

# CLAN MACGILLIVRAY



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# CLAN MACGILLIVRAY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

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### Members Please Note – Annual Membership Fees

\$13 family - \$10 single - \$A15 overseas  
due on or before the

### 2003 Annual Gathering

Please send details and cheque or postal note to  
Hon Sec. David McGillivray  
PO Box 223  
SEAFORD, Victoria, 3198



This issue of our annual Journal is number 1 of Volume 5, i.e. the 25<sup>th</sup> issue, so it seems appropriate at this time to summarise the activities and standing of Clan MacGillivray worldwide.

It is a well-known fact that, throughout the Highlands of Scotland, the relationship between Clan Chiefs and their people changed after the '45, with the enforced abolition of the Chief's heritable jurisdiction. Nevertheless, there seems little doubt that, even today, any Clan, which is fortunate enough to have an active and well-loved Chief, has an advantage in maintaining interest and participation by its members. Virtually all the other Clans in the great Clan Chattan Confederation are in this fortunate position, but Clan MacGillivray is not.

We have not had a Clan Chief since 1914 and thus far have had no success in finding a proven descendant of any previous Chief. The late George B. Macgillivray spent a great deal of time and, no doubt, expense in this search, and was finally appointed by Lord Lyon, King of Arms for Scotland, as Commander of our Clan – a non-hereditary position. George, in turn, appointed 5 Commissioners, one for each of the nations where the majority of Macgillivrays and their descendants now are to be found, with the understanding that these people would assist him in regenerating and maintaining interest in our Clan affairs.

Unfortunately the Canadian Commissioner passed away in March of

this year and others are not getting any younger, but the Court of Lord Lyon does not allow Commissioners to appoint their successors. So, it seems that only by active support of our local Societies or Associations by members can Clan Macgillivray remain a viable force in Scottish affairs. Such organisations have been active and well established in Canada, Holland and Australia for some time. After years of frustration our USA colleagues have now finally managed to secure legal incorporation in the State of Indiana, and are now actively recruiting members.

To the best of my knowledge, none of our Australian member families were directly affected by last year's Bali bombing, but it was very heartening to receive a very sincere message of condolence to the Australian people and nation from Jim McGilvray, the President of our USA sister association.

At about the time that readers receive this publication, or soon thereafter, the Canadians will be gathering in Nova Scotia for their Annual Gathering, to which they will welcome some very important guests of honour from Scotland. We wish them a very successful function.

In the U.K. numbers are relatively small, but there now exists in Scotland the headquarters of the International Clan MacGillivray Association, and our Australian Society is a foundation life member of that essential body. It therefore seems appropriate that we reproduce in this issue an introductory

message from Blair MacGillivray, the recently appointed Chairman of the Association, and allow him to explain his vision for the future and the unique Adventure Expedition that he is arranging for Easter 2004. Let us hope that some of our younger members can manage to participate in this great experience.

Additionally we have the usual contribution of a fine article by our Honorary Life Member, Robert of Edinburgh who never fails to send me a thought provoking item of historical interest, there are two reports on last year's successful international Gathering at Inverness, which concentrate on different aspects of the week's activities, and our own historic function at

Gunbower last October is well covered. We are pleased to record a few notable achievements in the academic and community services areas, and wish to remind members that any news of this nature is always welcomed by the Editor, as well as family history details.

Finally, it is sad to have to record a far greater than usual number of deaths amongst our members and close friends, these being grouped together in the 'SORAIDH' section of the Journal. Pronounced "sorry", soraidh is a Scottish-Gaelic word meaning a blessing and farewell, as well as indicating success in life, so we think that it is an appropriate introduction to this obituary section.



The Gunbower Committee (less Margaret Harrower) left to right: June McGregor, Bruce McGregor, Ronda Crossman, Andy McGillivray, Ron Crossman, Sandra McGillivray, Bill McGillivray, Marion McGillivray & George McGillivray



As one of the twelve Clans that formed the great Highland Confederation known as Clan Chattan, and playing a prominent part in it, it seems fitting that we report in this publication any important news or developments in our sister clans. Quite a few of our Australian society members are members also of the Clan Chattan Association, a worldwide body with headquarters in Scotland. Our honorary member and regular contributor of fine articles, Robert McGillivray and his wife, Pauline, are joint editors of the CCA. Annual Journal, Pauline is currently Chair of that Association and I am the Australian representative on its Council.

Mackintosh – The Clan Mackintosh Society in Victoria is currently celebrating ten years of successful operations since it's formation.

Macpherson – On the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2002, in the city of Inverness, the capital of the Highlands, there was indeed a Highland Wedding. The Hon. Annie Macpherson, daughter of Lord and Lady Macpherson of Drumochter was married to Jamie, younger son of Sir William and Lady Macpherson of Cluny. Jamie, as Tanistair of the House of Cluny-

Macpherson will ultimately succeed his father as Chief of the Clan.

There is an Australian link here, in that Sir William's great grandfather came to New South Wales in 1829 becoming Clerk to the parliament in Sydney, whilst the latter's son Allan settled at Keera on the Gwydir River and at Mount Abundance near Roma as well as being a member of the NSW House of Representatives.

MacThomas - The Chief of Clan MacThomas has recently appointed Kenneth McColm of Alexandra, Victoria to be the new secretary of the Australian branch of the Clan MacThomas Society.

Clans Davidson, Farquharson and Shaw all have active Australian societies.

Tartans of Clan Chattan – Recently published and available only from the CCA is a colourful new book "The Tartans of the Clan Chattan" by James D. Scarlett, the noted authority on clan tartans and the weaving of tartan. This fine publication is only 6 pounds plus 2.50 pounds postage and I have the appropriate order forms here for anyone interested.

Peter McGillivray



The McGillivray Clan Crest



The McGillivray Clan Tartan

The above heading in bold type introduced the first and principal article in the January 2003, issue of the "Redcliffs Settler News" which circulates within the Murray river irrigation areas of Redcliffs, Mildura, Irymple, Cardross, Colignan, Nangiloc and Sunnycliffs in north-western Victoria.

At the Australia Day ceremony held at the Redcliffs Service Club, Murray River County Councillor, Ross Douglass, presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Andrew Thomas (Andy) McGillivray, and outlined just some of Andy's civic achievements, fifteen in all, that earned for him this prestigious award.

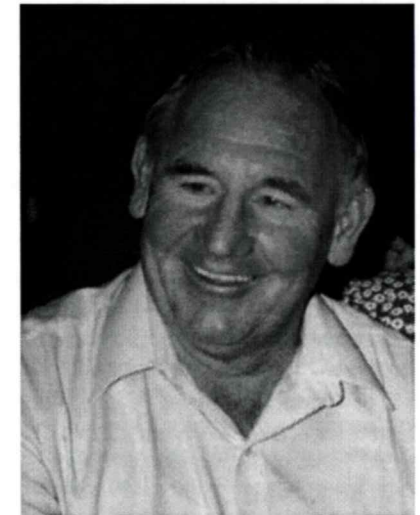
Andy is the elder brother of our Hon. Secretary, David, and a great grandson of those well-reported migrants, John and Sarah, who came to Australia from the Dunmachloids farm on Dunmaglas estate and settled in Yea. Andy himself was born in Redcliffs in 1933, and with his wife Pat, has been an active member of our Clan Society ever since it's inception and regular attendees at our annual gatherings.

At 18 years of age, Andy joined the Royal Australian Navy with whom he served for seven years. Returning to the place of his birth, he managed for 28 years the Red Cliffs Caravan Park and spent 2 years as manager of the Irymple Swimming pool, where he launched the 'Learn to Swim Program' and re-established the Irymple Swimming Club.

Practically every other local and regional sporting activity benefited from Andy's active participation at an administrative level, especially football, junior football, cricket and basketball. In recognition of his outstanding service to football at so many levels, the Victorian Country Football League had presented him with their Service Medal.

As a member of the Lions Club at Redcliffs for ten years and President in 1999, his leadership and dedication in charity fund-raising efforts has led to him receiving the Melvil Jones Fellowship Award and the Barry Palmer Award. At the present time he is involved in pursuing equipment for neonatal hearing screening to enable the Sunraysia Hospital to conduct early detection and intervention of hearing defects in newborn babies.

Congratulations, Andy.





## A Message from the Chairman of the Clan MacGillivray International Association

It is with great pleasure and honour that I take up from my father Ronald, who sadly died last year, the mantle of Chairman. For those who do not know me, a brief resume of my history is probably appropriate.

I was born in Ayrshire in 1962, a year after my sister, and spent the first ten years or so of my life living on the Isle of Cumbrae where my family had a hotel. As a teenager I went away to school at Gordonstoun in Morayshire and left there in 1980 having played Rugby for the 1st XV and been Head of House – my academic prowess according to my father and my tutor being somewhat wanting due to the many other interests.

Further education was not for me and I joined the army. After graduating from the military Academy in 1982 I served another 8 years in the Kings Own Scottish Borderers before leaving in 1990 with the rank of Captain.

Since then I have been entirely involved in the Hotel and Leisure industry. I presently own and run The Steadings Hotel in Strathnairn.

I gave my four key objectives as chairman at the last AGM during the International Gathering. They were as follows:

1. To encourage young Clansfolk to greater active involvement.
2. To have a lasting Clan Monument in Strathnairn.

3. To increase membership of the Clan MacGillivray International Association.
4. To ensure that the next International Gathering in 2007 is a success'

We have moved forward with some of these plans and I would particularly mention the Youth Project, which is planned for the year 2004 around the anniversary of the Battle of Culloden, which took place on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1746. We have an excellent itinerary for this project and it will be a once in a lifetime experience.

My message to all young Clansfolk, who are the Standard Bearers of the Clan, is quite simply to do your utmost to support this venture. If you require further details then please do not hesitate to contact me. Finally, as you read about our plans for Easter 2004, a reminder to you all that we have a unique background, which should be preserved in this ever-changing world. You are the only people that can do this, so pause for a moment and ask yourself what you can do to ensure the continuity of your heritage and to support our venture.

Yours in Strathnairn,  
Blair MacGillivray.

The Steadings, Flichity, Farr,  
Inverness IV1 6XD Scotland.  
Email: [blair@thesteading.com](mailto:blair@thesteading.com)

## The Clan Youth Adventure

The Clan Youth Adventure will take place in April 2004, which will be centred around a 5-day and 4-nights Adventurous Training Expedition within and around the traditional MacGillivray and Clan Chattan lands. The Expedition will be fun and challenging with a competitive edge and goals. Activities will include hill walking, climbing, rafting, canoeing, archery and more. This will be a **'once in a lifetime experience'** and participants will be encouraged to seek sponsorship for completing the challenge with proceeds to cover their costs and to put a minimum of £100 towards worthy Clan and Strathnairn causes eg. Restoration of MacGillivray headstones.

The dates are between 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April 2004 and the outline itinerary is as follows:

- 10<sup>th</sup> April 2004 – arrive at base camp in Strathnairn adjacent 'The Steadings Hotel'
- 11<sup>th</sup> April 2004 – Clan Headstone Restoration with guidance from 'experts'. Evening – barbeque
- 12<sup>th</sup> April 2004 – Set off for Expedition from Dunmaglass accompanied by Adventure Scotland Instructors
- 16<sup>th</sup> April 2004 Return from Expedition (AM). Shopping (PM). Evening Ceilidh with contemporary Folk music at Farr Hall
- 17<sup>th</sup> April 2004 – Visit Culloden Battlefield to take part in the Culloden Anniversary Celebration (always held on nearest Saturday)
- 18<sup>th</sup> April 2004 – Depart

The cost for the above excluding travel is £450 (£50 per day) and this includes all tented accommodation and equipment plus expert instruction on the expedition. Participants have a full year to raise sponsorship and I am sure older Clan Members will dig deep into their sporrans to assist.

This is a rallying call and we all wish this to be a success and to achieve this we need a minimum of 10 participants for this challenge so if you are 18 – 40 (or think you are) then this is for you. If you have relatives that are in this category then tell them about it and let them meet the challenge.

This will be an unforgettable Highland experience and a must for young Clansfolk so be there! If interested and going to take the challenge or know someone that should/will then contact me at [youthproject@thesteading.com](mailto:youthproject@thesteading.com) or at my postal address.

Yours in Strathnairn  
Blair MacGillivray  
Chairman CMIA

*Obviously it is much easier and cheaper for folk to fly over for a week from Canada, Europe or the USA, than to go all the way from Australia, but there may well be young Australians who plan to be in the UK at that time and who could take this opportunity to experience a great week in our ancestral homeland.*

*I would be pleased to receive any comments or indications of interest as soon as possible for me to feed back to Blair so that he can decide whether the idea is a goer.*

*The editor.*



## Clan Gathering – 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> October 2002

Our 27<sup>th</sup> annual gathering was held in Gunbower, Victoria, with Ron and Rhonda Crossman and a committee of family members putting a great deal of work into organising the two-day event, which was a great success.

David and I travelled up on the Friday, staying at the Gunbower caravan park where we met up with David's brother Andy and his wife, Pat, of Redcliffs.

As Saturday dawned the weather was fine with an outlook for a beautiful weekend to follow. We went to the hall at about 10am where we helped with the setting-up in between greeting everyone, many of whom we had corresponded with but never met and some whom we did not know at all. After lunch we joined the long stream of cars for the

drive out to Mount Hope property where Neil McGillivray first settled in the late 1800s. We were greeted there by Jill Millson, the present owner and a descendant of the McGillivrays, who told us some of the history of the property, after which we wandered over the homestead, which was full of history and of great interest to everyone.



Jill Millson



Mt Hope Homestead

Then it was off to Pyramid Hill to visit the local museum where the staff and volunteers had arranged a magnificent display of photos and news clippings on the family and the district in the 1800's and 1900's. Many of us then paid a visit to the cemetery before heading back to

Gunbower where a barbecue tea was provided on the banks of a small creek – what a wonderful atmosphere it was, having a meal and a few drinks with relatives and new found friends, with the golden sun setting in the west shimmering on the waters of the creek.

Next morning we accepted the kind offer from George and Marion McGillivray to join them for breakfast – after which we enjoyed a nice drive along the banks of the mighty Murray River. Then back into town for the day, many clan members making the local minister happy as they swelled the numbers at his service in the small Gunbower 'kirk'.

It was a busy time for the Gathering Committee and also for David and me, greeting folk as they arrived, signing them in and giving out name-tags, not to mention answering all the various questions relating to family information and the Clan Society. A great deal of interest was generated by the 3 metre long family tree that I had prepared for the day from information gathered from the descendants of Charles and Mary McGillivray – it contained over 850 names and recorded 234 marriages. It was a very busy day – we would have liked to have been able to chat with more of the different families there, but time was against us.

A local pipe band attended during the afternoon and entertained the crowd with a bracket of lively tunes.

It was a most successful two-day event, with over 160 people attending both days- we had people from London, Queensland, different areas of New South Wales and from all over Victoria. An event of that size has not been seen since some of the earlier gatherings in Seaford in the early 1980s. Another such event is planned for Gunbower in 2004.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the organising committee and all those, too many to mention, who worked so hard to make the weekend the wonderful success that it was – THANK YOU ALL.

We now look forward to this year's gathering which is to be held in Mailor's Flat, near Warrnambool on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2003, our hosts there being Ashley and Rosemary McGillivray of Willatook – further details are elsewhere in this journal – Haste ye there.

Heather McGillivray, Seaford.







Ron & Rhonda Crossman and their family



Enjoying family, new friends & good times at Gunbower

## Gathering Notice

### The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering for the Clan MacGillivray Society

will be held on

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2003

At the Mailor's Flat Hall  
Mailor's Flat, Victoria  
(10 minutes from Warrnambool on Caramut Road)

From 11am onwards  
A light luncheon will be served at 1pm for the cost of  
\$6 per person (afternoon tea is included in this cost)  
BYO drinks (not forgetting the children)

You will be entertained by Scottish Country Dancers,  
the sound of the Great Highland Bagpipes  
and Country Music.

Bring your camera, family history and photos

RSVP by 9<sup>th</sup> November 2003 to your hosts  
Ashley and Rosemary McGillivray  
101 McGillivray Road, Willatook 3282  
or phone (03) 9876 5218

Please note: The Council of our Clan Society hope that it may be possible to hold a general business meeting on Saturday night the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2003 at some yet undecided venue in Warrnambool. Any member who can plan to be available for this meeting, please advise David or Heather by Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> November.



# Clan Feuds – Long Forgotten

By Robert McGillivray

Writing in the current issue of Clan Chattan, the annual Journal of the Clan Chattan Association, John Mackintosh of Mackintosh, 31<sup>st</sup> Chief of Clan Mackintosh and President of the Clan Chattan Association, comments on the image of Highlanders as being one of feuding clansmen, engaging in disputes that raged for centuries and perpetually lifting cattle; then he goes on to point out that, of course, it was not all bad. And he is right. It was not all that bad in olden times. Historical writing tends to record the violent and the bloody events. It pays less attention to the everyday lives of the common people; and to the pastoral delights of country folk who, despite an environment often harsh, demanding and unrewarding, could express their peaceful pleasures and pursuits in a rich harvest of music, song, story and dance.

Feuds there were, and cattle lifting too when famine and necessity drove Highlanders to it, but they tended to arise at a time when the law of Scotland was none too easy to uphold in the wilder, more remote parts of the country. Clans were forced to look after themselves and self-preservation was the order of the day. Rights of ownership and entitlement to land were frequent causes of dispute, violence and bloody clashes; leading to deep-rooted resentment and alienation.

The hatred of MacDonalds for Campbells, and vice versa, may have come about for a different reason but it is only too well known and may well be found to this day. That is something

rare among other clans. Much of the old animosity has long since gone; indeed, there are instances where reconciliation has been beneficial all round. What can the history of the Clan McGillivray and the wider Clan Chattan tell in this respect?

When the early McGillivrays suffered in the misfortune that befell the lords of the isles following the subjugation of the lordship by the monarchy in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century, some sought protection of the Chief of Clan Mackintosh and in time became prominent within the great confederation of Clan Chattan. During the Rising of 1745 it was the Chief of the Clan McGillivray who was chosen to command the "*McIntosh Regiment*"; albeit with disastrous results for his clan. In earlier centuries it was their faithful following and loyalty to the Mackintoshes that embroiled the McGillivrays in that Clan's affairs, disputes and struggles.

Two feuds, each lasting for some centuries, in particular involved them; those with the MacDonells of Keppoch (a branch of the Clan MacDonald) and with the Camerons of Lochiel. The former feud began in the first half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century when, for loyalty to the King of Scotland and in compensation for losses sustained in that support, the Mackintosh Chief was given a grant of lands in Glen Roy and Glen Spean. These lands were occupied, however, by the MacDonells who declined to recognise the grant of ownership and invariably refused to pay rents or meet their dues. Although the Mackintosh

Chiefs had the backing of law, and often commissions from the Government, to enforce their rights, they were never powerful enough to prevail over opponents who were both strong and often aggressive. In the summer of 1676, for instance, the heritors and elders of the Parish of Daviot and Dunlichity, among them several McGillivrays, declared they were unable to attend a proposed Presbytery visitation of their Parish "*seeing they are necessitat to abyd in the Glens to shelter and keep ther bestiall and goods ffrom the Lochabber and Glencoa robbers.*"

Three years later Mackintosh determined to make another of the marches by his clan into Lochaber, this time to plant a garrison of his clansmen to keep a closer watch on his interests there and to subdue these troublesome inhabitants. Some internal problems of his own curtailed his force, but the Dunmaglass tenants were allowed to go with him and he was "*accompanied with three hundred of the bravest and best proved men, the chief of whom...(included)...Bean and Lachlan MacGillivray.*" These two were the uncles of the McGillivray Chief who was too young to go himself. Bean left a reputation of being a good fighting man who was badly wounded on one of these expeditions in Lochaber. On this occasion, however, peace prevailed. Archibald MacDonell of Keppoch agreed to pay arrears and meet his dues; a promise he did not keep.

Subsequently, Mackintosh obtained a renewal of an earlier "*commission of fire and sword*" against the MacDonells and this time he was given a company of regular troops to back him up. The

MacDonell Chief, however, was now the famed "*Coll of the Cows*"; a sterner foe than his father Alexander. The sides clashed in the "**Battle of Mulroy**". Fought in August 1688, it was to prove to be the last battle fought between Highland clans; one in which McGillivrays participated – on the losing side! The Mackintosh Chief was taken prisoner but later released when wiser counsel prevailed. When a report of the battle reached the Privy Council, 200 foot and a troop of dragoons were sent to "*destroy man, woman and child pertaining to the laird of Cappagh, and to burn his houses and corn*". Keppoch and his men took refuge in the hills while the destruction of their property was rigorously carried out.

Soon afterwards the MacDonells rose on behalf of the deposed monarch after the Revolution of 1688; as did the Mackintoshes! Coll, however, was out for revenge. He took the opportunity to harry Inverness and the Clan Chattan lands. He burned down the McGillivray Chief's home of Dunmaglass and the Mackintosh's home of Dunachton, erected only 15 years earlier. Other properties were sacked and a great deal of booty taken. Coll was rebuked by his army commander, but it was too late and made no difference. Accordingly, no considerable body of the Clan Chattan fought for the deposed king at Killiecrankie in July 1689.

These depredations were so severe that in 1691 some leading men of the Clan Chattan, among them Farquhar McGillivray of Dunmaglass, were excused from paying the Cess, a land tax, on account of "*losses caused by Coll Mackdonald and other rebels in*



arms...by burning, pillaging and destroying the petitioner's houses and those of their tenants, carrying off all portable goods..." The gentlemen and their tenants were reduced "to beggarie and a starving condition." So thorough was the raiding that not so much as "a paire of plaids for bedding were left behing." The district was still so disturbed that year that it was recommended that 100 soldiers be lodged at Dunmaglass, and as many more at Aberarder with a troop of dragoons; "there is plenty of grass in that country."

Finally, in 1698, following the further renewal of the "commission of fire and sword" and the erection of Fort William, manned by government troops, only 12 miles from his own house, Coll realised the game was up. No longer could he defy the law and the Government. He entered into negotiations with Mackintosh. So the feud came to an end. It had lasted for nearly three hundred years.

The feud with the Camerons arose in like manner. The Mackintoshes received Charters for lands which they had formerly occupied at Glenloy and Locharkaig; but these were also occupied by the Camerons who would neither be evicted nor pay rent. In 1664 Mackintosh, not without difficulty among his own people, persuaded members of Clan Chattan to attend a meeting at which one of the great Clan Chattan Bonds was signed. Among the signatories to the agreement, to support Mackintosh against Cameron, were the three leading men in the Clan MacGillivray: Farquhar "McAlister" of Dunmaglass and his two sons Donald and William. When Mackintosh marched into Lochaber it was at the

head of more than 1500 men. In the face of his force, Cameron of Lochiel agreed to purchase the disputed territory and the long standing feud came to an end.

That the animosity of this feud has long since faded away is clearly revealed in "The History of the Clan Mackintosh and the Clan Chattan" (1984) by Margaret Mackintosh of Mackintosh, grandmother of the present Chief. On being asked to provide the Foreword, Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel, 25<sup>th</sup> Chief of Clan Cameron, wrote: "I do so with some considerable trepidation, seeing that the Clan Cameron, of whom I am the Chief, and the Clan Mackintosh waged a war between each other for 360 years. As the reader will learn, this war was all about the ownership of the lands of Loch Arkaig and Glenloy. There seems to be little doubt that Mackintosh was in the right from the point of view of Law and the Camerons in right in point of factual possession. Happily this feud ended on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1665, since when the two Clans have lived most amicably together and for some time past there has been the warmest friendship between the two families. Alfred - more familiarly known as "Alfie" - the twenty-eighth Chief, was a great personal friend of my father's, and I shall never forget all the many kindnesses he showed me ever since I was a boy, and my many visits to Moy Hall are my happiest recollections: and when he died he did me the honour of appointing me as one of his Trustees. Therefore, whatever may have happened four or five hundred years ago, I now cherish nothing but love and affection for the late Chief of Clan Chattan and may this friendship between the two families long continue."

But there is a more intriguing instance following on the feud with the MacDonells. When John Lachlan MacGillivray, 10<sup>th</sup> of Dunmaglass, died in 1852 without a known successor, the successful claimant to Dunmaglass was the Hon. John MacGillivray of Upper Canada. His son, Neil John MacGillivray, 12<sup>th</sup> of Dunmaglass, succeeded to the Chiefship in 1855. There was some reluctance locally to accept this Canadian when he eventually settled at Dunmaglass. As was shown in a previous article in this Journal, a letter written by a clansman in 1864 simply says of the new Chief, "MacGillivray the Proprietor of Dunmaglass is at present in the Country." Surely, an unenthusiastic comment.

Neil John moved permanently from Canada in 1880 to take up residence at Dunmaglass, in the substantial new lodge he had built on the other side of the river from the former house. He brought with him his Canadian born wife and a family of two sons and two daughters. His wife was Catherine Orpha MacDonell, a descendant of those who had burned down the old house of Dunmaglass! She and her husband had clearly disregarded old animosities. If there had been doubts as to the suitability of this Canadian to be Chief of the Clan, they were soon dispelled. When he died suddenly in 1886 it was said of him that he was a better Highlander than John Lachlan MacGillivray. He was regarded as a kind and benevolent Chief, with a deep sense of responsibility towards his tenants and clansmen, to whom he had endeared himself. Could this have been due in part to the influence of his MacDonell wife? At that time, those on the Dunmaglass estate were all Gaelic speakers; as was Catherine,

notwithstanding her Canadian birth and upbringing. This was a great advantage and she too came to be greatly loved by her husband's people. When she died in 1898 her coffin was borne from the hearse to its last resting place in the Chiefly Enclosure at Dunlichity Church on the shoulders of old tenants of the estate, all of them MacGillivrays.

Further, many of those Strathnaim clansmen who were to see active service in the army were to do so in the local Inverness regiment, The Queens Own Cameron Highlanders. Neil John's son William, who was to succeed as Chief, enlisted in the Militia at the age of 18 and did so in the 2<sup>nd</sup> (Militia) Battalion of that fine Highland regiment, resigning in 1889 with the rank of Capitan. One of the senior officers in this battalion of "The Camerons" was Alfred Donald Mackintosh of Mackintosh who, on his retirement in 1903, was made its Honorary Colonel. These men of Clan Chattan were fine "Camerons", and proud of it!

So we can truly say that, for the MacGillivrays of Clan Chattan at least, old clan feuds are indeed long forgotten.





## A Tale Of 2 Churches In Strathnairn



Painting of Dunmaglas c.1850



Dunmaglas Lodge c.1880

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2002, as part of their International Gathering, one hundred or so MacGillivrays took part in a moving church service during which they reaffirmed their allegiance to their ancient Clan. This service was conducted in the historic church at Dunlichity in Strathnairn, by a Church of Scotland minister appropriately named the Reverend Jim McGillivray, the opening hymn was accompanied on the Highland pipes by our noted Clan Piper, Duncan MacGillivray, and Robert McGillivray spoke briefly on the history of the church itself, portion of which dates back to 1569.

In addition to a Blessing of the Clan, including worldwide absent members, many couples took part in a reaffirmation of their marriage vows.

Also present was the Rev. John Evans from the only other church in the Strath, The Scottish Episcopal Church of Strathnairn St.Pauls at Croachy. He spoke of that church's close association with one of the former MacGillivray Chiefs and the unexpected recent discovery of his generous gift to that church in 1852. His story started with the arrival in Strathnairn in 1819 of the Rev'd Duncan Mackenzie, known over a vast part of the Scottish Highlands simply as "Parson Duncan", a former farmer, skilled in the diagnosis of ills in animals and people, with a high degree of scholarship in the Scottish Gaelic language, and a friend to all, whether wealthy or poor.

Among the friends of Parson Duncan were the Countess of Ross and John

Lachlan Macgillivray of Dunmaglass, tenth Chief of our Clan, and we now know that both of them made significant gifts to his church. The present church building, erected in 1868 on the site of the one used by Parson Duncan from 1819 until his death in 1858, has on it's west wall a beautiful rose window, sacred to his memory, and below it is a brass plaque which states that the building was made possible thanks to the generosity of one 'John Lachlan MacGillivray of Dunmaglass'. It was 16 years after his death in 1852 and ten years after Parson Duncan died that the actual building took place.

We now know that this was not the only gift willed to this church by the Laird of Dunmaglass, and we can only assume that Parson Duncan must have been ministering to the family there, despite the long standing association of our people with Dunlichity, where, indeed, John Lachlan himself lies buried.

Following the demise of the pastor and with much of the population of Strathnairn dwindling, the church at Croachy became a place of only occasional worship, mainly in August and September, when many visitors came for the sporting season – so much so that it became known as 'the grouse church'.

Then, in the year 2001, the congregation decided to build a small hall beside the church and connected to it. This required making an opening through the wall from the vestry and the removal of a heavy old safe and some dust-covered cupboards. The Rev'd Evans told us in



great detail how these renovations led to the discovery, in a false bottom of an old cabinet, of a bulky green cloth bag containing a beautiful silver jug with lid, together with matching chalice and salver. Each item bore five hallmarks and the following legend

*"This Communion Service  
consisting of  
Salver, Flagon and Chalice  
Was bequeathed  
To the Episcopal Chapel of Strathnairn  
By  
John Lachlan Macgillivray Esqr  
Of Dummaglass  
1852"*

In another bag of light chamois type leather was found a very much smaller set of silver chalice and matching paten, which could be identified as the gift of The Right Honourable Jane, Countess Dowager of Rosse.

What a great thrill it must have been for the Reverend Evans and his parishioners to discover these very valuable items, which they had not even known to exist. One other point of interest is the fact that when this present church was built in 1868 and until 1874 the incumbent minister was another Macgillivray, the Reverend Archibald. Furthermore, the benefaction of John Lachlan was sufficient to build a small school nearby in addition to the church.



A fine view of Dunlichity Church in it's lovely setting

## In the Footsteps of My Ancestors

Jill McGillivray of Milawa writes

"Friday July 26<sup>th</sup> 2002...Today I walked in the footsteps of my ancestors.

With my mother, Rome, and David and Heather McGillivray, I walked across the property known as Drumnacloidh, on the Dunmaglas Estate, which John and Sarah McGillivray left in 1848 to come to Australia.



Sarah McGillivray

What a wonderful feeling it was; almost magic in fact. I wished a genie could appear, with just a little more magic. A wish that my father, Bob, so interested in everything to do with his family and the clan could have been there with us.

A wish that we had known the little we know now about John and Sarah of Drumnacloidh, back in 1975 when Mum, Dad and I first drove up that private road leading to Dunmaglas

Lodge, which took us straight past the home of our forebears, Mum telling me it was a private road and I had to turn back, and Dad, hesitantly, encouraging me to go on. (They both stayed in the car in front of the lodge while I walked around the back to see if there was anyone there to give me some information about the McGillivrays and Dunmaglas. They stayed in the car when a landrover type vehicle screeched to a stop, scattering the gravel, and a man got out to ask what I wanted. When I said I was a McGillivray and all I knew about the clan was that the Chief had lived at Dunmaglas, he quickly informed me that there had been no McGillivray there for 100 years. Becoming more friendly, he did say that he would have invited us in for tea had his family been home.)

A wish for a time machine, to take us back all those years so we could hear all the debate about whether or not to leave for the new land. What were the reasons for leaving, surely knowing that they would never return? Was it a potato famine?...The prospect of owning their own land in a new country?...The promise of a better life? It cannot have been an easy decision for the young couple.

How did they travel to Plymouth, with their two year old son William, to board their ship The Cheapside, in May 1848? Their daughter Jane was born shortly after boarding. What a journey it would have been for Sarah, so very pregnant, travelling with her husband and small son, whether by land or sea to Plymouth.



Then to face a (relatively short for the time) voyage of 88 days with a newborn baby and toddler. Bunks were tiered, just six feet long and 18 inches wide, with no separate provision for small children who shared with their parents. Think of the washing! How would you keep a small boy entertained in such a cramped space. John was able to read and write English, but Sarah, able to read and write only Gaelic, was considered illiterate.

So many questions...

Heather and David, through their research into the family tree have provided much of the information we have and it was great to stand there among the rocks, which are all that remain of that home, with them.



Jill and David among the rocks of Drumnacloidh

It was the highlight of my trip to Scotland for the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Gathering of the Clan, followed by the Kirking of the Clan at Dunlichity. We had arrived in Inverness a few days early for the gathering to meet up with David and Heather and travel the clan lands particularly relevant to John and Sarah. It was their grandson, John Duncan McGillivray who, with a descendant of a Skye family, Ian MacGillivray Elder, was responsible for founding Clan MacGillivray Society

(Australia). Many of John and Sarah's descendants are active members of the Australian Society and they have had descendants at every Australian and International Gathering.

I would like to stress that we weren't trespassing on the Dunmaglas Estate – we had gained permission from the deputy factor and we explained who we were and what we were doing as we passed through the gatehouse. Enroute to Dunmaglas we met with an elderly gentleman who, following in his father's footsteps, had worked on the estate for 50 odd years, serving as head keeper. He was able to tell David exactly where Drumnacloidh had been.

We also had a photocopy of an old map, dated 1875, which pinpointed the Lodge, the Mains of Dunmaglas and othercroft sites Achnaloddan, Lagg, Croachy and Clovendale. Heather knew too, from the Clan History (by Robert McGillivray and George McGillivray) that there was once a large building or barn on Drumnacloidh, which in olden days was cleared for use for the 'tigh faire' or watching of the dead (a form of wake). Local people gathered here each evening to keep the wake with music, dancing, singing and storytelling until the burial day. A burial place, long since abandoned, was nearby.

As we walked up through the boggy lower field toward the tree plantations nearer the ridge, we found the stone outline of the barn-like structure with no dividing walls. To the side and lower were further rock remains, probably from the Lagg property. Further on were two fenced off areas, with mounds of rocks. We were home! David threw over a large rock to help Rome and I

over the fence (the gate started halfway up the high fence) and agreed to turn off the video camera!

Truly it was a magical moment. It was with pride that David and Heather returned later in the week with Australian Commissioner, Peter McGillivray to show him our ancestral site.



David & Peter at the gate to Dunmaglass Mains

While touring with David and Heather we also visited the churches of Dunlichity, with the Chiefly Enclosure and many McGillivray graves, Daviot, Petty and Barevan – where we found the grave of Elizabeth Campbell, fiancée of our chief Alexander (or Alistair) who fell at the Well of the Dead during the battle of Culloden.



We also had an enjoyable night at the Inverness Tattoo and spent a day touring Kingussie (unfortunately the MacPherson museum was closed) and along the bank of Loch Ness to Boleskine.

There were a number of friends from previous gatherings who were not there this time and they were greatly missed. Ishbel, John and all their helpers did a marvellous job and we were particularly moved by the Church Service and Kirkin o' the Clan at Dunlichity, the afternoon with The Highlander at Annette and Blair's then home Boleskine House, and of course Culloden. The battlefield always raises great emotion however many times you visit and our guide portrays the battle so eloquently you can almost picture it all.



Roma enjoying herself in Scotland



## A Rare Breed – The Eriskay Pony

The tiny island of Eriskay, situated between Barra and South Uist in the Outer Hebrides, is well known as the place where, on a beach of white sand, Bonnie Prince Charlie first landed in Scotland in 1745 on his ill-fated attempt to win back the crown for his father, who hoped to become King James 3rd. We all know that his attempt came to a tragic end at Culloden on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1746, in a battle which saw our own gallant Chief, Alexander, and many of his clansmen slain.

What is not generally known is the fact that the last few small “Western Isles” type ponies were discovered years ago on this remote island, where Eriskay’s inaccessibility had safeguarded these remnant animals from crossbreeding with larger horses. These wiry little ponies were better suited to withstand the extremes of climate experienced on Eriskay, where they were treated as family pets by the crofters, usually handled by women and children for carrying peat for fuel and seaweed for fertiliser, and were very ‘people friendly’.



We read in “The Scots Magazine” that about twenty or so years ago a dedicated group of people set out to save the last twenty ponies and to establish the Eriskay as a recognised breed. This was finally achieved, and it is now classified by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust on their “critical” list, category 1.

Our main interest in this matter stems from the fact that a Donald McGillivray and his wife, Mary, on the mainland of Scotland, have been foremost in this task, having acquired their first Eriskay in 1979, a mare named Peigi who lived on into her mid thirties and produced many foals. One of her sons, Braincroft Fingal, has been most active on many properties throughout Britain and has been dominant in having the Eriskay pony breed saved from extinction. Mary McGillivray is very proud to have been the recipient of a special rosette bearing the inscription “ Braincroft Fingal, - for services rendered nationwide “

In a book by Robert Beck, titled Scotland’s Native Horse, Donald McGillivray is described as “an enthusiastic breeder”, and there is no doubt that the McGillivray’s dedication to this ancient breed of ponies, that can be traced back to Pictish times, has played a vital role in saving them from an uncertain future. In past issues of this Journal we have referred to the fine horsemanship displayed by men and women of our Clan here in Australia, so now it is fitting to honour others of our name in the land of our forefathers.

## The THIRD INTERNATIONAL GATHERING of Clan MacGillivray Inverness, Scotland - July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2002

Some reminiscences by Peter McGillivray, Clan Commissioner for Australia.

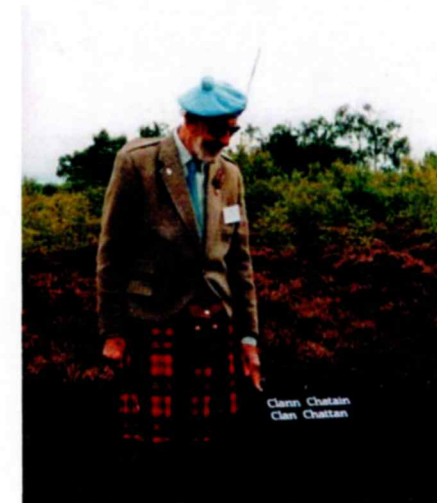
For a short time after September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 it was thought that we may have to postpone or cancel this event, but cries of disappointment from around the world convinced the U.K. Commissioner, Ishbel, that we should go ahead as planned and I believe that her decision was proved to be correct.

One hundred delegates, young and old, spent an enjoyable four days and five nights of great fellowship while visiting sites of historic interest to our Clan –we had some rain and quite a bit of fog, but all in all the weather failed to dampen our proceedings. Just one week later there fell several inches of torrential rain in Inverness, and the Thistle Hotel, venue for three of our dinners, was flooded out with 5 feet of water throughout, so we were fortunate to have escaped that!

Those taking part included five of us from Australia, along with 6 Canadians, 7 Dutch, 2 Italians, 26 from the U.K., and 53 from the USA. I received great support from David, Heather, Roma and Jill, and Jill has written for this issue a special coverage of the sentimental discovery by them of the very spot whence came their ancestor couple. A great innovation at this gathering was the issuing to each person of a ‘who’s who’ list, which included not only the names and addresses of all delegates,

but also a snapshot of each one, making recognition so much easier.

I do not propose to cover in depth all of the visits made, including those to Culloden battlefield, Fort George, Dunmaglas and Pringles Mill, but some deserve special mention. It was an honour for me to be asked to assist Ishbel in a ceremony at Auld Petty Church where we jointly laid a wreath alongside the plaque which had been unveiled 5 years earlier to commemorate the fact that our great Chief, Alexander, of Culloden fame, lies buried in that place.

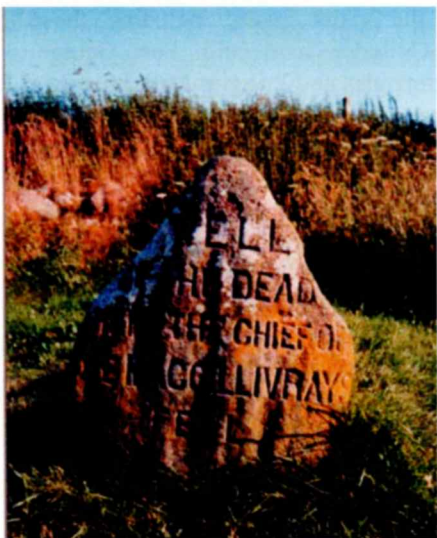


Peter stands on the spot where the Clan Chattan Regiment stood before the Battle of Culloden in 1746

Whilst there can be no greater emotional experience for a MacGillivray to stand on the bleak moor of Culloden at precisely the spot where so many of our Clan fought and died, it is interesting to



note that the National Trust for Scotland are to spend 1.5 million pounds on “improving the visitor experience and the historical accuracy of information on display” – modern audio visual presentations are to be installed and the present visitor centre, built in 1984, is to be replaced.



A place of great emotion for McGillivrays

At Boleskine House on the shores of Loch Ness, we were right royally entertained over lunch by Annette MacGillivray and her son Blair, and unveiled a cairn in the grounds in memory of Ronald, the inaugural Chairman of the Clan MacGillivray International Association, who died in February, 2002. It was very pleasing to learn that Annette and Blair, who has agreed to follow in his father's footsteps as Chairman, were about to re-open their hotel/restaurant which is in Strathnairn, just short of Dunmaglas – how good it is that there will once again be MacGillivrays living in the glen whence so many of our ancestors came.

Formerly known as “The Grouse and Trout” this place has now been renamed “The Steadings” and it's dining room is the “Clach an Airm”, being so named after the historic standing stone upon which our fighting men are said to have sharpened their weapons as they gathered prior to the battle of Culloden.



Annette & Blair MacGillivray at Boleskine with the Cairn honouring Ronald

Our church service at Dunlichity has been fully referred to elsewhere in this edition. Ishbel had been urging us to practise the chosen hymns for the preceding days, so we were able to ‘raise the roof’ of the old kirk when the time came to sing.



Ishbel MacGillivray-McGregor – UK  
Commissioner, Peter MacGillivray – Australian  
Commissioner & Gianni Lombardi – Italy  
at Boleskine House

# CLAN MACGILLIVRAY

The Clan gathers for a banquet at Lochardil House, Inverness, July 2002





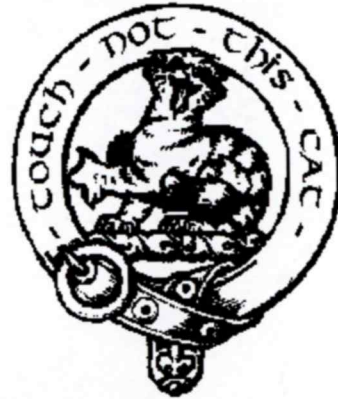
The last day was significant in that all of us spent a few hours at Moy Hall, the home of the Chief of Clan Mackintosh, where we lunched in the Clan Chattan tent while visiting the Highland Field Sports Fair. Earlier that day the Annual General Meeting of our International Association was held in a hall at Farr in Strathnairn and it was pleasing to have a number of new U.K. volunteers joining the committee and already talking of organising the next Gathering in 5 years time. i.e. in 2007. Let us endeavour to ensure that Australia is again well represented at that and all future gatherings.

The formal banquet and other dinners during the week were all enjoyable, but the final dinner and ceilidh at Lochardil House remain in my memory as proof of a most successful and happy gathering. Some of us had attended all three, others were at their first, but all showed great interest in our Clan's history and a determination to keep it going. If I have any personal regrets, it would be that the time seemed to pass so rapidly that I did not have the chance to get to know everyone better.



Robert, David & Peter McGillivray at the final banquet at Lochardil House

Finally, after that long tiring flight, I arrived back at Tullamarine at 5am to be well sniffed over by a large Customs dog and then forced to completely empty my case for inspection. On asking why, I was told that electronic surveillance revealed that there were 2 sporrans at the bottom of the case – which of course I knew – and the inspector felt that one of them could have been purchased new in Scotland and be carrying foot and mouth germs on the leather. My two ancient items passed the inspection and half an hour later than expected I was on my way home.



## A Bendigo Landmark – Bishop's Court

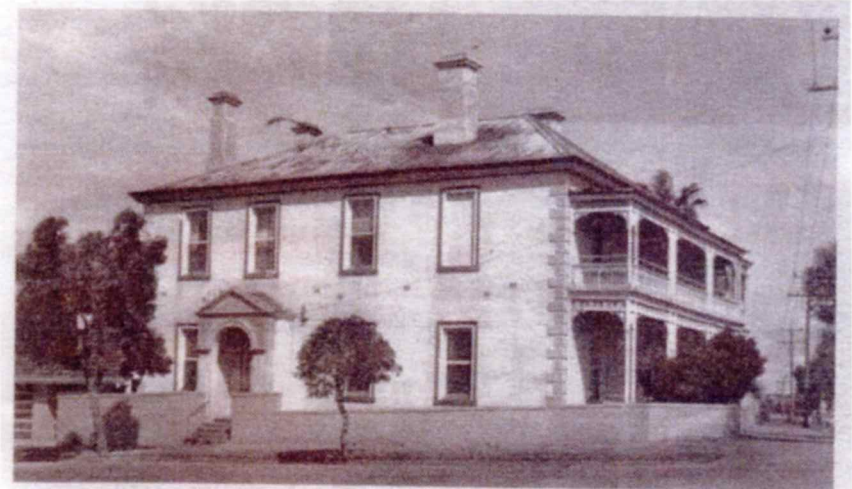
Over the years our Journal has contained various references to Dr. Paul Howard MacGillivray, the highly respected surgeon and scientist who was a son of the famous Professor William of Aberdeen University and brother of the equally renowned botanist, John. One of the doctor's granddaughters, Carol Tebbutt, is a longstanding member of our Clan Society.

MacGillivray "Max" Morse has sent a recent article from "Home", March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003, which tells the history of Paul Howard MacGillivray's house which was built for him in 1876, and which was described in the Bendigo Advertiser of the time as the largest private residence in Sandhurst. The size and design of the home is testament to the success of the man who commissioned it and the architect who designed it.

The doctor had been resident surgeon at the Bendigo Hospital since 1862 and

one time President of the Victorian Medical Society when he decided to set up in private practice and have the home and consulting rooms built. The frontage to Forest St. was 45 feet, including the private entrance into a hall nearly 3 metres wide. There was a handsome balcony along the whole of this frontage. Then in Rowan St., with a frontage of 56 feet, there was a porch entrance for patients and a hall 2 metres wide and 18 metres long. The handsome building was set on half an acre of land with two adjoining gardens.

After Dr. MacGillivray's death in 1895 the home was owned by the Lansell family who then donated it to the Anglican church as a residence for the Bishop of the day and it was then that it acquired the name Bishop's Court. Now, under new owners and a slight change of name to Bishops Court, this fine old Victorian mansion is an attractive Bed and Breakfast establishment, providing period living in a stately setting.



BISHOPS Court from Rowan Street early 1960s



## Generous Gift Of Art

Phyllis Tory of Mudgee, NSW, recently sent us a news clipping from a recent issue of the Bathurst Weekly advocate which describes a generous gift of art to the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery from the 'McGillivray Family Bequest'.

We find that it was Phyllis Tory's brother, the late William James McGillivray, (1916-1999) of Wavell Heights in Queensland, who bequeathed his fine collection of paintings and prints to the Bathurst Gallery with the request that it be used whenever possible for educational purposes.

This particular family has strong connections to the Bathurst region, their mother, Ellen Johnson, was born in Sofala and raised her family of six children in Lithgow after marrying James McGillivray, a miner from Scotland.

William first became a teacher before changing careers and working as an accountant. He and his wife moved to Brisbane for a new start in the 1950s and became keen collectors of art, building up a significant collection, which has now greatly enriched the Gallery in Bathurst by strengthening the representation of significant artists and filling in missing links.



the late William James McGillivray

## Another 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

On 18<sup>th</sup> May 2002, family and friends gathered at the Mundubbera Bowls Club in Queensland to help Keith McGilvery celebrate his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Guests came from Toowoomba, Brisbane, Hervey Bay, Bundaberg, Maryborough and neighbouring towns and included his sons and daughter, Bruce, Rob and daughter Karen, their

spouses and eight of his nine grandchildren and three of his five great grandchildren.

Elder sons Bruce, kept the guests entertained with his music throughout the evening. A cake was cut which had been iced and decorated with a photo of Keith in his Air Force uniform, and a tasty hot supper was served.

## A Milestone Event In W.A.

Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> April saw the first official Clan MacGillivray gathering to be held in Western Australia at the University of W.A. boat club on the Swan River. Thirty one members, including brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, cousins, and others unknown to each other enjoyed meeting our Secretary, David, and Archivist, Heather, many for the first time, as that couple were in Perth on their trip to Darwin.

We were able to gain not only history of Clan MacGillivray but also on our own families from a very good source, namely Heather, who is very up to date on all things MacGillivray – what I would give to have a memory like that! After much swapping of notes and information and the clicking of cameras, not to mention the wine, cheese and biscuits, we were able to go across the

road to the University for an excellent guided tour of Winthrop Hall, conducted by Terry Larder. This hall is the home of the magnificent organ purchased from a bequest given to the University by Dr. William Sim MacGillivray. (page 32, Vol.4, No.6,2002). Terry gave his time to us on the last day of his long service leave, which I am sure those who were able to do the tour very much appreciated. Any past history on Dr. MacGillivray would be of great interest to Terry.

I feel confident that our gatherings will continue, and hopefully grow larger, since we now know of others who share an interest and have a bonding with the name MacGillivray, however the spelling.

Del Smith  
Clan representative W.A.



David finds some relations in Perth

L to R: Heather, Lynette Hall, Bob McGillivray, Belinda Hall, Brian Hall, Glenda Olsen & David





Some of the Clansfolk at the W.A. Gathering

Back Row L to R: Geoff McG, Peter McG, Bruce McG, Malcolm McG, Neville Smith & Donna McAleese  
Front Row L to R: Pat McG, Del Smith, Belinda Hall, Lyn Manchester, Lyn Hall, Roma Wilson,  
 Bob McG (hidden), Nancy Murray & Elaine Edwards

*Our Society is greatly indebted to Del for her interest and enthusiasm in arranging this gathering in order to capitalise on the fact that David and Heather were having a brief stop-over in Perth during their caravan trip clockwise around Australia.*

*Congratulations, Del.  
 Ed*

## Piper Weds

Our Australian Society Piper Colin McGillivray and Theresa Williams were married on the 1<sup>st</sup> March, a wet and windy day, in All Saint's Anglican Church, St Kilda. His mother believes that it may be a good omen that Colin was born on a similar wet and windy day some 35 years ago.

The bridal party was 15 strong – with Peter Papaconstantinou as the Bestman and Karen Krizay, sister of the bride, as the Matron of Honour.

Friends and relatives travelled from Adelaide, Raymond Terrace (NSW), Mildura and many Victorian country areas for the event. The reception was

held at Mt Eliza and the happy couple honeymooned in the Western Districts of Victoria. Colin and Theresa will be making their home in Seaford.



## Professor Mark McGillivray

Among our keenest and most loyal members over many years are Ashley and Rosemary McGillivray of Willatook Road, near Warrnambool, Vic., who have kindly offered to arrange and host our 2003 annual Gathering (for details refer page 11). It was a great pleasure recently to welcome as a new member their son Mark.

Professor Mark McGillivray is currently stationed in Helsinki Finland, as a Senior Research Fellow and Project Director with the Australian Agency for International Development (AUSAID). His work in Finland includes research into Quality of Life indicators, the Inter-recipient Allocation of Development Aid and the Public Sector in Developing Countries, and Impacts of Economic Liberalisation.

Mark's tertiary education was at Latrobe University in Melbourne where he graduated with honours in Economics and then obtained a PhD in Development Economics. Whilst studying for his Doctorate he worked as a senior tutor in his major discipline. Since then he has held senior positions at RMIT, Deakin and Nottingham Universities, and at the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague where he was Visiting Research Fellow. Additionally, Mark has acted in the role of Consultant and Advisory Board member to a number of AUSAID inquiries dealing with international development and has published a host of books and Journal articles which are too numerous to list here.

We congratulate Mark on his achievements to date and wish him well in the future.

## Calling all Munros

Our Secretary, in his February newsletter, featured a possible family reunion to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2003 of the arrival in Australia of Donald Munro and his wife Catherine MacGillivray with a family of 5 children.

It has now been decided that the 3<sup>rd</sup> August this year is not suitable and the

suggested alternative is for a reunion to be held at White Hills Gardens, Midland Highway, Bendigo, on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> march 2004. i.e. the Saturday of the Labour Day weekend.

Contact Lily Sims of Eltham, Victoria (03) 9431 2816 or Del Smith of Parkwood WA (08) 945 7325.



## William ('Bill') McGillivray "V" Line Infrastructure and Projects Manager

It was back in 1996 that we wrote of Bill's success in completing two difficult engineering operations for his employers, but it was quite a surprise to read the following introduction in an internal railways newsletter -

*"This is Plenty Valley FM., and you're listening to Bill McGillivray".*

The fact is that for the past twelve years, every Sunday morning you could have heard a different side to this prominent railways engineer, because Bill's other passion to rail is the community radio station which covers much of Melbourne's northeast. When this station started up in 1990, because of his interest in music Bill went to a training course to learn all about on-air etiquette, and then to his surprise found himself anchoring

a Sunday morning program that is mainly to do with gardening, although he admits that he is not really much of a gardener.

Also a member for the past twenty years of the Bundaburra Food and Wine Club, this being another of his passions, he now hosts another radio segment dedicated to good food and good wines.

However, after 37 years with the railways he admits that railways are his real life and he could not imagine doing anything else. "I love working for the railways" he said. After all, his late father William John, also 'Bill', who died in 1999, gave 41 years of loyal service to the same employer, so it must be in the blood!

## Scottish House – Sydney

Members of the Scottish community in Sydney resolved long ago that there needed to be a meeting place and information centre where archival material on Australian Scots would be available for research purposes.

It is pleasing to learn that their hopes have come to fruition with the official opening, on St. Andrews Day November 30<sup>th</sup> 2002, by the British Consul General, of Scottish House at Hornsby. This is in "Willows Park", an old historic home on the corner of Edgeworth David Avenue and Sherbrooke Road, in easy walking distance from Hornsby railway station. Having an office in the same building is the local Chamber of Commerce, which has agreed to give free publicity about all Clan events. The Hornsby Library and the Kuringai Historical Society are also involved in helping Scottish House.

Scottish House, as a cultural and information centre will be open every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 to 3, with volunteer staffing to man the office and assist with enquiries, and aims to have a wide range of publications and reference materials to assist members of the public in family history and general research into Scottish and Scots-Australian history. Clan MacGillivray Society has arranged to donate to Scottish House a wide number of previous annual Journals and also some of those published in Scotland by the Clan Chattan Association.

This new development in Sydney should be of interest particularly to our New South Wales members.

## New Zealand News

We only have eight members in New Zealand, but it is always a pleasure to have news of them, and a recent communication from Derick McGillivray warrants a mention.

Derick's son Neil is Technology Plant and Production manager of New Zealand Steel, a BHP subsidiary, and in February he was invited to attend a special conference (M.I.S.G.) at the University of South Australia.

Another son, Grant, recently married a Dunedin girl and they celebrated this important occasion in true Scottish fashion and dress. Derick himself hopes to visit Australia some time later this year, and we hope to meet him if his planned activities take him to the right places.

He tells us that he only recently found his family's original home in West Auckland, built in 1870 of 'heart kauri', and now registered as an Historic Building. He described the thrill it was for him to actually stand in the little room which had been his father's bedroom when a small boy.

Now Derick makes an appeal to the family historians among us – his great grandfather, Benjamin, was the son of James McGillivray and Catherine Mackintosh who married in Inverness in 1825 and then lived at Urquhart, where James was apparently a bootmaker. Benjamin had brothers and sisters, Jane b.1626, Margot 1828, William 1830, Alexander 1837 and James 1839. Derick wonders if any of them came to Australia and if so, do we have any knowledge of their lives or descendants here?

## Wildlife problems in Scotland

In 1974, Hedgehogs, a species of rodents, were introduced to the Western Isles and they have multiplied to such an extent that they are now being held responsible for the dramatic fall of at least 60 % in the number of nesting birds.

In particular, Lapwings, Dunlin, Redshanks and Ringed Plover have been decimated. Scottish National Heritage have rejected the idea of relocating the hedgehogs to the mainland as it is estimated that up to half would die within six weeks of being relocated and the survivors would cause havoc in the areas where they were placed.

So, the S.N.H. have decided to kill up to 5000 of the Hedgehogs in the Western Isles and this has led to the Hedgehog Preservation Society appealing to the Scottish Parliament to have the decision reversed!

A different problem exists on Bass Rock in the Forth of Firth where 80,000 gannets have colonised, thus making up 10% of the bird population on this basalt rock. The Gannets have a two metre wingspan, a speed in the dive of 90 miles per hour, and they are prone to attack even humans who approach their nests. Visitors to the rock are advised to keep to the footpaths, but now the gannets are starting to nest on these as well.



**Judith Lynn McGilvray****3/12/1946 – 31/7/2002**

St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Lismore, NSW, was filled to capacity for the memorial service for a key local tourism industry figure, educator, dedicated horsewoman, and keen Clan Society member, Judith McGilvray, whose tragic death last year resulted from a horse-riding accident.

Judith was originally from Iowa, USA, and had worked in senior positions in the tourism industry before joining the staff of Southern Cross University in 1991, where she worked closely with the local tourism organisations. In this role her enthusiasm, professionalism and contribution had been acknowledged by industry figures and educators. She had been awarded the degree of Bachelor of Tourism, and the SCU Vice-Chancellor paid glowing tribute to her contribution to the University, her initiative and high professional standards.

For the past thirteen years Judith had been the much treasured wife of Bill McGilvray of Coraki, who we wrote about in 1999, Vol.4 No.3, under the title of "Going For Gold With Blue", telling of his thriving essential oils business which had secured the contract to supply the raw material, a Blue Cypress Oil, discovered by Bill, for use in fragrant essences prepared for the Sydney Olympics.

As mentioned earlier, Judith was a very keen horsewoman and, as was her passion, she was riding one of her pampered horses, named Sovereign, at midday. For some unknown reason, Sovereign took fright and bolted a short distance towards a gateway where, despite her skills, Judith was unseated and struck her head a terrible blow on the gatepost, from which even her helmet could not save her. She passed away soon afterwards in Lismore Base Hospital.

The executive of the Clan MacGillivray Society extended very sincere sympathy to Bill, his mother Muriel, and all their family over this tragic accident that resulted in the loss of their loved one.

**Jean Anne O'Day (nee McGillivray)****2/2/1935 – 1/11/2002**

Jean's home was in Adelaide, where she had for many years been an active and keen Clan Society representative for South Australia, but when diagnosed as having seven brain tumours, it was her wish to spend her last days in the area she loved and grew up in, namely Sunraysia, where her mother and elder brother, Andy, are still resident. After experiencing some difficulties, arrangements were made for Jean to be transferred from Adelaide to Mildura Private Hospital, where her family and old friends could visit her regularly.

Jean McGillivray was born in Redcliffs on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1935 to Florence and Archibald, two of her brothers being Andy (see elsewhere in this issue) and our secretary, David. They grew up on a fruit block where Jean became used to hard work and then she left school at the age of 14 to start her real working life. She experienced some ups and downs, but remained steadfast and loyal to her family.

In 1956 Jean married and moved out some thirty miles onto a Mallee farm with her husband, Jack, and there she managed to maintain a lovely garden in the dust, despite the fact that bad droughts forced the young couple to trap rabbits in order to keep the farm going. Medical problems plagued her, however, so Jean and Jack adopted four children who became fiercely loyal to her. To them she was the best 'mum' that they could have asked for.

Eventually the family moved into Mildura and finally to Adelaide, where they lived for thirty years, although with Jack driving trucks on the Alice Springs-Darwin run, Jean bore the brunt of keeping home and family together, whilst keeping the accounts and paperwork for their business.

With health problems again plaguing her in later life, three bouts of breast cancer and then the fatal tumours, she remained full of independence and never wallowed in self pity- she would just speak of the wonderful life she had led and of how proud she was of her kids and grandchildren. As one of her children said in a moving eulogy at her funeral – "Jean had an affect on most people that she came in contact with. Loved by all who knew her. Memories of her will never fade. We love you, Mum."





**Commodore Darroch M. Macgillivray**  
**CD, RCN/CF (Ret'd)**

It was with sincere regret that we learned of the death in March of Darroch Macgillivray, Clan Commissioner for Canada, who had held that position with distinction since his appointment in 1989.

Darroch, or 'Doch' as he was widely known, was born in St. Johns, Newfoundland in 1934 and had a most distinguished career in the Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Navy until his retirement in 1989.

He commanded various ships of different types, then the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Destroyer Squadron, and served as Director of Naval Operations in National Defence Headquarters and Chief of Staff, Personnel and Training.

In 1980 he was posted to Nato H.Q in Brussels and served as representative in Europe for the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, and then in London he was Canadian Defence Adviser to the U.K Ministry of Defence.

In retirement, Darroch has retained close links with the navy on the Primary Reserve list, was active on various naval and national security associations, and acted as consultant to a notable marine equipment company.

Married to the former Marion Clarke of Pugwash, Nova Scotia, this couple had three daughters and several grandchildren.

**John Cooper**

There was widespread surprise and sorrow amongst the Scottish-Australian community in Victoria when we learned of John Cooper's sudden death on 6<sup>th</sup> June in 2002. Over eight hundred friends and relatives gathered for his funeral at The Scots Church in Melbourne to pay tribute and celebrate John's great life of service, particularly with the Scottish community and his family.

Clan MacGillivray had special reasons to remember his fine piping at the 1999 funeral of the late Malcolm McGillivray and then at our annual gathering that same year at Canterbury Sports Ground.

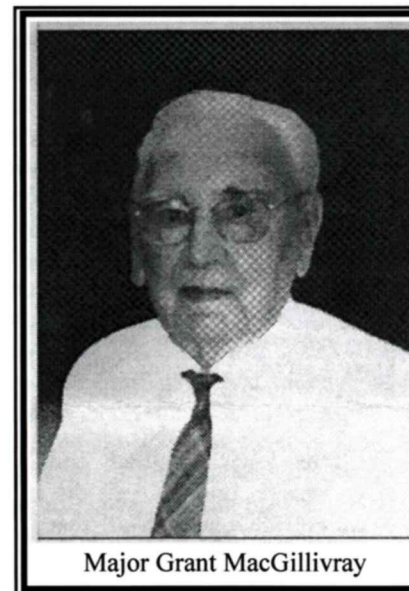
John was born in 1932 in northeast Scotland on the Moray Firth coast and then at the age of 19 he came to Melbourne in 1951. He had a career in the finance industry, firstly with the ANZ bank, then Hecla Electrics, and then as senior administrator of the superannuation branch of the SEC. He spent much time in a voluntary capacity to the Scottish community and to the broader population of Melbourne. He was active in piping, dancing, Clan MacLennan, was secretary of The Melbourne Scots Society and Chieftain of the Ringwood Highland Games.

In the sporting arena he played soccer, squash, table tennis, golf and took part in horse riding, skiing and water skiing.

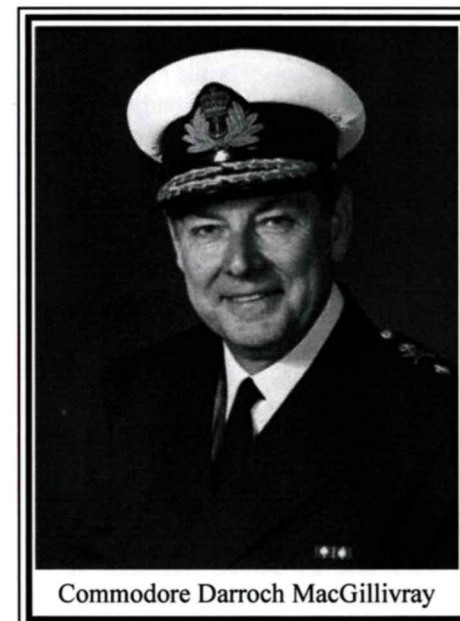
John, with his wife Mary, travelled widely in Australia and overseas, trying to go to Scotland every two years. They had three children, all now married, and five grandchildren.



John Cooper.



Major Grant MacGillivray



Commodore Darroch MacGillivray



### Major Grant MacGillivray

A true clansman, passed away in early November 2002, at the age of 96.

For many years Grant had served as the active Canadian Corresponding Secretary of the Clan Chattan Society and regular contributor of articles in that organisation's annual Journal. When the Clan Macgillivray Society of Nova Scotia was formed by Father John MacGillivray, the "Flying Father", Grant joined this local body and continued on as a member of the Canadian Association when it expanded to embrace the whole nation. In this, he greatly assisted by developing a master list of all MacGillivrays in Eastern Ontario.

Born in 1903 in Glengarry County, Ontario, where his father owned a farm, Grant was brought up by his grandparents after his mother died in 1909. He started work as an employee of the Bell telephone company and was with them for 42 years, excepting the five years that he served overseas in World War 2.

Having served for 17 years in a Black Watch militia regiment, he transferred to the 6<sup>th</sup> Hussars, an armoured car regiment, when war seemed evident, having reverted to the rank of trooper. Rising through the ranks he became regimental Sergeant-Major, seeing action in Italy and Holland, and then rejoined the 6<sup>th</sup> Hussars after the war as a lieutenant. Before retirement in 1958, he had risen to the rank of major, after service of which he was justly proud.

He married in Montreal and he and his wife had three daughters, but tragically the two eldest died in 1948 when their home was burnt to the ground one night when Grant himself was out at work. They adopted another girl the following year.

Retiring from Bell in 1966, Grant and his family took up farming for 14 years back in Ontario near to his birthplace, then worked with the Red Cross for another ten years and finally gave voluntary service in the tuck-shop at a retirement village. At 95 years of age he was still running the tuck-shop with a twinkle in his eye.

### Marjorie Helen Foster (nee Scott)

The mother of Ted Foster, our assistant secretary, died on 15 January 2003, and the following summary was drawn from the impressive eulogy presented by her granddaughter, Ted's daughter, Alison.

Marjorie was born on 25 October 1913, to Sarah Jane Rivett and John Michie Scott, and was delivered by her grandmother, Jane McGillivray at the schoolhouse in Somerville, Victoria. Jane, herself, had been born on board the ship Cheapside at the London Docks as her parents, John and Sarah, were emigrating from Scotland in 1848, and she married James Rivett, the son of a convict who arrived in Sydney in 1835, the same year as Melbourne was founded.

Marjorie's father was the blacksmith at Flinders, and she was the youngest in a family of seven girls and two boys. After she married Ken Foster in 1933 they lived in Frankston until 1937 and then became dairy farmers at Narre Warren East until their property was compulsorily aquired for the Cardinia reservoir, when they moved to a small place at Ripplebank. Ken died in 1983 shortly after their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The couple had four children, Brian, Edward (Ted), Betty and Trevor, nineteen grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren and three g.g.grand children.

Marj was very proud of her Scottish heritage and actively participated in events with the Clan Macgillivray Society. She loved cooking and sewing, and all new babies in her families were sure to be amply supplied by her with exquisite layettes and soft toys. As Alison concluded "I cherish every moment that I spent with my Nanna and will miss her dearly."

### Frederick Hastie Wilson

16/10/1924 – 23/11/2002

Father of our New South Wales representative, Ray, and husband of Margaret Elsie nee McGillivray, Fred Wilson died in November 2002 after a long illness.

Fred was the son of an orchardist and grew up on 'Sunnyside' farm at Mulgrave, near Dandenong in Victoria. One of a big family and with the Depression making things tough, he went out to work while still in his teens

although he had excelled in his school work and read widely.

After a year or so the war had started and he managed to join the army by falsifying his year of birth. There he met a young lady who was serving in an army signals unit – Margaret McGillivray from Yeungroon, near Charlton, one of a family about whom we have written in earlier issues, and their romance bloomed despite Fred's frequent absence, the last one being with BCOF in Japan.

In 1946 he was posted to the Officer's training unit at Queenscliff and the couple married in December that year. Fred took the opportunity of demob. Training as a cabinet-maker and they settled into a home in Dandenong West which he had built in his spare time. With a growing family, Fred managed to take on and cope with two jobs for the next twenty years – he had a milk delivery round in the 'wee small' hours (his sons remember having to take a turn at that!) and then managed an 8 hour day at a variety of jobs which included electroplating, tyre retreading, boat building, green keeping etc.

In his spare time he loved gardening and fishing, enjoyed painting, tapestry and good music, and was a stickler for being neat and tidy in appearance- his shoes were always well cleaned and polished. Foremost, however, was his interest in family, both looking back into family history and in the development of their 3 sons, 2 daughters and six grandchildren.

Our sincere sympathies are extended to Margaret and all of her family.



Ann Lovatt (nee MacGillivray)

Unfortunately we were not aware of it before publishing last year's Journal, but Ann Lovatt of Ipstones, Staffordshire, U.K. passed away suddenly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2002, aged only 51, and we wish to extend belated sympathy to her family, especially to John and Margaret MacGillivray of Bendigo, Ann's brother and sister in law.

Ann was born and grew up in Perth, Scotland, but had lived most of her adult life at Ipstones in the Staffordshire Moorlands, where she loved the feeling of space 'up on the tops', and enjoyed walking and climbing. She was a lady with a strong sense of justice and compassion for the dispossessed and disaffected, this manifesting itself in her twenties when she worked for the Cyrenian movement in Scotland, assisting the homeless, and in her espousal of the cause of women generally.

Then, at Stoke-on-Trent College as program manager Ann was especially helpful to students with special needs, and many of these attended her funeral service as part of the large congregation that paid tribute to this fine and popular lady.



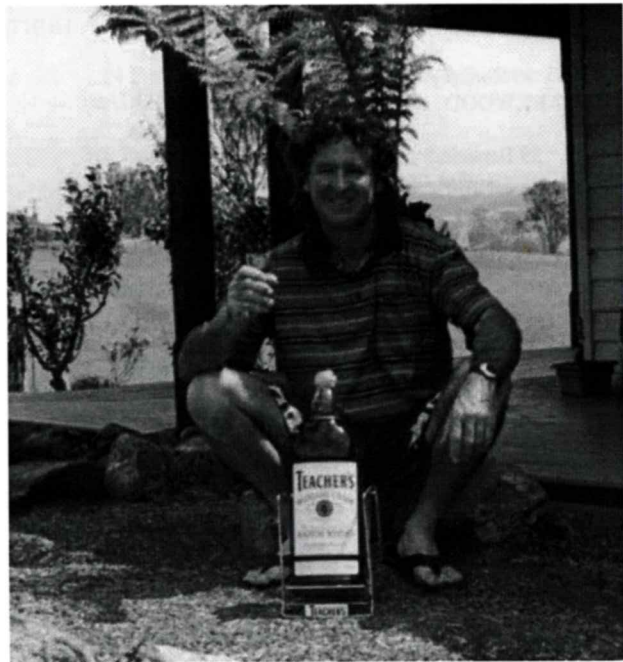
Dorothy Alice Mathews

A regular correspondent over many years and an active searcher for MacGillivray news in Queensland, Dorothy Mathews died on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2002 at the age of 83, after a massive stroke. Her interest in our clan actually stemmed from her husband, whose mother was a McGilvery, but Dorothy's father, Keith Kerr, was also a Scot.

Dorothy was born in Brisbane and completed her formal education at Stotts Business College, where her father was Principal, before joining an insurance company as stenographer and claims clerk. Joining the army in 1941, she met her husband, Ray, when he was a patient in an army hospital, and they married in 1942. After the war they became dairy farmers for 9 years, and then Ray took a position with the Queensland Agricultural Bank, which placed them in Mackay, Kingaroy, and finally Nambour.

Dorothy enjoyed a wide range of community and sporting activities, and took a great interest in genealogy – she was proud to be able to confirm that she was a 7<sup>th</sup> generation Australian, descended from William Roberts, a convict on the first fleet in 1788 and Kezia Brown who arrived in 1790 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fleet. Her family will be ever grateful for her research and the detailed life story that she compiled as a legacy for future generations.





Shane Gale of Cobargo NSW  
A happy winner of the major prize in 2002

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