



Murray Clan Society of NSW

Newsletter - May 2018

www.murray-clan-nsw.net

PO Box 407

WINGHAM NSW 2429

Ph: 02 6555 9818

Email: murrayclansocietynsw@hotmail.com

Welcome

Greetings once again to all our members and friends.

This will be the final Newsletter before our gathering in June, so please note the details below, particularly the RSVP date.

There is a great deal of work involved in this function by members of the Committee. We have done a full evaluation of last year's gathering and have tweaked the organisation in a few ways with a view to making this year's event the best it can possibly be.

We hope that you enjoy the Newsletter, even if you are unable to make it to the gathering.

Annual Gathering 2018

As we confirmed in our February Newsletter, the gathering this year will take place on Saturday 2nd June, which is also the main day of the Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival.

We will have a tent in a similar position to that of last year, on the Wynter Street or eastern side of Central Park in Wingham.

The Murray Tent will be behind the main row of tents, but this year we will also have an access tent in the main row, which will make it easier to find and gain entry to the main tent. There will be signs out the front this year as well.

Lunch will be served at about 12.30pm, but you are welcome to spend time at the tent at any time throughout the day, when light refreshments will be available.

Costs will be as follows:

Lunch: \$15.00 (Primary school aged children \$6.00)

Coffee / tea and shortbread (throughout the day): Gold coin donation

Raffle tickets: \$2.00 each

Please advise any special dietary requirements at the time of booking.

There will be two raffle prizes. These are handsome leather bags hand-made by Clan Commissioner Warwick Murray.

For information on the bags Warwick makes see this 2016 article from the Wingham Chronicle:

<https://www.winghamchronicle.com.au/story/3675649/warwicks-love-of-leather/>



We will need to have definite numbers for catering purposes prior to the gathering. We would be grateful if you could reply and pay by **Monday, 21st May**.

Our Treasurer Timalee Murray will be taking bookings for the lunch. There are **two ways to book**:

1. **By email:** Advise Timalee by email that you will be attending. The Clan Society email address is murrayclansocietynsw@hotmail.com.

Payment may be made by internet banking. The Clan Society's bank account details are:

Account name: Murray Clan Society of NSW
BSB: 032590
Account number: 651482

When making deposits, please use your name as the "Reference" so we have a record of who has paid.

2. **By post:** Complete the slip at the end of this Newsletter and return it to:

The Treasurer
Murray Clan Society of NSW
PO Box 407
WINGHAM NSW 2429

Cheques should be made payable to **Murray Clan Society of NSW**. Please pay in advance as we prefer not to collect money on the day.

For catering purposes, we will need numbers by **Monday, 21st May**. Many members may find it convenient to renew their membership when paying for the lunch. Annual membership fees are vital to our organisation and cover important expenditures such as insurance. They also allow us to invite special speakers from outside the district from time to time.

Annual membership fees are \$10 per family or \$5 single.

For members interested in other activities associated with the Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival, the full programme is available at

<http://bonnie-ingham-scottish-festival.manninghistorical.org/>



Family News

We are always happy to include stories from the wider Murray family. A good news story received recently concerns the graduation of Melanie Powell as a primary school teacher.

Melanie is a grand-daughter of long-standing Committee member Joyce Murray, daughter of Lorraine Murray and a niece of Vice President Ian Murray. Melanie started a law degree after leaving school, but life took a different path with marriage and family taking a higher priority. Melanie later returned to study, intent on fulfilling her passion to become a primary school teacher.

Five years of delicate juggling of full-time study, full-time work at Manning Hospital and a busy family life saw her graduate from New England University on 13th April. Melanie says: "It had its ups and downs and

was a lot of hard work. Dedication drove me to push on even at times when things seemed impossible and especially at the times I doubted myself... but I did it!" She said she was very grateful to her loving family who supported her during her studies.



Melanie is now teaching part-time at Upper Lansdowne Public School.

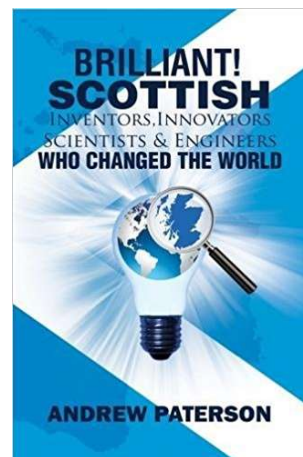
Graduation at UNE. Back row: Trudy Munro (Melanie's sister), Cherie Murray-Holden (aunt), Anne-Marie Reeves (mother-in-law), Nigel Powell (husband), Mel Powell, Lorraine Murray (mother).

Front row: Melanie and Nigel's children Baden, Jennah and Laura

Book Review

We received the following book promotion recently from Andy Paterson, the author of the book. Andy was born in Glasgow in 1946 and emigrated to Australia in 1960, at which time he started to collect information on prominent Scots. By 2005, he had details of over 15,000 Scots whose influence went far beyond Scotland. This book is a result of some of that research. I must confess to not having read this work, but am happy to include this promotion as the book sounds like a good read. Andy describes his book as follows:

If you have a passion for, or just a passing interest in, the achievements of Scots, this book is for you! Published on 31 August 2017 by Austin Macauley, ***Brilliant! Scottish Inventors, Innovators, Scientists and Engineers Who Changed the World*** concisely details the accomplishments of 867 Scots and their thousands of inventions, innovations, scientific discoveries and engineering feats. Covering more than 50 fields of endeavour - including electronics, medicine, health, biology, computing, robotics, banking, aeronautics, physics, construction, architecture, entertainment, sport, and lots, lots more - this book is definitely not just a mere jingoistic tea towel list. The 867 headlined names were all born in Scotland or have a confirmed Scottish-born parent or grandparent, and for readers with no Scottish connection *Brilliant!* includes thousands of non-Scottish pioneers from around the world who also contributed to the development of the landmark achievements noted in this book. With more than 2,500 references, *Brilliant!* has been carefully researched over many years and provides a one-stop resource of Scottish achievements that positively impacted life in Britain, the United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This book is available from the publishers, Austin Macauley, as well as Amazon, Waterstones, Book Depository, Booktopia, and other physical and internet book stores.



It is currently being advertised in Australia at \$48.99.

From the Internet

Easy Listening: If you have a couple of minutes to spare, have a listen to this version of Amazing Grace played in the late afternoon scenery of the Scottish Highlands:

<https://www.bagpipemaster.com/2016/03/08/amazing-grace/>

There is an incredible array of Scottish and Clan themed merchandise being advertised on line. We don't normally carry advertising, but I was intrigued by the range of items on some websites. Just for interest, here are some links to some items (we're not suggesting you should buy these):

<https://1sttheworld.com/search?type=product&q=men+wallet+murray>

<https://1sttheworld.com/search?type=product&q=watches+murray>

<https://1sttheworld.com/collections/car-seat-covers-tartan/products/murray-clan-badges-tartan-car-seat-covers?variant=3538432327691>

<https://1sttheworld.com/collections/tartan-shower-curtains-collection/SHOWER-CURTAINS>

https://1sttheworld.com/collections/1st-tartan-umbrella?sort_by=title-ascending

Clan Crests and Badges

There are many variations of Murray crests. The two main ones are the "demi-savage", with the motto "Furth, Fortune and Fill the Fetters", and the mermaid, with the motto "Tout Prest" (Old French) or "Tout Prêt" (Modern French) meaning quite (or fully) ready. The demi-savage crest was commonly used by Murrays up until about 1970, when the Lord Lyon declared it inappropriate. Since his decisions on heraldic matters have the force of law in Scotland, all the manufacturers of clan badges ceased producing the demi-savage badge.

When the Murray Clan Society of NSW was being formed, this rule was in place so we adopted the mermaid crest, which we still use.

However, many Murrays were unhappy about the decision of the Lord Lyon, and the 10th Duke of Atholl as Chief of the Murray Clan, appealed this decision to the Lord Lyon Court, requesting the continued use of the demi-savage as the clansman's badge. During the 1980s the Lord Lyon modified the original decision, allowing use of the demi-savage crest badge. Following this reversal, the Clan Chief, George Ian Murray, 10th Duke of Atholl, decided that the demi-savage should be the crest badge used by members of his Clan. The Lord Lyon approved this decision in 1993.

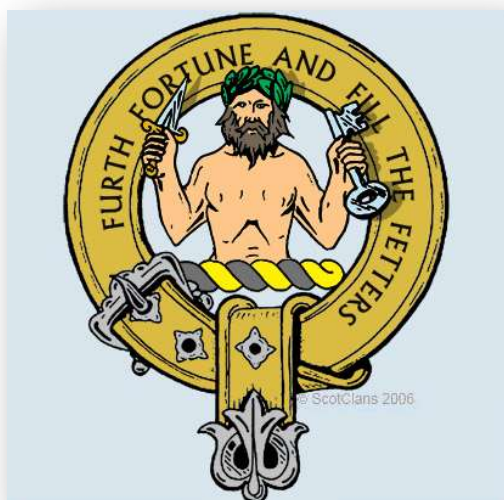
In Australia we are free to use whichever crest we choose. Some years ago we purchased the right to use a particular mermaid design which appears on our letterhead, but in future we will increasingly use the demi-savage.

Complicating the issue is the fact that the Murray Clan Society was granted its own heraldic arms by the Lord Lyon on May 15, 1990. The proclamation of the granting of arms is an interesting document:

We, Malcolm Reginald Innes of Edingight, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Writer to Her Majesty's Signet, Lord Lyon of Arms, send Greetings: Whereas Keith Murray-Hetherington, Convenor, for and on behalf of the Murray Clan Society having headquarters at Blair Castle, Blair Atholl in the County of Perth, having by petition unto us of date 28 October 1988 shewn; that the objects of the said Society are to promote social links among people

bearing the name Murray, and to stimulate interest in the history, culture and traditions of the Clan; and the petitioner having prayed that there might be granted unto him and on behalf of the Murray Clan Society such Ensigns Armorial as might be found suitable and according to the Laws of Arms, KNOW YE THEREFORE that we have devised, and do by these presents assign, ratify, and confirm unto the petitioner for and on behalf of the Murray Clan Society, the following Ensigns Armorial as depicted upon the margin hereof, and matriculated of even date with these presents upon the 14th page of the 75th volume of our Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, VIDELICET: five annulets conjoined in Less Argent between three mullets of the Last. Above the Shield is placed on Helm suitable to our incorporation (VIDELICET: on Sallet proper lined Gules) with a Mantling Azure doubled Argent, and on a Wreath of the Liveries is set for Crest a Tower Argent masoned Sable, charged of a crest-cornet Azure over the same this motto "Forward With Fortune", by demonstration of which Ensigns Armorial the said Society is amongst all Nobles and in all Places of Honour, to be taken, numbered, accounted and received as Society Noble in the Noblesse of Scotland; in testimony whereof we have subscribed these presents and seal of our office is affixed hereto in Edinburgh, this 15th day of May in the 39th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Second, by the grace of God, of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of Her other realms and territories, Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, and in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

Some of this material has been adapted from the website of the Murray Clan Society of North America. For more details visit their site at <http://clanmurray.org/>



We look forward to seeing you at the Wingham gathering on 2nd June.

Ross Murray

President

Just For Fun



"Will you people stop banging on the wall?
I can hardly hear myself playing the pipes!"

CartoonStock.com



"So, what can I do for you, Mr McNuggets?"

CartoonStock.com

Luncheon Booking Slip

Please return this slip if you are booking for the Luncheon by post.

(You do not need this form if you are booking by email.)

Please return this information by Monday, 21st May.

I / we will be attending Murray Clan Society Luncheon on **Saturday, 2nd June 2018.**

Names:

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Method of Payment (\$15 per person) – Please circle correct responses:

- a) Payment is enclosed
- b) Payment has been transferred to the Society's Bank Account

Optional: Payment includes membership subscription of:

\$10 (family) / \$5 (individual)

Special dietary requests:

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Please post to:

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