



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.*

CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (AUST)

Newsletter No. 73 March 2008

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President's Report for March, 2008

The big news is about an international gathering in Edinburgh in 2009.

**The Gathering Edinburgh 2009
Holyrood Park, Edinburgh, Scotland,
25th and 26th July 2009**

This is a celebration of the contribution made by the clans to the culture and history of Scotland.

It will be the largest highland games ever held in Scotland, and will be one of the key events of Homecoming Scotland. This spectacular event will be made even more unique with a special Clan Parade on the Royal Mile culminating in a commemorative Clan Pageant on the magnificent esplanade of Edinburgh Castle. It is hoped that all clans and Scottish associations will attend, to celebrate Scotland's rich history and cultural traditions.

<http://www.thegathering2009.com>

Please contact us if you are thinking of attending because there may be a possibility of obtaining a group booking if there are a sufficient number of people. There will probably be a 2 day programme at CMIC either before, during or after the Gathering. Details available later.

The other event is this year and soon, actually on Sunday 18th May. It will be a celebration of the 25th birthday of the founding of our Clan MacMillan Society Australia. The venue is "Berth" at Docklands at 12 noon. Please reply to 9817 3148.

The last Clan MacMillan International Magazine was very attractive with its colourful front cover depicting the members canoeing for Cancer Relief. Overall they presented £2,133.24 to MacMillan Cancer Support. Last summer Chief George attended the Greenville Highland Games in South Carolina and then on to Austin in Texas where a new society was being launched. Also in the magazine was the family tree of the Macmillans of the publishing firm. Another article was about the finding of genetic Y-DNA markers in one family over 7 generations with 95.7% probability!

The third Conclave is to be held in California in August 2008. An interesting six day programme is planned to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Clan Macmillan Society of North America.

The last weekend in March has been the usual date of the Ringwood Highland Games where our tent is present every year. We always look forward to the opportunity to meet with members and others who have connections with Macmillans to have a chat and hear of their travels. Next year the date has been changed to the first week in April so that the Ringwood Cricket Club has use of the great venue. It's a fun day with pipe bands, Highland and Country Dancing, food, and other stalls. But best of all is the procession of all the clans which is quite impressive.

Hope to see you in May.

June Danks

[What follows is the Annual Advent letter from our Clan Chief George Macmillan of McMillan & Knap received just before Christmas. Ed]

Advent 2007



Perhaps I ought to start with an apology for the harshness of line 2 of this year's poem. I suspect Jane might have demanded a rewrite. It certainly jarred with Pauline who kindly provided the picture. I can only plead that you read on. [The poem can be found later in this Newsletter. Ed]

In case you're wondering about Pauline, she lives in Langbank and keeps a kindly eye on three of the old folks of Finlaystone - Judy, Robin and myself - besides running the Clan Centre and supporting Langbank's cultural life. I'm deeply indebted to her, and also to Donna, another inhabitant of Langbank, whose activities dovetail neatly with Pauline's. I'm extremely fortunate.

I seem to have been more mobile than usual - Italy in March with Andrew and Berta; Norfolk in June for Thomas and Rebecca's wedding; the Carolinas and Texas for some Highland Games and the inauguration of a new Clan MacMillan branch; Inverness in July for a MacMillan gathering tacked on to the Highland Games there; and ten days in England in September witnessing *La Boheme* in the Wellington College Common Room Garden and staying with friends thereafter. All these excursions were extremely

enjoyable - except perhaps the day we missed our Norwich-Glasgow flight and had to drive home, and the day my flight to Texas was inexplicably cancelled, so necessitating lengthy sojourns in some unexpected airports. When travelling alone, I met a lot of very helpful strangers, who made my journeys easy:

On the rare occasions that I was at home, I had a good number of friends to sleep in the beds that Arthur and Barbara have kindly made available in the main house. Fortunately, no one was around when the ceiling fell on one of 'my' beds. I hope that won't deter next year's would-be visitors; the ceiling is back where it ought to be.

I'm glad to report that our wooden impression of an old Glasgow tram, burnt by vandals a year ago, has now been rebuilt. So far, the local arsonists haven't responded to the challenge it presents to them. Meanwhile it gives great pleasure to less inflammatory visitors.

Arthur, Barbara and their boys (Rory and Hugo) are now firmly based here. Though the damp summer did not produce the heavy rains experienced in England, it depressed our visitor numbers noticeably. So the owners' task has not been easy. They have, however, built a tennis court just beyond the perimeter of the garden.

Malcolm and Tadpole (with Emily, Fergus and Jamie) still inhabit their nice house about five miles up the road towards Glasgow. They chose a really wet afternoon for their 40th birthday party. The inflatable slide/bouncy castle proved extra-popular for being converted into a slide/swimming-pool, surprisingly no cases of pneumonia were recorded.

Next year the Clan MacMillan Society of North America will celebrate its 50th anniversary near Los Angeles. It ought to be quite a significant event.

But between now and then stands another significant event - Christmas Day. This comes with my greetings for that day and the coming year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS



Subscriptions are now due and will remain at \$15.00 for 2007/2008. If any member would like to include a donation for the International Clan Centre along with your subscription, if so, it would be appreciated if you could forward all monies 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

Clan Luncheon **Sunday, 18th May, 2008. [12 noon]** Docklands, Melbourne.

A luncheon is planned for interested members at "**Berth**" **45 New Quay, Promenade, Docklands.**

Directions to New Quay are: Catch the Circle Tram in the city, and then alight at the corner of Latrobe St & Harbour Esplanade, cross Harbour Esplanade and walk north approx 100m to New Quay, then to the Café.

It will be a celebration of the 25th Birthday of the founding of our Clan MacMillan Society of Australia.

Scottish Heritage Day **Sunday, 25th May, 2008**

Dandenong Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc. For further information visit www.dandyshow.com.au

Held at Dandenong Showgrounds, Greaves Reserve, Bennet St, Dandenong [Melways Ref: 90-A6/A7].

Kirkin 'o' the Tartan **Sunday, 6th July, 2008. [11:00 am]** Scots Church, Melbourne.

Gathering of the Clan **2 -7 August, 2008.** Claremont, California, USA

The Clan MacMillan Society of North America will celebrate its 50th Anniversary (1958 – 2008), by hosting an International Gathering of Clan MacMillan & Septs at Claremont, [L.A.] California.

George Gordon MacMillan of MacMillan and Knap Chief of Clan MacMillan will be the honored guest.

[For further information about the "Gathering of the Clan" contact either June Senior or myself. Ed]

Scottish Resource Centre

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

Gathering of Clans Scotland 2009

The Scottish Executive has chosen 2009 as the Year of the Homecoming. This initiative is directed worldwide at all those with an affinity to Scotland. There can be no greater affinity than that of the clan member, and a major International Clan Gathering is being planned to support this exciting initiative.

The Gathering will take the form of a major Highland Games, but with the addition of a special clan ceremony, designed by the producers of the Edinburgh Tattoo. This will be held on the magnificent castle esplanade and will commemorate the contribution made by the clans to the culture and history of Scotland. The Gathering is being hosted by the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, and it is hoped that all clan associations will attend.

This year will be dedicated to planning and creating awareness for the event, and more importantly, developing special Gathering tour packages, which will be made available in 2008.

The Gathering 2009 Ltd has opened offices in Edinburgh, and is in the early stages of planning and designing the event. Please visit <http://www.thegathering2009.com>

SCATS

Sweet Baby, sleep among the encircling sheep:
For all of us will soon be dead as mutton;
Our little life is bounded by a sleep,
A dream that's soon forgotten.

Or will that blazing halo, crown of thorn
Lit by the dreams of prophet souls long gone,
A beacon be for myriads yet unborn
In lands to us unknown?

"Sleep" did I say? That was a grave mistake:
This is your moment: wake, sweet babe, and shine
One era's past: another's soon to break:
Now is the cusp of time.

With best wishes
for
Christmas
and the
New Year

Good
all well?

[This poem accompanied the Advent Letter (on pg 2) from our Clan Chief. Ed]

Clan MacMillan Accessories available

Polo shirts: Sizes available are XS - 5XL colours: white, grey, dark blue. Price: \$30 (includes postage).

Ladies Polo shirts: Sizes available are XS - 4XL white polyester/cotton with embroidered crest and Clan Macmillan on left breast. Price: \$30 (includes postage).

T shirts: Sizes S - 3XL Any shirt colour with any logo colour, cost: \$27 (includes postage)

[Some examples are shown below. The Crest/ (Logo) can be on either the back or front of the T-shirt. If anyone is interested, can they contact me by phone or e-mail with their requirements? Ed]



Clan MacMillan Society (Australia) 25th Anniversary

The CMSA was formed in April 1983 following a very successful gathering on the banks of the Yarra River at Scotch College, Hawthorn, Victoria. It is thanks to the late Donald Macmillan and his wife Geva, along with some dedicated MacMillans, that the Clan Society was formed. There are still 17 foundation members in the Society.

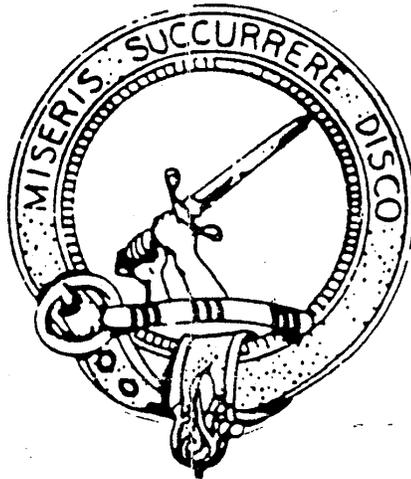
Presidents: Donald MacMillan (1983 – 1987), June Senior (1988 – 1993), Libby McMillan (1994 – 1998),
June Danks (1999 -).

Secretaries: Stephen McMillan (1983 – 1996), Myrna Robertson (1996 -).

Editors: Rob McMillan-Kay (1983 – 1990), June Senior (1991 – 2003), Mick McMillan (2004 -).

Our Website was set up by member Kaye O'Reilly in December 2000 and has been a great success.

In 1983 there were 47 members. Although our membership grew to 95 it is now 83. Membership is the biggest challenge we face, and although trying different methods we have been unable to attract many new members. In spite of this it is great to know that the Clan MacMillan Society Australia is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2008. [The first newsletter of the CMSA can be seen over the page. Ed]



NEWSLETTER OF THE CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY - Victoria. June 1983

Following a large Gathering and Barbecue on the banks of the Yarra at Scotch College Hawthorn, in October 1982, interest was shown in forming a Clan Macmillan Society in Victoria. We were encouraged and supported by the Son of the Chief, George Macmillan and his wife Jane - whose father - General Sir Gordon H.A. Macmillan, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., C.D., is Chief of the Knapdale Branch and current Chief of the Clan Macmillan. The home of the Chief and his family is Finlaystone, Langbank, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

Next meeting of the Society

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st June 1983 in the Boarders' Annexe, Scotch College, 491 Glenferrie road, Hawthorn (enter by gate on corner of Glenferrie Road and Callantina Road only - first building on left).

Agenda

To approve the Constitution drawn up by the Committee.

Guest Speaker - Mr John Barth, Vice President of the Genealogical Society of Victoria. Subject - 'Genealogical Research in Scotland'

Book display - Books and other material of interest will be on display.

The House of Scotland - Whitehorse Road, Balwyn will have articles of interest to MacMillans for display and sale.

Following the March meeting a committee was elected with the following office bearers ;

President -	Donald Macmillan	c/o Scotch College, Hawthorn, 3122 818-2859
Secretary -	Steven McMillan	126 Morack Rd, Vermont Sth, 3133 221-5223
Treasurer -	John T. Macmillan	7 Annebley Cr, Mt Waverly, 3149 277-6158
Archivist -	John Ronald Macmillan	2 Trafalgar Rd, Camberwell, 82-5365

Geelong Highland Games Queens Park, Newtown, Geelong.



The Clan was again represented at the Geelong Highland Games this year by your editor & wife. The gathering was affected by a number of factors; the excessive temperatures & the Grand Prix in Melbourne both helped to reduce the number of visitors & attractions to the games.

The temperature in the centre of the oval was in excess of 46° for most of the afternoon; the Woodchoppers also seemed to be struggling, and, I'm still distressed to see that the Dancing Competitions are still carried out without some sort of shading or protection against the full force of the Sun, especially in these days of Slip, Slop, Slap. The day wasn't up to past Games as the number of Clans represented was also greatly reduced.

The venue was, as always, immaculately presented given that Geelong is on Stage 4 Restrictions. [*Even the Jumping Castle couldn't stay inflated for long in the heat. Ed*]

Ringwood Highland Games Jubilee Park, Ringwood



In a complete contrast to Geelong the weather was fine but cool, plenty of Clan tents, and plenty of noise from the National Dog Flyball Championships being held just behind the Clan tents.

The Ringwood Games will go on but from now on they'll be in April instead of March as the following article indicates.

+
News

Journal Tuesday April 8, 2008

The games will go on, but in April

By **Danica Harris**

THE search to find a new home for the Ringwood Highland Games has ended.

Organiser Sue McLeod confirmed last week the event would continue at Jubilee Park, but move to an April timeslot.

The festival's future was in doubt after Maroondah Council gave Ringwood Cricket Club exclusive rights to the park in March next year.

Ms McLeod said while she was not "over the moon" about the decision, she was glad it had been made.

She said the fencing and security required for the large event — which drew a crowd of about 9000 — made finding a suitable venue difficult.

"My concern now is the games will now clash with the biggest highland games event in the country — the Bundanoon Highland Gathering — which will also be on April 5 [2009]."

Ms McLeod said next year would be a test.

"I suppose it will test us to see how faithful our supporters are. We will have

to work really hard to keep it going, but I think it is possible."

While organisers had considered moving the event to another municipality, Ms McLeod said a relocation wouldn't work.

"The council gave us funding which we are grateful for and the Ringwood Highland Games is tradition. People just know Ringwood."

Mayor Tony Dib said that in previous years the cricket club had been unable to use its home ground for finals due to the highland games.

"For over 12 years now, the highland games has had the use of Jubilee Park ... it was now time for the Ringwood Cricket Club to have use of its own ground ... for cricket finals from 2009."

He said the council still recognised the games were important.

"[The council] has not only supported the games with a venue but will also assist with staff involvement in the day and provide \$13,000 in funding annually."

Robert Johnston D.Ua.

Welcome & Introduction



I would like to welcome you all to this happy occasion where we are to recognize Bob Johnston as a very special person.

For those who don't know me, I am Doug McLaughlin and happen to be the president of the Scottish Clans and Associations Council (previously known as the Council of Clans of Australasia). Today, I have been asked to represent the Celtic Council of Australia which has decided to accept the nomination of Bob as the recipient of their Duine Uasal award. He was nominated by Des Johnstone, the Australian Commissioner for the Clan Johnston/e Association on behalf of his Clanspeople.

None of the Celtic Council of Australia officials could travel from Sydney at this time; the Convenor, Margaret Sharpe, sends her apologies. The Council thought it would be appropriate to ask me, as Bob's replacement as president of the Scottish Clans & Associations' Council, to be their deputy. Peeta May, who was the Treasurer of the Scottish Council for many years, has also joined us for the occasion. Robert Stewart, the current Secretary, sends his apologies, regretting that he couldn't be present today.

PURPOSE

The title of D-U-I-N-E (dweeneh) U-A-S-A-L (yousal) is a Gaelic one and translates as HONOURED PERSON. It is intended to mark an outstanding person who has made a notable contribution to the Celtic community. The Celtic Council of Australia works hard at improving the profile of the Celts in Australia; how better to do that than to publicly recognize Celts such as Bob.

ADDRESS

We are here to celebrate the fact that we have a mutual friend named Robert T. Johnston and our good fortune that Bob is such an admirable person.

We are pleased that:

- Bob and Marion decided to make Australia their home,
- Bob had an interest in his Scottish heritage.

We admire him because:

- Bob was such a dynamo that he played a major part in raising the Clan Johnston/e Association in Australia,
- He actively engaged with other similarly-minded people in the Council of Clans, eventually becoming its President and its major contact person,
- He has supported other Clan Societies in their establishment in Australia,
- He has vigorously stood up for the societies under his care when they have been unfairly treated.

No one who knows Bob would be in any doubt that he is proudly an Aussie-Scot; showing great pride in both his country of origin and his adopted home.

When the Council of Clans was asked by the Victorian Multicultural Commission to consider who of its members might be nominated for an award for excellence in multicultural affairs, there was no hesitation in the committee that Bob would be a worthy recipient. In my view, this world view that Bob holds and a willingness to engage with the great variety of communities that make up our nation is the mark of its best citizens. Bob is one of those excellent citizens – and a good bloke into the bargain!! Clearly, Marion has recognized that she had found a good bloke but we know that the team-work between Bob and Marion has been remarkable. We are pleased that the Celtic Council of Australia has also recognized the worth of Bob Johnston.

Their Secretary, Gordon Connor, has forwarded the following statement from the Council:

The Celtic Council of Australia, having received a nomination from Clan Johnston/e Association, Australia, has pleasure in recognising Robert (Bob) T. Johnston for his considerable service to that Association over a period of seventeen years and to the Scottish community in general with the award of:-

DUINE UASAL – HONOURED PERSON.

The award carries with it the entitlement to use the post-nominal D.Ua. "Robert (Bob) T. Johnston" is entered in the Honours Roll of the Celtic Council of Australia.

It now gives me, Doug McLaughlin, President of the Scottish Clans & Associations' Council, great satisfaction to present Bob with his certificate, medal and lapel pin marking him as **Bob Johnston D.Ua.**

Connections

In August 2007 our secretary Myrna Robertson and her friend Barbara travelled to Scotland and visited Finlaystone House. George suggested that while they were staying in Glasgow they should travel on 'The Clockwork Orange' Underground Transit System. The following are the e-mails that followed with George describing the System & History.



Hi George,

".....Do you think you could write the story of "The Clockwork Orange" Train track in Glasgow, and email to me, I could never remember, or tell it as you did.....Can we put your story of the Clockwork Orange Underground in our Australian Newsletter with our photo,- Barbara and I caught the train from "St Enoch" Station, and the carriages are very small, but quick, you are right it felt like it was going around in circles, we got off at Hillhead Station, then we walked back down University Avenue and Byers Rd like you told us, through the Park to Park Terrace, and the YHA. We had a lovely day, and enjoyed our cups of tea, and country hospitality.....".

My dear Myrna,

".....I'm glad you got a proper taste of the clockwork orange. I didn't mention the obvious reason for using a cable: it was, of course, to avoid filling tunnels with smoke from steam engines. The first underground trains in London were drawn by steam locomotives; so they're barely below the surface, and there are plenty of breathing places. I think they also experimented with filling their

engines' tanks with boiling water. But even then they would have made a lot of smoke. Thank goodness for electricity.

As for the 'Clockwork Orange', I think the nickname got attached to it only when that film came out. Somehow, it seemed to fit. It's painted orange, is rather small, and goes round in a circle (vaguely like an orange, perhaps). Its real name must have been the 'Underground', because all stations have a huge 'U' outside them.

I don't know what you would like me to tell you about it. I think it must have been built around the mid-19th century. It was powered by a standing engine, which kept a huge cable moving round the entire circuit of the railway in each of the two tunnels (one clockwise, the other anti-). When the driver wanted to make the train move, he pulled (I imagine) a lever which put a clamp on the cable, so that the train was propelled down the tunnel.

I've always been puzzled as to what happened when the train came to the place where the cable went round the huge wheel that kept it moving. Presumably, the driver had to hang on till the last possible moment, then disengage the clamp before the whole train got wound up in the works; and then, after free wheeling briefly, he must have re-engaged his clamp on the cable and hurtled on through the tunnel.

I think I told you about the little old man who told me that, as a boy, he had had the job of maintaining the sawdust on the floor of the rear coach (the smokers' one). He said that, every now and then, the Manager used to come down, dressed in a huge top hat with lots of gold braid on it, and slip him a penny.

I'd be quite surprised if the Clockwork Orange has a timetable. The train just seems to go on going round and round in the tunnels. I think they introduce a few more of them at peak times of day. Certainly, they're pretty sparse during the quiet times.

That's about all I know.

Please give my very best wishes to Barbara. Yours ever,

George....."

*[Originally known as the **Glasgow District Subway**, the system was renamed the **Glasgow Underground** in 1936. Opened on 14 December 1896, the subway was powered by a clutch-and-cable system, with one cable for each direction. The cable was driven from a steam-powered plant between West Street and Shields Road stations. There was no additional cable to allow trains to reach the depot; instead, they were transferred to and from the running lines by crane operating over a pit at the Govan workshops. Modernization brought the installation of points and a ramp between Govan and Ibrox where trains can exit the tunnel system to terminate for engineering, cleaning or storage. Ed]*

Did You Know?

In the 1400's a law was set forth that a man was not allowed to beat his wife with a stick thicker than his thumb. Hence we have, "the rule of thumb".

The average number of people airborne over the US in any given hour is 61,000.

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. "Wet your whistle" is the phrase inspired by this practice.

Q. The first novel ever written on a typewriter:

A. Tom Sawyer.

Q. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter "A"?

A. One thousand.

Q. What is the only food that doesn't spoil?

A. Honey.

If unclaimed, please return to:

CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (AUSTRALIA)

41 Lincoln Ave, Glen Waverley Vic. 3150

