



"CÀRN-NA-CUIMHNE!"

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Annual Membership (NSW)

Fee: \$15.00

*Classes of Membership: Individual,
Family (2 Adults + Children under 18 years or
who are dependent), and*

Interested Non-Farquharson (Associate)

*Application forms are available from the
Secretary via the above address.*

GETTING THE NEWSLETTER BY E.MAIL

If it suits you better to receive the Newsletter by
Email, please contact Pauline on
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The President's Message

Dear Clan Members,

Activities for the Aussie Scots are now increasing as we approach the middle of the year. In this Newsletter are reported two events I attended in my capacity as President of our Association, which I felt strongly demonstrate an awareness and commitment of the Scottish Clans to the wider Australian community.

The first was the Anzac Day Scottish Act of Remembrance in Sydney. Following the Anzac Day March, this is a parade to the Cenotaph in Sydney, where representatives of the Clans and Associations take part in a Scottish commemoration of the Fallen. Bruce Finlay our High Commissioner represented the Clan in the Wreath-laying Party. I participated in the Clans' parade following the massed Pipes and Drums.

The second event I attended was the Colloquium of Clan Leaders at Wingham on Sunday 31st May, where I joined High Commissioner Bruce Finlay in representing our Clan. Present were the Rt Hon the Earl of Dunmore, Malcolm Murray, Chieftain of Clan Murray, and other distinguished leaders in the Scottish community.

Under the chairmanship of Warwick Murray, Commissioner for Clan Murray, the meeting discussed a number of matters of procedure and protocol. Bruce Finlay addressed the meeting on "The Future of the Clans", exploring ways they can meet the challenge of their future by taking on a renewed commitment to the wider community.

Peter Tranter

President

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PS: Enclosed are renewal forms for Members whose memberships have recently expired or will expire in the next couple of months. Please use the form, as this will avoid unnecessary expense and follow-up by the Secretary-Treasurer.

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to new members of the Association:

Mrs Kay Barrett of Dora Creek, NSW;
Mr Phillip Farquharson of MUSWELLBROOK, NSW;
Mr Mal, and Mrs Jo Lyon of Forster, NSW;
Mrs Laurie Lyon of Lake Cathie, NSW; and
Mr Sean and Mrs Norah MacDonald-Sheridan of Glen Innes, NSW.

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CONDOLENCES to CLAN CAMPBELL

It is with great regret we record passing of a great stalwart of the Scottish Australian community, David Campbell, who was not only a founding officer of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council, but the Personal Representative in Australia of the Duke of Argyll, and for many years the President of the Clan Campbell Society in Australia. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him. We extend condolences to his family and the Society.

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CONGRATULATIONS LEANNE and CRAIG!

Congratulations to Leanne Tate and Craig Mills on their Engagement (and to Leanne's happy parents Committee Member John, and Ruth Tate). The Wedding Bells will ring out in October, not to mention the skirls of two (**yes two**) pipe bands. Leanne and Craig play for Liverpool CC Southern Cross, and John, of course, is Drum Sergeant of Castle Hill RSL!!

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NEWS FROM SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND

We have received regular updates from the organizing bodies of events at The Gathering in Edinburgh, Clan Farquharson events and for the Re-signing of the Band of Union for Clan Chattan in Inverness. We've also received regular news of events planned to coincide with this "Year of the Homecoming".

It is already a huge year in Scotland, and it's going to get even bigger. Already a trip we thought would be three weeks and home has blown out to nine weeks! I think we'll be pretty tired when we get back!!

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About Town and Other Places

EVENTS UP NORTH
ANZAC DAY in SYDNEY
Saturday 25th April 2009

As I mentioned in the President's Message I went to Sydney to take part in the Scottish Act of Remembrance Parade. The parade was led by a Flag Party and Wreath-laying Party, and was followed by the massed bands, and parade of Clans.

A standout was the Sikh Pipe Band, a magnificent band both in their distinctive white Indian garb and turbans, and in their performance as a band. An impressive ceremony was marred by considerable congestion at the Cenotaph.

BONNIE WINGHAM
Saturday 30th, Sunday 31st May 2009

Helen and I met up with the Finlays at Wingham early on the Saturday. For us it was a same day attendance, travelling up in the morning from Newcastle and returning the same day as travel time is only two hours each way. This time we ran into heavy rain both ways, but at Wingham it was fine.

The Bonnie Wingham Festival was its usual excellent day with the street parade of the Pipe Bands and Clans. Helen and I met up with our friends from other Clans, including new friends, the McEwans who operate the Celtic Stationery Shop in Adamstown, Newcastle. They are also involved in the McEwan Pipe Band. Chieftain of the Day was the Earl of Dunmore, Malcolm Murray, celebrating Clan Murray Association's 30th anniversary in Australia. It was good to see member Ian Holmes and partner Lyn Johnston whose family were Wingham pioneers.

I returned next day to join Bruce Finlay at the Colloquium of Clan Leaders, an important forum for the Clan to attend and have its say.

HUNTER VALLEY SCOTS CLUB
Sunday 14th June 2009

Helen and I attended a soup and damper luncheon organized by the Hunter Valley Scots Club at their rooms at Teralba, Lake Macquarie. Maybe I should have said "our" rooms, as I am also a member of this Club. The entertainment was a Robbie Burns theme with music and verse composed by Robbie Burns.

This provided a most enjoyable three and a half hours entertainment. I can recommend that any of our members who can join additional clubs, such as the Hunter Scots, should do so as it gives the opportunity to meet new friends with the same interest as ourselves and also provides light entertainment.

ABERDEEN HIGHLAND GAMES
Saturday 4th July 2009

This year the Aberdeen Highland Games was conducted under the auspices of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council as part of Sydney Scottish Week celebrations. There were some other changes too. The major change was to the Grand Parade which was conducted wholly within the Harrison Oval Jefferson Park precinct thus avoiding the closure of the New England Highway.

Chieftain of the Day was Duncan Macintyre, Commissioner in Australia for Clan Macintyre. At the opening ceremony, as at Wingham, a great spectacle for the crowd was the parade of the Clan Banner bearers marching through the halted bands to present their Banners. I can tell you, though, it was very cold out on that oval in the strong westerly wind.

An interesting event was the precision drill performance by the Australian Federation Guard, a unit of the ADF. Also, on the programme was the Tug o' War Australian National Titles. We had a great day's entertainment and the chance to catch up with many old friends.

*Peter Tranter
Association President
Chief's Clan Representative (Northern NSW)*

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DOWN SOUTH
BUNDANOON is BRIGADOON
Saturday 4th April 2009

The Bundanoon Highland Gathering once again gave Brenda and me some sleepless nights, in particular the Friday night before the big day. However, our worst fears were somewhat unfounded. The weather on the Saturday was typically "Scottish" and all events went ahead despite it being a bit wet underfoot.

Our Marching Team had a good roll-up, including 5 enthusiastic youngsters all under 7 years of age.

Chieftain of the Day was Dr Frank Davidson, High Commissioner for Clan Davidson and Deputy President of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council. This year we didn't win the best Clan award – it went to the Gordons – but we received an honourable mention for our Street Parade team.

At the close, the Celtic Association of Australia announced the award of the Celtic D'Urr to Margaret McConnell for her services to the Clan Donald.

BERRY CELTIC FESTIVAL
Saturday 23rd May 2009

The 3rd. Berry Celtic Festival was held on Saturday 23rd. May. We were particularly keen to attend this year as a very good friend of the Clan Farquharson, Jean Marshall, who is the High Commissioner for Clan Keith Australia and New Zealand, would be Chieftain of the Day. On the day Jean carried out her duties with due solemnity and aplomb - well done Jean!

On the Saturday morning in Bundanoon it was pouring. Nonetheless, we decided to attend and show the Banner if the weather cleared. With Bruce (our High Commissioner) and his wife Pauline, dressed in jeans and boots, we drove down through Kangaroo Valley. Surprise, surprise! The weather improved dramatically, and there was no significant rain all day!

We took part in the street parade marching behind the Sydney Thistle Highland Pipes and Drums, who just happen to wear the mighty Farquharson Tartan! Overall, a good attendance in a truly lovely setting. The highlight for me was teenager Briannah Gordon who sang a selection of favourites from the various Celtic Nations. Briannah has a beautiful voice with an amazing range, and has a poise and presence beyond her years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Well, after the Aberdeen Games, it is off to the UK and Ireland, The Gathering in Edinburgh, the Chief's 90th

birthday dinner and, in Inverness, participating in the re-signing of the act of union for the Clan Chattan Confederation - the first time for 400 years. All should be massive highlights. In the meantime I trust you all are enjoying the best of health and good fortune.

*Syd Finlay
Association Secretary/Treasurer
Chief's Clan Representative (Southern NSW)*

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ELSEWHERE – High Commissioner's Diary

Peter and Syd covered most of the gatherings. I will flag things that were special, or that they didn't get to.

BUNDANOON is BRIGADOON
Saturday 4th April 2009

Special was the fine performance by the massed bands (23 bands in all) under the control of a Band Master and Master Drummer. Again, we enjoyed the unflagging hospitality at brother Syd's ranch.

SCOTTISH ACT OF REMEMBRANCE
ANZAC DAY, Saturday 25th April 2009

This year, I was privileged once again to participate as our Clan's representative in the Scottish Wreath-laying ceremony, which follows the main Anzac Day March. I was able to meet up with President Peter Tranter following the ceremony.

GLEN INNES CELTIC FESTIVAL
Friday 1st May to Sunday 3rd May 2009

2009 was the year of the Welsh at Glen Innes. At the Opening Ceremony, Guest of Honour, Aneurin Hughes, spoke passionately of the "Celtic Revival", a subject dear to many present. In the evening, we went to a dinner put on by the local Celtic Association.

On Saturday we were joined by member Nanette Jemmeson, up from Armidale. I was exceedingly pleased to present to the two young pipers from Lockyer Valley Pipe Band who piped at my Recognition Ceremony in 2008, enlarged copies of a group photograph in which they appeared, as personal mementoes. One of them, 15 year-old Brendan Rieck from rural Kingaroy, impressed everybody who met him and heard him play.

Over the Saturday and Sunday of the Festival we attended a number of ceremonies. Ken McColm, Commissioner for Clan MacThomas, a fellow member Clan of Clan Chattan, dedicated a stone from the precinct of the Cockstane, Glen Shee. Honoured at the Saturday evening Scottish Australian Heritage Council dinner, and the next day at a Recognition Ceremony was Christopher Bruce, newly appointed Representative of the Family of Bruce in Australia.

After a Sunday of ceremonies and the Blessing of the Celts in the Standing Stones, which is always special, we were delighted to wrap up the weekend with an evening of entertainment by the Lockyer Valley Pipe Band, and their principal solo piper, Brendan Rieck.

BERRY CELTIC FESTIVAL**Sunday 23rd May 2009**

Apart from the weather leading up to this Festival day, as brother Syd has reported, the highlight was the singing of a very impressive Briannah Gordon.

BONNIE WINGHAM SCOTTISH FESTIVAL**Saturday 30th to Sunday 31st May 2009**

On the Sunday Peter and I attended the Colloquium of Clan Leaders where I spoke on the issue of "The Future of the Clans".

VICE REGAL RECEPTION – Admiralty House**Thursday 11th June 2009**

It was a very great pleasure and honour for Pauline and me to meet Her Excellency the Governor General Quentin Bryce, and her husband His Excellency Michael Bryce AM AE, who is Patron of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council. The Vice-Regal couple are both of Scottish descent and thoroughly charming people.

SYDNEY SCOTTISH WEEK 2009**Bannockburn Luncheon – Wed 24th June**

We were able to watch on DVD presented by Chris Bruce an interesting account of this most famous of Scottish victories by Lord Elgin, the present Chief of the name of Bruce. Malcolm Broun QC gave a talk on the historical background of the battle.

Lecture by Prof Anders Alqvist – Thurs 25th June

Professor Alqvist currently holds the Chair of Celtic Studies at Sydney University. The lecture postulated that Gaelic Scottish, Gaelic Irish (Erse), and Welsh, are not as different as many think. From a common origin, they vary essentially, only in the impact of pre-existing substrate, eg for Scots the Pictish, and grammatical structure.

Lachlan Macquarie Bi-centenary – Tues 30th June

Marie Sullivan is the Convenor of the Macquarie Bi-centenary Celebrations Committee 2010. She gave us a comprehensive outline of progress in developing a widely cast program to celebrate this most important historical anniversary for Australians.

Tartan Day - Martin Place – Wednesday 1st July

Schoolchildren from the Hampden Park Primary School performing traditional dance, and the formal Citizenship Ceremony for expatriate Scots were the highlights. Honoured Guests were His Excellency Michael Bryce AM AE and The Rt Hon the Earl of Dunmore, Malcolm Murray, Patrons of the SAHC.

Inspection of Bi-centennial Cairn – Thurs 2nd July

This year's Inspection of the Cairn at Rawson Park was carried out by Sir Wayne Broun of Colstoun Bt, Chief of the Name of Broun. A reception was held following the ceremony, in the Mosman Council Chambers.

ABERDEEN HIGHLAND GAMES**Saturday 4th July 2009**

Syd and Brenda, just back from sunny(?) Queensland, and Peter and Helen Tranter up from Newcastle

joined us in the Clan tent. Though it was cold and windy, members Ian Holmes and Lyn Johnston from Corlette, Elizabeth Forsyth down from Armidale, and John and Ruth Tate all came – a good roll-up.

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A Little Bit of History

We have continued our brief pen portraits of prominent members of the Farquharson families. This issue we write about those who made a significant contribution in the sciences, culture and government.

*Again we have relied heavily on the work of Geoffrey Farquharson in **Clan Farquharson – a History** Tempus Publishing, 2005.*

- Pauline Finlay
Editor.

CLAN FARQUHARSON'S HEROES**HENRY 'HARY' FARQUHARSON (c1670-1739)**

Henry Farquharson was distantly descended from the Farquharsons of Castleton. His grandfather, George, who tenanted the Mill of Whitehouse in the early 17th century, was the sixth son of Donald of Castleton. According to the Broughdearg Manuscript quoted in **Geoffrey Farquharson's 'Clan Farquharson – a History'** at p122, 'Hary was one of those the late Czar of Muscovy, Peter Alexowitz' [ie Peter the Great, Czar of all the Russias], 'sent over from London to teach mathematics in his country and now teaches navigation in the Imperial College of Petersburg.' This sums up in a brief sentence what was in fact an extraordinary life's achievement by Henry Farquharson in the scientific and academic world of his time, and an outstanding contribution to the development of the Russian naval establishment.

Czar Peter the Great who ruled with great energy and devotion, virtually created the Russian navy in his own lifetime. To do this, in addition to an ambitious ship-building programme, he set out in 1698 on a visit to London to recruit the most able academics he could find to establish centres of learning in mathematics and navigation. Henry Farquharson came to occupy a distinguished and revered place in the history of the foundation of the Russian Fleet. He was a graduate of Aberdeen University. Assisting him were Stephen Gwyn and Robert Gries both graduates of Christ Church Oxford. Henry was the first Professor of mathematics and navigation at the Moscow School of Navigation. He was the chief instructor for the Imperial Navy for over 40 years, the latter part of his service from 1716 being at the St Petersburg Naval Academy, a post he held until his death in 1739.

In addition to his specialty fields of academic endeavour, Henry Farquharson was a man of wide learning and skills. He was fluent in six modern European and ancient languages. He translated and published many technical works on mathematics and navigation into Russian. He also was the author of several books on these subjects

and built up a considerable academic library. As well Henry researched and drafted maps on behalf of the Imperial Admiralty Court. His was a substantial contribution to the development and organisational structure of the burgeoning Russian fleet, and an outstanding contribution to science and learning of the time.

REV JAMES FARQUHARSON MA LLD FRS (1781-1843)

Said to be descended from John Farquharson formerly of Blelak, the fabled 'Fairy Doctor', James Farquharson was educated at the parish school at Coull and King's College Aberdeen where he graduated MA in 1798. He was a schoolmaster at Alford, but privately continued studies in theology being eventually ordained as minister at Alford in 1813. He continued advancing his knowledge, studying chemistry, biology and meteorology in addition to theology.

James published a number of theological papers in the years following his ordination, including *On the Form of the Ark of Noah* and *A New Illustration of the Latter Part of Daniel's last Vision and Prophecy*. But he is better known for his scientific work and published articles relating to natural phenomena, in particular his work on the Aurora Borealis published in the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*. James observed the Aurora over a period of years publishing an accurate description of it in the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal* in 1823, and subsequently publishing a series of articles over the next 20 years until his death in 1843. His work led to the later development of scientific explanation and measurement of the phenomena.

Other areas of exploration were the formation and behaviour of warm and cold air currents over land masses and the formation of ice in running water. These resulted in publication of scientific articles in the *Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland*. This work had obvious implications for the study and prediction of weather patterns, particularly affecting agricultural production in the Highlands.

James's scientific work resulted in him being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1830, and awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws by Aberdeen University in 1837. He was also made an honorary member of the Société Française de Statistique Universelle. The scope of Rev James Farquharson's academic interests is what makes him remarkable, and his contribution to science a valuable one.

JOSEPH FARQUHARSON (1846-1935)

Joseph Farquharson became the Laird of Finzean late in life at the age of 72. Long before this, Joseph Farquharson had become an accomplished artist whose works were much sought after. He developed his talent from an early age encouraged

by his father Francis, and first exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy at the early age of 15.

Following formal schooling Joseph studied at the Edinburgh College of Art and at the Royal Scottish Academy. His early style was influenced by Peter Graham a well known Scottish landscape artist. He also spent several winters in Paris in the 1870's at the studio of Carolus-Duran, the Barbizon school, where he was also influenced in his technique and style by Edouard Manet.

Joseph's earlier work covered a wide range of subject, although later he concentrated on Scottish rural scenes. In the 1880's Joseph made several trips to Egypt where he was successfully able to deal with the sharp differences in light in a sun-bathed environment. His best known works in his later period are his detailed winter landscapes often using the Finzean estate as background. Evidence of the 'impressionist' influence on his work may be seen especially in several scenes depicting driven snow. To attain the degree of realism he required he was known to work in the coldest conditions from a hut on wheels heated by a wood-fired stove.

Right up to his death in 1935, Joseph Farquharson exhibited extensively at the Royal Society of Artists and the Royal Academy in London. Today his works are still in demand and highly valued. Unfortunately, some of his works were lost in a fire in 1954, though some volumes of sketches and photographs survived.

Joseph Farquharson was certainly one of the better known Scottish artists of his era spanning the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a period of immense change in painting styles and also marked by the development of photography.

ARTHUR WILDMAN FARQUHARSON (1860-1947)

Arthur Wildman Farquharson was descended from Charles Farquharson, originally from a cadet branch of the Broughdearg Farquharsons. Charles emigrated to Jamaica in the late 18th century and soon established himself as the proprietor of a large plantation.

Arthur was born on the island in 1860, the son of Rev J S Farquharson. He was educated at Marlborough College and trained as a solicitor. From 1894 to 1911, Arthur was the Crown Solicitor of Jamaica, responsible for many Acts of Parliament still on the Statute Books today. From 1911, he went into private practice, at the same time putting a great deal of energy and effort into developing his sugar and banana plantations. The promotion of the island's agricultural development became a full-time occupation for him after 1917, with the founding of the Jamaican Imperial Association of which he was Chairman for the next 30 years.

Arthur Farquharson aimed to make agriculture the basis of Jamaica's economy and he sought to ensure the farmer had the dominant role in disposition of his products, thus minimising middlemen. To this end he was the mover in

formation of what in effect were industry co-operatives. In the banana trade he formed the Banana Producers' Association, and purchased four refrigerated ships. The running of the Association and thus the industry was by this means entirely in the hands of the producers.

In turn there were formed the Sugar Manufacturers' Association, the Coconut Producers' Association, Citrus Growers' Association, and the Agricultural Association. All were based on the same structural model, ensuring the bulk of the returns and profits of these industries came back to the island of Jamaica maximising its progress to economic success and stability. The original Jamaican Imperial Association became in later years the Farquharson Institute of Public Affairs and Arthur Farquharson was knighted for his public services. The Institute also took on a wider public role becoming a public affairs watchdog.

After his death in 1947, Sir Arthur Farquharson's daughter May Farquharson continued his work as a reformer making her own significant contribution as a social worker, economist and lecturer, working for many years among the disadvantaged in a celebrated partnership with eminent black reformer Amy Bailey.

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We continue our series of pen portraits of Scots who made a significant contribution to Australia's growth to nationhood.

SIR THOMAS MITCHELL (1792-1855)

In the early 1800's, the infant settlement that was the penal colony of New South Wales, was geographically contained on the eastern seaboard at the town of Sydney by a great coastal range that stretches the length of the present day State. Although Matthew Flinders had circumnavigated Australia, little was known of the interior. The "Prison Walls" of the Blue Mountains were breached by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson in 1813. Evans, Oxley and Cunningham opened up much of eastern New South Wales by the 1820's. In 1824 Hume and Hovell established an overland track from Sydney to the settlement in Port Phillip (later to become Melbourne).

However, there remained vast tracts of the interior, of which little was known. Theories abounded including the existence of a Great Inland Sea and a Great North River flowing across the continent to the north-west coast. The greatest exponent of the Great North River Theory was Thomas Livingstone Mitchell, who is the subject of this next brief look at Scots who have contributed significantly to Australia's development.

Thomas Livingstone Mitchell was born on June 15 1792 at Grangemouth Scotland, the son of John and Janet Mitchell. Despite a poor background he received a sound schooling, was widely read in several languages and proficient in several

sciences. Like many other Scots from a similar background, he joined the Army. In 1811 he was gazetted second lieutenant in the 95th Regiment and saw service in the Peninsula battles of Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz and Salamanca. His main duties were to provide topographical intelligence for the army. Mitchell's skills in this area brought him to the attention of the quartermaster-general, Sir George Murray, who was to become his mentor and patron. In 1814 Murray selected Mitchell to produce maps of the Peninsula Battle area.

By 1826 Mitchell was promoted Major, but now on half-pay from the Army and just married. With Murray's support he applied to become the Assistant Surveyor-General of New South Wales to succeed the incumbent John Oxley. Mitchell and his family arrived in Sydney in 1827 to find that John Oxley's Survey Department was in a poor state, with limited equipment and incompetent surveyors. There was no General Survey, and small scale surveys had led to cumulative errors, bringing about title deed disputes, and consequent delays in issuing deeds and establishing quitrents. In 1828 John Oxley died and Mitchell became Surveyor-General. He set about establishing a General Survey using improvised methods where necessary. He also had the added responsibility of the survey of roads and bridges.

In 1830 Mitchell effectively assumed sole control for the Survey Department by-passing the Governor and dealing directly with the Colonial Office in London. This became a practice for Mitchell, particularly when Sir George Murray was made Colonial Secretary. By the end of 1830 considerable progress had been made, improvements in the roads from Sydney to Parramatta and Liverpool, a new road south to Berrima and Goulburn had been completed, and a new western descent from the Blue Mountains had been constructed. This road followed a different track to the Blaxland-Lawson route. Some of these roads are still in use today. **The change in the western descent from the mountains** brought Mitchell into direct conflict with Governor Darling. Mitchell saw this as a criticism of his technical competence and continued to build the road down from Victoria Pass against the Governor's orders. In a flurry of despatches in 1831, Mitchell appeared in danger of dismissal, more so as Sir George Murray had retired from the Colonial Office. But the new Colonial Secretary had already decided to recall the Governor.

Awaiting the arrival of Darling's successor, Mitchell took it upon himself to investigate his dream of the Great North River, a mission he had been frustrated in pursuing by Governor Darling's assignment of this task to Captain Charles Sturt. In 1832, Mitchell set out from Sydney in his full military dress uniform, a practice he was to observe in all his future expeditions. He had with him 17 men and ample supplies. His initial task was to investigate the story of a runaway convict of a great river called

the Kindur, which was supposed to flow north-west. Mitchell passed through already known areas of the Peel River near Tamworth, the Namoi River, the Gwydir and the Barwon and followed the Barwon until it joined the Darling River already discovered and named by Sturt. The story was false, and all Mitchell's expedition did was to back up Sturt's belief that the western rivers flowed into the Darling.

On his return, Mitchell had to deal with the Colonial Office's criticism of a lack of surveys bringing about problems for land acquisition and illegal squatting. Mitchell's dismissive responses were surprisingly not censured by the Colonial Office – the problem went unaddressed. Clearly, he had "greater" things on his mind and in March 1835, he set out again to look for the Great North River. The aim this time was to trace the Darling River from where Charles Sturt had left it in 1828 and then continue down to its junction with the Murray. Mitchell's route from Orange took him north-west to the Bogan River. Following the killing of Richard Cunningham, brother of the explorer Alan Cunningham, by local tribes-people, Mitchell feared their presence and felt that an armed response was needed. He continued down the Bogan until it joined the Darling, and onto the Menindee area where he was confronted by Darling River aboriginals who he claimed were "implacably hostile". In a clash, several were killed and wounded. Mitchell hastily retreated the way he had come, having achieved little.

Governor Sir Richard Bourke, dissatisfied with the results of this expedition, sent Mitchell out again to complete the task of tracing the Darling to its end and to explore country believed to be fine pastoral country, east along the Murray to the alpine regions. So Mitchell returned to the Menindee area and continued about 500 kilometres down the Darling. But he did not reach the Murray, claiming to have been prevented from doing so by hostile aboriginals. He clung to the belief the Darling was in fact the Great North River and was, consequently, averse to any course that might reveal the error of his thinking.

Mitchell now headed off to the Lachlan River, hoping it would prove to be a tributary of the Murray. But the Lachlan led to the Murrumbidgee which led to the Darling. He came to a place he called Mt Dispersion where, again, there was a clash with the aboriginals killing 7 tribesmen. Mitchell pushed on until he eventually reached the junction of the Darling with the Murray River. He now had to concede that Sturt might be right and this was not the Great North River. **Turning east Mitchell** now headed through the region south of the Murray discovering along the way Swan Hill, the Loddon River and Pyramid Hill. From Pyramid Hill he could see an area of potentially great pastoral significance he called Australia Felix. We now know this as Western Victoria. He named a "noble range of mountains" the Grampians after the range in his native Scotland. Eventually, he arrived at the mouth of the Glenelg River. At nearby Portland Bay he

was astonished to discover the Henty Brothers' already well established settlement.

Resupplied by the Hentys, Mitchell returned to Sydney via Mount Macedon where in the distance he thought he saw tents or vessels. It was in fact the illegal settlement of Melbourne. He continued back via Hamilton, Maryborough, Castlemaine and Benalla to the Murray at Howling. The only new discovery from this expedition was Australia Felix.

In 1837 after an Executive Council enquiry into the Mount Dispersion incident, Mitchell requested leave and returned to England where he published an account of his explorations. The enquiry, however, delayed his award of a knighthood until 1839, when he was also awarded an honorary doctorate of Civil Law by Oxford University. During this period Mitchell also worked on the plans of the Peninsula Battles for publication and did not finally return to Sydney until forced to do so, narrowly avoiding imprisonment for debt.

In Mitchell's absence the administration of the Survey Department had suffered. The 1840's depression left the Department with reduced revenue unable to comply with an 1847 Order-In-Council for a complete survey of leases. The Gold Rush of 1850's added to the Department's problems. Meanwhile, in 1844 Mitchell had been elected to the Legislative Council as the member for Port Phillip. Governor Gipps saw this as a serious conflict of interest, which Mitchell was unable to resolve, prudently resigning his seat.

Mitchell's final expedition of 1845 was to look for an overland route to the northern Settlement of Port Essington (not far from Darwin) which could possibly open a trade route to India and Europe. In the same area at that time were Dr Ludwig Leichhardt and Captain Charles Sturt, referred to by Mitchell as Dr Hunger and Captain Thirst. Leichhardt reached Port Essington first and Mitchell turned back to discover new pastoral country in central west Queensland and what he thought would be the fabled Great North River. It was in fact the Barcoo, which flowed south-west.

In 1847, he took another 12 months leave to produce an Australian Geography. But Mitchell's absences had taken their toll on his neglected Department. Serious questions were being asked about Mitchell's suitability as Surveyor-General and in 1855 a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the conduct of the Department. Mitchell believed its aim was to remove him from office. While surveying a line of road between Nelligen and Braidwood, he contracted a chill. He died of pneumonia on 5th October 1855. He was survived by his wife Mary and 7 surviving of his 12 children. **The Royal Commission** perhaps unfairly condemned Mitchell's surveying work but probably was justified in condemnation of his administration of his Department. Mitchell himself remained popular, particularly in the later part of his life, for

resisting land acquisitions by large land owners in favour of smaller land-holdings.

What of Mitchell himself? He was a man of many contradictions, a technically outstanding surveyor who wanted to be a famous explorer. He was Surveyor-General for 28 years, produced excellent maps, good roads and found much new country. Legendary in his insubordination to authority, a man from an impoverished Scottish background who was a significant public figure at a critical stage of development of our nation.

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STICKS 'N BAG

Welcome back to the column about Pipe Band work. The theme for this newsletter is: - Uniforms.

When you see a Pipe Band marching do you ever think about all the different parts of a Uniform that make the band look so good? I thought not. Have you ever though about how much the uniform costs to buy and maintain? I thought not.

Let's shed some light on the Uniform that's worn by Pipe Bands. Uniform means exactly that. Everyone wears the same thing and that's why everyone looks so good!

There are generally two or three variations of uniform worn in bands. No. 1 Uniform is worn on formal occasions and No. 2 Uniform, which is worn for less formal occasions.

No. 1 Uniform includes Kilt, Tunic (military style with lots of gold braid and silver buttons), Horse hair Sporrans, Waist Belt, Cross Belt for pipers, Spats, Hose, Sock Tabs (Flashes), Plaid for both pipers and drummers and either a Feather Bonnet, Glengarry or Balmoral (hat).

No. 2 Uniform includes Kilt, Shirt, Tie, Optional Waistcoat, Jacket, Leather or similar Sporrans, Hose, Sock Tabs (Flashes), Ghillie Brogues or shoes and either a Glengarry or a Balmoral.

It is worth noting that in Australia, we tend to wear No. 2 uniform more, as the weather here tends to be warmer. Common sense dictates that the appropriate uniform is worn to suit the conditions.

Now, let's take a closer look at the various parts of the uniform.

Firstly, there's the Kilt. This is the single most important item of uniform, as it's usually the way that bands are identified. Kilts are normally the same for both Pipers and Drummers. However, some bands have a one tartan for pipers and another for drummers. There are two different patterns used for kilts. One shows the tartan pattern across the pleats at the back, which is called "pleating to sett" and the other shows a fairly even colour across the pleats across the back which is called "pleating to line". The "sett" is the actual tartan pattern which is comprised of a number of threads in both the warp

and weft of the pattern. We can explore tartans more in another article. Pleating to line is mainly done for kilts worn by military units.

Shirts are worn in bands where No. 2 uniform is worn. Colours vary, but most wear white, often with epaulets and button down pockets. Epaulet tabs are often worn to indicate rank. Ties can be the same tartan as the kilt, but this is not always the case. Some bands have tie pins or badges.

Hose can be any colour and vary from black right through the colours to white. Hose can also be tartan or diamond pattern. Sock Tabs (Flashes) are mostly red, blue or green, but may be tartan or, in fact any colour that a band chooses to wear.

If spats are worn, then these are usually white, with either white or black buttons. When Spats are worn, the hose are often half hose which means that they don't have a foot in them. This means that normal socks are worn and the half hose only go down to the ankle.

Shoes can be either plain black with short laces or fancy Ghillie Brogues with long laces which wrap around the ankles.

Headwear is mostly a Glengarry which may have a diced check patten around it, or simply plain but most have a red "pom-pom" on top and a badge on the left front side which may have a feather "hackle" which again may be plain or may be two colours. Glengarries are mostly dark blue. Balmorals can be a number of colours also with a pom-pom on top.

Is there a hard and fast rule on what to wear? Well, in circumstances where formality is required, No. 1 uniform is worn. Anzac Day and Tartan Balls generally require No. 1 uniform. If a band were playing in say, the Edinburgh Tattoo, then No. 1 uniform is a must. Some bands only ever wear No. 1 uniform. As mentioned above, many bands in Australia tend to wear No. 2 uniform or variations due to the warmer weather. It's better to be cooler and comfortable and enjoy playing, than to feel really hot and uncomfortable and then possibly not play as well.

Uniforms are not cheap! Kilts are usually around \$500 to \$600 and Horse Hair Sporrans are much the same. Jackets and Tunics can be anywhere from \$300 to \$500 each. These are just a few of the items worn. When it's all added up, the cost of fitting out a Piper or Drummer with full uniform can be up to \$3,500, which means a lot of fundraising for bands. If a band has 22 members on parade, then this will be \$77,000 and no instruments have been included. Considering that bands have to keep a store of uniforms and equipment so that items which wear out can be replaced and new members can be fitted out, this means that most bands will have uniforms in stock worth anything up to \$100,000. Uniforms don't last forever and when new kilts are required, a band can't simply get a few to replace those which are worn out. The colours of tartan differ slightly between mills thus when a band needs

new kilts, they have to buy enough for the whole band. An expensive exercise when 25 or so are purchased!

Some bands are fortunate enough to have sponsors. This makes the job of funding uniforms and instruments a little easier. Sponsorship never covers everything and bands have to charge for engagements to cover the purchase and upkeep of uniforms and equipment.

So, when you see a band marching down the street looking resplendent in their uniforms, give a thought to how much money and effort has gone into fitting everyone out with uniform.

Remember, if you have, or know of a set of Bagpipes or some old drums stored away, that you or someone else used to play and will never play again, please dig them out and offer them via this column to a Pipe Band. Not just my band, any Pipe Band. Bagpipes and drums deserve to be heard, not left stored away, half forgotten in some dusty cupboard, roof, cellar or garage. Bands will pay for the pipes and drums, so keep a look out, please!

Pipe Bands relish the chance to rejuvenate old pipes and drums and honour the historical aspect of those who owned them and where they were played. Maybe even in some battles. Who knows?

Your comments and feedback are most welcome. If there is anything you want explained or wish me to discuss, you can email me at the address below or write to the Editor of this Newsletter.

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ASSOCIATION NAME BAR BADGES

The Badges cost \$18.00 to Members for the individualized badge. To order your badge telephone Syd Finlay on (02) 4883-6703 or contact him by Email at: finlaysb@bigpond.com.

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TO HIRE SCOTTISH DRESS - Contact:

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

Telephone: (02) 9630-1263

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EVENTS CALENDAR to November 2009

Saturday 25 th – Sunday 26 th July 2009	THE EDINBURGH GATHERING Holyrood; SCOTTISH PAGEANT Edinburgh Castle, Scotland.
Tues 28th – Friday 31st July 2009	CLAN FARQUHARSON DINNER & GATHERING, Clan AGM Ballater Deeside, Scotland.
Wed 5 th – Sat 8 th August 2009	CLAN CHATTAN 400 TH ANNIV. of UNION Inverness, Scotland.
Thursday 13 th August 2009	BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES Monaltrie Pk, Ballater, Scotland.
Saturday 19 th Sept 2009	CLANS on the COAST Port Stephens, NSW.
Sunday 20 th Sept 2009	MANLY W'GAH PIPE BAND GATHERING Manly Oval, NSW.
Sunday 1 st November 2009	COMBINED SCOTTISH GATHERING Castle Hill, NSW.
Sunday 29 th November 2009	ST ANDREWS DAY – KIRKIN of the TARTAN & PARADE - St Stephens Macquarie St, Sydney.
Sunday 29 th November 2009	HYDE PARK GATHERING Hyde Park, Sydney.

WHERE WE'LL BE: We'll be at Edinburgh Gathering, Farquharson Gathering Ballater, Clan Chattan 400th Anniversary Inverness, Ballater Games, Clans on the Coast Port Stephens, Manly P B Gathering, Castle Hill Gathering, St Stephens, Macquarie Street Kirkin' and Hyde Park Gathering.

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ARTICLES FOR – "CÀRN NA CUIMHNE"

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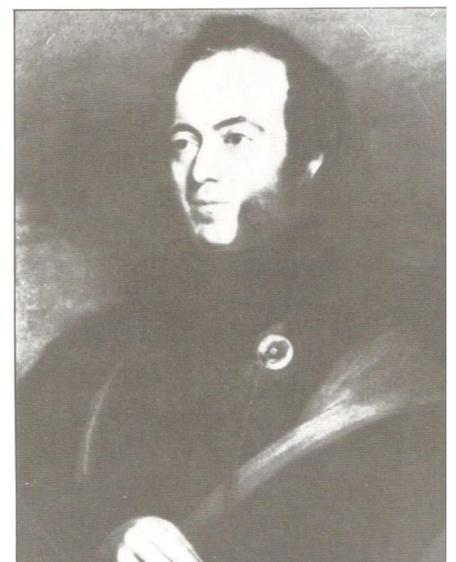


Left: - Dr Frank Davidson CyC, Chieftain of the Day at Bundanoon is Brigadoon Gathering, with wife Suzanne, visits our Clan Tent, 4th April 2009.

Below Left: - Part of the Parade of Clans at Bonnie Wingham presenting their Banners to Chieftain of the Day, the Rt Hon The Earl of Dunmore, Malcolm Murray, 30th May 2009.

Below Right: - Jean Marshall, High Commissioner for Clan Keith in Australia & NZ, Chieftain of the Day at Berry Celtic Festival, with son Ken Marshall and his partner Sue, 23rd May 2009.

Bottom Left: - His Excellency Michael Bryce AM AE, Patron of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council and husband of the Governor-General of Australia Quentin Bryce, addressing Council members at Vice Regal Reception, Admiralty House, 11th June 2009.



The Painting Laird - self portrait of Joseph Farquharson of Finzean.

Major Sir Thomas Mitchell, Surveyor-General of New South Wales 1828-1855.