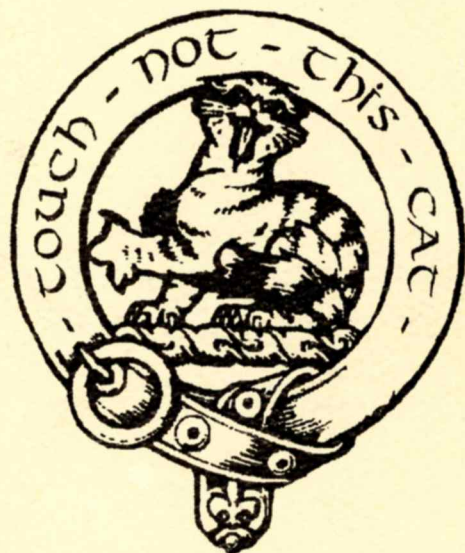


CLAN MACGILLIVRAY



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CLAN MACGILLIVRAY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Honorary Chief & Treasurer.....	Commissioner for Australia Peter McGillivray, HDA
Honorary Secretary.....	David McGillivray PO Box 223 SEAFORD, Victoria, 3198 (03) 9786 5218 clanmacg@bigpond.com
Newsletter Editor.....	Pat Foster
Assistant Hon. Secretary.....	Ted Foster 4 Funston Street BERWICK, Victoria, 3806 (03) 9707 1523
Journal Editor.....	Peter McGillivray 1/27 Trafalgar Street MONT ALBERT, Victoria, 3127 (03) 9898 6105 petermcg@tpg.com.au
Area Representatives.....	W.A. Del Smith (08) 9457 4325 S.A. vacant QLD Jan MacGillivray (07) 5456 2501 NSW Raymond Wilson (02) 6621 2057
Archivist.....	Mrs Heather McGillivray (03) 9786 5218
Clan Piper.....	Colin McGillivray (03) 9766 5797
Councillors.....	Miss Jillian McGillivray (03) 5727 3282 Mrs Yvonne Jones (02) 9558 3406 Stewart McGillivray (03) 5248 1062 Euan McGillivray (03) 9429 5496
Honorary Members.....	Robert McGillivray BSc, FCI, WEM, Edinburgh Debbie Weinlich Simone Elder

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I believe we have a fine collection of items for this Journal, featuring important contributions from several local members. These are a very desirable component of any Clan Society publication, contributing so much, as they do, to the collection and recording of family histories, descent from pioneer immigrants etc., and I encourage others to follow suit.

Our Secretary has produced a historical review of the foundation of the Clan Society and the first gathering of interested folk which took place in Sydney some thirty years ago. How appropriate this is when we are now looking forward to a long overdue gathering in New South Wales in October this year. The details of this event are contained in a separate notice elsewhere in this issue, and your Council urges NSW members to attend if possible, and to support the organisers'

The local items are more than matched by articles about Clan MacGillivray activities from other parts of the world. We reproduce the majority of a report from U.K. Commissioner, Ishbel, telling us of advanced plans by the International MacGillivray Society for the 4th World Gathering of our Clan, to be held in Inverness, Scotland in August / September next year, 2007. Then there is news about the historic 1st Annual General Meeting and Gathering of the newly inaugurated Clan MacGillivray Society of the USA. In Holland, a respected scientist of our Clan has been honoured by the official

naming of a new roadway as "Macgillavry Laan."

Then, Canada cannot be ignored. We are very pleased to have gained the approval of Dr. Wayne A. Jones, Th.D, a descendant of the Hon. William MacGillivray of the famous North West Company, to reproduce his article "The Diaries of Strife"

Our regular contributor and Honorary Member, Robert, has sent us quite a few articles, one of these, titled MACGILVRAY TALES FROM MULL, actually consists of no less than eight separate stories, but we shall not use all of these in this 2006 issue, keeping the rest for future years. The most important of Robert's articles is the detailed report of a court case in Edinburgh in the early 1800s which led to the transhipment of a young MacGillivray as a convict to Australia. What a story it could be if some local researcher could discover some details of his life in this country.



Duncan McGilvray was no angel. At the age of 19, however, could he truly be described as a thief *by habit and repute* who committed crimes of *an heinous nature* which were *severely punishable*? Such were the words used when he was indicted in the High Court of Edinburgh on the 9th of August, 1830.

There was no doubt that Duncan had a record of previous convictions, the first when only 14 years old. Then, at the age of 15, he was sentenced to 30 days in prison for stealing wearing apparel valued at less than £10 from a back green, the area behind a house where it was the custom to hang out washing to dry. Two years later he was imprisoned for sixty days in the Bridewell, a house of "correction" where rehabilitation was sought through forced labour. His crime on that occasion was stealing two pieces of lead from a roof.

Duncan had been born and raised in the old part of Edinburgh, in the squalor and overcrowding of the old town. Not for him the space and grace of the "New Town" that had sprung up on its northern side and put the city of Edinburgh in the forefront of 18th and 19th century town planning in Britain. He was the eldest child in the family. When he made his final appearance in an Edinburgh court his father was dead and he lacked paternal control. His widowed mother, herself a McIntosh, would have been struggling to provide for her children in the poorest of circumstances. Duncan had had little or no education and he could not write. At each of his trials he had given a different address and he did not seem to have had a settled home for any length of time. Having to fend largely for himself, he found employment as a carter. At the time

of his latest arrest he had been cohabiting for four months with Betty Smith. They were living in the house of James Thomson (a shoemaker as had been Duncan's father), located in a close (an alley or passageway between the towering tenement buildings) in the Grassmarket, below the castle.

The charge against him was that on the first day (a Sunday) or second day of August he did *wickedly and feloniously steal and theftously take from a tub which was standing in the back green or inclosure at the back of, and belonging to, the house situated in Laurieston Place in the occupation of James Stevenson ... fourteen frilled linen shirts all marked with the owner's name also a dark printed cotton gown* belonging to Mary Smeaton, a servant living in the house. Also appearing in the dock was Rebecca Thomson, or Pirie, aged 24, the wife of William Pirie: indicted for the crime of reset of the stolen goods.

Duncan denied the charge, although he did admit to having been punished by a court on charges of theft on two previous occasions. His account of his movements on the days in question shed some light on life in the city at that time. He was, he declared, in Thomson's house on the Sunday. He did not leave it after 4 o'clock that afternoon and went to bed at half past 10. He rose about 3.30 am and went to McMillan's coal yard in the close and wheeled dung out of McMillan's stable. He had been employed by McMillan on the Sunday afternoon to do so. Between 6 and 7am on the Monday Betty Smith came looking for him and by that time, having finished his job, he went back to the house with her and had breakfast. Immediately afterwards, about 9am, he

went to the east end of the Grassmarket and amused himself with the boys there. Returning to the house between 10 and 11am he found Betty on her own. She told him a Mary Dykes was in an empty apartment in the same passage and had taken a large bundle with her. A few minutes later he saw Thomson come out of the apartment, go downstairs and return in a few minutes with a woman, whom Duncan did not know. He could not say if this was Mrs Pirie.

Shortly afterwards Mary Dykes came into the house and asked Betty Smith for the loan of a penny (less than one cent!), which Betty gave her. She said she wanted it to purchase some *aqua fortis* (ie nitric acid, used by engravers in etching) to take names out of some shirts.

Mary took a blue white cream pot, which Duncan identified in court, and went away with it into the empty house. She also took with her a bowl of water and soap. Soon afterwards, Mary Dykes came into the room and said the *aqua fortis* was all done and that the woman with her had gone for another pennyworth. She went away and came back in a little while saying they had been given vinegar instead and the woman had gone to get it changed. Soon after this Duncan saw Mary Dykes carrying a bundle along the passage. The woman was with her. Mary threw an old gown, which he also identified when shown it in court, into a dark closet in the passage. The gown was wet. He left the house soon afterwards, went into the Grassmarket and did not see the woman again until he was apprehended by the police between 8 and 9 o'clock that evening.

When questioned he said he was not in any public house with that woman, nor with Mary Dykes; he did not get any money from Mary Dykes and the only money he had that day was the sixpence

which he got from McMillan that morning and a shilling which he also got that morning from a man named Crosbie whose carts he had loaded with the dung. He did not know where Crosbie could be found.

Questioned further, Duncan declared that he was not with Mary Dykes in any close or wynd at the back of the castle on that day; that he did not carry any basket or bundle on that day; that he knew Laurieston but not Laurieston Place and that he had no concern in stealing the gown produced in evidence, or any shirts, from any area or green on the days referred to. Neither did he know anyone concerned in doing so. He gave no bundle to Mary Dykes on the Monday and he did not see Mrs Pirie - unless the woman who was in the empty room with Mary Dykes was Mrs Pirie. He did get a penny from McMillan on the Monday morning at Mary's request because he had no money on him and that was the penny Betty gave her. As to his attire, he said he was wearing a *fushian* jacket, dark drab coloured cloth waistcoat, fushian trousers, a blue cloth bonnet and a comforter of green white yellow and purple colour.*

* *Fushian or Fustian refers to a coarse twilled cotton fabric, including moleskin, velveteen, corduroy etc*

Rebecca Pirie also made a lengthy statement when interrogated, declaring that she knew the prisoners James Thomson and Mary Dykes but did not know Duncan McGilvray or his wife. She denied she had ever seen the gown or that she had ever received any shirts from Mary Dykes. She had gone for the *aqua fortis* to remove stains from a mahogany table she had at home. Her reason for meeting Mary Dykes was that she had told here she had a pawn ticket for a pair of earrings to dispose off and had told her to bring it to her house. She wanted two

shillings for it but would not part with the ticket until she got the money for it. That was what they were talking about when two police officers saw them together in the Grassmarket later.

She denied she had taken any names from shirts on the Monday in question. She had carried the *aqua fortis* in a small blue and white cream jug, with a broken handle, but that was not the jug produced as an exhibit. She had not carried any bundle up or down the stairs leading to Dykes house; although she did carry two shirts belonging to her husband and brother, which she had washed, to a green in the West Port where she left them and took them home the next day to hang out of her own window. She had taken officers to her home and shown them her own jug and the stains on her table.

Such was the evidence heard before a jury of *douce* Edinburgh citizens. It was sufficient for them to find Duncan and Rebecca Pirie guilty. The punishment by the Sheriff Substitute of Edinburghshire was severe. He was sentenced to be *transported beyond the seas for the period of fourteen years from this date ...and to be detained in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh till removed for transportation....*

Hardly the crime of the century. It would probably be regarded now as opportunist petty pilfering. But in those 19th century days punishment was severe. And was the Sheriff Substitute being smart in sentencing him to transportation for fourteen years? One year for each of the stolen shirts! Making the punishment fit the crime no doubt!

What then befell those closest to Duncan? What of his mother who had lost her eldest child? Three years later, at the age of 50, a Catherine McGilvray died in the Infirmary and was buried in Greyfriars Churchyard on 9 November 1833. Of

Betty Smith, with whom he was cohabiting, nothing else is known. She was probably pregnant, her child would never see its father and there would be no one to support them. His legacy to them would be a life of hardship.

And what of Duncan himself? Newspapers of the day did not consider the case worthy of a report. But some idea of what lay ahead can be seen in a brief paragraph from "The Scotsman" later that year: *Convicts - Yesterday, eleven of the unhappy females who were convicted of various crimes at the Circuit Court lately held in Glasgow, with seven children, sailed from Leith for the Hulks, there to be detained till an opportunity occur for transporting them to Botany Bay.*

Duncan too would begin his long journey from Leith, the port for Edinburgh. It would be nearly two decades before the practice of sending convicts to Australia was eventually abandoned.

Many questions remain. Did Duncan survive the journey? If so, what befell him in Australia? Did he have any hope of a return to his native land? Did he communicate with his family at home or had he gone from their ken for ever? Among a list of pioneers in Victoria and New South Wales is a Duncan McGilvray (spelling?), of unknown parents, who died in 1843 at the age of 30. Could this be our convict? Is there any further record of a clansman we should perhaps not judge too harshly without taking into account the period and the harsh circumstances of his upbringing?



"Greetings from The Highlands, and may 2006 be happy, healthy and prosperous for you all.

I am writing to keep you informed of the many changes that have occurred over the past few years. You will be aware that we are a very new association, having been formed in 1988. At that time we had a thriving and enthusiastic committee but so much has changed since our Chairman Ronald MacGillivray died of cancer in 2002. His wife Annette was a great hostess and asset to the Association. Sadly, their beautiful home at Boleskine, on the shores of Loch Ness, has been sold and Annette now lives in Edinburgh. Her son Blair became the new Chairman, but he now lives and works in England, though thank goodness he is still the Chairman. Our Treasurer and Membership Secretary, Darrell and Heath Fison, have also moved to England. All these changes robbed me of local support and I am left with a committee who mostly live a long distance from the Highlands. Fortunately they are all enthusiastic when there is work to be done, but our only successful function is now the International Gatherings, which take place every 5 years

This has led to a rethink on our purpose and our procedures and it has been decided to concentrate all our efforts on what we do well and what our members really want, and that of course is the Gatherings.

You will be pleased to know that we plan to gather in Inverness from July 30th to August 3rd 2007, and bookings for accommodation and venues are being

made. The venue for indoor activities will be the lovely and well known Lochardil House Hotel and very close to it there is now a new Travelodge Hotel, very nice and clean, and with rooms catering for 3 adults or 2 adults with 2 children for 45 pounds per night.

The Clan MacGillivray Societies in both Australia and the USA have purchased Life Memberships, so all of their members are automatically considered members of our International Association, and this will allow any two of their members who happen to be in Scotland for our AGM, to cast their votes on behalf of all the members in their particular country. The American members are very enthusiastic. In Australia, Peter edits his wonderful Journal for the local members, but he reports that fewer and fewer people are willing to take office and help to run the Society. He does have a very fine secretary in David who, with the help of his wife Heather helps to keep the ship afloat.

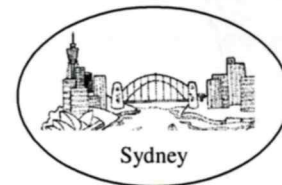
So, to sum up, we do have a committee, we are solvent and we are making plans for the future, but only for the Gatherings, which are very popular. I must mention that Jim McGillivray, who joined quite recently, teaches I.T. at a local Academy and he has stated his willingness to help in any way possible. And he lives locally!!!! So that is great news and at the last AGM Peter Smith (a distant relative of mine, ED.) has also joined our Committee.

Clan Gathering Notice

McGillivray Clan Gathering

30th Annual

Beauty Point
Public School Hall
17 Medusa St, Mosman
N.S.W.



Sunday, October 22nd, 2006

- 11am** The Gathering Begins!
Bring family histories, photos and memorabilia to display & share
- 12 noon** A Scottish Piper from the Northern Suburbs Pipe Band will pipe in our Honorary Chief & Treasurer – Peter McGillivray
- BBQ lunch – meat & bread supplied, so please bring a salad to share (BYO alcoholic beverages)
- 1 pm** Mini Band performance
- 1:30pm** Display of Highland Dancing
- 2 pm** Mini Band 2nd performance
- 3-4pm** Afternoon tea – please bring a plate of goodies to share



Soft drinks will be available for purchase throughout the day
Tea & coffee - gold coin donation

RSVP by October 14th & Information: Neil & Lyn McGillivray
at 3 Quaker's Rd, Mosman (02) 99602696
or Lyn's mobile 0419496076 or at neilynis@bigpond.com

Suggested accommodation:

McLean Apartments Potts Point - (RACV Booklet) 02 93577755

North Sydney Hotel 02 99551341

Cremorne Point Manor 02 9953 7899

Neutral Bay Motor Lodge 02 9953 4199

Falcon Street Lodge Nth Syd 02 9955 2358

Budget Motel and other also available in Manly (15mins away)

Camping & Caravan Parks also available on the outskirts of Sydney

Try: <http://www.totaltravel.com.au/>

Macgilvray Tales From Mull – 1

An t-Eilean Muileach

*An t-Eilean Muileach, an t-eilean aghmhor,
An t-eilean grianach m'un iadh an saile,
Eilean bhuaid hmhor nam fuar-bheann arda
Nan ciolltean uaine, 's nam cluaintean fasail.*

(“The Isle of Mull, the blessed isle, the sunny isle surrounded by the sea, prosperous isle of the cold high bens, of green woods and of fertile fields.”)

So runs the chorus of a Gaelic song, dear to the hearts of all Muilich (inhabitants of Mull). If in reality the land is poor and unproductive, this beautiful island was nevertheless a beloved home to many and much desired by contending clans. Situated in the inner Hebrides, it formed part of Argyll and held a strategic position at the entrance to the Firth of Lorne, and Loch Linnhe. At its peak in 1821 the population numbered 10600. But the economy of the island could not sustain so many. It was said of them in the 1790's that “no people are more attached to their native country and it is only necessity that obliges them to leave it” And so they were obliged to drift to the mainland, to North America, to Australia and to New Zealand. Now the population is about 2500, many of them incomers from the mainland and from England. Only a handful of MacGillivrays remain.

Originally occupied by the Celts, the island was subject to the incursions of the Vikings until delivered in the 12th century by the great warrior Somerled. Thereafter it was ruled by his son Dugald and his descendants, the MacDougalls of Lorne. When they fell from grace by opposing the Scottish King, Robert the Bruce, it was awarded to the MacDonald Lords of the Isles. In 1366 the Chief of the Clan Maclean married the daughter of one of these Lords and received Mull as her dowry. In time the island was coveted by the Campbells of Argyll who gained control in the 17th century but continued to be opposed by the Macleans.

A MacDonald sennachie writing in the 17th century, in describing the mode of government within the old Lordship of the Isles, said that MacDonald had his Council in Islay and that one of the 16 members was MacGillevray in Mull. That rule of the Lords of The Isles came to an end in 1493 when the title was annexed to the crown.

The MacGilvrays of Mull were an important branch of the Clan and obviously on the island from as early period. When they first appear on record in the first half of the 1600s they do so as followers of the Macleans and the name is rendered as McIlwrye. Then in succession it came to be McIlvra, McGilvra, and macgilvray, with some latterly adopting the Strathnaim spelling of MacGillivray. The principal family from about 1600 was that of Pennyghael. Earlier there was a very prominent family in Glencannel, which is now deserted. By the time that official records can be consulted however, that family seems to have faded from the scene, perhaps suffering badly in one of the many clan fights or incursions to which the island was prone.

Little is known about the Mull branch of the Clan before the early 17th century. Yet, these McGilvrays feature in the lore of the island and in traditional tales of an earlier period. These tales are of the kind told round the peatfire to while away the long dark winter evenings and may be no more than just tales. But there may be some element of truth in them, enough to make them recognisable to the eager listeners at the

time, and so they are now worthy of repetition and preservation.. That is the simple purpose of this series of articles. It

might be noted how many of them concern the family of Glencannel.

Macgilvray Tales From Mull – 2

ORIGIN

The Chief of the Clan Mackintosh had his seat at Moy in Inverness-shire where he lived surrounded by his clansmen. At some time, one of those Mackintoshes killed a neighbour. Realising the enormity of the deed and the outcry which would inevitably follow discovery, he fled the district.. At that period the Island of Mull was considered a safe refuge for fugitives and there he hastened, seeking what shelter he could among the many hills in the south end of the island.

There lived in Glencannel a wealthy landowner named MacMillan, the father of three daughters. Two of these daughters had married and left home, the third remained looking after her father.. In the course of skulking in the adjoining hills the murderer met the unmarried daughter and was only too glad to strike up an acquaintance and seek the warmth and shelter of the house, but only when the father was away from home. During these clandestine meetings their love for each other grew, yet the young man made no mention of his real name. Instead he preferred to give a false one, appropriately as he came down from the hillside to keep his trysts, Gille-braigh, ‘Lad of the brae’.

Having fallen in love, the daughter's radiance was soon apparent and noted by her father who questioned her closely and forced the truth from her. The next day MacMillan set out from home as usual, only to return surreptitiously and catch the lovers

together. Drawing his sword, determined to put an end to the affair, he attacked Gille-braigh who was forced to reach for his own sword in self-defence. Good swordsman though Macmillan was, it did not take him long to realise that he was unlikely to defeat his antagonist. Not only that, he was in immediate danger of being brought down himself. Deciding on a compromise he demanded that Gille-braigh marry his daughter and, as an inducement, offered to name him as his inheritor. Gille-braigh had no wish to harm the older man and readily accepted the not unwelcome offer. Soon the marriage took place.

The following Christmas MacMillan was feeling depressed at the thought of spending this special day alone. He decided to visit his three daughters. At the first home he found his daughter and son-in-law still in bed and the hens scratching the cold ashes of the fire all over the house. At the second home his son-in-law was outside feeding the beasts but his daughter was in bed, the fire unkindled and the house as inhospitable as the first. Sadly he made his way to the home of his remaining daughter. Before he even reached the door he was assailed by the aroma of the Christmas meal. Inside he found a large fire and his daughter with her husband, Gille-braigh, preparing to keep the festival in traditional manner. Such was their welcome that he spent the day there and his heart warmed to his latest son-in-law' He kept his word. On his death Gille-braigh inherited all his lands. Gille-braigh's descendants were thereafter known as the MacGilvrays of Glencannel.

How It All Began Clan MacGillivray Society (Australia) now 30 years old

John Duncan McGillivray of Allambie NSW and Ian MacGillivray-Elder of Fairlight NSW were the founders and driving force behind the Clan MacGillivray Society in Australia, the very first such Society in the world.

However, our member Yvonne Jones, is sometimes overlooked when the foundation of our Society is discussed. Actually, it all started when Yvonne began organising 'mini gatherings' at her home in Hurlstone Park, NSW, as far back as 1966. These were usually referred to as 'Gatherings of the clan Barnett' because Yvonne's grandmother, Margaret McGillivray, has married David Barnett. Yet they were all McGillivray descendants.

The first of these gatherings to be known as 'McGillivray Gatherings' was held on the 5th June, 1976. Before that event, Yvonne had contacted Alex McGillivray, a cousin, who, when he heard that Yvonne was compiling family history, suggested she visit Ian MacGillivray-Elder, the son of Eileen (Lainie) Elder (nee McGillivray) who was a cousin of Margaret Barnett and who, in her time, was a foremost teacher of Highland dancing, and also an accomplished piper – reputedly Australia's first lady piper.

At that time Ian was in hospital, but when he was convalescing at home, Yvonne, with another cousin, Mervyn Williamson, made their historic visit to him. Out came the notebooks and tape recorder. Then, when Ian was well again he met more of his McGillivray clan on the 5th June 1976 at Yvonne's home.

With him came John Duncan McGillivray, who was also interested in the Clan's history. John had his pipes with him and entertained the gathering, along with Yvonne's son in law, also a piper. This day

enthused John and Ian to try and form a Clan MacGillivray Society. They set about searching the electoral rolls and contacting many MacGillivrays of various spellings scattered around Australia inviting them to attend a 'Gathering' at Jack and Enid's home on Sunday 31st October, 1976.

A large crowd gathered for a wonderful day of entertainment, with many meeting distant relatives they had not seen for years, speeches were made, and a vote was passed with great enthusiasm to officially form a Clan MacGillivray Society. David and Heather McGillivray of Seaford, Victoria were among the crowd, as was Jill of Milawa and many of their relatives. John encouraged David and Heather to assist him in his efforts to trace his family roots, this leading them to trace over 2500 family members, publishing a book, and now to assist others in the search for family history.

John became the forceful Secretary /Treasurer of the new Society, with Ian as Official historian and Journal editor. They approached Peter McGillivray, the Australian member of the Clan Chattan Association Council and asked him to fill the position of President, which he accepted., and he was officially introduced to members at the 1977 gathering, again held at John's home. At this same gathering we welcomed in his role as Patron Colonel George McGillivray of Canada, the Commander of Clan MacGillivray, and he in turn appointed Peter as Clan Commissioner for Australia.

By 1983, with John's health failing, David became Secretary and Peter the Treasurer, and finally since 1990 the latter has also been Editor of our annual Journal, with administrative assistance from Debbie Weinlich.

Canada – An Interesting Development

I have been fortunate enough to recently come into contact with Dr. Wayne Alexander Jones Th.D, who is a direct descendant of The Honorable William MacGillivray, 1764-1825, the senior Director of the famous fur trading company, the North Western Company. The title "Honorable" resulted from William's position as a councillor on the Legislative Council of Southern Canada. William also graduated a personal Scottish Coat of Arms, and Wayne has established to his satisfaction, by extensive research that William had direct descent from Clan Chief Farquhar "Fiadhaich", through his great grandfather, William "Captain Ban" MacGillivray.

On March 1st 1791, in Ile a La Crosse, Saskatchewan, the Honorable William fathered twin sons, Joseph and Simon, with Susan, a native Cree woman, both boys being baptised on October 3rd 1796 in Christ Church, Anglican, in Montreal, with godfathers Joseph Frobisher and Alexander Mackenzie.

Wayne Jones is descended from Mary MacGillivray, a daughter of Simon junior and his wife Therese. He believes that there

could well be male descendants of both Simon Jr. And Joseph in Canada today with the surname MacGillivray, but he has not researched this aspect. He has provided two very interesting articles which we are pleased to reproduce in their entirety.- the first is a brief summary of his lifetime activities, whilst the second, titled "The Diaries of Strife" introduces some new aspects of the struggle between the Norwesters and the Hudson Bay Company, and gives us a preview of the publication of that same name on which he is working, and that he believes will be appropriate for display in the reconstructed fort at Thunder Bay.

- P. McG



The Honorable
William MacGillivray

Wayne Jones

The Life Activities of Wayne Jones

I was born and raised on a farm in the province of Saskatchewan in western Canada. When I was 18 years old, I moved to Chicago in the United States to continue my studies. Seven years later, I returned to Canada with a Master's degree in Biblical studies and an American wife. I worked as a pastor in Alberta for a couple of years and then moved to Quebec.

The following twenty years or so were dedicated to the formation and training of French-speaking Evangelical pastors in a Bible College in Sherbrooke, Quebec. During that time I also completed my

Doctoral studies. When the school closed, I found employment in a travel insurance company and have been working in their claims department ever since.

For the past dozen years or so I have been doing research on my family tree as a hobby and have found it to be both a fascinating and enriching endeavor. Part of my family roots stem from the McGillivray clan and their research brought me to the details that I am happy to share with you in this edition of your clan's journal. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Peter McGillivray for his interest in my research.

The Diaries of Strife

"No braver or more picturesque band of adventurers ever put it to the touch, to gain or lose it all. Some of them were French Canadian traders and voyageurs, the sons of those who had followed La Vérendrye to the rivers and prairies of the west in the dying days of the French régime. Others were American frontiersmen who had served their apprenticeship in the valleys of the Ohio and the Mississippi. Most of them were Scottish Highlanders, the sons of those who had come to Canada in Wolfe's army or as United Empire Loyalists in the American Revolution. .

. . . The numerous Frasers, McTavishes and McGillivrays, who played such an important part in the history of the North West Company, nearly all came from Lord Lovat's estates. The names of the North West Company partners sound like a roll call of the clans at Culloden. These men were hardy, courageous, shrewd and proud. They spent a good part of their lives travelling incredible distances in birch bark canoes, shooting rapids, or navigating inland seas. They were wrecked and drowned. They suffered hunger and starvation. They were robbed and murdered by the Indians, and sometimes by one another. They fell the victims of smallpox, syphilis, and rum. Yet they conquered half a continent and they built up a commercial empire, the like of which North America at least has never seen..."

W. Stewart Wallace in his, *Historical Introduction to Documents Relating to the North West Company*.

Their leader was the Honourable William McGillivray. He obtained the title of "Honourable" when he became a legislative councillor in the government of Lower Canada. William had taken over the responsibility of the Company from his uncle, Simon McTavish and had expanded the fur trade from once one side of Canada to the other and north to the Arctic Ocean. This expansion brought the North West Company into direct competition with the Hudson Bay Company.

The Hudson Bay Company had been established many years earlier based on a monopoly granted by the British Government. The ships came to northern Canada each year through the Hudson Bay and picked up the furs in exchange for various trade goods and provisions that were left at the forts around the Bay. The furs were taken back to England where the fine fur was stripped off and made into felt that was used to create the stylish waterproof hats that were so popular in Britain during that period.

Rather than using ships in the icy northern waters, The North West Company sent out canoes from Montreal through the rivers of central and southern Canada to set up forts along these waterways to exchange goods for furs and to bring them back to Montreal for shipment to England. As Wallace indicated above, most of the leaders of the North West Company were Highlanders and so the ancient conflict between the Scots and the English began once again.

This rivalry with the Hudson Bay Company would gradually degenerate into a bitter, indeed violent, struggle. The scarcity of beaver, which had become general, began to be a serious problem about 1810, and according to McGillivray it heightened the rivalry between the two companies. In 1816 there was a confrontation in the Hudson Bay Company colony in central Canada and 20 colonists were killed. On learning of that event Lord Selkirk, the leader of the Hudson Bay Company, who was on his way to Red River with a small force of regular soldiers and 90 mercenaries, headed for Fort William, the headquarters of the North West Company, and on Aug. 13th 1816 proceeded to arrest William McGillivray and a number of the other proprietors, holding them responsible for the massacre. Then he seized the fort, confiscated for his own benefit furs belonging to the company, and put the goods stored in the warehouses under supervision. When he reached Montreal, McGillivray demanded to be released on bail and this request was immediately granted. He in turn pressed charges against Lord Selkirk.

The only solution to this struggle and impasse was to unite the two companies. However, it would take some time before McGillivray would accept the inevitability of the union between his company and the Hudson Bay Company. It was not until July 1821, four months after the agreement had been signed for the merger of the two companies, thenceforth to be known as the Hudson Bay Company, that he wrote to John Strachan: "It would have been worse than folly, to have continued the contest further. We

have made no submission - we met & negotiated on equal terms."

William died on Oct. 16th 1825 during a visit to London. In December his brother Simon wrote: "My Brother was considered a man of fortune; and he had been, in fact, originally the only capitalist amongst us." That sums up well the career of the man who started out with little, but with the encouragement of his uncle Simon McTavish climbed up through the ranks to become the principal director of the NWCo.; he achieved that position at the time when, although still powerful, the company was engaged in the struggle that led to merger with the HBCo. in 1821.

Our story takes place in 1820, at the climax of the competition before the merger.

The leadership of the Hudson Bay Company had changed and George Simpson was now in charge. He was a ruthless and determined leader and was determined to put an end to competition and conflict through any means that he could. William was equally determined to maintain his company and he had as his strong right arm and henchman, his half-breed son Simon. And so the stage was set for the strife!

On Tuesday, August 22, 1820 the antagonists George Simpson and Simon McGillivray met face to face.

George Simpson wrote in his journal: "Embarked at half past three a.m. Passed fourteen North West Company canoes. I could not help remarking with much concern the striking contrast between our brigade and that of our

opponents. All their canoes are new and well built of good materials, ably manned, a waterproof arm chest and cassette for fineries in each, and the baggage covered with new oilcloths; in short, well equipped in every respect. On the other hand, our canoes are old, crazy, and patched up, built originally of bad materials without symmetry and neither adapted for stowage nor expedition; manned chiefly by old infirm creatures or Porkeaters unfit for the arduous duty they have to perform; the arms wrapped up in leather, so that the first shower of rain must damage them, and not more than half a dozen tattered oilcloths in the whole brigade. There is much room for improvement in this branch of the business.

Our guides must have wrought night and day to keep the lead.

At four o'clock observed a half-loaded canoe pushing across the river towards us. It turned out to be Simon McGillivray who merely came alongside to make his observations. This gentleman, I understand, has been most active in every nefarious transaction that has taken place in Athabasca. He is notorious for his low cunning, has made Mr. Clarke a prisoner twice, and threatens to have him soon again. He seems to have mistaken his trade, as he possesses sufficient artifice to have ranked high as a tip staff in the civilized world. Next to Black, he is more to be dreaded than any member of the North West Company. He was the principal leader of the lawless assemblage of Half-breeds and Indian assassins at the Grand Rapid this season. A day of retribution, I trust, is as at hand for this worthy."

Throughout its many years of existence the Hudson Bay Company had adopted and followed a naval structure for its activities. Each fort functioned on the same timetable as a ship at sea. The administration followed a similar structure and the director was expected to keep a log or journal as would a ship's captain. These journals included details about the weather, the daily activities at the fort, the visitors, and the contents of any correspondence that arrived or was sent out. These were not personal diaries but were official journals that the leaders of the fort would turn in to the company at the end of the year with their financial reports.

In 1820, George Simpson the leader of the Hudson Bay Company, was on his way to take over the Athabasca District of the company. This district was situated in the northern area of what is known today as the province of Saskatchewan in western Canada. He kept careful records of all of his activities during this period. The Hudson Bay Company has the original copy of his journal in its archives today. A copy was edited by E.E. Rich in 1938 and published by the Champlain Society as the *Journal of Occurrences in the Athabasca Department by George Simpson, 1820 and 1821 and Report*. The quote above is taken from this volume.

George and Simon both moved on to Athabasca and set up their forts facing each other and only a number of yards apart. On October the 23rd following a border dispute, a Constable appeared among the Hudson Bay men and arrested Simon. He claimed to have a warrant for his arrest. However, the Simon McGillivray who was named on

the warrant was William's brother, the uncle of Simon Jr. and even though Simpson knew this he allowed the Constable to carry out his work. Simpson said that he could not intervene with the law. Obviously, these events were in keeping with his own interests.

From October 23rd till December 3rd, George kept Simon under house arrest in the Hudson Bay Company's fort. He was closely guarded and kept locked in his room. However, his wife, Theresa, was allowed to come and spend time with him. On December 3rd between 6 and 7 pm., Simon escaped. The Hudson Bay Company men did not know how he did it and Simon did not feel that it was necessary to give anyone an explanation.

During the time that he was imprisoned, Simon kept a personal diary of the daily events in a small leather bound book. After this ordeal he gave the book to his brother in Montreal. In some way probably in his father's affaires, it found its way to England where it was discovered in 1957 in a house that was being demolished near London. It was purchased by a Canadian philanthropist who brought it back to the University of New Brunswick in Canada. On his death the University sent the book back to England and when the estate was settled the book was supposedly sent to Mr. George B. McGillivray at Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. George was the leader of the McGillivray Clan at that time. Mr. McGillivray died in 1997 and I have not yet been able to trace the whereabouts of the book since then.

Simon is my personal ancestor and since William's fort at Thunder Bay has now been reconstructed and is open to visitors from around the world, I feel that it is my responsibility to bring Simon's diary to the light of day. I believe that it will be of special interest to those who visit the fort and to those who are interested in this period of Canadian history when the two great fur trading companies were locked in a death struggle and finally decided to shake hands instead of killing each other.

The Diaries of Strife combines the journals of the two antagonists in such a way that the reader can follow their daily struggles during the five long weeks that they were bound together. The texts of the journals speak for themselves. However, I am adding an introductory explanation concerning the Companies and some of the details in the lives of William and Simon following this incident. I hope to come up with a final draft that will be available to the public and to the fort's visitors for next year's tourist season. But as my friends will tell you, I have been saying that for several years now. The opportunity to share this part of our history with you has helped me to renew this vision once again.

- Dr Wayne Jones



The McGillivrays Of Duck Ponds

By Wendy Windmill

An old stone building and detached chimney standing starkly alone on Branch Road at the foot of The You Yangs near Lara, Victoria, are the only reminders that once John McGillivray and his wife Ann (nee Grant) lived and raised their nine children here.

John was born 1819 in Drumfearn, Isle of Skye, to Angus (son of Neil and Janet Nicholson) and Margaret Campbell, and he married Ann Grant in Sleat on 13th February, 1846. John had been apprenticed as a boat builder, but the Highland Clearances forced him to emigrate aboard the "Hercules" with Ann and their first three children on 26 December, 1852. He signed a promissory note for ten pounds one and sixpence. He had been working on the railroad and at trucking and was deemed an eligible man, aged 33, from Breakish, Lord MacDonald's Estate.

Also aboard the "Hercules" were his uncle Charles and wife Mary (nee Matheson) and seven children. After the outbreak of smallpox, the "Hercules" put into Cork Harbour, Ireland, where Charles died on 22 February, 1853 at the age of 56. His widow and children eventually carried on to Victoria aboard the "Australia". John and Ann embarked on the "Charles" and they arrived in Port Phillip on 30 October, 1853. He and his family were to work for Mr Chirnside of the Geelong district, beginning 10 November, 1853, at the rate of 30 pounds with rations for twelve months.

Hard toil and economising must have prevailed, as by 1856 John is shown as a farmer at the You-Yangs, and by 1867 he paid rates on a house and 14 acres.

Then, in 1871 he had increased his land to 78 acres which was valued at twelve pounds, with an annual rate of 12 pence per pound.

In the Memoirs of Duck Ponds by a Mrs Connor, she recalls that she attended the Duck Ponds School from 1892, and the stone houses at the base of the hill:

She wrote "Mr and Mrs McGillivray (sic) and their beautiful daughter, Helen. Mrs Mac used to smoke a clay pipe and we school children loved to call and find her having a smoke. All these homes had nice little gardens with that silvery sort of hardy hedge, geraniums, and all had lilies and some lilacs."

John's daughter Sarah Beatrice married Benjamin Duggan, another neighbour, in 1886, and they were my great-great grandparents. After Sarah died, 28 February 1949, her will disclosed that she named her parents and said, "I am the last surviving member of my family". I find this, and the image of her mother with her little clay pipe, so poignant. John died at the age of 96 on 10 March, 1915, and he left his home and 78 acres to two daughters, Margaret Campbell Purser, a widow, and Ellen (Helen) who had not married. He also included to Margaret "three head of cattle, being the only stock I now

possess". The cattle were valued at 10 pounds, the land, including the old stone and wood dwelling, of two rooms and detached kitchen, stone dairy, and post and wire fencing, at five hundred pounds. Ellen died here on 21 March, 1948. Of the other children, Margaret May m. 1873 William Gibson, Jessie m. 1878 John Cameron, Margaret Campbell m. 1884 in NZ. Richard Purser, Agnes m. 1904 John Curry, and Mary m. Geyger (no details known).

I am very proud of my McGillivray family, who, despite the adversity of their life in Skye and the tragedy of the "Hercules", bravely arrived in a new land, worked hard all their lives, and in the few documents I've managed to find, they have shown a great regard for each other and a sense of closeness. Thank you, John and Ann.

Scottish Gaelic News

The Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria celebrated their centenary with a truly grand Ceilidh on November 12th 2005, which more than 300 guests greatly enjoyed. The Council and members of the Society had worked very hard to put on a fitting evening of song, music, dancing, eating drinking and speeches, but without a doubt their most successful action was to promote and enable the visit to Australia of Christine Primrose from the Isle of Lewis. Christine is a well-known Gaelic recording star and a teacher of Gaelic song at Sabhal Mor Ostaig on the Isle of Skye. Her lengthy performance at the Grand Ceilidh was absolutely superb.

Students of Gaelic and choir members in Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra were thrilled to have the opportunity to attend workshops so ably conducted by Christine during her brief Australian visit.

Now we learn that Ishbel MacAskill, probably the best known Scottish Gaelic singer whose numerous radio and television performances and countless worldwide live appearances have

established her position as probably the best known Gaelic singer today, is also to visit Australia in May this year

Ishbel comes from the Point area of Lewis, where she was brought up with the rich heritage of centuries old Gaelic music and song. Members of the Victorian Gaelic Society will be fortunate to attend both a singing and a language workshop conducted by her in Melbourne whilst here in May.

A quite different story about Scottish Gaelic is about a dispute over the plan to have all classes at Sleat Primary School on Skye conducted only in the language of angels ie in Gaelic. Currently the only school in Scotland where all classes are taught in Gaelic is in Glasgow at Ashley Street School, where parents who choose to do so can send their youngsters. If the Sleat proposal by Highland Council Education goes ahead, those English speaking parents who do not want their children to learn in Gaelic only, would have to send them to Broadford, some 15 miles away, and they are objecting.

Lillian Irwin Wins 1st Prize In The 2005 Raffle

Congratulations to Lilian, a loyal member of our Clan Society for over 20 years. Her link with Clan MacGillivray stems from her great great grandmother, Catherine McGilvra, born on the Isle of Iona in 1803, and who married Christopher McArthur (born 1802) in Glasgow on 22nd July, 1825.

After losing their first two children, this couple returned to Kentra on the Island of Mull, where Christopher was employed as a quarrier, and their son John McArthur was born there in 1829.

The family sailed from Liverpool on 4th July, 1852 on the maiden voyage of the clipper "Marco Polo" to Australia, arriving at Hobson's Bay, and they gained employment for the first 6 months at Darebin Creek, being paid 234 pounds plus rations, this being the highest contract shown on the shipping list. They eventually settled on a farm at Glendarnel in Victoria, and by June, 1869, when Christopher died, two of his sons, James and Hugh already owned adjacent properties.

John, the eldest surviving son, married Julia Campbell at Hamilton, Vic. in 1860, and John himself lived until 1924, when he died at Puckapunyal. This couple had 8 children, the 5th of whom, Colin John McArthur was born on 24/2/1868 at Muddy Creek, married Catherine Brown in Melbourne in 1896, and he died in Leongatha, Vic. on 25th December, 1944.

Colin and Catherine's firstborn was Lilian McArthur, born at Jindivick, and

she married James Irwin. Their only child was our Lilian Christina Irwin, born 11th May, 1927 in Warrigal, Victoria. (a more comprehensive family tree of all descendants from Catherine McGilvra has been provided by Lilian for our Clan Archivist, Heather)

Now we move on to a brief summary of Lilian's life, commencing with her school days at Warragul primary and High Schools, and then her first job as book-keeper and Clerk at the Bloomfield Co-op Butter Factory, from 1943 to 1946., followed by 16 years with Holdenson & Neilson Fresh Food Pty Ltd. at Warragul..

In 1961 she had a major life change, joining the Victorian Police and, after training she undertook General Duties in Women Police Division at numerous places, and then as a Senior Sergeant was appointed to Fitzroy in 1974. In 1976 Lilian was promoted to Inspector, being the 4th female ever appointed to that high rank in Victoria (and possibly in Australia). She was then in sub-charge of all Women Police in Victoria until the introduction of equal opportunity when policewomen were integrated into what had been male orientated General Duties Stations.

Lilian then transferred into the Personnel Department at Police H.Q, handling all transfer applications, both male and female, and was a member of selection boards for applicants to join the force. She retired in August 1985.

Isabel Mary "Mopsy" Munro and her 102nd birthday

Readers of our 2004 and 2005 Journals will be familiar with the very successful gatherings of numerous descendants of the Skye emigrant couple Donald Munro and his wife Catherine McGillivray. What a thrill it was to hear from our West Australian representative that the last remaining grandchild of that couple, Isabel Mary Munro, had celebrated her 102nd birthday on the 6th April 2005. And we are delighted to be able to reproduce a photo taken at a special morning tea, which was held on Monday September 5th.

The main feature of that latter function was to enable Donald Munro, the West Australian Representative of Clan Munro, to present to 'Mopsy' a letter from Hector W. Munro of Foulis, conveying honorary membership of the Clan Munro Association together with a book telling the history of that Clan. We understand that thanks go to another of our Clan MacGillivray society members, Lily Sims, for her efforts in arranging this memorable gesture.

The letter from Foulis Castle is reproduced hereunder.



CLAN MUNRO (Association)

FOUNDED 1937

Chief: Hector W. Munro of Foulis

FOULIS CASTLE, EVANTON, ROSS-SHIRE, SCOTLAND IV16 9UX

Tel/Fax 01349 830204

12 August 2005

Miss Isabell Mary Munro,
Chrystal Halliday Homes for the Aged
61 Jeans Road
Karrinyup WA 6018
AUSTRALIA

Dear Isabel Mary

Blessings and congratulations from the heart of the old Clan Country, Ferindonald, Ross-shire, Scotland on the occasion last April of your remarkable anniversary.

What a truly wonderful achievement. Your forebears who took that huge step into the unknown and left their home in Skye all those years ago would be truly proud that one of their descendants has proven what hardy stock they came from and has achieved such a wonderfully great age.

Please accept as a small token honorary membership of the Clan Munro (Association) and this book which tells the story of our little Clan whose pioneering spirit took your ancestors to Australia so long ago. I hope you had a wonderful day surrounded by the love and warmth of your friends, your family and be assured that in a small area of Scotland we are still very proud of our sons and daughters who had the tenacity and courage to forge for themselves new lives throughout the world.

Hector W. Munro

Hector W Munro of Foulis

Congratulations To Lorraine Leask Of Heathcote

Firstly, we must thank Helen Morse of Bendigo for noticing and sending to us a very interesting press clipping that included some vital information about a member of our Clan Society, namely Lorraine Leask, who is a daughter of Kitty McGillivray of Mooroopna, Victoria.

This year got off to a good start for Lorraine when she was named as a joint recipient of the City of Greater Bendigo Citizen of the Year Award. Then, on February 24th she celebrated her 60th birthday, and participated in a leg



of the Queen's Baton Relay in the same month. She regarded her nomination and the award as a "terrific honour", but from what we read of her lifetime of voluntary service, she was indeed a worthy winner.

Lorraine has spent 42 years with Girl Guides and is Regional Commissioner for Brownies and Guides. She has also been a member of the Heathcote branch of the Victorian Rural Ambulance Auxiliary for 14 years and has had more than 20 years of voluntary involvement with the local Fire Brigade.

We are proud to have Lorraine as a member of our Australian Clan Society, and send her congratulations and best wishes.

The 2005 Gunbower Gathering

The Clan MacGillivray Gathering for 2005 was held at the Gunbower Complex on the weekend of 1st and 2nd October. It was hosted by the 'Gunbower Clan' and, by all accounts, was very successful and a weekend to remember.

An informal barbecue beside the Gunbower Creek at the complex was held on the Saturday evening, with approximately 50 of the extended McGillivray family attending, giving visitors a great opportunity to meet up with the local Clan.

Sunday began at 11am, and over the course of the day approximately 150 people had signed the register. A barbecue lunch, including meat from the McGillivray Butchers and salads, cakes and slices etc. prepared by several of the ladies, was enjoyed by everyone.

The Australian Commissioner and Society President, Peter, addressed the gathering after a welcoming 'lead in' by the Bendigo pipers. Peter updated everyone on the happenings of the newly formed Clan MacGillivray Society in the USA. He also

gave a reminder of the International Gathering to be held in Inverness, Scotland, on July 30 to August 3rd 2007.

An invitation was extended to everyone to be in attendance at the next Gathering to be held in Sydney in 2006. As it will be the 30th anniversary of the Clan MacGillivray Society in Australia, it is very appropriate to have the next Gathering there.

David and Heather had printed out a family chart which was many metres long, for all to see where they fitted in to our MacGillivray family tree. I found it exciting to see so many of the families catching up and meeting new relatives/ The day was rounded off by everyone gathering near the Gunbower creek for a group photo. Congratulations must go to all the organisers - David and Heather's ever reliable assistance and the local family's ongoing expertise. The sale of wine with the MacGillivray Motto on the label was a bonus.

Janette Costin

Another Clan Baton Carrier

It was a great day for the small community of Torrumbarry when the Queen's baton passed through on its way to Melbourne for the Commonwealth Games.

Three of the local identities were chosen to carry the baton, one of whom

being our loyal member Ron Crossman, husband of Ronda (nee McGillivray) Ron said " The adrenalin was pumping- what a day to remember."

Congratulations, Ron.

Gabrielle (Gaye) O'Donovan (nee McGilvery) writes from Surrey, England

Keith and Phyllis McGilvery of Mundubbera, Queensland, have sent us some very interesting correspondence that they received a few months ago from Keith's niece, Gaye, who now lives in Surrey, and we think it appropriate to commence with a brief summary of that family's history, starting with the birth of Keith's great great grandfather Archibald on the Isle of Skye in 1788.

Archibald married Mary Robinson in 1816 on Skye and their son John was born that same year.. He married Catherine Macrae in 1831 at Kilmore, Skye, and they emigrated to Australia in 1837 on the "William Nicol"

Their son John, born 1846 in Queensland, died 1892, married Margaret Speering in 1870.

Their son, John, born 1878, died 1922, married Ethel Wedemeyer in Q'ld in 1909.

Their son, Archibald, (Keith's elder brother,) was born in 1909, married Alice Spencer in Q'ld, in 1939, and he died in 1939

Their daughter, Gabrielle, born in 1946, married Dermot O'Donovan, and that couple, now living in Surrey, UK enjoyed a lovely holiday in the Western Highlands and Islands late in 2005. As she describes in the following article.

Ed

Over the bridge to Skye - 178 years later

Our first sight of Skye was from Glenelg, Kintail, on the mainland opposite .We had turned off onto a winding single lane road, which took us up and over a mountain in search of lunch and some prehistoric 'brochs' (remains of fortified dwellings). The

Island of Skye appeared across a narrow channel, though the oldest and shortest ferry crossing of a quarter mile was closed. We learned that cattle were traditionally swum across this passage to markets on the mainland.

The pub could have come out of the colourful 'Whisky Galore' stories of Scotland, with barrels and logs upturned to sit on, and men in knickerbockers, tweed jackets and long plaid socks intermingling with the tourists.

After an equally exciting return over the mountain's very steep and narrow road (we would have chosen another way back if it had existed) we continued on a modern fast road to the new bridge at Kyle of Lochalsh. I had fancied that our John in the 1800's might have met his Catherine Macrae by ferrying across the narrow channel at Glenelg, but it is more likely that she came from around Macara (derived from Macrae), a town that we had passed en route to Skye.

Once on Skye, we headed north to circle the island, passing through the capital Portree and skirting The Cuillins and the "Old Man of Hoy" rock formations., all dramatically swirling in low cloud, and then on to the west coast before heading south to the Sleat peninsula, to check into the very lovely and award winning Toravaig House hotel, just to the south of Isle Ornsay.

Having mentioned our MacGillivray connection, hotel staff were keen to tell us that there was still a Macgillivray living on Sleat. By breakfast the next morning, everyone was convinced that we must call in on Charlie, and gave us a description of where to find him, 'past the big shed and opposite the small shed', directions that were necessary as the croft numbers are not exactly in sequence.

We set off down the Sleat peninsula (having learned to pronounce it 'Slate'). The roads narrowed, with passing

places, and we passed through Ferrindonald, the lush MacDonald gardens and the ferry terminal to a much wilder landscape at Aird, with small white cottages sparsely dotted around the hills. We stopped at an artist's studio occupying a disused church, which had been built too late to find a large enough population to need it. Way beyond the last house on the peninsula we could see the remains of a very old church and graveyard dating from around the 4th century, this having been long ruined before the MacGillivrays had come to Sleat.

Coming back, we found Charlie MacGillivray, now retired from Caledonian McBrayne whose ferries are the main communication system of the islands .We arranged to call back later when he had had time to locate his copy of "The MacGillivrays of Skye". In the introduction, the author Doris Steiner MacGillivray describes coming to Skye and meeting Charlie as she set out on her genealogy search. Charlie is now the oldest indigenous person in Aird, where he now owns several crofts. He lives in a white bungalow with fantastic views of the sound of Sleat and the Island of Eigg, whilst his wife works in the Clan MacDonald Centre. The small cottage in which he was born is further up the hillside behind and he lets it out to tenants .In his father's day there were 87 children in the village school, and there were 18 MacGillivray families only 60 years ago. The families intermarried, and he recalls marriages between first and second cousins. There was further depopulation in the 1960s as there was not enough land or jobs for young people so that most moved to the mainland, with men traditionally joining the merchant navy.

Sadly we were too late to meet the last remaining members of our direct family tree, the direct great grandchildren of a Donald MacGillivray. From Charlie's house we could see Croft 15 where Kirsty died 2 years ago, aged 97. Her sister Mary died 6 years ago. The three sisters in that family never married, worked in Glasgow and retired back to Croft 15 together. Charlie spoke to us about the Early association of the MacGillivrays with the MacDonalds and their Lordship of The Isles, then the move from Islay to Ardnamurchan, where the split occurred, with the majority going to Dunmaglas and others to Mull and Skye. His own family records show them on Skye by 1750, but some Macgillivray traces are there back to 1690.

The next day we visited the ruins of Kilmore church, where John and Catherine were married. The ruins stand alongside a modern church, built in 1876, and are surrounded by a ridged graveyard of largely unmarked graves, since the people of Sleat were mostly too poor, and the soil so shallow that mounds had to be built up over burial sites. There are some gravestones with family names that can be recognised, from our family history, an occasional MacGillivray, Kennedy and Robertson, but no Macraes, helping to confirm that they were not an island family. We also called in at Isle Ornsay and photographed the quay from which John and Catherine would have left.

It was disappointing to find that emigration records at the MacDonald Centre contained no word about the departure of the 'William Nicol' in 1837. I do not know why it has taken me so long to go back, and would never

have thought to do so without Auntie Phil's painstaking family history research. Now that I have been back, I've fallen in love with Skye and will certainly go back again. As for the Clan MacGillivray, we have exchanged email addresses with Charlie and are thinking about going to the next international Clan gathering in 2007, possibly with our 21st century Catherine, if she hasn't finished at university and gone off to Australia herself!"

In a separate letter Gaye told her Aunt about a separate thrill that she had on the Scottish mainland, as follows:

"We had quite a MacGillivray experience when we stayed at 'The Steadings' hotel in Strathnairn, about 10 miles from Culloden, and only 4 or 5 miles distant from Dunmaglass. On the first night there the hotel was full with a shooting party who had booked a day's shooting at Dunmaglass. We saw nothing of the lodge since it was screened by trees and a 'Private' sign on the driveway.

The hotel is now owned by an English couple, but until about a year ago it was the property of MacGillivrays for quite some time, and the name "Ronald MacGillivray" was inscribed in several books there. The curtains were of MacGillivray tartan, and to our astonishment the brightly coloured carpet bore the Clan Wild Cat emblem. Only a few miles away was Dunlichity church with the Clan's Chiefs burial enclosure. On the roadside outside the Steadings Hotel was a lifesize sculpture of a stag, with a plaque in memory of Ronald MacGillivray".

USA News

Our 2004 Journal gave you news of the positive move to legally form an active Clan MacGillivray Society in the USA, a nation which undoubtedly has the greatest number of resident MacGillivrays and descendants. It is now a pleasure to learn that our US colleagues have now finally overcome all of the legal and administrative hurdles that were frustrating them, and their new incorporated Society was officially launched at a successful gathering and AGM., held on the 5th and 6th August, 2005 in the Nevada city of Las Vegas.

The Gathering was attended by about eighty enthusiastic members, who all enjoyed a great time of camaraderie. Their official guest at the main gathering Dinner was the President of the St Andrews Society of Southern Nevada who made three presentations. The first was from her Society to the new MacGillivray Society, the second was a proclamation from the Mayor of Las Vegas welcoming them all to his city, and the third was a proclamation from the Governor of Nevada proclaiming August

6th, 2005 as Clan MacGillivray Day in Nevada.

It was not all excitement, however, as time had to be spent on making final amendments to the by-laws of the new Corporate Body.

President James McGillvray is pleased with the current status of membership – by last August it had risen to 326 individuals, representing 160 families, but he estimates that there could be over 2500 prospective members.

Finally, we must congratulate our U.S. friends on their issue of a very impressive 1st Annual Journal, "Clach An Airm", which was edited by the U.S.A Clan Commissioner, Bruce P. McGillivray, making good use of his past experience as a publication art director.

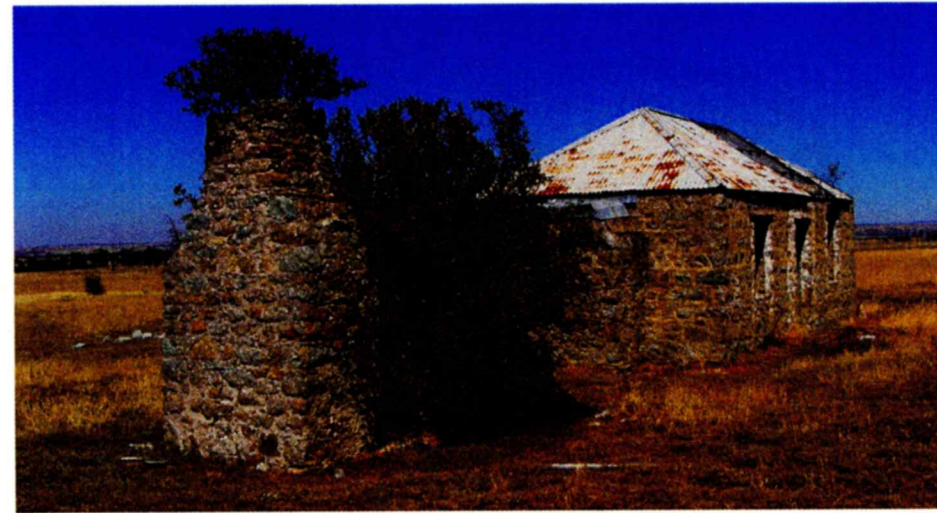
We note that this new Society are planning to hold another Annual General meeting in August 2007 in Inverness, Scotland, to take advantage of the number of members who will be going over to the next International Gathering of our Clan.

The Davidson Collection (continued)

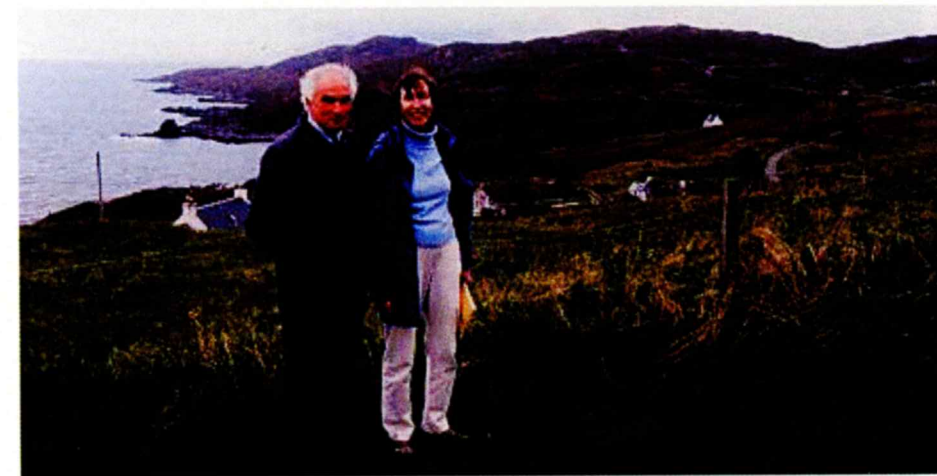
Last year we reported the outstanding results of the first sale of books from this collection and forecast that the second sale, to be held in March this year, would include John McGillivray's "Narrative of the voyage of HMS Rattlesnake", which was published in 1852. In fact, however, the sale concluded with items that were published in 1850, so we can expect that our main interest will centre on the next sale later this year.

What did appear in the March sale was a "Narrative of the surveying voyage of HMS Fly" which was written by Joseph Beete

Jukes, the official naturalist on the 4 year expedition to the Great Barrier Reef, Torres Strait and New Guinea. John McGillivray was on that voyage also, but as a private collector for the Earl of Derby, so he was not involved in that official report. The Jukes book was expected to fetch \$3000-5000 and actually was sold for \$5592. By comparison, the top price of this second sale was a new world record of \$932,000 for a rare 1831 edition of Hume and Hovell's epoch making expedition to Port Phillip.



The stone building at Duck Ponds near the You Yangs in Lara, Victoria, was where John McGillivray & his wife Ann raised their nine children



Charlie MacGillivray & Gaye O'Donovan at Charlie's property at Aird, Sleat Peninsula, Isle of Skye



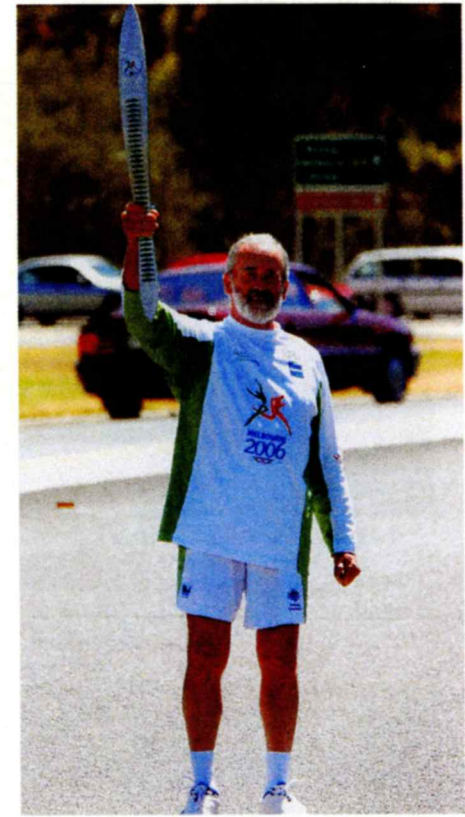
Do any of our members recognise the haggis bearer, photographed in a motel in New Zealand in April this year? Just as well that she wore a McGillivray tartan sash on her shoulder!!



Some of those present at the Gathering in Gunbower in 2004



USA Clan MacGillivray Officials, from left:
 US Clan Commissioner – Bruce P McGillivray
 Society Vice President – Mary MacGillivray Cox
 President – James J McGillivray
 Secretary – Sue McGilvray Johnston
 Treasurer – Donald L Almy



Worthy baton carriers Lorraine Leask & Ron Crossman are both wonderful members of the community and we are proud to have them as members of Our Clan Society



Isabel Mary "Mopsy" Munro receiving her honorary membership to Clan Munro on her 102nd birthday



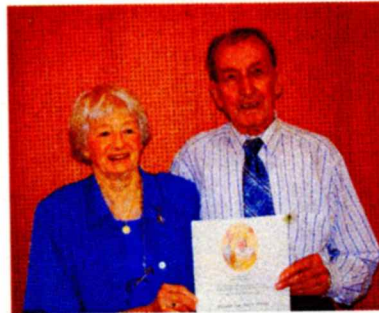
Lillian Irwin with her Teacher's Scotch Whisky, which she won in our 2005 raffle



2006 Piping Award Recipient
Matthew Ramsay



Clan members Helen & Max McGillivray Morse viewing the Burns Collection at Scotch college in Melbourne



Noela & Michael Smith



A sad farewell to Max McGillivray

2006 Piping Award

The Ringwood Highland Games, held on 5th March this year, provided a great day of piping excellence, there being forty three bands competing in the Australian Championships.

However, a highlight for us was the brief visit to our Clan tent of Matthew Ramsay, the winner of the 2006 Clan MacGillivray Novice Piper Award, which provided us with the opportunity to congratulate him. He has since then written a nice letter to Secretary David, which we are pleased to reproduce.

*"Dear David,
Thank you all for your congratulations on winning the Clan MacGillivray Piping Award.*

I am 15 years of age, I live with my family in Berwick and attend Beacon Hills Christian College in Year 10.

I first started playing the bagpipes when I was around the age of 8 and lived in Scotland. I joined a band called The West Linton and District Pipe Band in 1998, and got my bagpipes in 2000. I played

with them until I turned 12, when we moved from Scotland to Australia. I started learning with the Nunawading Pipe Band and within about a year I made it into the grade 4 band. I started solos that year, and I went on to win the Victorian Championships, VPA Piper of the year and the Invitational Quaich. Had it not been for the teachings of Simon Blackshaw and Danny Bayle (the Pipe Major of the Australia Highlanders) I doubt I would have made it this far.

I have since managed to finally get good enough to play with the Australia Highlanders and I am hopefully going to be playing at the World Championships in Glasgow.

My brother joined the Nunawading Juvenile Band and is lead drummer for that band. My other hobby is Basketball.

Thank you for the opportunity to win the Clan MacGillivray Trophy.

Yours sincerely, Matthew Ramsay.



Royal Visit

Her Majesty the Queen had come to open a new surgical clinic at the local hospital. Ther ceremony finishing slightly early, she decided to visit some patients in other parts of the hospital.

She walked into the next ward and went up to the first bed. "Why are you in hospital", she asked. The man looked at her for a minute and then said, "my love is like a red, red rose that's newly sprung in June".

Somewhat taken aback, the Queen moved on to the next bed and asked the patient, "why are you here?" "Oh, wert thou in the

cold blast, on yonder lea, on yonder lea, my plaidie to the angry air, I'd shelter thee, I'd shelter thee", came the reply.

Really confused now, the Queen decided to try once more. She moved on to the next bed and asked, "why are you in hospital?"

"Wee sleekeet, cowren tim'rous beastie, O what a panic's in thy breastie", was the answer.

Clearly concerned, the Queen turned to the hospital manager and asked, "is this the psychiatric ward?"

"Oh no your Majesty. It's the Burns Unit!"

Farewell to a great community member, Max McGillivray

In last year's Soraidh section of our Journal we included a brief reference to the sudden death of Max McGillivray in Bright, Victoria. His passing on June 2nd, so close to our publication date, meant that we were unable to include a proper reference to his many achievements during a busy life. The following extract from a local newspaper tells the story:

"Bright has farewelled popular resident and long-time community worker, Max McGillivray, after he passed away suddenly on Thursday, June 2.

Max was born in Corowa, the son of Don and Rene McGillivray. He grew up in Albury and attended Albury public and high schools. Max had an interest in electronics from an early age, and went on to obtain his electrical apprenticeship and electrical contractor's license, establishing his own business in 1964.

Max showed his aptitude for organising and leading people from early on. He was involved in the PFA for several years and as a teenager, organised camps for up to 100 people at their campsite at the Hume weir. It was at the PFA that his interest in Lynne first began, and they were married in 1963.

Max and Lynne moved to Bright in 1970 and established the property that the family calls home today. Together they had four children, Robin, Cheryl, Ian and Karen. They were later to become grandparents to Brendan, Sarah, Rachel, Bryan, Joshua, Zach,

Ben, Paddie, Maggie, Daniel, Megan, Riley and Charlie.

If you were to think of one word that would sum up Max's life, it would be his passion. Max was a man who rightly or wrongly, single-mindedly pursued whatever he had set in his heart to do. Most commonly this was evidenced in his commitment to the community. He worked tirelessly for the past 35 years in various committees, organisations and events for the benefit of the Bright community. It is hard to think of an organisation or event that has happened in Bright that Max has not been involved in either directly or indirectly.

The real driving force behind Max's work was his love of people. One project that was important to Max in the last few years was the Moira Kelly Open Farm Project. This is a hostel in Kilmore where Moira brings children from third world countries to Australia for life saving surgery. Rotary Clubs from around the district have all helped fundraise and donated their efforts to build this hostel. Max made many dozens of trips to Kilmore to wire the whole building. He also organised for the Bright Club to fundraise for a bore.

Max always had a passion for more, bigger and better. He continually pursued the development of facilities for Bright. This started with helping to fundraise for a kinder over thirty years ago to involvement in building the sports stadium, the entertainment centre, the new hospital and building an

additional oval and walking tracks at the recreation reserve.

In addition to building things he liked to be involved in many of the events that happened during the Bright year. He has put up lighting for the Spring Festival fireworks for the past ten years. He was part of the team that started the first "Climb Mt. Buffalo" event. Any event that would better promote Bright as a destination to visit he would be involved in.

He and Lynne planned to visit Vietnam and Singapore early in 2005 and then to retire and do a 3-month trip around

Australia. Sadly, one week before the Vietnam trip he suffered a major heart attack and had to undergo a quadruple bypass. In true Max fashion he recovered quickly and got on with his life. In the midst of final organisation for their round Australia trip he could not resist getting back into his work. It was with his nail bag on, doing what he loved, that Max left us the only way he could - 'quickly'.

We pay tribute to the incredible vision that Max had and to the legacy that he has left behind in his children and grandchildren."

Still Going Strong, 60 Years On

This was the headline of an article in a Queensland paper that reported the 60th wedding anniversary on 5/3/2006 of Noela and Michael Smith. This lovely couple have been long time supporters of our Clan Society, often providing articles about their MacGillivray and Shaw ancestors for the Journal and attending as many of our Gatherings for as long as they could.

Due to age and ill health, they had requested a low key celebration, but what took place on the day far exceeded their expectations and gave them great joy. It was very nice that Noela's bridesmaid, Mick's sister, and their best man, Noela's cousin, were able to join them on the day, together with twenty

nine family members, although ten others were too far away to attend.

Obviously a day with cyclonic winds and heavy rain failed to dampen the celebrations and, in any case, Noela says that it was just the same or worse, 60 years previously.!

This couples lifetime of service in many fields of endeavour was recognised by a host of congratulatory messages including those from The Queen, Governor General, Prime Minister, Queensland Premier, and a blessing from the Pope.

Congratulations and best wishes to Michael and Noela.

A Robert Burns celebration in Bendigo, Victoria

When members of the Bendigo and District Caledonian Society Inc. learned that the annual AGM / Conference of the Robert Burns Association of Australia and the Western Pacific was to be held in October 2005 and in Bendigo they were absolutely elated. What is more, the President of the World Burns Federation Major John Paterson retd. would be coming to Bendigo specially for this event on his first visit to Australia.

The Mayor of the City of Greater Bendigo became involved and a great weekend of conference, interspersed with many social events, was arranged. Delegates included Jim O'Lone of the Fremantle Burns Club, himself a director on the Board of the World Burns Federation, and representatives of Burns Clubs in South Australia, Canberra, Fiji, Melbourne and Bendigo. Numerous members of the Melbourne Burns Club, well known to us, were elected into office in the Australian and Western Pacific Association, namely Mrs Ina Graham as President, Uilleam

Tait, Vice President, Bev Tait, Secretary and Ian Murdoch, Treasurer.

After lunch on the Saturday many of the party motored to Castlemaine where they were able to take a look inside the home of Sarah and Andrew Campbell – Sarah was Robert Burns' granddaughter – and then went to the cemetery where they are buried. That night, at the grand dinner and ceilidh, one of the toasts – that to Absent Friends, was in the capable hands of our Clan member, Max McGillivray Morse.

On the Monday succeeding the conference some members joined Major Paterson and Jim O'Lone in a visit to Scotch College in Melbourne where they enjoyed the privilege of looking over the Burns Collection, which includes some very old Immortal Memories, beautiful old books, Chronicles and an original Kilmarnock Edition. Our photo shows Helen and Max Morse viewing the Kilmarnock edition, while standing beside the bust of Burns and the books that make up such a great collection.

Robinson Crusoe

Another visitor to Sydney during Scottish Week was Dr David Calwell from the National museums of Scotland, who gave two very interesting talks. The first was about the new Museum, and the second was a fascinating report of his own "archeological dig" on the island of Juan Fernandez, now named Robinson Crusoe Island, where the Scottish sailor

Alexander Selkirk lived in Edenic isolation while avoiding the Spanish and hoping for a rescue by a passing British ship. His story inspired Daniel Defoe's classic tale "Robinson Crusoe" and evidence of his solitary occupation of the island between 1704 and 1709 still survives there.

Regional Food – McGillivray Style

Members who have attended either of our Clan gatherings at Gunbower will have no doubts about the predominance of the local McGillivray family in all aspects of the commercial and farming life of that district. Therefore it came as no surprise when I was shown an item which appeared (as above) in the Shepparton Advertiser on 14th September, 2005., written by a Dean Oberin, the proprietor of Oscar W's.

"The other morning, my chef and I went out to where it all began for me ...Gunbower. The town where I was born and where my family have a farm. The purpose of the trip was to meet with Zar McGillivray at his famous abattoirs to discuss meat. The McGillivrays and my family have a long relationship going back generations and are passionate about their produce. After some time spent talking about all things meat, and marvelling at the sheer beauty of Gunbower Island and it's surrounding waterways, we headed off with our heads full of new ideas for the many meat dishes we could create.

On departure, Zar told us to 'go and see Tom at the shop for some hot sausages'. Next stop the butcher's shop. The McGillivray family butcher shop is situated on the main street of Gunbower. This butcher showed us how they all should be – friendly, clean, busy and full of good meat.

Recently, I was invited to be a judge at the regional final of a butchery industry sausage competition. After tasting countless sausages, one could suggest that you start to understand the humble sausage a little better. So I eagerly

awaited the opportunity to take possession of my 'hot sausages', and they looked like winners to me,- good colour and size and 'hand made'.

With our prized possession we bid farewell to Zar and continued off to the pub – the Gunny Hotel.

My hosts at the pub were Helen and Richard McGillivray, and they are in the process of refurbishing the regional icon to its former glory days. There followed more talk of food, wine, pubs and people, and one truly understands that the whole family are real regional food people from the paddock to the plate. The whole process is done with family pride, country honesty and knowledge that is freely shared about a product that few could boast of knowing more.

Finally, back home I race to the kitchen, grab a pan, slurp in some olive oil, heat the pan to a reasonable temperature, and throw in the sausages. Cook, toss, flip, cook, sizzle and spit gently do my now sensational smelling sausages. I pause to appreciate the aroma. They look great, they are juicy as I cut into them- now to taste them. Wow! They are truly superb. – little heat, great full flavour. Fellow judges we have a winner. Perhaps a grand champion."

Mr Oberin cannot have needed to refill the fuel tank of his car whilst in Gunbower or he would have found that the proprietor of the only service station is another McGillivray – indeed another Peter McGillivray!

The Glen Innes Standing Stones

There have been several references in past Clan Journals and Newsletters to these impressive Standing Stones, but some members have questioned their importance and indeed, some who live in more distant States have asked "where is Glen Innes?" so it may be appropriate to summarise here what we know of them.

As a member of Clan Chattan wrote in 1993, "there is something about stone, especially if it takes the form of a standing stone. When it rises more than four metres out of the ground, it seems to evoke an aura of prehistory, of things and events beyond our ken, of mists and mystery. We gaze in awe.

Scotland has its standing stones and stone circles; the rest of Britain and Europe have theirs, and they all try to speak to us from 3000 years or so in the past. We have changed so much; the silent and immutable standing stones have not."

The early Celtic monuments of standing stones were built by the megalithic (stoneage) people over 3000 years ago. We do not know all the reasons, but their construction did show that those early people had a great knowledge of astronomy and mathematics. It has been shown that they were built as calendars with alignments on sunrise at certain times of the year and also on the moon. It is believed that these massive calendars were used as a help in farming. What a great physical and social effort must have been involved in their construction.

During the late 1980s the Celtic Council of Australia promoted the erection somewhere of an array of standing stones in recognition of the contribution to the social fabric of Australia over the last 200 years by peoples of Celtic origins. It was meant that the site would serve as a cultural gathering place for people of all the Celtic groups, the Scottish,

Irish, Welsh, Cornish, Manx and Breton. A number of municipalities that had access to sources of granite stone were invited to put in bids, with the criteria that the future site had to be readily accessible to the general public and not overshadowed by other features.

By August, 1990, the decision was made in favour of Glen Innes, a town of 6500 souls on the New England Tableland of New South Wales, and the work of gathering the suitable stone began in earnest. In September, 1991, the first of the thirty eight, four metres high, twenty eight ton stones had been lifted into position. The site in Centennial parklands, on top of a hill overlooking the town, was very suitable, but also Glen Innes has significant links with pioneer settlers of Celtic origin. It is situated on what was formerly a 25000 acre station, owned at one stage by a Major Innes who had come from Thrumster, Caithness in Scotland, and he named the property Glen Innes Station. Many other Scottish settlers were in the district, and there were large settlements of Cornish miners in the tin mines at Emmaville, Torrington and Deepwater townships.

The whole complex was officially opened and dedicated on 1st February, 1992 by the Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair, and blessed by the NSW moderator of the Presbyterian Church, with a crowd of more than 2000 present, and there followed a great 2 days of ceremony, music, processions etc, all of a Celtic nature. Clan MacGillivray was represented on this historic occasion by Alexander McGilvray of Brisbane and Anne (McGillivray) Walsh from Armidale.

The annual Celtic Festival at the Standing Stones site at Glen Innes has grown into a very well organised and extremely popular event, widely patronised by many folk of Celtic origin. The Scottish Australian

Heritage Council host a prestige dinner on the Saturday night, and several Chiefs of Clans have been guests of honour at this and at other ceremonies held at the Stones site. More recently, a large Wall of History has been erected on Tynwald Hill, overlooking the impressive Ring of Standing Stones and in the Pioneer section of this wall, families or Clans are able to place a stone and a plaque. Already, several clans have placed a

stone brought from their ancestral Clan territories in Scotland into this Pioneer section, the first one being Clan Farquharson.

To conclude in lighter mode, I must note that all the major streets in Glen Innes now bear signs that show their names in Scottish Gaelic.

P. McG



Standing Stones of Glen Innes

from a distance



Scotland Island & Convict to Chief Magistrate

Scotland Island is a small island in Broken Bay, north of Sydney, being so named by Andrew Thompson (1773-1810) a Scot who was convicted at the age of 17 for housebreaking and burglary, transported and arriving in Sydney in 1792 on "The Pitt". On arrival he was appointed a constable on the Hawkesbury River which flows into Broken Bay. Having been entirely satisfactory as a constable, he was given an absolute pardon in 1797. He built the first bridge over South Creek at Green Hills which Governor Macquarie renamed Windsor in 1810 "from the similarity of this situation to that of the same name in England". Thompson was allowed to charge a toll on it and thus acquired sufficient money to found a brewery at Green Hills, which later became the Windsor Hospital, and to sell alcoholic liquor.

Andrew Thompson the ex convict became a ship owner, his vessels trading as far as New Zealand, and in 1809 he was granted the island in the Pittwater that he named Scotland Island. Here, he dried out seawater and sold salt, and built small vessels for

coastal trading. When the great Hawkesbury River flooded the whole countryside in 1806 he rescued hundreds of persons and in 1809 he rescued many more.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie (1761-1824), born on the island of Ulva in the Scottish Hebrides, a cousin of the last Chieftain of the Clan Macquarie, admired Thompson and described him as the real founder of what is now the notable municipality of Windsor. He made him a Justice of the Peace and the Chief Magistrate of the Hawkesbury district.

Andrew Thompson died on 22nd October, 1810. He left a quarter of his estate to Governor Macquarie. He was the first to be buried in the graveyard at the historic St Mathews Church, Windsor, and it was the Governor who erected the imposing tombstone at the grave. Thompson Square in Windsor was named by the Governor in his honour.

This is the story of perhaps the first lowly Scot who attained distinction in our great new land of Australia.

Spring in Stratherrick

Those who are also members of the Clan Chattan Association may not have appreciated the significance that the cover picture of the current Association journal has for MacGillivrays. Titled "Spring in Stratherrick", the photograph shows the beauty of a land emerging from the throes

of another harsh winter; the soft pastel colours springing into life with the bright yellow of the ubiquitous gorse. This is the land of Clan Fraser. Here it borders with that of Clan Chattan, but at this point it was also shared with Clan MacGillivray. Looking northwards from Loch Mhor,

Aberchaldar on the opposite side of the loch was long in the possession of the MacGillivrays. In 1889, however, John William MacGillivray XIII of Dunmaglass was compelled by circumstances to sell it. Over the hill in the centre of the photograph lies Dunmaglass itself.

The district, Srath Fhaireag in Gaelic, derives its name from the River Farigaig which rises in the Monadhliath, "the grey mountains", flows through the Dunmaglass estate then northwards before turning to the south west and discharging into Loch Ness. Home to many of our forebears, it could be a harsh place in winter - and a wild one too.

Writing of the signing of the great Clan Chattan Bond of 1609 at Termit near the coast, an 18th century historian recorded: "The Macgillivrays marched from the wild skirts of Stratherrick to meet their brother clansmen of Strathnairn, Petty and Inverness." Good stock rearing country it

abounds in deer and other game. And, as Alan B. Lawson observed in his fine book, "A Country Called Stratherrick", "the people are hardy folk. They have to be." There is much history here. This was the route taken by the Lochaber and Glencoe robbers when they came to harry the Clan Chattan lands and the fertile coastal plains beyond. And it was at Gorthleck House, the home of Simon, Lord Lovat, Chief of the Clan Fraser, that Prince Charles rested for a few hours before continuing his flight from the disastrous field of Culloden. He was given a cool reception by Lovat - and "some indifferent wine"!



Now, in less troubled times, it remains a district of much attraction and a place of pilgrimage for many of our name.

Members Please Note -
Annual Membership Fees
\$15 family - \$12 single - \$A17 overseas
Five Year Membership
\$60 family - \$48 single - \$A68 overseas

due on or before the
2006 Annual Gathering

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

McGillivray's Dream – A Forest Ranger's Story

In this Journal last year, Robert McGillivray, under the title "Quote-Misquote", told us of how various noted authors had apparently used our name in songs and in prose as if they had chosen it in a generic and not a specific sense. In other words, the name was used to embrace all Scots and not just our Clan.

I have now discovered another instance of what may be a similar usage of the MacGillivray name, although not necessarily so. This is in an 1891 publication, "A Century of Australian Song", edited by Douglas Sladen, BA.Oxon, BA,LLB Melb. that was loaned to me by Rhonda Crossman.

The book included a very long poem by Thomas Bracken, apparently written in 1843, which is actually based on the Maori Wars in New Zealand. In his introduction Bracken speaks in lavish terms about Australia, obviously including New Zealand as part of it at that time.

He writes "Australia is the country of the future - blessed with an unmalarious climate more brilliant and equable than that of Italy, and peopled with the most adventurous of the colonising Anglo-Saxon stock, this new found world in the far south-eastern seas gives race development its amplest scope. The vigorous man must be strongly constituted who does not love Australia, with its glittering air, its vast space, its infinite possibilities."

Bracken's long poem carries the same title as used to head this article.

He writes as a former forest ranger who has returned after a gap of 19 years to the spot where he and a small group of colleagues were attacked by a numerically superior band of Maori warriors, and he reminisces about the event and his mates who died there. The poem is nine pages in length, rather too long for this Journal, so I shall just include small segments that illustrate his admiration for his good friend, Hugh McGillivray who died in the battle along with others.

*"'Twas only a skirmish – just eight of our number
Were stretched on the sword when the fighting was done;
We scooped out their beds, and we left them to slumber,
The bold-hearted fellows went down with the sun."*

And then,

*"My comrades were all of good mettle and true,
And one was a hero; I'll tell you his story –
God rest poor McGillivray – brave hearted Hugh!"*

He went on to relate how he and Hugh McGillivray had sat together the morning before the battle, and he could not understand why his mate was so pessimistic, and he said –

*"Come, tell me, Hugh, why are you gloomy this morning?
What change has come over my light-hearted mate?"*

*You've not - and I laughed - had a Banshee's death warning?
Have Brownies or Goblins been sealing your fate?
He turned his pale face, while his eyes, full of sorrow,
Met mine, and it seemed like the gaze of the dead;
I spoke once again – 'Hugh, we'll meet them tomorrow,
Fierce Rewi is coming this way.' Then he said ..."*

At this point Hugh gave a long story of his youth in the Scottish Highlands, not far from Dunmaglas, leading up to his marriage and then the early death of his wife

*.... "is treasured in my memory still;
I hold again that little hand;
I hear the whispered word, I will!
I lead her through the cheerful band,
While Donald Beag, and Fergus Mohr,
And Angus Dhub – the pipers three-
Strike up, while marching, on before,
The Pibroch of Mc Gillivray.
Oh! How the wild notes brought a flood
Of memories bright and glories gone,
When for the royal Stuart blood
Our Chief lead great Clan Chattan on
To famed Culloden's field - 'Tis past,
That marriage scene, with all it's charms
And winter comes with freezing blast
To find my young wife in my arms,
And all the villagers in tears
Assembled round us – she was gone;
The prize was mine a few short years,
And I was now alone, alone.
I left my humble Highland home,
To gaze on Monagh Leigh no more.
With blighted heart I crossed the foam
And landed on New Zealand's shore..."*

Hugh went on to say
*.... "I tell you we must part today;
I have not told you all that passed
Before me in my dreaming hours,
This day, with you, shall be my last..."*

A description of the wild battle that occurred that day then followed, with the victorious Maoris vanishing into the forest and then departing in their canoes. The poem continues-
*"...At daybreak we went to the scene of the fray,
To bury our comrades and bid them adieu,
And near a small mound where five savages lay,
We found brave McGillivray sleeping there too.
Five warrior Chiefs proved the work he had done.
They fell by his hand ere his soul went to God;
He smiled in the face of the bright morning sun,
That shone on the purple streaks o'er the green sod.
I planted a wattle to mark where he sleeps-
I wonder where is it? Ah! There stands the tree!
By Jove, it's in blossom too! See how it weeps
Rich tears of bright gold o'er the hillock where he
Is resting in peace. Is he dreaming there still
Of elsie, his bride, and his dear Highland glen?"*



A most significant Scottish visitor to Australia in late November 2005 was Mrs Elizabeth Roads, who is Carrick Pursuivant, Lyon Clerk and Keeper of the Records at the Lyon Court in Edinburgh, and a Member of the Royal Household in Scotland. Mrs Roads was Chief Guest of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council for Scottish Week in Sydney, and in this role she played a leading part in a great variety of activities, including The Grand Ball, an Heraldic Presentation, public welcomes to Parramatta and Manly, and an Official Inspection of The Scotland/Australia Cairn in Rawson Park, Mosman.

Mrs Roads also addressed the Sydney Society for Scottish History on the topic "The use of Heraldry in Scottish History", using her inexhaustible knowledge of Scottish Heraldic records to present a thought provoking insight into the significance of heraldry as a discipline.

Her visit was jointly hosted by the SAHC and Heraldry Australia, supported by the St Andrews Fund, and this enabled her to present additional talks to keen audiences in Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne and Armidale, her

title of a brilliant presentation being "St Andrews Cross and the Southern Cross – Scottish-Australian heraldic connections". She presented a colourful display that traced the development of Scottish Heraldry from the times of the ancient crusaders through to the Australian era as recorded in the files of Lyon Court. In this talk she made a serious contribution to the ongoing debate about the need, or otherwise, of an Australian Heraldic Authority (which Heraldry Australia are promoting), referring to some problems that Canadians are experiencing from their decision to 'go it alone'.

I was fortunate enough to attend her lecture in Melbourne and to manage a brief personal chat with Mrs Roads, since I had enjoyed a very useful correspondence with her in 1989 during my achievement of Arms, and later during a visit to Lyon Court in Edinburgh. She also referred to her excellent relationship with Robert McGillivray, the only other living McGillivray armiger, and his wife, Pauline.

- Peter McG

CLAN MACGILLIVRAY

A Wendy McGillivray received an unusual email circular letter from a friend named Di, and Wendy thought it sufficiently unusual that she then sent it off to her own circle of friends that included a number of MacGillivrays, one of whom was our archivist Heather. The subject was given as "Dog named Marcia Bale" - and Wendy said "I know you all share an interest in family tree stuff, and this little story is well worth reading. Hope you enjoy it."

Hi all

I thought I'd share with the list a story of the sometimes strange ways that family researchers discover information.

My grandfather William's brother Alexander Phillip Bowman, was born at Mossiel in 1890. He married several times. Firstly to Ellen Smith in Hillston in 1916. Secondly to Marcia Florence Bale in 1930 at Annandale, and lastly to Martha Hillier in 1945 at Petersham. Alexander died in 1964.

Alexander and first wife, Ellen, had at least two known children, one of whom died young. A defacto relationship before his second marriage produced another two children who also died. I was unaware of any more children until I received his death certificate, which showed that he had two daughters, Marcia and June, to his second wife, Marcia Bale.

I did a google search of the name "Marcia Bale" and up came quite a few websites about a greyhound with the same name. I thought it was too much of a coincidence that a racing greyhound had the same name as Alexander's wife, so I started reading everything I could about the dog.

It turns out that the breeder named the dog after his grandmother whose name was Marcia Bale - the same Marcia that was married to Alexander. Needless to say, I have since sent a letter off to this fellow, and am awaiting a reply.

So, I've learned that you never know where the next clue may come from so don't discount anything.

Cheers, Di



Book Reviews

The Clan MacGillivray

By Robert MacGillivray

In 2004, Volume 5 No.2, we featured the important release of "The Clan MacGillivray", a notable new publication by Robert MacGillivray, who is widely regarded as our Clan Historian, and who is a valued and regular contributor to this Journal

In the ensuing period, Australian members have been in the forefront as purchasers of this book, and I feel sure those buyers are very proud to have a copy on their shelves. However, we note that there is still widespread interest in "The Clan MacGillivray" in Scotland and the August 2005 issue of the Highland Family History Society Journal contained a fine review by Chief Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, as follows :

"In 1973, HFHS member Robert MacGillivray, wrote jointly with George B. Macgillivray the scholarly 'A History of the Clan MacGillivray, which is long since unobtainable. Now after thirty years of mature reflection, Robert has produced a slimmer volume (152 pages), beautifully illustrated in colour, titled 'The Clan MacGillivray' This in some ways updates the previous history, but its purpose is to provide a well researched and readable over-all introduction to the Clan and family.

Robert considers that the most likely origin of the name is that it has evolved from Mac Ghille Brath, meaning the family of (or son of) the servant of Doom, probably meaning doomster or judge; perhaps an early 'learned family' of the Gaeltachd. It is not known whether the different MacGillivray families share a common ancestor, but Robert includes all the groupings of families who are now called MacGillivray, and points out that there is evidence to show that some

families standardised their name to this form in recent times, and that originally they spelt and probably pronounced it slightly differently. A significant Mull family were the MacGilvras, probably indigenous to the island before the Macleans arrived, many of whom have standardised their name to MacGillivray. Robert takes the different families in each geographical area, including a Dutch branch, and describes significant events in their fortunes and lives. Half the book concerns the MacGillivrays of Dunmaglass, part of the Clan Chattan Confederacy, and their steady rise in importance and influence, marked in 1626 by their obtaining a heritable right to the lands in Strathnairn, which they had already been occupying for several generations. This family were the Chiefs of the clan, though the Mull Macgilvras were termed 'Macgilvra of that ilk'. The Dunmaglass family, well known for their part in The '45, descended to John Lachlan, the 10th Chief, whose death in 1852 led to a prolonged law suit over the succession, and the property was finally sold in 1889, the main line ending in 1942.

By a strange coincidence a book about this law-suit has also recently been published, 'The Dunmaglass Claim - Lucy and Jean' by Jane S. Macgillivray, which considers the 10 year litigation, and delves in minute detail into every known reference to the descent of the family in the mid nineteenth century. Jane believes that the legal decision was incorrect, but comes little nearer to proving who the Chief should be today.

Robert's book, however, has a far wider scope giving historical information in a readable form that is useful for any

member of the Clan MacGillivray. In a scholarly and professional manner he also discusses the history of the clan tartan, of the clan's heraldry, emblems and badges, as well as printing the Song to MacGillivray of Dunmaglass, and an account of some of the significant members of the clan."

John MacGillivray - His life and work

By Robert Ralph, Department of Zoology, University of Aberdeen

This item is not a book, but a ten page article that first appeared in Archives of Natural History in 1993, and has only recently come to my notice. The author, Dr Ralph, has previously written a number of books on the life and works of Professor William MacGillivray, the distinguished Scottish naturalist and ornithologist, but this later publication deals with John, 1821-1867, the Professor's eldest son, of whom we have often written in earlier issues of this Journal.

It was John's participation as an ornithological collector on three successive lengthy Royal Navy surveying voyages to Australia and the Far East that made his place in history, and then, of course, he died in Australia and still has descendants here, - our member, Kay Barnett, is one of them. The importance of the long voyages of Fly and Rattlesnake in the history of Australian ornithology has been reviewed by Whittell (1954), while the scientific and taxonomic significance of MacGillivray's specimens, especially from the Rattlesnake expedition, has been recently discussed by Fisher (1992) She also described his relationships with other explorers and naturalists in the Australian region in the 1840s and 1850s. Calaby, in 1974, wrote of John as a worker whose zeal and energy were unsurpassed, a man who enjoyed collecting above all else, a critical and intelligent observer with an

"The Clan MacGillivray" is still available to Australian members for A\$45 (sent to Treasurer or Secretary) and will be mailed direct to you from Scotland.

-Ed

excellent knowledge of systematic zoology and animal distribution. However, Calaby described his published work, apart from the Rattlesnake narrative, as essentially trivial, and felt it a pity that he had not published more substantial zoological papers of the new species he had discovered.

Dr. Ralph's paper, however, concentrated on John MacGillivray the man, his life and character. He described him as a complicated personality, dogged through life by financial difficulties, and who ended his career with the Admiralty on a low note when dismissed from the "Herald" in Sydney in 1856. His family life was an unhappy one, his wife, Williamina having died at sea while returning from England to Australia with their 3 young children. John himself died, alone and destitute, in a Sydney lodging house in 1857, the cause of death being given as "died from disease of the heart".

It was noted that he had a real talent for communicating with the native people in the regions visited by Rattlesnake, and an appendix to his own account of the voyage included substantial vocabularies and rules of grammar of two native languages. The same point was noted in the Ministry of Defence Library, where his notebook contained vocabularies of the native language of the Solomon Islands, and it is apparent that he had considerable physical courage in his dealings with native peoples.

McGillivray Secures By-Election Win

No, we do not plan an early move to Canberra, but, thanks to an alert Clan member, Jan Lorene McGillivray of Joondanna WA, we have become aware of one of our name who has recorded a successful entry into local government. The press release reads as follows:

McGILLIVRAY SECURES BY-ELECTION WIN

Bateman's Bay businessman Graham McGillivray has won the Eurobodalla Shire's by-election.

Although the poll will not be declared until Friday, returning officer, John Bourne, has confirmed that Mr McGillivray has secured more than 6700 votes, 1300 more than his nearest competitor, former councillor Keith Dance.

More than 18,500 votes were counted in the poll, which was to fill the vacancy

caused by the resignation of former Deputy Mayor, David Laughler, shortly after the new council was elected in March.

There was an overwhelming 'YES' vote in the referendum on whether the Council should have a popularly elected Mayor, which was conducted in conjunction with last Saturday's by-election. There were 12,300 votes in favour of the idea, twice as many as against the move.

The new system will not begin until the Local Government elections in September 2008, in which residents will decide directly the Mayor for the next 4 years. Meanwhile, Eurobodalla councillors will continue to elect a Mayor from their own ranks each year.

We hope that Graham is just as popular in 2008 as he is now.

Soraidh

Dorothy Lilian MacGillivray

Dorothy's brother, Ian has informed us of the sad passing of his sister, Dorothy, on the 30th July 2005. She had suffered a severe cerebral haemorrhage not very long after having celebrated her 80th birthday on 17th January in the same year.

Dorothy and Ian, both loyal and keen members of our Clan Society, have always lived together in their Brown Hill home on the Daylesford road, and Ian is now having to grow accustomed to coping with a lonely life on his own.

We offer him our sincere condolences and wish him well.

Marc McGilvery

On 14th January this year a freak boating accident occurred on the Claude Wharton Weir at Gayndah, Queensland, resulting in the death of 25 year old Marc, a grandson of Keith and Phyllis McGilvery of Mundubbera. Marc was the only son of Rob and Annemaree, and his death left his partner and two-year old twin girls.

Soraidh

Janet McGillivray Thurstan

Mrs Janet McGillivray Thurstan, a long time member of our Society, died on the 3rd October, 2005, aged ninety eight. Her son, J.E. Thurstan, wrote to advise us of the sad news, saying "my mother very much enjoyed your Journal over the years; she was, and died, a much loved and admired proud Australian Scot. Thank you for the joy your organisation provided her."

He went on to give the following details of Janet's life, for which we thank him. "Mum was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 15th August, 1907, to Annie and James Falconer, a sister to Jean. At about 4 years old she contracted polio, from which she was lucky to survive. On medical advice that she move to a warmer climate, the family migrated to Australia in 1911, with Janet thoroughly enjoying six weeks on a steamship.

Mum was a spirited, happy child, I suspect spoiled rotten by her Dad, yet using her mother as a role model to become the loving, pragmatic, 'get on with it', persevering person that she was.

Initially they lived in Newtown, shocked by our extreme summer heat after leaving the winter of Scotland. Soon they moved to Mortlake, where she started school, and the family attended the local Methodist Church. In 1915, the Presbyterian Church at Beverley Hills (then Dumbleton) was relocated to this site using steam driven tractors. Her Dad, being a carpenter, assisted in making the wooden church functional again, and so began an unbroken family association with this church.

On leaving Kogarah High School, Janet wanted to become a nurse, but damage caused to one leg by the polio precluded this. She completed secretarial studies and began work in the city with a company dealing in heavy machinery for mining and water conservation projects.

The Thurstan family had migrated from England at about the same time as the Falconers, and ended up attending this same church. Janet and Arthur became childhood sweethearts and married when they were twenty four. The church was the main spiritual and social focus for Janet throughout most of her life, as she was a choir member, a kindergarten teacher, Guild Secretary and Treasurer, and convener of the annual fete for many years

During World War 2 Mum was an active member of the Australian Comforts Fund, and Red Cross, mostly sending food and clothing to our troops and to friends overseas. She also worked for the National Emergency Service, associated with homeland defence.

She was a foundation member of the Peakhurst Ladies Bowling Club, serving as it's Treasurer for six years.

Mum did not much like other people organising her but, given a task, was quick to motivate others to pitch in and help, as many will remember. She was not big on theory – more a doer. She loved her family, her religion, any form of handicraft (especially knitting, sewing and crochet) gardening, lawn bowls, ribbons and lace and her Scottish heritage.

She was a collector of meaningful poems and prayers, and I shall close with two of them in order to give an insight into the lady that she was.

'How to stay young. Youth is not a time of life, it is a state of mind. Nobody grows old by merely reaching a number of years. People grow old by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but giving up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.'