

CLAN FORSYTH SOCIETY – AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

August 2008



On the last Sunday in May we had our inaugural activities day held at Ashton's hall at Amberley. It was great to look around the hall and see the various hives of activities set up and to see people enjoying these activities and each other's company. From the cards table to the various board games, laughter and chatter filled the room and continued into the night where we thoroughly enjoyed the various slides projected onto the screen. Don Forsyth had some interesting slides of the 1974 flood, which most people could relate to. There were both outdoor and indoor activities, which made the day just fly by. Those who remained for the slide show enjoyed a sausage sizzle as a BYO lunch had meant they were only after a light dinner. Tea & coffee was available on the day. Stacey Ashton did a great job organising activities for the children who attended allowing the adults to enjoy their activities. We would like to see more of our members enjoying this activity next year. So for an enjoyable day out consider coming along next year to see what you are missing. Thanks to those who contributed to the organising and catering for the day, we weren't disappointed.

A.G.M. & Picnic

The date is the 31st August, the park at Peak Crossing is the place. Bring your lunch & enjoy a great day catching up with other family members. We'll be having the Disc bowl tournament again (for young and the not so young), the Jumping Castle will be there for the little ones, also the Clan Shop & the Bring & Buy Stall for some great bargains. If you are able to contribute to the Bring & Buy stall it would be most appreciated. Just bring your contributions along on the day to be sold on the stall. There are members who contribute a lot every year out of their own pockets to make this stall a success.

Please find nomination forms for you to submit a nominee to stand for any of the positions either in office or committee. You may return them to the secretary at the following address :

Heather Forsyth
18 Luckie Crescent
Tivoli Q 4305

or bring them with you on the day. **ONLY FINANCIAL MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO VOTE.**

Each member (other than junior) or, in the case of family membership, each family shall be entitled to one vote at general meetings. (This is the rule as stands at the moment. See following Proposed changes to Rules for alterations we would like to adopt)

40th Wedding Celebration

Committee member Rhonda Noe and her husband Keith celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary with a surprise party at the Ipswich Club in Ipswich in May. Congratulations and keep up the good work.



Kirkin of the Tartan

On 29th June Lucia Forsyth-McKee represented the Clan Forsyth at the Kirkin of the Tartan held at St Paul's Presbyterian Church. Vice President Val Ashton was to attend but was admitted to hospital. She will be having heart surgery just before our picnic. Always the optimist, she still hopes to attend. We all wish her the very best for a speedy recovery.

Legend of the Kirkin' o' the Tartans (Some historians doubt it, but it makes a good tale)

Legend tells the story of the tiny pieces of tartan hidden in a persons clothing on the day of blessings. After the Scots were defeated at Culloden Moors, in 1746 the English decreed that the ways and culture of the Scots were forbidden. This included the wearing of one's tartan. The Scots were fervent Christians and very canny in that they clung to their ancient traditions in secret by putting them underground. The Kirk (church) was their place of worship and one Sunday out of the year they would hide a piece of their tartan in their clothing for the blessing to be given that day. While the minister pronounced the blessing on all tartans the Scots would silently pledge their loyalty and respect to their old traditions.

Proposed changes to the Rules

Over the last few months the committee has been going through our rules and these are the alterations we would like to adopt. We will be voting on them at our general meeting on the 31st August at the picnic.

Existing Rule:

- 2.1 To act to firmly establish the Clan Forsyth Society of Australia by stimulating and co-operating with individual families and groups of Forsyth descendents throughout Queensland and other States of Australia.

Change:

- 2.1 To act to **continually promote** the Clan Forsyth Society of Australia by stimulating and co-operating with individual families and groups of Forsyth descendents throughout Queensland and other States of Australia.

Existing Rule:

- 4.3 There shall be the following types of membership:
Ordinary: Persons of or over the age of 18 years.
Family: Joint membership, if desired, of spouses or parent/s and children.
Junior: Persons under the age of 18 years.
Honorary: To be bestowed on such persons as the Committee shall elect.
Each member (other than junior) or, in the case of family membership, each family shall be entitled to one vote at general meetings

Change:

Ordinary : Persons of or over the age of 18 years.
Joint Membership: Couple
Life Member: A member who in the opinion of the Committee has rendered dedicated lengthy or special service to the Society.

Note family, junior and honorary deleted.

New Rule 4.4 Each of the following members is entitled to one (1) vote at any General Meeting of the Society.

- (a) Ordinary member

- (b) Joint member – one vote each
- (c) Life member

4.4 becomes 4.5

Existing Rule:

6.1

(c) SECRETARY/TREASURER

- (i) The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep complete minutes of general meetings and Committee meetings;
- (ii) The Secretary/Treasurer shall record all correspondence and keep records of social gatherings and other events of interest to the Society;
- (iii) The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for the day to day operation and recording of the Society's financial transactions;
- (iv) The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep all financial records required to be kept pursuant to these Rules;
- (v) The Secretary/Treasurer shall report to each Annual General Meeting and Committee meeting upon the financial position of the Society and shall obtain approval for payments made or to be made by the Society.

Change: Splitting the Secretary/Treasurer position thereby doing away with assistant Secretary/Treasurer

(c) SECRETARY

- (i) The Secretary shall keep complete minutes of general meetings and Committee meetings;
- (ii) The Secretary shall record all correspondence and keep records of social gatherings and other events of interest to the Society;

(d) TREASURER

- (i) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the day to day operation and recording of the Society's financial transactions;
- (ii) The Treasurer shall keep all financial records required to be kept pursuant to these Rules;
- (iii) The Treasurer shall report to each Annual General Meeting and Committee meeting upon the financial position of the Society and shall obtain approval for payments made or to be made by the Society.

Existing Rule:

7.2 The Committee shall be made up of not less than seven (7) and not more than nine (9) persons, all of whom shall be members of the Society. The President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer shall be members of the Committee.

Change:

7.2 The Committee shall be made up of not less than seven (7) and not more than **eleven (11)** persons, all of whom shall be members of the Society. The President, Vice President, **Secretary and Treasurer** shall be members of the Committee.

Existing Rule:

8.6 Minutes:

The Chairman of each meeting shall cause minutes of that meeting to be kept and made available to the Secretary/Treasurer for entry

in a minute book. The minutes shall be signed by the Chairman of the next succeeding general meeting or committee meeting as the case may be.

Change:

8.6 Minutes:

The Chairman of each meeting shall cause minutes of that meeting to be kept and made available to the **Secretary** for entry in a minute book. The minutes shall be signed by the Chairman of the next succeeding general meeting or committee meeting as the case may be.

Existing Rule:

9.2 A reconciliation and statement of receipts and payments shall be prepared by the Secretary/Treasurer before every Annual General Meeting and shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting for approval.

Change:

9.2 A reconciliation and statement of receipts and payments shall be prepared by the **Treasurer** before every Annual General Meeting and shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting for approval.

Anywhere that 'he or him' is mentioned should be changed to him/her, he/she

To have a say on the adopting of these rules you must attend the A.G.M on the 31st August.

Birthdays

Garry Ashton celebrated his 40th birthday in July and his (and Glenys') daughter, Stacey, became a teenager on the 10th July. Happy birthday to all those celebrating.

I would love to know of any milestone birthdays or anniversaries coming up.

Now on a lighter note:

How to Find Your Wife: Donald had lost his wife in a large supermarket in Glasgow. He approached a good-looking, blonde woman, explained his search for his spouse and asked if he could talk to the blonde for a while. The woman was surprised at the approach and asked how that was going to help Donald find his wife? "Easy," replied Donald. "She always turns up when I'm talking to strange women."

Absolutely Brilliant Household Tip: Always keep several get well cards on the mantle. So if unexpected guests arrive, they will think you've been sick and unable to clean!

Hope to see you at the picnic on the **31st August**.

Heather Forsyth

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