



Clan Macpherson Association (Australian Branch)



Website www.clan-macpherson.org

October 2021 Newsletter

2021 Annual Gathering and AGM

Regrettably, COVID19 negated the conduct of the 2021 Gathering. As was the case in 2020, a March of the Clan took place starting at the usual assembly point at Old Ralia but finishing in the carpark of the nearby Newtonmore Grill.



And for the second year the Association's AGM was held on-line. Significantly, there was the retirement, after three years, of Bill Macpherson (Glenfarg SCT) as Chairman. He was succeeded by Bonnie A McPherson (Florida USA). Several office bears also retired; Secretary Sandy Macpherson, (Manchester ENG) was replaced by Andy Macpherson (UK). Acting Registrar Suzy Macpherson (Bampton ENG) and Acting Editor Shannon Macpherson (Malawe) were confirmed, as was Webmaster Dave Muxo (Utah USA). Alison Christie (Leven Fife SCT) will continue as Treasurer for 12 months. Convenor of the Museum Trustees, Angus Macpherson of Biallid was elected Vice Chairman.



Following ancient custom, the Chief (and Honorary President of the Association) closed the AGM thus:

Well, it's my first AGM as your Chief, our second one online and Bill's third as the Clan Macpherson Association Chairman. It has obviously been a difficult eighteen months for so many, and our family personally – but there does appear to be light at the end of the tunnel. However, the Clan Macpherson Association has continued to move forward, and whilst there have been many meetings behind the scenes on Skype or Zoom – there has been little activity to report in general, but I hope now that the rules will continue to relax across the world; and that events, games, gatherings, and whisky tastings can resume once more! We have just returned

from Badenoch and what would have normally been the Clan Gathering, twenty-six of us marched from Old Ralia to the Newtonmore Grill, just beyond the games field to be greeted by Angus & Valerie Macpherson and our supporters! What a lovely way to continue the tradition which has been going for nearly 75 years. To have such support given the travails of Covid was greatly appreciated. During this meeting we have agreed our office bearers and I have a great pleasure in welcoming Bonnie Macpherson as our new CMA Chairman, who is ably supported by Angus Macpherson our new CMA Vice Chairman. I also welcome Andy Macpherson as our new secretary, who I believe will be a fabulous asset to our list of current office bearers who have all agreed to remain in office, and whom I admire greatly for all of their hard work and I offer many thanks. Our outgoing Chairman Bill Macpherson from Glenfarg has also agreed to become a Vice President of the Association and to whom we owe a huge debt of gratitude. I am sure you will all acknowledge the sterling work that Bill, and indeed his late wife Jan, have undertaken over the years and it is possibly safe to say that he has had the most difficult year, alongside dealing with Clan matters. Thank you, Bill, for your unwavering support personally, as Clansman and Chairman.

Which leads me to the Museum, and I would like to congratulate and thank all of those who have been involved in its refurbishment. I have been lucky enough to visit and be given a tour of this wonderful renovation. Particular acknowledgement must go to Allan Macpherson-Fletcher, Angus Macpherson, Jim

and Mairi Macpherson, along with all of their cohorts and assistants in the past year or so. Last, but not least I would like to thank our outgoing curator Ruis and Ceit who are stepping down after 13 years – thank you to you both for your loyalty and hard work over the past decade, you will be missed. And finally, I would also like to thank my family for all of their support in what has been a tumultuous year personally, in particular my wife Annie, and my sister Annie who have been a tower of strength to me in recent months. So, I must now round up, by sending you all our very best wishes for the remainder of the year. Roll on 2022. I do hope we will see as many of you as possible at next year's Gathering which will allow us to meet again after a two year hiatus and celebrate the re-opening of the museum – we could make it quite a party!

*Yours aye,
Jamie of Cluny*

Copies of all papers presented at the AGM will be published in next year's Creag Dhubh.

A video of Jamie's first message to the Clan can be seen on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/bill.macpherson.7/videos/564399658060065>

From the desk of the CMA Chairman - Bonnie A. McPherson



Dear Cousins,

I'm delighted to be elected as your CMA Chairman. The Cromag has metaphorically been passed from Bill Macpherson to me, and the CMA has been left in excellent order by my predecessor. I was honored to serve as CMA Vice Chair for three years and watched and learned much from Bill and the others on the CMA Council. I began this journey in 1986 when I became a regular member of the CMA US Branch. I met wonderful people and love that I can call them my friends today. In 1991 I became a Life member and soon after a Na Diònadairean Clann Mhuirich or Guardian of the Clan Macpherson. Within the CMA US Branch, I've served as Assistant Editor of *The Urlar*,

Council Member at Large, Assistant Membership Secretary, Vice Chairman and Chairman. It's been a long road that I've enjoyed and now I have the honor of leading the CMA. I will work with the CMA Council as a team as we move forward. The CMA Council is the working backbone of this Association, and I look forward to what lies ahead.

Visit the CMA Website and peruse through all it has to offer. I always enjoy visiting the other Branches pages and see what they are up to. <https://www.clan-macpherson.org/index.html> Go to the *Clan Macpherson Association* Facebook page and join, please do so. It's easy to do and a great way to stay involved. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/clan.macpherson.association>

We are ***cautiously*** beginning the planning for the next CMA Gathering in 2022, an event where we will celebrate James Brodie Macpherson as our 28th Chief and the Grand Re-Opening of the Museum. The size and scope of the event is still to be determined. Keep an eye on the CMA Website, the CMA Facebook page, your Newsletter and Creag Dhubh for information as it develops.

I look forward to visiting with many of the different Branches of the CMA during the next three years. There are so many new members to meet and members to reconnect with whom I've already met over the years.

My door is always open. Call, write, email, or even stop by!

Until then,

Slainte



Museum Report - Angus Macpherson, Convenor

Open a new door, close the old one gently.



With Covid raging globally it might have been anticipated that it would have been a quiet year for the Museum. Far from it! Although the Trustees took the decision, following Government guidance, not to open the Museum, they used the closure as an opportunity to not only carry out a 100% photographic audit of the artefacts but also replace the terracotta tiles on the Museum extension with a zinc roof,

insulate and extend it and, if that was not enough, totally revamp the interior. The outcome has been sensational.

Externally the Museum now sparkles and is watertight and warm. Internally the Museum is now arranged into rooms following the progression of the Clan from creation to the present day. Each room is painted red, blue or green, colours selected from the Red Macpherson Tartan. There are new easy-to-read display boards and rearranged lighting. As a result, previously unnoticed artefacts have suddenly burst onto display while old favourites continue to captivate. Just when we thought we were ready to open, lightning struck, knocking out all the CCTV cameras and the fire alarms. A swift call out was made, and three days later the Museum opened on the glorious 12th of August! None of this would have been possible without the generous donations from Friends, Supporters, and Members of the Clan, which have been supplemented by generous grants from Museums and Galleries Scotland. Sustainability grants from Scottish Enterprise which covered the running costs during the period of lockdown have also been invaluable. These grants have not only sustained the Museum but left us in a stronger financial position currently than at the beginning of the pandemic, something nobody could have anticipated during the dark and dismal days of April 2020, or 2021 come to that matter.

On the ground none of this would have been possible without the dedication and imagination of Jim and Mairi, the pragmatism of Allan, the hard work of the contractors, and the patience of Ruis and his family. It is never fun living with workmen in the house.

But there is still work to do and change is afoot. After 13 years Ruis is retiring. We are actively recruiting a replacement. His flat, now watertight after work on the slate roof of the original building, will need to be refreshed for the new Curator. We still aspire to insulate or at least re-harl the walls of the extension and install an electric vehicle point in the Car Park. Further funds will be needed. Three Trustees have stood down during the year. Two on reaching 85, a very distinguished age. Thank you Ken, Jack, and Sandy. Catherine has stood down from the Museum Advisory Committee and Gunther has joined it. I, too, will be moving on to pastures new in 2022. So we are actively seeking both new Trustees and another to have the privilege of being a first amongst equals as Convenor.

All change. Open a new door. Please close the old one gently. Come and see what has been achieved.

Donations to the Museum



The photo at left is a miniature of 19th Chief, Duncan of the Kiln. Readers of *The Chiefs of Clan Macpherson* written by William Cheyne-Macpherson will recall a black and white picture facing page 60 with ‘From a miniature in the possession of the compiler.’ Now in transit to the Clan Museum, the miniature is part of a donation of books and memorabilia made by Fiona Cheyne-Macpherson in her role as Executor of the wills of her father Ewen Cheyne-Macpherson (see picture facing page 188 of *The Chiefs ...*) and grandfather William. Also included in the two boxes of books, see list below, is a portfolio of old letters collected by William, one assumes as part of his research and items of general correspondence which might have been recovered from Cluny Castle when the contents were auctioned in 1943.

Books donated by the family of the late William Cheyne- Macpherson

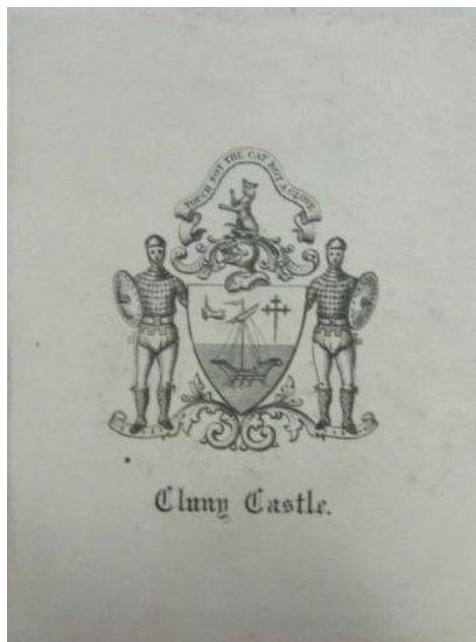
1. Angus Macpherson, *A Highlander Looks Back*, Oban Times Limited, Oban Argyll, pre-1955. Contains personal note to WC-M from author dated 31st December 1955.
2. John Macpherson DD, *Critical Dissertations on the Origin, Antiquities, Language, Government, Manners and Religion, of the Ancient Caledonians, Their Posterity The Picts, and the British and Irish Scots*, T Becket and PA De Hondt, (the Strand) and J Balfour (Edinburgh). MDCCLXVIII (1768). Contains personal note to WC-M from BW Macpherson (Port Soderick, Isle of Man dated 7 April 1947).
3. A.M. Macintosh, *The Macintoshes and Clan Chattan*, Printed for the Author, Edinburgh, 1903. Copy No 22, signed by the author. Contains Cluny Castle bookplate and newspaper clipping, handwritten descendant chart of Clan Macpherson Chiefs.
4. James Macpherson (Ossian), *Macphersons Original Papers Volumes 1 and 2, Original Papers containing the Secret History of Great Britain from the*

Restoration to the Accession of the House of Hanover ..., James Macpherson Esq: 2nd Edition, London, W Strachan and T Cadell (Printers). MDCCLXXVI (1796). Contains unnamed bookplate and that of WC-M with handwritten note 'Calder House 3.B.'

5. *Manuscripts in the Charter Chest at Cluny Castle*, Privately Printed Edinburgh, MDCCCLXXIX (1879). Contains handwritten note '... From original papers written in France c 1760 ...'

6. Bible (velvet covered). Handwritten note by WC-M on inside front cover; 'This Bible belonged originally to James Macpherson elder brother of Lachlan Macpherson of Dalchully (younger brother of Ewen of the '45). It belonged afterward to Lachlan's wife Catherine of Achlyne'

Handwritten on front page 'James McPherson Nov 1757 America'. Missing early books of Old Testament.



7. James Logan Esq. *The Clans of the Scottish Highlands Volumes I and II*. Ackerman and Co., Strand London. 1845. From original sketches by RR McIan Esq. Both volumes contain bookplate of Cluny Castle.

8. James Grant, *The Tartans of the Clans of Scotland*. W & AK Johnston Edinburgh and London, 1886. Contains bookplate of WC-M.

9. James Browne, LL. D, Advocate, *A History of the Highlands and of The Highland Clans, Volumes I to IV*. A Fullerton & Co., Edinburgh and London. Undated, possibly post 1800. All Volumes contain Cluny Castle bookplate. Vols III & IV contain WC-

M bookplate.

10. William Anderson, *The Scottish Nation; or the Surnames, Families, Literature, Honours, and Biographical History of the People of Scotland*. Volumes 1 to III. A Fullerton & Co., Edinburgh and Scotland, 1867. Contains bookplate of WC-M in all Volumes.

11. 17 copies of Creag Dhubh commencing at Nos 2, 3, 13 to 17,18 (1966), 20, 22, 24, 28 & 29. (retained in Australia given complete sets held in Scotland).

A Mameluke sword has also been gifted. Its provenance is now being researched. Given the elements of Macpherson arms on the blade, it could have been worn by an 18/19th century Clan Chief. It also bears some non-military marks (etched) including;

Makers name;

S.J PILLIN.

31 GERRARD ST

SOHO

LONDON.W

Immediately above

A Royal Coat of Arms surmounted with an 'old' St Edward's Crown. Maybe signifies Royal Appointment.

Further up the blade

another 'old' and larger St Edward's Crown above decorative etching which does not suggest a Cypher.

On the other side of the blade

Elements of Macpherson arms; scroll with motto above a cat.

Mameluke swords were carried as dress swords by officers of most light cavalry and hussar, and some heavy cavalry regiments in the British Army at various points during the 19th Century, starting in the period after Waterloo. Carried now on ceremonial occasions, the sword is carried by officers of Major General rank and above. The current regulation sword for generals is the British General Officers Dress Sword pattern of 1831, a Mameluke style sword.



Items donated by Sally Macpherson.

Several small items have been donated from the estate of the late Flying Officer Ian R and Mrs. Gina Macpherson. See the obit for Gina Macpherson that appeared in Creag Dhubh No 2021 page 52.

The items comprise;

- Collection of small Macpherson crested wax letter seals and stamps,
- A pair of Macpherson crested gold cuff links and crested signet ring,
- Two RAF Flying Log Books,
- Gina's 100th Anniversary book, and
- Collection of photos and a WWII certificate.

Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival – 5th June 2021



Taking advantage of a window of opportunity in the COVID19 restrictions extant in New South Wales, the Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival (BWSF) committee did an excellent job in preparing and conducting one of the few Scottish Gatherings held in Australia in 2021. The town was also recovering from extraordinary and damaging floods that had isolated it earlier in the year.

The festival was very well attended with about 4000 people turning out on the lush town green in the centre of Wingham; a town that developed from a small village settled in the early 1800s on the banks of the Manning River which flows into the Pacific Ocean, some 40kms to the east.

A large group of Macphersons joined CMA Australian Branch Chairman John L Macpherson as he led the opening parade which circled the arena. Following a formal welcome by the Mayor of Manning Shire, John was installed as Festival Chieftain and presented with the Festival Cromag, then opened the Festival.

BWSF Convenor Wade King proclaimed the Jamie Fraser salute, 'the Scots are here' and the festival swung into action.

Events included highland dancing, highland sports, massed bands, individual band performances, a quintet competition, best dressed dogs, Best Dressed Lad and Lassie, and a display of Scottish weaponry by the Highland Rose Heritage Group led by Lachlan McPherson of Newcastle (NSW). During a break in the morning's activities, and to the tune of a salute based on Macpherson's Rant, John was escorted to the centre of the arena where he was invited to outline the place of Clan Macpherson in Australia/Scottish affairs. This provided an opportunity to recognise a local McPherson family, resident since c1829/30, and the Blairgowrie ancestors of the current Clan Chief who acquired land and settled at Keera near Bingara in the 1840s,



Clan Macpherson was one of several clans that mounted tents for the day. Local CMA member Sarah Taylor was assisted by Helen Macpherson Johnson (West Pennant Hills) in dressing the tent and answering enquiries. Sarah's son Callum was the Clan Macpherson banner bearer for the second time.

At the end of a bright sunny day, the closing ceremony saw Wade King thank John and the Clan Macpherson group for attending as Clan of Honour. John was

presented with a large Clan Macpherson shield after which he formally closed the festival.

Wingham looks forward to the 17th Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival in 2022 when Clan Donnachaidh (Robertson) will be the Clan of Honour.

Australian Branch Report to the On-Line CMA AGM - - 14th August 2021

Notwithstanding the natural disasters of recent years, there are some signs that renewal, albeit slow, is underway. Snow is plentiful in the Australian alps, and the first flushes of our native wattle are becoming evident.

COVID19 caused most Scottish Gatherings in Australia to be cancelled this year; Consequently, we have been able to erect tents only at Bendigo (Victoria) and Wingham (New South Wales).

Of the two tents mounted, both offered the opportunity to canvass membership: but to little avail.

The Bonny Wingham Scottish Festival having been deferred twice, went ahead on Saturday 5th June 2021 with a modified programme. The Clan was pleased to be retained as Clan of Honour. A full report will be published in Creag Dhubh.

Our member numbers have declined slightly this year, the decrease being due to the death of several members of long standing.

Athol McDonald (Girgarre, Victoria) has taken on a less onerous role in the administration of the Macpherson DNA Project. He has handed the administrator role to Beth Frost, a United States Branch member. The project continues to develop with membership now exceeding 540, a significant increase from 124 participants in November 2012. Athol was one of the early contributors in 2006 just after the late Alan G Macpherson initiated the project. Major advances ..., all of which Athol embraced to notch up a total of 20 tests, illustrate the advances in testing since then. The goal of this project continues to establish closely related Macpherson surname sub-groups by testing 37 at least, or up to 111 markers. Participants are also encouraged to order a Big Y test. <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/mcpherson/about/goals>. He has helped every member of this project over the last nine years; and the best measure of his success is seen in the 108 subgroups shown in the Classic and Colorized Charts. Key to this are the 119 men who have ordered Big Y tests. <https://www.familytreedna.com/public/McPherson?iframe=yresults>

Early in the year, an offer of books and papers, once the collection of William Cheyne-Macpherson, (author of *The Chiefs of Clan Macpherson*) was made by his granddaughter Fiona (Putney NSW). Included in the offer was a diary written by Duncan of the Kiln; eighteen books and 17 back issues of Creag Dhubh (numbered from No 2 to 29, not continuous). Shelagh Macpherson Noble has kindly

transcribed the diary. Several the books contain the bookplate of Cluny Castle. In addition, a coloured miniature of Duncan of the Kiln (see above), and a Mameluke sword bearing Macpherson arms are included in the offer. A portfolio of papers has also been received. The papers are being reviewed at time of writing this report while the books will be transferred to the Clan Museum.

New members

Life - Cameron Macpherson, Bundaberg Qld (transfer from Africa Branch)

10 Year Term - Darren McPherson (Waterfall NSW)

10 Year Term – Sandra (Jo) Clarke (Windella NSW)

VALE Our condolences are extended to the families of: Nigel Macpherson Gray (Kingsford NSW), centenarian Elizabeth Kelso (Mt Martha VIC) and Clive A McPherson (Wandin East VIC).

Obituary - Nigel Macpherson Gray

(by courtesy of son-in-law Mathew Evans on behalf of the family)

‘Passed away at The Royal Prince of Wales Hospital on Tuesday July 27th 2021, at the age of 79, after a period of ill health. Nigel was dearly loved by his wife Sherry, daughter Lisa and grandchildren Oliver and Harry.

Born in Inverness, Scotland in 1942. Nigel left the mother country in 1978 to marry Sherry and started a family and gardening business in Sydney. He never lost his connection to Scotland and spent his final days telling stories of home and watching videos of the Highlands.

Nigel will be fondly remembered by family and friends as a loving father, grandfather, an expert gardener, a lover of nature and the great outdoors, a storyteller, a proud Scotsman and a true gent.

Too-da-loo Daddy & Pops, you will be sorely missed but always in our hearts and thoughts.’

Some years ago, Nigel donated a hand carved walking stick to the Clan Museum. The carved walking stick was made for Affleck Fyfe Macpherson (c1891-1955), the Postmaster and general merchant in Boat of Garten, as was his father, Donald. Eventually the cane was handed down to his nephew, Affleck Gray (1906-1996). Affleck was a member of the Clan Macpherson Association and renowned author of several books *including Legends of the Cairngorms*, and *The Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui* The walking stick was further handed down to his son, Nigel who later migrated to Australia. The words 'A. MAC PHERSON' are carved just below the handle and the Gaelic words *Tir nam beann, nan gleann 's nan gaisgeach*. (Land of the mountains, the glens and the heroes) and thistles are carved down the stick.

The donor's sister, Uiga Robertson lives in Kingussie as did her late husband Martin.



Obituary - Bessie Kelso

(by courtesy of her daughter Jillian Wyatt)



At the grand age of 100 years and 4 months, Bessie was ready to leave this life, and did so, peacefully, with daughter Jillian holding her hand.

Bessie was the great granddaughter of James and Janet McPherson, both of Kingussie, Badenoch. James and Janet were farewelled from Kingussie, along with many others, on the day of St Columba's Fair in the Summer of 1838.

The emigrants were given an emotional and fitting farewell by their Clanspeople, with songs sung for them as their carts left for Oban, and the ship "St George".

James and Janet landed in Sydney, Australia, eventually arriving at the Port Phillip colony, Victoria, in mid-1839. The couple, and children, eventually settled in the Christmas Hills area, Victoria in 1851, after escaping the Black Thursday bushfires on foot, which had destroyed their home in Mernda. They drove their remaining stock of cattle to the furthest reaches of the land they held license over and built a new cottage. They named the property "Yarra Glen", which is now the name of the town that was the village of Yarra Flats at the time.

James and Janet's daughter, Mary Anne McPherson, married an Irish immigrant, Samuel Lorimer, and together they farmed their property, named "Mt Hope", at

Dixons Creek. Mary Anne was widowed at a young age, with 8 children to raise on her own. She continued to farm at 'Mt Hope' with the help of her children when they had grown.

Bess was known and loved for her character and her interests, rather than career achievements. Supporting her husband David, and together raising their three children was her great love in life, followed by her interests and hobbies.

A passionate historian, family history and genealogy were high on her list of interests, from early in life. If she had embarked on a career, that of Historian would have been a perfect fit.

She also contributed greatly to the research of other members of the wider family. Bessie's work in piecing together the family tree has connected us with many cousins, in Australia and overseas.

She also loved reading books that gave her a greater understanding of her ancestry, in addition to the early pioneers of Australia. Exploring antique shops or searching early settlements for old bottles were other favourite pastimes – she had a rather large collection of bottles dating back to early Australian Settlement.

Bess was also a prolific writer of diaries and letters – keeping in touch with the wider family and loved ones for many years in this way.

She loved Australian Rules Football, and was especially happy during footy season, when she could watch her team play. She was passionate in her barracking, and there are quite a few family stories of the funny things she did and said when watching her team. She also enjoyed exploring the outdoors, and there were a great many day trips and holidays where the family did just that. Bess was not only proud of her Scottish heritage, it ran in her blood, and she loved anything to do with Scotland, and especially the sound of bagpipes.

In December 2020, she proudly celebrated her 100th Birthday. Thankfully Covid 19 restrictions eased just in time to allow a small celebration with close family members, and of course, cards of congratulations from the Prime Minister, Governor General and the Queen, among many others from family and friends far and wide.

Bessie passed away on 26th April 2021, and was laid to rest at Yarra Glen Cemetery, reunited with her beloved husband, and surrounded by her family and forebears, including her great grandfather, James McPherson of Kingussie.

The (Australian) Tartan Show on 2RRR 88.5FM

Christine Southcombe (nee McPherson) advises that The Tartan Show can be heard at 6.30pm to 7.30pm on Tuesday nights. As the broadcast is limited, the programme can also be streamed online at <https://2rrr.org.au>

Send any Scottish news to her at christinesouthcombe@outlook.com

Activities across the Country

2021/22

At time of writing, information pertaining to Scottish activities is limited.

Known cancellations, or deferrals include;

Daylesford (Vic) Highland Gathering, Street March, piping and drumming, info www.daylesfordhighland.com.au
Deferred to 4th December 2022.

25th December, Happy Christmas

31st December, Happy Hogmanay

2022

1st January, Maryborough (Vic) Highland Gathering, Princes Park, info 03 5461 1480 or www.highlandsociety.com.au
Cancelled

25th January, BURNS NIGHT

Perth, St Andrew Society of WA, info www.saintandrew.org.au
Wongawallan (Qld), info 07 5665 7582 or www.foxandhounds.net.au

29th January

Hunter Valley Burns Night, Argenton (NSW) info www.hvsc.org.au
Ipswich (Qld), info treasurer@ipswichpipeband.com or 0429 361 142

1st February, Burns Supper Toowoomba (Qld), info ronimctcs@gmail.com or 0429 700 217

16th February, Richmond (Tas) Highland Gathering, info Di Cornish 0408 528 658 or dianne.cornish1@bigpond.com
Cancelled

23rd February, Ballarat (Vic) Highland Gathering, Victoria Park, Sturt St, info www.fedunipipeband.com.au **Check**

5th March, Scots Day Out, Bendigo (Vic) Rosalind Park, info www.scotsdayout.com **Clan Macpherson Tent**

20th March, Melbourne Highland Games (formerly Ringwood Highland Games) Eastfield Park, Croydon info 0439 330 012 or <https://melbournehighlandgames.org.au/> **Clan Macpherson Tent**

4th April, Bundanoon is Brigadoon, Bundanoon (NSW), info 02 4883 7471 or www.brigadoon.org.au **Clan Macpherson Tent**

17th April, 117th Maclean (NSW) Highland Gathering, Easter weekend in Australia's Scottish Town. info www.macleanhighlandgathering.com.au **Check**

28th April/1st May, Australian Celtic Festival Glenn Innes (NSW). info www.australiantcelticfestival.com

23rd May, Berry (NSW) Celtic Festival, at Berry Showgrounds, info 02 4403 0300 or www.berryrotary.org.au/celtic-festival

23/24th May, The Gathering, Ipswich (Qld), at Ipswich Turf Club, info www.gatheringfestival.com.au

To be advised, Bonnie Wingham (NSW) Scottish Festival Highland Games and Fair, info 02 6556 9051 **Clan Macpherson Tent**

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