The first meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia was held on December 3, 1986 in Brisbane. The current elected committee is:

**PATRON:** Mr Archibald Douglas  
**PRESIDENT:** Mrs Jan Shaw  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Ms Jenny Smith  
**MINUTES SECRETARY:** Ms Jenny Smith  
**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:** Mrs Sue Taylor  
**TREASURER:** Ms Kate Godfrey  
**EDITOR:** Mrs Mary Smith  
**GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH OFFICER:** Mrs Mary Smith  
**WEB SITE ADMINISTRATOR:** Ms Penny Shaw  
**GENERAL COMMITTEE:** Mr Archie Douglas, Mr John & Mrs Robin Godfrey, Mrs Dell Armstrong

### Aims and Objectives of the Association
- To act as a representative body of Douglas’s and Septs  
- To encourage genealogical research and documentation of Douglas history  
- To promote fellowship amongst members  
- To establish and maintain contact with other Douglas associations throughout the world  
- Provide members four Newsletters a year (members are invited to contribute articles of general interest)  
- Provide social gatherings to enable Members to meet.

**Clan Douglas Website** - [www.clandouglas.org.au](http://www.clandouglas.org.au)

The website currently offers the following features for members and general public.
- General Information about the Clan Douglas (members and public)  
- Events (members and public)  
- Discussion board (forum for members and public)  
- Newsletters (members only)  
- Photo gallery (members only)  
- Family tree software (members only)  
- Application form (public and members)

Members can log in with a user name and password to view area that are not available for the general public, thus maintaining privacy and adding value to your membership.

All members must first register on the site. Registration follows a confirmation and approved process so that only paid-up members can register. Just follow the instructions sent in the registration email. Once approved, you can use your username and password to log in at any time.

**Website Help** - please email the Web site Administrator at administrator@clandouglas.org.au for assistance.
The September issue of CDAA Newsletter is already being prepared and it is time for another ‘message’.

My main concern this issue is for the forthcoming election (and as I write the other one of 21st August has not yet been resolved) of office bearers for CDAA to be held on Sunday 14th November at 116 Strong Ave., Graceville, Brisbane at 2 p.m.

It would give me the greatest pleasure to welcome members to this meeting and, hopefully, to see some of you taking up positions on the committee. It is not an onerous task, but rather one of fellowship and goodwill. We already have a mixed age group from early forties through to mid seventies, both male and female, so everyone and anyone is welcome!

We meet only three or four times a year and finish our meetings with a hearty afternoon tea. Although for the last two committee meetings we went out for lunch — in February to Old Government House and in June after Kirkin’ the Tartan to a nearby ‘one-man-band’ café. The ‘one man’ put us in his ‘garden room’, a small space with two potted palms where we happily conducted our business over a simple and inexpensive lunch.

We are regularly in touch by e-mail and enjoy our time together so please think about joining the committee or just coming along to the AGM to show your support.

On 21st and 22nd August Mary Smith and I shall represent CDAA at the Jondaryan Woolshed Festival. This year the theme is Scottish Heritage. We shall have a stall with our Banner flying and information about CDAA, hoping to attract new members from Douglas and Sept families. I also hope to see members and their families there wearing their Douglas tartan kilts, scarves or ties.

Jan Shaw (nee Douglas) President.

P.S.
Just a short note about the weekend Mary and I had at the Jondaryan Woolshed on the 21st and 22nd August promoting the Clan Douglas Association of Australia. The theme this year was centred on the Scottish Families who were early settlers on the Darling Downs and as ‘Douglas’ was one of these, we thought it a good opportunity to publicise the clan. At the official opening by the Federal member for Groom Mr Ian MacFarlane and other dignitaries, I marched proudly holding on high our Douglas banner and followed six Pipe Bands to the podium. Although the people numbers were not great on these two days, we did have quite a bit of interest with the prospect of a few new members. I had the bright idea of raffling a bottle of Black Douglas Whiskey which was received by the public very well and made a good profit for the Association. The winner (E Gordon) was local — unfortunately not a Douglas. Many people were in period costume and there were lots of displays, arts and crafts to buy, many food stalls, old machinery, draft horses pulling drays and bullock teams plus a real feeling of fun and a great atmosphere where everyone said ‘good morning’ and smiled — an enjoyable weekend for us both! Jan
ROBERT 1 OF SCOTLAND

Wikipedia the free encyclopedia, states in its information about Robert the Bruce that he was born 11/Jul/1274 and was the eldest son of Robert de Brus, 6th Lord of Annandale and Marjorie, Countess of Carrick, daughter of Niall, Earl of Carrick. Robert the younger, inherited from his mother the Gaelic Earldom of Carrick and through his father a royal lineage that would give him a claim to the Scottish throne. Although his birth date is known, his place of birth is less certain, but it was probably Turnberry Castle in Ayrshire.

Very little is known of Bruce’s youth or education. However, his name does appear in illustrious company so it can be presumed that he had a good education to fit him for his future life. In 1292, the outcome of the ‘Great Cause’ gave the Crown of Scotland to his distant relative, John Balliol. The Bruces considered this verdict to be unjust as it prevented Robert’s family from taking their rightful place on the Scottish throne. Also as a result, Robert’s grandfather the 5th Lord of Annandale — the unsuccessful claimant — resigned the Earldom of Carrick on the day of his wife’s death in 1292 in favour of his son (Bruce’s father), thus making Robert Bruce the Earl of Carrick. Both father and son sided with Edward 1 of England against John Balliol whom they considered a usurper and to whom Robert had not sworn fealty.

In 1296, Bruce and his father swore fealty to Edward 1 of England but in breach of this oath, Bruce the younger supported revolt against King Edward in the following year. Robert Bruce and his rival John Comyn became joint Guardians of Scotland but they could never agree. Consequently, a third Guardian William Lamberton Bishop of St Andrews was appointed to try to maintain order between Bruce and Comyn. In 1306, a meeting was arranged between Bruce and Comyn in the Church of Greyfriars in Dumfries where Bruce accused Comyn of treachery in his denunciation of Bruce to King Edward 1. The pair came to blows and Comyn was killed by Bruce before the high altar of the church of the monastery. Barely seven weeks after the death of Comyn, Bruce was crowned King of Scots at Scone, near Perth with many of the nobles of Scotland in attendance.

In June 1306, Bruce was defeated at the Battle of Methven and barely escaped with his life. In August, he was surprised in Strathfillan, where he had taken refuge with some of his followers including James Douglas. Bruce’s wife and daughters and other women of the party were sent to Kildrummy in August under the protection of Bruce’s brother Neil Bruce and the Earl of Atholl and most of his remaining men. Bruce with a small following of his most faithful followers including James Douglas, Lord of Douglas (the Good Sir James), Bruce’s brothers, Thomas, Alexander and Edward as well as others fled to Rathlin Island off the northern coast of Ireland. Unfortunately the women were captured and Neil Bruce was hung, drawn and quartered. This same fate awaited Bruce’s other two brothers Thomas and Alexander after they were captured on their return to Scotland from Rathlin Island.

In 1309, Bruce held his first Parliament at St Andrews and by August he controlled all of Scotland north of the River Tay. A successive series of battles won by Bruce gained him the support of the church in spite of his having been previously excommunicated by Edward 1. This was considered of great political importance. James Douglas was active in Scotland’s interests during this time with the capture of Roxburgh. Bruce decided to extend his campaign to Ireland and his brother Edward was crowned King there. However, this eventually proved a non-event with the death of Edward at the Battle of Faughart and with the absence of support in southern Ireland, Bruce returned to Scotland. His reign was marked by several achievements namely the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320 whereby strengthening his position, particularly with the Papacy. Pope John XXII eventually lifted Bruce’s excommunication. In May 1328 King Edward III of England signed the Treaty of Edinburgh-Northampton, which recognised Scotland as an independent kingdom and Bruce as its King.

Robert Bruce died on 07/Jul/1329 at the Manor of Cardross, near Dumbarton. It is thought that he died of leprosy but this is not certain. His body lies buried in Dunfermline Abbey, but according to a death bed decree, Sir James Douglas removed and carried his heart to be buried in the Holy Land. However, this did not eventuate as Douglas’ entourage got as far as Teba in Spain where they came up against the Moors which resulted in the death of Sir James Douglas. According to legend, the heart which Douglas had thrown ahead of him in the battle, was recovered by Sir William Keith and taken back to Scotland to be buried in Melrose Abbey in Roxburghshire.

It is of interest, that Robert the Bruce’s sword was sold for 10,000 pounds in 2010. The new owner who wishes to remain anonymous said “It has gone to a Douglas!”
Archibald Douglas was the 2nd son of Sir William Douglas, 4th Laird of Drumlanrig and was born at Drumlanrig in 1451; mentioned in the Exchequer Roll; died 1499; married Isobel Hop-Pringle daughter of James of Smallholm and she married (2) Wallace of Craigie killed 22/Jul/1484 (according to Harvey Johnson and Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie), but according to a descendant — Norman Douglas of Dundarrach, Arrochar, Scotland — the above Archibald Douglas married Christian Johnston and had:

Archibald Douglas of Cashogle; died 1548; married 1538 Janet Naper daughter of Alexander Napier of Merchistoun; issue

1. William Douglas of Cashogle
2. Hew Douglas of Dalveen
3. David Douglas of Hillhouse 1572
4. John Douglas
5. John Douglas
6.7.8.9. Daughters names unknown
10. Son

and several illegitimate children.


1. Robert Douglas of Cashogle
2. Archibald Douglas of Ingleston, burgess of Edinburgh; died 1583; married Barbara Naper (a witch in 1591); no family.

1. Robert Douglas of Cashogle, son of William and Janet Douglas nee Douglas; died 1623;1574-1616 mentioned in the Privy Council registers; succeeded his brother James Douglas of Kirkbryde; married Nicola (ce) Johnstone; Douglas and Johnstone Arms on Old House of Cashogle 1576; issue

1. William Douglas
2. Robert Douglas of Colganie died 1642; had his ear cut off at murder of Thomas Coupland at Cashogle
3. John Douglas 1609 mentioned in the Privy Council registers
4. Jane Douglas born Cashogle 1610
5. Margaret Douglas born Cashogle 1612; married James McMath of Dalpeddar
6. Barbara Douglas born Cashogle, 1614; married Robert Johnstone of Raecleuch and had Elizabeth Johnstone who married James Grierson of Dalgener
7. Nicolace Douglas born Cashogle 1616
8. Katherine Douglas born Cashogle 1618

1. Sir William Douglas of Cashogle born 1606 son of Robert and Nicola Douglas nee Johnstone; died 1639; married 1625, Grizell Murray daughter of Sir John Murray of Blackbarony and Margaret Hamilton of Innerwick; mentioned as being the heir-apparent to the lands of Cashogle in the Privy Council registers; 1620-1634 as Sir William Douglas of Cashogle; 1637 in the Traquair manuscript report; issue:


Sir William Douglas had the following illegitimate children:

2. William Douglas
3. Agnes Douglas
4. Jane Douglas
5. Bessie Douglas
2. William Douglas in Glencrash, Parish of Glencairn, Dumfriesshire 1624 and 1645; then of Collieston; died 1680; married (1) Jean ? and had issue:

William Douglas married (2) Jean Gilchrist, daughter of Thomas Gilchrist of Dalswinton and had issue:
   2. William Douglas in Collieston
   3. Archibald Douglas in Collieston
   4. James Douglas in Killilour
   5. Margaret Douglas.

William Douglas married (3) Nicolace Hunter and had issue:

4. James Douglas in Killilour, in parish of Kirkpatrick-Irongray, Drumfriesshire; son of William and Jean Douglas nee Gilchrist; died December 1711; married Barbara Smith and had issue:
   1. John Douglas in Netherton of Collieston

1. John Douglas in Netherton of Collieston married Elizabeth ?MacCubin and had issue:
   1.2.3. Children names unknown
   4. John Douglas (see under)
   5. Robert Douglas in Newl married (1) Margaret Aitkin and had issue: Robert married (2) Marion Niven and had issue.

John Douglas in Netherton of Collieston is said to have had an illegitimate son
   6. William Douglas (not proven) who married and had a son James Douglas in Halfmark who married Barbara Rae and had issue.

4. John Douglas son of John and Elizabeth Douglas nee ?MacCubin; sold Muil or Moll in 1802; married Henrietta MacMorran and had
   1. John Douglas of Thornhill, born Kirkpatrick, Durham 1770; died Colvene 1861, buried in churchyard at Colvene; married Janet Hume and had
      1.1. William Douglas born 1816; died 1889
      1.2. Agnes Douglas born 1818; died 1907; married James Gillies and had issue.
      1.3. Henrietta Douglas.
   2. Ann Douglas

3. James Douglas, born 1781, son of John and Elizabeth Douglas nee ?MacCubin; died 1861; farmer in Brough, parish of Southwick, Kirkcudbrightshire; married Jean Thomson and had
   1. John Douglas 1807-1875, married Jean Patterson and had
      1.1. Jean Douglas
      1.2. James Douglas
   2. Grizell Douglas
   3. James Douglas
   4. Henrietta Douglas, 1814-1898, unmarried
   5. William Douglas 1817
   6. Robert Douglas 1820-1893; married Margaret Newberry
   7. Mary Douglas 1823-1903, unmarried.

More information on the Cashogle family female branches is available if requested.

(Taken from The History of the Family of Douglas by Percy Douglas, pp.177-179 and The Douglas Family of Cashogle submitted by the late Norman Douglas of Arrochar, Scotland).
As we have read in the last instalment, Archibald Douglas, the 6\textsuperscript{th} Earl of Angus left no legitimate son when he died in 1557 aged 67. His daughter had styled herself the Countess of Lennox and Angus but her claim for the Angus title was unsuccessful.

The title of the 7\textsuperscript{th} Earl of Angus went to David Douglas 1515-1557, the 6\textsuperscript{th} Earl’s nephew who was the eldest son of Archibald’s brother, Sir George Douglas of Pittendreich. David Douglas was the elder brother of James Douglas, the 4\textsuperscript{th} Earl of Morton. However, David’s time as the 7\textsuperscript{th} Earl of Angus was short-lived as he died only six months after succeeding his uncle in 1557 aged 42. He had however, married Margaret, daughter of John Hamilton of Samuelston, a natural brother of Regent Arran. Margaret was the widow of James Johnstone, younger of that ilk. To David Douglas her second husband, she bore a son Archibald, who succeeded his father as the 8\textsuperscript{th} Earl of Angus (1556-1588) when only 2 years of age.

Lady Margaret, Countess of Lennox once again opposed this succession of her cousin’s child and once more styled herself Countess of Lennox and Angus. Margaret was a woman of beauty and much strength of character. During her residence at her uncle King Henry VIII’s court as Lady Margaret Douglas, she cherished a close relationship with her cousin Princess Mary, later Queen of England. Lady Margaret, who was described in later life as ‘a matron of singular piety, patience and modesty’, was cast into the Tower three times — not for any crimes of treason but for love matters. First when Thomas Howard son of the 1\textsuperscript{st} Duke of Norfolk became betrothed to her — they were both imprisoned in the Tower and he died there. Then for the love of her son Lord Darnley who married Mary Queen of Scots against Elizabeth I’s will, and lastly for the love of Charles Stuart, 6\textsuperscript{th} Earl of Lennox her younger son who had married Elizabeth Cavendish. Their daughter the Lady Arabella Stuart was a possible heir to Elizabeth I. The Countess of Lennox (Lady Margaret Douglas) being Henry VIII’s niece had also been named as a possible heir to the English throne.

[Living in our 21\textsuperscript{st} century of a democratic nature, it is difficult to visualise the power the throne and regents had and the trials and tribulations of our ancestors in those times. Jan Shaw]

In spite of Lady Margaret’s claim for the title of Angus, a more formidable menace to the young 8\textsuperscript{th} Earl’s succession was a project on the part of the Scottish Queen-dowager to appropriate the earldom of Angus on behalf of the crown

[with no doubt in mind, the valuable estates that went with the title - Jan Shaw]

The Dowager Queen was Mary of Guise, the mother of Mary Queen of Scots. But this danger was averted by the vigilance of Archibald’s uncle, tutor and guardian, the 4\textsuperscript{th} Earl of Morton.

James Douglas of Pittendreich was the 4\textsuperscript{th} Earl Morton, acquiring this title after his grandfather had died. James Douglas was the Lord High Regent of Scotland 1572-1578 for Mary Queen of Scots. He was Lord High Admiral from 1578 until he was executed for his part in the conspiracy to murder Lord Darnley on 2\textsuperscript{nd} June 1581.
Archibald Douglas, the 8th Earl of Angus was known as 'the Good Earl' on account of his virtuous and amiable disposition. His character differed greatly from that of most of his predecessors. In 1573, he was made a Privy Councillor and Sheriff of Berwickshire. In 1574, he was made Lieutenant General of Scotland and in 1577, Warden of the West Marches and Steward of Fife. 1578 saw him as Lieutenant General of the Realm. All of these duties he carried out with diligence and fidelity. He gave strong support to his uncle James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton when he was declared guilty of treason over the murder of Lord Darnley in 1581, but after his execution, Archibald fled to London where he was welcomed by Queen Elizabeth I. The next year he returned to Scotland and was reconciled by the King, but soon after was once again banished from the court when the King took control of the Earls of Mar and Gowrie. In 1584 Archibald Douglas joined the rebellion of Mar and Glamis but the movement failed and the insurgents fled to Berwick-upon-Tweed. Later they took up residence at Newcastle-upon-Tyne which became a centre of Presbyterianism and of projects against the Scottish Government, encouraged by Queen Elizabeth who regarded the banished Lords as friends of the English and antagonists of the French interest. In 1585, they came to London and cleared themselves of the accusations of plotting against King James' life. Later they secured restoration of their estates.

In 1586, Archibald Douglas was granted the earldom of Morton with the lands entailed upon him by his uncle, thus making him the 5th Earl of Morton. He was married three times — 1573 to Mary Erskine, daughter of the Earl of Mar and when she died, he married Margaret, daughter of Andrew Leslie, 4th Earl of Rothes. Archibald divorced her in 1587 and then married Jean Lyons, widow of Robert Douglas of Lochleven and daughter of John Lyons, 9th Lord Glamis. Archibald and Jean Douglas nee Lyons had a daughter who died young.

A description of the (2) marriage between Archibald Douglas and Margaret Leslie on 25/Dec/1575 written by Lindsay of Pitscottie is as follows:

‘At Couper, the 25th day of December the year of God 1575: The ---- day Archibald Douglas, Earl of Angus was married, solemnised in the presence of a Christian Congregation, with Margaret Leslie lawful daughter to Andrew Leslie, Earl of Rothes and Sheriff of Fife. This was done very triumphantly with great merriness and good cheer with many noble men there at the home of James Douglas, Earl of Morton and Regent of Scotland. Patrick Lord Lindsay of the byres with noble lords and great barons of the country with many fair lusty ladies with rich dresses that such was never seen in this realm.’ (Pitscottie)

Also included are the signatures of the couple Archibald Douglas 8th Earl of Angus died on 4th August 1588 at Smeaton, near East Linton, Haddingtonshire. He was succeeded by his cousin William Douglas of Glenbervie (1533-1591).
The Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan was held this year on Sunday 20th June 2010 at St Paul’s Presbyterian Church, Spring Hill in Brisbane. It was well attended and many clans were proudly represented at the service which was taken by the Rev. Andrew Gardiner B.D. (Glasgow).

Three Clan Douglas members displaying the Clan Douglas banner at the Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan are L to R – Mrs Jan Waller, Jennifer Smith (Vice-president/Secretary) and Susan Taylor (Membership secretary).

(Picture courtesy of Jan Shaw taken in front of St Paul’s Presbyterian Church, Spring Hill, Brisbane, Queensland.)

It is of interest that St Paul’s Church was founded in 1863 by early immigrants to Brisbane as the Creek Street Presbyterian Church and stood originally near the corner of Creek and Adelaide Streets. This site was later sold and the proceeds used to build the present church and hall which were completed in 1889. They were designed by the well known and respected architect F.G.D. Stanley who was responsible for many landmark buildings in Brisbane including the Queensland National Bank in Queen Street, the Queensland Club and the General Post Office.

The tartan displayed by the pipers is that of the University of Queensland Pipe Band at Emmanuel College. Its members wear the Napier tartan. A wide variety of events are attended by the band, not only within the college and university, but in the wider community. Events such as ANZAC Day, St Patrick’s Day and Tartan Day are regular annual performances.

(Picture courtesy of Jan Shaw taken in front of St Paul’s Presbyterian Church, Spring Hill, Brisbane, Queensland.)
Strathclyde is taken from the Gaelic words Strath and Chluaidh and means literally, “The Valley of the River Clyde”. The waterway rises 1,400 feet above sea level in South East Lanarkshire and flows past the towns of Lanark and Hamilton and passes through the city of Glasgow on its way to the sea at the Firth of Clyde below Dumbarton. In the very beginning of recordings, this part of Scotland was within the Welsh speaking kingdom of Northern Britain and around AD 543, a missionary named Saint Kentigern who was named Saint Mungo in the West of Scotland, was Bishop of Gartnwl and constructed a church. Six centuries afterwards, this was transformed into a great cathedral that, during the passage of time, became the centre of the City of Glasgow.

Because in the old days, a cemetery seemed to evolve near the people’s church, it is interesting to note that the Necropolis Cemetery is now situated through the centre of Glasgow. This ‘city of the dead’ opened in 1832 by the instigation of James Ewing, Provost of Glasgow and was originally a park ornamented to enhance the memory of the departed cotton and tobacco merchants, inventors and shipping magnates who made everything possible. Even when Glasgow University was first born, the inhabitants were largely unaffected by what was happening in other parts of the country. Oliver Cromwell hardly made a difference when he brought his army there in the mid-17th century and when Prince James Edward Stuart’s retreating Jacobite army passed through they levied a toll on the populace, a gesture that was greatly resented. It wasn’t until the Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries that Glasgow flourished. This was of course due to the city’s location as it was situated on the sea estuary of the River Clyde and was ideal to service Britain’s international trade routes.

By the end of the 18th century, Glasgow had become a major home port to the Americas, servicing the ships which brought back to Britain the cotton bales to be spun into fabric and the tobacco leaf. This occurred before the railway and Glasgow gradually evolved into the ship-building hub of the world. Employment soared attracting people from both the Highland and Lowland districts of Scotland and also from Northern Ireland. This golden age lasted until the Victorian era came to an end c1901. Such icons as the Glasgow’s City Council Chambers in George Square was opened by Queen Victoria in 1888 closely followed in 1889 by the carpet manufacturer Templeton’s grand building which was modelled on the Doge’s Palace in Venice. The People’s Palace contains items relating to trades and industry. The rotating Glasgow Tower on Pacific Quay and the Armadillo, the shell-like Clyde Auditorium next to the Scottish Exhibition Centre on Finnieston Quay, bear witness to the very old and the very new living somewhat awkwardly but happily next to each other.

Thus the Glasgow of the 21st century consists of many of the old buildings transformed into boutique hotels, stylish bars and restaurants and the plate-glass designer shops of Buchanan Street, Princes Square and Sauchiehall Street compare greatly with the very best there is to offer elsewhere.

From the centre of Glasgow many roads branch out in all directions going towards East Kilbride; Kilmarnock or Ayr; north to Kirkintilloch; west to Dumbarton and Loch Lomond or east along the Clyde Valley. At Bothwell, the ruins of the old castle once a stronghold of the Douglas and Hepburn families, still loom beside the River Clyde as it meanders its way to Glasgow. Nearby, stands the monument to the Battle of Bothwell Brig fought in 1679 between the Royalists and supporters of the Presbyterian Faith. In a nearby mansion, Sir Walter Scott wrote his ballad, Young Lochinvar. Strathclyde Park was formerly owned by the Duke of Hamilton and not far away, was the Douglas Castle which in the early decades of the 19th century, was demolished because it was discovered that underground mining had weakened the palace’s foundations. The estate is today a countryside park complete with a man-made loch, nature reserve and sandy beach.

Motherwell, on an old Roman Road, takes its name from an ancient healing well. Until the 18th century, this was mainly an agricultural district, but coal and ironworks soon brought massive changes. The manufacturing industry became important and the town merged with a neighbouring town of Wishaw. A castle was built at Lanark and although no remains can now be seen, a town grew up around it. Lanark played a significant part in the Scottish Wars of Independence. A mile to the south is New Lanark where English artist J.M.W. Turner painted the Falls of Clyde in the early 19th century. Richard Arkwright, the inventor, was the genius behind the spinning frame and in 1793, cloth merchant David Dale used the power manufactured from the falls to set up mill factories employing 2,500 workers. One innovation followed another and in 1800, Dale’s son-in-law Robert Owen was the innovator behind providing houses for his workers, a school, store and dance hall. The cotton industry passed into history, and the village including its mill buildings, has been restored and with the surrounding land including the Falls of Clyde, has been transformed into a nature reserve.

ADVANCED RESEARCH

Some of you may have asked yourself where do I go from here? You have traced your ancestors as far as you can by using the birth, marriage and burial records finishing with the Old Parish Records as well as searching the wills and census depositories. It is interesting to note that your success may depend on two key things:

The social status of your ancestor
The part of Scotland where they lived.

Some of the records that may assist you include:

Sasines
Retours (Services of Heirs)
Deeds
Estate records

The following information is based on fact sheets that can be found at the National Archives of Scotland website: http://www.nas.gov.uk/familyHistory

SASINES

A Sasine is a Scottish legal document that records the transfer of ownership of a piece of land or building when the land or building is sold or inherited. A Sasine may also record transactions where a piece of land or building was used as security for a loan (like a mortgage). Sometimes the document may detail new and previous owners (i.e. father, son and sometimes other relatives); where the person lived and their occupation eg., Robert Douglas, soapboiler of South Leith. Sasines therefore can sometimes enable you to trace a family line back before the time of the earliest existing birth, marriage or death records. However, unfortunately very few people owned land in Scotland before the 20th century and Sasines will only be helpful to genealogists with landowning ancestors. Quite a few Douglas families fit into the landowning category and you may be lucky if you belong to a well documented branch.

Sasines before the early 20th century were normally handwritten. While Victorian copperplate handwriting is simple to read, the handwriting of the 17th and early 18th centuries can be much more difficult. A more serious obstacle is that many Sasines, even down to the late 18th century, are in Latin. This can be difficult but if you know the names of the properties and have a rough idea of the owner’s names, it doesn’t require too much effort. Fortunately, from 1781 to the present day, the Sasines are well indexed. Starting from that year, there are printed abridgements for every transaction and indeed this may be all the information you need. These abridgements are arranged in county volumes and cover both the general and the particular registers. These volumes are indexed as well, so it should be plain sailing to get the information you want. Before 1781, the indexes to the Sasines are incomplete. The General Register of Sasines is indexed from 1617 to 1735. Sasines are about owners and have little or nothing to say about cottars or tenants.

(Taken from Generation Quarterly Journal of the Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc., by Frank Henry, p.11-13)

An example of the information found in a Sasine index is as follows:

CHRISTENING:
Of Archie Waller son of Douglas & Victoria Waller, taken at the Church of England Boys School (Churchie) Chapel, Cooparoo, Brisbane, while the family were home on holidays from Dubai. Archie is the grandson of Ken and Jan Waller, members of the Clan Douglas Association.
VALE: It is with regret that we record the passing of Mrs Grace McAfee of Brisbane, former committee member of Clan Douglas Association of Australia.

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THE ORIGIN OF DRYSDALE - A SEPT OF CLAN DOUGLAS

“On the 20th day of May 1503, we Thomas, William and James Douglas sons of the departed Thomas Douglas of Brushwood Haugh in the parish of Drysdale in the shire of Dumfries, left our native place for the reason here assigned, viz. defending our just and lawful rights against our unjust neighbour, Johnston of Greenston Hill, who being determined to bring water to his mill through our property, and having obtained leave of his friend the King, began his operations on the 16th May. We prevented him by force; the next day he brought twenty of his vassals to carry on the work. We, with two friends and three servants, eight in all, attacked Johnston with his twenty, and, in the contest, fourteen of his men were slain, along with their base leader.

A report of these proceedings was carried to the King, and the reason being sounded, we were obliged to fly. We took shelter under the shadow of the Ochil Hills, in a lonely valley on the River Devon. After having lived there two full years, we returned home in disguise, but found all our property in the possession of Johnston’s friends, and a great reward offered for our lives. We having purchased a small shot called the Haugh Dollar, and changed our name to that of our native parish, are clearly in mind to spend the residue of our days under the slope of the Ochils, and wish the name of Drysdale to flourish in the lonely valley. The King passed through this with his court on the 12th June 1506 going from Stirling to Falkland, staying at Halliday’s Green our eastern neighbour, but we were not known.”

The above document has been preserved among the descendants of the said Thomas, William and James Douglas and copied out several times by different individuals. First by Simon Drysdale of the Haugh of Dollar in the year 1620; by Robert Drysdale of Tillecoultry AD 1708; by John Drysdale, Dumfermline in 1835; by James Hogg Drysdale, Dumfermline 1858 and printed first in the year 1858 by John Drysdale, Montrose; again in the same form by the last named John Drysdale of Glasgow 1863, and by Henry Dron Drysdale of Haddington in 1941; and lastly by Donald Douglas of Morven, Queensland, Australia in 1970.

DRYSDALE, Moodie — blacksmith, born Glasgow. In 1851 was aged 24 years and living with his widowed mother, Sarah Drysdale, born Dollar, Scotland, then aged 57 years. Together with sister Sarah aged 18 years born Glasgow, a married sister named Margaret (21) who with her husband William Forsyth, mariner aged 23 years born Dollar were all living at 161 Redfoe Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool, England as written in the 1851 Census.

editorial:

The Clan Douglas Association of Australia Annual General Meeting will be held on the 2nd Sunday in November the 14th, at 116 Strong Avenue, Graceville at 2pm following the ordinary General Meeting at 1pm. All positions will be declared vacant and the election of office bearers will take place. Very seldom does the Chairman have to call from the ‘floor’ to fill vacancies. An invitation is extended to all members to be present so please do come if you are able to show your support. Afternoon Tea will be served following the meeting.

Mary Smith, Editor

BIRTH:

It is with pleasure that we welcome into the Douglas Family Fleur Rochelle Eather born 05/Mar/2010, daughter of Timothy and Rochelle Eather of Jewells, NSW. Great grandparents Winifred Eather nee Roseby and the late Stewart Eather of Narrabri, Great, great grandparents Dr Edmund Roseby and Sophia Roseby nee Douglas of Mt Maria, Morven, Queensland.
We invite you and your family to join this Association. We ask you especially to support the Committee and help us bring together people of Douglas Ancestry, Sept families and other connections, from all over Australia, New Zealand and the world. Any one descended from, connected by marriage, or adopted by a Douglas or Sept of Douglas is eligible to join.

The Sept families of the House of Douglas are:
Bell, Blacklock, Blackstock, Blackwood, Brown, Brownlee, Cavers, Dickey, Douglass, Drysdale, Forrest, Forrester, Foster, Gilpatrick, Glendinning, Inglis, Kilgore, Kilpatrick, Kirkland, Kirkpatrick, Lockerby, MacGuffey, MacGuffock, McKillrick, Morton, Sandlilands, Sandlin, Simms, Soule, Sterritt, Symington, Syme, Young.

The Clan Douglas Association acknowledges that on the list of Sept families there are some who are recognised as belonging to other clans, but some families of these surnames were closely linked with branches of the Douglas’ in the early years. We ask you to please notify anyone else you know to be eligible to join, especially those who may not be on our mailing list.

Clan Douglas of Australia - Membership Form

Surname: .............................................. First Name: ................................................

Address: ..............................................................................................................................

................................................................................................................................. Post Code: ............

Telephone number: (   ) ................................... Email address: .........................................................

Place of family origin overseas (if known): ..............................................................................

Place of family origin, Australia or N.Z.: ..............................................................................

Would you like your Newsletter emailed or posted: (please circle) Membership fee per year $20-00 per family

Signature of applicant: ........................................................................................................

Please make cheques payable in Australian currency to Clan Douglas Association of Australia and post to the Membership Secretary, Clan Douglas Association of Australia, 6 Helidon Grove, Jacob’s Ridge, Ormeau 4208, Queensland, Australia.