

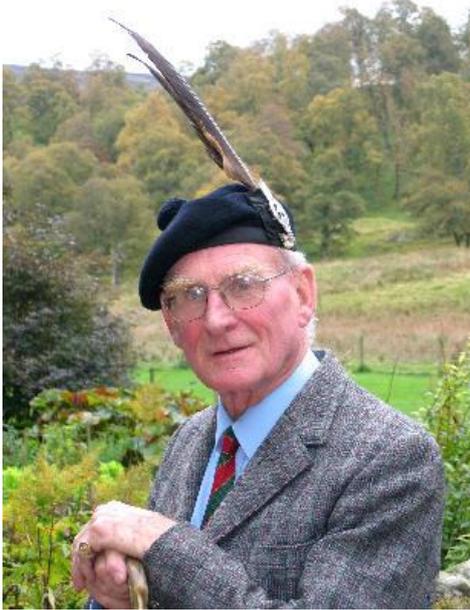


# Clan Macpherson Association (Australian Branch)



Website [www.clan-macpherson.org](http://www.clan-macpherson.org)

## November 2019 Newsletter



2019 has been a signal year for the Chief. Not only did he celebrate his 93rd birthday with his family at Newton Castle, the year marked the 50th Anniversary of his becoming Chief of Clan Macpherson.

On the occasion of his birthday on 1st April 2019, a message was sent thus:

*'Gwen joins me and your faithful Clansmen and women in Australia in wishing you well on the occasion of your approaching birthday. We hope it will be a happy day.'*

His reply was eloquently brief, but greatly appreciative of the sentiments from Down Under.

Newer members may not be aware that Cluny's links with Australia stem from our Colonial days when his gg great grandfather William came to New South Wales in 1829, settled with his family and forged a distinguished career in the then Civil Service occupying several senior administrative offices of the NSW Parliament. An Obituary for William can be seen at:

<http://oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/macpherson-william-13373>

The celebration of Cluny's succession to the Chiefship of Clan Macpherson was, by direction, to be treated with little ceremony. However, recognition of this milestone in Clan history could not be avoided and suitable news escaped through various forms of media. I sent a message thus;

*Dear Cluny,*

*On behalf of your cousins and friends Down Under, I extend to you our heartiest congratulations on the occasion of your completing 50 years as Chief of Clan Macpherson; a signal achievement indeed!...*

*Please enjoy your golden day!*

## **The Clan Macpherson Gathering – 2nd – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019.**

Over 140 members from around the world attended this year's Gathering. During the Chief's Reception that preceded the Friday night Ball, Cluny acknowledged a Toast to his 50 years as Chief with his well known humour. The succeeding range of activities were conducted with the usual good feelings.

Next year's Gathering will start on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July. This will ensure that the Chief's March onto the Eilan coincides with the date of the Newtonmore Highland Games. They are always held on the first weekend in August. Registration details will be included in the 2020 Creagh Dhubh which should arrive early next year. You will be able to register on-line at [www.clan-macpherson.org/gathering](http://www.clan-macpherson.org/gathering), or by copying and posting the form from Creag Dhubh to Scotland. Book early for the Gathering, and accommodation.

**The Clan Chattan AGM and Dinner.** In 2020 on the Thursday evening following the Clan Macpherson Gathering, the Clan Chattan Association (CCA) will hold its AGM and Annual Dinner at the Lochardil Hotel in Inverness. The two events will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August, **after** the CMA Gathering. At 4.00pm light refreshments are served, at 5.00pm the AGM of the CCA is held, and at 7.00pm the Annual Dinner is served followed by light entertainment at 8.30pm. All members of the Clan Macpherson Association are welcome to attend. Bookings and payment can be made on the CCA website shop. Go to [www.clan-chattan.org.uk](http://www.clan-chattan.org.uk). Applications sooner than later are suggested. This year's 2019 AGM acknowledged not only Cluny's golden 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, but also the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Captain AAC Farquharson of Invercauld who has been Chief of Clan Farquharson for over 70 years. Several Australian members of Clan Farquharson attended this year's CCA Dinner before moving on to the Farquharson celebrations.

## **E-Passport Gates for CANZUK Countries Confirmed from June 2019**

The UK government has confirmed that as of June 2019, millions of passengers from Canada, Australia and New Zealand will be eligible to use new e-Passport gates at British airports. This will promote closer cooperation between the CANZUK countries.

The UK Chancellor also announced that to coincide with the e-Passport gates expansion, the government will begin to abolish landing cards for non-EEA travellers in June. Citizens of Canada, Australia and New Zealand will be exempt from the landing card requirement. Read more at: <https://www.canzukinternational.com/2019/03/epassport.html>

**Positions Vacant - CMA Webmaster.** The association has a pressing need to appoint a webmaster. The position is described as one that is ‘not ... onerous’ but it does require a certain skill set, most likely to be possessed by the younger set. The incumbent asserts a need for a replacement before he ‘*falls off the perch*’. He further states ‘we are not wedded to Perl; PHP or Java could probably do as well’. But whoever takes over does need some scripting capability. The administration of the whole webhosting package is important as someone must set up and manage email accounts, SSL certificates, security scanning, etc. The webmaster’s function is more than just putting up a few pages.

If someone doesn’t have the confidence that they can fulfil all the tasks but would be willing to put the time in to learn, they can be trained and given support. In addition, the job description requires membership of the CMA. Initial enquiries can be addressed to John L Macpherson [greymac@acenet.com.au](mailto:greymac@acenet.com.au) or 0409 122 141.

### **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>  
Christine took over the reins earlier this year. Send any Scottish news to her at [christinesouthcombe@outlook.com](mailto:christinesouthcombe@outlook.com)

### **Museum Convenor’s Report**

At the August 2019 CMA Council meeting, Convenor Angus Macpherson reported:

‘During 2018/19 one Trustee, Rob Macpherson, resigned and one, Donna Macpherson-Rucks, was elected by the Clan Macpherson Association. Chairmanship of the Museum Advisory Committee (MAC) changed on 7 April 2019 with Alan Macpherson-Fletcher taking on the reins. This was a landmark occasion as Ewen MacPherson has been integral to the Museum for so many years and will no doubt continue to be so for which all the Trustees, past and present, are immensely grateful. Concurrently Douglas Barton took over the secretarial duties from Chris Gillies. To mark 10 years as Curator for the Museum, Ruis and his wife were created Guardians on 4 August 2018. He was ably assisted throughout the season by the Museum’s first ever employee.

The Museum was open from 1 April to 31 October 2018. Visitor numbers missed out on the early surge of 2017 but picked up in August and September leaving a total of 3,399 with a further 17 in the closed period a slight decline on the previous year (3,598; 17). We strive to return to 5,000 by gleaning from the Highland Folk Museum at the other end of Newtonmore’s Main Street a larger proportion of their

visitors! We continue to promote the museum through the website, Facebook, Visit Scotland and Trip Advisor. Please feel free to add your comments. The brown road signs on the A9 entice many visitors and word of mouth remains as effective as any!

We are grateful for the donations and loans of artefacts made to the Museum. Amongst others we received this year 13 Clan Macpherson knives that were presented to Evan Cattanach on becoming the first president of the Badenoch Branch and Provost of Kingussie – roles of equal distinction! The successful First World War Exhibition concluded at the end of the season. We received visits from many distinguished Macphersons, including 25<sup>th</sup> Chief Francis Cameron's daughter, the Romanticism Association, the University of Worcester as well as regular tours from Garda Viaggi, Outlander Tours of Scotland and Rabbie's. Our surveys continue to show that visitors are greatly impressed by the museum when they visit it.

The Museum's re-accreditation by Museums and Galleries Scotland was confirmed on 20 April 2018. It also retained, with an overall scoring percentage of 81%, its 4-star status after an inspection by the Visit Scotland Quality Assurance Inspector on 22 August 2017. This makes the Museum part of an elite group of 246 and 124 (4\* and above) Museums respectively. Both fine achievements.

We once again took part in the Highland Archaeology Festival with Gordon Cassely, a member of the Association, giving a talk in the Museum on 'So you want to get your arms' on 9 October 2018. He gave a similar presentation in the Newtonmore Village Hall on 6 August 2018.

Shop sales in the museum in total dropped slightly but per capita matched last year (2018: £4.21; 2017: £4.22) Donations received in the museum per capita rose again year on year (2018: £1.77; 2017: £1.39) as did the total. Dividend income increased in real terms and as a percentage of the capital invested, as did the generous donation from The Sheila, Lady Cluny Endowment Fund (2018: 4.49%; 2017: 4.21%) and dwarfed the Bank of England base rate (2018: 0.75%; 2017: 0.5%). Against the increase by the FTSE 100, a total return index, (2018: 3.66%; 2017: -3.10%) it is disappointing that the Trust's portfolio (2018: -0.07%; 2017: -5.40%), which includes the Guardian Fund, missed our RPI benchmark (2018: 3.0%; 2017: 3.3%,) over the period as did the portfolio of The Sheila, Lady Cluny Endowment Fund. But the capital growth, when combined with the dividends to form total return (2018: 0.08%; 2017: -0.14%) performed more creditably against the FTSE 100.

The fabric of the Museum continues to struggle. The Trustees seek funds to replace the roof tiles, insulate the roof and in the longer run insulate the walls of the Museum. External fund raising continues through recruiting 'Friends' of the Museum, an on-going process.

While fund raising has been going well with some £80,000.00 raised to date, there is still a long way to go to reach the £250,000.00 target. On 1 September 2018 the United States Branch launched a fundraising campaign using GoFundMe: <https://www.gofundme.com/clan-macpherson-roof-amp-building>, It closed “officially” closed on 31 December 2018 but it remains active for those who still wish to donate through that route.

The Trustees had hoped that donations raised by the Museum might be matched by funding from charitable or public sources. What has become increasingly clear is that those donors, while acknowledging the merits of improving the Museum’s thermal qualities, are seeking something further from the Museum. The question they ask is: *“Do the Clan wish the Museum to be solely a Clan affair, catering to the Macpherson diaspora interested in Macpherson family history or can it be enhanced to become a showcase for Gaelic culture, the Highland way of life, the clan system, the economic development of Badenoch — a regional study of everything which moulded Highlanders into a force which has had a disproportionate impact on the world with all of these themes being evidenced by the Macpherson exhibits and experiences?”*

To make the correct decision on this is a significant undertaking. The Trustees agreed in April 2018 that they should appoint a consultant and use a PhD student from the University of Highlands and Islands to assist them. In the interim we continue to seek funds to reach our original target.

**Stop Press: October 2019.** The £100,000 point has been reached! We are getting there, slowly but surely.

A bit further to go!! Our museum is fraying! Years and Highland weather have taken its toll and we need a major replace-and-repair programme on the extension building and roof (the Victorian structure is OK). To fund the programme many initiatives and efforts will be made over the next



year or two to raise the £250,000 needed. Several Australian members have made donations to the Roof restoration appeal. However at the most recent Council meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019) Convenor Angus outlined some alternative plans to ensure the integrity of the roof. These could include re-arrangement of the internal display walls.

## New Member Subscriptions.

At the August 2019 Council meeting, and after a detailed review of the Association's recent financial performance, and consideration of papers prepared by the Treasurer, Registrar and the Australian Chairman, the meeting noted that revised classes of membership having been decided upon earlier and publicised in the new Constitution (see pp8-16 Creag Dhubh 2019), revised subscriptions for each class of member had to be determined before seeking agreement of members at the AGM the following day. After a lengthy discussion, particularly on the issue of Life Membership and the price at which this becomes cost-effective for the Association, the following new fee levels were agreed:

*Junior* membership (up to age 18 and child of a CMA member). Onetime fee remains at £5 with no entitlement to Creag Dhubh (CD). It was agreed that increasing this fee would have minimal impact in improving the overall financial position of the Association.

*Annual adult* (age 25 & upwards) Fee to be raised to £15 (from £10) for the time being. A lengthy discussion preceded the majority decision to establish a fee which would satisfy the need for CMA's finances to meet recurrent costs and become more viable over time. There was a range of views expressed about how much of an increase was needed and how acceptable this would be to both present and potential members.

**Young adult (18-25) (new category)** Established at 50% of the cost of Annual membership operating at the time of joining. Fee established as £7.50 for the time being. No entitlement to hard copy of CD, but the possibility of receiving an electronic version, downloaded via a password, was considered and generally viewed as a means of meeting the needs and habits of younger members. A system to cater for distribution of an electronic version of CD is being investigated.

**Fixed term (10 years) (new category)** Fee established at £150, i.e. 10 times the Annual subscription at the time of joining. This class of membership was felt to be attractive in avoiding the inconvenience of renewing membership each year. A small discount could accrue over the 10 year term, during which increases in annual fees are likely.

*Life membership* Fee to be raised to £500. Compared to the present cost (£100) this substantial rise was proposed to address a long-standing anomaly in how annual subscriptions are subsidising longer time life members. Some felt that setting the fee at £500 would deter potential members, but the need to correct the anomaly, as well as putting the CMA on a more secure financial footing, was felt by most to outweigh this possibility.

It was agreed that the level of membership subscriptions should be reviewed annually and will be a regular item on the agenda for future Council meetings. Members will be aware that under the Constitution, Branches are allowed to charge an additional fee to cover local costs. In Australia these were set in 1999 and have not increased. Modest concomitant increases have been added this year. Summary (with current and proposed Australian subscriptions shown).

Class	Old CMA fee	New CMA fee	Old Aust fee	New Aust fee
Junior	£5	£5	\$15	\$15
Young Adult	No fee	50% annual	No fee	\$27.50
Annual	£10	£15	\$40	\$45
10 year Term	No fee	£150	No fee	\$450
Life	£100	£500	\$350	\$1400

Note. Australian rates have regard to current and potential fluctuations in AS/UK exchange rates, international transfers and local operational and admin costs.

### Australian Branch report to the CMA AGM held at Newtonmore, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2019.

‘Greetings to all at Newtonmore from Australia. At the time of writing, the snow season is in full swing, with only the barest indication of spring apparent. We are yet to see the vibrant golden wattle bordering the motorways, or the emblematic fire red waratahs.

Yet another small increase in member numbers since the last report. We have welcomed the two sons of long time Life Members Neil and Lynne McPherson of the Gold Coast, one from a Facebook enquiry, the son of the late Major Allan Stuart Macpherson MC, which followed an Australian radio interview concerning the Caves at Naours in northern France, one each from Geelong and Bundanoon and a recent recruit to the Macpherson DNA project.

Tents were mounted at Bendigo, Geelong, and Ringwood by David J McPherson (Templestowe Vic); the Bendigo Pipes and Drums wear the red Macpherson tartan. In New South Wales (NSW) and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT)



*L to R, Helen McPherson, Pam Rhemrev and Ailsa McPherson in Canberra*

we mounted tents at Bundanoon and two in Canberra (February and October). For the second time the tent mounted in Canberra City at the annual Multi-Cultural Festival in mid-February caused us to have reservations about the presentation of the Scottish component. While the



*L to R, Rod Gillespie, then Governor of NSW General David Hurley, John L and Mrs Linda Hurley at Bundanoon*

music and dancing displays are more than adequate, the layout of the Clans' area continues to be less than attractive with little passing foot traffic.

Chieftain of the Day at Bundanoon was former Governor of New South Wales, and now Governor General of Australia, His Excellency General David Hurley (Ret'd). The weather,

and the appearance of our new Governor General on the Saluting Base reminded me of a very similar occasion in 2000 when Cluny was Chieftain of the Day. Following a random external enquiry on our Australian Facebook page, a Clan tent was mounted at the Bonny Wingham Scottish Festival at the end of May. The small village of Wingham, 325 kms NE of Sydney has hosted the Bonny Wingham Festival for 15 years. Arranged by prospective member Sarah Taylor (nee McPherson) our tent attracted enquiries from several local Macphersons.



*Clan Tents at Bonnie Wingham Festival; Clan MacLaren to the right of Clan Macpherson*

The first settler in the area was one George McPherson (born 1809), originally of Callander, Perthshire. He came to Australia in 1839 and was employed as a shepherd until 1846 when he went to California seeking a fortune in gold. On his return to Wingham via the Victorian goldfields, George selected land near Dingo Creek (just outside Wingham), where he and his bride Jane Andrews settled in 1852. They had 8 children, Sarah being descended from the youngest of 5 boys,

John Weir (Jack) McPherson. Sarah is now rallying local Macphersons to join the CMA.

DNA. Athol McDonald (Girgarre, Victoria) continues to administer the Macpherson DNA Project; his co-administrator being Beth Frost, a United States Branch member. The project is going from strength to strength, with membership now approaching 400. There has been increased interest in autosomal tests such as Family Finder which allows female members to become involved in the project. Beth now manages separately a Facebook page based on the project. It has become very popular over the last two years and has reached membership of over 800.

The primary focus remains the yDNA side of the project, continuing the initiative of the late Professor Alan G. Macpherson. The recently developed Big Y-700 test is a great advance and much is being revealed about how Clan Macpherson evolved. Results are yet to arrive, and it is hoped that a full update will appear in the next issue of Creag Dhubh.

#### **VALE**

**David McPherson (23<sup>rd</sup> February 1945 – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019)** (Former Treasurer, Australian Branch). In late May, David John McPherson, formerly of Queanbeyan and Kingston died after a short battle with a very aggressive cancer. He was buried soon after in Wodonga (Victoria) to where he and his wife Robyn had moved about a year ago. A Life member of the CMA for over 20 years, David ably served the Australian Branch as Treasurer for 16 years, and attended our tent at Bundanoon and Kambah (Canberra) frequently.

A memorial service was held later in Belconnen, (Canberra) which was attended by local members of the CMA. A fuller obituary appears elsewhere in Creag Dhubh.

**Neil Ormiston MacPherson OAM. (14<sup>th</sup> May 1922 – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019)** (Former POW WWII).

Neil MacPherson (aged 96) died earlier this year in Perth (Western Australia). Born in Aberdeenshire, his family migrated to WA in 1924. Creag Dhubh 2009 contained a short review of the book written by Neil and close friend Tony Carter. In 2010 Neil was awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia; see Creag Dhubh 2010, p 14.

A copy of the book *'The Burma Railway, Hellships & Coalmines'* was acquired and presented to the CMA Library in memory of a brave Australian who, even in his twilight years, strove to ensure the memory of his many former colleagues was preserved, and that the young were made well aware of the horrors of war.

Darwin. Former CMA Chairman Shelagh Macpherson-Noble and her husband Alistair visited Australia again this year to tour northern Australia and celebrate the birthday of their son Euan. Fortunately, the disastrous floods in northern Queensland had dispersed by the time they reached Cairns. On to Darwin,

Shelagh and Alistair were able to meet Karen Cooper and her husband MacNeil Cooper. Karen is the surviving granddaughter of our 24<sup>th</sup> Chief, Ewen George Macpherson, who spent most of his adult life in Australia. The Coopers appreciated the opportunity to catch up on CMA matters and provided very interesting genealogical material which will greatly improve our understanding of the life of an enigmatic character.<sup>1</sup>

Very recent advice has come to light concerning the Great War records thought to have been destroyed as a result of bombing raid in WWII. Of the records now apparently available for research include the service dossier and medical records of Ewen George. Access to these records should provide some very useful information that will assist in filling gaps in our knowledge of Ewen George from 1912 when he returned to the UK, enlisted and served in the Royal Scots Greys, and after the Great War until June 1921 when he returned to Australia. I thank members of the Australian Committee for their continuing support. And may I observe that 20 years ago Alistair of Pitmain and Penny attended a reception at the Royal Automobile Club in Sydney that gave rise to the reformation of the Australian Branch.

In conclusion, I extend to Cluny and Lady Hilary, and the wider Blairgowrie family, the sincere good wishes of the Australian Branch. And I repeat my message sent on 20th June 2019.

*'On behalf of your cousins and friends Down Under, I extend to you our heartiest congratulations on the occasion of your completing 50 years as Chief of Clan Macpherson; a signal achievement indeed!'*

Subsequent to the presentation of this report, the Australian Branch has been invited to be Clan of Honour at the May 2020 Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival.



*Clan Macpherson Group at the Tattoo in Sydney*

In addition, the Branch mounted a tent at the Canberra Highland Gathering on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October, while a few days later a group of Branch members and friends attended the first of the four sessions of the spectacular Royal Edinburgh

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<sup>1</sup> Sadly Karen Cooper's husband MacNeil passed away in July 2019.

Military Tattoo held in Sydney's Olympic Stadium on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October. The group of 11 joined with a larger Clan MacLaren group, led by their Chief Donald, as part of the opening session of the Tattoo. Wearing their red Macpherson tartan, the Pipes and Drums of Knox Grammar School, reinforced by two visiting members of the (Qld) Sunshine Coast Pipes and Drums also in red Macpherson tartan, played the two Clan groups onto the arena just prior to the arrival of the Reviewing Officer, General Angus Campbell, Chief of the Australian Defence Force.

John L Macpherson

Bowral NSW

**Can Scotland save its Wildcats from Extinction?** Recent reports from Scotland publicise the success of wildcat breeding programs at the Highland Wildlife Park at Kingussie. Seven rare wildcat kittens have been born at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's (RZSS) Highland Wildlife Park, giving an extra boost to species recovery plans. The kittens were born to two mothers in the wildlife conservation charity's off-show breeding enclosures which are designed to help retain and develop a range of key behaviours needed to survive in the wild. RZSS are developing plans to deliver the first UK reintroduction project for wildcats, with potential release sites being explored in key locations. While the secretive mammals are fast disappearing from the Highlands, last-ditch efforts to save them are fraught with challenges.



*Photograph: Tony Hamblin/FLPA/REX/Shutterstock*

Further north, set deep in mixed woodland of Scots pine and birch, near the banks of the River Beaully in Inverness-shire, several huge, concealed pens contain two breeding pairs of Scottish wildcat. Sir John Lister-Kaye, nature writer and director of the Aigas Field Centre, is currently awaiting the birth of more wildcat kittens – the pairs have successfully produced six live offspring since they were homed at Aigas, while a further 71 live in captive breeding programmes around the UK, coordinated from the Highland Wildlife Park. Wildcats may look distinctive with their muscular bodies, flat

faces and thick, blunt tails, but they are notoriously difficult to monitor. Roo Campbell of Scottish Wildcat Action (SWA) explains: “They are so secretive. They are one of a few mammals that have proper cryptic camouflage, this brown, buff and black striping that breaks up their outline. They can really hide themselves and move around without being seen.”

Although some vocal critics argue it is better to leave the few remaining pockets in the wild to breed in isolation, the majority of those working in wildcat conservation are convinced that hope rests with captive breeding, then rewilding. Two interesting YouTube videos can be seen at:

<https://www.rzss.org.uk/news/article/16449/seven-wildcat-kittens-born-at-highland-wildlife-park-/?fbclid=IwAR0ePcv32URXeib4C7BROlnTpCwelDlCu4XlQk9wD0YlxA29RYjXMGMCBgk>

Our Clan has been very supportive of the wildcat conservation programmes. The 2013 issue of Creagh Dhubh records thus; ‘*A special event occurred during the CMA Gathering in Badenoch in 2012 this year being the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our commitment – instigated by the Canadian Branch – to sponsor the Scottish wildcat collection in the Highland Wildlife Park near Kingussie. An invitation, to which there was a good response, was issued to members to attend the unveiling of a commemorative plaque to recognise this achievement, and we learned that we were the longest standing sponsor in the Park’s history.*’

## Personal Notes

### New Members

Annual: Kinga Macpherson (Bathurst NSW), Ian Angus Macpherson (The Palms Qld), Lorna Gillies (Thornbury Vic), Skyelee Smith (Taylors Flat NSW), Scott Macpherson (Wamboin NSW), Neville J McPherson Snr (Mandurah WA), Hugh Williams (Buderim Qld)

Junior: Edan Smith (Taylors Flat NSW)

### Vale

We extend our condolences to the family of;

David J McPherson, West Wodonga (Vic)

John Phippen, Harrison (ACT).

Stuart MacNeil Cooper (Darwin NT)

## Activities across the Country

2019

**2<sup>nd</sup> December, Adelaide Pipers' Gathering**, info Jack Brennan, [brennanjack@optusnet.com.au](mailto:brennanjack@optusnet.com.au)

**7<sup>th</sup> December, Daylesford (Vic) Highland Gathering**, Street March, piping and drumming,  
info [www.daylesfordhighland.com](http://www.daylesfordhighland.com)

**11<sup>th</sup> December, Hunter Valley Scots Christmas Night, Teralba NSW** info [www.hvsc.org.au](http://www.hvsc.org.au)

**14<sup>th</sup> December, Khancoban Carols Pipes and Drums**, info Joanne Lorimer 0417 219 743

**15<sup>th</sup> December, Mighty Macleod Mini**, Beachouse Swimming Centre. Glenelg Beach (SA), info Nicole 0415 654 836 or  
[www.thebeachouse.com.au](http://www.thebeachouse.com.au)

**20<sup>th</sup> December, Grumpy Celtic Christmas, Eric Bogle and Claymore**, info  
[www.facebook.com/events/2418523578396137](https://www.facebook.com/events/2418523578396137)

**25<sup>th</sup> December, Happy Christmas**



**31<sup>st</sup> December, Happy Hogmanay**

2020

**1<sup>st</sup> January, Maryborough (Vic) Highland Gathering**, Princes Park, info 03 5461 1480 or [www.highlandsociety.com.au](http://www.highlandsociety.com.au)

**6<sup>th</sup> January, Adelaide (SA) Pipers' Gathering**, info Jack Brennan [brennanjack@optusnet.com.au](mailto:brennanjack@optusnet.com.au)

**25<sup>th</sup> January, BURNS NIGHT**

**Perth, St Andrew Society of WA**, info [www.saintandrew.org.au](http://www.saintandrew.org.au)

**Wongawallan (Qld)**, info 07 5665 7582 or [www.foxandhounds.net.au](http://www.foxandhounds.net.au)

**Ipswich (Qld)**, info [treasurer@ipswichpipeband.com](mailto:treasurer@ipswichpipeband.com) or 0429 361 142

**Gosford (NSW)**, info Ian Davidson 0435 578 353

**1<sup>st</sup> February, Burns Supper Toowoomba (Qld)**, info [ronimctcs@gmail.com](mailto:ronimctcs@gmail.com) or 0429 700 217

**1<sup>st</sup> February, Hunter Valley Burns night**, Argenton (NSW), Club Macquarie, info [www.hvsc.org.au](http://www.hvsc.org.au)

**16<sup>th</sup> February, Richmond (Tas) Highland Gathering**, info Di Cornish 0408 528 658 or [dianne.cornish1@bigpond.com](mailto:dianne.cornish1@bigpond.com)

**23<sup>rd</sup> February, Ballarat (Vic) Highland Gathering**, Victoria Park, Sturt St, info [www.fedunipipeband.com.au](http://www.fedunipipeband.com.au)

**29<sup>th</sup> February, Scots Day Out, Bendigo (Vic)** Rosalind Park, info [www.scotsdayout.com](http://www.scotsdayout.com) **Clan Macpherson Tent**

**7<sup>th</sup> March, Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo**, Quirindi (NSW) info [www.liverpoolplainsmilitarytattoo.com.au](http://www.liverpoolplainsmilitarytattoo.com.au)

**7/8<sup>th</sup> March, A Celtic Affair, Caste Hill (NSW) Pioneer Theatre**, info 0426 134 058 or [www.trybooking.com/BFXWD](http://www.trybooking.com/BFXWD)

**14/15th March, Ozlander Fan Gathering, The Melbourne Museum, Carlton Gardens, info**  
[www.facebook.com/ozlanderfangathering](http://www.facebook.com/ozlanderfangathering)

**15th March, Sydney Highland Gathering, Scots College Bellevue Hill. info** [sydneyhighlandgathering@gmail.com](mailto:sydneyhighlandgathering@gmail.com)

**15th March, Geelong (Vic) Highland Gathering, info** [www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au](http://www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au) **Clan Macpherson Tent**

**29th March, Ringwood Highland Games, JW Manson Reserve, info 0418 370 051 or**  
[www.ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au](http://www.ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au) **Clan Macpherson Tent**

**4/5th April, Australian Pipe Band Championships, Maryborough (Vic) info 03 5461 1480 or**  
[www.highlandsociety.com.au](http://www.highlandsociety.com.au)

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

**10/11th April, 116th Maclean (NSW) Highland Gathering, Easter weekend in Australia's Scottish Town. info**  
[www.macleanhighlandgathering.com.au](http://www.macleanhighlandgathering.com.au)

**30th April/3rd May Australian Celtic Festival Glenn Innes (NSW). info** [www.australiancelticfestival.com](http://www.australiancelticfestival.com)

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

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

**30th May, Bonnie Wingham (NSW) Scottish Festival Highland Games and Fair, info 02 6556 9051 or**  
[www.manninghistorical.org](http://www.manninghistorical.org) **Clan Macpherson Tent**

**5/8th June International Celtic Festival, Portarlington, VIC.** A long weekend of Celtic music, relax and experience the depth of Celtic culture through the festival's culturally diverse arts program. Info: [www.nationalcelticfestival.com](http://www.nationalcelticfestival.com)

**26th June – 4th July Scottish Week in Sydney and surrounds.**

**4th July Aberdeen Highland Games.** <http://www.aberdeenhIGHLANDGAMES.com/>  
Info: Susan Cooke 0411 097 724 or [info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](mailto:info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)

**11th July The Melbourne Tartan Festival, Melbourne (Vic)**

A diverse range of Scottish events across Melbourne including: Ceilidh Dance, Gala Dinner, Genealogy Day, Pipe Bands and more. Info: 0417 125 013 or [www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au](http://www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au)

**The Skye Macphersons *Calling Macphersons whose ancestry may originate from the Isle of Skye.*** Please look at the following website where you will find considerable information regarding your possible family roots. [skymacphersons.co.uk](http://skymacphersons.co.uk) Should you wish to enquire further you can make contact by filling in the feedback form at the bottom of the opening page of the website.

**Australians at the Museum - checking ancestry**



*Diane and David Macpherson, (Hillville NSW) - Catlodge Laggan*



*Russell and Kinga Macpherson, (Bathurst NSW) - Gallovie Laggan*



*John and Helen Clark (Burleigh Heads Qld) – Ardnamurchan*

**at Geelong Highland Gathering**



*Rod and Lorna Gillies*

**at the Gathering Tug O' War**



*Ladies to the fore, Vice-Chairman Bonnie McPherson US (white shirt) and Fiona Brennan (nee Macpherson) (Australia) (pink shirt)- they won!!*

**at Ringwood Highland Games**



*David McPherson Jnr with Madeliene Borrello*

## Contact Details CMA (Australia) Committee

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<b>Secretary/Registrar</b> Ailsa McPherson 17/7-11 Stornaway Rd Queanbeyan NSW 2620	ph 0425 809 965	<a href="mailto:ailsamcpherson77@gmail.com">ailsamcpherson77@gmail.com</a>
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