



THE CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

No 68

DECEMBER 2005

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

PATRON: Mr Archibald Douglas

PRESIDENT: Mrs Jan Shaw

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Mrs Del Armstrong

TREASURER: Mr David Douglas

EDITOR: Mrs Mary Smith

GEN. RESEARCH OFF: Mrs Mary Smith

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

Mr Archie Douglas, Miss Dawn Douglas, Ms Penny Shaw & Mrs Robin Godfrey

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION

TO ACT AS A REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF DOUGLASES 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.

We send Members two Newsletters a year (and invite members to contribute articles of general interest). We hold social gatherings to enable Members to meet.

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, DICKY, 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.

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. Enclosed is a membership form to be returned with Australian currency cheques made out to CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION and send to - Membership Secretary, Clan Douglas Association of Australia, K34/356 Blunder Road, Durack, 4077

President's Message

Dear Clan Douglas Members,

First of all I would like to wish you all and your family members a very happy Christmas and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year.

It is with some personal surprise that I write the 'President's Message' this year as I went along to the AGM of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia as a humble and in small letters 'committee member' and came out as an even more humble president.

Many of you have been aware of the difficulties most clan associations are experiencing in attracting 'management committees' — Clan Douglas is no exception and over the years, our willing team of hard-working committee members has dwindled. We have always hoped that the younger generation of the large Douglas Clan would take up the reins of office permanently and this seed of Hope has borne a little fruit because we have had some younger presidents, i.e., Christopher Douglas and Acting President Douglas Waller. However, young men also have the priority of their own careers to follow and so have held the reins for only short periods. We have wished them good fortune as they have moved on.

Being one of the original members of CDAA's committee as Newsletter Editor for the first 14 years and general committee member for the next 5, I did feel it was my turn to 'move on' too. But now — my intention as president is to gather up the reins, recall the ancient battle cry of "A Douglas! A Douglas!" and our motto 'Never Behind' and do my best to keep our CDAA together, afloat and in front — until another member of the younger generation comes along to take over.

Another committee member who gathered up the reins of office and with great dignity stepped into the breach, was Jan Waller (nee Douglas). Jan was elected Vice President and when her son Douglas, then Acting President, left for Oxford University, she took on his role as well. Our grateful thanks to the Waller Family for jobs well done on the Clan Douglas' behalf. Unfortunately, Jan has relinquished her positions and has resigned from the committee. We shall all miss you Jan, but hope that you will continue to support us in our roles and functions.

Our treasurer David Douglas has had his wife, Karen, help as membership secretary for the past four years. I wish to thank Karen for her contribution to our Clan's needs. Our new membership secretary will be Del Armstrong (nee Douglas). Del was our first secretary and has always been a dedicated committee member. Thankfully Mary Smith, our capable newsletter Editor will continue in the roles of both Newsletter Editor and Genealogical Co-ordinator. The newsletter is the life-line of the organization as Mary is separated by hundreds of kilometres from the committee. She researches, writes, collates and posts the newsletter single-handed. Thank you Mary.

Dawn Douglas was re-elected to the committee. Dawn recently suffered the loss of her sister Shirley Douglas who had replaced Del Armstrong as secretary. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Dawn.

Kate Godfrey (whose grandmother was Meg Douglas) has kindly offered her services as Hon. Auditor. Thank you Kate. Another thanks must go to a former treasurer, Edith Myers who initiated a successful membership drive earlier this year — every assistance is appreciated. Last, but not least is Archie Douglas who has filled the roles of Patron and President and is our Patron once again this coming year. I know his interest and support is always there — thank you Archie!

May I ask all members to make a special effort this year to become more active. Ways of doing this are :

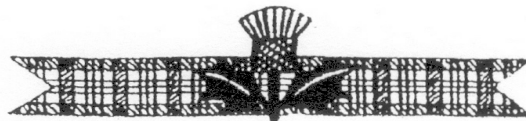
- to contribute articles of interest to the newsletter
- write to our Genealogical Co-ordinator for help tracing your family line or give her the information you already have to help establish a link with another family
- write into the committee with suggestions as to how we can help you or extend our CDAA activities
- look out for friends or acquaintances who have SEPT names — they too may be eligible to join (list of SEPT names on page 1)
- take on a position on the committee — WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

Next year is a milestone in our association — our 20th year so perhaps some of you may come up with some ideas as to how to celebrate this anniversary.

Yours Sincerely,

President,

Jan Shaw (nee Douglas)



GENEALOGICAL CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT FOR 2005

It gives me much pleasure to present my report for 2005.

This year has been similar to previous years and I regret that there has been very few letters for me to answer regarding genealogy.

So far, I have not been notified of any Douglas or sept families' publications. Again I ask if any members are aware of Douglas or sept family publications, the Clan Douglas would like to know about them, subject to purchasing for our library.

Research queries are needed for insertion in the newsletters. We have not received many this year and this free facility continues to be underused.

Mary Smith

Genealogical Co-ordinator



NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT FOR 2005

It gives me much pleasure as Newsletter Editor, to present the Report for 2005.

It is the 20th Anniversary of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia in December 2006. Has anyone any ideas as to how we could celebrate this event? It is not often that a Clan Association lasts this long as so many fall by the wayside through lack of support long before the 20th anniversary is reached. Such a milestone in the Clan Douglas' History should be celebrated in some special way so please everyone, let us have your thoughts on the subject.

Four newsletters have been produced since the AGM last year and I have tried to keep the main interest stories evolving as much as possible. However, I do need other material to publish. Please help in this department if you are able as many of you would be surprised at just how many people rely on the newsletter for Douglas news and information. We are all interested in YOUR news! And I am always happy to receive news of births, deaths (biographies) and marriages (brief accounts) from ALL members.

I know that many of our members have varied and interesting stories about their forebears. Would you be willing to share them with others? The newsletter editor is always on the lookout for Douglas/sept families or descendant anecdotes/biographies to reproduce. We need research queries also to help other members who may be looking for long lost relatives or ancestors. Please help us to help you and so keep the newsletter a viable and sought after publication.

A different Christmas or birthday present to give a loved one could be the gift of membership to the Clan Douglas Association of Australia. On every newsletter you receive there is always an application form at the back. Just fill this in and mail to the Membership Secretary, Mrs Jan Waller, 91 Mobray Terrace, East Brisbane, 4169 with the \$20-00 membership fee.

Mary Smith, Newsletter Editor



ACTING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia at *Masterton*, 91 Mobray Terrace, East Brisbane on November 12, 2005.

As Acting President and Secretary, I would like to welcome everyone here today and thank you for finding the time to be here and for your continuing interest and support of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia.

- In November 2004, Douglas Waller as Acting President and member Mrs June Marks attended the Scottish Week Gathering held on the Sydney Domain and represented the Clan Douglas in the Clan Tent with information about the association.
- Clan Douglas members attended the "Australian Scots in the 1880s" lecture held at the John Oxley Library in December 2004.
- In March 2005, the Clan Douglas Association of Australia rejoined the Scottish Clans Congress Q'ld. — meetings held quarterly — all welcome.
- Clan Douglas was represented by the Waller Family at "A Tartan Affair" held at Newstead House on April 10.
- The Kirking of the Tartan was held in St Andrew's Uniting Church, Ann Street, Brisbane with the Clan Douglas being well represented by several members.
- In July, the Clan Douglas hosted a Whiskey Tasting function at Gilhoolies Pub which was well attended by members and friends — a great success!
- Douglas Waller resigned from his position as Acting President in August to pursue his career and studies in the UK for a period of time. Thank you Douglas for all your hard work.

The Clan has held some very successful functions in the past both large and small and my thanks must go to all those who have supported these events. However, the large functions do need the drive of young people for it is their friends who provide the numbers of attendees.

At our last meeting, it was decided that our association would like to honour the memory of our founding President, Ron Douglas and we agreed that a sum of approximately \$100-00 should be given as an annual bursary to Scots PGC Warwick, Q'ld. with the bursary to be awarded to the student who excels in Vocational Studies. After consultation with Ron Douglas' widow Merle who was very happy with the idea, a final amount of \$2,000-00 was placed in a fixed deposit from which the \$100-00 would be extracted annually for the bursary. We are very happy to report that our inaugural winner was Jack Glasser for 2004 and that Hamish Moore has been awarded this bursary for 2005. Congratulations to both recipients.

I would like to thank David and Karen Douglas for their combined efforts as Treasurer and for placing our CDAA's Insurance requirements onto their Office Policy. I thank also, Kate Godfrey for her audit of the CDAA's books.

I would like to thank Mary Smith for without her newsletters and work as General Research Officer, our Association would have folded completely. Thank you, Mary for your dedication in writing, printing and posting the newsletters to our membership.

As a final thought, I suggest members endeavour to support events like the Kirking of the Tartan, the Tartan Affair at Newstead House, the Clans Congress and other Scottish activities held in your own local districts for wherever you may live, I have no doubt that the clans are in need of your support just as much as we are!

Jan Waller, Acting President.



DRUMLANRIG (continued)

John Douglas (3rd son of Sir William & Grace Douglas nee Johnstone of Kelhead) succeeded his brother Charles as **6th Marquess of Queensberry**, was born 1779 and died December 19 1856, having married July 16, 1817 his cousin Sarah, daughter of James Sholto & Sarah Douglas nee Dawes and grand-daughter of Charles James Sholto Douglas. She died November 13, 1864 leaving issue:

1. Archibald William Douglas
2. Georgina Douglas, born July 25 1819.

Archibald William Douglas, 7th Marquess of Queensberry, was born April 18, 1818. He was an officer in the 2nd Life Guards, but retired 1844, a Privy Councillor and Lord-Lieutenant of Dumfriesshire. A member of Parliament 1847-56, he was also Comtroller of the Household 1853-56. An unfortunate gun accident at Kinmount, co. Dumfries August 6, 1858 ended his life prematurely. He married May 28, 1840 at Gretna and again June 2 following, Caroline Margaret, younger daughter of General Sir William Robert Clayton, Bart. Caroline was born July 14 1821 and died February 1904. Their issue:

1. John Sholto Douglas who succeeded.
2. Francis William Bouverie Douglas, born February 8, 1847 was killed July 14, 1865 by an accident on the dangerous slopes of the Matterhorn, Switzerland.
3. Archibald Edward Douglas, born June 17, 1850 became a Canon of Galloway in the Roman Catholic Church.
4. a son born January 1 & died 2 1853.
5. James Edward Sholto Douglas, born May 25, 1855 was a lieutenant in the West Kent Militia and died without issue May 5, 1891, having married September 4, 1888, Martha Lucy, widow of R. Hennessy. No issue.
6. Gertrude Georgina Douglas, born August 21, 1842 and died November 25, 1893 having been married in November 1882 to Thomas Stock.
7. Florence Caroline Douglas twin of 5. James Edward Sholto Douglas, born May 25, 1855. She wrote and travelled extensively and took much interest in social and political matters earning some notoriety along the way. She died November 7, 1905 having been married April 3, 1875 to Sir Alexander Beaumont Churchill Dixie, Baronet, and had issue.

John Sholto Douglas, 8th Marquess of Queensberry was born July 20, 1844 and eldest son of Archibald William & Caroline Douglas nee Clayton. He became an officer in the navy and was a Representative Peer from 1872-1880. He made the "Queensberry rules" for boxing. He died January 31, 1900 having married (1) February 26, 1866, Sibyl, younger daughter of Alfred Montgomery and grand-daughter of Sir Henry Canyngham & Fanny Charlotte Montgomery nee Wyndham, Baronet. She divorced him January 22, 1887 and he then married (2) November 7, 1893 at the Registrar's office, Eastbourne, Ethel, daughter of Edward Charles Weedon. However, Ethel was already married to de Courcy Adams, and this marriage was annulled in the following year. By his first wife, the Marquess had issue:

1. Francis Archibald Douglas, Viscount Drumlanrig, born February 3, 1867 at one time a lieutenant in the Coldstream Guards. He was Assistant Secretary for Foreign Affairs under the Earl of Rosebery in 1892, and a Lord-in-Waiting 1893-94. On June 26, 1893, he was created Baron Kelhead of Kelhead, co. Dumfries, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom. This Peerage, however, became extinct at his death caused by the accidental discharge of his gun while out shooting at Quantock, October 18, 1894. He was unmarried.
2. Percy Sholto Douglas succeeded his father.
3. Alfred Bruce Douglas, born October 22, 1870, married March 4, 1902, Olive Eleanor, daughter of Colonel Frederic Hambleton Custance, C.B., with issue:



Raymond Wilfrid Sholto Douglas, born November 17 1902.

3. Sholto George Douglas, born June 7, 1872 who at one time was a lieutenant in the 4th Battalion Northampton Regiment; married 1895, Loretta Mooney and had issue:

Bruce Francis Sholto Douglas, born 1897

Sholto Augustus Douglas, born 1900

4. Edith Gertrude Douglas, born March 31, 1874; married March 25, 1899 to St. George Lane Fox Pitt, son of General Pitt-Rivers of Mushmore.

Percy Sholto Douglas, 9th Marquess of Queensberry, Viscount Drumlanrig, Earl of Queensberry was born October 13, 1868; died August 1, 1920; married (1) September 11, 1893, Anna Maria, younger daughter of the Rev. Thomas Walters, Vicar of Boyton, Launceston and had issue:

1. Francis Archibald Kelhead, Lord Douglas of Hawick and Tibbers, born January 17, 1896.

2. Cecil Charles Douglas, born December 27, 1898.

3. Dorothy Madeline Douglas, born July 6, 1894; married October 4, 1934, Esmond Brasnell Palmer, captain.

Percy Sholto Douglas married (2) December 4, 1918, Mary Louise, daughter of Richard Bickel of Cardiff.

Francis Archibald Kelhead Douglas 10th Marquess of Queensberry, Viscount Drumlanrig, Lord Douglas of Hawick, born January 17, 1896; died April 27, 1954; captain Black Watch and was twice wounded in World War 1, 1914-1918. Representative Peer for Scotland; married (1) December 4, 1917, divorced 1925, Irene Clarice, daughter of Henry William Richards of Regents Park, formerly of Fairhaven, Salcombe, Devon. Their issue

1. Patricia Sybil Douglas, born December 24, 1918; died 1992; married (1) January 27, 1938, divorced 1950, Count John Gerard de BERNARD; married (2) 1952, Herman Hornax, divorced 1960.

Francis Archibald Kelhead Douglas married (2) March 18, 1926, divorced 1946, Kathleen Sabine, daughter of Harrington Mason. Their issue

2. David Harrington Angus Douglas

3. Jane Katherine Douglas born December 18, 1926; married August 25, 1949, David Arthur Cory Wright, son of Sir Geoffrey Wright.

Francis Archibald Kelhead Douglas married (3) April 23, 1947, Muriel Beatrice Margaret, daughter of Arthur John Rowe Thornett. Their issue

4. Gwain Archibald Francis Douglas, born May 23, 1948; married 1971, Nicolette, daughter of Frank Alfred Eustace of Hong Kong and had (a) Dalziel Frances Douglas; (b) Elizabeth Muriel Douglas, born 1974; (c) James Sholto Douglas, born 1975; (d) Natasha Rose Douglas, born 1976; (e) Margarita Consuela Douglas, born 1978; (f) Mary Anne Douglas, born 1981.

Sir David Harrington Angus Douglas, 11th Marquess of Queensberry, Earl of Queensberry, Viscount of Drumlanrig and Lord Douglas of Hawick & Tibbers, 11th Baronet of Kelhead (Nova Scotia), married (1) July 18, 1956, divorced March 5, 1969, Ann, daughter of Maurice Sinnet Jones, formerly wife of George Arthur Redford. Their issue:

1. Emma Cathleen Douglas, born September 13, 1956

2. Alice Douglas, born July 23, 1965

David Harrington Angus Douglas married (2) July 10, 1969, Alexandra Mary Clare Sich, daughter of Guy Wyndham Sich. Their issue:

4. Sholto Francis Guy, Viscount Drumlanrig, born June 1, 1967 was legitimated.

5. Kate Cordelia Sasha Douglas, born 1969.

6. Milo Luke Dickon Douglas, born 1978.

Compiled from "The Scots Peerage", "Douglas, Duke of Queensberry", Sir Robert Douglas, V.1, pp153-155 & "A History of the Family of Douglas", by Percy Douglas.



BIRTHS:

It is with pleasure we welcome a new member into the Douglas Family **Rosie Anne Duggan**, daughter of Mick & Skye Duggan nee Douglas of Goondiwindi and first grandchild for Ross & Anne Douglas of *Colanya*, Kingsthorpe.

VALE:

It is with regret we announce the passing on May 4, 2005 of **Peter Alan Douglas** elder son of Allan Gordon & Ruby Douglas nee Heness. Peter was born in Toowoomba, December 2, 1938. His brother David says he cut his teeth on "claypan dust, bush flies and mulga having spent the first 12 years of his life at *Bindebango*, a sheep and cattle property some 200 km south from Mitchell", Q'ld. Peter was first taught school by his mother through the Primary Correspondence School before being sent to board at the Prep School in Toowoomba and then to The Southport School, Southport, 1954-1955.

After leaving school, Peter obtained a job with the National Bank in Charleville, but it didn't take him too long to work out that he wasn't cut out to be a 'Bank Johnny' and he went back to the land to work for his cousin Peter Roberts at *Minnel*, Toobeah in the Goondiwindi area as a jackeroo. He went on from there to *Ashton* in the Hughenden district in north-west Q'ld where he worked for his father from 1959-1967. He became involved in the local B & S committee serving as its president for many years. He was also involved with his father in thoroughbred horse breeding and racing throughout north Q'ld and gained quite a reputation reciting bush poetry.

In 1967 in search of new horizons, Peter joined the Australian Estates Pastoral House and served in Julia Creek and Longreach before being appointed Livestock Salesman in Moura in 1969. He went on to manage the Theodore branch but resigned from that company when they were taken over by the Elders Group in the early 1980s. He became a local icon in the Dawson Valley region through his live P.A. commentaries at the district's regular Polocrosse matches. From the Dawson Valley he moved to Toowoomba and bought and operated a Taxi business until his retirement several years ago. Peter enjoyed rugby, tennis and cricket and his knowledge of Australian cricket's achievements and records was phenomenal. Peter was the loved brother and brother-in-law of David and Robyn, good friend of Judy Thomason, loved uncle of Lisa, Kate and Benn, Sally Wallace and Kim Cavallaro and their families. He was unmarried.

Shirley Ida Douglas was born in 1926, daughter of Hugh George Douglas of *Ellangowan Station*, Leyburn via Warwick, Q'ld.

In 1989, Shirley took over the secretarial position of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia. She was a most efficient secretary and the Clan Douglas were sorry when she resigned her position in 2000 although she still remained a committee member and was always present at the AGMs. Her support will be sorely missed. Shirley had her 'ups and downs' healthwise over the years but her last years were spent with her sister Dawn in "Forest Place," a Retirement Village Complex at Durack, Brisbane. Being very proud of her Scottish heritage, Shirley enjoyed the interaction of Clan Douglas members and was especially happy to attend the Kirking of the Tartans. She never married and her sudden passing on October 10,

2005 was especially felt by all her loved ones. She is survived by sister Dawn Douglas, sister June & Beres Emmerson, Rod & Don and Amanda Emmerson.

News from the 2005 AGM

New Committee:

There was much discussion at the Clan Douglas Association's AGM held on November 12 at the home of the Vice President Mrs Jan Waller, about the future of the organization and how hard it is to get members to volunteer their services on the executive. However, the Clan Douglas seem to have taken this hurdle in its stride and now welcomes a new President, Mrs Jan Shaw nee Douglas who has taken over from Doug Waller who has gone to Oxford University for post-graduate study. Mrs Del Armstrong nee Douglas is the Membership Secretary, David Douglas remains the Treasurer and Mary Smith the Newsletter Editor and Genealogical Research Officer. Mr Archie Douglas has kindly agreed to continue in the office of Patron. The General Committee comprises Miss Dawn Douglas, Ms Penny Shaw, Mrs Robin Godfrey and Mr Archie Douglas.

The first General Meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia will be held at the home of Mrs Jan Shaw, 116 Strong Ave., Graceville on Sunday February 26, 2006 at 2pm.

Dates to Remember!

Saturday January 28, 2006: Robbie Burns dinner at the Irish Club, Brisbane. Bookings can be made with President Jan Shaw who is endeavouring to fill tables of 10 with Clan Douglas members and friends. Show your support by contacting Jan on T. 3379 6357 — people don't have to be members to join in the fun! All welcome.

Saturday June 1, 2006: Tartan Day

Saturday June 25, 2006: Kirking of the Tartan, to be at an Anglican Church in Brisbane Central.

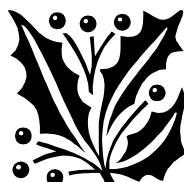
EDITORIAL



It is with regret that the Management Committee of the Clan Douglas Association advises members that Mrs Jan Waller has resigned from the executive. Jan did a magnificent job in her capacity as Vice President and Secretary and will be greatly missed by the Clan Douglas Association. Thank you Jan for your efforts on our behalf and we wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

It is that time of the year again when families gather and there is usually much reminiscing, love and laughter as we all gather around the Christmas Tree to open presents. Spare a thought for others less fortunate than ourselves who may not have a family or even a loved one to pass the Christmas message on to. May you all have a Very Happy Christmas and a New Year filled with peace and goodwill from all Nations. God Bless.

Mary Smith, Editor



More Monumental Inscriptions of HOUNAM & LINTON of Roxburghshire, Scotland

In memory of JOHN SMITH shepherd Swinlaws? who died ?.4.1849 aged 56 years and EFFIE DOUGLAS his wife who died at Morebattle 8.6.1879 aged 80 years.

----- also AGNES RUTHERFORD the granddaughter of ANDREW DOUGLAS in Upper Hindhope who died 24.4.----- WILLIAM their son who died at Swinsidehall 18.7.1873 aged 68 years also CECIL SMITH his wife who died at Swinsidehall 30.4.-----

In memory of WILLIAM DOUGLAS late tenant in Swinside who died in November 1788 aged 65 years also of ELIZABETH MURRAY his spouse who died in December 1798 aged 55 years also of two of their children.

To the memory of GEORGE DOUGLAS tenant in Plenderleith who died 16.12.1859 aged? years also his brother JOHN DOUGLAS of H.R.N. who died on board H.M.S. *London* off Sebastopol 10.6.1855 aged 48 years.

Sacred to the memory of ANDREW DOUGLAS farmer of Swinsidehall who died 10.12.1867 aged 58 years also JOHN DOUGLAS son of GEORGE DOUGLAS farmer of Hindhope died 27.7.1872 aged 20 months. also ALICE DOUGLAS wife of the said ANDREW DOUGLAS who died ----- aged 66 years also GEORGE DOUGLAS son of GEORGE DOUGLAS died ?.9.1857 aged 70 years.



CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Patron: Mr Archibald Douglas

President:

Mrs Jan Shaw
116 Strong Ave.,
Graceville, 4075
T. (07) 3379 6357

NAME -----

ADDRESS-----

-----POSTCODE-----

Membership Secretary:

Mrs Del Armstrong,
K34/ 356 Blunder Rd.,
Durack, 4077
T. (07)3372 4301

PLACE OF FAMILY ORIGIN OVERSEAS (IF KNOWN)

PLACE OF FAMILY ORIGIN, AUSTRALIA or N.Z.

Treasurer:

Mr David Douglas,
PO Box 806,
Hamilton, 4007
T. (07) 3262 3628 (a/h)

TELEPHONE-----

Newsletter Editor:

Mrs Mary Smith,
P.O. Box 29,

MEMBERSHIP FEE PER YEAR \$20-00 PER FAMILY AT
SAME ADDRESS

Bowenville, 4404
T. (07) 4663 7146

Gen. Co-ordinator

Mrs Mary Smith,
S/A

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

Septs.

Bell, Kilgore,
Blacklock, Kilpatrick,
Blackstock, Kirkland,
Blackwood, Kirkpatrick
Brown, Lockerby,
Brownlee, MacGuffey,
Cavers, MacGuffock,

Please make cheques payable in Australian currency to
CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA and post to the
membership secretary. Thank you.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

Dickey, McKittrick,
Douglass, Morton,
Drysdale, Sandilands

Forest, Sandlin,
Forrest, Simms,
Forrester, Soule,
Foster, Sterritt,
Gilpatrick, Symington,
Glendinning Syme,
Ingles Young
Ingliis,

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.

VALE

Lance Robert Douglas known as Rob by everyone and as Robin by his mother, was born at Southport, April 22, 1920. He grew up on the historic family property *Mt Maria* that had been settled by Robert Douglas in 1875. He was taught Correspondence School and had a great relationship with all the people on the property at that time particularly an indigenous lady called Emily who was the station cook. Her daughter Jumbo was some seven years younger than Rob and he told many stories of himself, Emily and Jumbo and their exploits with dingoes, curlews and such like.

Rob's first schooling years were done at the Charleville Anglican Hostel where he met and made friends many of whom he had dealings with in the business houses of Charleville throughout the rest of his life. He often recounted stories about his favourite House Master Eric Heuschele and the old stern Head Master Coledrake who would draw blood at every stroke of the cane!

When Rob left school he returned to *Mt Maria* where he spent his time doing stock work, kangaroo shooting, trapping and fencing. He put a fencing team together and received the contract to construct a portion of the legendary Dingo Barrier Fence, reputedly the longest fence in the world. There were many funny and fascinating stories of camp cooks in "the horrors" and treatment of snake bit by amputation. Later he went out to work at *South Comongin*, a large company owned sheep and cattle property in far western Queensland where his sister Judy and brother-in-law Les Turner were managing. There were the usual battles with extreme heat, flooded rivers, sandflies, fly plagues and dust storms. Rob liked to relate stories of "straggler mustering" with old Fred Collins, an indigenous Elder who introduced him to the delights of bush tucker — a 2lb yellow belly fresh from the river or a duck roasted in a mud shell — were likely starters on the menu.

Then followed the war years that were to have a profound effect on Rob's life. He joined the AIF from the town of Quilpie in 1939 and went into the 2/10 Field Reg. where he became a driver. Training included driving Marmon Herrington trucks whilst towing a 25pounder with ammo limber behind while ascending the Maleny range in the pouring rain with no lights — no bitumen roads in those days!

After sailing for Malaya aboard *The Queen Mary*, Rob was stationed at various places in the Malayan Peninsular spending time in Malacca and Mersing. When Singapore fell, the allied troops were taken prisoner and then came the incredible ordeal of the Burma Line. These were terrible times when unimaginable physical and mental torture was inflicted on the POWs as they worked as slave labour.

There can be no way to minimise the enormity of these events but the emphasis should be on the determination to survive and the support that each man showed to his mates to ensure they got through the ordeal together. Each man would struggle to be of the 'work party' because only a few were allowed on 'sick parade' and the very ill and the very weak were fiercely defended by their mates.

The war progressed and the POWs were taken to Japan, narrowly avoiding being struck by the American submarines as they were taken off the ship they had originally been loaded onto and that ship was sunk! In Japan Rob worked in the coal mines and was underground near Nagasaki when the Atomic Bomb was dropped. When leaving Japan they passed through the devastated city and saw at first hand the levelled structures. They returned to Australia onboard the aircraft carrier *Formidable* where the crew were extremely compassionate to their precious cargo.

Back in Queensland, Rob tried hard to make up for lost time — in fact a group of returned men made jocular plans to buy the *Angler's Arms* Hotel in Southport, as it and the *Carlton* in Brisbane became favourite 'hangouts'.

In western Queensland, Rob returned to life on the land, joining the Morven cricket team and spending many a weekend travelling to matches across the black soil plains — did they really put the whole 11 in the back of that ute?

Then home from nursing in Sydney came June Cudmore and so began the next phase of Rob's life. June lived at *Ivanhoe Downs* next door to *Mt Maria*. As it happened, Rob's mother Fanny Jesser, had lived at *Ivanhoe Downs* as a girl before marrying the 'boy next door' Rob's father, Hugh Allan Douglas. Rob and June followed tradition and were married in Toowoomba in September 1948. They lived on *Mt Maria* and had three children — Angus, Jennifer and Ken — and worked hard with the sheep and cattle breeding, battled many droughts and fluctuating fortunes in the beef and wool industries for the next 50 years.

Rob was actively involved in many aspects of community life. He was especially dedicated to work in the RSL and Legacy and was awarded Life Membership of the RSL in 1975 by the National Executive for 'services to the Morven sub-Branch' and in his role in the Good Friday Appeal for Legacy run by the local radio station RVL in Charleville. Rob would be on the phone all day taking donations! He was also involved in the local church, taking on the various positions to 'do his share'. To say he was the 'foundation' of the church is going too far, but when the stumps under the church had to be replaced, it was Rob and his sons who cut the stumps. He donated a stained glass window to the Morven Church and this is currently being attended to.

Always being one to make the best of a bad situation, Rob was a foundation member of the Cattlemen's Union of Australia which was an active Agro-political organization borne out of the beef cattle depression in the 1970s. He went on to become a member of the National Council and was later awarded Life Membership for his efforts. In 1998, Rob and June moved to Lake Cooroibah where they enjoyed a novelty for Western Queenslanders — a huge lake at the bottom of their garden!

Everyone who knew Rob — family, relations and friends — knew him as a remarkable man. He was really a quite, shy and modest bloke, but once he got started on a favourite topic, he would hold his audience captive. He had a good brain and was an avid reader of the Bulletin and the National Geographic. He would do mental arithmetic for entertainment and could quote Banjo Patterson and Henry Lawson at length. He loved the humorous Ballads of the Bush and frequently, his blue eyes twinkling, would come up with a suitable quote. He would gaze thoughtfully at specimens of modern youth and murmur "their eyes were dull, their heads were flat, they had no brains at all"!

Rob Douglas was interested in many things, and you could talk to him about dingoes, horses, cattle, snakes, birds or rocks — about history and volcanoes or football and racehorses. But most of all, Rob believed in a 'Fair Go'. He valued people for what they really were. Always a gentleman, he had little time for 'put on airs and graces'. He got satisfaction from the recent misfortunes of the Australian Cricket Team as he felt they had become too arrogant. He enjoyed sport as sport to see fair play. He valued a sound contribution irrespective of colour, creed or politics. He will be sadly missed, but more importantly, he will leave behind a solid worthwhile contribution to every field and person he came in contact with.