

CLAN FORSYTH SOCIETY – AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

October 2008



At the AGM on the 31st August the following committee was voted in for 2008/2009. If you have any queries about the Clan these are the people to contact.

President: Don Forsyth
37 McInnis Road
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Vice-President: Val Ashton
9 Amy Street
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Secretary: Heather Forsyth
18 Luckie Cres.
Tivoli Qld 4305
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Treasurer: Glenys Ashton
2461A Cunningham H/way
Yamanto Qld 4305
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Committee as follows:

Claire Guymer
29 Blackwood Street
East Ipswich Qld 4305
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Rhonda Noe
"Clifton Farm"
71 Forsyth Road
M.S. 21 Kalbar Q 4309
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Lucia Forsyth- McKee
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Ned Forsyth
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Geoffrey Forsyth
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Genealogist
Beth Forsyth
37 McInnis Road
Blacksoil Qld 4306
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Shop Convenor
Bev Kerkin
170 Cannon Creek Rd.
Boonah Qld 4310
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Once again we had a lovely day for our Picnic at the end of August. The weather couldn't have been better. We had a couple of new faces, which was lovely to see - Nicole from Darwin and Lyndall and her husband Murray from Stanthorpe. Hope to see you again next year. The person who travelled the greatest distance was Trevor Forsyth from Hong Kong. A few of our regulars were absent due to the flu. Hope everyone on the sick list are recovering now that the warm weather is back with us. Don Forsyth, our President,

presented Des Phillips with a Life Membership for all his hard work on the committee over the years.

The children were kept occupied with the jumping castle, but alas we didn't get time for our Disc Bowls tournament. There is always next year. We would like to thank the hard workers on the Bring & Buy stall. As usual we all stocked up on slices, biscuits, jams and relishes.

Once again our eldest member at the picnic was Bethel Gordon at 91 years young and our youngest this year was Louisa Greenwood (Loch & Sue Forsyth's granddaughter) 2 months old. *(Picture on right)*



The winners of the raffle (Fruit and Vegie Trays) were: Ann Gamlen, Dawn Forsyth, Claire Guymer and Julie Lee. Hope you enjoyed them.



On the left is Des Phillips with his life membership certificate and on the right is Don Forsyth, our President, and his wife Beth, our historian.



At the meeting we adopted a few changes to our rules, the main one being the splitting of the Secretary/Treasurer into two separate positions. If you would like a copy of the Rules please contact Heather and she will send you a copy.

The following is the Presidents Report that was presented at the meeting.

**CLAN FORSYTH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH
A.G.M. 31ST AUGUST 2008**

PRESIDENTS REPORT

I present my report to the 28th Annual General Meeting on activities of "Clan Forsyth of Australia, Qld Branch for 2008.

Our picnic in 2007 was well attended and the Bring and Buy stall was well supported as usual. A new activity introduced to the picnic was Disc Bowls; this activity was enjoyed by young and old.

(Presidents report cont.)

The 9th & 10th of November 2007 saw us at Monto for a Clan reunion. Each family were to bring photos of their immediate family so that it was easy to identify everyone. This idea went down very well; I met a lot of people whom I've only seen in photos. Approx. 50 people attended, some from Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Childers, Gold Coast and Brisbane/Ipswich, (fourteen members mostly committee members) attended. Thanks to Jenny Forsyth for the morning tea and lunch. Dinner at RSL was well received and I thank Christine & Jenny Forsyth for all the work and arrangements at the Monto end. This was a highly successful weekend and another is planned for the coming year.

Australiana was the theme for our Annual Dinner which was held at the Harrisville School of Arts. Attendance of 107 Adults and 13 children enjoyed such activities as Piping of the Haggis, Highland/Scottish/Ballroom and Modern dancing, as well as dances for the children. The food was wonderful as usual and it was a very successful night.

Twenty-fifth of May the Clan held an activities day at Amberley. This day replaced the car observation day normally held on the last Sunday of May. Disc bowls, board games, cards etc were just a few of the activities enjoyed by all. A sausage sizzle and slide show was used to bring life back to yesteryear.

At the Australian Celtic Festival -Standing Stones - Glen Innes, 1st-4th May our Commissioner James Davidson Forsyth was recognised by the Celtic Nations. There was a parade, a dinner and the ceremony at the Standing Stones. I served as Herald at the ceremony, reading the Proclamation from the Chief. Rhonda & Keith Noe were also present at this weekend.

Rules of the Qld Branch have been amended and hopefully will be adopted by the Clan members at the general meeting.

I take this opportunity to thank the hard work and support I have received from the committee over the last 12 months. A special thanks to Heather and all concerned for the wonderful job they have done with the newsletter. I wish the new committee all the best for the coming year.

Don Forsyth
President
Clan Forsyth Society of Australia, Qld Branch 2008

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80th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

We would like to wish Norma Mayne a very Happy 80th Birthday on the 23rd October. Norma also informs us that she welcomed a new Great Granddaughter, Natasha Ann, on the 23rd June 2007.

GET WELL WISHES

As reported in the last newsletter, our Vice President Val Ashton, went into hospital for heart surgery. Her recovery hasn't been as quick as she would like as she is still in hospital. We all send our best wishes and hope that she is home soon.



CLAN FAMILY CAMP

This year we are heading back to Esk for our annual camp. The date for this is the 15th/16th November. It's a good opportunity to get together and relax. If you would like to book a cabin they are available at the Esk Caravan Park, 26 Hassall Street, ESK – PH: 54241466. Or alternately the Esk Motel, 93 Ipswich Road, ESK – PH: 54241289, or Rock Glen Motel, 51 Ipswich Street, ESK – PH: 54241304.

ANNUAL DINNER

The date has been set for the 21st March 2009 for our Annual Dinner. The venue once again is the Harrisville School of Arts. So pencil it in on your calendar.

ANNUAL FEES

The Committee has decided to lower the fees for the time being. Single membership will stay the same at \$10 and a couple is \$15. We are hoping that this will cover the cost of the newsletters. Annual membership fees may be paid to the secretary to the address above.

The Story of the Kilt Pin

Do you know the real story of Scotland's kilt pin? Before the reign of Queen Victoria, the Scottish kilt was worn without the pin now used to secure the fold over on the right hand side. As a result there were many embarrassing moments especially if you wore the kilt in a high wind. The truth was that nothing in the nature of undergarments was worn with the kilt.

One day Queen Victoria arrived on a visit to Balmoral Castle and reviewed the Gordon Highlanders. A stiff wind was blowing and one young soldier at rigid attention was unable to control the flapping of his kilt and to avoid exposure on this important occasion. The Queen notice his embarrassment and walked over to him. She removed a pin from her own dress and leaning over, pinned the overlap of his kilt.

And that - believe it or not - is the origin of the kilt pin, without which no kilted Scot would be properly dressed today.

A Bit of Humour

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement centre were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: "Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?" Slim says, "I feel just like a newborn baby." "Really!? Like a newborn baby!?" "Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants."