



“CAIRN-NA-CUIMHNE!”

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Annual Membership

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*Classes of Membership: Individual,
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who are dependent), and
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The President's Message

Dear Members,

Well, we are really enjoying some lovely winter days, crispy morning frosts, and though the winter sun is brief, with no wind, and rain kept overnight. It's a joy to be alive!

I've been fortunate to have enjoyed great personal experiences so far this year, especially the birth of my third grandchild, Evelyn. On the Clan front, we've enjoyed the occasion, and great company at, first, the Brigadoon Scottish Gathering, Tartan Day in Sydney and dinner at The Scots College hosted by the one and only Mrs Beryl Hardy Nisbett, High Commissioner in Australia for the great Clan Farquharson, then the 4th Aberdeen Highland Games and Ceilidh. For once the weather at Aberdeen was kind to us! This year, a lovely crisp and frosty morning was followed by a day of no wind and lovely full winter sun. And the setting was perfect too – all the stalls forming a perimeter around a large scenic athletics ground.

I am aware that some of our members haven't been enjoying the best of health. I would just like to say we are thinking of you and wishing for your restoration to better health.

Look forward to seeing you sometime, somewhere wearing the great Farquharson Tartan!

Syd Finlay.

PS: Please check your Membership Card(s). If they have expired or will do so in the near future, please use the enclosed renewal form. This will avoid unnecessary expense and follow-up by the Secretary/Treasurer. We have running costs to meet. Without financial members the Association will not flourish.

About Town and Other Places
(What your Committee has been up to since last time!)

Bundanoon is Brigadoon
12th April 2003

Once again the date of that magical weekend in the Southern Highlands rolled around. And there seemed to be even more people at this premier festival in the NSW Scottish calendar than last year. President Syd Finlay, is now a committeeman for the Bundanoon Organizing Committee. So it was doubly a busy day for the CFAA (NSW Branch) and committee members, starting at 6.00am in the mist. At 9.30am Clan Farquharson members joined the street parade led by Banner-bearer Stuart Finlayson, marching behind The Scots College Old Boys Pipes & Drums. 21 bands made up the parade and participated in the massed band displays.

Chieftain of the Day was The Lady Kirstie Siggers, who is Chieftain of Clan Graham in Australia, and is the sister of the present Chief of Clan Graham, the eighth Duke of Montrose. We talked to many Farquharsons during the day including a number of visitors from Scotland. Prominent among our o/s visitors were Sir Douglas and Lady Hardie. Sir Douglas is from Dundee and is a Trustee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.

In the evening, Association (NSW Branch) members, Ron & Lynne Christie, Jane & Scott Marland, John & Ruth Tate, and friends Mary & Jeff O'Kell joined President Syd and Brenda Finlay and other family members in a traditional Scottish Burns supper at the Bundanoon Holiday Resort Motel. The food, which included the traditionally served haggis with *roastit tatties, neeps and nips*, was excellent. The haggis was piped in by a guest member of the Campbelltown Community Pipe Band, and the Address to the Haggis was delivered by Syd Finlay.

Guests were entertained by a heart-breakingly beautiful performance by Chris Duncan, who was ably assisted by his daughter Carolyn on piano, and fellow fiddler, Bob McGuinness. Pipers from the Campbelltown Band gave an impromptu performance and guests joined in a traditional Scottish sing-a-long, followed by a fine rendition of "*Flower of Scotland*" by Graeme Sutherland, and Auld Lang Syne. Graeme earlier had successfully defended his Bundanoon Caber toss championship title, which he won last year.

O o O o O

Postcard From Glen Innes
2nd to 4th May 2003

Greetings from Glen Innes an attractive, well planned town of about 6,000 people situated in the New England Region of New South Wales. Saturday 3rd May, the main day of the annual Celtic Festival, dawned a fine sunny day where most of the town lined

the main street to watch the street parade. In this parade were several pipe bands as well as representatives of the Celtic peoples from Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, The Isle of Man, Brittany and many of the Scottish clans including the Farquharsons, and our close friends, the Kerrs. The bands led the parade from one end of town to the other via stops at the hotels and roundabouts for impromptu pipe and traditional dance performances.

Following the Flag raising ceremony in front of the Town Hall, the whole scene moved to the Standing Stones overlooking the town. Here we were treated to non-stop dancing, events, stalls and entertainment from all the Celtic nations. We especially enjoyed the "*Claymores*" a mixed pipe and rock band – not to be missed if you have a chance to see them. There is in this part of NSW a strong Scottish background in many of the towns and this is evidenced by the broad cross-section of participation in both traditional and formal dance, by whole families.

A final highlight of the day was the massed bands performance in the Standing Stones. There is something awe-inspiring and mystic about the Standing Stones. And the playing of *Highland Cathedral* in this powerful amphitheatre certainly caused the hair to rise on the nape of the neck.

The day's proceedings were followed in the evening by a dinner arranged for the Scottish Australian Heritage Council where we enjoyed fine food, conversation and the traditional Haggis ceremony. Guest of Honour was Sir William Broun of Colstoun, Chief of Clan Broun. Traditional Scottish entertainment flourished in all of the town's pubs and clubs that night!

Glen Innes is a very popular Festival and we can understand why. We stayed more than 40 kms away at a very old family run country hotel at Emmaville. Everything was at very old-fashioned prices too, which suited our pockets, and the pub even had its own ghost, with doors opening mysteriously in the night! Emmaville, an old tin mining town, also sports its very own black panther, as well as wild deer! If you are travelling in the New England area Glen Innes and nearby Inverell, where Wally Kerr and his brother have built an impressive stone Cairn to honour the town's Scottish pioneers, are definitely worth a visit.

(Other members may like to send the Editor postcards from other places of Scottish heritage interest they have visited, for future publication.)
 - Pauline Finlay.

O o O o O

Warringah Scottish Society 30th Anniversary
31st May 2003

Warringah Scottish Society celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a well attended Dinner-Dance on the evening of 31st May at the Collaroy Masonic Hall. Being Warringah residents, Bruce & Pauline Finlay joined in a lively evening of traditional and modern

dance, and enjoyed a pleasant three course meal. Convivial company at our table were Glenda Mason, Commissioner of the Clan MacFarlane, and husband, and David Campbell, Secretary of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council, and his partner.

The night was organized by Lesley Bowers, President of the Society, and was ably stage-managed by MC and Dance caller, husband Sid Bowers who is also the Secretary of the Clan Gregor Society in Australia.

Guests were entertained by the Manly-Warringah Pipe Band, whose dancers performed the Highland Fling and Seann Triubhais. The courses of the meal were interspersed with lively brackets of dance numbers accompanied by a drum-accordion "trio". There were the traditional Stripping the Willow, Dashing White Sergeant, and Gay Gordons, followed later by the "Grand March" and a very willing Eightsome Reel – at which Pauline has become quite an expert. But the Quadrille is where your Editor bows out!

O o O o O

**Tartan Day and Dinner
Sydney, 1st July 2003**

Tartan Day is celebrated in Sydney by a ceremony in Martin Place at 12 midday. This year the weather was pretty dismal but the rain magically held off for the whole ceremony. Following a parade of representative clans, those gathered were addressed by the Deputy Lord Mayor of Sydney. Guest speaker Bruce Menzies spoke of the repeal in 1782 of English prohibition legislation banning the wearing of tartan and traditional dress, which Tartan Day celebrates.

The ceremony was movingly concluded by the Awarding of Citizenship by the Federal Minister for Immigration to a number of ex-patriate Scottish residents. Many of those Australians present took the opportunity of re-affirming their own Citizenship oaths, and the proceedings ended with a rousing rendition of *Advance Australia Fair*. Then the rain came down!

In the evening, by dint of much hard work by our High Commissioner, Beryl Hardy Nisbett, on behalf of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council, an enjoyable dinner was held to celebrate Tartan Day at The Scots College in Sydney. Association members Boh Yeng and Peter Hunt with Sandy and Paul Starling joined President Syd, and Pauline and Bruce Finlay at the Farquharson table. This was an especially auspicious occasion as the Guest of Honour was James (Jock) McConnell to whom the Council's Medal was awarded for his long and dedicated services to the Scottish community in Australia. Malcolm Broun, of Clan Broun, introduced Jock and gave a brief resume of his career. Jock, as a young man was a King's Piper and a serving member of the Royal Scots Guards before and during WW II, attaining the rank of Captain. He

emigrated to Australia with his family in the early 50's. Jock served for many years as a master and instructor at the Knox Grammar School in Sydney.

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**Aberdeen Highland Games
5th July 2003**

The day dawned bright and windless (a blessing at Aberdeen where the temperatures get down around zero). This year the Games were moved to the No. 2 Oval at Jefferson Park and this proved a great bonus enabling all the Clan Tents food and commercial tents, Highland Dancing etc to be set up within the Oval on level ground.

The Street Parade commenced at 10.00am and proceeded down the New England Highway from the Aberdeen Hotel. 13 Pipe Bands took part this year and gave an impressive massed band performance. At the opening ceremony, Clan representatives were presented to Chieftain of the Day Murdo MacLeod. .

Our group attended the evening's entertainment at the Bowling Club, a lively Ceilidh (music by the "Highlanders" from Newcastle), and traditional Pipe band jamming session in the bar. Roast dinner was laid on in the Club by the Aberdeen Scouts.

We always come away from Aberdeen very conscious of the warmth of these Games (despite cold weather) and the very good friends we have made at Aberdeen, Jenny and Max McGrath, the Kerrs, Dot and Peter Cameron, and especially Charles Cooke Drum Sergeant of the Scone Pipe Band. Charles was instrumental in getting the Games off the ground 4 years ago and continues to be a tower of strength in the organization each year.

O o O o O

Davidsons in Australia

This issue we will describe the nature of the boats and the activity of whaling as practiced by the Davidsons in the late 19th century.

Bay whaling was a dangerous, smelly and back-breaking occupation, long hours in cold weather at the oars, and after harpooning a whale, being towed for miles often out to sea, until it tired with all the attendant dangers of capsizing, swamping from heavy seas, or being dragged under when the whale sounded. When closing in for the kill, for the heart thrust, the boat had to be laid close enough to the whale for the lance to penetrate its body about 1 metre back from the pectoral fin and near the waters edge. The boat then had to be hurriedly backed away to escape the fins and the thrashing flukes as the whale went into its death flurry, to mill around in circles before dying.

Blood blown from the blow hole signalled when the whale had received a mortal wound.

A strike from the flukes in the whale's death agony could smash both men and whaleboats. This was to happen a number of times to the Davidson boats despite the care taken, fortunately with only the one fatality over the years, Pete Lia, when a boat was smashed on 28th September 1881. His name and the date were chiselled into Boyd's light house tower. Although there was only one fatality, a number were to be pinned in the bottom of the boat and received back injuries. These included Archer and Harry, sons of John S Davidson, at different times, the rest of the crew being thrown or having jumped overboard to escape the flukes as they smashed the boat.

Jumping or being thrown overboard was another hazard with the cold winter water, being clad in heavy winter clothing and perhaps miles from land. This was a real danger until rescued by the pick-up boat. Night time increased the risk enormously. These dangers were the reason that at least two boat crews were used in a chase, the boat not fast to the whale followed as the pick-up boat should the necessity arise. Sometimes this boat could be a long way behind and at night could experience difficulty locating the men struggling in the sea. It was due to the training and insistence of John S Davidson to take proper care and not to take risks that only the one fatality occurred.

Another danger, that of the whale surfacing directly under the boat after sounding, was described briefly by Oswald Brierly:-

"After the whale had been fastened, it turned towards the boat and made a dive but came to the surface exactly underneath us. I shall never forget the new and sickening sensation of feeling – the whole boat suddenly lifted out of the water by the rising back of the whale and the sliding, gliding hopelessly slipping motion of the boat as it shot down the back of the monster. The powerlessness of the situation flashed through the mind – the oars were of no use, we were literally out of our element, but only for a moment - as we touched water down came the great tail of the enraged monster cutting our boat in twain with one swishing blow as a hatchet would a pat of butter. In a moment the whole party was plunged into a boiling eddy of foam and water made by the whale as it plunged into deep water and left us struggling for dear life and handicapped by a thick coat and heavy boots."

Several of the boats the Davidsons used were carvel built except for the top three planks, which were placed clinker style and were usually made of cedar for lightness. The reason for this style was to reduce the slapping noise of the waves against the sides when approaching a whale for harpooning. The boats were double prowed with a considerable rake from either prow down (cf. a modern surf boat) to midships,

which was decked over for five to six feet. In the bow the deck was strengthened for a niche to be cut out for the harpooner to steady and brace himself with his thigh against the motion of the boat when close enough to hurl the harpoon to fasten to the whale.

The long sweep at the stern rested on a sharpened piece at right angles to the boat on the starboard side and was held in place by a leather strap. Near the inside end of the stern decking was the loggerhead, a shaped post used for belaying the line after running out following a harpoon strike. Should the whale dive deep, the line would have to be let out quickly to avoid the boat being taken down and should it snag or danger threaten for any reason the line had to be cut and let go. This responsible position in the stern of the boat was always manned by the steersman.

The boats were fitted with thwarts for five oars all of different lengths and so built that the oarsmen could sit to one side and leave the center clear. Looking along the boat from where the steersman stood, there were two oarsmen on the port side and three on the starboard side. Inside the boat, always kept rigged in the season, was the harpoon, lance, tub and line and other necessary gear including extra harpoons and lances, bailer, axe to cut the line, markers and buoys, a sail and also food and water.

On the call of "Rusho" when a whale was sighted, each man in the crew knew his place in the boat, with the steersman on the long sweep oar being the headman in charge and with the bow oarsman the harpooner. The line of some 200 fathoms was fastened to the harpoon in readiness and kept coiled in a tub ready to run out freely when fast. From the tub the line went aft around the loggerhead then forward down the center of the boat, the oarsmen being seated to either side, then through an opening in the bows under an iron pin, and back to the harpoon placed ready to hand in the boat. The pin prevented the line jumping out should the whale change direction with results that could be imagined. The line held in this manner caused the boat at all times to be towed bow first when fast to a whale moving at up to 20 miles an hour through the sea. When fast the five rowing oars were peaked, the hafts being placed in chocks on the opposite sides near the bottom of the boat, this to prevent them being snagged by sea waves with possible disastrous results.

Following the kill and securing the carcass, the task now was to get the whale back to Twofold Bay and to the Try works. This could be a back-breaking task as the catch could be anything up to twelve miles to sea. It usually took six boat crews for this operation. The Davidsons rarely had this number of boats available, so they would anchor and buoy the carcass before it sank to the bottom, and retrieve the carcass later, after the killer whales had taken their feast of whale tongue!

Finlays of Grafton and Roseville

(This article was inspired by a chance meeting at the Bankstown Genealogy Fair in 2001 with our third cousin Valdana Finlay who we had never met before. Prior to this all we had was a Family Tree and a few anecdotes passed down by word-of-mouth. Valdana kindly let us copy a brief written history of the original emigrant Family, which corroborated several of those anecdotes, and a more detailed Family tree. There follows an outline of the emigrant family's background, the family tree for the first four generations in Australia, and a reproduction of Valdana's account.

George Whitelaw Finlay, carpenter and joiner and formerly a student-at-law, of Renfrew, a suburb of Glasgow, emigrated to Australia from Scotland with his wife Mary (nee Young) and son George Colin (born 1852), arriving at Sydney Cove on board the *St Helena* on 10th December 1854.

Born at Perth in 1831, George Whitelaw Finlay was the only son of George Finlay (Jnr) (born c1810), House builder and Innkeeper of 5 South Street Perth (Scotland), and Mary (nee Whitelaw). This George Finlay was, in turn, the only known son of George Finlay Snr, of Hughfield Cottage, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire, and Jannet (nee Drew). George Finlay Snr was born c1777, and died 27th December 1860.

The young emigrant family must have lived for a time in the growing, busy port of Sydney, where their first three daughters were born, Laura 1855, dying at a young age of scarlet fever, Mary 1856, and Elizabeth 1858. The family settled in Southgate in 1860, where they commenced a building business, and subsequently, in about 1868, moved to the then growing rural centre of Grafton in northern New South Wales. There the family, father and sons, was to establish a thriving building business, and engage in the growing of cotton and sugar cane. George Whitelaw Finlay was reputed to have been a pioneer in establishing at Grafton the first sugar crushing mill in New South Wales.

The family continued to grow, and after Elizabeth, 5 sons and three daughters were born, Laurence Craigie 1860, James 1862, Janet ("Jenny") 1864, Frank John ("Jack") 1866, Forest 1868, Margaret ("Maggie") 1871, Ethelwyn 1873, and Garnet 1876.

We take up Valdana's narrative, which concentrates on two seminal tragic incidents in the family's history, at the point where it refers to the family's time at Southgate:

"An excerpt from a booklet titled *Southgate and District – a Centenary of Schooling – 1867-1967*, by M A Pryer, says –

'FINLAY: George Finlay, a carpenter by trade, settled in Southgate about 1860. While a young man in Scotland he had begun studies in Law, and although this was discontinued, his capacity for written expression was of considerable use later in getting

schooling established in Southgate, the various letters to the Council of Education being his composition.'

George and five of his six sons [...the exception being Valdana's grandfather Forest, arising from the amputation of his leg at a young age ...] were all in the Building trade at Grafton, Southgate, Sydney and Perth, W Australia. George Colin Jnr [sic] making his mark as an Architect, designed the Presbyterian Church at Grafton. Later he drew the plans for a proposed Government House in Perth, WA, which, although not accepted, shows his accomplishment in this field. George Colin died in Grafton in 1923 and is said to have spent 22 years in West Australia.

[Great-Grand]Father George also tried growing Cotton, the use of which may have been instrumental in saving the life of daughter Mary who, at the age of 13, was accidentally shot in the head. One Sunday morning the parents and older children were rowing to Church, leaving George Colin and Mary to mind their younger siblings. While Mary was bending over fastening the shoe on the baby, George picked up the rifle, which was standing in the corner. It accidentally discharged, the bullet taking out Mary's ear, nose and eye. The women on the property stemmed the bleeding by plugging the wound with cotton buds. Mary who was 6 feet tall, wore a bandage around her head every day of her life [thereafter] and lived until 1934, dying at Roseville, aged 78 years. The above information was supplied by the 3 sisters Morris whose mother was Elizabeth, sister of Mary and George Colin. They showed me a photograph taken at a family picnic with Mary sitting behind another member of the family with her head peaking around, the white bandage visible.

[Great-Grand]Father George also turned his hand to Sugar Milling, which resulted in a bad accident to his fifth son, Forest. At age 14, Forest was badly burned by boiling sugar at the Mill and due, no doubt, to the dedicated nursing, both day and night, by the two Marys, mother and sister, he survived this ordeal living until the age of 74. Having lost one leg at the age of 21, he suffered a stroke soon after the amputation of his second at the age of 68, and to my knowledge, didn't walk again [dying in 1942]. Forest was apprenticed to a Watchmaker and Jeweller in Lismore and also took up Photography. Later in Sydney he built and sold a Finlay cycle from his shop in Market Street until his partner absconded. He then was salesman for Fiat motor cars."

Sad to relate, anecdotally the first of these unhappy accidents is believed to have had a divisive effect on the Family, and this was confirmed in discussion with Valdana. George Colin went through a long period suffering what may have been depression following the shooting, and this eventually led to his move to WA. According to our father Frank George, it may also have led to the break-up and sale of the businesses and property at Grafton said to have been

undertaken by Power of Attorney during Great-Grandfather George's absence visiting relatives in New Zealand. At a date we have been unable to establish, the Family returned to Sydney and eventually settled at Roseville on the upper North Shore. For many years they thrived in the Building business as Finlay Brothers Builders.

On the effective retirement of Great-Grandfather George and his subsequent death at age 90 in 1921, the principals in the business were our Grandfather Jack and his brother Garnet, who carried on the business as a sole trader on his older brother's retirement. The business was very successful up until the 1930's depression. The firm's contribution to local development is recognized by the naming of Finlay Avenue (misspelled by the local council as Findlay) Roseville where the Family built its own large and handsome residence. Of numerous other building projects undertaken, perhaps one that stands out is the construction of the great hammer-beam framed roof structure of the old Fisher Library (now MacLaurin Hall) in the main building of the Sydney University. This was said to be one of Jack Finlay's proudest accomplishments.

Our Grandfather Jack Finlay married Margaret Amelia (nee Stephenson). They had 5 children, Elsie Frances 1903; Frank George ("George" – our father) 1904; Richard Stephenson 1906; Charles Hector ("Basil") 1908; and Anna Christina Grace ("Grace") 1912. Jack died in 1952. **George** married Mae Agnes (nee Grosvenor) at St Stephens (now St Andrews) Presbyterian Church in Manly on 10 July 1937 – they had 5 sons, Ronald George ("George") 1938; Bruce Graeme 1940; Sydney John and Alan Ian, twins, 1943; and Ross Alexander 1952.

Of the other children of George Whitelaw Finlay, **George Colin** is understood to have married, but we have no details. There were two sons Albert and Gilbert. **Laura** died at a young age as we've seen. **Mary** did not marry and died in 1934. **Elizabeth** married David Morris and died at 100 in 1958. They had 5 children, Lyle, Grace, Myrtle, Ella and Craigie. **Laurence Craigie** married Hester Smith. They had 5 children, Percy, Effie, Mervyn, Wilfred and Gladys. **James** married Louise Smith. They also had 5 children, Hope, Eva, Joan, Kathleen, and Kenneth. **Janet** married Tom Smith. They had 4 Children, Roy Eric, Ivy and Maisie.

Forest married Jane Thurgate and died in 1942. They had 6 children, Forest Eveleigh (Snr), Frank Lynton, Mavis, Glen, Thelma and Gladys Mary. We know a little more of this branch of the family, thanks to Valdana. **Forest Eveleigh** married Isobel Skinner. They had 7 children, Forest Eveleigh (Jnr), Peter, Valdana, Noel, Diana, Rosemary, and David. **Frank** married Francis Fitzpatrick, having 2 daughters, Evelyn and Ruth. **Mavis** married Robert Ingram – they adopted a son, John Murray. **Glen** did not marry.

Thelma married Gerald Griffin. They had 3 children, Geraldine, Ian Forest and Judith. Gladys married Lyle Gorton – they adopted a son Terrence.

Returning to the remaining offspring of George Whitelaw Finlay, **Margaret** married Reginald Cramp – they had 4 children, Wilfred, Beryl, Jean and Kenneth. **Ethelwyn** married Harold Highman and they had 2 children, Marjorie and Vernon. **Garnet** married Amy Blackie – he died in 1959. They had 2 children, Marjorie and John.

We would be most interested to hear from any members or others if any of the family history we have outlined or their names, in any way rings a bell.

-Editor.

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Sticks 'n Bag

Welcome back to the column about Pipe Band work. This issue, the focus is on learning an instrument.

Pipe Bands are always looking for new members. The big problem is that with the many distractions of modern technology (computer games and hand held games), as well as sport and other recreational activities, children are particularly hard to recruit into Pipe Bands. Most of the technology distractions give fast results. The computers are so fast that if you blink, you miss what's just been on the screen! Kids want fast results. When adults want to join a Pipe Band, they've generally reached a stage in life where they want to seek out their "roots". The children have grown up enough to look after themselves, and the parents can do the things they want to do. Even the parents want to get fast results.

What's the solution? Make it easy to learn an instrument. How do we do that?

That's the challenge! In my band, in common with most teaching bands, the best way is to start with the basics. All the while showing the learners what it sounds like when they have reached certain milestones. This means that the teacher must be competent in the instrument they are teaching.

Learning an instrument should not be so much of a chore as it should be fun. Sure, there is the old adage of "practice makes perfect", but practice can be fun!

We try to split practice up into sections, so that it's not boring and gives enough variety to keep learners interested. Simply going over rudiments for half an hour at a time isn't the way to keep interest up! I find that the odd band joke goes a long way towards breaking the session into segments.

For Pipers, scales still have to be learnt. For Drummers, basic rudiments still have to be learnt.

Those teaching generally find that this helps their technique as it forces them to play correctly.

As learners progress, through the basic rudiments, there is a time when they can start learning basic scores. It is best to start as soon as possible so that interest is kept up. Once this point is reached, it's amazing how quickly learners start to progress.

There are times when a learner finds the instrument of choice too hard. This may be due to the learner simply not having that particular quality that they must have to learn the instrument of choice. The teacher must recognize whether the learner is making progress or not and, if not, advise the learner to try another instrument. I have seen a learner piper, who found learning pipes too hard, change to snare drumming. He has turned out to be much better at drumming than he was at piping.

The only other point worth noting here is that there is always a great shortage of people willing to teach. There are many people who, over the years have played in pipe bands and gave it up to do other things. We desperately need these people to come back to bands and use their gift of music to help others learn to play either pipes or drums.

There is a great feeling of satisfaction when a learner suddenly "gets it". The learner feels great and all of a sudden, the band has a new member.

So, were you a piper or drummer in your earlier years? How about offering your time, even if only for a couple of nights a month to help a band teach learners? Bands will generally pay for teachers.

If you have the time and can still get your fingers around the sticks or can still find the holes in the chanter, then there is a band near you that can use your help. If you need help in finding a band, give me a call or drop me a line.

If you can help a band, then the music can go on.

- John Tate
Drum Sergeant,
Castle Hill R.S.L. Pipe Band
jdtate@bigpond.com

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FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday 28th October 2003	Wollongong Gathering - Dapto
Sunday 16th November 2003	Combined Scottish Gathering - Castle Hill
Saturday 22nd to Sunday 30th November 2003	"Scottish Week" - Sydney
Sunday 30th November 2003	St Andrews Day

**PROPOSED GATHERING of the
DESCENDANTS of JOHN DAVID FARQUHAR
GRAFTON New South Wales
4th-6th OCTOBER, 2003**

Peter Tranter, who is a descendant of John David FARQUHAR, and a Committeeman of the Association (NSW Branch) has told us of the planned gathering of the descendants in Australia of his forebear.

If you are a Farquhar and think you are descended from John David, or know other Farquhars who may be, you should get in touch with Peter on (02) 4965 7715 or at 15 Cowmeadow Road, MT HUTTON NSW 2290.

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CONTRIBUTIONS OF ARTICLES BY MEMBERS to "CAIRN-NA-CUIMHNE!" ARE WELCOME!

If you have something of historical or topical interest, contact:

**Bruce Finlay
3 Brisbane Place
CROMER NSW 2099**

Telephone/Fax: (02) 9982-6229

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Members who have the need of Scottish dress or accoutrements, should contact:

**Mrs Janet Maxwell
"Scottish Hire Hoose"
2 Gibbons Street
DUNDAS NSW 2117**

Telephone: (02) 9630-1263

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President Syd Finlay, Haggis – bearer, John Tate Sword – bearer and Piper Kevin Bartlett at Dinner at the Holiday Resort Motel Bundanoon.



Chris Duncan in full flight at the Holiday Resort Motel Bundanoon, accompanied by Catherine Strutt.



Massed Bands playing at the Closing Ceremony of the Glen Innes Celtic Festival in the Standing Stones, Saturday 3rd May 2003.

The Immigrant Finlay Family – George Whitelaw Finlay and five of his six sons, circa 1903. Seated from left to right: Laurence Craigie, Great Grandfather George Whitelaw, Garnet and James. Standing from left to right: Forest and Frank John ("Jack").

