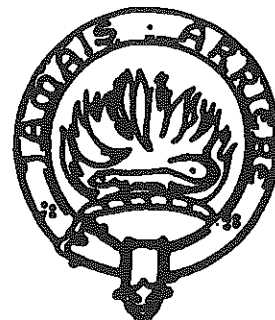


# Clan Douglas Association of Australia NEWSLETTER



NO. 39

Print Post No. 438598/00007

NOV. 96

## OFFICE BEARERS

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| PATRON:               | SIR SHOLTO DOUGLAS   |
| PRESIDENT:            | MR RON DOUGLAS       |
| VICE PRESIDENT        | MR DAVID ROSEBY      |
| SECRETARY:            | MISS SHIRLEY DOUGLAS |
| TREASURER:            | MRS DAWN ROSEBY      |
| NEWSLETTER EDITOR:    | MRS JAN SHAW         |
| GENEALOGICAL EDITOR:  | MRS MARY SMITH       |
| MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: | MR IAN DOUGLAS       |

|            |                      |
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|            | MRS ESME TAYLOR      |
|            | MRS JAN WALLER       |
|            | MRS MARGARET ANDREWS |
|            | MR ERROL ANDREWS     |
|            | MISS DAWN DOUGLAS    |
|            | MRS GRACE McAFEE     |
|            | MRS JEAN RIDELL      |

Those eligible to join the Douglas Association of Australia, upon application are:  
Anyone descended from, connected by marriage, adopted by a Douglas or a Sept of Douglas

The Septs affiliated with Douglas are:-

BELL, BLACKLOCK, BLACKSTOCK, BLACKWOOD, BROWN, BROWNLEE, CAVERS,  
DICKY, DOUGLASS, DRYSDALE, FOREST, FORREST, FORRESTER, FOSTER,  
GILPATRICK, GLENDINNING, INGLIS, INGLES, KILGORE, KILPATRICK, KIRKLAND,  
KILPATRICK, LOCKERBY, MACGUFFEY, MACGUFFOCK, MCKITTRICK, MORTON,  
SANDILANDS, SANDLIN, SIMMS, SOULE, STERRITT, SYMINGTON, SYME, YOUNG.

On the list of sept families there are some who are recognised as belonging to other clans. It is therefor necessary to know your lineage in order to prove association. Clan Douglas of Australia cannot guarantee that your particular family is eligible to be a sept, but the Association would be happy to accept your membership until proven differently.

# AGM Reports

CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 12/10/96.

Patron Sir Sholto Douglas, Clan Douglas executive and members, guests and visitors; it gives me much pleasure to welcome you to our 10th annual meeting and to submit my report for your consideration and approval.

Last AGM our members were down somewhat, and I have been hoping that there may have been some upsurge in interest for our meeting today.

Through the kind generosity of our member in Scotland, Norman Douglas of Dundarroch, who donated a Douglas tartan rug to be raffled, we made a splendid profit to help boost our funds to remain viable. We congratulate last years winner Stanley Douglas of Bacchus Marsh in Victoria, and we look forward to drawing the next lucky winner today. Our committee forwarded a colourful book on Australia to Norman as a small token of our gratitude. Since then we placed an order to Norman for another rug to be purchased by us, but Norman would have none of this and in fact donated not one, but two rugs of the Grey Douglas of Drumlanrig tartan. A hundred thousand thanks to you Norman and as you have not been enjoying the best of health lately, we wish you more than a speedy recovery.

Our member in Gordon Vale, North Queensland, Leigh Douglas offered his services to try and gather some Douglasses and Septs together in that area for the purpose of forming a branch. We wish him success in this venture and once again appeal to other members across the world to do likewise. Our Secretary Shirley will be waiting for your letter.

After many years holding this AGM at the Moreton Bay Girls College, which is some distance from the city, some members thought it might be worthwhile to try a more central location, so we are holding it where our committee meets quarterly and hope to get more response. At this juncture we should know the result.

Our Society made two contributions to appeals, namely Port Arthur disaster \$50, and the Dunblane disaster in Scotland, 25 pounds Stg.

Last years Kirking of the Tartan was well represented by our members with an enjoyable morning tea after the service. We look forward to a similar roll up at Scots Church, Bellevue Tce, Clayfield, on 24th November, which will be hosted by Clan Agnew. Please bring a piece of tartan, a tie, sash or scarf to be kirked. Our Clan is gazetted to this position in 1997.

I was appointed President to the Clans Congress of which we are an affiliate member, for the year 1996. I was present at their functions, the Bannockburn Dinner, and the recent Clans Ceilidh hosted by Clans McPhie, Donnachaidh (Robertson) and Murray. I was pleased to see some of our committee in attendance and by all accounts they enjoyed themselves.

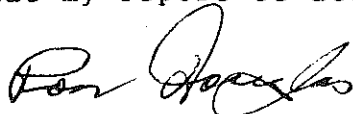
I would like to thank our very dedicated committee who have supported us throughout the year, particularly Dawn Roseby who worked under extreme difficulties due to ill health and we thank her for her sterling efforts.

It is with regret that I have to advise the passing of Arthur Douglas, MLJ, FSA Scot. of Essex, who put so much effort many years ago to generate interest in forming Clan Douglas Societies throughout the world. We extend our condolences to his widow Dorothy and family.

I would like to thank many members for their good wishes and congratulations on my recent award of the Order of Australia, (OAM) for my contribution to Scottish institutions over the years. I might mention it was a very pleasant surprise and honour, but without the support of other dedicated members of those bodies it would not have eventuated, so I accept the award on behalf of all those support people.

I send good wishes to our Kindred Societies both in Australia and overseas for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

I move that my report be accepted.



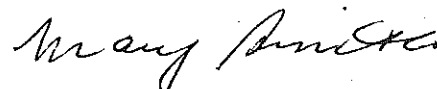
#### GENEALOGICAL CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT 1996

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It gives me much pleasure to present my report for 1996. I have had very little genealogical correspondence this financial year so my duties in that direction have been light. We have Master Charts for sale at \$10-00 which can assist those whose known line connects directly with the well known families of Drumlanrig, Angus and Morton. Sometimes, a generation or two may not be known at your end so the connection is difficult to make. Keep trying though, as the end result is well worth the effort.

There haven't been any donations/acquisitions to the library this year. If any of you are aware of Douglas or sept family publications, we should like to know about them. This also includes our New Zealand members. The library was started to act as a repository for House of Douglas and sept material. The more information we have, the more we are able to help others.

Research enquiries are needed for insertion in the newsletters. If you have any queries regarding your family's genealogy which you think we may be able to assist with, please don't forget to enclose a stamped self addressed large envelope for your reply. We are offering you these services which are included in your membership. Please, help us to help you!



FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

THE ANNUAL MEETING was held on Saturday, October 12 '96 in the function room of the Taringa Soccer Club.

Those wonderful people who have been at the helm for so long will again steer the Association through the next financial year.

They are ...

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COMMITTEE: Mrs Dell Armstrong, Mrs. Esme Taylor, Mrs. Jan Weller,  
Miss Dawn Douglas, Mrs. Grace McAfee, Mrs. Jean Ridell

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the committee would have our President Ron and his wife Merle as special guests for lunch, to celebrate Ron's recent award of the Order of Australia Medal. It really was a lovely occasion. Ron delighted those present by telling of the events leading up to the presentation at Government House. He was chosen, along with a number of other recipients, to attend a dinner at Government House a few evenings previously. Since his wife Merle was unable to attend on that occasion, he was accompanied by his daughter Kylie. However, it was a very proud family who were at Government House a few days later for the actual ceremony.



The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do.

CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF  
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1995 to 1996  
FROM 27.09. 95 to 27.09.96

Balance at 27.9.95    \$1957.90

| <u>Income</u>     |    |                  |
|-------------------|----|------------------|
| Annual Subs.      | 71 | 898.50           |
| 2 yr. subs        | 5  | 125.00           |
| 5 yr. subs        | 2  | 125.00           |
| Newmembers        | 5  | 71.00            |
|                   |    | <u>\$1219.50</u> |
| Newsletters       | 4  | 12.00            |
| Sashes            | 2  | 60.00            |
| MasterChrt        | 2  | 22.00            |
| Postages          |    | 2.50             |
| Bank Interest     |    | 17.62            |
| I.B.D. Interest   |    | 359.25           |
| Donation          |    | 4.50             |
| A Douglas Book    |    | 32.80            |
| Raffle 1996 (100) |    | 495.50           |
| A.G.M.Flt 95      |    | 200.00           |
| AGM 95 Lunches    |    | 75               |
| Bring n Buy       |    | 19.20            |
| AGM raffle 95     |    | 31.00            |
| Rug raffle 95     |    | 290.00           |
| Draw down IBD     |    | 5000.00          |

\$7840.87

|               |    |       |
|---------------|----|-------|
| Life members  | 21 | 21.00 |
| Prepaid subs  |    | 87.00 |
| " " 2 yr sub. |    | 10.00 |
| " " 5 " "     |    | 22.00 |

Total    \$140.00

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| <u>Expenses</u> |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Bnk charges     | 26.61   |
| Reimburse.      | 427.45  |
| NewsLetter      | 1255.00 |
| Postage         | 279.22  |
| Deposit.I.B.D   | 1000.00 |
| Donations       | 149.10  |
| Float A.G.M.95  | 200.00  |
| Refund Cheque   | 10.00   |
| Insurance       | 271.25  |
| Affiliation Fee | 34.00   |
| I.B.D.re-invst  | 4000.00 |

\$7652.83

Income    7840.87

9798.85

Less Expenses 7652.83

Balance    \$2146.02

Plus Chqs.N.p.    24.00

2170.03

Discrepancy    -3.00

2167.02

Unable to reconcile    -53.80

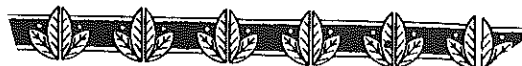
Bank Statement 27,9,96    \$2113.23

IBD    4000.00

Interest @6.6%    56.98

Total Balance    \$6170.20

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Decorative panels of interlacing birds. Gospel of St. Luke. Book of Kells.

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT 1996.

Mr Chairman, President Ron Douglas, executive committee, members of C.D.A.A. & guests, once again it gives me much pleasure to present my Newsletter Editor's report to the A.G.M. of C.D.A.A..

It is 10 years since the first meeting of C.D.A.A. and I have had the pleasure of preparing & editing 38 Newsletters in that time. (The 39th edition, November, is about to go to print.) Those of you who have kept the 38 issues will be able to trace the developement of the Association as well as the growth of the Newsletter and its editor.

The aims & objectives have always been to balance the production with items of general interest, humour & history. By encouraging members to contribute a variety of articles, not only is the desired balance maintained, but foremost a sense of participation in C.D.A.A. is developed. It is important that members, separated by geographical distance, be brought together through a sharing of information in the newsletter. Members have been able to learn about Scottish Douglas history from the regular contributions of Mary Smith, our Genealogical Cordinator, general interest from our President Ron's quarterly report and local history and generalities from member's contributions.

Thanks. I want to thank all those members who sent in articles, and once again I ask you all to find some little gem from your own reading or writing to share in the newsletter.

I'd like to thank the loyal band of helpers who come each quarter to help prepare the newsletter for posting.

Back copies can be purchased from the Secretary, Miss Shirley Douglas. (information on the " For Sale " page.)

Costs are much the same, thankfully.

Newmembers. It is every Newsletter editor's dream that the newsletter be more widely read, and every Committee's dream that membership increases. Please help our dreams come true by encouraging your own families and eligible acquaintances to join the C.D.D.A. ( Look on the front page at the list of septs and pass on the information about C.D.D.A. to anyone of that name that you know )

Finally I wish to thank all members fro their encouragement & support and I move that this report be accepted.

*Jan Shaw*

JAN SHAW.... Editor.



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Secretary, Miss Shirley Douglas, has received heartfelt letters of appreciation from the Community of Dunblane Primary School and the Lord Mayor of Hobart for the Port Arthur Appeal for the donations sent on behalf of the C.D.A.A.

# A national vision needed

IN this, my last column as Queensland Landcare Council chairman let's look to the future.

Question: What is holding us back from reaching our great potential in Australia?

Why is it that the little nation Singapore, which has no natural resources to speak of, not even adequate water; yet has an economy three times that of Australia?

They have no oil yet they have the biggest refining capacity in Asia.

They import water from Malaysia, clean it and sell it back for a profit.

Why? Because they have a national vision which is shared by the people. And they are prepared to work together to achieve that vision.

It is frustrating to compare that with the sectional interest/warring tribes of Australia.

Designing the future is an interesting concept. The way to go about it is to "vision" where you want to be at a point in the future, say 2020.

Then you "backcast". To do that you assume that you have achieved your goals, your vision; and think your way back through the likely sequence of events, strategies, programs and obstacles along the way.

So, instead of looking at Landcare, catchment management and regional development programs with the aim

## LANDCARE

By JOCK DOUGLAS  
Queensland Landcare  
Council chairman



of meeting today's and tomorrow's immediate needs, we would start with an agreed vision of where we want to be 20 years from now then look at the design of strategies and programs needed to get there.

Here's a 'Vision 2020' for rural/regional Queensland and Australia.

Queensland and Australia recognised as world leaders in natural resource management because:

- The major environmental issues, such as soil condition, vegetation management and salinity are widely engaged with landholder/community participation and support. Degradation is trending downwards.

- Sustainable farming and grazing systems have been devised on a regional basis and are widely adopted to produce high quality, high value goods, from a comparatively unstressed natural resource base.

- Primary producers and products are world renowned as enviro friendly, creating market confidence and demand.

- Environmental management technology and sustainable production programs are in wide demand and exported.

- Nature conservation has been adopted as part of regional development, conserving natural bushlands which attract many tourists to regional Queensland and Australia from an increasingly concreted and crowded world.

Similarly, the beef and wool industries could vision where they want to be placed in the world in 2020.

Then work back through the changes needed, the programs required, and the industry structures which can best take them there.

One could speculate that the structures and programs needed to achieve the long term objective would be quite different to the re-arrangements devised as a response to the current industry crisis.

And finally, a poem I wrote, in the same vein:

### LEADING TO THE FUTURE

*To vision it; to scan it.  
To see a way; then plan it.  
To go beyond convention.  
To get commitment with intention.  
To know barriers, and break them.  
To empower people and take them.  
To take them with you to it.  
And to have the guts to do it.*

From Queensland Country Life.

Jock Douglas is a member of C.D.A.A. from Roma Q. and a brother of the Editor.



### - "Don't Quit"

*When things go wrong as they sometimes will;  
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill;  
When the funds are low, and the debts are high;  
And you want to smile, but have to sigh;  
When care is pressing you down a bit -  
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.  
Success is failure turned inside out;  
And you can never tell how close you are;  
It may be near when it seems afar.  
So, stick to the fight when you're hardest hit -  
It's when things go wrong that you mustn't quit.*

Anonymous



## Scottish kings stone seat to be returned

By **ELEANOR SPRAWSON**  
in London

**THE** ancient symbol of Scottish power, the Stone of Scone, is to be returned home, 700 years after being stolen by the English.

Some 30 English and British monarchs have sat above the sandstone slab at their coronation ceremonies since it was taken by Edward I of England in 1296 and placed in Westminster Abbey as a symbol of Scotland's subjugation.

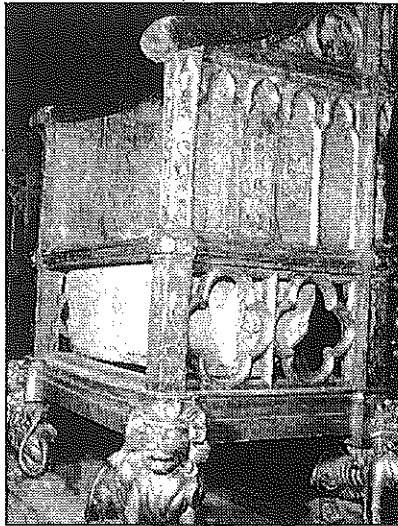
The surprise announcement that the British Government, with the approval of the Queen, was returning the relic, is being seen as a goodwill gesture designed to quell a growing mood by Scots for independence.

Since the stone was taken to London, a legend has grown up that when eventually it was returned to Scotland, independence would soon follow.

Some nationalists are already clamouring for the stone, literally the seat of Scottish power, to be placed in a new Scottish parliament.

However, British Prime Minister John Major told the House of Commons that the stone would remain the property of the Crown and would be brought back to Westminster Abbey for future coronations.

British newspapers reported yesterday that the slab, also known as the Stone of Destiny, would probably be housed at Edinburgh Castle or the capital's St Giles Cathedral.



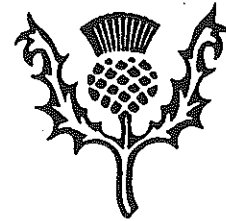
THE Stone of Scone, set in its ornate chair . . . heading north.

The stone's power is said to come from its being used as a pillow by the biblical figure Jacob when he dreamed of a ladder ascending to Heaven.

Ireland's High Kings of Tara are said to have been the first to use the stone for coronations, before taking it to Scotland in the early 800s.

The locals quickly adopted the stone as their own, and in 839 the first king of the united tribes of the Picts and Scots, Kenneth Mac Alpin, was crowned upon the stone at the village of Scone (pronounced Skoon), then the new nation's capital.

The English king had a Coronation Chair built to contain the Stone in 1301 and it has remained in Westminster Abbey ever since, except for a brief absence when it was stolen by Scottish student nationalists in 1950.



King Edward I (Hammer of the Scots) in 1296 stole the stone together with many other items and took them to England. Under the Treaty of Northampton in 1328, the stone was to be returned to Scotland but this never happened. So it remained in Westminster Abbey. It lay there until 1950 when it was stolen by some Scots and brought back to Scotland. It was placed in Arbroath Abbey and returned to London in 1951.

Many people believe that the present stone is a fake and again there are many theories regarding this. The imminent historian and author, Nigel Tranter, has apparently stated that the real stone never left Scotland. He is reported in the press to say, "The original stone was hidden away by Angus Ogg and he decreed that it would only be produced when a worthy successor to the throne of Scotland was found. Such a successor has not appeared and to this day Ogg's descendants keep the secret of its hiding place."

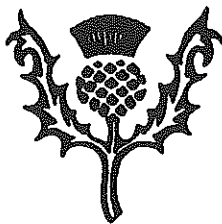
So what is the truth? Is the stone a fake? Is the real stone still hidden away in Scotland? Or is it kept in Douglas for the crowning of the Gala Queen? Why not come over to Douglas and make inquiries?

Our itinerary for our visit to the USA in October is not yet finalized but we should probably be at the Stone Mountain Games on Sunday. Looking forward to meeting you.

Yours Aye,

*Jim*  
Jim Fleming

DUBH GHLASE AUGUST 1996 9



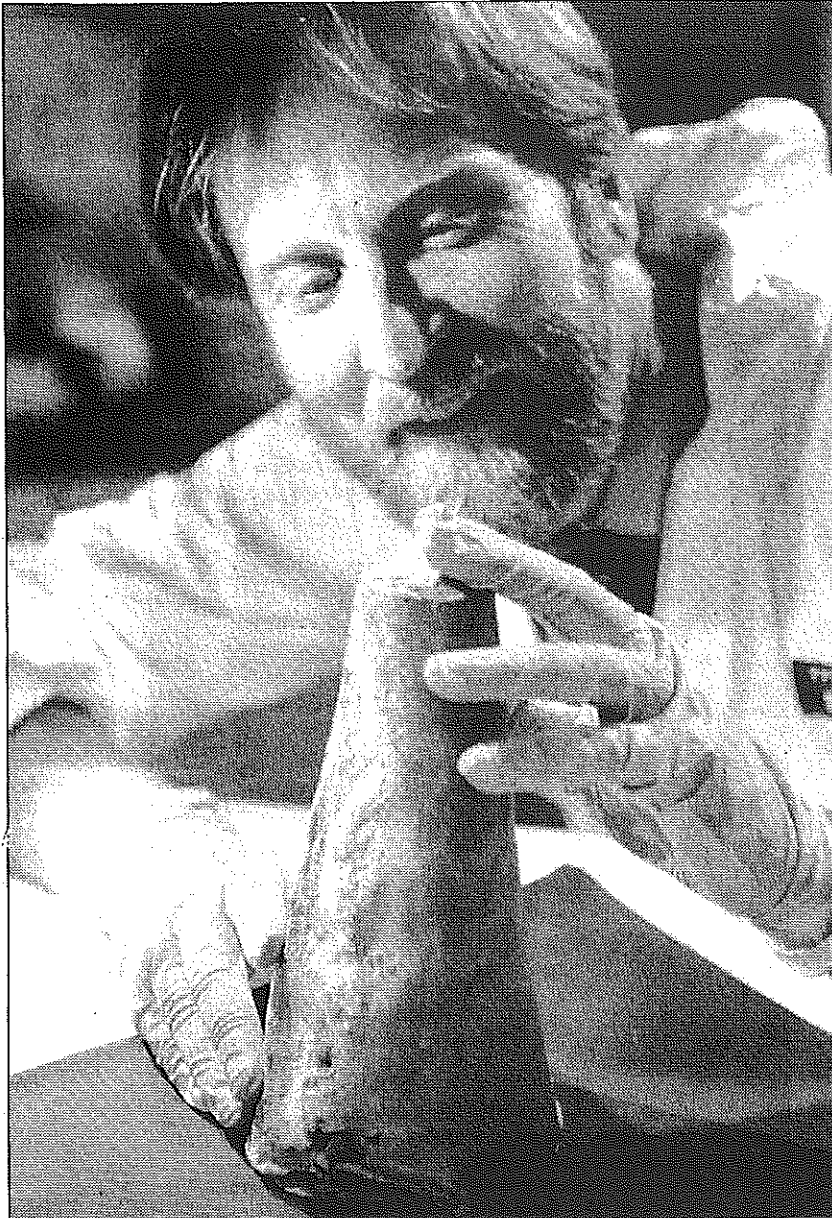
### Stone of Destiny

It has been announced that the Stone of Destiny which was stolen from the Scots by the English 700 years ago is now to be returned to Scotland. It was taken to England by King Edward I on June 15, 1296 and has been used at coronations in Westminster Abbey, London ever since.

It is reputed to have been brought to Scotland in the 9th century from the Middle East and legend has it that it was used as a pillow by Jacob in Biblical times and transported from Egypt through Sicily, Spain, Ireland and then to Dunstaffnage Castle near Oban. Around 850 AD, it is thought that it was moved by Kenneth MacAlpin, King of Scots from Dunstaffnage to Scone and remained there for over 400 years as the traditional enthroning stone for the Kings of Scotland. The last Scottish King to be enthroned was John Balliol in 1292. There are other theories regarding the origin of the stone but as yet are unsubstantiated.

More words of wisdom on the 'Stone of Destiny', written by Mr. Jim Fleming of Douglas Heritage Museum in DOUGLAS Scotland. With acknowledgement to "DUBHGLASE" "The Clan Douglas of North America Newsletter."





SCOTTISH conservationist Richard Welander examines the mediaeval casket thought to contain the heart of Scottish king Robert the Bruce.

## Buried heart may be that of Scot king

By MARY-ANNE TOY  
in London

A MEDIAEVAL lead casket thought to contain the embalmed heart of Scottish hero Robert the Bruce was uncovered on Monday in a delicate operation in an Edinburgh laboratory.

Conservationists donned surgical gowns and masks to extract the cone-shaped, 30cm-high casket from a 1920s container found buried last week at the 12th-century Melrose Abbey, but did not feel it was necessary to remove the heart itself.

The mediaeval casket was first unearthed in the abbey in 1921, opened and found to contain the remains of a human heart. It was then resealed, put into a new metal container and buried in an unknown spot.

When the 1920s container was opened with a jeweller's saw on Monday, it contained a small copper plaque reading: "The enclosed leaden casket containing a heart was found beneath Chapter House floor in March 1921 and reburied by His Majesty's Office of Works".

Experts believed it was the heart of Robert the Bruce, the hero-king who defeated the English at Bannockburn in 1314, winning Scotland's freedom.

Scotland's inspector of ancient monuments, Doreen Grove, said there was no reason to open the casket because it could not be shown beyond doubt that it contained the heart of the 14th-century king.

The casket was to be moved to a secret location before being reburied next spring.

Robert the Bruce continued the fight against the English after William Wallace, portrayed in Mel Gibson's Oscar-winning film *Braveheart*, was killed. He is considered the true Braveheart in Scotland.



When King Robert Bruce died of leprosy in 1329, it was the Black Douglas who was charged with the removal of Bruce's heart from his body. He carried it around his neck in a silver casket as far as Granada in Spain, before dying in battle against the Moors. King Robert had made a vow to go on a crusade to Jerusalem, but when he was not able to carry this out himself, he wanted, in the event of his death, his heart to be taken there. When the Black Douglas was killed in Spain, the Bruce's heart was brought back to Scotland and buried in Melrose Abbey, and the body of Sir James was interred beneath a splendid tomb in the Church of St Bride. This happened in 1330, and from this time on, a red heart has always been represented on the Douglas Coat of Arms, irrespective of branches<sup>2</sup>.

Continuation of 'THE HON. JOHN DOUGLAS, CMG' by Dr R.A. Douglas, AM

John Douglas then served as Agent-General and Emigration Agent in England from September 1869 to December 1870. He carried on his job vigorously and secured the departure of a boat load of at least three hundred German migrants. He found that he could get migrants to pay 4 pounds for an assisted passage to Queensland, but they were loath to front up with the 8 pounds the Government required according to the Immigration Act. If he charged the 4 pounds in this way, he could keep things moving. However, he fell out with the Premier, Palmer, whom he described as "a glorified bullock driver" and returned to Brisbane.

He tried for election to Parliament on his return and lost three elections between 1871 and 1875. Also in 1872, his unsuccessful pastoral ventures caught up with him, and he was declared insolvent on his own petition in 1872 owing 6767 pounds 15s 9d.

In April 1875, he was elected to the seat of Maryborough and this marked the greatest period of his life as a politician. He held the seat of Maryborough for four years and all that time occupied responsible ministerial positions in the Thorn Ministry, ending up as Premier in March 1877. In November 1876, his first wife was killed by being thrown out of a sulky at Breakfast Creek in Brisbane. There were no children of the marriage, though his wife had a daughter by her previous marriage.

When Premier, John Douglas went to Torres Strait to more or less do a reconnaissance of the area as Queensland was contemplating the annexation of the Torres Strait Islands. Except for Possession Island, they had not been included in the original annexation of the East Coast of Australia by Cook in 1770.

The Torres Strait had become a wild and lawless place full of blackbirders, pearlers and beachcombers. The London Mission Society using mostly Polynesian Missionaries, established a Mission Station on Murray Island in 1871. This was very successful and the natives took to Christianity like ducks to water. The event is still celebrated yearly in "The Coming of the Light". A pearling station had been established on Tutu Island in 1868. By 1877, there were 16 fishing firms and 100 boats in the Strait. It was decided to transfer the Government Resident Mr H.M. Chester from Somerset to Thursday Island, and in 1877 John Douglas and Mr Chester were looking around the island. John Douglas visited the site for the new town of Port Kennedy on Thursday Island, selected partly because the island was uninhabited and there was no disturbance to any native population. At that visit, he selected a site for the school and the Post Office. Somerset had a poor anchorage whereas Port Kennedy was a very good harbour. What do you think John Douglas was doing walking along the beach at Mabuiag Island with Mr Chester? Well, he was looking for the site for a school, one of his main preoccupations. Mr Chester stubbed his toe against an object lying in the sand. He dug it out and found it to be a cannon "not of English manufacture". The gun was taken to Brisbane and next year, presented to his electorate of Maryborough as a time gun. Recently, the bronze gun was identified as belonging to the Dutch East Indies Company and manufactured about the year 1714.

Torres Strait in those days, seems to have been open slather for everybody and John Douglas seems to have beaten the gun, as the Torres Strait Islands were not formally annexed by his Government until 1878 and confirmed in 1879. Torres Strait was becoming very important as the fisheries for pearl shell, trochus and beche-de-mer were thriving. Also with the opening of the Suez Canal, the north about route had become

popular for shipping coming from Europe to Australia.

Little did John Douglas realise that Torres Strait would subsequently be his home for 20 years at the end of his life. He must have eaten the fruit of the Wongai tree. It is said if this is done, one always returns to Torres Strait. It happened in my case. I served in the Army for 6 months in early 1941 in Torres Strait. I even visited Mabuiag Island on a lugger to medically examine the islanders who volunteered to join the Torres Strait infantry. I ate Wongai fruit and returned there in 1988 as a fare paying member of the crew of the barquentine "Amorina". I also have as souvenirs, two turtles carved in Wongai wood in 1941 by a native craftsman. It is interesting that we had to anchor for some hours in the Prince of Wales Channel, as the current was 8 knots due to water flowing with the tide from the Indian to the Pacific Ocean. With the auxiliary engine we would have been going backwards had we not anchored. The waters of the Torres Strait are full of reefs and treacherous currents. The only way for large ships to pass from one ocean to the other is through the Prince of Wales Channel, just north of Thursday Island and within gunshot of the Fort on Greenmount. In 1893, just one hundred years ago, the Imperial Government and the Queensland Government collaborated to build the fort which contains three six inch guns. Also, the island's importance was enhanced by it becoming a Royal Naval Coaling Station.

1877 was a very eventful year for John Douglas. He became Premier and was awarded the C.M.G. He also married my grandmother as his second wife. At the time she was employed by him as his housekeeper. Her name was Sarah Hickey and she came from County Clare in the West of Ireland and had been trained as a school teacher. They were married privately according to Catholic rites by Bishop Quinn. The Bishop was fined 10 pounds for failing to register the marriage. The marriage was performed on the 30 July 1877, but did not become generally known until January 1878. Sarah was aged 32 and he was aged 49. Also in the same eventful year, his name was perpetuated in the town of Port Douglas. The town was to have been called Salisbury after the Earl of Salisbury, who at one time favoured Home Rule for Ireland. However, he changed his mind. A lot of pioneers there were Irishmen who objected to the name, so it was named after the Premier, more or less by default. He had very little to do with the town.

In the four years that he was member for Maryborough and the two of these years that he was Premier, he was able to accomplish more than at any other time in his political career. Originally as minister for Lands, he was able to introduce a new Lands Act which opened arable lands to closer agricultural settlement by farmers. Although not by any means a racist, he was able to stem the flood of Chinese migration to North Queensland when at that time, one person in ten of the population was Chinese. He had always regarded the importation of Polynesian labour as despicable. Although he could not prevent it, he managed to regulate it further and tried to eliminate the crimes of blackbirders. He was a believer in a predominantly White Australia. He had always advocated that railways should be paid for by the sale of public lands along the course of the railway, instead of by increasing the public debt. He managed to get this scheme through Parliament. He was also concerned about the defence of the colony and a Volunteer Defence Bill became law. He ordered two thousand Martini-Henry rifles from England to equip the Defence Force. His only major failure was the Education Bill of 1877. He was always very interested in education.

TO BE CONTINUED





Norman Douglas of Dundarrach, Scotland. (R.)  
John Terlow, Netherlands (L) with the  
embroidered Coat of Arms of Norman Douglas of  
Dundarrach, embroidered by John Terlow.

Acknowledgement to the Scottish Australian Heritage Council Inc. ( Comhairlie Oighreachd Albannach Aonaichte ) for the following enlightenment-----

## KIRKING FABLE EXPOSED

Many of us have been concerned about the weird and fanciful stories we hear about the origin of the Kirkin' of the Tartan. Recently I, ( your Editor) challenged one person about the story which they had printed about the origin of the Kirking and informed that their story was a better one and had some 'history' in it!

Now we have a letter from Robert McGillivray of Melbourne who sends the true story which I well remember. The Minister concerned was a Presbyterian Minister in Washington, DC who was asked by President Roosevelt to lead the Congress of the United States in prayer. He was the one who instituted the Kirking as we know it. The following quote is from Robert McGillivray's letter:

"Visitors to Scotland often express surprise when they discover the Kirkin' o' the Tartans ceremony is virtually unknown there. It is not one that we hold and it is only celebrated by expatriate Scots in other lands. I believe it was instigated by the Rev. Peter Marshall in Washington, USA, during the Second World War, but I may be wrong. I have never attended such a service myself but I just missed one in New Zealand a few years ago. I saw a note of that service where it was explained that it came about because Scots in their new lands wished to commemorate their origins in some way. They chose to do so with tartan as a tangible and unifying symbol. That seems to me to be highly commendable and a valuable way of handing on love of homeland to succeeding generations.

What I don't like is the story concocted to justify the use of tartan. It strikes me as akin to the event, dreamt up some years ago by an Edinburgh hotelier holding a charity fun day, of haggis hurling; something he thought could be indulged in by the whole family. Good - until it is taken seriously! Then it makes a mockery of tradition.

That the wearing of tartan was banned by Act of Parliament in 1747 is fact. But the ban only applied to men and boys! If Highlanders had wanted to take their tartan to church they could have dressed up their womenfolk. Do we really think that Highlanders who braved enemy fire at Culloden (and I mean Highlanders who fought on either side) would resort to carrying little scraps of cloth around secretly? They could have joined a Highland regiment and worn it proudly. The McGillivray Chief and many of his clansmen did. Further, many of the people lived in remote areas where enforcement of the ban would have been extremely difficult. No; this myth does not stand up to scrutiny.

By all means let us have the service to honour Scots tradition if we wish. Let us not then dishonour it by making up silly stories!

The Kirkin' of the Tartan was instigated in Washington during the Second World War. Evidence of this is found in a letter preserved in the Clan Macpherson Museum at Newtonmore in the Scottish Highlands. This letter, which was written by William F. Jarrett, President of the St Andrews Society of Washington DC, on 24 June 1984 to Sir William A. Macpherson of Cluny and Blairgowrie,

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### THE AUSTRALIAN TARTAN

Devised by national competition in 1984 under the direction of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council the AUSTRALIAN TARTAN is now fully recorded in Scotland recognised internationally as belonging to Australia. The colours reflect the colours of Outback Australia. The gold-ochre and Oxide-pink base colours can be seen at Ayres Rock - at sunrise and sunset. The lines of blue, black, and white represent the clear Australian Sky, the rich mineral resources and white cloud which means life giving rain. These are also the traditional outline colours used by the Australian Aborigine in early paintings.



# 1996 SYDNEY SCOTTISH WEEK PROGRAMME

## SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER TO SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER

### Saturday 23 November 1996

2 p.m. Garden Party, Central Gardens, Merrylands, arranged by Holroyd Council.

### Sunday 24 November 1996

10.30 a.m. Kirking of the Tartan at St Mary's Cathedral. (Seating by 10.15 am. please.)

12 noon - Hyde Park Sydney, southern end between Park Street and the Pool of Remembrance, Gathering of the Clans for the March of the Clans to Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour for the opening ceremony and concert.

March moves off promptly at 12.30 p.m.

1 p.m. Tumbalong Park at Darling Harbour - picnic and concert.

### Monday to Friday

12 noon - Scottish music and dancing in Martin Place.

### Monday 25 November 1996

7.30 p.m. at the Royal Automobile Club, Macquarie Street, Sydney an evening seminar on "The Present State of Scotland" at which the principal speaker will be Dr Sheila Brock, guest from Scotland.

### Tuesday 26 November 1996

8.00 a.m. - Golf Day at Cromer Golf Course followed by lunch.

Afternoon - Talk by Alasdair Taylor at a venue to be arranged.

11.30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Scottish display in St John's Mall, Parramatta (*Sponsored by Parramatta Council*).

### Wednesday 27 November 1996

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Family Search Information Day at Rumsey Hall, 24 Kent Street, Miller's Point (near bus terminal at Miller's Point). Information ph: 02 9449 8353

7.15 p.m. - North Shore Ceilidh - to be held at North Sydney Leagues Club, 20 Abbott Street, Cammeray.

### Thursday 28 November 1996

7.30 p.m. - A meeting of the Sydney Society for Scottish History. Speaker: Dr Sheila Brock.  
Level 44 MLC Building, Martin Place Sydney

### Friday 29 November 1996

12.30 p.m. Lunch in the President's private dining room at Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney

12.00 noon. - 1.30 p.m. St John's Mall, Parramatta - Pipers and Highland Dancers. (*Sponsored by Parramatta Council*).

### Saturday 30 November 1996 St. Andrew's Day

10.30 a.m. Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band, Marie O'Grady Highland Dancers, St John's Mall, Parramatta.  
(*Sponsored by Parramatta Council*).

11.30 a.m. Official Guests arrive via RiverCat and are welcomed. Visit to Old Government House.

6.00 p.m. St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral, Parramatta. Mass service with the Australian Gaelic Singers.

7.00 p.m. Liverpool Scottish & Pipe Band Assocs. St Andrew's Day Supper/Dance \$20.00 L'pool Bowling Club.

7.30 p.m. St Andrew's Day Dinner at the Masonic Centre, Goulburn Street, Sydney. (Dress: Highland, Black tie.)

### Sunday 1 December 1996

9.00 a.m. Mosman Gala Day at Rawson Park Oval conducted by Mosman Gathering Committee.

10.00 a.m. Combined Scottish Societies Highland Games & Gathering, Drummoyne Oval.

11.00 a.m. Cairn Ceremony, Rawson Park, Mosman.

**For all Scottish Week information ring (02) 9644 4647 or (02) 9220 6126.**

C.D.A.A. Members.

For information re. joining CLAN DOUGLAS for March of the Clans,  
please phone C.D.A.A. SYDNEY CONVENOR Mrs. June Marks 02 93982149.

## NOTICE BOARD

**REMEMBER** .... KIRKIN' OF THE TARTAN .....SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER '96  
SERVICE WILL COMMENCE AT 9.30 AM AT THE SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN MEMORIAL  
CHURCH, 29 Bellevue Tce (cnr Queens Road) Clayfield.  
Hope you can be there - last year Clan Douglas was well represented.  
Ph (07) 32654316 for further information.

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AND THE WINNER IS ..... TICKET NO. EA51, held by Mrs. Jean Ridell,  
Forest Place, Durack, Brisbane.

Thankyou, all of you, for your support of the raffle of a specially  
woven rug of scottish wool, gifted to us by our Regent in Scotland,  
Norman Douglas of Dundarrach. (See Page 12)

Thankyou too, to those of you who were quick to notice that in the  
last newsletter the tickets were mentioned at \$2 each, while \$1 was  
printed on the front of the ticket books. If you had sent \$10  
instead of \$5, an extra book of five tickets was issued for you.  
Receipt is enclosed with this newsletter. Tickets were actually  
meant to be \$2. Regrettably the error was mine.. by the way,  
how many of you guessed that the answer to the query on the front  
of the ticket book DRUMLANRIG - the Douglas Grey Tartan.  
Due to the number of tickets sold, the raffle was drawn by the BALL  
SYSTEM, Kindly arranged for us by David Roseby.

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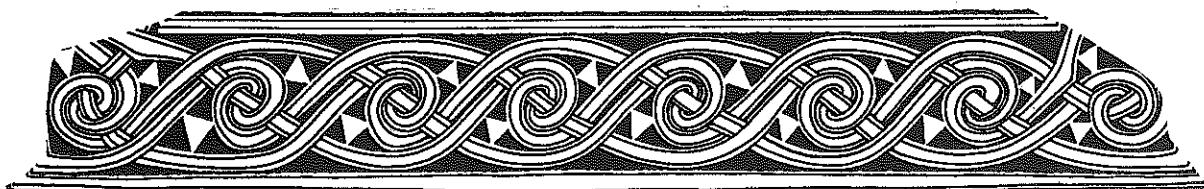
There are still plentiful stocks of ribbons, book marks and car  
stickers, all imported from Scotland.

The ribbons are lovely for bouquets for those brides seeking something  
traditional.

See the regular advertisement in your newsletter.

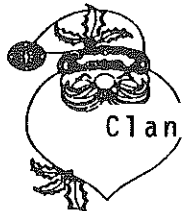
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MEMBERS, PLEASE NOTE **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**----Please notify either  
Membership Secretary Mr. Ian Douglas, P.O. Box 1016 Toowoomba 4350  
Treasurer Mrs J.D. Roseby, P.O. Box 962 Beenleigh, 4207 Or  
Newsletter Editor, Mrs. Jan. Shaw, 116 Strong Ave. Graceville 4075  
of any changes of address, ( we have had some Newsletters Returned  
to Sender.)

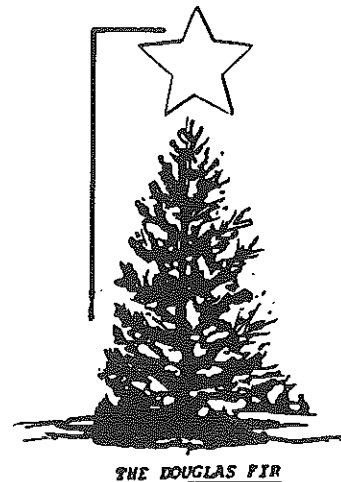


*Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year*

*Thank you for your support  
throughout the year*



Committee  
of  
Clan Douglas Association  
— Australia —



THE DOUGLAS FIR

#### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

At the end of October as I prepare our final issue of the Newsletter for 1996, our thoughts are already turning towards Christmas and the New Year. May the Festive Season be a happy one for all C.D.A.A. members, family & friends ---- in fact for everyone everywhere.

In Australia the topic of multiculturalism has been raised recently. My comments are that we have already a multicultural society in Australia and as soon as all Australians recognise and accept that fact and stop making judgments of people based on the colour of their skin and the shape of their eyes and start making positive steps to help the newcomers settle and become "good" Australians, the better for everyone.

Wishing everyone everywhere a **HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.**

Jan Shaw -- Editor.

Address your newsletter contributions to:

The Editor - Clan Douglas Association Newsletter  
116 Strong Ave  
Graceville Qld 4075

