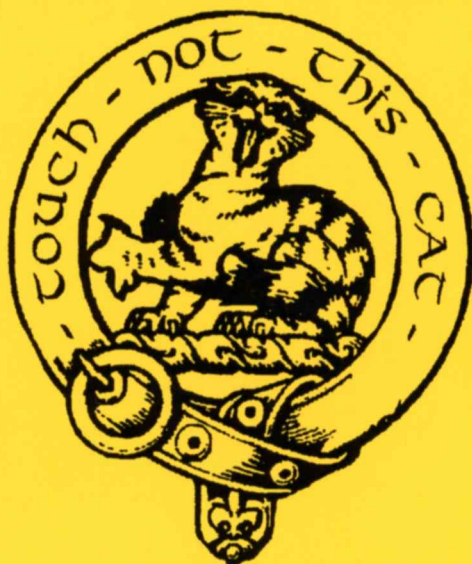


# CLAN MACGILLIVRAY



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### Members Please Note

Please refer to end of Journal for Membership Fees details

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With helpful contributions from various members, for which the Editor is very grateful, and the usual great assistance from our honorary member, Robert, of Edinburgh, it is hoped that all members will find plenty to interest them in this Journal. We seem to have more than the usual number of reports of birthdays and wedding anniversaries – no doubt this is to be expected as our longer term members grow older, and the same comment applies to the equally long list of 'Soraidh' notices.

The longest single article is a piece of fiction that is nevertheless based on a landmark that still exists on former MacGillivray land in Strathnairn, and about an event that looms large in our history.

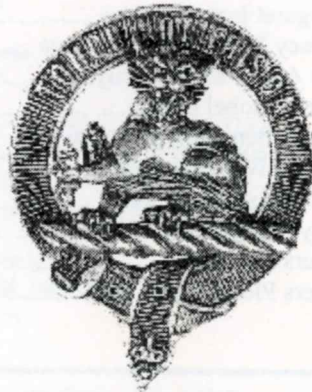
However, by far the most important thing that I wish to announce is the fact that a completely new history of The Clan MacGillivray is now available. Robert MacGillivray is well versed in the history of the Clan and in this new work he takes advantage of new sources and extensive research to expand our knowledge on our venerable Clan. In particular he traces the various branches of the Clan from its origin in the ancient kingdom of Dalriada to its modern-day activities.

The book, which is A5 size, 152 pages and hard back, contains fascinating chapters on The Clan Tartans and The Clan Heraldry. It is beautifully illustrated in colour and black & white and is a must for all those belonging to, or connected to, the Clan MacGillivray in any of its many spellings. Whether it be the

MacGillivrays of Stratherrick and Strathnairn, the MacGilvrays of Mull, the MacGillivrays of Skye, of Islay, Arisaig and Ardnamurchan, there is something her of interest...and some fresh insights.

Having received a prestige book launch on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June, in the New Club, Princes Street, Edinburgh, the book is now available. To avoid double postage, customs duty, and separate remittance fees, we have arranged for copies to be mailed direct from Scotland to Australian buyers. All you need to do is mail a cheque for A\$45 to either the Treasurer of Secretary, and your copy will be mailed directly to you (refer separate Order Form for full details).

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Robert and thank him for this outstanding contribution to our Clan History.



Some years ago Pauline and I were on holiday in New Zealand, and in an office making some bookings. We could hardly have been further from our home in Scotland. When we gave our name, the Maori girl who was serving us put it straight into her computer without prompting. We were impressed and asked how she knew how to spell it. “Easy,” she replied, “it is hers”, pointing to one of her colleagues. Of course we were introduced and all was well until this “kinswoman” discovered that we spelled it Mc and not Mac as she did. She would have no more to do with us as she strongly pointed out that in her opinion, Mc was Irish whereas her Mac was Scottish. We were different people. No amount of explanation on our part would convince her otherwise, nor when we said that in any case spelling was of no importance. We left, shaking our heads in disbelief, wondering what she would have made of M’!

We have long pondered on the origins of our name and what it means. The Gaelic is not entirely clear and, if it were, it would still be a good way removed from the spelling now generally accepted for our Clan surname – MacGillivray.

In terms of our long history this is a relatively modern version. Anyone who has looked at old documents, written in an age before spelling became standardised (even now we have a difficulty with what standard to use- English or American- when applying a spelling check on our PC!), cannot but be surprised at the many forms used to represent us. Some are barely

recognisable and indeed might not relate to our clan. For example, Inverness, the capital of the Highlands, was in many ways a Lowland town, its business largely run by lowlanders. The first Highland name to appear on its list of burgesses (ie citizens or freemen) is that of a McGillewe in 1521. Can we be sure that he was one of us? Then, in Mull in 1618 we find “Donald McIlvrach of Pennygyll” who assuredly was. Subsequently in that century, the name was frequently rendered as McIlvray - a version found in Stirlingshire as late as 1881.

The spelling of our name has personally never been a matter of concern to us. Tracing back our own family through several generations provided several versions and we have second cousins at home and overseas who use a very different spelling to ours. This has the advantage that when we come across their spelling we can readily place them.

An opportunity to get some idea of the number of forms in which our name is to be found came last year when we acquired a CD, “Archer Software’s British 19<sup>th</sup> Century Surname Atlas” Our aim was simply to find out how the clan had spread throughout Great Britain from its original homelands.

The CD is based on the national census of 1881 and gives maps displaying the distribution of any surname by county, either as actual numbers or as densities. Incidentally, it also does this for forenames. What it reveals is fascinating.

For our clan surname over 72 versions are listed. The figure cannot be given with certainty because of doubts whether certain versions do indeed belong to our clan. The shortest forms found are McGilvry, McGilway, McGilvary, and McGilvey, the longest McGillivray. These should all be viewed with caution. This particular census was taken at a time when there was still some illiteracy, when many were still Gaelic speakers with little or no English, and the name would not be familiar to many making the census returns – especially in areas far removed from the Highlands, and many of those who transcribed the data would also have been unfamiliar with the name and may have had some difficulty in deciphering handwriting. Much of this must have applied particularly in relation to those resident in England. Hence we find McGilverie, McGilvory, McGillviray, McGilliviary etc.

What is more interesting is the number and the distribution of clansfolk throughout Britain in 1881. Notwithstanding our encounter in New Zealand, the commonest spelling among the 3030 or so clansfolk found is “McGillivray” which occurs 1204 times. “MacGillivray” only numbers 222. “McGillivary” is listed as 105, although we suspect many of these would arise from incorrect recording. McGilvray (731) and McGillvray (127) are also prominent.

The figures for distribution indicate how clansfolk had spread from their areas of origin. Of the 1204 McGillivrays, 417 were still located in Inverness-shire. This is not entirely indicative of their origins since Inverness-shire was the largest of all the Scottish counties. It extended from Inverness in the east, to islands in the outer Hebrides in the west, embracing Strathnairn and the Isle of Skye, both of which nourished distinct branches of the clan. This version of the name is found throughout Scotland in almost all of its counties, with 214 in the counties of Nairn and Moray, immediately to the east of Inverness-shire and a logical location for a spread of clansfolk from Strathnairn and its surroundings. 122 were in Argyll, which encompasses the islands of Mull and Islay. That county also held 205 of the 731 “McGilvray” spelling, reflecting a more common form in the aforementioned islands. But a greater figure, 252, for McGilvray appears in Lanarkshire as evidence of the drift from these islands to the industrial heart of Scotland. One source of regret is that, by the very nature of the data, the CD gives no indication of the numbers who had left the land of their birth for distant destinations overseas.

There is a good deal more that could be said about this CD, which is a fascinating tool for research. For those who would like to know more about this software, details can be found on the web at [www.archersoftware.co.uk](http://www.archersoftware.co.uk). And, as for the spelling of our surname, this just goes to show that in terms of our great clan it does not matter. We are indeed all one.

## SPELLING VARIATIONS OF NAME IN 1881 CENSUS & No. OF OCCURRENCES

McGillavry 1	McGillivrey 2	McGiloray 9
MacGilleray 1	McGillivrie 2	McGowry 1
MacGillevary 1	McGillivroy 7	McGilvaray 2
MacGillevray 11	McGillivry 10	McGilowry 1
MacGillivary 12	McGillivsay 2	McGilvaray 2
MacGillivray 222	McGilliway 4	McGilvarey 5
MacGillivry 1	McGilliwie 8	McGilvarie 1
MacGillaray 4	McGillovray 1	McGilvary 160
MacGillovray 1	McGilray 5	McGilvay 3
MacGillvary 6	McGilluray 1	McGilveray 39
MacGillvray 10	McGillvaray 1	McGilverey 3
MacGilvrey 1	McGilvary 40	McGilverie 2
MacGilvery 6	McGillveay 4	McGilvery 130
MacGilvray 24	McGillveray 4	McGilvey 1
McGilliray 2	McGillverry 5	McGilviary 3
McGillirvie 2	McGillvery 10	McGilviray 6
McGillivrie 4	McGillviray 2	McGilvory 8
McGillivary 105	McGillviry 1	McGilvray 731
McGillivay 7	McGillvory 1	McGilvrays 3
McGilliveray 4	McGillvray 127	McGilvrey 16
McGilliveray 8	McGillvrey 1	McGilvrie 1
McGillivery 4	McGillvry 1	McGilvry 5
McGilliviary 2	McGillwary 1	McGilway 4
McGillivie 7	McGillwray 6	McGilwray 1
McGillivray 1204	McGillyray 1	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3030</b>

Note : A great many of these are obviously errors in noting down the name; others will be errors in transcribing. They are however interesting in indicating pronunciation, and how they were perceived by those unfamiliar with the surname.

# CLAN MACGILLIVRAY

## “One Man’s War”

The diaries of Frank Douglas McGillivray, WX 6649 2/28<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.I.F.

Alert members will have noticed in our February 2004 Newsletter that Dorothy Gibbs had donated a book of the above title to our Clan Library, where it provides a valuable insight into a very historic part of Australia’s effort in World War 2, and gives recognition to the efforts of one member of a very widespread West Australian McGillivray family.

Dorothy Gibbs, a niece of the late Frank McGillivray, has transcribed and published all the contents of Frank’s daily diary entries from January 1<sup>st</sup> 1941, just three days before his unit sailed for the Middle East, until March 1943, by which time he was in Darwin, Northern Territory. This period included about nine months as a “Rat of Tobruk”, sometime in Egypt, Palestine and Syria, and then, on return to Australia after Japan’s entry into the war, he was engaged on Intelligence duties as a Coast Watcher on our northern coastline. Various promotions in the field took him to the rank of Warrant Officer Class 2 by 8<sup>th</sup> October 1945, when he was finally discharged.

One cannot fail to be impressed by the commitment that Frank made to keep his daily diary entries up to date, no matter whether he was in training camps, in the firing line during day and night action against Rommel’s troops who surrounded Tobruk, or while squeezing every moment of fun on the rare days of leave in Australia or in foreign lands. This reviewer had to smile at the discovery that I was not the only McGillivray to encounter trouble in getting back to

Northam camp before reveille after a day’s leave in Perth.

Frank Douglas McGillivray was born in the Murchison gold mining town of Day Dawn, Western Australia, on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1917, the 17<sup>th</sup> child of Charles Evans and Jessie Mair McGillivray. In Volume 1 No.2 we reported the existence of a very large McGillivray family in W.A, and then, a year later in 1981 were pleased to learn of a successful family gathering being held in Perth, with 55 members of that same family present. Sure enough, it was this family.

Charles, born on 19/12/1875, and Jessie commenced their Australian time at Rockhampton in Queensland, but after the birth there of their first son, they moved to Western Australia and settled in the gold mining areas to the north west of Kalgoorlie, where a further seventeen children were born.

Frank attended school at Day Dawn and Galena until his parents moved to Perth, which enabled him to complete his education at Perth Boys School. After that he held a number of jobs prior to settling down to a farming life on the property of his sister, Maggie and her husband, until the war intervened.

After his discharge from the army and back again in West Australia, Frank married Mollie Banks who was at that time serving in the Australian Womens Army Service, and they commenced farming on their own property at Green Hills, outside York, growing wheat and raising sheep. They also raised six

children, at least two of whom, Merle Hanks of Esperance and Geoffrey McGillivray with his wife Jennifer are members of our Clan Society.

In later years they moved to the coast at Esperance where Frank was engaged in work at the port and finally in garden management for the Department of Agriculture and the local High School. Although suffering some health problems in later life, Frank always delighted in telling many stories of his interesting life. He died on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1998, just two days after receiving the published copy of his diaries, which had been approved by his own family to be typed exactly as written.

Copies of this book are held at the National War Memorial, extracts from it having been reproduced in another book “War on our doorstep” and in “The Australian” newspaper.

Dorothy Gibbs, and our keen member Peter McGillivray of Lathlain, WA, are both the children of Frank’s elder brother, Charles, and one of Frank’s daughters, Barbara Knight is engaged in research into the pre-Australian history of this widespread family.

To conclude, Peter tells us that no less than forty seven descendants of his father, the aforementioned Charles McGillivray and his wife Dorothy, met together in March last for a successful family gathering, their third such ‘get together’, and Charles was only one of the original eighteen!



## Standing Stone Of Blade And Blood

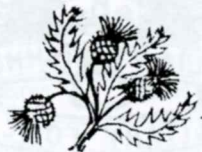
That is the title given by Willie Forbes of Milton of Farr, Scotland, to his fine fictitious story about "Clach an Airm", Stone of the Weapons, which appeared first in Crann Tara, the 2003 Journal of the International Clan MacGillivray Association. Willie is a very active member of the Strathnairn Heritage Association, and he readily agreed to us also reproducing it, because of the genuine historic significance of this stone to Clan MacGillivray in particular. He describes Culloden and the men who were there, as though he were an eyewitness.

The stone itself is still in its original position on the property of Gask, which John Mor "Big John" MacGillivray farmed, though the surroundings have changed, and it is difficult to find in the heavily planted forest of trees. Even its sylvan setting cannot cloak its purpose, as it still bears the scars of ancient use. What a great story it could tell of the fate that befell our clansmen who had sharpened their swords on it on their way to a bloody death at Culloden.

I am reminded of an article that appeared on page 25 of our 2000 Journal, under the title "A Key to a Loch", which also

referred to the Stone of Arms, and accompanying it was a photo of Donald McGillivray of Glasgow standing by a stone which he then believed was that stone. The stone pictured by Willie Forbes is clearly different and, I must say, looks much more likely to be the genuine thing, as it is the one also pictured in our Clan History.

- Ed



## Clach An Airm

(Pronounced "Clark un Airum" - Gaelic for "Stone of the Weapons")

Picture the scene. It is early morning on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 1746. We are looking at a prehistoric standing stone located on a wide, open landscape at Gask in the heart of Strathnairn. Apart from a few sprawling, mature Caledonian Scots Pine trees scattered at random across the countryside, there is very little shelter from the north-easterly breeze. The sky is dark and heavy and there is a feeling of winter in the air even although it is springtime.

All around is a babble of sound. There are people here – a lot of people. All are speaking in the Gaelic language of their ancestors. There is a feeling of anticipation that something very important is soon to take place. Alongside the voices there is a continuous sound of metal scraping on stone. Men are lining up to take turns to sharpen swords, dirks and spikes on their highly decorated targes. This prehistoric stone is the focal point of attention. These men are preparing to do battle with an, as yet, distant enemy. It is important that they are prepared. Their lives may depend on how well they have sharpened their weapons. Clach an Airm has been used for centuries to sharpen swords, knives, domestic utensils and agricultural implements. Today is probably the most important day in its existence.

Clach an Airm is a colourful scene this morning. There are hundreds of men gathering together, dressed in the tartan garb of their forebears. The colours are those of various dyes derived from vegetation growing wild in their neighbourhood. A few of the people present are obviously men of some

standing in the community. It is easy to tell – they are the ones wearing fine jackets, continental shirts with lace trim and expensive, decorative footwear. They are dressed for an occasion and many will look up to them for leadership as they face the enemy tomorrow some seven miles to the north east. Amongst them are Captain Angus MacKintosh of Farr, Captain Farquhar MacGillivray of Dalcrombie and - the man who will lead the entire Clan Chattan regiment into battle - Colonel Alexander MacGillivray of Dunmaglass. The officers of this clan regiment are important men from important families in Strathnairn and surrounding areas. Their whole demeanour effuses authority – and today their authority will count for more than ever before.

The great majority of people here are not so well dressed, however. They are clothed in a simple but uniform attire – the long woollen plaid combining to form the philimore and the philibeg (many different tartans and many different colours – there tends to be some similarity of colours and patterns within most family groups), a course homespun shirt and the distinctively Highland bonnet. The lucky ones have shoes – many are simply barefoot. Irrespective of whether these clansmen are rich or poor they share a common bond – one of kinship. They know their genealogies inside out. Some are here out of a determination to see Prince Charles Edward Stuart claim the throne of Great Britain once again for the Stuart dynasty – most people are here because they have to be. They would rather be tending their

sheep, cattle and families. Refusal to turn up for the battle would result in their thatched roof being burnt and their cattle being confiscated by their landowning superiors – those men we see here dressed in the fine apparel. So there is no choice for the rank and file clansman – he simply ‘tows the line’ and joins the rest of the neighbourhood in taking up arms for Clan Chattan. The ordinary men ‘know the score’ and they will put their whole heart into the forthcoming battle.

So who are these men of the Clan Chattan gathered around this ancient landmark? Well, they are predominantly men from Strathnairn and Dores although there are some from further afield. Most of them bear the surnames of families belonging to this ancient confederation of clans. There are MacKintoshes, MacBeans, Shaws, MacGillivrays and MacPhails. There are also other less common local names – Smith (or Gow), MacPherson, Forbes etc.. Many of these men have already walked a number of miles this morning and are glad of the rest and opportunity to talk to friends and relatives whom they have not seen for some time. Others – like John Mor MacGillivray, who farms here at Gask – have walked only a few hundred yards from their homes in this well-populated part of Strathnairn. Gillies MacBean has walked across the moor from his farm over at Bunachton (clearly visible from where I stand) to join us here. Just on my left, now sharpening their swords, is 43 year old Donald Forbes who farms at Farr, Duncan MacKintosh from Aberarder and John MacPherson from Brin. They talk about the condition of their cattle and their plans for this year's crop cultivation while they scrape metal against stone.

The people gathered here are not men of any regulation “military age”. Some are

well on in years, having seen action as young men in the 1715 Jacobite Rebellion. Their knowledge and experience will be invaluable over the next two days. Others are young – very young – mere boys even, barely in their teens. Highlanders are natural soldiers, highly effective in warfare, armed for both distant and close combat, exceptionally mobile and – on their own territory – almost invincible. They will fight not only for their leader but – most of all – for their brothers, fathers, sons, cousins and uncles who stand alongside them in the affray. They will fight furiously and passionately. Not just for their own pride but for the protection and honour of their kin. The might of the British Army fears the Highland warrior more than any other they have ever done battle with.

In the distance to the west can be heard the approaching sound of the pipes. I recognise the tune as one belonging to Stratherrick. The men of our neighbouring Strath are also making their way east to join us in the battle. These are Lord Lovat's men from Stratherrick – Frasers, MacTavishes, MacDonalds etc.. We have not always been on friendly terms with them but today we come together as allies in a common cause. We will put old scores aside – at least for the time being.

There is a restlessness now amongst the gathering. Men form roughly into groups behind their leaders and head towards an area of open ground somewhere to the south and east of Inverness. They will reinforce the Jacobite Army who have endured seven long months of warfare across mainland Britain, fighting and winning two major battles during that time. The Highland soldiers waiting at Culloden Moor are cold, tired and hungry

and are in no fit state to fight. The long, hard winter has taken its toll on them. Our men here are fresh, well fed and rested. They are well prepared for military action. The finest infantry in the British Army will greet the men of Clan Chattan with great fear and trepidation.

It is now early afternoon on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 1746. Clach an Airm stands alone once again on this open landscape. The sound of sharpening of steel on stone is now a memory. There is an ice cold, sleet-bearing north-easterly wind driving into my face as I look towards the scene of battle. The sound of artillery could be clearly heard for almost an hour from around 12.35pm. It is now approaching 2 o'clock. I see a small group of horsemen passing furiously a few hundred yards to the east, down in the Strath. Through my telescope I can see that they are important men – very important men. One is definitely none other than Prince Charles Edward Stuart himself. The signs are not good for our Strathnairn men. What has befallen them?

It is now almost 4.00pm. I see a scattering of men across Drumossie Moor. Some alone, others in small groups. All are in haste, gasping for breath, torn, tattered, blood-stained, blackened with gunpowder. Their eyes show trauma and deep anxiety. I speak to one man who continues on his way as he speaks to me in a haphazard manner. I can barely make out what he is saying but my worst fears are confirmed. The great anticipation and optimism of yesterday has now been replaced by a sense of hopelessness, fear and panic. The enemy has been victorious.

I speak to another man as he rushes by. Again I plead for news of the battle and the fate of the Strathnairn men. It is now

all becoming quite clear. The Clans were outnumbered, outgunned and fought on an ill-chosen battlefield. Their brilliant military tactician – Lord George Murray – had been replaced by an inexperienced and incompetent commander who made many basic errors of judgement. Defeat was inevitable but not given easily.

The men of Clan Chattan acquitted themselves well but they suffered more than any other clan regiment. They were first to charge the field, they broke through the first line of the Redcoats – and not just any regiment, they charged Barrel's troops, the very best in the Hanoverian army. But from what I can gather, the casualty rate has been enormous, many have been taken prisoner and those who have escaped now fear greatly the consequences of this defeat for themselves and their families.

I learn that, like so many others from this Strath, John Mor MacGillivray from Gask will never return home again to his native soil. Captain Angus MacKintosh was wounded on the battlefield - his fate is unknown. Donald Forbes was captured and is now imprisoned in a miserable Hanoverian prison-ship awaiting transportation to the West Indies and to a life of slavery. Our courageous leader, Colonel Alexander MacGillivray, died bravely in the thick of the action as he urged his men forward against intense artillery and musket fire. Captain Farquhar MacGillivray, Gillies MacBean, Duncan MacKintosh and John MacPherson have been much more fortunate - they all managed to escape to safety from the battle. Freedom, however, will be short-lived for Duncan and John - the Redcoats will eventually capture them on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Safety for all others means a secure hideout in the hills with their families or - if you are one of the very

few who has money - passage to France. There will be many anxious, hungry days, weeks and months ahead for those who lie low in the heather, awaiting the enemy search-parties.

Some days have gone by. It is now late afternoon on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 1746. All around are roofless cottages with smoke still rising from the burnt embers. Redcoated soldiers still scour the landscape, killing defenceless people of all ages and gender, destroying property and gathering what remains of the livestock from the crofts and farms around Clach an Airm. I cannot bear to recount the atrocities that I have seen carried out by these ferocious and vengeful soldiers from the victorious

army. They are out of control and bring shame on the name of the king they serve.

Clach an Airm will remain standing where it has stood for many centuries. It will be seen for many generations yet to come. But the details of what I have witnessed happening all around the vicinity of this stone, during the days and weeks following the Battle of Culloden, will be lost from historical record for all time. The personal memories of these tragic events will die with the people who lived through them. The pain arising from what took place on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1746 at Culloden Battlefield, and its aftermath, however, will remain with Strathnairn forever.

William A. Forbes  
8 January 2003

## Another Notable Birthday for Yvonne Jones

A foundation member of this Clan Society, and a member of our Council ever since it's inception, YVONNE JONES of Sydney had a most exciting 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 13<sup>th</sup> 2003; flowers were received from England, USA, Kiama and locally.

Yvonne was actually given three parties, on different days and at different venues. Imagine a birthday party where, on the icing of a beautiful cake was a photo of Yvonne – all of it edible!

Then there was a trip to Pruniers' "posh" restaurant in a ROYAL CHARIOT – a magnificent white Daimler Limousine which once belonged to Princess Margaret. Yvonne sat in Margaret's special seat, in front of which was a little table, which held

glasses into which the elegant Chauffeur poured champagne! As they drove along, people at tables on the footpath toasted a delighted Yvonne, who toasted them back and gave the Royal wave!

Cheers!  
A wonderful time was had by all.



## A Pleasant Surprise

At the annual Ringwood Highland Games on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2004 we had barely finished setting up our tent on 'Clan Row' when a young couple approached, keenly examining the display of MacGillivray regalia, books etcetera. Questions brought out the fact that the pretty young girl was indeed a MacGillivray, hailing from Antigonish County, Nova Scotia, Canada, and none other than Sabra, the champion highland dancer of the talented musical family about whom we wrote in our 2000 edition. In that article, which came as an extract from the Newsletter of our Canadian Clan Society, we concentrated mainly on Kendra, who is the world-renowned fiddle player of the family.

It turned out that Sabra and her husband Iain MacDonald were on the very last

day of a holiday visit to Australia, and she was competing in some of the highland dancing competitions at Ringwood. Their very early appearance at our tent was, we discovered, due to the fact that they had forgotten to wind their clocks back one hour during the night to cope with the end of daylight saving!

Later in the day, Sabra and John came back for a photo session in front of our tent and then she happily marched on to the oval with Clan MacGillivray for the official opening ceremony.

We never did find out how she fared in the dancing competitions, but it was a real highlight of our day to have this charming young Nova Scotian pay us a visit.



David, Heather & Peter McGillivray with Sabra at the Clan Tent at the Ringwood Highland Games



## Further Recognition for Noted Naturalists

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Those of us who have been greatly encouraged by the belated attention given in recent years to Professor William MacGillivray in the fine books by Robert Ralph, received a further boost last year by the appearance of a new book, "**Audubon in Edinburgh**" by John Chalmers from the publishing enterprise of the National Museums of Scotland. For too many years the life and works of William MacGillivray (1796-1852), latterly Professor of Natural History at Marischal College, Aberdeen, had gone largely unrecognised and forgotten until Bob Ralph, curator of the Zoology Department Museum of Aberdeen University came across some of his work, and undertook a deep study of William's outstanding lifetime achievements. The books which he then had published, and which have been reviewed in previous issues of this Journal, proved to be a vehicle for the publication of many of William's beautiful drawings and painting of birds and other creatures, which had lain unpublished for many years in the British Museum, London.

This new book by John Chalmers, an Edinburgh orthopaedic surgeon and keen ornithologist himself, about a famous American bird painter might seem an unlikely source of information on one of our fellow clansmen until it is remembered that William, as conservator, had transformed the Museum of the College of Surgeons in Edinburgh before moving back to Aberdeen where he was born, and taken up the regius chair of natural history. When Audubon came to Britain in 1826 to seek an engraver capable of reproducing his life-size paintings for his book "The Birds of America" he fell in love with the Scottish capital and it was there that he found the encouragement and facilities to realise his ambitions. There too he found

a kindred spirit in William, who became his close friend and assisted him in writing the Ornithological Biography, which received favourable critical comment both for its literary and scientific content. With the completion of the final volume of "The Birds of America" in 1839 he inscribed a copy to William "*These volumes are presented to William MacGillivray with sentiment of the highest esteem and best wishes by his truly and sincerely attached friend John J Audubon*".

John Chalmers not only describes in much detail the extent of the friendship and collaboration between two great men of natural science, he devotes two lengthy chapters to "William MacGillivray's Early Life" and to "MacGillivray after Edinburgh". He also uses a good number of William's beautiful colour illustrations and black and white sketches of birds thus giving them the wider circulation they so richly deserve. Audubon himself has written to William "*May I live to see engraved your drawings of British birds, which I sincerely declare to be the best representations I have yet seen*". Instead, it has taken nearly a century and a half before these wonderful illustrations have begun to be published and to become generally available. This is a marvellous book containing so much information and so many lovely illustrations.

William, as we know, had twelve children; two of whom died in childhood. At least five of them are said by the author to have emigrated to Australia (in fact it was 7). Two, John and Paul Howard, were also noted naturalists and their lives and achievements are also given coverage. John, whose major work was the "Narrative of the Voyage of HMS Rattlesnake", was naturalist on three voyages of exploration to the southern Pacific but died in poverty in Sydney in

1867. Paul, who practised surgery in Bendigo, Victoria, was a president of the Medical Society of Victoria and in addition achieved distinction and recognition as a naturalist. He it was who presented his father's paintings to the Natural History Museum in London in 1892. He died in 1895.

There are so many levels to this book. For those interested in Scotland, and its capital, the descriptions, accounts and illustrations are fascinating. The city was then enjoying its Golden Age following on from the "Enlightenment" and the construction of its "New Town". It had been at the forefront of literature, the arts, learning, science, medicine and intellectual activity. It attracted many from overseas. In the hundred years from 1750 - 1850 no fewer than 650 Americans obtained their medical degrees in Edinburgh. Charles Darwin came to

Edinburgh as a medical student a few months before Audubon's first visit to the city. It is impossible to resist giving one of the great many quotes in this book. Soon after his arrival Darwin wrote to his father: "*...all the Scotchmen are so civil and attentive that it is enough to make an Englishman ashamed of himself...*"! Nine hundred medical students enrolled at the university in that same year. It was unchallenged as the leading medical school in Britain.

Ostensibly a book on a noted American ornithologist, this work is warmly recommended as containing much for MacGillivrays interested in reading about the achievements of their illustrious kin and for those interested in a glorious period of Edinburgh's past. It is available from the National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh EH1 1JF at £30 excl. postage.

## The USA Scene

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Ever since the appointment of Bruce P. MacGillivray of Portland, Oregon, as Clan Commissioner for the USA, the formation of a legally constituted Clan society in that country has been actively pursued, but it has been a very slow process, delayed by legal and administrative problems.

The current board of directors is headed by President by James J. McGilvray of Oakton, Va., who was pleased to advise us in October 2002, that the Clan MacGillivray society had become legally incorporated. The next step was to seek from the Internal Revenue Service an exemption from Federal income tax as a non-profit organisation, and this is a frustrating and on-going delay, still not resolved. An application has also been made to the US Postal Service for a bulk-mailing permit.

In the meantime, an Advance Membership Appeal went out to 200 individuals and families and the response was quite good, resulting in receipt of membership payments that will allow the issue of a bulk mail membership offering to over 2000. These were all printed in advance, and the first 1000 were to go out in May this year. We look forward to learning the outcome of this approach. In the meantime, the appointed Regional Convenors are said to have been gearing up for increased activity at Highland Games in this year's summer season. Potentially, this U.S. Society should become by far the largest and most active of the MacGillivray organisations in the world and, judging by the support that USA clan members have demonstrated by their attendance at past International Gatherings in Inverness, they should succeed. We certainly wish them well.

## The Enchanted Isles

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Ray Wilson of Lismore, NSW, while in Canberra recently, found a book written by Alasdair Alpin MacGregor entitled "The Enchanted Isles", in which the author writes of some experiences he had enjoyed and of people he had met during a lifetime of visits to the Western Isles of Scotland. I found it all very fascinating reading, but as Ray pointed out, two chapters, namely 'Eoligarry and the MacGillivrays' and 'The Coddie's Storytelling', contain significant references to a particular family of MacGillivrays.

The separate article by Robert (elsewhere in this Journal) – entitled "Further Recognition for Noted Naturalist" – tells us of substantial praise for Professor William MacGillivray in the book, "Audubon in Edinburgh", so it seems appropriate now for me to follow on with some comments on the chapter in MacGregor's book about Eoligarry, which was a famous house on the Island of Barra. Built in the late 1700's, Eoligarry, with its 4000 acres of fertile farming land on the attractive northern end of Barra, was one of only four mortar built structures on the island. It was the home of General McNeil, the last of his line – the last of the MacNeil Chiefs to reside in the heart of his historic patrimony. In 1840, when the Barra Isles passed out of MacNeil hands, Eoligarry became the residence of Colonel Gordon of Cluny.

The point of interest for us is that the next owner of the Eoligarry property was a younger brother of Professor William, namely Dr. Donald MacGillivray, who had a medical practice and a farm at

Ormaclait on the southern end of the adjoining island of South Uist. He sent his two young sons, William and Murdoch to Barra, the latter having almost completed his medical studies, to supervise the farm. Eventually, Dr Donald himself moved to Barra as that island's sole doctor, and this enabled him to settle in at Eoligarry and to devote himself to serious and profitable farming. He became a very successful breeder and shower of Highland Cattle, and when he died in 1886 he had devoted 46 years in all to "gratuitously and lavishly giving the benefits of his medical knowledge to the impoverished islanders".

He will be remembered as a benefactor to the islanders. At a difficult time in the economy of Barra, with the people near destitute and a grave shortage of land to sustain the large population, he gave employment by carrying out long term projects such as the building of a harbour at Eoligarry. Although there were some allegations that he had exploited the situation of some crofters by demanding excessive labour, the Napier Commission reported as follows "To Dr. MacGillivray the people of Barra are much indebted, and this they gratefully acknowledge." Oddly enough, he was buried back on South Uist, where I was fortunate enough in 1992 to find by chance his grave, along with his wife and two of his sons, in a separate walled enclosure by the ruins of an old church.

He was succeeded at Eoligarry by his two bachelor sons, William and Murdoch, but in 1920 the Government acquired the estate and split it up into crofts to alleviate the land hunger. However, the

brothers retained the house for the rest of their lives, William's death in 1939 ending a MacGillivray connection with the island. He was a tall man with a distinguished presence, of outstanding mental and physical vigour, They had both been enthusiastic and talented ornithologists, like their uncle, and gathered a major collection of Barra birds, which was ultimately housed in Aberdeen University. Also, they were both very interested and keen on the pipes

and pipe music, Murdoch, in fact, becoming one of the finest pipers on Barra and an authority on the pibroch. At Eoligarry, they had an old set of pipes that they claimed had been picked up from the battlefield at Culloden. A few years before his death, William made careful arrangements for these pipes to be transported to the West Highland museum in Fort William, where they may still be seen today.

## Another Feather In The Cap Of Betty Gerrish

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On at least three previous occasions we have published references to the success of our keen member, Betty, ranging from her participation in the Federation Ride on horseback from Melbourne to Canberra to the various cottage industries that she conducts on their property at Maindample, near Mansfield, on the road from Melbourne to the snowfields of Mt. Buller. "Alcheringa Woollen Goods" featuring her blends of wool and Alpaca fibre and "Crystals Calling" which displays the gemstones and crystals that she collects on fossicking expeditions with the local Lapidary Club, are popular stopping places for many visitors to the picturesque local mountain areas.

Now we hear that Betty has another feather in her cap, as featured in a recent issue of the 'Australasian Poultry Magazine'. Apparently she has a real gift for arranging feathers in artistic patterns

that look very nice as hat feathers, and these are immensely popular with those folk who wish to make a real show at the Melbourne Cup carnival each year. Her hat feather production was originally intended to boost the sales of the felt hats that are made by a nearby friend from the felt produced from Betty's coloured Lincoln and Leicester sheep and alpacas, but it is the big, spectacular arrangements for the Fashions in the Field that really keep her busy each November.

The feathers come mostly from outside sources, such as friends who keep emus, their feathers often needing to be coloured with wool dyes, but Betty sometimes finds the time to pick up wild bird feathers from galahs, wild ducks, and cockatoos, these requiring little preparation other than a light washing.

Well done again, Betty

## Flo Lehman's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Over 100 family and friends of Flo Lehman gathered in Redcliffs, Victoria, on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2003, to celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Florence Myrtle Jones was born in Ouyen, Victoria on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1913, to August and Sarah James, who lived at Galah. When she was six years old the family moved to nearby Bronzewing and later on to Mildura, where her mother ran a guest house.

It was at that guesthouse that she met the man who was to become her first husband, Archibald McGillivray, who was boarding there at the time while working locally. Arch was a grandson of

the well documented John and Sarah McGillivray who had arrived as migrants on The Cheapside in 1848. They married in 1931 and settled onto a fruit block where Flo toiled in the vineyard as hard as any man.

Arch died in 1948 after a long illness, and Flo remarried to Sydney Lehman in October 1949. Over the years she has been most active in many community activities and for the last eleven years has been Vice President of the local Senior Citizens Club. She does all her own housekeeping, shopping and cooking - no meals on wheels for Flo, she says.



Flo celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with two of her children,  
David & Val

## Merle and Jim Payne Enjoy a 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Party

Merle writes "I enclose a photo of Jim and myself at our surprise party.

We married at Noble Street Methodist church, Newtown, Geelong on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1963. We have three children, Michelle, Rodney and Corey.

Michelle is married to Michael Peel and they have two children, Samantha and Grant, and they all live in Burleigh Heads, Queensland. It was Michelle who organised the surprise party, with her brother's help, and she flew down with the two children.

We had about 40 friends and family there, including two of my bridesmaids, Lois Mathews from Melbourne, and my sister

Stephanie (Whiteside), while Jim had one of his best men, John Powers, who came over from Tasmania. It was all a great surprise for us as we thought that we were just going out for tea with a few friends.

Our son Rodney is married to Clare and they have two children, Sarah and Thomas, with a third expected in August this year. Both Rodney and Clare are in the Navy and live in Booragoon W.A. Rodney is a Chief Petty Officer and has been involved with submarines for 20 years, whilst Clare is a Lt. Commander.

Corey, our youngest, is married to Lisa and they have just had a little boy, Zac Lewis, They live in Herne Hill, Geelong."



Merle & Jim enjoying their special night

## A 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in West Australia

Lynette Hall of Balga, WA, writes "In response to your request, I am pleased to send a photo taken on my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, when I was given a surprise party by my wonderful family. About 60 guests attended - family, friends, and staff from both of the organisations for whom I work voluntarily.

Malcolm flew down from Karatha and Trevor from Melbourne, even though he is still recovering from major surgery. I had not a clue until I walked into the hall, and still don't know how so many people whom I see all the time had been able to keep quiet about it.

The snapshot shows some of my family who were able to be there - Annette's sons Jeremy and Nathan, Malcolm, me (of course), Trevor and Annette. In front are Michelle, Brian and Belinda. Annette's husband came later, but Helen and Audrey were not able to come. Helen now has six young children and Audrey has had another knee operation due to her rheumatoid arthritis.

A motley looking lot, but I'm proud of them and love them all very much."

Congratulations, Lyn, and thank you very much. - Ed

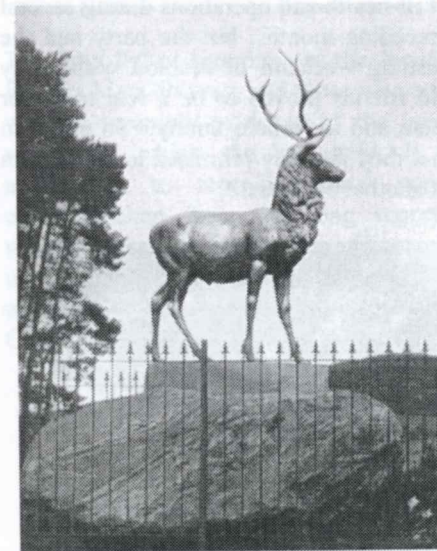


Lynette and her family

## Clan MacGillivray International Association

A recent report from Ishbel McGillivray-McGregor, President of the international organisation, tells us of Clan news from Inverness, the most significant event being a get-together on 16<sup>th</sup> April at 'The Steadings' in Strathnairn, the home of Chairman Blair MacGillivray. This function was to unveil "The Monarch of The Glen" a magnificent bronze stag, mounted on a large boulder atop a grassy knoll, proudly looking over the Clan lands, symbolically guarding the entrance to MacGillivray country. It is already a popular subject with amateur photographers.

The imposing sculpture was originally a gift to our late Chairman, Ronald, on his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and had stood above the portal of his home at Boleskine, but his family have now donated it to the Clan.



The plaque bears the following wording:

### The Clan MacGillivray

The 'Stag on the Stone' was erected here in 2003 to celebrate the continuity and the connection this ancient and proud Clan has had with the area of Strathnairn for many centuries.

*"Your race was not begotten of weeds nor of worthless grass,*

*Nor did it grow on the edges of the field,*

*But sprang from the finest of the wheat"*

*-song to MacGillivray of Dunmaglass*

This Stag symbolises the strength of kinship shared by those who bear this name throughout the world.

Donated to the Clan MacGillivray International Association by the family of the late Ronald MacGillivray of Boleskine, 1934- 2002 in his lasting and loving memory.

On the following day, 17<sup>th</sup> April, our group attended the Memorial Service held at the Cairn at Culloden. There they learned of a plan to spend 7 million pounds on a facelift for the battlefield facilities, and the hope is that the sites that are so special for MacGillivrays are well featured.

Plans are already in hand to hold the next MacGillivray International Gathering in 2007, and in conjunction with it will be the Youth Adventure Week which had originally been mooted for April this year. Whilst lively interest was expressed in this adventure, numbers were not sufficient this year for it to be viable, so it is hoped that 2007 will see it take place.

We are informed that some 250 photographs covering the events of the

## A MacGillivray Golden Wedding

On Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2003, Clan society members, Ken and Lesley MacGillivray of Cambridge Park, New South Wales, were delighted to find themselves as guests of honour at a surprise party arranged by their daughter Jean Marlow, her daughter Kate and the couple's four sons, Ross, Malcolm, Bruce and Ian MacGillivray.

Among about seventy guests, many of whom had travelled long distances from Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia and throughout New South Wales, were the groomsman, bridesmaid and flowergirl from the wedding of 50 years

ago, Ken's two sisters, Ailsa Robbins and Barbara Thorp, and Lesley's sister, Olive James. All five of their children, seven of their nine grandchildren and both great-grandchildren were thrilled to help them celebrate.

Both Ken and Lesley had suffered periods of ill-health and operations during several preceding months, but the party and the ensuing weekend of reunion with many old friends proved to be a real tonic for them and the whole family. So much so that they jokingly promised to do it again in another 50 years!!



Congratulations and best wishes to them.

## Mrs MacGillivray of Dunmaglass

Last year, Robert McGillivray, in his fine article, "Clan Feuds - Long Forgotten", referred to the fact that the wife of Chief Neil John was a direct descendant of those MacDonells who, in 1688, had sacked and burnt down the old house of Dunmaglass, yet she had come to be greatly loved by her husband's people.

Some time after Neil John's sudden death in 1886 the estate of Dunmaglas and the fine new lodge that he had built was all sold to the Sopper family, but we wondered what had then happened to his widow. Robert has now unearthed an extract from the Inverness Courier of June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1898, which reveals that she survived her husband by almost 12 years, and that she was, at the end living in a house known as East Dene in Ballifeary Road, Inverness. This building, still in fine condition, is now a B and B Guest House, nicely situated and with three star rating. With its historic connections, it could well be appropriate for visiting clansfolk to stay at East Dene.

The long list of mourners at the funeral for Mrs MacGillivray, and those who sent wreaths is ample evidence of the great respect in which she was held. It is appropriate to reproduce here some extracts taken from the long reports, which appeared in the Northern Chronicle of 1<sup>st</sup> June 1898 and in the aforementioned Inverness Courier.

*"The remains of the late Mrs Macgillivray, widow of Mr Neil John Macgillivray of Dunmaglass, and daughter of Lieutenant Angus Macdonell, of the Glengarry Fencible Regiment, were interred in the family burial ground at Dunlichity."* -

*"The family held Dunmaglass for many generations, and now the estate has now passed from their hands, their name continues to be revered in Strathnairn."* -

*"Her last years were passed in ill health, but her kindly and amiable disposition never failed."* -

*"She is survived by a family of two sons and two daughters. Both sons went out to India, but she had the satisfaction of seeing her elder son, now the Chief of his clan, who came home some time before her death. The younger son, Angus, was still in India." - (he was the one reputed to have died in Australia, but we have not succeeded in finding any record of his death here - Ed).*

*"A party of old tenants, all Macgillivrays, carried the coffin to its last resting place."* -

*"Her two daughters were present at the funeral, Miss Macgillivray and Sister Mary Augusta."*



The house where Mrs MacGillivray died

Those readers of this Journal who attended the 1997 International Gathering of our own Clan in Inverness will remember the young Chief of Clan MacLennan who piped so well for us at Ronald and Annette's lovely home at Boleskine on the shores of Loch Ness. Ruairidh Donald George MacLennan of MacLennan showed that his piping skills have not failed at all, when he flew out to Melbourne especially for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Clan MacLennan Association Australia.

The main event was a great Gala Luncheon held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2003, with over 200 attending. I was proud to represent Clan MacGillivray at this splendid function, along with other Clan Chattan representatives, Peeta May of Clan Davidson and Ken McCole of Clan MacThomas, and to take part in the ceremonial parade of at least 30 Clans and Societies.

### Gathering Notice

During 2004 there have already been some gatherings of a family reunion type, and some of our members have gathered together at functions organised by others, eg The Australian Celtic Festival at Glen Innes and the Scottish Australian Heritage Council, but no Clan MacGillivray Society Gathering has been arranged for the year 2004.

Our hearty congratulations to the MacLennans.

- P McG



Max MacLennan, Chief Ruaridh MacLennan & Peter MacGillivray at the MacLennan Silver Jubilee celebrations.

For each of the past 3 years at least, Clan MacGillivray Society has had some representation at the Glen Innes Celtic Festival, an event that is obviously growing into a very major annual activity in the New England region of New South Wales. In May this year, at least 6 of our members enjoyed an action packed weekend there – namely Anne and Alan Walsh of Armidale, 'Sandy' and Hazel MacGillivray from Tamworth, Margaret Thomas and Kath Carruthers from Newcastle district.

This provided the first opportunity for members to make use of one of the new mini-banners which we have acquired, thanks to Robert Carver who has given his time and expertise freely, and to my wife, Leila, who attached the tartan pockets. The secretary is now in a position to provide one of these on loan to any member who has the desire and opportunity to parade with a distinctive Clan identification.

Other members will no doubt be interested in a few extracts taken from a comprehensive report sent to us by Anne and Alan.

*"Generally it was a very well organised and spectacular event which seems to get bigger and more varied each year. The numbers attending were such that Glen Innes ran out of accommodation, and even surrounding towns could not meet the demand, but local residents responded to an appeal by opening their homes as part of a 'homestay' plan. All of the MacGillivray contingent were very comfortably billeted in splendid private homes.*

*Proceedings started on Friday, with impromptu renditions in the main street by pipers, dancers and other participants, and that night we attended the Official Opening and Welcome Ceilidh at the Services Club – very enjoyable.*

*On Saturday we all got up very early – 5 o'clock – and drove up to the Standing Stones for the dawn service which started at a quarter to six with a lone piper in the mist (very impressive) and we all sang hymns with a Celtic flavour. A girl soloist sang in Gaelic and the Welsh Cambrian choir from Newcastle, dressed in their attractive white frocks, long red shawls and wide brimmed black hats, also sang – very lovely.*

*After breakfast and a change of clothes, we went to the assembly point for the street parade, where a large crowd had gathered. We fitted in immediately after Clan Davidson who had pipers to spare, so we virtually had our own pipers as we marched four abreast. Each of us took a turn at carrying the new banner, and it was rather great to receive applause, and as people watching read our name on it, we heard comments like "oh, there's Clan MacGillivray", and "hurrah Clan MacGillivray". It was really great to have the banner, it must have helped to get a bit of publicity.*

*The rest of the day was spent in the main area amongst the Standing Stones where there was continuous varied entertainment with a Celtic flavour- singing, dancing, massed pipes and drums, and novelty acts. On the fringes were a host of vendor's tents, athletic events, children's races, sheep dog trials etc. It was all go, go, go. That night we attended, along with about 80 others, the Scottish Australian Heritage Council's dinner at Tattersalls Hotel, with a guest speaker from the University of New England, who spoke on the very long standing Scottish/French liaison. Again, this night was a great success.*

*Sunday morning saw us all at the 'Kirkin of the Tartans' for a moving ceremony, and 'Sandy' MacGillivray proudly carrying our banner.*

There were a few more activities during that afternoon, but we headed for home after afternoon tea."

Thank you clansfolk for representing us at Glen Innes and for your report

- Ed



Anne, Kath, Marnie, Hazel & Sandy



Marnie, Anne & Kath



Ross McGillivray & daughter Chamberlain of Charlton, obviously having fun at the Clan Gathering in Mailor's Flat



Alan & Anne Walsh with Hazel & Sandy McGillivray



Keith & Shirley McGillivray of Heywood, at Mailor's Flat in 2003

## The 'Mailor's Flat Gathering'

Our 28th Annual Gathering was held on Sunday the 23rd of November 2003 in the small Victorian hamlet of Mailor's Flat, a few kilometres from Warrnambool.

The day dawned overcast, Ted & Pat Foster, David & I left Warrnambool about 9am to drive to Mailor's Flat where we met up with Ashley McGillivray who was waiting at the hall - the sun was shining but the wind was a little brisk.

We had a discussion on how we were going to set up the hall, trestles etc - then it was 'all hands on deck'.

An hour later Ashley's wife Rosemary arrived with a great load of food and catering equipment - we know for a fact that she had been cooking for over a week, Neil McGillivray was next to arrive with a sound system for use by the entertainers during the day.

Folks were quick to mix and pull out their family histories and photos, comparing notes with others. Many met relatives for the first time, others caught up with family members they had not seen for some years.

By 1pm there were about 100 tucking into the nice lunch, prepared and supplied by Rosemary McGillivray along with her team of assistants who helped on the day.

Shortly after lunch the crowd had grown to 150, folks travelled from various parts of Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales for the day, for many it was the first time they had attended such an event, some found relations they had never met before and many a story was told. On thing we did hear a lot during the day was

just how friendly the McGillivray's were, and how well everyone mixed and quickly became friends.

A little after 2pm the Commissioner for Australia Peter McGillivray, piped in by a member of the Warrnambool Pipe Band, welcomed everyone and officially opened the gathering.

During the afternoon we were entertained by the Warrnambool Scottish Country Dancers, Neil McGillivray and Florence Laidlaw, who sang a bracket of Scottish songs, and later in the afternoon our own piper Colin McGillivray played a bracket of tunes.

There was great anticipation around the hall as Ashley drew our annual raffle. 1st prize, a gallon bottle of Teachers Highland Scotch Whisky, was won by a young 14 year old lass Melinda McIntosh - she hung onto the bottle tightly not letting anyone take it from her hands, it was going home to Dad she said. Ray McGillivray of Baulkham Hills, NSW won the 2nd prize, a 24-inch high doll dressed in McGillivray tartan.

A big 'thank you' must go to both Ashley and Rosemary McGillivray of Koriot for all the hard work and effort they put into organizing the successful event.

We are most interested in hearing from members who would be willing to stage a gathering sometime in the future - it's not a big job and of course you will have the full backing and assistance of your council.

- Heather McGillivray

## Piping Award

Some years ago, our late Clan Commander, George, donated \$300 to initiate a special fund, which could be used to pay for a worthwhile project in honour of the founders of the Clan MacGillivray society, Australia. Interest earned, plus other donations, have built up this special fund to an amount that enables us to achieve George's long-term goal.

It is pleasing to announce that the Victorian Pipers Association Inc. have now offered to establish The Clan

MacGillivray Novice Piper Victorian Championship, which will commence later this year.

The award will take the form of a perpetual shield carrying our badge and motto on a tartan background, and with the wording "In memory of Ian MacGillivray-Elder and John D. McGillivray".

Clan MacGillivray will be featured as a sponsor on all publications issued by the V.P.A. Inc. Aust.



From left to right:  
Ian & his wife  
John's wife, John & his daughter

## Well Done Jane

Congratulations to Jane McGillivray, only daughter of Clan Commissioner Peter, and his wife Leila, a Senior Lecturer at Deakin University's Melbourne campus, who has recently been awarded her Doctorate in Health Studies.

Jane's 9-year old twins, Claire and James, seem pleased with their mother's achievement.





## Australian Ex-POW Memorial In Ballarat

On Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2004, more than 10,000 people gathered in Ballarat's Botanical Gardens, on the shores of Lake Wendouree, to witness the formal dedication of the Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial by Defence Force Chief General Peter Cosgrove, AC, MC.

Whilst the National POW Memorial is the reconstructed Changi Chapel in Canberra, the initiative for this splendid new Memorial to honour more than 35000 young Australians who were held prisoners by the enemy during the Boer War, the First and Second World Wars, and the Korean War, came from the Ex-POW Association and the Ballarat RSL. Funding came with a \$200,000 grant from the Federal Government, supplemented by a public appeal.

The magnificent Memorial consists of a black granite wall 130 metres long, nearly 5 feet high, some nine inches thick and built with a backward slope so that the 35000 names can be easily read. A unique feature is that the roll of names gives no indication of rank, number or enlistment detail, in recognition of the fact that suffering and deprivation acknowledge no person's status. These men and women are equals. However, they are listed in historical order, from the Boer War in 1899 to the Korean War in 1953.

At the centre of the Memorial are six large basalt obelisks, etched with the names of all the countries where Australians were held as prisoners of war, and these stand in a large reflective pool. Water flows from a separate large stone, engraved simply "Lest We

Forget", along the base of the granite wall, and into the reflection pool in which the obelisks stand.

There is no doubt that this fine memorial provides the opportunity to reflect on the lives of the great number of men and women who suffered at the hands of the enemy, and to pay special tribute to the memory of the more than 8000 who died in foreign prison camps, mainly as a result of brutality, starvation and disease.

Finally, it seems appropriate in this Journal to show a snapshot of part of the Memorial with five MacGillivrays in the World War 2 list, about whom we have established the following details showing that two of them died whilst in POW camp.

*James Alexander McGillivray.*  
AIF. 2/23 Batt.  
Born 17/7/1910 at Brunswick, Victoria.  
Died 31/7/61 at Corryong

*"Alick" was a brother of Lil Hillas  
Married Laura Land, no children.*

*David Gordon McGillivray,*  
AIF. 2/10 Ordnance  
Born 29/10/03 at Quambatook, Victoria  
Died 7/10/43 – buried in war cemetery  
at Kanchanburi on Burma/Thai railway.

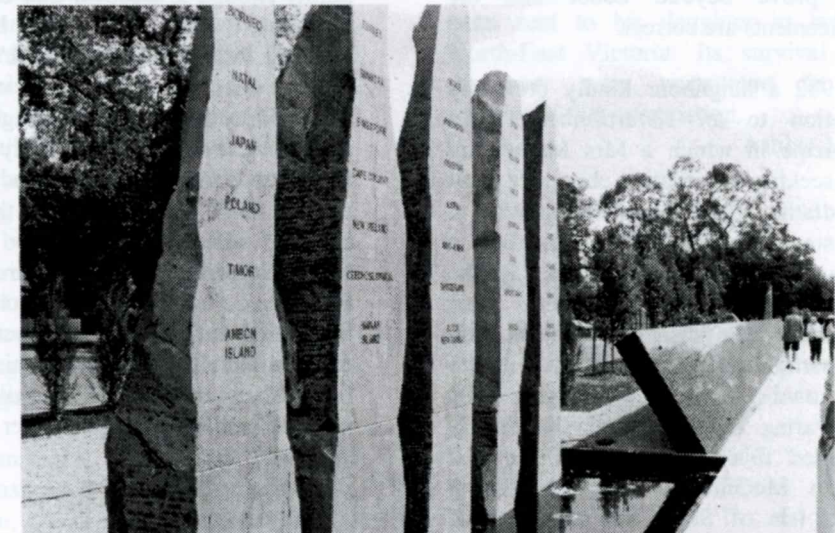
*David was of the "Gunbower" family  
Married Linda Davis, 3 children*

*Duncan McGilvray,*  
AIF. 2/26 Batt.  
Born 5/6/1910 at Clermont, Queensland  
Died 16/9/43

*George Howard McGillivray.*  
RAAF 101 squadron  
Born 28/5/1921 at St. Kilda, Victoria  
Discharged 9/10/1945 as Warrant  
Officer.

*Angus John McGillivray.*  
AIF. 8thDiv. AASC.  
Born 7/9/02 at Neerim East, Victoria  
Discharged 21/11/1945.

If any member has any further information about any of these brave men, and would like to have it recorded in our files, please advise the Secretary or the editor.



“Ever since its inception, the Clan MacGillivray Society has succeeded in bringing together family members of the same origin who, through the generations have lost touch with each other. This has encouraged many members to take up the challenge of researching their particular family history. From this there have been some incredible discoveries and revelations that can be accessed through the many articles in subsequent Journals where several family histories have been recorded.

However, when you become involved in research of a particular family and you find that they are claiming the wrong ancestors, this does place one in a very difficult situation. Firstly, one must find the correct ancestors and, secondly, have the replacements accepted by their many descendants. I would like to tell of a recent occurrence in which I became involved, and hopefully the following will prove beyond doubt that the replacements are correct.

In 1982 a neighbour kindly drew my attention to an advertisement in a magazine in which a Mrs Manwaring was seeking information about her great grandfather Martin McGillivray, who, at one stage during his life, worked on a property called ‘Violet Creek’ in the Victorian Western District, near Hamilton. Being fairly conversant with that particular area through research into my own family, I offered Mrs Manwaring my help, and she readily accepted this. She informed me that Martin McGillivray had come from Sleat, Isle of Skye, and that he had

arrived in Australia in 1837 with his wife, Mary McKinnon and their two children, Anne and Donald. She added that Martin’s parents had been Malcolm McGillivray and his wife Flora Nicolson, and that Anne had married a Cameron.

However, when I checked the Sleat parish records, it seemed obvious that the Martin who married in 1826 could not possibly have been the same Martin who was born to Malcolm and Flora in 1815. This conclusion was reinforced by the publishing in 1985 of the Steiner’s book, ‘The MacGillivrays of Skye’, which showed that Malcolm and Flora’s son, Martin, remained on Skye and never married.

With regards to the thought that Anne had married a Cameron, later research showed that she actually had married a William MacRae, but I was encouraged enough to delve into the Cameron family enough to discover that Christina Cameron, who with her husband Donald, farmed ‘Violet Creek’ where Martin was employed, was a McGillivray prior to her marriage. That situation created the possibility in my mind that perhaps Christina and Martin were in some way related and therefore it could offer an opportunity to find Martin’s parents. My research into Christina certainly did reveal some very interesting information and perhaps a more comprehensive written history of both Martin and Christina will make very interesting reading at a later date.

However, the following is very relevant – Donald and Christina Cameron arrived in Sydney in 1837, (the same year that Martin and family arrived!) and remained there for 2 years before eventually moving to the Hamilton district in Victoria, settling on the ‘Violet Creek’ property. Unfortunately, Donald died in 1852, leaving Christina with 5 children to support. In 1854 she married Angus Cameron, who had a property named ‘Arrandoovong’. Tragedy struck again in 1858 when Angus died. Although Christina, with the help of her young family, continued to run both properties, they were confronted with very difficult circumstances. Because of the 1862 and 1865 Land Acts, virtually all their land was thrown open. However, within a few years the Cameron’s managed to regain 15000 acres of the 16500 that they had formerly held under lease. In 1885 Christina died, but, sadly, four of her children had predeceased her.

Her death certificate revealed that she was born in Inverness to John McGillivray and Anne McInnes, but unfortunately my optimism was unrewarded because my initial research into Christina yielded nothing to connect her with Martin. The situation remained thus until 1998, when I received a letter from Lyn Wardle in Washington D.C. referring to a letter that I had written years before to her aunt Gladys Manwaring, which had been passed on to her. Lyn, being keen to carry on the research after her Aunt’s death, encouraged me to once again accept the challenge of searching further.

Unfortunately, even with renewed enthusiasm, I was unable to solve the problem, so decided to contact some

more of Martin’s descendants, in the hope that some help may be forthcoming. Eventually, my enquiries placed me in contact with Colin McGillivray of Lara. Colin had also spent a great deal of time researching his family history, but he was also unable to pinpoint Martin’s parents. However, he was sure that a Will had been passed down through many generations, and he undertook to try and find this document. If successful, he would contact me again.

Colin unearthed the will, and when I learned of its contents, I could hardly believe our good fortune. It was the Will of none other than Christina Cameron of ‘Violet Creek’ and ‘Arrandoovong’, where she named her brother Martin McGillivray, not as a financial beneficiary, but with the right to reside in either of the dwelling houses on those two properties, showing that not only did they share the same parents, but also that Martin did spend time with his sister in the area. Martin actually predeceased his sister by three weeks, but fortunately a copy of the Will had been sent to his daughter in law in North-East Victoria. Its survival and discovery were paramount to the validity of this information.

- Ashley McG.



## MacGillivrays on Mull

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To the best of the writer's knowledge, there are not many Australian MacGillivray families who have descended from migrants who originally came from the Island of Mull, although we know from our Clan history that the Mull community was one of the three main communities into which our clan forebears split when the Lordship of the Isles was forced to disband in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century.

We do know, of course, that Stewart McGilvray's ancestors, Malcolm and Margaret, came from Mull to Australia in 1852, and in Volume 2, No. 6 Stewart gave us a splendid detailed account of his wanderings around Mull in search of places where his forebears had lived and worked. Then too, in 1991 we published a fascinating story under the title "Chrissie Burg", which described the long occupancy of an isolated farm at Burg on the shores of Loch Scridain by a McGilvray family, of which the much respected and loved Christina was the last survivor.

Therefore, we felt it would be of interest to our readers to reproduce in full the following chapter extracted from a book titled "Mull Family Names for ancestor hunters" by Jo Currie 1998, which Robert McGillivray found in the Inverness Genealogy Society library. It certainly points to the difficulties of tracing forebears in Mull!

*"MacGillivray or MacGilvray is one of the oldest of Mull surnames. Its provenance, which has remained virtually unchanged for six centuries, is the area around Loch Scridain, and the headland of Burg in particular.*

*In letters of caption of 1675, when the Earl of Argyll was requesting hundreds of Mull tenants to appear in court, Donald Garve McIlvray and Archibald McIlvray were in Saorphin, while Martin Neelchallin McIlvray was in Ardchiavaig. Many other MacGilvrays grace the threatening documents of the earls in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, with patronymics displaying the full range of family Christian names. When the Campbells of Argyll finally got their way and became possessors of the West of Mull, their estate census of 1779 indicates that the McGilvrays were not evicted, but remained in exactly the same farms – Ardtun, Saorphin, Suidhe, Bunessan, Assapol, Knocknafenaig, Shiaba, Iona, Beach, Dererach and Burg, with the distinctive clan forename of Martin still surviving.*

*In the first twenty years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Neil McGilvra was a tenant in Killiemor in the parish of Kilfinichen. He was married to Christina MacEachern, but the baptisms of their children are rather erratic in the parish register, due to the fact that the far side of Loch Scridain was difficult of access for a baptising minister who had to go on horseback to the homes of his flock. Missionaries were always being assigned to this part of the parish, but did not last long, so all MacGilvray ancestor hunters should be warned that at best only a quarter of births are recorded in MacGilvray country. But Neil's son Charles was written down in 1815, even if that was some time after the actual birth. Charles was to become a physician and a distinguished Gaelic scholar who translated 'The Pilgrim's Progress' (published in 1869).*

*MacGilvrays, considering they are such an old family, are very little written about. Apart from a number of local people commemorated in the graveyard at Kilfinichen, there are no extant memorials. One family did have the territorial title of "Pennyghael". Alexander of Pennyghael recorded a sasine in 1825, of the lands of Pennyghael, Finachag and Carsaig, and Hugh of Pennyghael Younger had this confirmed in 1771. Hugh married Catherine, daughter of John MacLaine, so that the MacGilvrays of Pennyghael belonged to Mull's gentry.*

*In the 1841 census of the Burgh area, ten MacGilvray heads of households had a total of thirty-eight children between them. In the same census there were seventeen MacGilvrays in Shiaba, where most of the inhabitants were removed in 1847. Those who survived an epidemic of cholera on their arrival in Canada,*

*settled in Fergus, Ontario. By the 1851 census, the name is still concentrated in the Ross of Mull, belonging to the Duke of Argyll, and in Ardmeanach. Kinloch, which was owned by Donald Maclean of Kinloch, was a miserable refuge for many who had been pushed out of neighbouring estates, and some of the poorer 'pauperised' MacGilvrays are to be found here.*

*I would say that if you have MacGilvrays in your family, your chances of reconstructing relationships are very slim, for the repetition of Duncans, Neils, Archibalds, Donalds, Catherines, Marions and Marys is even more vexing than in other families. If you are lucky enough to have a Martin it may be plain sailing."*

With acknowledgment to "Mull family names for ancestor hunters" by Jo Currie, 1998.

## New Zealand Success

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What a satisfactory outcome it was that followed our brief appeal in last year's Journal for any Australian knowledge of Derick McGillivray's ancestors.

An alert member, Miriam Hamilton, contacted Derick very promptly, with the name and address of a gentleman, Jeffrey Mercer, whose great great grandmother Margaret Catherine McGillivray emigrated from Scotland to Melbourne in the 1850s and who, in 1855, married a John Mercer, and they had five children.

Derick is delighted to report that contact with Jeffrey has already enabled him to unravel a number of branches of his family tree since they share some common ancestors, and he plans to

eventually visit Australia to further his investigations. We hope that his wife's health improves sufficiently to make this possible.

It was in 1884 that his great grandparents Benjamin (1834-1925) and Mary Pirie and their family arrived in New Zealand and since then there have been 108 descendants, 84 of whom were still living in 1992 when a great family get-together was held. For that occasion, a splendid family history was put together by Derick's cousin, Dr WA McGillivray and other relatives entitled "The story of a New Zealand Branch of Clan McGillivray".

## The Munro Gathering

This gathering, to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Donald and Catherine Munro and their five children was held at White Hills Gardens in Bendigo, Victoria, on March 13<sup>th</sup> 2004, under sunny skies and ideal conditions.

Lily Sims, one of the organisers, has reported in detail on the great success of this function, and she wishes to express the thanks of all concerned to Heather and David for their assistance on the day and for the genealogical work which assisted in tracing all branches of the present family.

More than 200 attended, representing nine separate branches of the family, many of whom were meeting for the first time. They came from all points of Victoria, and also from Western Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and even one from England.

Of course, none of those attending bear the name MacGillivray, but practically every single one is descended from Catherine McGillivray of no.19 Lower Breakish, Isle of Skye, who married Donald Munro in 1843. (refer to Our Journal, 1998, Vol4, No.2). That is why we are delighted to have some of them as active members of our Society, Lily Sims and Del Smith being outstanding examples.

As well as all the study of family trees and getting to know newly found relatives, the crowd were entertained with piping, guitar and Scottish folk songs, a talk by Mr. W.B. Clarke, the author of a book about the voyage of "The Hercules", and Rev. Gray told of the early history of the Mortlake district.

It was at Mortlake that Donald Munro died in 1865, (just 3 weeks before the birth of their 12<sup>th</sup> child) and where he was buried. A brass plaque has now been placed on his grave to enable future identification.

A speaker from each branch of the family gave a brief resume of the pioneering lives of their forebears.

Perhaps we should conclude with the story of two men, who had been schoolboy friends at Ouyen, then one of them was best man at the other's wedding, but they did not know that they were related until meeting again at this Gathering.

Finally, Lily has asked that we pass on her thanks to all who contributed to making the function such a success, socially and financially.



Catherine McGillivray



Heather Borden of London, Una Hurst, Norman Sims, Fiona Poliakov & Kathryn Bell, all McGillivray descendants



Lily Sims (middle) with Elizabeth, Martyn, Stephen & Una Hurst

Those members who receive mail from the UK may have been fortunate enough to have seen some of the recent issue of six very colourful stamps that feature

parts of the Scottish countryside – mostly of the Highlands – and several of these are of special interest to MacGillivrays and to other Chattan clansfolk.

The scenes featured are as follows:



- |  |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> class -<br>Ben More, on the<br>Island of Mull, a<br>hill situated very<br>close to the<br>MacGillivrays of<br>Glencannel | 2 <sup>nd</sup> class -<br>Loch Assynt in<br>Sutherland | E -<br>for use on mail<br>within Europe<br>only, is of a<br>bright patch of<br>heather at<br>Rothiemurchus in<br>the Cairngorms,<br>which has<br>Mackintosh and<br>Shaw connections | 42p -<br>Dalveen Pass,<br>Lowther Hills in<br>the south of<br>Scotland | 68p -<br>Papa Little in the<br>Shetland Isles |
|--|---|---|--|---|



This year's lucky raffle  
winner!

### Margaret Isabella Lowe

8/12/1911 – 29/6/2003

### Sydney Walter Charles Lowe

7/7/1908 – 10/2/2004

It is with sadness that we record that Margaret Lowe (nee McGillivray), a long time member of the Clan MacGillivray Society and an amazing source of family history, passed peacefully away in June 2003, and that Sydney Lowe joined her in February 2004.

Margaret was born at Numurkah, Victoria, the second child of Peter and Miriam (nee Phillips) McGillivray, granddaughter on her father's side of Donald and Isabella McGillivray, and great granddaughter of Martin and Mary (nee McKinnon) McGillivray who came to Australia from Isleornsay, Isle of Skye, on the bounty ship "William Nicol" in 1837. Her early life was spent at Numurkah, Finley and Green Swamp near Berrigan (NSW) with her farming parents, brothers Donald and Allan and sister Doris.

Sydney was born at Zeehan in Tasmania and moved to Victoria with his parents and sister. He often spoke of his early life as a carpenter, goldminer, cinema projectionist, and member of a dance band. He served in WW2 in the army as a radar and radio technician, a vocation which he pursued until, and during, retirement. From his early career as radio and television repairer, he later became involved in teaching electronics. Always interested to learn new skills he followed the development of computers with enthusiasm, but still retained his love of music and interest in cinematography.

He often entertained family and friends with organ and violin recitals, and showed old 16mm movies, many of which he had recorded himself.

Sydney often spoke of his good fortune in meeting Margaret at a country tennis competition where she was umpiring. He was making a noise in the crowd and was told to be quiet by Margaret! Neither imagined that this would lead to marriage and 64 years of happiness together. Sometime after their marriage at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Numurkah, on 8<sup>th</sup> March 1939, they moved to Melbourne and built their home in Rosanna where they lived for over 50 years.

Affectionately known to family and friends as Maggie and Sid, the Lowes were popular and friendly and involved in many community activities, including a longtime association with the Ivanhoe Diamond Valley Handicapped Society, and Rosanna Probus.



Eric Angus McGillivray7<sup>th</sup> July 1915 - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2004

Eric was born at Lethbridge, Victoria, the eldest son of William and Mary, and grandson of "Black Jack" McGillivray. He had two sisters, Jean (Mrs Donaldson) who is now aged 90, and Margaret May (Smith) who predeceased him, and two brothers, William John who died in 1999, and Wallace, who kindly provided the details of Eric's life for this notice. The passing of Eric has brought to a sad ending his family's close connection with Lethbridge that commenced in 1882,

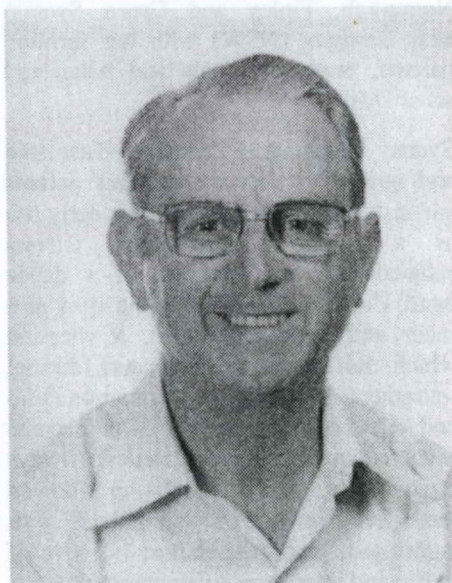
Eric was educated at the local State School and then at Geelong Institute of Technology, but this was in depression years and he found his first job as a boundary rider for several years before being able to enter the insurance industry in which he was employed for 40 years and then had another ten years as an insurance agent.

With the advent of war in 1939, he joined the RAAF and served firstly as a gunner in 640 squadron, flying some 38 sorties in Halifax bombers over France and Germany. He was wounded when his turret took a direct hit and his eardrums were damaged to the extent that he had less than 5% hearing thereafter. He continued in the service as a Fighter Affiliation Instructor and won promotion to Flying Officer.

After discharge he rejoined his insurance company in Melbourne, but then moved back to Geelong so as to be closer to his elderly parents. A very keen sportsman,

he participated in football, cricket, golf, table tennis in Lethbridge, helped to found a bowling club, and held executive positions in all of these local sporting organisations, earning life membership honours. For almost 50 years Eric was an Elder of Presbyterian and then Uniting churches in the district and generally played a major part in various civic roles. This culminated in his writing of "The Heritage of Lethbridge", a book which outlined the history of the town and of the early families which had played a prominent part in its life.

Finally, we must acknowledge his keen support for his Clan and our local Clan Society, the annual gatherings always attracting him until his health failed.

Glenys Isobel Evans

15-05-1934 - 14-05-2003

Glenys was born at Pyramid Hill, Victoria, the eldest child of Ernest Malcolm McGillivray and wife Jean, nee Davis. She had a difficult childhood due to the breakdown of her parent's relationship, and with her young sister Evelyn spent some time at the St Luke's Orphanage in Bendigo. They spent some time with her aunt and uncle at Fish Point, for some years with kindly neighbours, the Guinanes at Bald Rock, and finally with their Uncle Herb and Aunt Flora, where they found real happiness.

They recalled with pleasure holidays spent with another aunt and uncle at Mt. Hope station at Bald rock, the very same old homestead that many of us visited during our annual Gathering at Gunbower in 2002.

From the age of 15 Glenys worked and lived at a café in Pyramid Hill, then she worked at the post office in the same town before transferring to the telephone exchange in Bendigo. There she remained until she met and married Alan, with whom she shared a happy and full life, starting with 14 years on a wheat and sheep farm at Balranald. In 1974 the family moved to Appin South, where Glenys became very active in community affairs as well as working in the tomato growing industry, and then Alan and Glenys conducted a mail run from Kerang post office.

Finally, she became a staff member of an old peoples home, doing work that she loved so much that in retirement she continued on there as a volunteer. Notwithstanding her many other commitments which included her church, the CWA as its President, the Blood Bank, the ladies guild and, of course her beloved garden. She and Alan loved to dance and they were regular visitors to the old time dances held in all the surrounding towns.

However, Glen's greatest love was for her family, her husband, two daughters and a son, and she was especially close to her grandchildren. As one of them said at her funeral "Glenys was kind, gentle, generous, loving, our friend, your friend, and we all loved her".



**Robert Benjamin McGillivray**

24/09/1981 – 22/10/ 2003

A lifelong member of the Clan MacGillivray Society of Australia, Robert tragically died, peacefully and suddenly in his sleep, at his grandmother's home at Milawa.

Born while his mother, Joy, was a student at the Riverina College of Advanced Education, Wagga Wagga, Robert was the first grandchild for Society foundation members, Roma and the late Robert (Bob) McGillivray. Robert's Gramp purchased a length of tartan when he knew that he was on the way. The kilt was made for him by his aunt Jill, and his sporran was made by one of our Society founders, Ian MacGillivray Elder

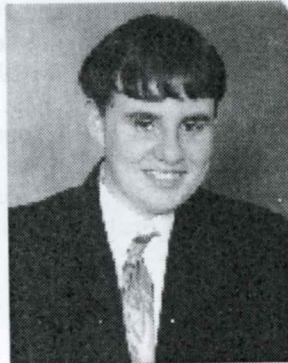
Sadly, Bob was not to see Rob in his kilt. Diagnosed with cancer shortly after Rob's birth, Bob died the following year having spent much time in hospital in Melbourne and in Wangaratta. Robert was a much loved and loving little boy and his presence was a great joy to the family as they coped with Bob's death. He spent much time at Milawa and was equally at home with his mother, grandmother and aunts, enjoying close bonds with all his extended family.

Baptised at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Wangaratta, wearing his kilt, while not a regular churchgoer, he was deeply spiritual and had a real knowledge and understanding of the bible. Rob had taught himself to read by the age of three, and at four the Atlas was his favoured reading. He loved the weather report on television and was fascinated by weather maps. Becoming an avid reader he

enjoyed increasing his knowledge and was a great debater.

Having attended various primary schools, he really found his niche at Mitchell Secondary College in Wodonga and continued to have an interest in the staff and in developments there even after he had moved to Melbourne. Rob enjoyed travel and accompanied Jill on many trips, the major one being to the First International Gathering of our Clan, in Inverness in 1992, where he was befriended and liked by MacGillivrays from around the world.

Rob attended Latrobe University at Bundoora for two years, and was planning on returning there to complete his degree, his early results suggesting that an Honours degree in Political Science was to be his future. He enjoyed living in Melbourne, and had a wide circle of friends. He was much loved and cherished by all his family, and they miss him greatly. As one of them said, "we try to remember. Grieve not that he has gone, but rejoice that he was here."

**Pamela Winifred McGilvary**

Pamela, widow of Harold (Kiwi) Ivan McGilvary, passed away on 24-11-2003, aged seventy. She was the mother of David John and Pamela Anne McGilvary and it was Pamela who wrote the following eulogy:

"Our dear Mum loved us very much. We know this because she taught us right from wrong, bathed many a bloodied knee and nurtured us when we were ill. She also used to chase us around the backyard with the wooden spoon raised on high in order that we should remember the lesson!! It is a kind of love that we did not appreciate at the time but are certainly thankful for now that we are grown.

Mum was always a happy soul, her motto was "what will be, will be". Although very ill, she was determined to battle the cancer and was resigned to whatever the outcome. She believed that the soul goes on in some form and did not want us to be sad, but rather to celebrate her life and laugh at the good times.

Mum and I were lucky to have shared an overseas holiday together, cruising out of Singapore, just a month before she was diagnosed with cancer. We had a ball, going ashore for day trips including a ride on an elephant - which she was rather nervous about, but proudly showed the photos to neighbours on return. This was one of many trips, including several visits to me in Canberra and she proudly did the Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb.

Not bad for a Grandma and not bad for a ten pound pom! She became an Australian citizen because she loved Australia and it's lifestyle.

Two of the happiest times in her life were the addition to the Clan of her grandchildren Leah and Alex. She loved them both dearly and spent many special hours with them, teaching those things that only a grandmother can.

She loved to potter in the garden and was lucky to have 'a green thumb', anything she stuck in the ground would grow. She also loved the trips up the WA coast with Dad in the caravan, and she would always jump at the chance of a fishing trip with my brother David and his family in the boat.

We love you Mum and will miss you every day of our lives...you are forever in our hearts."



**Iain MacNeacail**

*of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac - Chief of the Highland Clan of MacNeacail*

Iain was born on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1921 in Tasmania, and when his father died in 1962 he became one of the few Australian born chiefs of a Scottish Clan.

He had been brought up on the family farm near Campbelltown, educated at Scotch College, joined a daily paper as a cub reporter, and then in 1940 he joined the 28<sup>th</sup> Field regiment, 9<sup>th</sup> Division, AIF, serving in the Middle East and North Borneo.

After the war he married Pamela Fish and they began a farming life in Northern Tasmania. By 1955 they had moved back to the family farm which was aptly named Scorrybreac, where he produced high quality wool and founded a stud of Galloway cattle. Further moves took place, first to Kanangra near Canberra, then to an avocado farm in

**Lady Macpherson of Cluny**

The death on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2003, of Lady Macpherson of Cluny, wife of the Hon, Sir William Macpherson of Cluny and Blairgowrie, 27<sup>th</sup> Chief of Clan Macpherson, came as a great shock to many of their clansmen and women, for less than three weeks earlier she had been her customary charming self at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the US Branch of the Clan Macpherson Association in Georgia. Less vigorous perhaps than usual, she had nevertheless taken a great delight at being with her husband and meeting old and new friends. A few days after their return to Scotland she was found to have cancer and, following an operation, died peacefully in hospital.

Born Sheila McDonald Brodie in 1931 in India, where her father, from Castle Douglas in Scotland, was a banker, she attended school in Scotland, and then joined her parents in Kenya. After the Second World War she took a secretarial course in Edinburgh before moving to London as a personal assistant to the head of the National Association for the

Queensland and finally they retired to Ballina in New South Wales.

Iain was a quiet and distinguished man who gave a great deal of time and effort to his Clan worldwide. This involved him in many overseas trips, including seven to Skye for clan business meetings which led to the formation of the Clan MacNeacail Trust which raised enough money to purchase a 130 acre headland of former clan ancestral land "for preservation and public enjoyment".

Our main association with him and his late wife occurred in 1987 when they played a significant role in the great week of clan functions held in Sydney by the Scottish Australian Heritage Council to welcome the then Chief of Clan MacIntosh and his wife, Lady Celia. He was indeed a true gentleman.

Paralysed, work that she found particularly satisfying.

She married William Macpherson in December 1962, and their lives together were spent mainly in London while his legal career progressed from barrister to a knighthood as Judge of the High Court and later to Presiding Judge, Northern Circuit. However they always regarded Newton Castle, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, as their home, and Sheila became adept at running two homes as well as raising three children. In 1969, when Sir William succeeded his father as 27<sup>th</sup> Chief of his Clan, she came into her own as the wife of a distinguished Clan Chief and took great pride in this extended family.

Those of us who had the privilege of meeting them during their visit to Sydney and Bundanoon in 2000 will never forget the warmth and charm displayed at all times by this lovely lady, whose sad death has been mourned by members of all Clan Chattan member clans.



## Annual Membership Fees

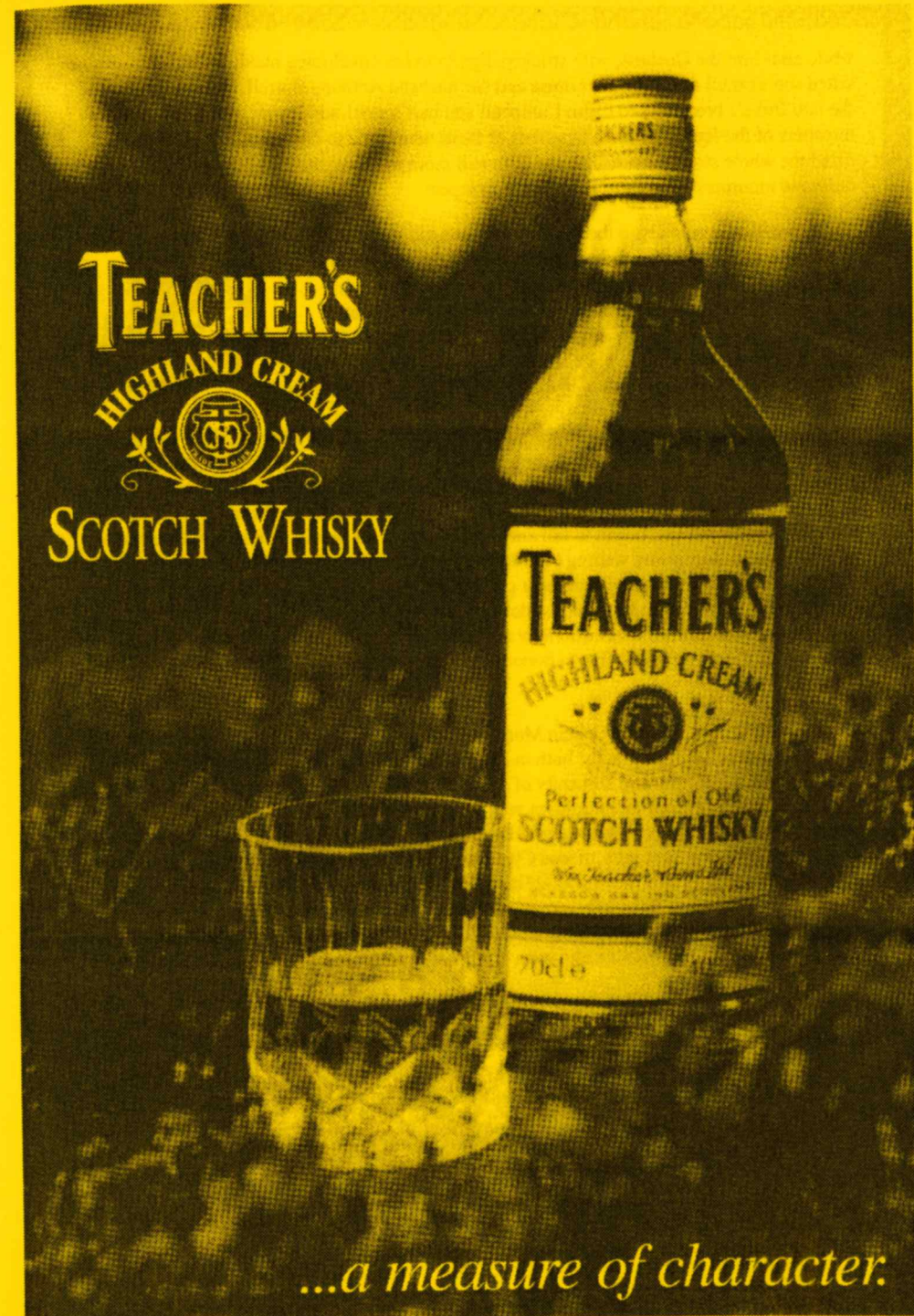
As advised in the Clan Society newsletter in February last, our financial year starts in November, and your Council decided at the last AGM that a small increase of \$2 in annual subscriptions has become necessary. Therefore, for the financial year starting November 2004 single membership will be \$12, family \$15, and overseas membership \$17.

Furthermore, it has been decided that we should also offer a 5-year membership category, at the cost of four annual payments, i.e. \$48 Single, \$60 Family, and \$68 for Overseas.

As there is to be no Official Clan Gathering this year, please send details and cheque or postal note to:

Hon Sec. David McGillivray  
PO Box 223  
SEAFORD, Victoria, 3198

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