



# Clan Munro Australia

Newsletter of the Clan Munro (Association) Australia

Volume 3 Issue 2 August 2006

Have you visited our Website at <http://clanmunroaustralia.org/cmaau.html>

## Chat

**This Month**  
**Please keep the 2007 Gathering in mind – check the article on page 2**

**In this newsletter in the “Can You Help?” section, I have printed the ancestors of one of our members, Nancy Fraser. Just before this issue went to print, I had an email with the story of a pioneer family from Ian Munro. Would you believe – it was the same family and Nancy & Ian are now in touch with each other. I will feature Ian’s story in the next issue.**

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**Next Newsletter**

**The third in our Queensland Munro family items. This time the story of the great grandson of Colin Munro of Drynie.**

**John and Sarah Munro (nee McEwen) from the shores of Loch Fyne, Argyll-shire. This family is related to Neil Munro, the writer.**

**Donald Munro the Bonesetter**

**And there will be more**

**Don**

Please note the new address of our new “advert free” website which has been very kindly donated by our webmaster Peter Tibbett & his wife Pearl. Thanks to those of you who have had a look & taken the time to send your congratulations.

Congratulations also to Peter as one of his other sites <http://gunnersnet.com> has been electronically archived by the Australian National Library's [PANDORA](http://pandora.nla.gov.au) (Preserving and Accessing Networked Documentary Resources of Australia) project as "an online publication of national significance". See <http://pandora.nla.gov.au/tep/58188>

Have you been to see to see the Fastest Indian yet? Bet & I went & thoroughly enjoyed an excellent feel good film. No violence or nastiness that seems to be necessary in most of the films that are now presented to us. As Mack Munro said to me “Wasn't Burt Munro well portrayed in the story as someone who had a burning ambition - the Munros definitely have a stubborn streak - or so I, for one, have been accused at times. That can do one harm but if controlled, may be of benefit”

Bet & I had two very pleasant visits recently. First John & Lois Munro were over in the West for a conference & to visit their family, so it was very nice to have John, Lois & son Denis call in for a cup of coffee. Since then, John has had a gaul bladder op. & has recovered well. Then Mackenzie & Judy Munro arrived & we spent a very pleasant afternoon with them at Kings Park on their second visit to us in the Wild West.

I made a blue in the little piece on Gallipoli in Newsletter No 10. Twice I used the date 1917 instead of 1915, so thanks to Lily Sims (who sent me in the piece) for correcting that.

Our networking is going strong. While researching my own Munros & Dingwalls, I made contact with Jack Kerwin in Canada who had also posted a request on the Internet for the gravesite of a relative, Helen Dingwall, who had died in MacKay a year after she arrived. Jack had no luck with that request but I emailed all of the information to our only MacKay member, Daphne Grinberg who not only found the cemetery but went to the grave, took some photos & gathered as much information as she could & this has all been passed on to a very grateful Jack Kerwin. See the story on Page 5

Marjorie Rowlands is still in hospital making a slow recovery from a car accident. We all hope that Marjorie will soon be back to her old self again.

## Welcome To Our New Members

We have one new member this month in Max Binning OAM from Melville in WA. Max received his Order of Australia Medal for his service to the community. Max is a dedicated Rotarian and a keen golfer as well as having played hockey a high level. He is the nephew of one of our other new members, Don Munro and so he can also trace back through his great grandfather John Munro who settled Broadford in Victoria where members of a Scottish group took up land holdings - to Alexander Munro & Margaret Forbes from Ross & Cromarty. We are trying to trace further back so if that rings a bell, please let me know.

## “Castle Foulis na theine”

### CLAN MUNRO RALLYING CRY GOES FORTH

*This was the heading of an article in The Herald on Wednesday, August 19, 1936 for the purpose rallying the Australian Munros to take part in the Clan Munro (Association) which was formed the following year. It was sent to me by Lily Sims and what an excellent find it is. It is a real piece of Munro history and I have reproduced it in full, warts and all, as I am sure it will be of interest to all members. Remember that this time the words are not mine, so any comments should be addressed to the writer but as this is impossible, you can send them to me as well as copies of any other historical Munro items you might have so that we can all have a look at them. The number of Munros, Munroes & Monros in the Melbourne telephone directory in 1936 is stated in the article as 40. Lily tells me that now there are over 400 Munros, 33 Munroes and 38 Monros listed.*

*“Castle Foulis na theine,” the battle cry of the clan Munro has gone forth again to the ends of the earth wherever Scots forgather. It means “Castle Foulis in flames,” and harks back to 1333, when George Munro, of Foulis was slain at Halidonhill and a feud began between the Munros and the Mackenzies, which lasted until about the beginning of the seventeenth century.*

But the Mackenzies need not be alarmed; the feud is not to be revived, it was settled when the castle or canonry of Ross was handed over to the clan Mackenzie under the Act of Pacification after many lives had been lost on both sides. And the Munros keep their treaties.

The battle cry of the Munros is being sent around the earth today for the purpose of forming a world wide Clan Munro Association.

It is in the process of formation in Scotland today and the purpose, as set out in a letter from Captain O.G. Munro, RN in Clearwell, New Galloway, Scotland, is “to provide a head for the clan to rally around, preserve and record the history of the clan and generally to act for the welfare of the clansmen.”

Captain Munro has written to the Town Clerk of Melbourne (Mr Wootton) asking that the message be sent out so that the clansmen can rally in Victoria. Mr Wootton is doing that by giving publicity to the letter. Anything further, he says, depends on the initiative of the Munros themselves.

There are 40 families of the name of Munro in the telephone subscribers’ book for Melbourne, two Munroes and two Monros. Many more, no doubt, would have shunned the extravagance of the telephone. This might not sound like many but the Munros have always made up in courage what they lacked in numbers. The military strength of the whole clan in 1715 was only 400 and in 1745 Only 500.

In the course of his letter, Captain Munro says, “No name in Scottish history has a more distinguished

record. Even during the last great war, a Munro was Governor General of Australia, another commander in chief in India and another Secretary of State for Scotland.” Keltie’s history of the Scottish Highlands, Clans & Regiments, says that the Munro country was on the north side of the Cromarty Firth. The progenitor of the clan was Donald, the son of O’Ceann, who lived in the time of Macbeth. These Munros were vassals of the Earls of Ross and “may be regarded as a portion of the native Scottish Gael.”

Sir George Mackenzie, in his history, accuses them of them of having come from Ireland with the Macdonalds on which great clan “they had constantly a dependency.” There name he adds, was derived from “a mount on the river Roe,” County Derry. Clan tradition however, explains that they were Scots I swore they were Irish. They formed a branch of the natives of Scotland who, being driven out by the Romans about 317 AD, took refuge in Ireland for centuries residing in the mountains around the stream of the Roe. They returned to Scotland about the beginning of the 11<sup>th</sup> century, under Donald son of O’Ceann, to assist in driving out of the Danes. For his services, Donald received the lands of East Dingwall, in Ross-shire.

There is authentic history since that date. They were bonnie fighters. Sir Robert Munro, sixth of his house, fought in the army of Bruce at Bannockburn and his only son George, fell there leaving a boy heir, who succeeded to the leadership. Many of the head of the house fell in battle and skirmish. The fifteenth chief was faithful to Mary Queen of Scots and was decreed as among the most valiant of those who were faithful.

Robert More Munro, who died in 1533, became a Protestant early in the Scottish Reformation.

They were firm supporters of the Revolution and the claymore of the Munros gleam through Scottish and later British history, ever since.

## Archibald Chisholm Munro

*This is the second in our series of pioneer Queensland families sent to me by Mrs Ailsa Stubbs-Brown. By coincidence, Inverness, the heritage listed house mentioned in the article and in which Ailsa was born, came up for auction at the end of May.*

Archibald Chisholm Munro was born 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1879, Brisbane and died on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1934 in Lowood. He was known to his friends and contemporaries as "A.C." and to family and intimates as "Roey". In this epistle shall be named "A.C."

A.C. was the eighth and youngest child of Colin III and wife Mary Neill Young. Records show older siblings born at Fisherfield, Albert River, from 1869 – 1871, and then in Brisbane 1873. It would seem that from 1873 – 1879 the family was living in Brisbane (elsewhere stated to be at Twine Street, Wickham Terrace). It is known that A.C.'s growing up mostly took place on his father's property, Drynie, near Home Hill in North Queensland, where his father had cattle and sugar interests.

The property was largely staffed by Kanakas (South Sea Islanders). The Kanakas are generally people with a happy nature and a great fondness for children. When



quite a small boy A.C. was playing with matches and accidentally set the cane alight, resulting in considerable damage to, and loss of, cane. This happened at a time when Colin III was plagued by

severe economic problems and could ill afford this significant loss. Thinking the Kanakas were responsible, Colin III flew into a rage sufficient to reignite the fire (he operated on a short fuse) and withdrew several weeks' of their tobacco ration! Not a soul gave away the secret, the punishment was accepted without a murmur, and the little chap escaped punishment.

So, one can imagine a happy childhood, growing up in what then was virgin country surrounded by affection on all sides, and with numerous siblings spaced over a fifteen years age difference; growing up to develop a lifelong love of the country, and, too, learning to be ready to turn his hand to most things. He made our beds, a table, a swing, and joy of joys a rowing boat. This latter was taken to the Brisbane River where it ran through Uncle Will's property, and moored there. It gave us much enjoyment – fishing from it, or skylarking! The boat was moored at a spot near our favourite picnic spot called "Maggie's Delight" - who Maggie was, nobody knows! For me, my father's crowning handiwork was a birthday present (sixth, I think) of a two-storey doll's house, made from a packing crate (guess it was left over from our return journey from Warnambool). I could enter and sit down in it!

He even turned his hand to architecture. In the late 1920's the Scottish community in Toogoolawah wished to build a Presbyterian church so A.C. set to work at night, with his set square and drafting board, drawing up plans for it. I remember watching until I was sent off to bed – and I also remember the stump capping ceremony which finally took place.

A.C.'s mother had grown up with a bevy of brothers and was educated along with them by private tutors as was the custom then amongst the gentry (for the boys anyway). Indeed they were educated up to university entrance standard – not necessarily very usual at that time. This gave her an abiding respect for education, but indulging it in pioneering times in North Queensland was not easy, it became largely a catch as catch can business. So a tutor would be employed, and when he moved on another was found to take his place. This led to some innovative adjustments to historical facts.

I think it must have been when A.C. was in his early teens his mother received a small annuity so she used this to send him to boarding school (Brisbane Boys Grammar School). This new turn of events found A.C. very homesick and after a relatively short stay he ran away and made his way home. Family legend also has it he ran away to Charters Towers where there was a new gold strike, but I do not know the timing of this. He did not make his fortune, and he always came home. A.C. was beginning to know the world around him, and what an exciting one it was in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. I remember hearing A.C. tell of his favourite exploit, "swimming the Burdekin in flood".

Meantime Colin III's fortune was taking a downturn. He had been involved in working with milk products and to this end had joined forces with McConnell of Cressbrook. As mentioned in Newsletter No 11, Colin Munro III was the founder of the condensed milk industry in Queensland, the first factory being in Drynie in 1886. A few years later, the factory was shifted to Toogoolawah and was the foundation of the "Cressbrook" brand.

About 1901, Charles Sealy and Bruce Malcolm set up a milk condensery at Wilson's Plains (in the Fassifern district) producing condensed milk under the "Eagle" brand, and about 1905 this condensery was bought out by the Cressbrook Dairy Company (involving McConnell and Colin III). A.C. was appointed manager at Wilson's Plains. While there, A.C. would undoubtedly have met the four daughters of local farmer Walter Brown whose property was close by Wilson's Plains. His eye lit upon Jessie Mabel (my mother) and they were married in Harrisville on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1908.

At around this time, the Nestlé Anglo Swiss Condensed Milk Company was buying freehold land in the area and finally by 1909 had gained control of the Cressbrook Dairy Company.

In 1910 Nestlé closed the Wilson's Plains condensery, moving part of the plant to the Toogoolawah factory where Nestlé had bought out Colin III and McConnell. A.C. was transferred to Toogoolawah as manager. Thus was produced the well-known "Cressbrook" brand.

With the outbreak of war in 1914 Nestlé saw the implication of a need of milk in the trenches etc. so they set about the manufacture of condensed milk, cocoa, coffee etc. to send to the troops. About this time Uncle

Will (brother to A.C.) had been sent overseas to study the manufacture of milk products etc. and was the manager of Nestlé at Dennington, Victoria.

A.C. was popular with the staff and in the community generally. Toogoolawah reflected the prosperity that the



Inverness

Nestlé factory brought. A new manager's home was built and residence there was taken up in 1920 – it was called Inverness

after the area in Scotland from which the family had come. In 1924 Uncle Will (still manager at Dennington, Victoria) and my father exchanged positions for twelve months. It really was to accommodate Uncle Will who wished to build his home on his property "Braemore" five miles outside Toogoolawah– with his eventual retirement in mind. I can remember the excitement of the trip to Victoria, and living there, and the difference in climate! And what the cousins had done to our toys when we returned! Soon after this the economic downturn became obvious and finally the Great Depression was raging – unemployed men tramping through the district! Nestlé closed the factory. A.C. was offered the managership at Dennington, but he turned it down.

We left the district and A.C. decided to set up a milk product factory (owing to a bond with Nestlé not to produce condensed milk he was obliged to manufacture other products). He moved to Lowood where he established a butter factory. Working through the winter when milk and cream



Cream Separator

supply is not so great, it was absorbed by the butter production. In summer when the supply was considerably increased the surplus was used for the manufacture of concentrated milk from which ice cream was made.

## Electric Scotland

*I received this from George A Monroe MD from Texas and for those of you with internet access you will find lots of interesting articles there. By the way, I note that the article on Ebenezer Munroe is by one George A Monroe MD so our congratulations to him on that article. I already receive and enjoy the Electric Scotland Newsletter and this is what George had to say.*

"Don, if you have not yet had a chance to visit the Electric Scotland web-site, I would encourage you & your members to do so! This excellent Scottish web- site is "orchestrated" by the very talented & gifted Alastair McIntyre.

Alastair has provided, on the "Electric Scotland" web-site, several links & references which are of special interest to "the Munros". I have attempted to attach the "Electric Scotland" links to:"

(1). American Presidents with a Scottish Ethnic Background which is accessed with the link:

[http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/american\\_presidents.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/american_presidents.htm)

(2). an excellent article on U.S. President James Monroe located at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/m/munro4.html>

(3). A very interesting article which details the account of the Continental Army "Minute-Man", Ebenezer Munroe, who, historically, is given credit for firing the very 1st "shot", from the Continental Army, against the British Soldiers in the U.S. War of Independence. Ebenezer Munroe's "First Shot", from the Continental Army Minutemen, became known as the "SHOT HEARD 'ROUND THE WORLD"! Ebenezer "shot" became immortalized in the poem "The Concord Hymn" by Ralph Waldo Emerson. This historical account, in the U.S. War for independence against the British, is accessed by:

[http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/minibios/m/munroe\\_ebenezer.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/minibios/m/munroe_ebenezer.htm)

Meantime my brother Colin IV finished school and joined his father in constructing the adjustments to the factory building. Later he studied and obtained his qualification for the making of concentrated milk. This became his area of expertise. Meantime my mother, sister Jean, and I moved to Brisbane, we rented a house in Stephen Street, Annerley, about fifty yards from the Junction Park State School. This was for the benefit of my education which was taking a battering!

The men lived very "rough". A.C. had gathered some of the Toogoolawah Nestlé staff – Charlie Peel, the engineer, and Jack and Bill Young – and what stalwarts they were, and as loyal as anyone could wish. They gave wonderful support – and that is an indication of A.C.'s character and personality too. My brother Neil who by now had obtained his pharmacy qualification and had fairly constant employment; joined forces and took over the office section and administration.

This was about 1931. My father was in his early fifties and working harder than most men at twenty. He was just beginning to make financial headway when a law requiring private enterprises pay for a license to operate was enacted. It is believed that at this time A.C. was the only independent manufacturer of butter in Queensland. A.C. considered this an infringement of his right to make a living.

A.C.'s health was beginning to falter under the strain of these last few years. About March/April 1934 he took time off and holidayed in North Queensland visiting his old haunts and family still living. Looking back it is clear to me he had warnings of heart failure and was having some enforced rest. Finally in September he developed pneumonia. There were no drugs then to combat the disease, and although he survived the crisis, his heart gave out and A.C. died on October 1<sup>st</sup> 1934.

A.C. was a fun loving man, devoted family man, had a tremendous sense of humour, with a great respect for the rights of the individual, and was a wonderful father. *A. Stubbs-Brown 12-01-2006*

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Mabel Munro who had her 100th birthday in Melbourne last September. Mabel was born in Tasmania in 1905 and married James Arthur Munro in 1935 in St Kilda, Melbourne. James Arthur Munro was born in Dalry, Ayr in 1886 to John Haig Munro and Margaret Jack Pettigrew. The family, including older sister, Martha Elizabeth Craig Munro, came to Australia in 1888. Mabel's daughter Jean, born 1937 is her carer, so still living at home.

Congratulations once again to Don & Remy Munro on the birth of another Norwegian Munro grandchild - this time to Alisdair & Nina Munro whose son Andre Sebastian weighed in at a whopping 4 Kilos & he was 55 cm long – that's 8.8 lbs & about 21 ¾ lb.

Congratulations also to Caroline Merrylees who was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday honours, for her service to the communities of Hay and Carrathool as an archivist, author and fund raiser. Caroline has been honorary archivist for the Hay Historical Society since 1991. During this time the society, under her direction, has collected, identified and catalogued well over 100,000 photographs (most of them negatives), of Hay and surrounding district. During this time she has also researched, compiled and edited eight books and two CD's on local history for the society.

Caroline does a great deal of genealogy research for people who have at some time had ancestors in the Hay district. She has an uncanny knack of locating a vital clue that has eluded other researchers. She greatly enjoys solving a puzzle. If you are interested in seeing other work the Historical Society does, the web site is:

<http://users.tpg.com.au/hayhist/>

## Helen Dingwall

*About a year ago I sent an email to a Ross & Cromarty list looking for relatives of my earliest Don Munro who had married Catherine Dingwall in Rosskeen in 1831 but had no luck until Jack Kerwin made contact a month ago. Jack was researching his Dingwall side & was pretty sure that my Catherine Dingwall belonged to his family & this has still to be proved. In the course of our correspondence, Jack told me that one of his ancestors & quite likely mine, Helen Dingwall had come to Port Mackay in 1878 on the ship 'Hannah Landels' and asked if I could help in tracing her. I looked up our list of members and found that our only member in Mackay is Daphne Grinberg. I contacted Daphne, passed on the details Jack had sent to me and the result is the excellent piece of detective work that follows – this an email that Daphne sent to Jack with a copy to me, so it is all in her own words.*

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July

Don was correct in thinking that Port McKay is Mackay. It is pronounced Mackay as in "eye" and is named after Capt. John Mackay, who first discovered the area and named the river on which the city is based as the Pioneer River. He is part of our family somewhere, as his cousin is a Hugh Rainey Munro. There is a bust of Capt Mackay in our Civic Centre – I will photograph it for you.

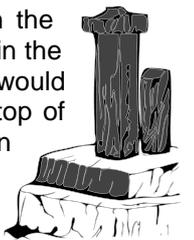
So - my first stop in trying to trace Helen Dingwall was to call the City Council cemetery records office, and they found her in about 30 seconds! She is buried in the Shakespeare Street Cemetery, the oldest cemetery in Mackay, in Presbyterian Block 1, Line 15, Plot 21, Burial number 840.

Next stop, camera in hand, the cemetery, to try and find the plot, and with the help of the cemetery warden and his records – a huge book of charts that show every grave site with names and numbers – he took me straight to the plot, giving me some interesting information about the cemetery and burials along the way. There are still burials at Shakespeare Street, though only into existing family plots – there is now no land available for new plots.

What I found was a monument inscribed with the names of all the family of David and Isabella Pratt buried there and sure enough on the north side I found "Also Ellen DINGWALL, died 26<sup>th</sup> September 1884 aged 25

years" and "Also Isabella, Beloved wife of David Pratt, died 27<sup>th</sup> March 1941 aged 83 years."

You notice Helen is called Ellen on the monument. There are six people buried in the plot, the warden tells me that there would usually be four, two each side, one on top of another, though if permission were given then the plot could hold six, adding two in the middle. If the family were especially wealthy the first graves could be dug down seven feet, thereby adding another casket in each row.



I queried the warden on the discrepancy of the death dates between what you had given and what was on the monument, and he says the mason probably inscribed the actual burial date by mistake, rather than the death date. Nine days was quite a normal time between death and burial at that time. We also discussed why Ellen Dingwall would be buried in the Pratt family plot, and his answer was that she probably lived with family as a servant or a nursemaid.

Working out the birthdates from what I found we have:

Isabella Pratt, born 1858, died 1941 aged 83 years  
Ellen Dingwall, born 1859, died 1884 aged 25 years

There are still Pratts in Mackay, so I now had to find out how Ellen was connected. I was hoping, since she

was born only a year after Isabella, that she and Isabella were sisters.

Next stop, the Genealogical Society, and indeed I was right. I not only found Isabella and Helen, but by looking for the parents, other brothers and sisters (she is called Helen on the microfiche records – looks like that stonemason made more than one mistake, unless she was known to the family as Ellen)

All were children of Finlay DINGWALL and Johanna McDONALD, and all children were born Ross and Cromarty, Kiltarn and they were:-

Isabella	born 14 July 1857	died 1941
Helen	born 2 April 1859	died 1884
Catherine	born 20 January 1861	
Alexander	born 6 November 1862	
Johanna	born 14 November 1864	
Thomasina	born 5 September 1866	
Duncan	born 15 September 1868	

I thought I had done well, until one of the workers brought out a huge chart with written history and photographs of the David Pratt family. What a find! And there is quite a tribe of them – David and Isabella had more than the three children buried in the family plot.

The chart was submitted by a lady called Isobel Dunn (Don, she says she knows of you). I telephoned her to ask permission to photograph or photocopy the chart. She was a little vague – I don't know how old she is, but she lives in a retirement village – but told me that Helen died of consumption. Also said – I think – that Helen was her grandmother's sister, which makes Isobel Dunn, David and Isabella's grand-daughter. Not content with giving permission for me to have a copy of her record, she has invited me to visit her this Saturday afternoon, which I will do, notebook in hand, and glean what I can. I'm sure she has much information which may be of interest to you.

I have taken quite a few photographs, and will add what else I think may be of interest. My son will burn them onto a CD which I will send when I think I have everything I can find. I will also send charts and maps that have been given to me, if you will let me have your address – copy to Don if interested. Don't hold your breath – it may take a week or two.

Let me see what I can find out from Isobel Dunn, and then you can let me know what else you would like me to investigate, but this is all for now.

## Visit with Isobel Dunn

What an interesting afternoon! Isobel has so much family history – lots of photographs, kept in huge albums and not transportable or able to be copied – but still I had a long talk with her. She gave me permission to copy the chart in the Genealogical Library, and my son says the best way to do it would be to have the whole thing scanned.

That will take a couple of weeks, as will some other photos I want to take, as Robert is out of town now for a while, and is much better at that sort of thing than I.

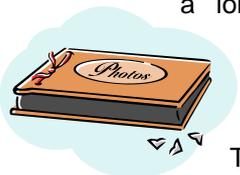
Let me tell you what I have. Isobel gave me a copy of the Scots Ancestry Research Society report on 'The Paternal Ancestry of Isabella Dingwall who married David Pratt in Portobello in 1877'. I will send it with the photos and the chart.

Isobel is the grand-daughter of Isabella and David, and remembers them well. They came to Mackay when the town was only 20 or so years old, so are among the pioneers of this region. There are many Pratts in Mackay now, and all are descendents of Isabella and David. They first built a little house on land to the south of the city, near where the airport is now. It used to be common ground where people could graze their cattle. It is now bisected by a road going east and west. To the south of this road (Bridge Road) is the airport and to the north, playing fields. This old home is no longer there, but their second home is. Isobel has many early photos of family groups taken on special occasions like Isabella and David's silver wedding anniversary and then their

golden anniversary, with the family all gathered on the front steps of the house. The people who bought it after the Pratts left restored it, and there is a model of it in the library here, which I will also photograph. It is rather lovely, and beautifully done. The house was called 'Novar', and a street nearby is named the same. Isobel says everyone always pronounces it nOvar, but it should be navARR. It stands at 86 Juliet Street; I will take a photo of it for you if I can – it is now surrounded by a high fence. I will get Robert to park his ute at the side of the road next to it – maybe I can see over the fence!

Isabella and David came to Mackay, with their children William and Johanna, on the ship 'Hannah Landels'. This ship was a 3-masted barque, built by A. Stephens & Sons in Glasgow in 1878. 1271 tons nett, 1332 tons gross, 72.5 m long, 9.5 m beam, 6.4 m depth. The main mast stood 41.5 m above the deck. She carried 440 immigrants on their 98-day voyage. Johanna was apparently ailing on the voyage, and died the day they landed. We have two small islands just off Mackay called Flat Top and Round Top (photos coming!), and the ship moored between them and then ferried the passengers into Mackay. Now, the interesting item here is that Helen came with them on that voyage, rather than following later on her own. It must have been hard to lose first a daughter and then a sister within a year of their arrival.

(Isobel, by the way, says the PROPER pronunciation of our lovely city (photos coming!) is Mackay as in 'hay', and that it only got changed quite recently, when people began to say it as in 'eye'. I guess she would know).



*So there you have it, a great result and much more than Jack Kerwin could ever expected. When he showed his brother what Daphne had sent, all he could say was "WOW" & I guess that says it all. As well as all of that Daphne's investigations have found him a relative in Australia in Isobel Dunn & through her, another in Jersey, Channel Islands & one in Culloden, Inverness. I think the pivotal point in Daphne's investigation was her thought that, as there was only a year difference in Helen & Isabella's ages, they might be sisters & so it proved to be.*

## Can You Help?

As usual, if you are not on the internet and can help any of those below, just contact me, Don Munro & I will pass on the information – my address is on the last page.

Nicole Brooks is descended from John Henry Munro who was born about 1834 in Dundee Scotland to John Munro and Elizabeth Bannerman. John Henry came to Australia about 1851 (his death cert stated that he had been in Australia for about 20 years). He married Eliza Wallbridge/Walbridge in 1871 in Gosford NSW and died that same year but had fathered quite a few children to Eliza before marrying her and changing the registration details for many but strangely not all the children. If any of this rings a bell, contact Nicole at [NBBROOKS6677@aol.com](mailto:NBBROOKS6677@aol.com)

Nancy Fraser is one of our members – her Grandparent's John Munro & Sarah McEwan were married only five days before they set sail from Liverpool in 1878 on the Alice Platt to arrive in Melbourne in December of the same year. They had eight children; Jane who married JE Williams with children Doris & Robert; Annie who m. J McPhail with children Jean & John; John who m. Helen Playfair with children May, Robert & Roy; Hugh who m. Alexandrina Anderson with children Jack, Peter & Nancy; Archibald who m. Gladys Nunn with children Norma, Donald & Jean; Donald who m. Annie Alexander with children Joyce Donald & Jean; Robert who m. 1<sup>st</sup> Jessie Robbie & 2<sup>nd</sup> May Mohra; Sarah who m. Howard McCurdy with children Mavis & Joyce. We have found one of Nancy's relatives – are there any more out there?

Paul Munro has not long started on the Munro side of his family tree. His Grandfather Duncan Baillie Munro, born about 1865 & married twice – first to May Spearing in Dec 1896, when he gave his birthplace as England and parents as James Munro & Matilda Sadler; then in Nov. 1907 he married Clara Coral Gardiner and gave his birth place as Inverness. Duncan died in Mosman, Sydney in 1942 and a search gives his parents as James Munro & Susanne Matilda which ties in with a marriage in Chelsea on June 1862 when James Edward Munro married Susanna Matilda Sadler. If you can help, contact Paul on [plato@tsn.cc](mailto:plato@tsn.cc)

Martin Williams would like any information on a Violet Munro born who was born on 22 Aug 1895 Australia and died 15 Nov 1982 in Kinnaid Street, Arbroath, Angus, Scotland. Violet married Daniel Spink

Cindy Munro asked for our help some time ago with no luck but now she has some more information. James Henry Gardiner Monro was my Great great grandfather & his parents were Barbara Gardiner and John Monro, married in Dundee 23rd January 1846. John Monro was born in 1826 in Fife-shire, Scotland. His first born son was John Monro, born in Dundee 1846. Around this time they came out to Australia (six months in Tassie and six months in South Australia before settling in Victoria (Emerald Hill area). John Monro (1826) was a Shipwright and died in 1880 (work related accident) in Melbourne. His son (brother to James Gardiner Monro) was a Comedian/ Actor in Victoria. He died in 1873 (aged 27) in Melbourne via heart attack. I found out also that the mother of John Monro (1826) is Isabella Wallace and father, John Monro. Please contact Cyndy on [cynasix@hotmail.com](mailto:cynasix@hotmail.com) if any of this sounds familiar

Belinda Munro also contacted us some time ago so let's see if we can help with her updated information. John MUNRO and Isabel ROSS had a son Duncan MUNRO b 20/02/1778 in Kiltarn & d 07/07/1856, West End, Dingwall.

Duncan married Anne ROSS and their children were Alexander MUNRO b 1823; Margaret MUNRO b 5/05/1829 in Urray, Ross & Cromarty; Thomas MUNRO b 04/06/1831; Isobel MUNRO b John MUNRO b 03/05/1818; Duncan MUNRO b 13/04/1833; Ann MUNRO b 23/04/1827; & Issabella ROSS MUNRO b 1854 who married Duncan McKAY 19/05/1881 & died in 1946

Belinda is descended from Duncan (1833) who married Mary MCLEAN on 12/12/1845 & she can only find 1 child to them, Anne MUNRO - christened 20/06/1847 in the Free Church Kiltarnity, Inverness. Duncan then married Margaret Fraser in 05/06/1874 & they had a son Simon MUNRO. They were living at HIGHFIELD COTTAGE in the 1881 census. Simon MUNRO was born on 13/04/1876 in Lettoch, parish of Kilmorack, Inverness-shire. He Served in the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders and was in Gibraltar in 1895 – then back to Edinburgh where he was a cable car driver/supervisor & finally, he joined Royal Scots Regiment and was a Sergeant Major when he served and died in Gallipoli in 1915. Contact Belinda on [bmunro-@hotmail.com](mailto:bmunro-@hotmail.com) if you can help.

This one is from Michelle Rawle

Daniel Nesbitt Munro married Mary Sophia Robinson 1810 London. Daniel was a ships captain and sailed between England and Australia. Daniel and Mary had a son Daniel George Munro b.1814 Lon. After the death of Mary Sophia, Daniel and his son Daniel spent more time in Australia.

Daniel Nesbitt Munro remarried Jane Elizabeth Gallot (nee Wiggins) and they had one child Jane Catherine. Daniel Nesbitt Munro died 1851, Jane and her daughter moved back to England.

Daniel George Munro married Elizabeth Chester in London in 1849 and then returned to Australia to live. They had 2 children (possibly more) - Amelia Ann (later known as Ellen Amelia) born 1841 - several years before they were married.

Duncan Alexander Munro born ?? can't find birth record, but he went on to marry Annie Croft in 1887 NSW. Duncan and Annie had at least 2 children ; Harold Chester Munro born 1889 St.Leonards, NSW & Norman Alexander Munro b. 1890 " "

Daniel George Munro also became a ships Captain and sailed back and forth quite a lot between Australia and England and New Zealand. If this rings any bells with anyone, please contact Michelle at [rawle.family11@bigpond.com](mailto:rawle.family11@bigpond.com)

Loris Clark sent this to me. "I am researching the descendants of Robert Munro C 1791 and Jane Campbell c 1794 from Creich. Their daughter Johanna was my Great grandmother. She came out on the ship Almora from Liverpool in July

1856 and later married William Thomson in Australia. Johanna is buried at Horsham Vic Aust and had a brother George in New Zealand. There was also a sister Jannet who married a McLeod and was in Australia for a time & then I think went to New Zealand. John stayed in Altass which I think is in the Creich area. There are some old letters that gave their address as Topachy Rosehall There was also an Alexandrina who married a William McKay and stayed in Scotland. Johanna was born c 1830. Robert died in 1870 and Jane in 1880 and are buried together in Creich. Maybe there was a Gustavus and a James as well." You can contact Loris at [alanlor@sympac.com.au](mailto:alanlor@sympac.com.au)

### *A Wee Smile*

Jimmy was about to tee off at the first hole at his local golf course when a stranger came up and asked if he could join him. Jimmy usually played alone, but on this occasion agreed to the request. After the first couple of holes the two golfers were getting along fine and seemed to be evenly matched. So the stranger suggested betting £5 on each of the remaining holes. Jimmy wasn't too keen but reluctantly agreed. Of course, the stranger then won all the remaining 16 holes and as they were walking off the last green, the stranger confirmed what Jimmy had suspected - he was a professional golfer. Jimmy nodded and then informed the stranger that he was the local minister! At that, the stranger got flustered and apologetic and offered to return his winnings. But Jimmy refused, saying that he had won fair and square - and it was his own foolishness to agree to the bet in the first place. That made the stranger even more contrite and he said "Is there anything I can do to make it up to you?" Jimmy replied: "Well, you could come to my church on Sunday and make a donation. Oh yes, if you bring your mother and father along, I'll marry them!!!"

### *Anzac Day*



Marjorie Rowlands, Margaret Cooney, Joan Gates, Andrew Gates, Noel Gates & Graham Gates represented the Munros at the Anzac Parade in Sydney. On the left you can see Andrew waiting in line to lay the wreath. Unfortunately, as I mentioned on Page1, Marjory was in a bad car accident and at the time of writing was still in Hospital, so we hope she will be up and about again soon.



### *Membership*

As requested, I have included our membership fees in case you would like to upgrade or perhaps give a prospective member an indication of our fees. This is not a request for fees, I will contact you when yours are due.

Annual Membership:	\$25.00	Spouse or children of member under 18 years	\$8.00**
Three Years:	\$55.00	Spouse or children of member under 18 years (3 years)	\$20.00**
Ten Years:	\$160.00	Spouse or children of member under 18 years (10 years)	\$70.00**

Life Membership is calculated according to age as follows: -

Up to Age 40:	3 X 10 Year Dues	\$480.00
Age 40 to 50:	2 X 10 Year Dues	\$320.00
Age 50 to 60:	1½ X 10 Year Dues	\$240.00
Age 60 and over:	Same as 10 Year Dues	\$160.00
Age 80 and over	Half Ten Year Dues	\$80.00

\* The fees charged include membership of our parent organisation in Scotland

## *Clan Munro (Association) Australia Newsletter*

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The stories printed in this newsletter are as presented by the writers and are accepted by the editor on that basis. Where necessary they have been abridged to fit the newsletter.

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