



Clan Donald Society

Western Australia

June Edition

From The President



Hi everyone.

Wow.... Isn't the year flying by? Since speaking to you last time I have been to Scotland and here I am back again. What an amazing trip it was. The wonderful people with whom I was fortunate enough to meet and others to catch up with yet again.

While attending the Memorial for the Battle of Culloden (on the moors)I had the pleasure of meeting Mr Ranald MacDonell the 23rd Chief of Glengarry and his wife Caroline. At the luncheon following I again was fortunate enough to meet Mrs. Lois MacDonell along with Colin and Doreen MacDonald of NZ. One very special meeting I had was with two of the Sisters from the Mary McKillop order in Fort William. I will share more about this further on in our newsletter. I would like to thank everyone at Clan Donald Armadale for making my stay there so unforgettable. Yet again.

Our thoughts and prayers are still with our New Zealand cousins who seem to be still feeling the rumbles of Mother Nature. Surely she will be over it soon. Stay strong New Zealand.

I am pleased to report that Mrs. Eileen Murphy (wife of CDSA's president) and Mrs. Inga McDonald (wife of CDSA's Commissioner) are both well on the road to recovery. We are thinking of you.

We have quite a few events happening this year. These can be checked out on our "Dates for Your Diary" section on our Website.. We are going to have so much fun in 2011. I hope that you all can join us throughout the year at these functions. Personally some of the best fun is our meetings. Why don't you give us a try, you will be made so very welcome.

Clan Donald W.A. is still so very young. The more who know about us the better the opportunity for more members. Therefore we need to be seen to be known about. The only way to achieve this is to be at as many events as we can possibly attend. Are we at plenty in the second half of this year....Yes we are. Come and say Hello ...we would love a chat.

Another piece of news is that Clan Donald W.A. is in the midst of becoming incorporated. As you would all be very much aware. The wheels of Government do not turn all that quickly. So as to date this has not yet become finalized.

Have you checked out the new additions to our website? I would like to hear any feedback you have as to what your thoughts are on our site. If there is anything that you would like to see added or you have some idea's .We would like to hear from you.

CDWA attended the Kirkin' o' the Tartan last Sunday. This is held and organized every year by the Scottish Heritage Council in WA. This event was well attended by CDWA.

Everyone had a lovely time.

Dates for your Diary

CDWA Next Meeting 21st August

Sausage Sizzle Bunnings (Hillary's) 4th September

Sausage Sizzle Bunnings (Hillary's) 24th September

Birthday Wishes

Kerensa Allason 25th June

Mary Ellen MacDonald 2nd July

Sarah Blakney 15th July

Barry McDonald 17th July

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Here is some more news for you all. Mr. James Cowie of the Perth Metro Pipe Band has confirmed that he and the Band are more than happy to come on board as Clan Donald Western Australia's Honorary Pipe Band. Thank you so very much everyone of you. Hey! Anyone can have a Piper. CDWA have the whole Band.

Don't forget to send in anything that you would like to contribute to our Newsletter. We would all enjoy reading about your Travels or maybe you have something that you would like to submit for our "Down Memory Lane section." It would be great to have you all contribute to our Newsletter. Come on everybody send in those Memories. We are all interested in our past. Who knows this could help you to link with another of your "Rellies." We have added a Scottish History section to our Newsletter now. So how about sharing all your wee Scottish stories with us. I bet they would be a great read for all.

Again I would like to say a special Thankyou to Mrs. Alison Clarke for yet another donation of more books to our library.

Congratulations must go to Mags MacDonald from "Clan Donald Armadale" on Skye. Mags and her husband became grandparents for the first time in April. Well done!! Granny & Grandpa.

Keep those recipes coming in; we need as many as we can get for our Great Scottish & Aussie recipes for the Clan Donald WA Cookbook.

We would like to get started on this as soon as possible. Thanks to those who have forwarded onto me their favourite recipes. Keep them coming in please.

I would like to apologize to someone who has been our greatest supporter since CDWA reformed. Mr. Rob McDonald Parker. I (yes me...hard to believe I know.) did not include Rob in our Birthday listing. I know it is a belated "Happy Birthday" Rob but we do hope that you had a wonderful day. Promise not to do it next year. Before I do it again and forget. Happy Fathers Day to all you Dad's out there. All at CDWA hope that you have a great day.

We would like to wish all who are having a birthday in the next couple of months a Very Happy Birthday. You are all mentioned in our Birthday section of our newsletter. Check it out!

Don't forget our T Shirts and now we have Peaked Caps. They really do look great. Just another way to advertise CDWA. So if you would like to place an order this can be done by contacting me. My details are on our Website.

Our next meeting is going to be held on the 21st August 2011 at 7 Partlet Rd, Duncraig commencing around 1.00pm. It would be very encouraging to see all members attend.

Don't forget to keep spreading the word that "**Clan Donald**" is back in W.A

Until then Remember
Bi h eibhneas gan

Chlainn Domhnaill

It is no joy without Clan Donald

Pam McDonald

President

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Clan Donald New Zealand

Kia Ora to Clan Donald Western Australia

It is with great pleasure that I write a small article for your Newsletter. When deciding what to write about I thought that some memories of my last visit to Scotland would be appropriate plus a bit about Clan Donald Canterbury.

My wife Doreen and I made our fifth trip to the UK in April this year and were fortunately there for the Culloden Commemoration on April 16th. It was a very moving ceremony on a cold Scottish day and what a terrible place to choose to fight a battle. One must wonder why Bonnie Prince Charlie chose such a desolate place. Most folk had on either full Scottish dress or at least some tartan. Some people were dressed in 1746 style complete with musket and broadsword. After a number of speeches wreaths were laid including one from Clan Donald laid by Randal MacDonell of Glengarry. Clan Donald members then marched behind a piper to the Clan Donald Burial Stone where I was privileged to lay a wreath. Your President Pamela McDonald who we had the pleasure of meeting at the Commemoration, placed an Australian flag on the wreath and my wife Doreen placed a New Zealand one on it. We then adjourned to a hotel where we were able to warm ourselves inside and out with a most enjoyable lunch. A few days later we were in Glencoe. Pam arrived there for Anzac Day so we were able to celebrate the occasion together.

Our Clan Donald Canterbury Branch will be celebrating its 20th anniversary with a dinner on the 16th July complete with haggis and all the trimmings. We usually have a haggis at our dinners piped in by our own piper Anne Smith who is also our Past President. We try to make our meetings and gatherings fairly light hearted as we want to encourage our younger members to stay with us. We sometimes have a weekend away and always take part in the Christchurch Kirkin' of the Tartan. A Ten Pin Bowling night is always fun and we often play against another clan, frequently Clan Gunn. Just recently we had an "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" evening which was hugely successful. Some of the costumes were really great. And of course the meal was country style provided by the members. In conclusion we at Clan Donald Canterbury wish you all the best for your future and we look forward to meeting you at the proposed Anzac Clan Donald gathering in Sydney in 2013.

Colin McDonald
Clan Donald Canterbury N.Z.



The Culloden Memorial on the Moors 2011. Gathering of members at the Clan Donald Stone Culloden Moors.

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Genealogy

Humour

STRANGERS IN THE BOX

Come look with me inside this
drawer,
In this box I've often seen,
The pictures black and white,
Faces proud, still and serene

I wish I knew the people,
These strangers in the box,
Their names and all their memories
Are lost among my socks.

I wonder what their lives were like,
How did they spend their days?
What about their special times?
I'll never know their ways.

If only someone had taken time
to tell who, what, where and when
these faces of my heritage
would come to life again.

Could this become the fate
of the pictures we take today?
The faces and the memories
Someday to be put away?

**Take time to save your stories,
Seize the opportunity when it
knocks, Or someday you and yours
Could be strangers in a box!**

Glenda McDonald (researcher)

Five pearls of Scottish wisdom to remember

1. Money cannot buy happiness but somehow, it's more comfortable to cry in a Mercedes Benz than it is on a bicycle.
2. Forgive your enemy but remember the bastard's name.
3. Help a man when he is in trouble and he will remember you when he is in trouble again.
4. Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.
5. Alcohol does not solve any problem, but then neither does milk.



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The Kilt

The kilt is the national dress of Scotland, Typically, it measures about 8 feet long and is made of wool. Kilts come in hundreds of tartan patterns, and contrary to popular belief, these patterns are not restricted to individual families or clans.

What is important when putting on a kilt, however, is knowing how to wear it properly. The kilt is a knee-length skirt with pleats at the rear, originating in the traditional dress of men and boys in the Scottish Highlands of the 16th century. Since the 19th century it has become associated with the wider culture of Scotland in general, or with Celtic (and more specifically Gaelic) heritage even more broadly. It is most often made of woollen cloth in a tartan pattern.

When you put on your Clan's colours you are putting on your family's history. The tartan and subsequent highland dress should always be worn with dignity and with an understanding and observation of the tradition they represent. It is an icon. People take immense care in correctly wearing proper Highland Dress, because men have died in war wearing it and men and women suffered death, transportation, privation, and hardship because the tartan was their native wear.

Although the kilt is most often worn on formal occasions and at Highland games and sports events, it has also been adapted as an item of fashionable informal male clothing, returning to its roots as an everyday garment

A common fault is a kilt hanging down below the knees. It spoils their swing and ruins any chance of the wearer being taken seriously in informed Highland dress circle

One edge of the kilt is fringed; the kilt should be worn so the fringe is on your right side. As for what to wear under the kilt, it is traditional to wear nothing at all. (The mind boggles:-))

If you decide to add a kilt pin, fix it at the bottom right side of the kilt. Pin it only to the top apron as a decorative element.

Kilt Accessories

- ❖ The kilt is usually worn with woollen socks turned down at the knee with a garter flash
- ❖ A belt with an embossed buckle Ghille Brouges... Low heeled shoe
- ❖ A sgian dubh (Gaelic black knife) a small sheathed knife worn in the top of the sock.
- ❖ A black jacket
- ❖ A Sporrán which hangs from a belt or chain from the waist.
- ❖ A kilt pin

Glenda James (researcher)

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Scottish Recipes

Cock-a-leekie Soup

This is a real Scottish classic. A hearty combination of chicken, leeks, rice and prunes, serve with wedges of warm soda bread spread thick with butter.

Prep Time 15 mins

Cook time 1 hour

Serves 4

Ingredients

15 g butter

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

270 g chicken quarter

2 leeks, trimmed

1.2 litres chicken stock

1½ tablespoons long-grain white rice

1 bouquet garni

8 prunes, stoned and chopped

Chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley or thyme to garnish

Preparation method

Melt the butter with the oil in a large non-stick saucepan over a moderate heat. Add the chicken to

1. the pan and sauté for 5 minutes until evenly browned all over.

Remove the chicken and drain on paper towels.

Cut off the green parts of the leeks and set aside. Wash the white parts

2. thoroughly, then slice thinly. Add the sliced leeks to the pan and fry for 5 minutes until soft.

Add the stock, rice and bouquet garni and return the chicken to the pan. Season to taste, and then

3. bring to the boil. Reduce the heat, cover and simmer for 30 minutes, or until the chicken is tender.

Slice the green parts of the leeks, and then add to the pan with the

4. prunes. Cover and simmer for a further 10 minutes.

Take out the bouquet garni, remove the chicken and shred the flesh into bite-size pieces,

5. discarding the skin and bone.

Return the chicken meat to the pan.

To serve, ladle the soup into warm

6. bowls and scatter with some chopped fresh parsley or thyme.



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PAMS VISIT TO THE HOMETLAND

My Scotland 2011 Adventure.

Here I am to share with you some of my visit to Scotland April/May this year as promised.

On flying into Edinburgh via K.L. & Heathrow, it was straight to the hotel. Then not wanting to waste any time I hit the shops (as you do). Great shopping, but as always you shop differently each visit. I still managed to give it a good old go though.

I was in Edinburgh for a couple of days and then in a hire car drove to Inverness for the Memorial of the Battle of Culloden. What an experience that was, on the moors. How they could fight in those conditions is unthinkable. This is where I had the pleasure of meeting the 23rd Chief of Glengarry Ranald and Caroline McDonell.

I also had the pleasure of meeting up with Colin and Doreen MacDonald of Canterbury, CDNZ, along with Mrs. Lois MacDonell the President of CD of the Highlands & the Islands. Following the service on the moors, all Clan Donald folk walked to the "Clan Donald" stone on the moors. This is where flags were placed at the stone by invited representatives of CD worldwide.



This is the Clan Donald stone on the Culloden Moors. The flags of Scotland, New Zealand, Canada, Australia and the USA were placed at the Stone by representatives of Clan Donald for each country.



Gathering of different Clans at the main **Memorial of the Battle of Culloden on the Moors** April 2011



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PAMS VISIT TO THE HOMELAND



The 23rd Chief of Glengarry. Ranald MacDonnell, and wife Caroline. at the Culloden luncheon.2011



Clan Donald Stone on the Culloden Moors.

I would like to thank Lois MacDonell for her hospitality. Lois very kindly invited me to stay with her in home on the Black Isle. Such a gracious host. I had the opportunity to spend some time with Ranald & Caroline MacDonell along with Colin & Doreen MacDonald as they too were staying with Lois. It was very relaxing to sit and chat with those who I have only had the opportunity to converse with via email.

Thankyou Lois, for kindness to me while I was visiting Inverness.

After spending two days in Inverness I left for "the Misty Isle" Skye. What a place. This is where my heart is and I feel so much "at home". To drive around that bend and see the sign "Clan Donald Armadale". You want to pinch yourself to make sure it is real. What can I say about the Flora MacDonald Suite, on the Clan Donald Estate. *WOW* would pretty much do it. I also stayed there on my visit last year and will next year (god willing).

The people who run this huge estate are just so welcoming and friendly .David & Debra MacDonald (now back in the US) Mags, in the administration office, Maggie in the Museum to Sheila in the Gift shop, (don't believe what she say's about the bull in the paddock). They are all such fun great people.

Skye feels just like being home to me. It has captured my heart, as has Scotland. I think I drove every inch of Skye this trip.

One very interesting place I visited was the gravesite of Flora Macdonald.



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PAMS VISIT TO THE HOMELAND

It was a strange feeling standing there, seeing the resting place of one who is so prominent in the history of Clan Donald. What a breathtaking experience. I believe it is a must for all who have MacDonald blood in them to at least visit the "Clan Donald Estate" on "Magical, Mystical Skye." Did I mention the restaurant at Armadale? You have to try the Venison, just the best.

After five nights on Skye I took the ferry over to Mallaig, then on to Fort William.

This is where I nearly missed out on somewhere to stay. I forgot it was the Easter weekend. I also went to the top of Ben Nevis by cable car. What a view. I also had the privilege of meeting two of the sisters of the St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart. This is the order which Saint Mary MacKillop founded with Father Julian Woods. I would like to thank Sister's Audrey & Therese for their hospitality and showing me places I would never have known about to visit. After a couple of cups of tea I was in the car with Sister Audrey and we were heading for Roy Bridge. This is Mary MacKillop country. At the very top for as far as you could see is what once was MacDonald land. What an absolute experience (yet again). I was taken to the place where Mary's mother, Flora MacDonald was born in Fort William. This was the top floor of the now Ben Nevis hotel. To sit and listen to these two ladies talk about Saint Mary MacKillop "a member of Our Clan" with the knowledge they have of her was something I will never forget.



This is of Ranald McDonnell 23rd Chief of Glengarry placing a wreath at the **Memorial of the Battle of Culloden**. April 2011



Lois MacDonnell of Glengarry President of Clan Donald Society of the Highlands and Islands. Lois is also organiser of the Culloden Memorial Luncheon which follows the ceremony on the Culloden Moors.



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PAMS VISIT TO THE HOMELAND

There was not a question I asked that they were not able to answer. This was a very special part of my recent visit and next year I hope to visit them again. Oh! Before I forget they very kindly invited me to stay for dinner, for which I would like to again thank them for.

I suppose you have had enough for this edition. So I will share some more in our next Newsletter if you like? Doesn't matter I am going to anyway. I must say reading about it is not quite the same as being there. Next year is really not all that far away..... Is it?

Until our next edition,

Take Care Everyone
Pam McDonald



Entrance to **Clan Donald Armadale**



Armadale Castle



Clan Donald Society

Western Australia



[Don't Forget to visit the website](#)



Clan Donald Society Western Australia

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Poets Corner

To - McDonald

McDonald you've seen the sights I'm
shair
O' mony a heilan' glen
But thruth be telt the toun o' Ayr
Is Scotia's finest gem.
Your've seen the majestic Cuillins
o'Skye
And the Road tae the Isles sae fair
But an "Honest man" jist canna lie
Theres nane sae braw as Ayr
Your've seen Ben Nevis skyward soar
A sicht sae very rare
Your've travelled o'er bleak Rannock
Moor
But whit are those tae Ayr
Frae Inverness tae Aberdeen
You've seen them a' and mair
And Aviemore that's in between
Their no a patch on Ayr.
You must agree McDonald lad
Your lifes at stake sae sair
Tae disagree wad be quite mad
Your wife belongs to Ayr
Returning tae your Aussie home
Your heart a wee bit gayer
In future times if you must roam
Your welcome back in Ayr.

A poem from my father's files
I hope you enjoy.
Pam McDonald

Perth Metro Pipe Band



The Perth Metro Pipe Band
Clan Donald Western Australia's
Honorary Pipe Band.



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