



# Clan MacLennan Association Australia Melbourne Inc.

CHIEF: RUAIRIDH DONALD GEORGE MacLENNAN OF MacLENNAN  
CHIEFTAIN: GREGORY SCOTT MacLENNAN  
PATRON: OLIVE MacLENNAN

NEWSLETTER NO. 100

November, 2011

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Clansfolk,

It was once again my privilege and honour to be your President for our 33<sup>rd</sup> year. I welcome Liz McLennan and David McLennan as new committee members and congratulate Ross McLennan on being voted onto the Committee, filling a vacant committee position until the next Annual General Meeting is held, when we hope Ross will stand for re-election. I also congratulate ongoing members for their enthusiasm and hard work in organising functions and events for the Clan.



David  
McLennan

**Our Annual General Meeting** was held on Sunday 19th June and once again we enjoyed the lovely Roseville Community Centre, thanks to Bruce and Pat McLennan! A rousing ceilidh was held following a communal feast! We were entertained throughout the afternoon by various entertainers and finished with a rousing rendition of Ross McLennan's 'Return to Kintail', our 'adopted Clan anthem', which incidentally can be purchased from our Clan Shop. A portion of the proceeds from every sale goes to the Clan. Ross recently co-wrote a song called 'One Planet' which is available on YouTube via the following link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfcEGrRfhC4&feature=youtu.be>



President Graeme  
MacLennan and  
Doug McLaughlin

**On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> of July**, clan members attended the "Kirkin' o' the Tartan" service organised by the Council of the Scottish Clans and Associations. This ceremony celebrates the rights of Scots to maintain their culture by wearing the tartan kilt and enjoying the music of the bagpipes. This year it was my privilege to be one of the flag-bearers.  
*(See report page 6)*

**The Scottish Clans and Associations Council** luncheon was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October at the Karralyka Centre in East Ringwood. Whilst numbers were down this year, eight members of our Clan attended and enjoyed an entertaining afternoon. It's definitely one to mark on your calendar of events for next year!

A RED CROSS MEANS you are unfinancial for the year 2010/2011.

Please forward back payment/s with your 2011/12 Membership Fee which was due on 1/5/2011.

ANNUAL FEE: \$22.00. LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$250.00 plus Voluntary yearly levy of \$6.00.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** (Cont'd)

**We look forward to our last Clan Gathering for 2011 at our Clan Picnic and Games** on Sunday, November 20th, to be held at Woodlands Park, Essendon (Melway 28, F1) starting with a bring-your-own food and drink barbecue or picnic lunch at 12 noon in these pleasant parkland surrounds with a children's playground. Lunch will be followed by some piping and entertaining games.

**The Senior and Junior Petanque Championship's** will once again be on for young and old, so come along and have some fun. Trophies are awarded to the winners.

**My friend** and neighbour Bruce Atkin recently attended the Melbourne concert given by "The Red Hot Chilli Pipers". This Scottish Group plays music on bagpipes that is normally confined to lead guitars. Their style is called "Bag-rock" and they played such songs such as "Smoke on the Water", "You're the voice", and "Long way to the top". Bruce and his partner Linda agreed that the Red Hot Chilli Pipers were one of the most exciting and full on rock acts they had ever seen. For those of you who purchase music online, the Red Hot Chilli Pipers' songs and albums are available from the iTunes store. They'll certainly have your toes tapping!

**News from Scotland** finds Chief Ruairidh and his sisters well after a busy year for all. It seems our Chief has been busy with his camera and his photographic skills are increasingly providing enjoyment via his magnificent photo gallery on [www.flickr.com/photos/ruairidhmaclennan/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ruairidhmaclennan/) (see *News from our Chief*)

In his message Chief Ruairidh makes mention of a genealogical data base project which is currently in its early stages, with contributors to the project coming from Scotland, Canada, the USA and of course, Australia. On behalf of our members I would like to congratulate our webmaster, Bruce McLennan of Sydney for spearheading this initiative and for his tremendous efforts thus far, which I'm told could take several years and many hours to complete. (See *Bruce's article on page 11*)

**Our Clan Patron** Olive MacLennan continues to be in good health physically although she does at times get confused and has difficulty with more than one or two people visiting at a time. However she would like me to pass on her best wishes to all Clansfolk on her behalf.

As this is our final newsletter for 2011, on behalf of your Committee, I wish you all a very **Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year in 2012**. Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing you all at our picnic in the park, on Sunday 20th of November for a shared meal and Ceilidh.

Sincerely yours,  
 Graeme MacLennan  
 President  
 Clan MacLennan Association Australia, Melbourne

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**Annual Clan Picnic and Games**

**12noon - Sunday 20th November**

**Where** - Woodlands Park Essendon (Melways 28, F1)

Bring-your-own food and beverages, family barbecue or picnic lunch

Petanque Junior and Senior Championship play-off following lunch

Music

Afternoon tea supplied by your Committee

**We invite all our Members to join your Committee for a fun family day**

## NEWS FROM OUR CHIEF

Dear Clansfolk,



**Ruairidh following the 10k Tain race  
His time - 48 mins 46 secs!**

There seems to be a common theme to writing my messages for the Clan newsletter as I once again find myself on the train between Inverness and Edinburgh, watching the world go by and hoping that the beautiful scenery will inspire me to write and to recall the events of the past few months. The Autumn colours make for wonderful views across the heather clad hills and native woodlands heading south from Inverness.

Whilst this signifies the rapidly approaching winter weather and long dark nights, it is none-the-less a beautiful time to travel through the Highlands. The weather forecasters seem to be full of warnings of more severe winter weather this year so time will tell if they are correct. From a purely selfish point-of-view, my continued interest in landscape photography which is progressing slowly but surely, will undoubtedly benefit from some good snow falls and cold frosty landscapes. The thought of having to heat the house in order to survive over the winter is only a minor factor in the equation!



**Stormy day on Dores Beach  
Loch Ness**

It has been a relatively busy summer, a number of weddings, funerals, piping events, Highland Games, Clan visitors, hill walking / DIY trips to the West Coast and an endless stream of sport and social events to keep me busy. Work has been quieter this year than previous years, a common theme throughout the property sector and one which looks set to continue for the next while. I have still managed to get out of the office for property inspections with a couple of trips to the Western Isles over the summer months, this time armed with my SLR camera which proved fruitful on a few occasions. I have started to upload some of my photographs onto Flickr as well as my facebook page. The Flickr link for those wanting to be inspired by some Highland Scenes is [www.flickr.com/photos/ruairidhmaclennan/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ruairidhmaclennan/) It is still very much “work in progress”.



**The Bothy at Ronnie's Beach**

I spent a number of my weekends over the summer up at our little “bothy” near Shieldaig, carrying out repairs and extending the building so that it becomes more fit for purpose. My DIY skills have therefore steadily improved and I have had some wonderful trips up there combining DIY projects with endless hill walking and photography. I have created a photo album named “Ronnie’s Beach” within my facebook profile which I shall eventually load onto my flickr site of photos taken in the bay where the bothy is located. The bay is called Bail-a-Mhinister which is gaelic for “Bay of the Minister” presumably because that is where the Minister once lived. However, the locals all know and refer to it as “Ronnie’s Beach” in reference to my father who built the bothy there sometime around 1963.

Kirsteen, James, Charles and George are all well. James has recently sold his company Moray Seafoods and is in the process of setting up a new company which will focus more on exporting seafood overseas and internet sales. As Moray Seafoods has been a family business for a number of decades, it has been an emotional and turbulent time for them both, added to by Kirsteen’s recent return to long-haul flying after her maternity leave. However, they are on good form and are gearing up for James’ 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party next month followed by a holiday to Bermuda over the Christmas and New Year period. Lorna and Robin have been busy doing what they do best, socialising and holidaying to an array of overseas locations, the most recent being Corfu earlier this month.

Following the Edinburgh Gathering in 2009, there has been continued interest from a number of Scottish Clansfolk to hold an annual Clan get-together and dinner with a view to then organizing another Gathering in 2014. Alistair MacLennan has been working on this and has been in contact with Clansfolk via various mediums to gauge support for a Gathering in 2014 as well as to get ideas as to the type of event people would like to see happening in Scotland. There has been a lot of interest from Clanfolk both in

**NEWS FROM OUR CHIEF** (cont'd)

Scotland and further afield which is promising. A group of us will be meeting in Dores on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November** to discuss how best to progress both an annual event and to form a working party to start preparations for a Clan Gathering in 2014, most likely to be held in the Highlands either a week before or week after the proposed Homecoming 2014 event being proposed in Stirling to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn (1314). The meeting is intended to be informal followed by a meal in the Dores Inn on the banks of Loch Ness.

We will keep you updated with progress on both proposed annual events and the 2014 Gathering in due course. In the meantime, if anyone wishes to come along on the 19<sup>th</sup> November or to get involved at a later date, please get in touch with Alistair ([firybits@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:firybits@blueyonder.co.uk)) or myself ([chief@clanmaclellan-worldwide.com](mailto:chief@clanmaclellan-worldwide.com))

There has been great progress over the past few months in the formation of a Worldwide MacLennan database which will be available in due course on the Clan Web site for our members. This project has been driven with great enthusiasm and hard work by Bruce McLennan from Sydney. Bruce was in Scotland a few months ago during which time he met Fiona MacLennan, Hamish MacLennan and myself amongst others with a view to collating information and ideas in order to take forward this genealogical database with a view to everyone's information and research being incorporated into one very powerful and worthwhile database. It will require considerable work and will continue to grow and hopefully benefit many of our current and future members. I am aware that there are many people from each of our Clan Associations who are putting a lot of time and effort into assisting Bruce with this with a constant flow of electronic traffic buzzing around the world. We are indebted to each of these people for their endless enthusiasm.

Yours aye

Chief Ruairidh



**The Bothy at Ronnie's Beach**



**Ruairidh on Sgurr Dubh in Torridon - Beinn Eighe  
in background July 2011**

## AGM/CEILIDH AT ROSEVILLE CENTRE SUNDAY 19TH JUNE

Despite suffering a dislocated shoulder, loyal clansman Bruce McLennan was at Roseville Community Centre early to oversee set-up operations. We are again indebted to Pat and Bruce for our best venue ever!

It was good to see so many familiar faces from near and far, particularly that of Helen Husking from West Wyalong in NSW. After indulging ourselves with plentiful soup and food, we heard an encouraging message from Chief Ruairidh prior to a brief AGM. We were very pleased to welcome two new committee members, Liz McLennan and David McLennan, to our team. President Graeme MacLennan had the happy task of awarding Mary McLennan Life Membership for exceptional service in our Association as a longstanding committee member and co-editor of our newsletter for 27 years.



**Mary McLennan  
being presented her Life  
Membership Award**

Current Clan piping trophy winner, Cameron Marshall who attended with his parents Carey and John, was then presented with his trophy by Graeme and had our toes tapping as her performed brilliantly a mixed set of pieces for us. Gweneth McLennan played a medley on keyboard as our entertainers took their places in a semi-circle for the ceilidh.



**President Graeme  
MacLennan with  
Cameron Marshall  
holding his Clan  
MacLennan Trophy**



**Ross introducing  
Caz McLennan**

Our MC, Ross McLennan first of all introduced newcomer, Carolyn (Caz) McLennan who began proceedings singing 'A Stor Mo Chroi', a moving song about sorrow on leaving one's home for a new land. She then sang an upbeat version of 'Amazing Grace', both accompanied by her brother Ross on guitar. We were treated to solos by Frank Donovan, MC Ross McLennan, Bruce Hocking on pipes and a welcome return by Don Cameron. We too did our bit and sang old Scottish favourites led by Frank and accompanied by Gweneth. The grand finale was of course 'Return to Kintail' which has become our anthem.

As the pipes faded into the distance, it was time for the prizes draw and afternoon tea. Not however before the spotlight was cast onto Past-President Max McLennan, who had achieved 80 amazing years of age. Hearty congratulations and best wishes were conveyed to Max from us all prior to the birthday cake ceremony. The array of cakes for afternoon tea from our committee ladies was mouth-watering. Our grateful thanks to them and all committee members who kept things moving all afternoon. A big thank you

also to Joyce and Peter MacLennan who worked non-stop from start to finish. Our heartfelt thanks indeed to our willing entertainers, who performed so well.

*By Patsy McLennan*

## SCOTTISH CLANS AND ASSOCIATIONS LUNCHEON

Held on Sunday October 9th in a picturesque setting at the Karralyka Centre, East Ringwood, the Luncheon was again an enjoyable occasion. Eight Clan MacLennan members attended to join with other clans to celebrate our Scottish heritage. After chatting in the foyer over drinks we were escorted to our tables by the excellent Presbyterian Ladies College Pipes and Drums, who have performed in both Europe and Asia.

President Doug McLaughlin welcomed us all and introduced our MC for the day, Jeremy Graham. The haggis, produced by Bev Tait was paraded with full honours and addressed with enthusiasm by Uilliam Tait and



**Addressing the Haggis**

later was pronounced to be very tasty. During a most enjoyable meal we were entertained by the PLC Pipes and Drums, Uilliam Tait with some amusing poems and Scottish Country Dancing with guests taken through their paces by Bev Tait, while in the background on a huge screen, visions of the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra could be seen. Following the raffle draw, Jeremy drew this pleasant afternoon to its traditional close with Auld Lang Syne. Our grateful thanks to Secretary Robert Stewart for all his efforts in organising the function and to MC Jeremy Graham.

*By Patsy McLennan*

## KIRKIN'O' THE TARTAN AT THE SCOTS' CHURCH 3rd JULY



Scots' Church, Melbourne  
from Russell Street

Piped in by Victorian Pibroch champion, Cameron Ely, the tartan parade in its 22nd year in Melbourne included Max and Mary McLennan and our President Graeme MacLennan, who acted as one of the flag-bearers. At the conclusion of the Clan roll-call, presided over by Doug McLaughlin, "Clan Robertson is here" rang out loud and clear from Rev. Douglas Robertson. Visitors from the Isle of Lewis would have felt right at home with the Reverend's welcome to us in Gaelic.

The Church choir, led by organist Matthew Harrison, were in fine voice and the Gaelic choir sang a beautiful Scottish Lullaby, conducted by Barbara McLaughlin. As he attempted to come up with a Scottish theme for his sermon, Rev. Douglas brushed aside 'Whisky Galore' thoughts and an image of the dour Presbyterian and decided instead to talk about great and brave Scottish missionaries who ventured into unknown territories to spread the message of Christianity. Dr. David Livingstone and Mary Slessor in Africa and Ann Herron in wartime Budapest were dwelt on in particular and we were encouraged to read their amazing stories. We were reminded that we could do likewise here in our own communities with so many refugees in our midst. Indeed many Scots' Church parishioners already are actively involved in outreach programs.

In the hall during lunch, piper Cameron Ely demonstrated his talent for Pibroch performance with a haunting lament. He then livened things up with some jigs and concluded with Black Bear.

Next year on Sunday July 1st, which is actually Tartan Day in Australia, a special celebration of Scottish music and dance is planned for Federation Square following the Church service.

*Patsy McLennan*

## NEWS OF CLANSFOLK BOTH NEAR AND FAR

**A Sunny Winter Country Wedding....** 'Bradley Hall' is a perfect setting for a country style wedding, with its old world charm and historical significance. It was here that **Jessie McLennan and Dean Kriesl** were married on the warm sunny **Saturday of 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2011.**

This Art Gallery venue in Drouin West glistened and the interior was adorned with art and sculpture of both contemporary and traditional forms. Some of the sculptures were made by the bride, including one, unbeknown to the guests, of the groom himself.

Artist and Host Gary Miles doubled as the Rolls Royce chauffeur, arriving with the bride a few minutes late wearing a beautiful handcrafted asymmetrical satin turquoise dress.

Jessie was given away by her father Malcolm McLennan and mother Marian Porter, with Jessie's young teenagers Jarrah and Zoe Clarke in attendance.

The marriage ceremony consisted of personal and revealing interpretations of what marriage meant to both the groom and the bride and a reading about the importance of the passage of time.

Harpist Ethwyn Kent of Bona Vista and Highland Piper Doug McIntosh of Sea View contributed greatly to the marriage service. There were approximately 150 friends and family at the wedding and reception.

*( Congratulations Jessie and Dean and our Best Wishes to you for a long and rewarding life together. )*



Jim Nuske (left) 50 yr  
Medal Presentation

**Golfing Membership Award....** On the 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2011, our Clan member **Jim Nuske** was presented with a medallion recognising his **50 years of membership** with the Riversdale Golf Club. The presentation was made by Mr Rodney Bennett, President of the Riversdale Golf Club, with Jim's family present for this very happy occasion.

*(Our very warm congratulations to you Jim on your Award.)*



Jessie (McLennan) &  
husband Dean Kriesl

**NEWS OF CLANSFOLK BOTH NEAR AND FAR** (Cont'd.)

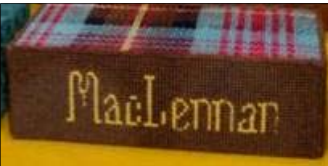
Ray &amp; Lorna McLennan

Email received 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 from Lorna and Ray McLennan who shared stories with many clans people as they celebrated Canada Day at the Embro Highland Games on July 1, 2011 while representing Clan MacLennan Canada in the Avenue of the Clans ...

Hi Folks, **The Glengarry Highland Games** of 2011 in Maxville, Ontario was a huge success with a large amount of kinfolk of Clan MacLennan attending a Dinner and Ceilidh following the massed bands finale in the Sports complex on the

grounds. The MacLennans were entertained by award winning piper, Bailey McDonald, who played several tunes during the dinner.

Guest speaker, David MacLennan of Ottawa spoke of the MacLennan genealogical links, in particular, those of Glengarry County and surrounding areas.



One of the MacLennan Clan Bricks

The MacLennan Clan brick, which was originally created by Elizabeth Prebble, was mirrored by Lorna McLennan, who created six bricks. Two bricks of the weathered, the ancient and the modern were awarded to Marilyn MacLennan-Lawlor, David MacLennan, Bailey McDonald and Beverly MacLennan. What a memorable gathering of the Clan MacLennan! Yours in kinship;

*Ray and Lorna McLennan, Tillsonburg, Ontario, Canada*

**Email from Scott McLennan, Canberra ACT, October 12th 2011..** I thought I'd drop you a line and let you know we went to the Canberra Highland Gathering last Saturday. The Gathering was hosted by the Canberra College of Piping and Drumming and was the first one held in Canberra for 30 years. By all accounts it was a great success.

During the day they held the ACT Pipe Band Championships and Drum Majors Championship and the standard was very high. There were international judges from Scotland and Canada on hand and 7 pipe bands. There was also highland dancing and folk music as well as a number of historical re-enactment societies. The heavy events were held and they included the box weight throw, the lifting of the Bundanoon Stones (100 kg up to 165kg), and the Caber Toss. I was sadly unable to take part due to a niggling hamstring injury!!

There were also a number of Clan Societies present with tents and they included Clans Farquharson, Macpherson, Donald, Cameron, MacNicol, Lindsay, MacRae, Buchanan, MacFarlane, Young, Sutherland, Gregor, as well as a number of Scottish heritage groups. There were many food stalls including one selling haggis, and black and white puddings. There was a Ceilidh that evening at the adjacent Burns Club. They are keen to hold another gathering next year and I am sure the support will be there. We had a great day and will be back for more next year. Cheers,

*K.J. Scott McLennan, Canberra*

**Email from Claire MacGregor, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1 June, 2011 ...**

I've been too busy these last days and I've only just read the Newsletter this morning. We're having a cold and windy summer so far, but we keep hoping that things will warm up soon. My daughter Lucy is doing a lecture tour round European cities at the moment and I tagged along when she went to Spain, where summer had come and we could take off our winter woolies! I was able to visit the strange and beautiful unfinished Gaudi cathedral in Barcelona – started at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and goodness knows when it will be finished. We were also able to visit my eldest son and his family for the weekend, just over the mountains into France, and that was very good.

I was very interested in the accounts of MacLennan family history. My people were lowland Scots, but seemed to be following much the same path as the Highland MacLennans, if about 50 years later. They left Scotland and settled in Glengarry and then began trekking west, first into Wisconsin and then on to Minnesota, where my great grandfather died and his widow packed up her six children and brought them all back to Scotland! I do enjoy reading the newsletter and many thanks for sending it on. *Love, Claire*



Ray McLennan and piper Bailey McDonald

**NEWS OF CLANSFOLK BOTH NEAR AND FAR** (Cont'd.)

**Email from past Newsletter Editor, Mary Cooper, Melbourne:** As you can see from the attached photo, I was in Scotland at the end of July, thoroughly enjoying myself. With others on the small, friendly Odyssey Tour, we travelled from Glasgow (fascinating old buildings and amazing new redevelopments along the Clyde where the huge ship yards were previously), up to Fort William where I particularly enjoyed the local Historical Museum with its wide range of fascinating articles, many relating to Prince Charlie including his death mask; over to the Isle of Skye where I danced in the main (only) street of Dunvegan with a local Gaelic-speaking gentleman (!!); to Portree where we ate the best fish and chips ever sitting on the harbour wall; across to Culloden Moor which has an illuminating new Visitors' Centre and where the battle field still sends shivers down my spine. Boarded a ferry at Scrabster and sailed across to the Orkney Isles and was enthralled with the unbelievably old village of Skara Brae amongst many other sites of extreme interest. After an overnight voyage on the big Northlink Ferry, disembarked in thick fog at Lerwick on the Shetland Isles and for the rest of the day our poor local guide struggled to point out the pre-historic wonders of the islands which we could barely see. Another overnight sailing took us to Aberdeen in time for breakfast and a quick tour of the beautiful old wood-panelled chapel at King's College at Aberdeen University.



**Mary Cooper in  
Bannockburn**

Our coach pulled into Braemar briefly so we could see the grounds of Balmoral Castle and we were excited to learn that the Queen was arriving next day for a holiday. A small troop of kilted soldiers and pipers were rehearsing for her arrival, one of those memorable chance opportunities which add much to one's memories. Onto beautiful Pitlochry where we stayed for three nights and sampled the local fiery drop at Bell's where the guide was also an accomplished comedian. At Scone Palace, I sat on the replica Stone of Destiny and tried to imagine how Scottish Kings of the past felt as they were being crowned. Unfortunately my mother's warnings of sitting on cold stones took precedence!

The big finale was our stay in Edinburgh which was buzzing with tourists and all the Fringe Festival events. The Tattoo was extremely entertaining, especially the German Military Band members who played their tubas and trumpets whilst riding on bicycles! A visit to Bannockburn on our final day was where, as you can see, there is evidence of a McLennan fighting in the Battle of Bannockburn. With troops like her, no wonder the Scots were victorious! Bye for now

*Mary Cooper*

**JEAN CRISS' 100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY - 28<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

Jean Criss (nee Wilson) was born at Balmain in Sydney on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1911 to Florence and Francis Wilson, third child and first daughter. Her early years were spent in Sydney and later the family moved to Melbourne for about 3 years. The family then returned to Sydney where she spent the rest of her young years.

Jean trained as a Dress Maker and Milliner. She taught in a number of schools prior to marrying. Jean married John Criss in Sydney in 1944 and had 3 sons, Richard Ian and Peter. The family lived around the central coast of NSW for about 3 years then moved back to Sydney where they lived for about 3 or 4 years.

They then bought a farm at Brooklet on the far north coast of NSW. The family farmed here for a number of years before moving into Ballina and purchasing the local Fish and Chip Shop. Unfortunately it was only a couple of months later, in 1962 that John passed away suddenly leaving Jean and the boys. Jean then sold the shop and later returned to teaching dressmaking at Ballina High School.

Jean remained in Ballina for many years and at the age of 90 decided to move back to Sydney to be closer to family members. She moved into a retirement village at Castle Hill and it was only early this year at the age of almost 100 that she decided to move into assisted living

Jean celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday ( and was the life of the party) with the majority of her family present. She has 3 sons, 7 grand children and 17 and a half great grandchildren.



**Jean Criss with sons  
Richard and Peter**

*"Our Congratulations to Jean on reaching this memorable birthday milestone. Many thanks to our members Lorraine and Richard for this article about his mother."*

**NEWS OF CLANSFOLK BOTH NEAR AND FAR** (Cont'd.)

**Clan member Barbara Nash**, sister of President Graeme MacLennan, is the proud grandmother of another grandson, baby Justin Christopher Majidy born to daughter Kirsten and husband Houman on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Justin weighed in at a healthy 4.3kg. He is a brother for Hadyn and another Great Grandson for our Patron Olive MacLennan

**VALE NANCE MCLENNAN DEAN (nee Cameron) 1921-2011**



Taken from the eulogy written by her grand-daughter Sarah Broome and sent by her daughter Sue Catterall (former President of the now defunct Clan MacLennan NSW).

With her late brother Noel and sister Beth, Nance grew up in Uralla, NSW where their father became Mayor. Later she attended boarding school at the now PLC Armidale. She excelled at sports particularly tennis, which she played into her eighties.

Her family moved to Sydney following the death of her mother when Nance was aged 20. A talented artist, she worked as a ticket writer in city stores and later at the Rural Bank. Nance and Beth loved dancing and Beth introduced Lindsay Dean to Nance who she had met at a ball. They began courting and married in 1945. They enjoyed a brief honeymoon while Lindsay was on leave from the airforce in Papua New Guinea.

Nance, kept busy with 4 children, worked full-time at their hardware store for 26 years. Sadly Lindsay died in 1982. In her retirement years Nance was active with baby-sitting, playing tennis, attending Clan gatherings and travelling. 10 years ago she moved to 'The Grange' at Waitara where she celebrated her 80th birthday with family and friends. She enjoyed visits from her expanding family of 12 grand-children and 11 great-grandchildren.

Nance passed away peacefully at Lourdes Nursing Home on the 9th April where she had lived since February 2010. *Sincere condolences are offerered to Nance's family on behalf of all Clan Members.*

**FAMILY HISTORY**

My Mother, Nance McLennan Dean's Scottish families are a very complexed family or families to research. My mother's maternal line was McLennan. They are the Kelly's Plains McLennan's of New England NSW, which go back to the McLennan's of Contin. This lineage is also a direct line to the McRae's of Kintail as my GGG grandparents were John Roy McRae and Mary McLennan. Their graves are in the Armidale Cemetery. A special plaque was erected on their graves a few years ago when Marigold (Custodian of Eilean Donan Castle) and Chief of Clan McRae in Scotland came out with her daughter Baroness Van Linden to join in the celebrations. Over 300 relatives attended.

First cousin McLennan's have married 1st cousin McRaes and McRae 1st cousins have married 1st cousin McRae's (getting you confused). By these connections, we are connected to the Black McRae's being the Torlysich line of McRaes, (meaning dark of hair, McLennan's had fair hair), as well as the Conchra line of McRae's. A McRae in Victoria of the Conchra line m. her McRae cousin of Torlysich. The Conchra line are a direct descendant of Edward 1 and their lineage is displayed in Eilean Donan Castle. Inverinate McRae's we can also claim descent from. At the present time there is always a dispute as to who the real chief of Clan McRae is. Is it a Torlysich, Inverinate or Conchra. Who had the first born son? You can now see why we scratch our heads when doing research and all my McLennan's tee up with these McRae families. I am still working on my McLennans.

My mother's father was Alfred Cameron of "Glenburnie", New England and his lineage supposedly connects up to the Gentle Lochiel, supposedly making us Lochiel Camerons. We have been working on these lines for many years. These Cameron genealogies are on the web under Clan Cameron NSW which Dr. Robert Cameron has been working on. I am Secretary and Social Secretary of Clan Cameron NSW, and was formerly a President of the now defunct Clan MacLennan NSW. I belong to Clan McLean, Clan Campbell and Clan McRae. I am also a member of the Clan MacLennan in Grafton (NSW) and Melb.(Vic)

*Sue Catterall BA (Hist)*

## FAMILY HISTORY (cont'd)

*From President, Graeme MacLennan:* My grandfather **Duncan James McLennan**, participated in the Boer War in South Africa around the turn of the century .



**Australian soldiers during the Boer War conflict  
Typical of the time of Duncan James McLennan**

Grandfather Duncan was born in the year 1879. As a twenty year old he enlisted in the 4<sup>th</sup> Victorian Imperial Bushmen. The word Imperial suggests that the bushmen were requested by and paid for by the English government rather than the Australian government. Duncan enlisted at Banyena as a Lance Corporal (Bugler). His service number was 513. Records from the time suggest that his reasons for going were adventure, loyalty to the Empire and that he had his own horse!

His contingent sailed on the SS Victorian on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1900. From May 1900 till April 1901, he served in

Rhodesia, West Transvaal and Cape Colony under Henniker including the relief of Phillipstown (11 February 1901), capture of Boer guns at Reads Drift (23<sup>rd</sup> February), and capture of Boer patrol near Doornkloof (1<sup>st</sup> March 1901).

Duncan McLennan lost the sight in one eye after an accident while unloading a boat. Since this qualified as a war injury, he was sent to London for treatment. After convalescing he travelled to Scotland and visited various family members. Along with a friend, he then went to Canada and finally home on the SS Aorangi arriving in Sydney on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 1901.



**SS Aorangi**

After discharge, Duncan took up land at Berriwillock, Victoria and became a farmer. He married Florence Alice Walker in June 1905. They had seven children, the eldest being my father Ivan (husband of our Patron Olive, now in her 100<sup>th</sup> year). Florence died in October 1921; Duncan died in July, 1959.

Duncan was remarried to Marianne Frances McBean in 1923. They had two children, Douglas and Isabel. I am indebted to Isabel Anderson (Duncan's youngest daughter) for most of the information about her father.

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION - 80 YEARS YOUNG!



**Max McLennan**

Our esteemed Vice-President and Chief's Lieutenant recently achieved the wonderful milestone of celebrating his 80th Birthday. A birthday celebration was held along with the presentation and cutting of a cake at the Annual General Meeting held at the Roseville Centre on 19th June 2011.

Max never ceases to amaze his fellow Committee Members and members of the Clan with his tireless efforts and we thank him for his work both in the past and yet to come!

On behalf of your President, Committee and fellow Clansfolk, we join in wishing him a very happy Birthday and many, many long years of happy participation in Clan events.

## New Clan database – help needed!

Genealogy is an appealing hobby for many people these days. A lot of information can now be found on-line without needing to travel to Scotland. In previous columns we saw how various websites can reveal the names of our ancestors, places where they lived and how to learn more about those place.

I can now announce an exciting new project to further help Mc/MacLennans find their ancestors – “**MacLennan Family-sharing**” through our worldwide website.



**Fiona (Downie)  
MacLennan**

For many years James McLennan (known as “Jimmy Glasgow”) and Donald MacLennan of Dingwall (known as “Donnie Dingwall”) worked tirelessly looking for every shred of information they could find about Mc/MacLennans in Scotland. Fiona MacLennan (married name Downie) has had access to Jimmy’s records before and since his death in 2005 and has extended his work. Fiona had assembled about 20,000 Mc/MacLennans onto a file of her design – many years of painstaking work. Hamish MacLennan (of Kiltarlity) had the care of Donnie Dingwall’s diskettes. Hamish recently gave me these files for this new project. We are grateful to all of them for the years of work they have contributed to Clan research.



**Bruce McLennan and  
Hamish MacLennan**

The **MacLennan Family-sharing** database will concentrate on Mc/MacLennans and their spouses and children born before 1900 – we have to draw the line somewhere!

The base data is especially strong on a number of sources not readily available elsewhere. For example, Poor Law Applications from the 1800s, have been trawled by Jimmy and Fiona to provide invaluable insights into the circumstances of “applicants” and the names and circumstances of their parents and siblings – a rich source for research! Jimmy and Fiona have also trawled many newspaper entries, wills and estate records, ship’s manifests etc looking for items about Mc/MacLennans. Information from these sources is being included in the “notes” associated with the relevant people.

Of course, at first, not all Mc/MacLennans in the new on-line resource will be connected up - there will be large numbers of (separate) “trees” in the database. Hopefully, however, in time, we will be able to identify where at least some of the trees join. This will be a logical outcome of bringing as many Mc/MacLennans as we can find together in one place. We would like some (careful) volunteers to help with the challenge to fit this jigsaw together!

As well as family trees, the system has the capacity to hold and retrieve photos and documents. This repository will provide a further resource for Clan research. Several authors have offered their MacLennan history books to be available through the site. Photos and other documents will be searchable. We invite you to send in **Family History Stories** for this repository!

We are now in the process of carefully converting Fiona’s data onto an internet database – doing more checking as we go. Later next year it should be available to members of Clan Associations in different parts of the world.

The project has the support of our Chief and Clan Associations elsewhere. Chief Ruairidh told me he gets many enquires about family history. The new on-line facility will provide a good reason for Mc/MacLennans to join one of the Clan Associations.

The base information is from Scotland and will build out to the many parts of the world where Mc/MacLennans migrated. Clan members in other countries have offered to help with entering and cross-checking.

All this is a big job.

Our immediate task is to enter (and cross-check) the base data and make the links between spouses and their children. **I invite you to volunteer to help with this rewarding work.** If you would like to be involved, please contact me on 0416 231 939 or by email on famhist(at)clanmaclellan-worldwide.com.

*Bruce A McLennan*

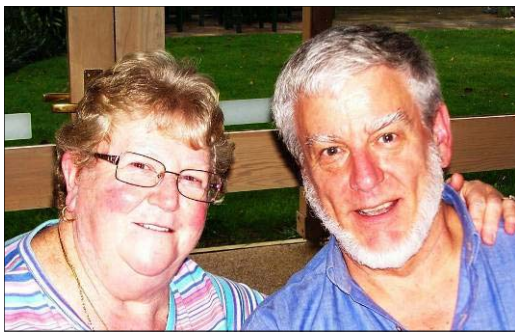
**PHOTO GALLERY**



**Old Kintail (and Glenshiel) Clachan Duich churchyard - with Shiel Glen between the mountains behind - traditional homeland of the MacLennans—taken by Bruce McLennan**



**Jenny and Tracey Quinn and Dave Toogood  
At the AGM & Ceilidh**



**Joyce and Peter MacLennan  
At the AGM & Ceilidh**



**Joy Peck, Heather Vickers and Joan Parker  
At the AGM & Ceilidh**



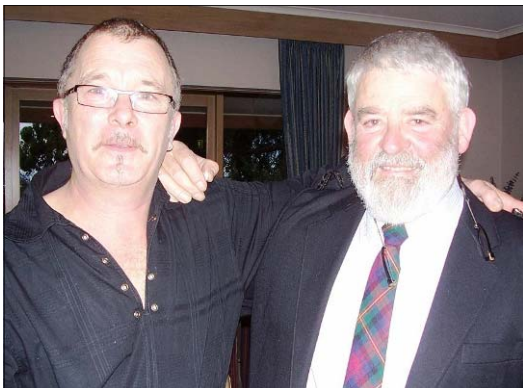
**Liz and Ivan McLennan  
At the AGM & Ceilidh**



**Margaret McKinna  
At the AGM & Ceilidh**



**Marion & Geoff McLennan  
At the AGM & Ceilidh**



**Ross McLennan & Graeme MacLennan**



**Rosemary & Don Cameron**



**Lewis & Jaz McLennan**

KINTAIL

By rocky strath and hue of gorse  
 To mountain passes high above Glen Shiel  
 In the stillness of this heaven  
 I gaze upon the Western Sea in awe  
 Listening upon the breeze enchanted  
 Heard faint lilting of the pipes  
 As distant haunting echo/s  
 Soaring as in a dream  
 Sensed unseen waterfalls and tumbling streams  
 Spellbound by the beauty of Kintail

CELTIC SOUL

Burdens of life forever abandoning  
 Use the insight of understanding  
 Give a true and honest love  
 To all your near and dearest kin  
 Take to the fold with arms surrounding  
 A blend of all these things to compounding  
 And surely peace will come within

*Poems by Bob McLennan*

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SMILE A WHILE

Senior's Golf Tournament

**A woman** walked into the kitchen to find her Husband stalking around with a fly swatter.  
 "What are you doing?" she asked. "hunting flies" he responded.  
 "Oh! killing any?" she asked. "Yep .. 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.  
 Intrigued, she asked. "how can you tell them apart?"  
 He responded, "3 were on a beer can ..... 2 were on the phone".

**People are** rarely satisfied - they want the front of the bus, the back row in Church and the centre of attention!

**Did you hear** about the thoughtful Scotsman who was heading out to the pub? He turned to his wee wife before leaving and said, 'Jackie - put your hat and coat on lassie. 'She replied, 'Awe Iain that's nice - are you taking me to the pub with you?' 'Nah, I'm just switching the central heating off while I'm oot

**Paddy McCoy**, an elderly Irish farmer, received a letter from the Department for Work & Pensions, stating that they suspected he was not paying his employees the statutory minimum wage and they would be sending an inspector to interview them. On the appointed day, the inspector turned up. "Tell me about your staff," he asked Paddy. "Well," said Paddy, "there's the farm hand, I pay him £240 a week, and he has a free cottage. Then there's the housekeeper. She gets £190 a week along with free board and lodging.

There's also the half-wit. He works a 16 hour day, does 90% of the work, earns about £25 a week along with a bottle of whisky and, as a special treat, occasionally gets to sleep with my wife."

"That's disgraceful" said the inspector, "I need to interview the half-wit. Where is he?" .....

"That'll be me then," said Paddy.

**DATES TO REMEMBER***(You always find the most recent Events Calendar on our Website:**[www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com](http://www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com) )***OURS:**

20 Nov.	2011 Christmas Picnic Gathering, Woodlands Park, Essendon.	(Mel. 28 F 1 )
1 Apl.	2012 Ringwood Highland Gathering & Games, Jubilee Park. Ringwood.	(Mel.49 J10/11)
6 May	2012 North East Victoria Gathering, 2 Moodemere St, Rutherglen (12noon)	(02-6032 8328)
17 June	2012 AGM&Ceilidh, Roseville Community C'tre, 110 King St.E.Doncaster.	(Mel.34 B 9/10)

**OTHERS:**

4 - 6 Nov	2011 Beechworth Celtic Festival	(03-5728 2225)
6-11 Nov	2011 Celtic Pilgrimage Walk, Bright to Beechworth	(03-5728 2835)
6 Nov.	2011 142 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Highland Gathering, Castle Hill Showground, NSW	(02-9871 3593)
13 Nov.	2011 Scots' of Victoria AGM/Seminar, Canterbury St. Stables, Flemington	(03-8361 0282)
27 Nov.	2011 SAHC Kirkin' o' the Tartan, St.Stephens, Sydney, NSW, and picnic	(02-9654 2494)
30 Nov.	2011 St.Andrews Day Dinner, Ascot House, Ascot Vale (Royal Cal.Soc.)	(0411 242 297)
3 Dec.	2011 Daylesford Highland Gathering, Victoria Park	(03-5348 1793)
2 Jan.	2012 151 <sup>st</sup> Maryborough Highland Gathering, Princes Park	(03-5461 1904)
11 Feb.	2012 Berwick Highland Gathering, Arkoonah Park Reserve	(0400 010 686)
18 Mar.	2012 Geelong Highland Gathering, Showgrounds, East Geelong	(03-5275 8413)
21 Apl.	2012 Bundanoon Highland Gathering, NSW	(02-4883 7471)
5 May	2012 Scots' o' the Murray Dinner, Tuileries Restaurant, Rutherglen, Vic.	(02-6032 8328)

*Wishing you all Seasons's Greetings**and a very happy New Year***CLAN MacLENNAN GOODS AVAILABLE**

Plain Ties with Crest	\$ 15.00	Tartan Bow Ties	\$ 29.00
Tartan Material by the metre	POA	Key Board with Crest	\$10.00
Tartan Ties (Wool Blend) (Boy's \$25)	\$ 35.00	Tartan Beret	\$ 40.00
Tartan Caps (Mens)	\$ 45.00	Tartan Scarf or Square	\$ 40.00
Tartan Evening Sash	\$ 65.00	Tartan Shawl	\$120.00
Clan MacLennan Post Card	\$ 2.00	MacLain Post Card (Logan)	\$ 1.50
Men's Handkerchief with Crest	\$ 3.50	Ladies Handkerchief with Crest	\$ 3.50
Tea Spoon with Crest	\$ 6.50	Sugar Spoon with Crest	\$ 6.50
Small Lapel Crest Badge	\$ 6.50	Pewter Crest Brooch	\$ 45.00
Key Tags with Crest	\$ 5.50	Book Mark with Crest	\$ 5.00
Clan MacLennan Kilt Pin (Pewter)	\$ 45.00	Polo Shirts with Crest - short sleeve	\$ 25.00
Fridge Magnet	\$ 6.00	Crest Stickers	\$ 6.00
Crest Coasters (Set of Two)	\$ 15.00	Polo Shirt - long sleeve	\$ 25.00
Windcheaters – Grey Marle with Navy Crest	\$ 26.00	T-Shirts – Grey Marle with Navy Crest	\$ 10.00

**Books and Music**

"In Search of Clan MacLennan" by Malcolm Lobban and James McLennan on CD/Pdf . \$14.00

"Return to Kintail" words and music by Ross McLennan on CD \$15.00

Please add Postage/Packing: Within Australia: under 500g A\$4.00 for one item plus A\$1.00 for each additional item, over 500g A\$10 flat. Overseas Surface Mail - triple the rates for "Within Australia"

Supply subject to availability of stock and variation in price. Cheques payable to "Clan MacLennan Association"

Orders with payment to Bob McLennan 13 Lamart St., STRATHMORE , VIC., 3041.

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