



THE CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

No 83

September 2009

The first meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia was held on December 3, 1986 in Brisbane. The current elected committee is:

<i>PATRON:</i>	<i>Mr Archibald Douglas</i>
<i>PRESIDENT:</i>	<i>Mrs Jan Shaw</i>
<i>VICE PRESIDENT & MINUTES SECRETARY:</i>	<i>Ms Jenny Smith</i>
<i>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:</i>	<i>Mrs Sue Taylor</i>
<i>TREASURER:</i>	<i>Ms Kate Godfrey</i>
<i>EDITOR & GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH:</i>	<i>Mrs Mary Smith</i>
<i>WEB SITE ADMINISTRATOR:</i>	<i>Ms Penny Shaw</i>
<i>GENERAL COMMITTEE:</i>	<i>Mr Archie Douglas, Mr John & Mrs Robin Godfrey, Mrs Dell Armstrong</i>

Aims and Objectives of the Association

- To act as a representative body of Douglas and its Septs
- To encourage genealogical research and documentation of Douglas history
- To promote fellowship amongst members
- To establish and maintain contact with other Douglas associations throughout the world
- Provide members four Newsletters a year (members are invited to contribute articles of general interest)
- Provide social gatherings to enable Members to meet.

Clan Douglas Website - www.clandouglas.org.au

The website currently offers the following features for members and general public.

- General Information about the Clan Douglas (members and public)
- Events (members and public)
- Discussion board (forum for members and public)
- Newsletters (members only)
- Photo gallery (members only)
- Family tree software (members only)
- Application form (public and members)

Members can log in with a user name and password to view areas that are not available for the general public, thus maintaining privacy and adding value to your membership.

All members must first register on the site. Registration follows a confirmation and approved process so that only paid-up members can register. Just follow the instructions sent in the registration email. Once approved, you can use your username and password to log in at any time.

Website Help - please email the Web site Administrator at administrator@clandouglas.org.au for assistance.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In writing my message for Newsletter No.83, I'd like to acknowledge the interest and participation of our younger committee members who actively keep the older original ones up to date!

Kate Godfrey our competent Treasurer, is the daughter of committee members John & Robin Godfrey and is always looking for ways to increase our bank balance.

Penny Shaw my daughter and the Website designer and administrator, is always hopeful more members will add to the website data.

Jenny Smith our Vice President and Secretary, also helps her mother Mary Smith with the Newsletter and was responsible for the 'new look' of Newsletter No. 82.

Sue Taylor also Mary Smith's daughter, is our capable Membership Secretary.

Even though the committee is all related, we do conduct lively meetings with ideas bouncing off each other. It was never our intention that CDAA be administered by the same branch of the Douglas Clan, but it has come about because of that branch's intention and commitment to keep the CDAA going. However, we would welcome Douglas members from other branches to join the executive if they possibly could.

Which brings me to mention the Questionnaire included with this Newsletter — please take a little time to fill it in and return it to us (Do it now, before you forget !)

Kirkin' o' the Tartan on 21st June was a splendid Scottish event and I am happy to report that Clan Douglas was well represented there. Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, the Governor General was present and mingled happily with us at morning tea. Her husband, Michael Bryce, who is an Armiger was unwell and unable to attend.

I do sincerely hope to welcome CDAA members at the AGM at 2p.m. on Saturday 7th November, at my house at 116 Strong Ave., Graceville. All welcome!

Jan Shaw (nee Douglas) President

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY

Member Beryl Turner has emailed inviting the CDAA to help with sponsoring a Cambodian doctor to complete a course in Public Health Medicine in Phnom Penh. The donation will be tax deductible. Dr Kate Bruck is supervising the selection of nominees for support in Cambodia. All money donated will go to the medical staff as there are no costs or fees associated with the donation. If any members of CDAA would like to donate personally please go to the AMAQ website at <http://www.amaqfoundation.org.au/index.php?action=view&view=1204> CDAA committee has agreed to donate a once off amount of \$50.

New Members: Julie McDonald, Eoin MacRuari, Darryl Douglass, Andrew Douglas. Welcome!



BOOK ON SHEARING AND SHEARERS LAUNCHED

To contribute to Queensland's 150 years as a State, Roma based authors Jim Allen and David Bowden have compiled an entertaining collection of first hand reminiscences, photos and historical background from the great wool industry of the State. It is the stories from those who were engaged in shearing of the sheep, those millions of sheep, and their tremendous work, their play, jokes and calamities. Titled "Reminiscences of shearing and shearers" the book was launched today at a function held in new Roma Community Arts Centre Library.

While launching the book Roma district identity Jock Douglas said that Jim and David had drawn from their own experiences and industry knowledge and had added to that with over 50 interviews from shearers, wool pressers, shed hands, graziers and wool industry people. "There is great Australian humour in these original stories and there is important history also such as the backdrop of the shearers' leading part in the formation of the Labour Party" he said. "Jim Allen and David Bowden have compiled these engaging accounts of characters and events into a book which provides a bigger picture of an important era with insights into the character and culture of Queensland bush people."

Jim Allen said, "We just wrote it as they said it". Readers will discover what these shearers and wool industry people said will keep them amused and engrossed. It may even trigger many more humorous recollections in people from across western Queensland and beyond for Jim and David to gather.

More information contact: Jim Allen 0407 226 059; whipham@yahoo.com.au

Another book just launched by the Queensland Women's Historical Association Inc. and the Brisbane City Council is titled "BOOROODABIN" compiled by Diana Hacker of Brisbane. It is a Sesquicentenary History of Breakfast Creek, Bowen Hills, Newstead and Teneriffe 1823-2009 and was donated to the Clan Douglas Library by committee members John & Robin Godfrey. The book was launched at *Miegunyah* on 18th April 2009.

BOOROODABIN HISTORY & THE PERRY & DOUGLAS FAMILIES

This book, edited by Diana Hacker, is a wonderfully presented picture of the life and times of this area of Brisbane and the people who lived there. The years of the Perry family and their homes, "Folkestone" and "Miegunyah", and the Archie Douglas home, "Murwari", are described in some detail and the book is well illustrated with fascinating reproductions of early photographs of people and places of the era. The book was published as a joint project of the Qld Women's Historical Association Inc and the Brisbane City Council.

The launch took place at "Miegunyah" in Jordan Terrace, Bowen Hills, which is now the headquarters of the Queensland Women's Historical Association, and is a most interesting museum with displays of artefacts relevant to the area. Many people from surrounding areas attended as well as those with family connections, some of whom loaned items of historical interest for display on the day. Visitors were warmly welcomed to the afternoon proceedings and supplied with a delicious afternoon tea after the official launch.

A copy of the book may be obtained from the Qld Women's Historical Association Inc. Miegunyah, 35 Jordan Terrace, Bowen Hills, 4006.

The book covers many areas of historical interest including recollections of residents and wartime use of the Booroodabin area, women and men who lived in the district, streets and residences, prominent families of the area and many other interesting items. Illustrations and maps are well represented also schools, parks, hospitals and hotels of the area. Biographies are numerous including both men and women. A history book well worth having in your library as it seems to cover most items of interest to all.



DRUMLANRIG (continued)

Henry How Douglas was born 27/Oct/1858 the son of William Willoughby and Frances Jane Douglas nee How of Salwarpe; died Poona, India, 03/Sep/1890 of typhoid; buried at Poona; educ. Hartley Row (1868-1879); 1871 joined the Britannia; 1888 1st class Assistant Surveyor; Lieutenant RN; married 09/Feb/1888, Winifred Fisher daughter of Rev. Thomas Ruggles Fisher, Rector of Lyston. She married (2) Colonel AE Leslie and married (3) Colonel Arthur Henry Dopping Creagh. The issue of Henry How & Winifred Douglas nee Fisher:

1. Henry Douglas born 1888
2. Winifred Mary Douglas born 27/Oct/1889; died 12/Jun/1898; buried Salisbury cemetery.

Robert Gresley Douglas was born 24/Mar/1862 the son of William Willoughby and Frances Jane Douglas nee How of Salwarpe; educ. Marlborough and Keble Colleges, Oxford; 1885 BA 1887 MA; 1885-1887 Curate of St Matthew's Church, Leicester; 1887-1889 Curate of Northfield, Worcestershire; 1890-1893 Vicar of Fichsburg, Orange Free State, South Africa; 1893-1897 Rector of Beaconsfield, Criqualand; 1897-1901 Vicar of St Peter's Church, Stockport; 1901-1905 Vicar of North Wibley, Gloucestershire; 1905-1911 Rector of Rondebosch, South Africa; 1916-1927 Rector of Winchelsea; married 27/Nov/1895, Ethel Anne Rome Blunt, daughter of Thomas Blunt, MD and had issue

1. Robert Claude Gresley Douglas born 18/Sep/1898; educ. Lancing and Royal Military College Sandhurst; married 21/Aug/1926, Solange Francoise van Grevelinge daughter of Georges van Grevelinge of Rouen, France.

Henry Douglas born 19/Feb/1828, son of the Rev. Henry and Eleanor Douglas nee Birt of Salwarpe; died 09/Jan/1893; educ. Charterhouse; partner in the company of Hanckell and Du Buisson, East India merchants, at Laurence Poultney Lane, London E.C.; married 05/May/1857, Maria Dighton, daughter of Rev. James Lister Dighton Vicar of Dixon, and had issue:

1. Mary Ann Douglas, born 21/Feb/1858; died 19/Mar/1861.
2. Ellen Douglas born 16/Apr/1859; died 1941; buried Bodenham; married Richard Crawshay Bailey (MA of Oxford).
3. Katherine Elizabeth Douglas born 02/Jan/1861;
4. Margaret Alice Douglas born 06/Nov/1862;
5. Henry Dighton Douglas (see below)
6. Florence Mary Douglas born 09/Jun/1872;

5. Henry Dighton Douglas born 18/Nov/1864 the only son of Henry & Maria Douglas nee Dighton of Salwarpe; educ. Charterhouse; married 11/Nov/1896, Jessie Nora Walton, daughter of Charles Bendysche Walton of Montrose House, Mussoorie, India, and had issue:

- 5.1. Vera Winifred Douglas born Sep/1897; died Dec/1898;
- 5.2. Norman Dighton Douglas born 10/Mar/1900, killed in action India, 12/Dec/1919;
- 5.3. Kathleen Nora Douglas born 31/Jul/1901
- 5.4. Audrey Douglas born 17/Mar/1910;
- 5.5. Daphne Margaret Douglas born 08/Nov/1911

Thomas Douglas of Derwent Lodge, Tunbridge Wells, Kent born 01/Mar/1840, the son of Rev. Henry & Eleanor Douglas nee Birt of Salwarpe; died 11/Dec/1919; 1856-1890 1st Bishop of Christ Church, New Zealand; married 10/Jun/1869 in New Zealand, Janet Harrietta Harper, daughter of the Right Rev. Henry John Chitty Harper, 1st Bishop of Christ Church, New Zealand and had issue:

1. Ellen Douglas born 24/Sep/1872; died 29/Dec/1873; buried Salwarpe;
2. Herbert Archibald Douglas (see below)
3. Evelyn Janet Douglas born 19/Mar/1876
4. Mary Douglas born 01/Sep/1878; married 23/Apr/1903 Leonard Henry Wace of Kingsland, Dorset
5. Robert Henry Douglas
6. Bridget Emma Frances Douglas b. 04/Feb/1888; married 05/Jun/1913 Rev. Francis William Gresley Douglas son of Archibald & Carolina Douglas nee Francis.

2. Herbert Archibald Douglas was born 02/Apr/1873, the son of Thomas & Janet Douglas nee Harper of Tunbridge Wells, Kent; educ. Eton; 1896 joined the Wiltshire regiment, serving most of his time in India; later the Army Service Corps. Transferred to the Indian Supply and Transport Service; obtained a medal for his part in the Mohmand expedition on the Indian frontier; 1914-15 with the Indian troops in France in Despatches; 1916 to Mesopotamia as Lieutenant-Colonel; married 05/Dec/1915, Louise Doll of Landrecies, France and had issue:

- 2.1. Maurice Robert Henry Douglas born and died 02/Nov/1917;
- 2.2. James Alexander Douglas born Simla, India 22/Jul/1919; educ. Uni. of Oxford (MA); married 31/Mar/1950 Mary Tew d/o Charles Tew of Marlow, Bucks.;

5. Robert Henry Douglas was born 27/Mar/1881, the son of Thomas & Janet Douglas nee Harper of Tunbridge Wells, Kent; educ. Haileybury and Pembroke Colleges, Cambridge (MAS 1907); served as an army chaplain during First World War; Vicar of Langton Green, Kent; married 14/Jul/1921, Edith Joy Williams daughter of Frederic Vernon Williams of Shirley Hall, Kent and had issue:

- 5.1. Robert Vernon Douglas born 26/Mar/1924
- 5.2. Thomas Hugh Douglas born 06/Apr/1926
- 5.3. Katharine Douglas born 06/Jan /1929
- 5.4. Janet Eye Douglas born 06/Jan/1929

Charles Philip Douglas of St Martins House, Chester, was born 15/Feb/1841 the son of Henry & Eleanor Douglas nee Birt of Salwarpe; died 14/Mar/1908; educ. Durham Grammar School; solicitor and partner in the firm of Birch, Cullimore & Douglas of Chester; married 08/Sep/1874, Jane Wylde daughter of the Rev. John Wylde of Bradford Belbroughton, Worcestershire and had issue:

1. Dorothy Mary Douglas born 12/Jun/1875
2. John Philip Douglas (see below)
3. Charles Geoffrey Douglas born 18/Mar/1878; died 18/Aug/1929; educ. Sedbergh and Pembroke Colleges, Oxford; Vicar of Crewe Green, Cheshire;
4. Robert Vaughan Douglas born 29/Jun/1881; educ. Cheltenham and RMA Woolwich; Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal Artillery; married 16/Jan/1917, Gladys Mary Lewes daughter of John Lewes;
5. Helen Douglas born 09/Jan/1883; died 05/Mar/1884;
6. Henry Kenneth Douglas born 10/Dec/1885; died 21/May/1919; buried Chester; educ. Rossall and Pembroke Colleges, Cambridge (LL.B); temporary Lieutenant-Commander RND, Volunteer Service, active in World War 1; partner in the firm of Cooper & Co., solicitors, Newcastle, Staffordshire.
7. James Sholto Douglas was born 21/Feb/1889, died 18/Dec/1916; buried Chester; Lieutenant-Commander Royal Navy; present at the defence of Antwerp in World War 1; Head of St Benedict's Home for working lads at Badsey.

John Philip Douglas was born 31/Jul/1876 the son of Philip & Jane Douglas nee Wylde of Bradford Belbroughton, Worcestershire; educ. Marlborough and Magdalene Colleges, Cambridge; married 1905 Nelly Fletcher, daughter of Isaac Fletcher of Seaton Lodge, Upton, Birkenhead and had issue:

1. Dorothy Helen Douglas born 13/Oct/1905
2. Charles Philip Douglas born 03/May/1907; educ. United Services and Royal Military Colleges, Sandhurst; married 26/Aug/1932, Patricia Dudley daughter of G. de S. Dudley of Highfield, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight.
3. John Malcolm Douglas born 25/Sep/1910; educ. United Services College and RMA;

(Taken from *The History of the Family of Douglas* by Percy Douglas, pp 154-159)



THE EARLS OF ANGUS Part 3

(Taken from the writings of Robert Maxwell in 'A History of the House of Douglas')
Compiled by Jan Shaw

ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS 5TH EARL OF ANGUS (BELL THE CAT)

In the previous two instalments we have seen how the Earls of Angus rose to power, especially the 4th Earl who obtained extreme power and a position of financial stability to be envied by other Lords of the Realm. However, with the complications of power struggles within the Scottish noblemen, the Regents acting for very young Kings and often, the fickleness of the Kings and Queens themselves, estates, titles and power can come and go as we shall read in the following successions of the Earls of Angus.

The history of 'Bell the Cat' and his successor, the 6th Earl of Angus, who was married for some time to Queen Margaret of Scotland (widow of James IV and sister of King Henry VIII of England) became very much involved with the throne, which continues with their daughter Margaret Douglas. As Countess of Lennox, Margaret Douglas was the Mother of Lord Darnley who was married for a short period to Mary, Queen of Scots. Lord Darnley was subsequently murdered by his Douglas uncles. This period of Scottish History has been very well documented with different historians giving differing points of view.

[It is far too complicated and lengthy for me to make a coherent précis for our Newsletter so I suggest that for those CDAA members who are interested in reading the whole of what Robert Maxwell has to say in 'A History of the House of Douglas' to please contact me and I shall post you a photocopy —Jan Shaw. I shall however give some of the main events in the lives of those Earls of Angus and continue with the succession, but I may remind the CDAA members who are descended from Robert Douglas of Kangaroo Point 1816 – 1890 that from Archibald Douglas, the 5th Earl of Douglas we branch off the Angus line as we are descended from his second son, William Douglas of Braidwood and Glenbervie b.c1470.]

Archibald Douglas 5th Earl of Angus (Bell the Cat) b. 1449. He succeeded his father, who, when he died was buried at Abernethy on 12th March 1463. Archibald was about 14 at the time of succession and as was the custom of the period, he was already

betrothed in 1461 to the Earl of Huntly's daughter, Katherine Gordon. It was to be a marriage of convenience not only for Archibald and Katherine but also into the betrothal contract was written that should either Katherine or Archibald die before a wedding 'any son or heir of the honorabile Lorde George erle of Angowss' (sic) should marry any daughter whom he, Huntly, should have to dispose of.'

However this union never took place.

A more powerful noble appeared on the scene before Archibald became of age to marry. Robert, Lord Boyd who was the head of the predominant faction in King James III's reign, arranged in 1468 for Angus to marry his daughter, Elizabeth Boyd. A court intrigue occurred at this time. Lord Boyd who had the young 14 year old King taken at Linlithgow was then appointed his governor. Boyd's own eldest son was created the Earl of Arran when he married the King's eldest sister, Mary. So Lord Boyd was powerful indeed, but with the alliance of the Douglas marriage, he had hoped to strengthen his position as Angus, the Red Douglas, held all the old Douglas Estates.

Also in 1468, the Earl of Arran was sent as an ambassador to Denmark to negotiate the marriage of King Christian's daughter, Margaret, with King James III. However, during his absence from Scotland Lord Hamilton's faction managed to poison young James III's mind against Arran to such a degree that when he returned, he was warned by his wife (the king's sister) that his life was in danger if he landed. He immediately sought refuge at King Christian's Court. His father, Lord Boyd fled to England and his brother Sir Alexander was tried for high treason and executed for kidnapping the King (at Linlithgow) and all the Boyd estates were forfeited to the Crown. Boyd had gained nothing from the Douglas alliance and Angus was not deprived from the disgrace of his wife's family, for in the next year, he regained the Lordship of Douglas and Tantallon from his guardian uncle, William Douglas of Cluny.

James III was neither a popular nor diligent ruler, he became unpopular with his nobles

because of his intimate friendship with students and craftsmen and when his brother, the Earl of Mar died as his captive in prison, he gave the Earldom and revenues to Thomas Cochrane, a builder who became his chief advisor. When James III suspected that treason was afoot, he had his brothers, the Duke of Albany and the Earl of Mar thrown into prison. Mar died in a dungeon and Albany escaped from Edinburgh Castle and made his way to France.

Later in 1482 the Duke of Albany landed in England from France and was conducted to the English King Edward IV's Court, and under the assumed title of Alexander King of Scotland, he entered into a bond with Edward IV. Then the Duke of Gloucester, (later Richard III) took command of an English army of invasion on Albany's behalf. King James marched with his followers to Lauder where Angus and the other Lords had met together in the Kirk of Lauder. They were all of the same mind that the court needed to be rid of James's friends — the bricklayers and fiddlers. But who was ready to risk his head by taking the lead against the King? Lord Gray's humour had compared the meeting to mice who had decided to put a bell on the cat's neck. No mouse would volunteer for such a ticklish task.

"I WILL BELL THE CAT!"

cried Angus, and won the name which for ever after he was best known.

The gist of what follows is that Angus took Thomas Cochrane prisoner when he tried to join the meeting in the Kirk, and confronted the King with his chief advisor. Cochrane was accused in a self-constituted court that he and his colleagues misrepresented Albany and Mar before the King and had also persuaded the King to debase the coinage. The outcome of the accusation was that before sundown, Cochrane and his followers were dangling lifeless in halters over the Lauder Bridge.

Angus, having 'Belled the Cat' to some purpose, was now the leader of the rebellious barons. To Edinburgh they carried the king who, although in reality a prisoner, was treated with ceremonial respect. To gain his liberty, James had to come to terms with his brother Albany. When Albany came to Edinburgh, James affected gratitude and restored his offices, also making him Lieutenant of the Realm and Earl of Mar.

Discontent amongst the nobles continued as Angus' favour with the King and Albany came and went, but in 1492 the King made Angus Chancellor of Scotland and during the five years he held it a good deal of useful legislation was accomplished.

After his first Countess, Elizabeth Boyd had died, Angus in 1498 entered into a marriage contract with Janet, the beautiful daughter of John, Lord Kennedy. But Janet had an even more noble quarry in mind and became the mistress of James IV to whom in 1501 she bore a son (afterwards to become James, Earl of Moray)

It is not clear if Angus and Janet were ever married but if so, her liaison with the King must have brought about a divorce, for in 1500 the Earl married Katherine, daughter of Sir William Stirling of Keir. Angus then set about dividing his possessions amongst his sons. The Lordship of Bothwell he bestowed in 1504 upon his second son, William, afterwards of Glenbervie, to whom also he granted Braidwood in 1510. In 1511 he resigned Abernethy to his eldest son George leaving himself landless as George was already in possession of the whole of the Douglas and Angus estates.

1513, an ever-memorable one for Scotland, was the year of the Battle of Flodden. King James IV of Scotland declared war on England and his brother-in-law King Henry VIII. The conflict had begun when James needed to honour the Auld Alliance with France by diverting Henry's English troops from their campaign against the French King Louis XII. England was involved in a larger conflict, defending Italy and the Pope from the French. James mustered 30,000 soldiers and followers, the largest army to cross the border to invade England c. 29th August. The Battle ended at the Field of Flodden on 9th September, 1513 with a defeat of the Scots — over 10,000 men were killed including the King, his son the Archbishop of St. Andrews, 9 earls, 14 Lords of Parliament, and several Highland Chiefs. Included amongst the dead was the 5th Earl of Angus' eldest son and heir, George, the master of Angus and his second son Sir William Douglas of Braidwood and Glenbervie. It is doubtful if the 5th Earl actually fought in the battle as at this time he was 64 years of age and sent his two sons to represent him, but he had urged the King to reconsider invading England. Later on 21st September that year

he was present in Stirling at the coronation of James V and was appointed Regent and as one of the advisers to the Queen-mother (Queen Margaret, the sister of King Henry VIII of England), he then became Provost of Edinburgh. His exact date of death is uncertain, but it was sometime between 29th October and 31st January, 1514. He was buried in the monastery of St. Ninian at Whithorn, his heart being taken to the church of St. Bride at Douglas. His grandson, Archibald Douglas, succeeded him as 6th Earl of Angus and master of Tantallon and its lands.

Godscroft has said of Angus 'Bell the Cat', "He was upright and square in his actions , sober and moderate in his desires ... one fault that he had, he was too much give to women, otherwise there was little of nothing that was amiss". His first wife, Elizabeth Boyd was the mother of all his legitimate children, four sons and three daughters. After his first and second sons were killed at Flodden, there was Gavin, who became the Bishop of Dunkeld, and his fourth son was Archibald of Kilspindie, "Greysteil". By his second and third wives, he didn't have any children.

TO BE CONTINUED

BIRTHS:

It is with much pleasure that we welcome into the Douglas Family, **Hamish Roger Eather**, born 03/Jul/2009, son of Craig and Roxane Eather of Caboolture, Q'ld. Great grandparents Winifred nee Roseby and member of the CDAA and the late Stewart Eather of Narrabri. 2 x great grandmother was Sophia Florence Douglas of *Mt Maria*, Morven, Q'ld.

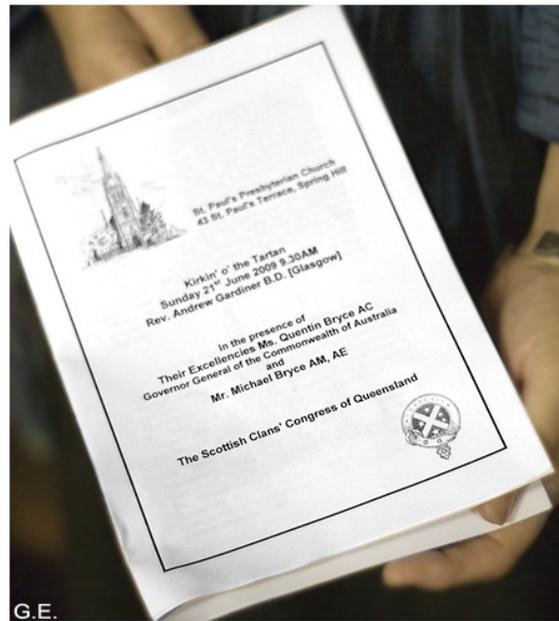


Above L: Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia meeting and greeting friends outside St Paul's Presbyterian Church, Spring Hill, Brisbane on the occasion of the Kirkin' o' The Tartan, Sunday 21st June 2009.

Above R: Some of the flags displayed at the altar.



G.E.



G.E.

Above L: Sue Taylor Tartan carrier (Membership Secretary) and Jenny Smith (Vice President / Minutes Secretary) holding the Clan Douglas Association of Australia's banner before proceeding into the church for the Kirkin' o' The Tartan Ceremony.

Above R: Kirkin' o' The Tartan Ceremonial Program



G.E.

Above: Inside St Paul's Presbyterian Church, Spring Hill, Brisbane before the Kirkin' o' The Tartan.

WHO REALLY DISCOVERED THE WATER-PROOFING PROCESS?

We have all been led to believe that it was Charles Macintosh, and, in a sense he did. But, the real founder of the actual process was another Scot — “James Syme”. Confused? Let’s go back to the beginning, back to the early part of the nineteenth century.

In Dr. John Hope’s underground chemistry laboratory, in Edinburgh’s Lothian Street, a group of students are completing their preparations for the next day’s class. Finished they emerge into the fresh air, but one remains behind, he is on the verge of his own discovery. This studious student is 18-year-old, James Syme, who is about to embark on a medical course very soon.

Young Syme has discovered a method of dissolving rubber to produce a “water-proofing” solution. Even with the process in its early stages, he saw the tremendous possibilities, and in March, 1818, he made his discovery known to Dr. Thomson, Editor of “The Annals of Philosophy”, in Glasgow. Syme sent him his paper in which he set out the technical details of his experiments. Summarised they described coal-tar as having a resemblance to petroleum and explained how he had set out to distil coal tar and produce a fluid which, like “Naphtha”, could have the property of dissolving, “India Rubber, or, Gum Elastic” — “Caoutchouc”. In this way, a substance would be created that, was in effect, “water-proof”, sadly, Syme’s Paper was not published until August 1818. As far as Symes was concerned, he had submitted his paper, and was not really interested in taking out a “patent”, as it was not in keeping with the professional ethics of medicine, which he was particularly concerned. That was the end of his chemical researches.

Whoever else may have read Syme’s important paper, another Scot found it of great interest — “Charles Macintosh of Glasgow”. He was an early industrial chemist or great ability, and, already had many discoveries to his credit. He was born in Glasgow, on 29th December, 1766, 33 years older than Syme. After his education at Glasgow grammar School, and later, in England, Macintosh worked for some time in the counting-house of a Glasgow merchant, but, just as young Syme had done, spent all his spare time attending chemistry lessons.

Giving up on his office job, Macintosh pursued the manufacture of various materials for household use, often, drawing on discoveries made abroad, such as dyes for fabrics.

As an associate of, “Charles Tennant of St. Rollox”, in Glasgow, he invented a brand of “Chloride of Lime”, and, also of “Bleaching Powder”, widely used by Scottish Housewives. Macintosh rediscovered the use of “Naphtha” as a solvent for rubber and the use of the solution for water-proofing, in 1820, this was two years after young James Syme. Five years later, Macintosh took out a patent for the process. In 1825, Macintosh teamed up with an Englishman, Thomas Hancock, and went into partnership. They opened a factory in Manchester, and were soon supplying water-proof material for a rapidly increasing range of uses. Whatever would be useful if waterproofed, Macintosh and Hancock provided.

In 1836, Mackintosh sued an English firm for infringing his patent, and won the case. Macintosh made important contributions to industrial chemistry and he was deservedly elected a “Fellow of The Royal Society”. Following a highly enterprising and profitable business career, he died on 25th July, 1842.

James Syme had gone on to achieve great distinction in his chosen field of surgery. Born in Edinburgh, in 1799, of a Fife family, Syme had been educated at the city’s High School before entering medical school. At the height of his career, Syme was considered the greatest living authority on surgery. Many famous people consulted him privately at Millbank, his fine house, at Morningside.

Syme, famous enough in his own right, enjoyed a certain reflected glory through his daughter’s marriage to the illustrious surgeon and pioneer of antiseptic surgery, “James Lister”, who had studied under Syme and, later succeeded him as Professor of Surgery. So while Charles Macintosh developed Syme’s discovery and became a household name, the young medical student, who, let a fortune pass him by in the commercial world, rose to be celebrated in the world of surgery, but, sadly afterwards, forgotten.

In 1847, five years after Macintosh’s death, Syme was asked about his discovery. He

answered with no ill-feeling that, "He had gained confidence by successfully overcoming a scientific problem, which, had set him up for his chosen field."
"TWO GREAT SCOTS!"

(Taken from the Editors Note in *Raising The Standard*, the Scottish & Celtic Magazine, Vol XV, Ed.3 May-June 2009). Contributed by Jan Shaw.

WRITERS TO THE SIGNET (Continued)

Writers to the Signet was a private society of Scottish solicitors originating as far back as 500 years. The signet being the seal used by Scottish Kings to authenticate documents. The writers of these documents were skilled clerks and had to have a knowledge of both the law and Latin. Over the years, as the number of seals increased so did qualification standards to the Society which were raised accordingly. Writers were admitted to the Society upon nomination, usually after serving an apprenticeship.

DOUGLAS, Walter [8 January 1666]. Apprentice to, and son of, Alexander Douglas, W.S. — Born 31/Dec/1633. Buried 26/Dec/1666.

DOUGLAS, William [23/Nov/1802]. Apprentice to Bain Whyt. — Son of Archibald Douglas, S.S.C., Edinburgh. Born 26/Feb/1781. Married 15/Dec/1806, Anna (died 28/Apr/1865), daughter of Captain John Brown of Broadchapel, Lochmaben. Died 16/Jul/1841.

DOUGLAS, Duncan, B.A. (Cantab.), LL.B. [26/Nov/1956]. Apprentice to David Blyth Bogle and Others of Lindsay, Howe & Co. — Son of William Alexander Scott Douglas, W.S., Edinburgh. Born 03/May/1931. Married 10/Sep/1955, Patience Mary, daughter of Charles Lindsay Saul. Firms: — (1) Boyd, Jameson & Young; (2) Bonar Mackenzie & Kermack (formerly MacKenzie & Kermack). (Retired).

DOUGLAS, Hugh Scott, M.A. (Oxon), LL.B. [28/Nov/1955]. Apprentice to Gilbert Lindsay Douglas Hole and Others of Gillespie and Paterson. — Son of William Alexander Scott Douglas, W.S., Edinburgh. Born 19/May/1929. Married 19/Dec/1955, Shirley Margaret Chegwiddden, Penarth, Wales. Barrister-at-Law in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Died as a result of a road accident 16/Apr/1979.

DOUGLAS, William Alexander Scott, LL.B. [7 December 1914]. Apprentice to T.J. Carlyle Gifford. — son of John Gordon Douglas, West Indian Merchant, Edinburgh. Born 07/Mar/1883. Married 20/Nov/1926, Isobel Frances, daughter of Rev. James Ewing Somerville, D.D., Mentone and Crieff. Died 21/Mar/1965. Firm: Baillie and Gifford.

DOUGLAS, William Robin, B.L. [25 April 1960]. Apprentice to Charles Stewart Henderson of Patrick & James. — Son of Archibald Douglas, Banker, Edinburgh. Born 17/Oct/1931. Married 18/Oct/1957, Margaret Amos, daughter of Laurence Littlejohn, engineer. Firm: Patrick & James.

Courtesy of Mr Robert Pirrie, Chief Executive, The WS Society, Edinburgh, Scotland
(Taken from the *Register of the Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet*, Edinburgh, pp.90 & 284)



EDITORIAL:

The Clan Douglas AGM is scheduled to be held on 7th November 2009 at 116 Strong Avenue, Graceville 4075 at 2pm. An ordinary meeting will be held prior to AGM. The Executive urge you to attend if at all possible. All Welcome!

Also, we would like some feedback regarding the questionnaire enclosed in this newsletter so that your suggestions can be discussed and decisions made at the AGM. So please take a few minutes to fill in the questionnaire and return to address given. Thank You!

Mary Smith, Editor.



CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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We invite you and your family to join this Association. We ask you especially to support the Committee and help us bring together people of Douglas Ancestry, Sept families and other connections, from all over Australia, New Zealand and the world. Any one descended from, connected by marriage, or adopted by a Douglas or Sept of Douglas is eligible to join.

The Sept families of the House of Douglas are: Bell, Blacklock, Blackstock, Blackwood, Brown, Brownlee, Cavers, Dickey, Douglass, Drysdale, Forrest, Forrester, Foster, Gilpatrick, Glendinning, Inglis, Kilgore, Kilpatrick, Kirkland, Kirkpatrick, Lockerby, MacGuffey, MacGuffock, McKittrick, Morton, Sandilands, Sandlin, Simms, Soule, Sterritt, Symington, Syme, Young.

The Clan Douglas Association acknowledges that on the list of Sept families there are some who are recognised as belonging to other clans, but some families of these surnames were closely linked with branches of the Douglas' in the early years. We ask you to please notify anyone else you know to be eligible to join, especially those who may not be on our mailing list.

Clan Douglas of Australia - Membership Form

Surname:.....First Name:.....

Address:

.....Post Code:

Telephone number: ()Email address:.....

Place of family origin overseas (if known):.....

Place of family origin, Australia or N.Z.:.....

Would you like your Newsletter emailed or posted: (please circle)

Membership fee per year \$20-00 per family

Signature of applicant:.....

Please make cheques payable in Australian currency to Clan Douglas Association of Australia and post to the Membership Secretary, Clan Douglas Association of Australia, 6 Helidon Grove, Jacob's Ridge, Ormeau 4208, Queensland, Australia.

**CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA
QUESTIONNAIRE**

Your CDAA Committee meets regularly to keep up the business of CDAA. Our Newsletter Editor also regularly provides us with CDAA news and information, but very seldom do we have any input or feedback, either positive or negative from members.

We would like to hear from you and share your views/information through the Newsletter.

Could you please take a little time to answer/add to this questionnaire and help us to make CDAA more up-to-date, appropriate and interesting.

Your Name (optional):

1. How can CDAA best provide help or information for you?

.....
.....

2. Which are the most interesting articles in the Newsletter?

.....
.....

3. Which are the least interesting articles?

.....
.....

4. What type of articles would you like in the Newsletter?

- a. Ancient Douglas/Sept History
- b. Modern Douglas /Sept History
- c. General Scottish History
- d. Genealogical notes of Douglas/Sept Families
- e. Profiles of Members
- f. Local news of members eg photos/b.d.m
- g. Jokes & Puzzles
- h. Scottish Recipes
- i. Other

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.....
.....

Thank you for taking time to answer our questionnaire. We hope to include your suggestions in our next Newsletter.

Please post your completed questionnaire with your annual subscription to the Membership Secretary or email to any member of the CDAA Committee (addresses on the back of the Newsletter.)

CLAN DOUGLAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday, November 7th, 2009
AT: 116 Strong Ave. Graceville, 4075
TIME: 2.00pm

Nomination Form

CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

NAME	POSITION
NOMINATED BY	SIGNATURE
SECONDED BY	SIGNATURE
SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	

RENEWAL TIME!
SUBSCRIPTION NOW DUE FOR 2009-2010

Clan Douglas of Australia - Membership Renewal Form

Surname:..... First Name:.....

Address:

.....Post Code:

Telephone number: () Email address:.....

Place of family origin overseas (if known):

Place of family origin, Australia or New Zealand:

Would you like your Newsletter emailed or posted: (please circle)

Membership fee per year \$20-00 per family

Signature of applicant:.....

Please make cheques payable in Australian currency to Clan Douglas Association of Australia and post to the Membership Secretary, Clan Douglas Association of Australia, 6 Helidon Grove, Jacob's Ridge, Ormeau 4208, Queensland, Australia.