeline Agnes 1885 at Menindee N.S.W. and last Christina 1888 at Minmi N.S.W. Great Grandfather arrived April 1853 via "Confiance" ( assisted immigrant) and Great Grandmother 1 July 1863 via "Cadyceus"(?) I have a history of Alexander McMillans family which was researched and put together by my aunt, Patricia Kelly, first archivist ever employed by the A.B.C. I will send you that if you like. Better go, have to feed the family, Catch up soon, yours sincerely, Gabrielle P.S. A lot of them are buried near Castlemaine, Victoria.

*From:* Valina Rainer [Tony]

Dear June

I am only 10 months late in sending off my application (with cheque) to join the Clan MacMillan Society of Australia. Perhaps my association is tenuous, as the last generation of my family to have that name was that of my great-great grandmother Mary Ann McMillan (1838-1930), before she married James Samuels jnr (1864-1932)in Dubbo NSW in 1858, and Mary Ann's brother Angus McMillan (1835-1912), although he and his wife Sophia had children. As I think I mentioned, their parents William McMillan (1810-1842) and Flora McMillan (1814-1875) emigrated with their two young children from Fort William in Scotland in 1838, boarding the "Boyne" at Cromarty on 1 September 1838 and arriving at Sydney on 2 January 1839. They went inland as they were committed to work as 'shepherds' on a property near the site of the future Dubbo. According to family tradition, the journey was made partly to find a more healthy climate for a physically frail William, but he died in 1842. My great-great-great grandmother Flora no doubt had to struggle bringing up two small children, but for a while she was a wife to a farmer Robert Garland. He died too, but she lived to see her daughter Mary Ann at 20 marry prominent cattlebreeder James Samuels jnr in 1858 and to see him elected to the first municipal council at Dubbo (1872) and as its first Mayor (1872-1875). She would have seen quite a few grandchildren come into the world, via James and Mary Ann; she might also have seen (son) Angus and Sophia's children as well. McMillan was the maidenname as well as married surname for Flora; her father was Ewen McMillan, a farmer in Kilmalie (or Kilmallie) parish in the vicinity of Fort William, and her mother Anne Cameron. William's father was a farmer Angus McMillan (wife not known to me). These were some of my great-great-great-great grandparents, whom I have included on your society's form.

# Dandenong Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc.

**Patron:** Christine Nixon APM Chief Commissioner of Police



## Scottish Heritage Day Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2007

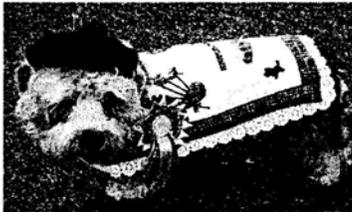
10.00am – 3.00pm

**FREE admittance and car parking**

Dandenong Showgrounds, Greaves Reserve, Bennet Street, Dandenong. (Map ref: 90 A6/7)

### Featuring:

- Clydesdale classes: Foals, Fillies & Mares  
Enquiries to: Graeme Marriott Phone 9803 1364
- Shetland Pony, Highland Pony & Miniature  
Pony classes: Foals, Mares & Geldings  
Entries to: Janice Morgan Phone 9796 8267



- Scottish Cattle Exhibition
- Scottish Dogs: Display;  
Information;

### Parade of Champions at conclusion of competition

- City of Casey Pipe Band performance
- Highland Dancing
- Stalls featuring Scottish wares

### **FOOD:**

- Bacon & Egg breakfast available from 8am
- BBQ sausages/hamburgers lunch
- Devonshire Teas



Enquiries: Lynne Ferris Phone: 9794 0562  
Raffle on the day with numerous prizes

Gratefully supported by:





Join us in Inverness for  
***Gaidhealtachd 2007***  
"The Highland Year of Culture"



**Clan MacMillan International**  
incorporating *The Clan MacMillan Society (1892)*  
in association with the **Glenurquhart Macmillans**  
will be holding a mini-gathering from 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2007.

This is to coincide with *The Inverness Highland Games (21-22 July)*  
featuring the return to Scotland for the first time in 12 years of  
*The World Highland Games Heavy Championships*  
- see [www.invernesshighlandgames.com](http://www.invernesshighlandgames.com)

The "Highland 2007" events surrounding the games will include  
concerts, ceilidhs, an International Tattoo (23-27 July), and  
*The European Pipe Band Championships (28<sup>th</sup> July)*  
- see [www.highland2007.com](http://www.highland2007.com)

**Clan MacMillan events will hopefully include a dinner,  
the launch of Graeme's new book *The Macmillans in Glenurquhart*,  
a one day tour of Glen Urquhart, Strathglass and Glen Affric, and  
events, such as Voyageur canoe paddling from Loch Ness to  
Inverness, to raise money for**

Macmillan   
cancer relief

Register your interest with CMIC now by post or email ([clancentre@clanmacmillan.org](mailto:clancentre@clanmacmillan.org))  
to receive details of the final programme and booking form for dinner and tour. Please  
note all other events will be Pay As You Go, and that travel to and accommodation in  
Inverness will be responsibility of participants – get help from [www.visithighlands.com](http://www.visithighlands.com)

I was weaving the web of my years,  
 As I thought - and a dull one indeed.  
 But now, looking back, it appears  
 To be more like a tartan than tweed.  
 That's none of my doing.  
 Who gave It those dashes of yellow and red?  
 They must have been angels to weave  
 Such a delicate, intricate thread.

Dear angels, who guarded me, read  
 To me, planned for me, put me on trains  
 Who appeared at my moments of need  
 [or `dread'?]  
 And received little thanks for your pains;  
 Dear angels, who helped me to grow -  
 No simple assignment, I trow -  
 I hope it will help you to know  
 That at least I am thanking you now.

Dear angels, dear weavers. Dear Wife,  
 Who have nurtured the tree of my life,  
 May you roost in its branches for aye.



[The above poem and artwork accompanied Advent 2006 from The Clan Chief. ed]

### Who am I?

Everybody strikes a "Brick Wall" at some stage in their research. For me the first time was when I was trying to find the children of my GGG/Father Daniel Alexander McMillan, here in Melbourne in the 1970s. I'd found his Marriage Certificate [McMilian-Mary Elizabeth Whiting] and thought it'd be just a matter of looking up the indexes then applying for the Certificates, but, how wrong I was.

My father suggested that I contact my Uncle Perce as he had been researching our Family Tree, but, some years before. As if we'd been overheard, my cousin dropped into see dad [as he did a couple of times each year] and we got talking and the name "Blue" came up, with my cousin saying that we weren't actually "McMillans" but "Blue's", [This conversation completely changed my approach to researching my Family Tree]. Another interesting thing that came out of this "chance" conversation was that there was a cousin in New Zealand that had been researching parts of our family for years.

Not only had my New Zealand cousin been researching our tree for years, but, she was in possession of the "Whiting" Family Bible, a couple of letters [we'll get to these a little later], and, other items of interest belonging to Daniel & Mary.

The subsequent results of the new information are

Daniel M. BLUE m Mary E. WHITING  
 1824 - 1901                      1827 - 1886

Daniel Alexander BLUE [1856 - 1889]

Mary Elizabeth BLEW [1858 - 1946] m Edward COSTER [1834 - 1919]

Charles McMillan BLUE [1862 - 1938] m Laura A. CLARKE [1866 - 1948]

Susan Jane MCMILL(I)AN [1864 - 1901] m1 Charles JONES [- 1893] m2 Henry GOULLET [1871 - 1894]

Flora Euphemia MCMILLAN [1869 - 1894] m Arthur H. BAKER

## Who am I? [Cont'd]

About 10 years after the above breakthrough I was lucky enough to be able to visit my cousin in Dunedin, and came back with a copy of both letters, this gave me further information to assist me in continuing my "overseas" research into Scotland. With all the excellent genealogical data that the letter below contains, one could be excused from thinking that life has just become a walk in the park. A great deal of searching was still to come.

What leads are there in the letter? What sources could be used to find further information?

Where do we find the resources? What results did we get?

These questions and more will be answered in the coming Newsletters

*[The photo on the back page is actually "Barmore Island" taken on my trip to Scotland in 2005].*

Barmore  
Tarbert  
April 17 1866

My dear brother

*(from Alexander Blue to Daniel McMillan Blue)*

I received your long looked for and welcome letter on the 25 of March and was glad to see by it that you were all enjoying good health which found enjoying the same blessing. I am very much surprised at you being so long in writing us. I hope you won't do it again. I hope for the future you will correspond regularly wither you are prosperous or not as we will be happy at all times to hear from you.

I hope now that you have got constant employment you will be more fortunate than you have been.

I suppose you would hear from Mrs. Brown that we were at Barmore. We came here last May. We have been in different places since we wrote you last. We had to try the country as the town did not agree with us.

I am joiner here with Stonefield as he keeps one now. I reside at the cottage at the shore where Dougal McFee the fisherman staid. I have Donald Macgregor, our cousin, here just now building a small fishing boat for me. His father is still alive but getting very frail.

My Aunt Mary is as young like as ever and quite fresh. None of the family are married yet. They reside at Islay Quay. They have a cow and a croft and they are very comfortable. Our Uncle Donald Macmillan has left Tarbert about 2 months ago and is now residing at Whitehouse. He always enquires very kindly about you and wishes to be remembered to you. He wishes you to write to him soon. Two of his family are married. Flora and John lives in Tarbert, a shoemaker like father and Flora lives a few miles out of London. Her husband is a coachman.

Uncle Donald in Ireland corresponds regular with Flora my sister. He has got 3 big ships now at sea. Now about my sisters.

Flora has not got married. She has left service and has got a little grocer shop in Eaglesham 10 miles out of Glasgow. She enjoys excellent health at present and keeps herself very comfortable. Mary was married five years ago and lives next door to her. She has got a shoemaker, a very respectable man. Euphemia was married about the same time. She has got a very nice young man, steady and well doing. She lives at Douglass about 40 miles out of Glasgow. She has 3 children. Mary has none. Janet lives in Tranent 12 miles from Edinburgh. She has 4 children alive and one dead. Her and family are all well. As for Charles I have heard anything about him this many a year but I am going to write some time and try and find him out.

I received a letter from our cousin John Blue, he is always enquiring about you as is Uncle Duncan I mean as for his brother Angus I don't know anything about him he is very foolish. We are busy just now getting our potatoes planted. Jessie was very much disappointed you did not tell us how many of a family you had and what you call them. Don't forget that in your next .....

We have 4 boys, Alexander, James, Charles and Thomas and one girl Elizabeth, for my Mother, two months old. Mr. Davidson is still coachman at Barmore and all his family are married .....  
.....James the youngest.

Your affectionate Brother  
Alexander Blue.

## WEB NEWS

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan/welcome.htm>

### M'MILLAN LAND HOLDINGS IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

NAME	DATE/S	PLACE	COMMENT
McMillan Neil J.	01/07/1928 - 17/01/1946	Moil	Section 17 Hd of Bagot.
McMillan Donald.	01/07/1931 - 17/01/1946	Wagaman	Section 19 Hd of Bagot.
McMillan Maxwell J, Gaffney James P.	10/06/1970 ..		
McMillan Maxwell J.	24/01/1974		
McMillan William.	04/02/1952	Darwin City	Lot 1532 Town of Darwin
McMillan Maxwell M.	11/10/1938 - 07/12/1964	Howard Springs	Section 289 Hd of Bagot.
McMillan Maxwell,	30/08/1969	Howard Springs	Section 289 Hd of Bagot.
Delaney Patrick,	..		
Sanderson William.	..		
McMillan William,	23/01/1942		Section 86 Hd of Bagot.
Neil J. Maxwell M.,	..		
Austin Agnes L.	..		
McMillan William,	8/5/1941	Darwin City	Part Lot 48 Town of Darwin.
Neil J, Maxwell M.,	..		
Austin Agnes L	..		
McMillan Neil,	23/07/1940 - 11/3/1946	Darwin City	Part Lot 47 Town of Darwin.
William, Maxwell,	..		
Austin Agnes L	..		
McMillan Maxwell M,	7/12/1964 - 3/10/1973	Howard Springs	Pt Section 289 Hd of Bagot.
McMillan William,	23/01/1942		Section 87 Hd of Bagot.
Neil J. Maxwell M.	..		
Austin Agnes L	..		
McMillan William,	23/5/1940	Darwin City	Pt Lot 47 Town of Darwin
Neil J. Maxwell M.,	..		
Austin Agnes L	..		
McMillan Maxwell M	23/09/1927	Howard Springs	Section 289 Hd of Bagot.
McMillan William.	23/01/1942	Palmerston	Sees 131,133,274 Hd of
Neil J. Maxwell M.,	..		Bagot. Sec 2029 Hd of
& Austin Agnes L	..		Finniss.

*Source:* Land search T:\NATITLE\TENURE DATABASE

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#### ROAD NAMES OF NORTHERN TERRITORY

*Road Name:* McMillans Road. *Town/Locality:* Darwin 9/17/1952

*Person Commemorated:* Owner & pioneer 1920

Named after W & D McMillan, as it gave access to leases held by the brothers in the 1920s and 1930s.

Army Topo Maps of 1944 show "Macmillans" against a group of buildings in the vicinity of the current day intersection of Lee Point Rd and McMillans Rd.

*Source:* Dept Lands, Planning & Environment

*The McMillan brothers held Agricultural leases at McMillans Road before WW2*

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#### William and Isabella Jane McMillan, N.T. Pioneers

William McMillan died 3rd October 1916 aged 54 (born abt. 1862).

While in the process of taking up country at Roper River, William was overlanding stock from Queensland when he was stricken with Malaria. After an illness of several weeks he succumbed to the disease and died at Top Springs (McArthur River). It was there that his three sons, Maxwell, Neil and William buried him. A tombstone was later erected in the Gardens Cemetery, Darwin. William came from the West Wimmera district of Victoria. Apart from the aforementioned sons he left a wife and two daughters, Beth and Ann (Jamieson) and another son Don.

Isabella Jane McMillan nee Muir died on the 13th April 1933.

*Note:* Neil, the youngest son, held the Ice & Storage Company in Darwin.

*Source:* Genealogical Soc. of the Northern Territory

*Note:* A check of the available B.M.D. microfiche for N. T. didn't show any M'Millan's.



If unclaimed, please return to:  
**CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (AUSTRALIA)**  
41 Lincoln Ave, Glen Waverley Vic. 3150

