

CLAN FORSYTH SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH:

NEWSLETTER:

NOVEMBER 1984



Pres. Ross Forsyth,
15 Erskine Str.,
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Ph. 572538

Dear Everyone,

As is usual we send a newsletter to you after we have the picnic in August. This was a great success as usual with 170 people recorded. It seems to the committee that it was the most friendly picnic so far. Family groups were quite large and for some it was their first picnic reunion. First timers were Gordon and Beryl Morrow and Family, Barbara Hopkins, Flo Pettigrew. Interstate visitors were Marian Phillips, Tasmania, who is daughter of Anne & Harold MacNish and comes up at this time to see all her family. Also Dorothy Hall, Vic., who winters in Queensland to see her relatives. A little bird told me that Dorothy received the first Scholarship from the Peak Crossing School in 1913.

Loch Forsyth, son of Keith, was elected to the committee this year. He formed sub-committee, who arranged new activities for the day. Things like kite-flying, Caber Tossing & races, which young and old took part in, very successfully.

The general 'talk-time' is always popular when President Ross tells the group any news items and encourages people to have their say.

The Chief's Commissioner in Australia, Les Forsyth, Sydney, was a visitor. He displayed his special banner and gave the group news of other FORSYTHS in other States, which he visits from time to time. Since returning to Sydney, Les has been in hospital. We hope you are quite recovered Les by the time you read this newsletter, and a big Thank-you for being at the picnic.

Talking about 'Banners', the Queenslanders now have their own, which the committee designed, incorporating the Forsyth Tartan and the Crest. We will send a photo to those who were not at the picnic, so that you will know all about it. Our eldest member present was Lillian Forsyth, Boonah, 96yrs, and youngest, Andrew Forsyth, 9 weeks son of Tony & Irene and grandson of Keith & Peg Forsyth. It was suggested that 'friends' are welcome at the picnic and it was nice to see Dorothy & Don McInnis again. They have lived in the area all their lives and their parents & grandparents were friends. Cathie McInnis married William (Bill) Forsyth and their children were at the picnic. Dorothy was a 'Brown' and we've seen other members of her family at the picnics.

By the way, we always make alternative arrangements in case of rain, so we hope to see you all in 1985 (last Sunday in August, 25th).

We were sorry not to see Ann Burrows this year. I don't think she has missed one before, but she is in Esk hospital at the moment. We send you our greetings, Ann, and we are glad to report that the tree you planted last year is growing well. We wish Ann a quick recovery.

Norman Forsyth, High Street, Texas, our Historical Secretary spoke about his efforts to prepare a family history. He needs information, so be in touch with him yourselves and make his job easier.

Max Forsyth (Ipswich), who was present, thanked the Clan for the donation made to the appeal for his grandson, Paul McKee, who is now making good progress in U.S.A. after a liver transplant. Max's wife, Jean, is returning to Australia soon. She has been helping her daughter Lucia's family in U.S.A. We wish them all well from now on.

Paul Forsyth (Son of Lew) thanked the committee and their helpers for their efforts in making the picnic such a success. We know, of course, these occasions are only as successful as the people attending make it.

We are sad to report the loss of Prudence 'Forsyth' Dunn, who passed away 2nd September at 90yrs. Prudence attended Peak Crossing School and was the grand-daughter of Samuel Forsyth, one of the original 6 brothers who settled in the area. She and her sisters Anne, Lyla and Lottie were very involved in arranging the first reunion in 1974. As we have now had our 11th annual picnic, the pattern is well set.

Prudence loved the Forsyth outings and the old and young were her friends.

Also soon after the picnic, which he attended, we were sorry to lose Cyril Forsyth, Harrisville. The Clan convey their sympathies to all family members. We are sure we will see the families of these two people wherever Forsyths meet.

Our Annual meeting and Function at the Caledonian Club, Brisbane, will be held on Sat. 23rd March, 1985, so put it in your diary and we will let you know details later. The committee also like to hear any ideas you may have for the future. We can only assume that you have agreed with everything so far..

The Clan Shop is functioning well under Peg's direction with T-shirts \$6.50 (V neck) to \$9.50 with collar. Aprons (Ladies & Mens size) \$6.00 each, Car stickers 50c ea. Send orders to Mrs. P. Forsyth, 27 Mulgowie St., Sunnybank, 4109.

The Caledonian Club is a Club for all 'Scots & part thereof' and as we have a function each year there we are registered through our president, and we are interested in the ideas put forward at a recent meeting which 3 members of our committee attended.

A Calender is being prepared on which our Clan name with ph. no. will be printed with suitable Scots decoration. These will be available for approx. \$1.00, plus postage, so let me know if you are interested.

An interesting night will be the St. Andrews Night Dinner Dance on Friday, 30th November, at 7.30pm (\$12.00) single. Let me know by 15th November, if you would like to join in a party. Other dates to remember "Hogmanay", New Year's Eve and Burn's Dinner, 25th January, 1985. Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the Sydney newsletter. If you are in Sydney, any of you will find a welcome amongst the group there. If I can help, let me know.

The International Gathering of the Clans is to be held in Scotland in May-June, 1985. If you are thinking of a trip next year you would enjoy being one of the Forsyth Party (if there were enough) or joining in with other Scots from Australia. You can join the group here or over there as part of your other plans. Ask any of the Forsyths who did this in 1981. They are still talking about it. Be in touch with me and I will give you the information.

As Xmas is not far away I, and all the Members of the committee, take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. See you all next year.

Sincerely,

Gwen (Gartshore)

Hon. Sec.