



THE CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

No 85

March 2010

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

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

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.
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Clan Douglas Website - 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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous year in 2010. As we move into a new year inevitably changes take place. New friendships made, new family members to welcome, a move to a new house, or a new job, illnesses to overcome or the battle lost with the loss of a family member and so on as we too move on. In all these changes the one constant is that we seek happiness.

The Dalai Lama says, "THE SECRET OF HAPPINESS IS KNOWING TO BE CONTENT WITH WHAT YOU HAVE".

My youngest grandson started Prep this year and I called him to ask about his first day. "It was ok Gran Jan," he said. "We did games and stuff," then when I must have shown some concern in my voice, he said, "It's really ok Gran Jan, we do have 2 days a week off."

My hope for CDAA in 2010 is that it will be a year of 'communications' — that members will introduce themselves and their families in some way through the newsletter. Many of you already do this with snippets of information or photos, but there are a great number from whom we hear — nothing! We are a clan (family) and we are all interesting, so let's share.

Jan Shaw (nee Douglas)
President.



CLAN NEWS

BIRTH

The Clan Douglas Association of Australia welcomes with love a new addition to the clan, JAMES ROBERT DOUGLAS, born 27/Jan/2009 in Melbourne, son of David & Lisa Douglas and grandson of William (deceased) & Diana Douglas of Toowoomba.

VALE

It is with much regret that we record the passing of Clan Douglas member Mrs Rhonda G Oberg of Muswellbrook, NSW at the end of October, 2009. Rhonda was a much valued member of our organization since 1992 and will be sadly missed — our condolences to her family.

If you have any family events that you would like recorded in the Newsletter please contact the Editor or any member of the Committee. Stories and photos are welcome.



CONTINUATION OF DOUGLAS SEPTS

BROWNLEA, Brownlee, Brownlie, Brownlees, Brunlees. The name is of local origin, perhaps from Brownlee in Lanarkshire. There is also a Brownlee near Dundonald, Ayreshire. "Wedow" Brownlees was tenant on lands under Newbottle Abbey in 1563. (Newbottle, p.327), Gavin Brwnelie was heir to James Brwnelie in Kinpuntmyln, 1608 (Retours, Linlithgow, 58), and Issobell Brounlee was tenant on lands of Kelso Abbey in 1567 (Kelso, p.527). Janet Brownlee or Brownlees is recorded in Ersiltoune, 1653 (Lauder), John Brounlyes in Chappell, 1659, and James Brounleyis there in 1661 (RRM., 1, p.224, 334). Nathaniel Brounlie in Mauldslie, 1685 (RPC., 3, ser.x,p.123), ands John Brounlie in Toun of Belstaine, parish of Carluke, 1624, and five more are recorded in Lanark Commissariat Record. Sir James Brunlees (1816-1892) was a distinguished engineer. Brownleis 1567, Brunlie 1700; Brounley, Brownley.

(Taken from The Surnames of Scotland by G.F. Black)

Some members of CDAA may be curious as to what association the name Brownlee could possibly have with the Clan Douglas and why it is a Sept. We can never know for sure but it could have been that the Brownlees were considered friends and allies of the Douglas during turbulent times in the early days and joined the Douglas in his forays across the Scottish border into English territory. Or maybe, the Brownlees were tenant farmers of the Douglas, or soldiers in one of the Douglas regiments or castles. At any rate, members of the Brownlee family were closely enough associated with the Douglas family to be given the title of Sept.

TARTAN REGISTER APPROVED BY SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

The Scottish Register of Tartan Act received Royal Assent in November 2008 and on 5th February 2009 the National Archives of Scotland (NAS) launched The Scottish Register of Tartans.

The Register will be maintained by the NAS to provide an official focal point for tartan design and production, as well as for genealogical research. Data from the two existing private registers (the Scottish Tartans Authority and the Scottish Tartans World Register) has been amalgamated in the new register.

The Keeper of the Records of Scotland, George MacKenzie is now also the Keeper of the Scottish Register of Tartans. The Court of the Lord Lyon and tartan experts will have roles to play in advising and supporting the Register. The Register will provide users with the opportunity to search its database for tartans already recorded and will also provide a registration service for recording new tartans.

The Scottish Register of Tartans Act specifies the criteria which new tartans will be required to meet, and these official vetting procedures will promote and protect the status of registered tartans. As tartans play an important role in the culture and identity of Scots, it was fitting that the new register began in the year of the Homecoming 2009.

The official website of the Register is www.tartanregister.gov.uk

(Taken from The Scottish Australian Heritage Council, Inc. Newsletter April 2009, p.5 and The Inaugural lecture by the Professor of Celtic Studies, Professor Anders Ahlqvist on the Sir Warwick Fairfax Memorial Chair in Celtic Studies at Sydney University).



DRUMLANRIG (Continued)

Sir John Douglas of Craigincune was born at Drumlanrig in 1496 and was the 2nd son of Sir William Douglas, 6th Laird of Drumlanrig and Elizabeth Gordon. He married and had a son:

1. **John Douglas** who married and also had a son:
 1. **John Douglas** who died in 1551. In 1550, he received an exchequer payment and was granted 10 pounds by the King to support his expenses in the King's service. He left an illegitimate son:
 1. **John Douglas**, 1st Laird or feudal Baron of Arkland. In 1551, he received 40 pounds out of the Edinburgh customs and in 1554, this was reduced to 36 pounds/13/4d. In 1570, Sir James Douglas, 7th Laird of Drumlanrig granted him by his testament a 19 year tack of Airdland or Arkland. John Douglas of Arkland married Katharine Stewart, daughter of the Rector of Kirkmahoe. They had ten children of whom:
 1. **William Douglas** was the 2nd Laird of Arkland and was executor of his father's estate and inherited 26/Sep/1626. He obtained the lands of Eccles and the 14sh lands of Clachanholm in the barony of Drumlanrig. He married and had:
 1. **John Douglas** "the Elder", 3rd Laird of Arkland who married and had issue:
 - 1.1. John Douglas "the Younger"
 - 1.2. William Douglas
 - 1.3. Janet Douglas married James Hunter
 - 1.4. Elizabeth Douglas
 - 1.5. James Douglas.
 - 1.1. **John Douglas** "the Younger" was the 4th Laird of Arkland who died April 1686. He married Margaret Gordon and had:
 - 1.1.1. Richard Douglas who was slain in 1686 at the battle of Londonderry, Ireland. Lieutenant.
 - 1.1.2. Another son who was a captain in his regiment.
 - 1.1.3. William Douglas, 5th Laird of Arkland
 - 1.1.4. Marie Douglas.
 - 1.1.3. **William Douglas**, the 5th Laird of Arkland was born Dundee Scotland and died 06/Jan/1711 at Schippenbeil. Merchant in the Baltic and moved to Schippenbeil in 1711. He married Konigsberg, East Prussia, now Poland in 1683, Maria, daughter of John William Nisbet and had:
 - 1.1.3.1. Johann Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2. Wilhelm Douglas
 - 1.1.3.3. Maria Douglas who was born Schippenbeil 07/Dec/1690 and died Liebstadt 06/Apr/1753; married 18/Nov/1748, Georg Lessel.
 - 1.1.3.1. **Johann Douglas**, eldest son of William & Maria Douglas nee Nisbet and was born 1684; married Konigsberg 18/Feb/1721 Maria Elisabeth Bergau and had issue:
 - 1.1.3.1.1 Christiane Douglas, married 23/Nov/1752 Christian Friedrich Wessel.
 - 1.1.3.1.2. Sophia Dorothea Douglas.

DRUMLANRIG (Continued)

- 1.1.3.2. **Wilhelm Douglas** was born Schippenbeil 06/Jun/1688; died Schippenbeil 22/Dec/1754; elected in 1720 as Ratsherr (Councillor); 1746 Vice-Burgomaster of Schippenbeil; married 16/Feb/1715, Anna Maria Watson and had:
- 1.1.3.2.1. Maria Elisabeth Douglas born 1715
 - 1.1.3.2.2. Katharina Douglas born 1717
 - 1.1.3.2.3. Wilhelmina Douglas born 1718
 - 1.1.3.2.4. Johann Douglas born 1719
 - 1.1.3.2.5. Anna Maria Douglas born 1721
 - 1.1.3.2.6. Georg Wilhelm Douglas born Schippenbeil 16/Feb/1724; died Aschersleben 03/Nov/1794
 - 1.1.3.2.7. Peter Douglas born Schippenbeil 16/Feb/1724; died 30/Jun/1781; married Watson
 - 1.1.3.2.8. Adelgunde Douglas born Schippenbeil 04/Sep/1730; died Insterburg March 1754
 - 1.1.3.2.9. Karl Wilhelm Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2.10. another child
- 1.1.3.2.9. **Karl Wilhelm Douglas** born 12/Jan/1734; died Insterburg 12/Apr/1809 – Honorable citizen of Insterburg; married 24/Jun/1773, Maria Magdalena, daughter of Abraham & Maria Magdalena Girod nee Gangnin and had:
- 1.1.3.2.9.1. Karl Wilhelm Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2.9.2. Maria Magdalena Douglas born 15/Jan/1770; married 27/Feb/1794Radke.
 - 1.1.3.2.9.3. Anton Wilhelm Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2.9.4. Emma Elisabeth Douglas born Königsberg; married 28/Nov/1802, Samuel Christoph Kaufmann Heyne.
 - 1.1.3.2.9.5. Daniel Douglas born 09/Oct/1779; died Dresden 20/Sep/
 - 1.1.3.2.9.6. Abraham Douglas born 02/Apr/1781; died 27/Nov/1857; married 1811....Wartenburg
 - 1.1.3.2.9.7. Samuel Douglas born 20/Apr/1782;died 05/May/1782
 - 1.1.3.2.9.8. Henriette Douglas born 23/Oct/1783; died 28/Jan/1785
- 1.1.3.2.9.1. **Karl Wilhelm Douglas** born Insterburg, Oswaldland near Neuhausen, 06/Sep/1774; died Königsberg 14/Jan/1845; married Breslau 30/Apr/1801, Dorothea Charlotte daughter of Christian Gottlieb & Johanne Christiana Berger and had:
- 1.1.3.2.9.1.1. Karl Hermann Kaufmann Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.2. Anna Maria Douglas born Königsberg 09/Oct/1809; died 18/Nov/1878; married 28/May/1830 Negenborn
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.3. Karl August Edward Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.4. Robert Carl Gottlieb Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.5. Karl Anton Douglas
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.6. Charlotte Bertha Douglas born Breslau 16/Jul/1823; died 04/Mar/1843; married Breslau 02/Sep/1841 august Friedrich Kaufmann Lubbert
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.7. Karl Richard Douglas born Königsberg 1825, died Ludwigsort 13/May/1893; married 13/Nov/1857 Wehsel

DRUMLANRIG (Continued)

- 1.1.3.2.9.1.1. **Karl Hermann Kaufmann Douglas** born Breslau 08/Mar/1802; died 29/May/1838; married Konigsberg 02/May/1832, Emilia Eleonora Le Juge and had:
- 1.1.3.2.9.1.1.1. Karl Hermann Anton Douglas born Konigsberg 12/Jul/1834; died Giessen 13/Jul/1903; married Ebing 16/Aug/1864 Ehmke
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.1.2. Eugen Hermann Archibald Douglas born Konigsberg 15/Mar/1836; died Colorado, USA, 06/Apr/1872
 - 1.1.3.2.9.1.1.3. Clara Charlotte Emilie Douglas born Konigsberg 03/Apr/1838; died there 04/Dec/1839

(Taken from *The History of the Family of Douglas* by Percy Douglas, pp.165-170)



SPOOKY SNAP STUMPS GHOSTBUSTER

So ran the headline of The Australian 28/Mar/2009 with an article written by Mike Wade. Apparently a day-tripper, Christopher Aitchison, took a photograph of an interesting section of Tantallon Castle in Scotland with no thought of finding an apparition staring out at him. It was only when he returned home and examined his photographs that he noticed the ghostly face. Three experts on Photoshop, the photography software, have analysed the image and come to the conclusion, that it is genuine.

Whose face was it? No one has come up with a satisfactory answer as to whom it could be. Some believers in the spirit world have suggested that the apparition could be that of King James V of Scotland who was imprisoned in the castle about the middle of the 1520s. He died in 1542. You will notice that the face is of a young man who seems to be wearing a ruff suggesting the Elizabethan era (1558-1603). Maybe the 6th Earl of Angus or one of his brothers?



Photograph taken at Tantallon Castle near Edinburgh showing the visage of someone looking down at the photographer, day-tripper Christopher Aitchison. Who do you think it was? Any suggestions?



THE BATTLE OF FLODDEN

This Memorable Battle was mentioned briefly in Newsletter number 83, September 2009, the “ The Earls of Angus, Part 3”. You may recall that ‘Bell the Cat’, the 5th Earl of Angus, lost both his eldest son and heir George Douglas, the Master of Angus and also his second son, Sir William Douglas of Braidwood in this bloody battle.

The battle began when King James IV of Scotland declared war on England to honour the Auld Alliance with France by diverting Henry VIII’s English troops from their campaign against the French King Louis XII . [N.B. It seems an ongoing dilemma that we continue to fight or support other countries’ battles].

This battle has been described as the last great medieval battle in the British Isles. It was the last time that bill and pike would come together as equals in battle. [After this heavy cavalry and artillery was used.] At Flodden, as well as the long bow, bill and pike were used as weapons. The pikes being long-handled spears with sharp metal points used to keep the enemy at more than an arm’s length away. The bill was a vicious weapon with an axe blade on the side [Both these may be seen in the illustrations.]

[In the English “Country Life” I found the following article, which members who plan to travel to the U.K. in 2013 may find of particular interest. JS]

BATTLE ROYAL: FLODDEN RECALLED

Lord Joicy, whose Ford and Etal estate in Northumberland, includes the site of the bloody Battle of Flodden, has set up Flodden 500 to explore what should be done to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the battle in 2013. The scale of the butchery in the 1513 battle, where James IV was defeated by the forces of Henry VIII near the village of Branxton, is legendary. In only three hours of savage hand-to-hand combat, 15,000 men lost their lives; the Scottish dead included James himself and an entire generation of nobility, including an archbishop, two bishops, 11 earls, 15 lords and 300 knights. The English dead numbered just 1,700 out of an army of about 20,000.

One of the first projects of the Flodden 500 group, is an archaeological investigation of earthworks on Flodden Hill, where the Scottish army is believed to have camped before the battle. Lord Joicy explains: “The battle was a clash of nations, ideals and politics as well as a test of new technologies and theories of warfare. It was the last effective mass use of the English longbow and set in place events that would contribute to the union of the English and Scottish crowns within 80 years.



“Flodden Field”, From Church’s, *The Chantry Priest of Barnet*. NY, Scribner, 1885



THE EARLS OF ANGUS PART 5

Compiled by Jan Shaw.

Taken from the writings of Robert Maxwell in "A HISTORY OF THE HOUSE OF DOUGLAS"

Archibald 6th Earl of Angus (continued)

In the first part of the life of the 6th Earl, we have learnt how he was joint guardian with his wife Queen Margaret of Scotland for the infant King James V, how he and the Queen became estranged, enemies and finally divorced in 1528, and how the young King began to share his Mother's hatred for Angus. The on-going changes of side and loyalties are forever present in these times and the two successors to the throne, Albany and Arran were always jealous of Angus' power and popularity.

Another bewildering change of side, so characteristic of Scottish nobility was when Arran and Moray, who had been strong supporters of Angus changed sides to oppose all Douglasses who by the King's insistence had been transformed into rebels.

On 9th June 1528, the sixteen year old King James V made a proclamation that neither the Earl of Angus nor any other of the name of Douglas should come within seven miles of his person. On 9th July a further proclamation was issued upon pain of death forbidding all persons to hold any communication with Angus, his two brothers or his uncle (Sir Archibald Douglas of Kilspindie –Greysteel), and that no Douglas retainers were to remain in Edinburgh after four o'clock that day. Angus retreated to the strong walls of Tantallon Castle joined by his brother George and uncle Greysteel .

Parliament was hastily summoned and a committee of five Earls, five Bishops and a Prior including several of Angus' supporters, decreed the forfeiture of the lives, lands and goods of the Douglas three. Angus' lands were divided amongst the nobles but the King wanted Tantallon for himself. Thus was Angus driven into open rebellion against his sovereign.

Although Angus has often been harshly judged by many historians, he and his brother Sir George Douglas of Pittendreich, who had developed into one of the great statesmen of his time, had stood out, almost alone amongst other nobles, in an endeavour to maintain the authority of the King and to extricate him from his Mother's sinister machinations and their country from the inevitable evils of a French entanglement. They failed. The much needed peace with England was postponed for two generations.

When Angus returned to Tantallon he put his charters and family papers in safety by stuffing them into a huge brazen beef-pot and buried it in solid rock near the castle gate. Luckily for the course of history, they were not disturbed until the Earl returned after fifteen years of exile.

Sir George Douglas went to the English court as Angus' representative to lay before Henry VIII their side of the quarrel with James V. All negotiations and attempts at reconciliation failed as James V would not be moved from his hatred of the Douglasses, or as he was a lad of sixteen, from the inflexibility of his mother and her supporters. Although Angus had always preferred to be loyal to his sovereign, his next step was one impossible to justify.

On 25th August, 1532 he made an agreement with King Henry of England promising "by his othe (sic) and the words of a gentleman" to serve Henry in the event of a war with Scotland. He, too, had changed sides!

Henry was to pay Angus one thousand pounds a year until he restored his estates in Scotland. This odious agreement also stated that Angus, at the commencement of war should recognise Henry as the supreme Lord of Scotland, and no peace was to be made until Angus' possessions were restored. (Henry was in fact to make war against his own sister and nephew).

The war took the form of raids and counter raids at the border, and Angus, his brother and uncle inflicted death and damage upon their own countrymen. A truce was patched up in May 1534. Angus had fulfilled his part of the bargain but Henry failed to fulfil his obligation to insist upon the restitution of the Douglasses. He did, however urge his nephew, James V to take them back into favour. But that was in vain, and James' hatred never abated . Because he could not catch Angus, he took out his revenge on Angus' sister Janet married to the 6th Lord Glamis [an ancestor of Queen Elizabeth II]. He had Janet accused of poisoning her husband and burnt at the stake in 1537 — [I shall enlarge on this story later. JS]

James V had married in 1536, Princess Madeleine of Valois, daughter of the French king and when she died childless, he married another French wife, Mary of Guise in 1538 and had two sons both dying in 1541. Then their 3rd child was

Mary, born 8 December, 1542. King James V died six days after Mary was born and she became the young Queen Regent. From 1554 to 1560, Queen Mary of Guise ruled Scotland for her daughter Queen Mary of Scots who had been sent to France to be raised with her husband-to-be, the French Dauphin.

When James V died in 1542 Angus returned to Scotland with instructions from Henry to negotiate a marriage between Mary Stuart and

his son Edward. Angus' forfeiture was rescinded, his estates restored and he was made a Privy Councillor and lieutenant-general. Once a rebel and then a man of distinction and had it not been for Queen Margaret's change of heart and influence on her son, he may have always been a man of distinction!
(To be continued)



NOTICE BOARD

KIRKIN O'THE TARTAN 2010

Sunday 20/Jun/2010 at St Paul's Presbyterian Church, St Paul's Terrace, Spring Hill, Brisbane. Assembly will be 9.30am.

GRAND CEILIDH

A Grand Ceilidh on Saturday, 22 May 2010 at the Petersham Town Hall, Sydney to celebrate Scotsman Lachlan Macquarie's commission as Governor of the colony of New South Wales. More information and bookings: SCDancers@netspace.net.au and website: www.sotr.org.au or phone: 0435 254 433.

THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

The Australian Heritage Festival at the Jondaryan Woolshed, Queensland 21st — 29th August, 2010. This is Jondaryan's annual celebration of pioneering days and the committee has initiated a Scottish Clan representation at this year's festival. It is hoped that all clans will be represented. The Clan Douglas hope to have a stall at this event and we are asking all Douglas and Sept families to come along and support your clan. More information in the June Newsletter.

TOUR OF OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Seven members of the CDAA committee and five friends were taken on a tour of the Queensland Old Government House Museum on Sunday 28th February 2010 by Jan Shaw. Old Government House was completed in 1862 and was the vice-regal residence until 1910. The residence was designed by architect Charles Tiffin and built by Joshua Jeays using sandstone from the Goodna quarry. Eleven governors lived and worked in the residence over the next 48 years. It later housed the University of Queensland and the National Trust of Queensland.

Old Government House has, until 22 August 2010, an exhibition by William Robinson, a contemporary landscape artist and portrait painter. Born in 1936, Robinson spent some time teaching in universities before moving into work as a full time artist. He is known for his compositions of south-east Queensland rainforests, seascapes and farm yard subjects as well as his distinct humour. He has won the Archibald prize twice for his portraits.

The tour was enjoyed by the group who then had a very nice lunch in the Tea Room, before moving on to the general meeting in the courtyard — many thanks to Jan Shaw for organizing a memorable morning out.

Jenny Smith, Secretary

Many of you have expressed a wish to hear more about "The Gathering" which took place in Scotland in 2009. The following was found in the Scottish Australian Heritage Council Newsletter for October 2009.

THE BIGGEST CLAN GATHERING SINCE 1822 — IS IT A ONE OFF?

The sceptics were confounded, the organisers were jubilant, the participants delighted, the Scottish Press were puzzled — who would have thought "The Gathering" 2009 would have been such a success?

Australians who went to Scotland for the event found it a supreme experience ...

"The Gathering" was devised to be a highlight of "The Year of the Homecoming", and it succeeded. Lord Sempill, the 2007 Sydney Scottish Week guest, headed the organisers and the whole committee can be congratulated on a job well done! The event held over the weekend of 25-26 July in the spacious 600 acre Palace of Holyrood Park at the foot of the Royal Mile, was preceded on the 24 July by the first function to be organised by the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs. This was the all-day Clan Convention held nearby in Scotland's new Parliament House.

Clan Chiefs were there in abundance, along with Clan Society leaders from the Scottish diaspora, as well as key local figures including past Australian Scottish Week guests Alastair Campbell of Airds, author Roddy Martine, and Carrick Pursuivant Elizabeth Roads. The proceedings were opened by Alex Fergusson MSP. The Chief of the Sinclairs, the Earl of Caithness announced the title for the day's deliberation: Is the Clan system any longer relevant? Among the speakers to this title were Jim Mather MSP, Minister for Enterprise, Energy & Tourism; an historian Jim Hunter; and the new Lord Lyon King of Arms, David Sellar who spoke on the distinction between 'clan' and family — an issue still debated in Scotland where the historical difference between Highland and Lowland still persists.

All the components of a great Highland Gathering were there at Holyrood Park — Pipe Band displays, a programme of Heavy Events including Tossing the Caber, Putting the Stone, Throwing the Hammer, and Throwing the Weight, an Invitational Piping Competition, an International Highland Dancing Competition and a World Tug-of-War Championship. As you would expect at such a 'Gathering', a Clan Village with tents representing over 130 Clans, thronged from morning till night with international and local visitors — 50 stalls showcasing Scottish arts and crafts included Scottish food and drinks outlets and a produce market. In addition there was constant entertainment with top acts on the Main Stage including the Red Hot Chilli Peppers, Capercailie and the Battlefield Band. The 'Scotland Lives' marquee featured an ongoing series of lectures and presentations. Commercial stalls included whiskey tasting, engraved clan crystal, Walkers & Brodie's Tea Pavilion where workers served afternoon tea and eats — and the weather was perfect!

The Clan Parade was the highlight of the weekend. Every known clan was represented and after assembling outside Holyrood Palace, commenced the march up the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle. We can only imagine the applause and cheering by supporters who lined the street, and greeted each clan's appearance especially the onlooker's own! On arriving at the castle and taking their positioned seats, the marchers were treated to a pageant especially commissioned for this one-off event. At the conclusion of the pageant, the night was played out on the Castle esplanade by the massed pipe bands, and this fortunate item set the final memory for the biggest 'Gathering' to be seen in Edinburgh since the visit of George IV in 1822.



KING ROBERT THE BRUCE'S TREE

On the western shore of Loch Lomond there is an ancient Yew Tree at "Sruc an t-Iobairt" above Inverbeg. The tree's girth is almost 20 feet and is situated very near to the new modern thoroughfare and the old military road built after Culloden to link Dumbarton and Inveraray. On old maps, the Yew Tree is referred to as "King Robert the Bruce's Tree", and is said to be the spot where Bruce landed when crossing the Loch, in flight, after the Battle of Dalry, on his way to Bute.

You will remember that Sir James Douglas — the Good Sir James otherwise known as The Black Douglas — was famous for his association with Robert the Bruce, whose faithful lieutenant he became. They fought in many battles together which could have included the Battle of Dalry and Sir James may well have been in Bruce's company on his way to Bute. When King Robert Bruce died in 1329, it was Sir James Douglas who was charged with carrying Bruce's heart to Jerusalem. Bruce wanted to emulate his grandfather by taking part in the Crusades against the Moslems who were in control of the Holy Lands. However, this was not to be as the Bruce was fully occupied in Scotland with the wars to regain Scottish independence from England.

Unfortunately, Sir James didn't get any further than Granada in Spain before he succumbed to death himself fighting against the Moors. But before he died, Douglas threw the heart in its silver casket towards the enemy shouting "Now pass on, as ever was thy wont in life, first in the fight, and Douglas will follow thee or die". After Sir James Douglas' death, the Bruce's heart was brought back to Scotland by the surviving knights and buried in Melrose Abbey in the Borders. The body of Sir James Douglas 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.

It is of interest, that in 1921, a lead casket containing a human heart was found at Melrose. It was buried and a fresh excavation in 1996 found the casket again. Although it is known that several hearts had been buried at Melrose, written records existed of only one, that of Robert the Bruce. There was the strong probability that this heart belonged to Bruce. Two years later it was again buried, but this time with a sandstone marker bearing the following words from John Barbour's epic poem *The Brus* written in 1375.

A Noble Hart may have Nane Ease gif Freedom Failye
(A Noble Heart may have no Rest if Freedom Dies)



IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE ?

The membership deadline for 2010 membership was February so if you haven't paid your membership for this year please take advantage of this reminder and fill out the membership form on the back of the newsletter and send it to the membership secretary.

EDITORIAL

We try to please all our members with articles pertaining to Scottish History as well as Clan Douglas items. If there is something you would especially like covered, please let me know. Our Questionnaire was a great success and I am hoping to respond to those requests soon. Happy New Year!

Mary Smith, Editor





CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Patron: Mr Archibald Douglas

President:

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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 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.