



# Clan MacLennan Association Australia Melbourne Inc.

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

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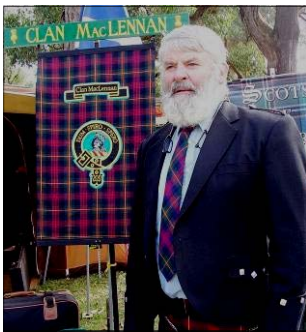
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Clansfolk,

What a difference from last year. After ten years of drought, La Nina has brought us rainfall in plenty. In some cases, there was too much rain. Some of our clansfolk were among those who suffered from floods.

In Gippsland our farms have more grass than at any time in the last twelve years.



**President  
Graeme MacLennan  
Ringwood**

Our recent Gathering was at the Ringwood Highland Games. The new tent layout in the North-east corner of the grounds brought the various clans closer together in a village square atmosphere rather than being strung out in a long thin line. A highlight for the MacLennan Clan members was to have the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band entertain us at our tent. The band were resplendent in MacLennan tartan as usual. Campbell Wilson, Pipe Major of the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band, was the winner of our Clan MacLennan Piping Trophy for 1999. *(See article page 7)*



**Campbell Wilson  
Pipe Major  
City of Melbourne  
Highland Pipe  
Band**

Scottish fare was the order of the day at Ringwood with Haggis a' plenty on hand from 'Bob the British Butcher' as well as black puddings and various other delights. A big thank you to all those who helped set up and take down the tent and supplied tea, coffee and a 'wee dram' to keep the cold at bay.

**Fine piping** by the Albury Wodonga Pipes and Drums was a highlight of the **Scots' o' the Murray held at Rutherglen** on the 7th May. Twenty MacLennan Clan members were present for a wonderful dining experience at the Tuileries Restaurant. Our own Max McLennan was a clear winner in the "Joke-off" competition despite drawing his material from a back edition of our Clan Newsletter!!!

*(see article page 7)*

A RED CROSS MEANS you are unfinancial for the year 2009/2010.

Please forward back payment/s with your 2010/11 Membership Fee which was due on 1/5/2010.

Your 2011/12 Membership Fee was due on 1/5/2011

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

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** *continued***Clan members** are looking forward to our **AGM and Ceilidh on Sunday June 19th -**

There will be the usual format of sharing lunch, followed by a very brief AGM and then our Ceilidh; so we can enjoy the food and the traditional Scottish entertainment. We look forward to seeing all of the MacLennan Clan at the **Roseville Community Centre**, 110 King Street, Doncaster East, (Melway Map 34/B9/10) from 1.00pm on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> of June. *“Bring-a-Plate and your own drinks for a shared lunch”*. Hot soup, tea and coffee will be provided and afternoon tea will be supplied by the Committee.

A special feature on the day will be the recognition of winners of the **MacLennan Perpetual Piping trophy** over the past thirty years, including a performance by the **2010 winner, Cameron Marshall**. Many fine pipers have been recipients of the award over the years and it got me thinking about the fine tradition of piping which runs in the MacLennan blood even today, with our own Chief Ruairidh an accomplished piper. MacLennan pipers have also featured prominently in either establishing or participating in pipe bands throughout the world and in many theatres of war. Lewis MacLennan who migrated to Australia circa 1907, was the first Pipe Major of the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band. The band still wear the MacLennan tartan in his honour. *(see article on page 7)*

*We can look forward to a splendid display of piping along with our own Clan's musicians at the Ceilidh and all are welcome.*

**Another date** to look forward to will be the **Kirkin' o' the Tartan to be held at The Scots' Church on Sunday 3rd July**, where we celebrate the lifting of Proscription, giving us the freedom to wear our beloved tartan. Following the service, all Clans will meet in the Upper Church Hall for a “bring-your-own lunch” followed by entertainment. Tea and coffee will be provided.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on Sunday 19th June for a shared meal and Ceilidh.

Sincerely yours,  
Graeme MacLennan, President



**“The Day After”  
Clan Gathering on the Sunday after  
Scots' o' the Murray dinner**

### **Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service**

The Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service will be held at The Scots' Church, Russell Street, Melbourne on Sunday 3rd July at 11am. **Free parking** is available in the Wilson Car Park next door (even if the “Car Park Full” sign is displayed). Enter from Little Collins Street and have your ticket validated in the Lower Church Hall.

Following the service, all Clans will meet in the Upper Church Hall for a “bring-your-own lunch” followed by entertainment. Tea and coffee will be provided.

**We invite all our Members to attend this “Kirkin” in celebration of the lifting of Proscription by the English - and of course, don't forget to wear your Clan Tartan!**

## NEWS FROM OUR CHIEF

Dear Clansfolk

The Highlands has been fortunate enough to have been basking in relatively good sunshine over the best part of the last month. Increasingly, I have noticed that April and May are times when we get some of our best summer weather and as it is too early for the dreaded midge to be out in force, it is some of the best time for getting into the outdoors. There have been a number of public holidays over the Easter period with an additional holiday for the Royal Wedding which has resulted in many people having taken much of the latter part of April as holidays.



**Ruaridh outside  
Burgos Cathedral  
Spain**

The past few months have been interesting and varied. Due to TA commitments and restrictions in my ability to take holidays from work over the summer months, I took an extended period of leave from work in April and spent 4 weeks trekking across northern Spain on the Camino de Santiago. This is an ancient pilgrim route which means the Way of St James. Shortly before I headed off on my trip, I attended a weekend landscape photography course in Torrion on the West Highlands. Armed with my new SLR camera, a backpack with sleeping bag, limited clothes, sandals and essentials, I flew out to northern Spain and walked 612 km from Logrono to Santiago de Compostella over a 25 day period. I was exceptionally lucky with the weather, in all there were 2 days where it rained with the remainder mostly in glorious sunshine.

The Camino goes across northern Spain, through varied countryside, hills, peasant farming villages and cities such as Burgos, Leon and eventually Santiago de Compostella which is the end of the pilgrimage. People come from all over the world to walk the route and I found that I quickly became immersed within an informal group comprising of Austrian, Canadian, German, Hungarian and Irish nationalities. A very varied and interesting group and there were many other nationalities to meet along the way and in the hostels each evening.

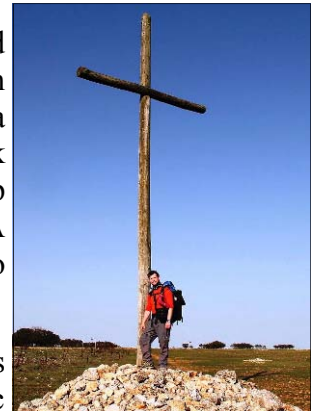


**Signpost on the trail — '100  
km's to Santiago'**

The scenery was spectacular and varied and I was fortunate enough to see many beautiful historic sites along the way, meet some lovely people and generally have an opportunity to relax whilst at the same time embracing a passion of hiking through the countryside armed with my camera. Other than a few small blisters which were quickly dealt with, the walk across Spain was fairly pain free and full of happy memories. Coming back to normal life and work has been a struggle but needs must!

I am presently sitting in the train heading down to Perth for a pipeband rehearsal for a trip to play in Sweden next weekend. I have never been to Sweden and have always been keen to visit the Scandinavian countries. They are notoriously expensive so it is fortunate that the TA are sending the pipeband out there for this trip to play at a Tattoo in Malmo. Watching the various colours and

landscapes swish past the windows whilst writing is a lovely experience. The countryside is looking very green and lush at present after some much needed rain over the past week or two. Prior to that, we were experiencing very dry conditions in the Highlands which resulted in substantial hill fires in Torrion, Kintail and other mainly west coast locations.



**Ruaridh hiking in  
Spain**



**Ruaridh enjoying a  
pint after a long day on  
the trail**



**Chief Ruairidh hiking in Spain**

Kirsteen, Lorna and all the family are well. Kirsteen and James are not long back from a trip to Orkney where they took the two boys, Charles and George who seem to be growing up very quickly. They were through in Dores visiting earlier this week and having a look at the photographs from my Spanish trip. Kirsteen is starting to get prepared for returning to work flying with BA in early July. Lorna is busy with work and planning her next exotic holiday! The summer ahead is going to be fairly busy with work as I have limited time to take holidays and will not be able to attend the TA's annual camp this year. However, the hope is that weekends with less non work commitments will result in some quality time stomping about the Highland hills armed with my camera and kayak training for my paddle across the Minch from Stornoway to Ullapool.

We are entering the season where many of you will be attending Clan Gatherings and Highland Games and I take this opportunity in wishing you enjoyment and success. We are hoping to hold a get-together here in Scotland later this year, details of which will be confirmed in due course.

Yours aye, Chief Ruairidh.

( To see more of Ruairidh's photos go to link <<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ruairidhmaclennan/>> )



**Kirsteen, Charles & George at Scapa flow**

### **NEWS FROM CLANSFOLK NEAR AND FAR**

**Email 17th May :** I am sitting in my living room enjoying some rare peace, both my boys are exhausted and having an afternoon nap. George was one last Monday. It seems incredible a year has passed since he was born. We did not celebrate it with a party. We have done so much entertaining recently, baking a cake and opening a couple of presents seemed adequate.

We had a lovely long weekend up in Orkney over the Easter holidays. James wanted to meet up with a scallop supplier so the boys and I tagged along and made a holiday of it. I had forgotten what a wonderful place the Orkney Isles are, the people are so friendly with their sing song accents, the seafood must be the best in Scotland and available in most restaurants at very reasonable prices, the shops are independent,

unusual and have not been affected by the recent arrival of Tescos yet, the monuments, building and history of the islands are incredible too. I am looking forward to James' next business trip there.

My return to work date is looming. I am due back on the 6th of July so am busy dieting, exercising and sorting out child care arrangements. Lorna is wonderful with the boys and will hopefully help out from time to time.

I am hoping to get up to Lochinver next week to visit Kenny and Marlene, our godparents. Their sheep will be lambing at the moment and Charles may be lucky enough to bottle feed a lamb. Lambing up north tends to be later in the year to account for the poorer weather.

James and I have started having cycle dinners at the weekend when we can find a babysitter. Last weekend we cycled to Garmouth, which is an attractive village 5 miles from Fochabers. We ate fish and chips, drunk a bottle of wine in the quaint hotel surrounded by a bunch of heavy metal fans. It was most bizarre. Cycling back was tough but it was a fun evening.



**James, Charles & George at Loch na Bo**

*Best wishes from Kirsteen*

NEWS FROM CLANSFOLK NEAR AND FAR *continued***Shane & Jessica Zammit**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March** was a special day for Max & Mary McLennan, it was the day that their second granddaughter **Jessica Sharpe (daughter of Alison & Stuart Sharpe)** was married to **Shane Zammit**.

It was a perfect day for a wedding, the sun was shining with not a cloud in the sky! The Service was held at a beautiful 107yr old Church in the lovely country side of Korobeit - north west of Bacchus Marsh. The little old Church was filled to capacity with over 100 relations and friends, who patiently waited for the Bride to arrive. (As in many weddings the Bride was late!). A lovely simple and warm family Service was conducted by Father Michael Elligate, a long time friend of the McLennan's.

Jessica was attended by two Bridesmaids (Kate Wilkins & Karly Stringer) who had been friends of the Bride since they were teenagers; Shane was attended by his brother Justin and old friend Chris Fodor. Nine year old twins Lewis and Jaz McLennan took part in the service – Jaz being flowergirl and Lewis the ring bearer - both of them were very, very excited.

The wedding party was piped out of the Church and later into the Reception by Chris Bauwmeester, President of the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band, wearing our MacLennan Tartan.

The reception was held at the recently renovated (and beautifully decorated for the day) Mechanics Hall in Ballan and the M.C. was Jessica's Uncle, Ross McLennan. After a very enjoyable meal the music, dancing and celebration commenced. All the guests thoroughly enjoyed the night, with Lewis and Jaz continuously dancing until the end of the night when the Bride and Groom left.

*By Mary McLennan*

**Lewis & Jaz McLennan****Piping into Reception****Special Birthday Celebration**

March was a month of special celebrations in the household of Max and Mary McLennan. Following the wedding of their granddaughter Jessica, Mary reached 80 years of age on 24th March - hard to believe! It was decided to extend her birthday by celebrating with her at our May committee meeting. Congratulations and our very best wishes Mary from all your friends in the Clan MacLennan Association.

**Mary cutting her cake****Baby Congratulations**

Congratulations to **Barbara Nash (MacLennan)** on the arrival of grandson **Elliott Victor**. Elliott is the second child of Fiona and Rezza Farjah, brother for Emily Rose and another Great grandson for our Patron, Olive MacLennan.

**Helen Husking, West Wyalong, NSW** became a very proud great-aunt for the first time in 2010. **Kade William** was born on 10th August to Stuart and Joanne McLennan of Leeton and Helen reports he is very active and getting into all sorts of places he shouldn't!

**Baby Elliott Victor**

## 2011 RINGWOOD HIGHLAND GATHERING

There was a feeling of togetherness with our fellow clanspeople this year, as hardworking organiser, Sue MacLeod, had arranged a clan village square adjacent to the entrance to Jubilee Park rather than the usual long line of tents opposite the oval. From time to time pipers took centre stage in our square to entertain us, including a mini Melbourne Highland Pipe Band wearing the MacLennan tartan.

The usual attractions were there; the pipe bands and dancing competitions, farm animals and a myriad of stalls selling Scottish goods and food. It was certainly more peaceful with the Flyball dog events taking place on the other side of the arena. We were kept busy chatting to visitors and answering queries all day.



**Scottish deerhound loudly 'accompanying' the massed bands at Ringwood**

Clan MacLennan had a good contingent of marchers at the opening ceremony and it was very pleasing to see Kath and Ewan's daughter Helen and granddaughters Tracey and Jenny all in kilts (or should I say, kilted skirts) along with Kath. Before he opened the Games the Chief of the Games, the Rev. Dr. J.F. Scott, assured us he had mediated on our behalf to bring about tolerably fair weather! The massed bands were accompanied by the loud howling of a Scottish deerhound who keenly observed proceedings on the arena.

Many thanks to all our willing helpers who later dismantled our tent, with a special thank you to Kath who once again assisted Bob and Patsy to erect our temporary home on the Saturday.



**Ewan & Kath Nichols with daughter Helen and granddaughters Tracey and Jenny**



**Patsy McLennan, Kath Nichols, Carol Davis, Marion McLennan, Mary McLennan and Barbara Milojevic**



**Geoff McLennan, President Graeme MacLennan, Mary McLennan and Don Cameron**



**Marshalling of the Clans Ringwood**

## SCOTS' O' THE MURRAY DINNER—RUTHERGLEN

The buzz was almost deafening in the foyer of Tuileries Restaurant and gave measure to everyone's enjoyment at catching up with old friends and making new acquaintances. We were delighted to have for the first time the company of Scott and Nicola McLennan, down from Canberra for the Dinner. Scott was later recruited by Alister Chisholm to take part in the Haggis procession.



Address to the Haggis

Alister and his wife Heather have always been anxious for the evening to be a fun occasion - not very difficult with good company, plentiful fine food (including haggis and optional whisky sauce), wine and non-stop entertainment. They were particularly pleased to learn recently that Albury/Wodonga Pipes and Drums considered that performing at this special occasion was the highlight of the year for them and they were

certainly in fine form as they played for us.



Joyce & Peter  
MacLennan



Ross & Yvette  
MacLennan

Max McLennan and Alister lifted the mood even higher with hilarious jokes. With twenty MacLennans in attendance, we were well represented on the dance floor by eight of the more energetic members of our group. They linked arms, skipped and twirled with the best of them under the expert guidance of musician/MC Mike Giblin. One of our dancers however was noticeably a little out of breath towards the end of one extremely long set. Full marks to him for carrying on until the bitter end! All too soon it had to come to the end and Old Lang Syne.

The cloud cover lifted on Sunday and a lovely sunny day emerged for the BBQ at Alister and Heather's home. Twelve were able to attend and had a very relaxing afternoon. Our heartfelt thanks to them both for their warm and friendly hospitality.

*By Patsy McLennan*

## CITY OF MELBOURNE HIGHLAND PIPE BAND



Lewis MacLennan Snr.

The City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band is one of Australia's oldest pipe bands. Members are proud of traditions dating back to the 1890s. Since that time the band has earned a reputation for musical innovation and excellence in performance. Originally known as the **South and Port Melbourne Thistle Society Pipe Band**, the band was appointed **Band of the Victorian Scottish Regiment** in 1924 and served the regiment for many years.



City of Melbourne Highland  
Pipe Band—Ringwood

Under the title **Melbourne Highland Pipe Band**, it developed into one of Australia's top bands, winning many State and Australian Championships.

The first Pipe Major was **Lewis MacLennan**. A brief history of four generations of piping MacLennans, including an account of Lewis' illustrious career, can be found on Clan MacLennan worldwide website at <http://www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com> in [The Piping MacLennans](#)

## THE ULTIMATE CORPORATE BIKE CHALLENGE

**Adam Davis**, eldest son of clan members Carol and Reg Davis, was a participant in the Chain Reaction Corporate cycle challenge, the third time he has participated in the event. Chain Reaction is the Ultimate Corporate Bike Challenge that raises money for sick children by challenging senior executives to ride a 1,000 plus kilometre course in 7 days.



Adam is the father of three young sons Ryan 7, Blake 3 and Harrison 1 and is keen to help ill children enjoy the same quality of life as his own children. Adam has had a passion for cycling since his teenage years and felt this was the perfect opportunity to support a worthwhile cause. Adam trains year round, with intense training beginning at least six months prior to the event held each year in March.



**Adam at the front of the group**

He regularly rides from Kew to Kinglake or Arthur's Seat at Dromana as a Sunday morning training ride - a short training ride is 60 - 80kms!

On this latest challenge in March, Adam made it through a tough 1,150 kilometres between Sydney and Melbourne in 6½ days with 43 other riders. The route took the riders over the picturesque and challenging Snowy Mountains passing through towns such as Canberra, Cabramurra which is Australia's highest town, Myrtleford and Alexandra.

This year, through the generous support of private and corporate supporters, Chain Reaction raised over \$1m which is a Chain Reaction fundraising record. These funds will be shared between the Starlight Children's Foundation and the Monash Children's Hospital and a number of other smaller children's charities.

Apart from raising in excess of \$1 million, and reaching his personal fundraising goal, Adam and his fellow riders who started the event all arrived safely at the Melbourne Town Hall, with a warm welcome home (and a sigh of relief) from families and friends. Adam wishes to thank all those Clan members who supported his ride.

*By Carol Davis*

### WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

"Who Do You Think You Are?" is a wonderful new television show in the States. Celebrities are chosen and with a lot of help from Ancestry.com, make their family histories known. Those of us who spend years sorting our own family genealogy watch with envy as it seemingly takes only one hour for the celebrities to discover theirs.



**Catherine McLennan**

One thing is obvious by the end of the show though; each celebrity finds some sadness and lots of respect for their ancestors.

The search for my Scottish ancestors has been a great joy in my life. Almost all my genealogy lines go to Scotland but the one my four sisters and I bonded with right away were the McLennans.

It is our mother's maternal line so we have to go back to our great grandmother Catherine McLennan to claim our name.

Catherine was a 2nd generation Canadian - her own line arrived in Quebec in 1802. Her grandfather was Duncan McLennan of Lochalsh who sailed in 1802 from Loch Nevis on the 'Neptune of Greenock' with 600 other Highlanders originating from the west coastal areas of Kintail, Lochalsh, Knoydart and North Morar. Theirs was a nine week journey to reach Quebec. While many of the 600 went to Glengarry, about 30 families located on Sir John Johnston's land in Chambly.

This was my group! Lucille H. Campey has written two books with results of her extensive research about these Scottish immigrants to Canada.

**WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?** *continued*

**Presbyterian Church  
Beech Ridge**

Eventually most of the group located in the Beauharnois Seigneurie in what was known as the Scotch Settlement of Beech Ridge. The Presbyterian Church is still standing with a well kept cemetery. Many of my direct line moved to Wisconsin during the 1860's and then on to Minnesota in the 1880's. My mother was the last of this family in Minnesota. My research 'buddy' is Larry McLennan from Michigan. We are looking in to the records from the Earls of Seaforth to tie Duncan back to his parents in Lochalsh. If you have lines back to the 'Neptune' we'd love to hear about your research.

Email: [patsywood67@gmail.com](mailto:patsywood67@gmail.com).

*By Patsy Woods, Minnesota USA*

**MY McLENNAN FAMILY HISTORY - K.J. Scott McLennan**

**Scott & Nicola McLennan**

My ancestors came from the North-West Highlands of Scotland, near the Kyle of Lochalsh, in the county of Ross. The district is known as Kintail and it is classic Scottish highlands country. Our McLennans came from the little village of Sallachy on Loch Long. They were tenant farmers and according to the 1851 Scottish Census for the parish of Lochalsh the details there were:

1. Ewan age 55 tenant of 6 acres born Kintail.
2. Mary age 50.
3. Roderick age 28 farm employee.
4. **Alexander age 25 agricultural labourer.**
5. John age 22 shepherd.
6. Jessie age 18 employed at home, born Lochalsh.

Ewan's second name was Buie (pronounced Boo-ey) which is a Gaelic word for fair-haired. It has been suggested that the word was adapted from a Norse word with the same meaning. The west coast of Scotland endured centuries of Norwegian pillage and was actually part of the Norwegian King's possessions until the Battle of Largs in 1263. Many of the raiders eventually gave up the roving life and settled in the area, particularly in the Hebrides.

**My family is descended from Alexander**, who married Isabella MacRae in 1852. Both McLennans and MacRaes are common names to this district and their histories have been intertwined for centuries. The McLennans, along with the MacRaes, McKenzies and Mathesons, were known as the "Allies" as they regularly fought off mutual enemies together. It was an Alexander Matheson who in fact was responsible for my McLennans coming to Australia. Alexander Matheson of Lochalsh (1805 – 1886) was a nephew of James Matheson (1796 - 1878), who traded opium with China and was responsible for establishing the Jardine-Matheson conglomerate in Hong Kong. Sir Alexander made his fortune in China working for his uncle. Retiring from Hong Kong at only 36, he used his wealth to purchase Highland estates and improve them. He was praised for finding new forms of agriculture for his tenants, rather than evicting them as was common practice at the time. Matheson served as an MP for Ross and Cromarty for many years and was instrumental in ensuring the Highland Railway was extended through to Kyle of Lochalsh. He bought the Balmacara Estate in Lochalsh and built Duncraig Castle in Plockton as his home. Matheson had bought up the land on which the McLennans lived and through the Highland and Island Emigration Society, found them positions in Australia.

Ewan (55) and Mary (50), along with their daughter Jessie and their sons Kenneth (not listed in the census as he had his own house), Alexander and John, left Liverpool for Australia aboard the ship "Arabian" on 27 October 1852 and arrived in Melbourne on 14 February 1853. Two other children, Barbara and Christina, had already left home at the time of the census. Matheson had managed to keep the family together by getting them positions as stockmen at the Chirnsides' Werribee Park, where they started work on 24 February 1853 at £50 per year plus rations. They would have considered themselves fortunate, as the Chirnsides were hugely wealthy Scottish pastoralists who pioneered Victoria's western district and were known to treat their workers well. A book on the Chirnsides written by Heather B.

**MY McLENNAN FAMILY HISTORY - K.J. Scott McLennan** *continued*

Ronald, entitled "Wool past the winning post", makes several references to the McLennans as stockmen and managers of Chirnside properties such as "Carranballac".

We think all Ewan and Mary's children came to Australia; although not all together. Christina married George Presley and was living in the Little River area at the time of her mother Mary's death in 1875. The eldest daughter, Barbara (born 1815) married Farquhar MacRae in 1835 and emigrated to Sydney aboard the "William Nicol" arriving on 27 October 1837. Jessie McLennan married James McMillan (who also worked for the Chirnsides) in Geelong in 1857. They had 11 children and Jessie lived until age 90. John McLennan eventually owned Waterview Estate near Albury NSW and was an excellent judge of stock.

During bushfires in 1857, Ewan and Mary lost their house and all their possessions and Mary was badly burnt escaping. However, both reached old age and are buried at Rothwell Cemetery at Little River. Alexander and Isabella had a son born on board ship in 1852 named Murdoch, who eventually settled in Mia Mia near Heathcote. Alexander and Isabella went on to have seven more children, the first being Alexander who was born in Geelong in 1856. It is uncertain how long Alexander Snr stayed working for the Chirnsides, but he was still living in Werribee in 1863 when his father Ewan died, as he signed the death certificate.

Alexander Jnr (my Gt Grandfather) was living in the Heathcote district by the early 1870s and it is likely that his parents were too as he was only a teenager. However, Alexander Snr went up to Broken Hill in the late 1870s and worked sinking dams on "Colinoobi" station near Wilcannia. Heather Ronald's book suggests that he might have been at Billilla Station also. He died in Broken Hill in January 1900 aged 78. In her later years Isabella McLennan lived with her son Murdoch at Mia Mia. She died aged 78 and is buried in Heathcote.

Alexander Jnr only lived to age 45 and died of consumption in 1901. He was a stockman like his forebears and worked as a manager at "Moorabee" station near Heathcote. He married Louisa Francis Cox in 1878 and was working for her father Richard at the time. During the 1880s, Alexander and Louisa and their small children travelled by covered wagon from Heathcote to Wilcannia to visit Alexander Snr and worked there for some time. In 1892 Richard Cox died and left two blocks (1,000 acres) of land from his farm called "Edgecombe" at Derrinal near Heathcote to Louisa. This became the McLennan family farm.

Alexander was a member of the Heathcote Agricultural Society, a good judge and successful breeder of prize stock. They must have done reasonably well as he once paid 40 guineas for a prize Tasmanian ram. Alexander and Louisa had three daughters and one son, Arthur David Murdoch McLennan (my G/father), who inherited the farm at age 21.

Louisa stayed at "Edgecombe" until she died in 1944 aged 84.

Arthur followed in his father's footsteps and became a breeder of stud stock and a keen judge of merino rams. He was interested in horses and bred and trained many winners. He had three children Arthur, Mary and Kenneth with his first wife, Hilda Russell, who died in childbirth aged only 34. He married again some time later and had a further two children, but his second wife died aged only 44. His first son Arthur also died young at 27. When Arthur died in 1948 aged 69 his son Kenneth Russell Francis (my father) took over "Edgecombe" aged 35.

He too carried on the family tradition of being a member of the Heathcote Agricultural Society and a keen breeder and judge of stud stock. He was eventually able to register the property as a Red Poll cattle stud and Merino sheep stud. He served in the Second World War in Scotland and in New Guinea and was a champion axeman. He was President of the local Shire of McIvor twice and a driving force behind the building of the Bendigo Showgrounds. He was a keen amateur photographer and even took quite a bit of colour movie film of the district on a 16mm movie camera (one film is of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorations of the first powered flight in Australia at Mia Mia in 1910 by John Duigan). He

**MY McLENNAN FAMILY HISTORY - K.J. Scott McLennan *continued***

**Frankie & Graeme MacLennan  
and Scott & Nicola McLennan  
at Rutherglen May 2011**

married Elaine Mary Fasso in 1956 and had two children, Amanda Louise (1960) and me, Kenneth John Scott (1963). He died in 1969 aged 56.

At this point, "Edgecombe" was sold and the family moved firstly to Heathcote and then to Bendigo. I married Nicola Tracey Rungen in 2001 and we have two children, who are named after our first McLennans to come to Australia and start families. They are Isabella Catherine (2006) and Alexander David James (2008).

I am amazed at the fortitude of these early McLennans who uprooted themselves and travelled around the world to start a new life. The notion of travelling to Wilcannia from Heathcote in a covered wagon with small children staggers me. I doubt anyone would attempt it even today!!!

I have also often wondered whether any photographs exist of the early McLennans. I have a photocopy of a photograph of Alexander Jnr, but not his father Alexander Snr or Ewan and Mary. Photography existed at the time and photographers are known to have been around Victoria at the diggings etc and someone around the Geelong, Little River, Werribee area may have a photograph hidden away somewhere. One can only hope they may come to light one day.

( Scott would welcome contact from anyone related to his family line [Scott.McLennan@ausaid.gov.au](mailto:Scott.McLennan@ausaid.gov.au))

**PHOTO GALLERY**

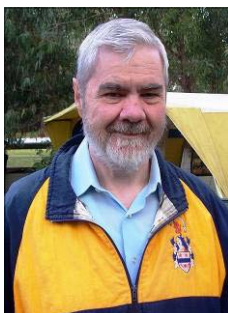
**Joe McLennan Becker  
Grandson of  
Bob & Patsy McLennan  
Age 6 wearing his  
Pa's bonnet**



**Gwenneth & Don McLennan  
'ripping' up the dance floor at  
Tuileries Restaurant, Rutherglen**



**Stuart & Alison Sharpe  
at  
Scots' o' the Murray Dinner,  
Rutherglen**



**John McCrae  
at Ringwood**



**Bob McLennan, outside the Clan tent at  
Ringwood Highland Games**



**Massed bands  
Ringwood Highland Games**

## TARTAN DAY AND KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN



Tartan Day in Australia occurs on the 1<sup>st</sup> July each year, which commemorates the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1782 when the Disarming Act of 1746 (imposed by the British Government) was repealed.

That 1746 proscription Act not only disarmed the Highland Scots after the Battle of Culloden but also forbade them from gathering in large groups, banned the wearing of Highland Dress, public use of the Gaelic language and playing of the Bagpipes, in an attempt to crush the Scottish Highland

Clan culture. This resulted in almost two generations of Scots being deprived of much of their own culture. – When the Act was repealed a proclamation was issued in English and Gaelic, which announced as follows:

*“Listen Men. This is bringing before all the sons of the Gael, the King and Parliament of Britain have forever abolished the act against the Highland Dress; which came down to the Clans from the beginning of the world to the year 1746. This must bring great joy to every Highland Heart. You are no longer bound down to the unmanly dress of the Lowlander. This is declaring to every Man, young and old, simple and gentle, that they may after this put on and wear the Truis, the Little Kilt, the Coat, and the Striped Hose, as also the Belted Plaid, without fear of the Law of the Realm or the spite of the enemies.”*

Many Scots, especially from the Highlands, left their homeland; a large number of them sailing across the globe to Australia where they have made an enormous contribution to the development of modern Australia. – As the descendants of our Scottish migrant forbears we are justly proud of their achievements and in the honouring of them by the continuation of their and our Scottish culture and traditions.

**To Celebrate Tartan Day the Scottish Clans and Community hold the annual Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service on the first Sunday in July, which this year will be at The Scots' Church, Collins Street, Melbourne at 11am on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2011.** All Clans & Scottish Associations are invited to present their tartans at that service and all clansfolk attending should wear their tartan. - **Everyone of Scottish descent should attend, to Celebrate their Scottish culture & Commemorate Tartan Day's meaning.** After the Service there will be a BYO lunch (tea/coffee supplied) in the upper hall of the Church. – *I look forward to seeing you there, Max McLennan (Chief's Lieutenant).*

### KILT FOR SALE

Clan member Barbara Crick has kindly donated 2 'as new' ladies kilted skirts to our Clan for sale. It seems the MacLennan tartan one has already been purchased, but on offer is the pure wool Ferguson tartan (Lochcarron Mills), 30inch (70cm) adjustable. Price negotiable - enquiries to Bob McLennan (03) 9379 2425 . Many thanks Barbara.

### SMILE AWHILE

**An old man** shuffled into an ice cream parlour and pulled himself painfully onto a stool. After catching his breath he ordered a banana split. The waitress asked kindly, “crushed nuts?”. No .....Arthritis.

**The bride** was escorted down the aisle and when she reached the altar, The groom was standing there with his golf bag and clubs at his side. She said: "What are your golf clubs doing here?" He looked her right in the eye and said, "This isn't going to take all day, is it?"

**A man** goes in to see his Rabbi. He says, "I think my wife is trying to poison me." The Rabbi says, "I'll speak with her." The next day the Rabbi says, "I spent three hours yesterday talking with your wife ... *take the poison!*"

## RESEARCHING OUR ROOTS - WHERE DID OUR ANCESTORS LIVE?

Genealogy is a booming hobby for many people these days. A lot of information can now be found on-line before you travel to Scotland.

In my previous newsletter article we saw how the *ScotlandsPeople* website (with birth, marriage and death records and with the censuses from 1841 to 1911) can reveal the names of places where our ancestors lived. In the past you would need to go to Scotland to understand more about these places. Now, much can be found on-line. Understanding more about the streets and places from the internet before you go will also save much frustration when you do travel there.

The starting details for town and country locations are often different. For towns, the census and other records will often fortunately give a street and sometimes a number in that street but as these details are handwritten, a bit of work might be needed to cross-check the spelling. Quite often you will find the house where they lived on modern *Google Maps* (<http://maps.google.com.au/>) but it is possible streets no longer exist or have changed their names. If you can't find it, it might help to see if the transcribers on *Ancestry* have a different take on the spelling of the street name for the same census. Another useful approach can be to look for a nearby street in the census and search for that instead. In some smaller villages I have found cases where the death or other event is just recorded against a house name (eg Florance Villa in Freuchie – also known as Florence Villa), rather than a street or house number – to my amazement this small house came up on *Google Maps*. The *Google Maps* “street view” can often give you a reasonable understanding of the house itself where they lived and its neighbours – for example you may be given an idea if it was a two-story building, a commercial area with accommodation above a shop and other aspects.

Outside towns only a parish name or broader locality may be given in the census or other records. If you're lucky a farm name is provided but the farm name may no longer be found on maps. Pinpointing the exact farm might require some more sleuth work. Again, checking the census for the names of neighbouring properties can sometimes help – the names of the neighbours farms may have survived. Easter or Wester (east and west) in a name might help locate the property. Also Burn (stream) or Glen (valley) might give a clue. Sometimes the River Ness will be written as Ness Water. The Holm Water (or River) may flow through the Glenholm but, as a variation, the Glenmore River flows through the Glenmore.

If the current-day sources don't find the property, we are lucky to be able to get old maps from *Maps of Scotland* on the NLS (National Library of Scotland) website: <http://maps.nls.uk/>. Maps on this site include: Counties of Scotland 1580-1928, “One-inch” and “Six-inch” Ordnance Surveys from the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Town Plans of Scotland 1847-95, and many more. It is fair to warn you they only let you see a small section at a time for many of these maps (they would prefer you buy them!) and this might test your patience.

Names can sometimes be given in Gaelic instead of English or vice versa. I spent a long time looking for Blackburn in Contin Parish only to realise it was shown as Allt Dubh (Allt = Burn Dubh=Black) on the old map I had. The *Ordnance Survey* website has some common names of Gaelic origin (<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/freefun/didyouknow/placenames/gaelicglossary-a-b.html>) On the West coast and on the islands particularly there are many names of Nordic origin, others are of Pictish origin (a non-written language but with some similarities to Welsh). Many websites can be found to help understand these placenames and variants of their spellings.

The *Gazetteer for Scotland* ([www.scottish-places.info](http://www.scottish-places.info)) has some wonderful old zoomable maps by County and other ways and *ScotlandsPlaces* ([www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk)) can help with the exact co-ordinates of many locations and has tips about other resources. On *ScotlandsPlaces* you can also zoom in on the exact co-ordinates. Co-ordinates can also be used on *Google Maps* – for example: take the location of the Lovat Arms Hotel, Beaulieu from *ScotlandsPlaces* (57.482932N, 4.46117W) and use + and – symbols in front (instead of N S E or W behind) as follows: + for N Lat or E Long - for S Lat or W Long and replace the comma with a space, therefore in *Google Maps* enter: +57.482932 -4.46117 .

Another good resource to help understand the boundaries of parishes pre-1890 is included in the *GENUKI* site ([www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct/](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct/)).

By Bruce A McLennan

## DATES TO REMEMBER

(You always find the most recent Events Calendar on our Website:

[www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com](http://www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com) )

### OURS

19 June	2011 AGM&Ceilidh, Roseville Community C'tre, 110 King St.E.Doncaster	(Mel.34 B 9/10)
20 Nov.	2011 Christmas Picnic Gathering, Woodlands Park, Essendon.	(Mel.28 F1)
1 Apl.	2012 Ringwood Highland Gathering & Games, Jubilee Park, Ringwood	(Mel.49 J10/11)

### OTHERS

29 May	2011 Scottish Heritage Day, Greaves Reserve, Dandenong	(03-9794 0562)
11-12 June	2011 National Celtic Festival, Portarlington, Vic.	(0403 192 631)
24 June-		
3 July	2011 Scottish Week in Sydney, NSW	(02-9654 2494)
25 June	2011 Kilmore Celtic Festival, Vic.	(03-5781 1711)
26 June	2011 Hogmanay Australis, Ascot House, Moonee Ponds, Vic.	(03-9803 9678)
3July	2011 Kirkin' o' the Tartan, Scots' Church, Melbourne. 11am (byo lunch)	(03-9836 4232)
13-14Aug	2011 Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games, Canada	
16-18 Sept	2011 'Clans on the Coast' Celtic Festival, Nelson Bay, NSW	(0418 495 336)
9 Oct	2011 Scottish Clans & Ass'ns C'cl Luncheon, Karralyka Centre, E.R'wood	(03-9836 4232)
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 142nd 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)
3 Dec	2011 Daylesford Highland Gathering, Victoria Park	(03-5348 1793)
2 Jan	2012 151st Maryborough Highland Gathering, Princes Park	(03-5461 1904)

## 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	MacIain 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. Tel: 03) 9379 2425