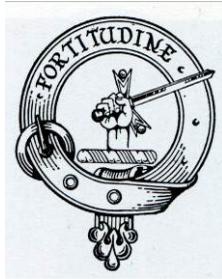


*The Clan MacRae Society
of
Australia and New Zealand
Newsletter*



www.clanmacrae.org.au

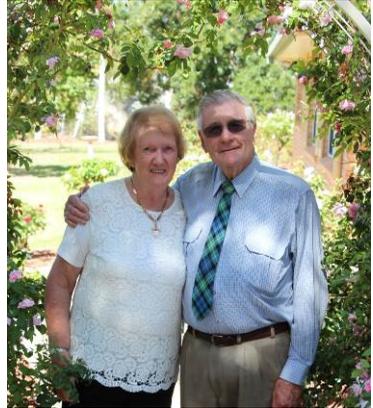
Volume 31 - September, 2018



Message from Clan MacRae President

This is our last newsletter prior to Christmas so the festive season will soon be upon us. I would like to extend to one and all a very Merry Christmas and my best wishes for a heathy, wealthy and family orientated New Year and 2019.

Congratulations to Jenny and Tom Brown, our Treasurer, (right) who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 14th April, 2018. Tom is wearing his 'Lamont' tie with the MacRae Clan badge. They were married in Inverell in 1968 and lived at Wee Waa for many years before moving to Tamworth 5 years ago.



Next year's Reunion and Gathering that was to take place in the Blue Mountains has had to be postponed to 2020 due to the unavailability of a suitable venue. The new

dates will now be over the weekend of 14th, 15th and 16th February, 2020. Please put it in your calendar now.



With regular Reunions and Gatherings Clan MacRae can keep on supporting our vast MacRae family, along with its septs in Australia and New Zealand. These allow you the opportunity to enjoy our devotion to our family, pass along our ancestral history of early pioneers and appreciate those Scottish pastimes and collectables from former generations.

REMINDER - 17th October – Wednesday – Teleconference ordinary meeting of Clan MacRae. The Executive invites all interested members to take part in this teleconference at 7.30pm (NSW time). All you need to do is **at 7.30pm (NSW time) on Wednesday 17th October dial: (02) 8077 0506. When prompted enter access code: 799719** followed by the # key. *Once interested members are connected we will start the meeting.* For our valued New Zealand members, you can participate by dialling: **+64 6-928 7532.**

Alan McRae. President

Edinburgh (8th May), Dunblane and Sheriffmuir (9th May) and Kintail (10th to 12th May, 2019.)

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HAVE YOU GOT A MACRAE MUG YET?

Clan MacRae now have white ceramic china mugs available. Why not proudly proclaim your MacRae heritage over morning coffee or give as a gift to a 'special' MacRae. Each mug has a double emblem to allow for left and right handers. Every mug comes in a presentation box. They cost: - for 1 mug - \$15 + \$10 p&h = \$25, or 2 mugs - \$25 + \$16 p&h = \$41.

The famous Clan MacRae mugs will be taken to all Scottish Gatherings that the Society attends so take the opportunity to obtain one. These mugs would make a unique birthday gift for that hard to

buy for MacRae. Contact Roslyn MacRae, 2513 Mitchell Highway, Vittoria NSW 2799 M. 0412 291 054. No fax. Email learn@vsr.com.au

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IN LOVING MEMORY

We are saddened to hear of the passing of several of our members. Please accept our sincere sympathy to their partners, family and friends.

VALE – Joan Ilma Kreffft, long-time member. Members will be saddened to learn of the passing of Joan Kreffft, formerly of Kirribilli and recently of Bupa, Willoughby. Aged 94 years, Joan passed away peacefully, after a short illness on February 16th, this year.

A very loyal Clan member, Joan attended meetings regularly and would have been known to most of you who attended 1988 – 2012. Her warm, friendly nature endeared her to all who met her. She was a daughter of Ilma, nee Gillespie, and Gerard Kreffft. Joan was a great-grand-daughter of Gerard Kreffft, a pioneering Australian zoologist. Joan's maternal great grandmother, Mary Harvie McCrae was the sixth child of Alexander McCrae, born in Edinburgh in 1799 who migrated to Melbourne and at one time was Postmaster General of Victoria. Joan trained at Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and nursed in Sydney, Hobart, Auckland and London before taking a position as a registered nurse with a Macquarie Street Specialist.

A memorial service was held on the 27th February at the Northern Suburbs

Dear Elma

The first time I attended a Clan Gathering in Australia must have been in 1995. Tristan, who was then 16, came with me.

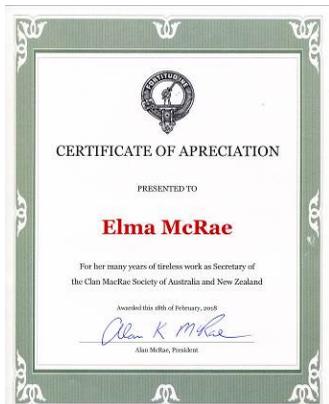
I remember you collected us from the airport in your little car. You managed somehow to get us and our luggage safely in. The next day we went to a Gathering at Bruce & Dorothy's house. You introduced us to everyone and we had a lovely time. The next day we went up to Armidale where you introduced us to all the MacRaes there.

Through the years you have always welcomed Miranda and myself whenever we have been to Australia and have driven us to numerous Gatherings.

You have been such a marvellous secretary, so enthusiastic and tireless, attended so many Highland Games. Taking a stand to collect new members and show the flag for the Clan. All this entails a lot of hard work.

You also came over to our Gatherings with a contingent complete with a banner for the March. You were indefatigable.

On top of all the Secretary's work you took on the Newsletter. I always enjoyed it and looked forward to receiving it. There was always a letter inside for me as well.



How lucky the Australian and New Zealand Clan Society has been to have you working so hard. I value your friendship so much and am so glad to have been to so many amazing places in Australia, all outings beautifully arranged by you.

You have done so much for the Clan both in Australia and over here. You will be much missed, but I am sure you will still go to many Gatherings which you will now be able to enjoy without all the hard work.

Thank you, Elma for all you have done for so many years. With all my best wishes,

Marigold President of the Clan MacRae Worldwide, Saturday 17 February 2018

manning of the Clan tent at Wingham. Since I have taken over Elma's role at Wingham, Doug and Janet have been a great help to me and are both fine examples of what being a member of the Clan Society is all about.

Right - Doug and Janet Rae with their sons, from left, Ian, David and John.

The Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival was once again a great day. The weather was cool but clear until after the tents were packed up. The Clan of Honour this year was Clan McLennan. This is of significance to a lot of Australian and New Zealand MacRaes as the Clans lived alongside each other in Scotland in centuries past and provided many husbands and wives on both sides.



Rae family - Back row L-R :- Maria Rae, Ian Rae, David Rae, Janet Rae, John Rae, Susanne Phillips, Conor Rae. Front row L-R :- Joannah Rae, Douglas Rae, Tom Rae, Gillian Rae.

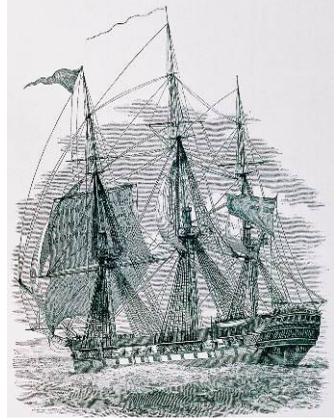
I think the MacRae Clan had the most people marching behind the banner. It was a pleasure to welcome so many people to the Clan tent.

The visitors included Clan Society member Ann-Maree Hammond who had travelled from Kiama to visit us. The Clan Society members responsible for the Clan tent were Ray and Judy Hynes and Colin and Roslyn MacRae.

By Roslyn MacRae.

CALLING ALL DESCENDANTS OF FARQUHAR MACRAE

Some descendants of Farquhar MacRae – who arrived in Australia on-board the “William Nicol” on 27th October, 1837, – are organising a Gathering in the Southern Highlands of NSW on the weekend of 26th & 27th October, 2019 to commemorate the 182nd anniversary of his arrival. This is Family 4 in “MacRae’s Down Under” book. All interested descendants should either go to the Facebook group “Descendants of Farquhar MacRae” and request to join or send an email to Ayya Esika (aka Clare) at farquhar1837@yahoo.com to be included on the contacts list.

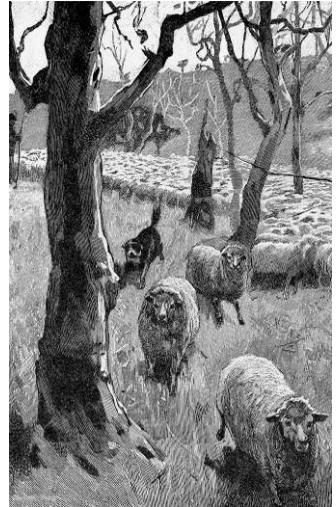


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CLANSMEN VIE FOR TOP HONOURS AT SHEEP SHOW

Bendigo Sheep Show, the biggest in Australia, attracts exhibitors from all states of Australia. In mid July 2017 Jock MacRae of ‘Eilean Donan’ Stud at Sutton Grove, near Bendigo, was named Supreme Exhibitor, winning first place for his ‘fine wool’ Merino ram (medium wool). Jock exhibited a grand champion fine wool ewe at the same event in 1995, just two years after beginning the Merino show circuit.

‘Oakbank’ also won first place in Victoria for their poll Merino Pair (Ram and Eve), and second place for all States with a ram and two ewes (mixed poll and horned). Three McRae generations from ‘Oakbank’, Rodney, son Warren and grandson Jack participated in the presentation of their exhibits. Three thousand sheep, including several British breeds, were entered in many categories. Throughout the day there were many entertaining activities, including sheep-dog trials and a fashion parade displaying woollen fabrics.



At the Hay Sheep Show in south-western N.S.W., ‘Oakbank’ gained supreme place for their merino ram.

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Membership is due in January

Cost is \$15 per annum – Payable to the Treasurer

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