



# THE CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEWSLETTER

No 70

JUNE 2006

*The first meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia was held on December 3, 1986 in Brisbane. The current elected committee are:*

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| PATRON:               | Mr Archibald Douglas  |
| PRESIDENT:            | Mrs Jan Shaw  |
| MINUTES SECRETARY:    | Mrs Jan Shaw  |
| MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: | Mrs Del L Armstrong   |
| TREASURER:            | Ms Kate Godfrey   |
| EDITOR:               | Mrs Mary Smith  |
| GEN. RESEARCH OFF:    | Mrs Mary Smith  |
| GENERAL COMMITTEE:    | Mr Archie Douglas, Miss Dawn Douglas, Ms Penny Shaw & Mr John & Mrs Robin Godfrey |

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION

TO ACT AS A REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF DOUGLASES AND SEPTS.  
TO ENCOURAGE GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION OF DOUGLAS HISTORY.

TO PROMOTE FELLOWSHIP AMONGST MEMBERS.

TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH OTHER DOUGLAS ASSOCIATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

We send Members two Newsletters a year (and invite members to contribute articles of general interest). We hold social gatherings to enable Members to meet.

We invite you and your family to join this Association. We ask you especially to support the Committee and help us bring together people of Douglas Ancestry, Sept families and other connections, from all over Australia, New Zealand and the World.

Any one descended from, connected by marriage, or adopted by a Douglas or Sept of Douglas is eligible to join.

The Sept families of the House of Douglas are:

BELL, BLACKLOCK, BLACKSTOCK, BLACKWOOD, BROWN, BROWNLEE, CAVERS, DICKEY, DOUGLASS, DRYSDALE, FORREST, FORRESTER, FOSTER, GILPATRICK, GLENDINNING, INGLIS, KILGORE, KILPATRICK, KIRKLAND, KIRKPATRICK, LOCKERBY, MACGUFFEY, MACGUFOCK, MCKILLRICK, MORTON, SANDLILANDS, SANDLIN, SIMMS, SOULE, STERRITT, SYMINGTON, SYME, YOUNG.

We ask you to please notify anyone else you know to be eligible to join, especially those who may not be on our mailing list. Enclosed is a membership form to be returned with Australian currency cheques made out to CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION and send to - Membership Secretary, Clan Douglas Association of Australia, K34/356 Blunder Road, Durack, 4077



## DRUMLANRIG (continued)

1. Patrick Douglas of Morton, Dumfriesshire was the 2<sup>nd</sup> son of Sir James Douglas, 7<sup>th</sup> Laird of Drumlanrig, Hawick etc. and Margaret Douglas (daughter of George and Elizabeth Douglas nee Drummond, Master of Angus). He was Bailie of Morton Castle in Nithsdale and later mentioned in the Buccleuch charters. He married (1) Marion Menzies of Castlehill but was divorced in 1549, no issue.

1. Patrick Douglas married (2) Elizabeth McClellane, widow of Alexander McCulloch of Cardiness, no issue.

1. Patrick Douglas married (3) Dumfries, 07/May/1554, Katherine Crawford (daughter of William Crawford of Lochmorris, Ayrshire) who married (2) Andrew Cunningham of Birkshaw. The family of Patrick and Katherine Douglas nee Crawford consisted of

    1.1.James Douglas

    1.2.Triamor Douglas, born Morton Castle in Nithsdale, 1557, died young but was mentioned in the Buccleuch charters.

    1.3.John Douglas, born Morton Castle in Nithsdale 1558 and alive in 1620.

    1.4.Helen Douglas, born Morton Castle 1559; married 27/Jul/1584 John Menzies of Auchinsell.

    1.5.Hugh Douglas

1.1.James Douglas of Morton was born 1555 at Morton Castle, Nithsdale; 1559 mentioned in the Tailbond of his grandfather, Sir James Douglas of Drumlanrig; 1574 mentioned as being one of his heirs of entail to the estates; denounced by the Sheriff at the Market Cross in Dumfries as being an intromittor i.e., a person who trades in the possessions of a dead person before that person's testament has been confirmed; married and had a daughter

    1.1.1.Beatrice Douglas who married August 1621, William Hamilton of Wishaw (son of John Hamilton of Udston and Helen Whiteford).

1.5.Hugh Douglas of Morton born 1560; died 1623/24; 20/Nov/1521 mentioned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Will of his grandfather as being "my grandson, Hew Douglas, son of the deceased Patrick Douglas of Morton"; married 14/Jul/1584, Nicolace (daughter of John Maitland of Auchingassel, Dumfriesshire); died 31/Mar/1607. Hugh and Nicolace Douglas had

    1.5.1.James Douglas

    1.5.2.John Douglas

    1.5.3.Patrick Douglas

    1.5.4.Janet Douglas

1.5.1.James Douglas of Morton, born 1590; died 1652; 20/Jul/1624, sasine of the lands of Morton and Bellibocht; 1636 obtained lands of Auchisell, Muirhill and Blackmyre; 1643-1649 Commissioner of Supplies for Dumfries; married 28/May/1623, Christian Lockhart (daughter of Sir James Lockhart of Lee and Jean Auchinleck of Balmanno) and had issue:

    1.5.1.1.William Douglas

    1.5.1.2.Archibald Douglas of Fingland

    1.5.1.3.Samuel Douglas of Auchinshinnoch, died 1709; married a daughter of ? Menzies of Castlehill, Dumfriesshire; no family.

    1.5.1.4.Janet Douglas, born Morton Castle in Nithsdale 1635; married Morton Castle 16/Apr/1657, James Johnstone of Corneid (son of James and Rachel Johnstone nee Whitefoord, M.P.)

1.5.1.5.Grizzel Douglas married Robert Fergusson of Craigdarroch, Dumfriesshire. Their son Alexander Fergusson married Ann, daughter of Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwellton, called “Annie Laurie.”

1.5.1.6.Margaret Douglas born Morton Castle, Nithsdale 1637; married 1649 Roger Gordon (son and heir of John Gordon of Troquhain in Balmacellan, Kirkcudbrightshire).

1.5.1.1.William Douglas of Morton, born 1627 son of James and Christian Douglas nee Lockhart; died Edinburgh 1707; captain in the Dumfriesshire Militia; sold his lands to the Earl of Queensberry in 1672; married (1) Esther Eliot (daughter of Sir Gilbert Eliot, baronet of Stobs) and had issue

1.5.1.1.1.James Douglas

1.5.1.1.2.William Douglas, born 1651; died unmarried 1672.

1.5.1.1.3.Elizabeth Douglas born Morton Castle in Nithsdale 1657; 1672 succeeded her brother William Douglas; married William Cockburn.

1.5.1.1.William Douglas (1627) married (2) Anna Fergusson of Craigdarroch (daughter of John Fergusson); no issue.

1.5.1.1.1.James Douglas born 1655 at Morton, son of William and Esther Douglas nee Eliot; died 1720; owned land at Dalry; obtained a matriculation of the Arms of Douglas, quartering with Mar; career in the Scots Foot Guards and became a captain and Lieutenant-Colonel; 1697 Lieutenant-Colonel of regiment Murray; 1705 Colonel Commander; 1709 Brigadier and as Colonel of Lord Portmore’s regiment involved in the battle of Malplaquet commanding the “Dutch Highland Brigade” as part of Major-General Hamilton’s Division; 1710 Colonel, commanding his own regiment. (Douglas); married (1)Jean Maxwell (daughter of John Maxwell, captain 3<sup>rd</sup> Guards). Their family

1.5.1.1.1.1.Elizabeth Douglas ch. Canongate Church, Edinburgh  
10/Feb/1694.

1.5.1.1.1.2.a daughter born and died 1696

1.5.1.1.1.3.Ester Douglas born 13/Jul/1697; married William Carruthers of Denbie near Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.

1.5.1.1.1.4.Christian Douglas ch. Canongate Church Edinburgh,  
05/May/1699; married Herbert Wilson.

1.5.1.1.1.5. Marion Douglas, born 02/May/1701

1.5.1.1.1.6.Archibald Douglas

1.5.1.1.1.James Douglas married (2) Helen Stewart and had a daughter

1.5.1.1.1.7.Jean Douglas born Morton Castle in Nithsdale 11/Dec/1712;  
married James Hutchison Baxter, Excise Officer.

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Compiled from “A History of the Family of Douglas”, by Percy Douglas.

The following names taken from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Website for Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)

BELL, James Private; 3134855; Corps of Military Police; died 04/Mar/1943 aged 37.

DOUGLAS, W, Private; S/10252; Gordon Highlander; d. 11/Jul/1916 aged 22.

DOUGLAS, William Paterson, Private; 59606; Royal Scots; d. 30/Oct/1918 aged 37.

MORTON, James, Private; 41026; Royal Scots Fusiliers; d. 09/May/1917 aged 19.



## CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Patron: Mr Archibald Douglas

**President:**

Mrs Jan Shaw  
116 Strong Ave.,  
Graceville, 4075  
T. (07) 3379 6357

NAME -----

**Secretary:**

Mrs Jan Shaw  
S/A

ADDRESS-----

-----POSTCODE-----

PLACE OF FAMILY ORIGIN OVERSEAS (IF KNOWN)

-----  
PLACE OF FAMILY ORIGIN, AUSTRALIA or N.Z.

**Treasurer:**

Ms Kate Godfrey,  
39 Main Road,  
Wellington Point, 4160  
T. (07) 3207 5293(a/h)

-----TELEPHONE-----

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Mrs Mary Smith,  
P.O. Box 29,

MEMBERSHIP FEE PER YEAR \$20-00 PER FAMILY AT  
SAME ADDRESS

**Gen. Co-ordinator**  
Mrs Mary Smith,  
S/A

### COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

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Please make cheques payable in Australian currency to  
CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA and post to the  
membership secretary. Thank you.

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

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The Clan Douglas Association acknowledges that on the list of Sept families  
there are some who are recognised as belonging to other clans, but some families of  
these surnames were closely linked with branches of the 'Douglas' in the early years.

**Sept.**  
Bell, Kilgore,  
Blacklock, Kilpatrick,  
Blackstock, Kirkland,  
Blackwood, Kirkpatrick  
Brown, Lockerby,  
Brownlee, MacGuffey,  
Cavers, MacGuffock,  
  
Dickey, McKittrick,  
Douglass, Morton,  
Drysdale, Sandilands  
  
Forest, Sandlin,  
Forrest, Simms,  
Forrester, Soule,  
Foster, Sterritt,  
Gilpatrick, Symington,  
Glendinning Syme,  
Ingles Young  
Inglis,

## BURGHS OF BARONY

Burghs of regality and barony were Burghs granted by the crown to a secular or ecclesiastical landowner. A Burgh of regality was granted to a lord of regality, i.e. one of the leading Scottish families such as the Douglases who held very large estates and had wide powers in criminal and civil law. A Burgh of barony was granted to a tenant-in-chief, a landowner who held his estates directly from the crown. Over 300 Burghs of Barony or Regality were held between 1450 and 1707, and gave the landowner varying trading rights — for example the right to hold weekly markets or to trade overseas. Many Burghs did not survive for long and in some cases local Barons obtained burgh charters simply for their own social prestige. These were known as ‘parchment burghs’ that never developed into the market towns that were hoped for originally. Many Burghs lost their status in the nineteenth century under the Police Burghs Act. In Scotland the accession of James IV in 1488 marked the beginning of a new period of royal power and development of commerce with the establishment of markets resulting in communities of craftsmen forming into useful trading centres in an expanding economy.

(Compiled from an article in The Journal, Issue 18 April 2006 of the East Ayrshire Family History Society magazine).



## TARTAN

Some first time tartan kilt buyers are often confused by the term ‘ancient’ thinking that it designates a much older more authentic version. To the contrary, ‘ancient’ is actually more modern than ‘modern’. ‘Ancient’ refers to the shades of colour used in the weaving and a modern tartan can be woven as the ‘ancient Douglas’ if the weaver selects shades to imitate natural dyes used before 1860. It is not correct to refer to these as ‘vegetable’ dyes since some consisted of animal or mineral matter.

Tartan is woven in four shades:

1. The brighter and darker ‘modern’ colours eventuated after 1855
2. The softer ‘ancient’ hues became very popular in the 1950s and 1960s.
3. The shades known as ‘muted’ or ‘weathered’
4. The reproduction colours in imitation tartan long exposed to the elements. For example, the red is an orange colour when called ‘ancient’; blues and greens are woven as gray and brown in the ‘reproduction’.

The key to tartan identification is in the pattern. A single pattern can be woven in a large or small scale in any four-colour combinations. The eight variations will appear to the observer as very different but are all correct representations of the same pattern. ‘Ancient’ and ‘modern’ tartans are the same, it is simply the colour that has changed.

There are a small number of tartans which have been found to be older than the pattern usually worn by a specific family. Here the term ‘old’ is used. For example the ‘old Stewart’ is truly much older than other Stewart tartans and is authentically the Clan Stewart pattern. It is recommended that all tartan terminology should be standardised.

(Compiled from an article in dubh ghlase, Volume XXXIII No.1, February 2006, p7 the magazine of the Clan Douglas Society of North America).

## NOTICE BOARD

- 7-18/Jun/2006** — Qld Pipe Band Championships, Maryborough, Qld.
- 17 & 18/Jun/2006** — 2<sup>nd</sup> Australasian Scottish Genealogy Conference, Caulfield, RSL Club, 4 St. George's Rd., Elsternwick, 3185, Victoria. Contact Genealogical Society of Victoria, T. 03 9662 4455, email: [gsv@gsv.org.au](mailto:gsv@gsv.org.au)
- 23/Jun/2006** — Bannockburn Lunch at Guildford, NSW
- 24/Jun/2006** — Bannockburn Dinner Queensland Irish Association Saturday night hosted by Clan Campbell. Interested parties may contact Clan Douglas president, Jan Shaw who is getting a table together or contact Trevor Campbell on T. 3359 6662 or [tcam5646@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tcam5646@bigpond.net.au)
- 25/Jun/2006** — Repeal of Tartan Kirking, Westmead, NSW
- 25/Jun/2006** — 'Kirkin the Tartan' Church Service — to be held at the Anglican All Saints Church cnr. Ann & Wharf Street, Brisbane City. Contact Michael McCarty (SCCQ) T. 5496 8854 for more details.
- 28/Jun/2006** — Tartan Day celebrations in Martin Place 1.00pm, Wednesday
- 28/Jun/2006** — SCCQ Tartan Day Luncheon at Queensland Irish Club Bistro. Contact Dave Austin T.38690558 for more details.
- 01/Jul/2006** — Repeal of the Tartan Celebrations in all states
- 02/Jul/2006** — Blue Mountains Scots' Ball, Lawson, NSW
- 02/Jul/2006** — Tartan Day Southbank, Brisbane. Contact Ian or Margaret Campbell on email: [broker@big.net.au](mailto:broker@big.net.au)
- 15/Jul/2006** — Highlands Pipes & Drums Ball, Mittagong, NSW
- 27/Jul/2006** — Combined Scottish Pipes & Drums Solo Comps. Ryde, NSW
- 30/Jul/2006** — Combined Clans Kirking, Roseville, NSW
- 13/Aug/2006** — Scottish Day at Linnwood, Guildford, NSW
- 26/Aug/2006** — Toukley Gathering, Toukley, NSW
- 27/Aug/2006** — CSS Piping & Drumming Solos, Ryde, NSW
- 17/Sep/2006** — Scots College Pipe Band Contest, Rose Bay, NSW

**NEXT MEETING CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
JUNE 17, 2006, 2-00PM @ 116 Strong Ave., Graceville**

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More Monumental Inscriptions of HOUNAM & LINTON of Roxburghshire, Scotland

In loving memory of JAMES BELL who died at Greenhill 20.1.1936 aged 76 years. Also his sons GEORGE died 3.9.1936 aged 58 years, JOHN DAVID Shielhaugh Selkirk 22.2.1882 aged 1 year 10 months, interred at Brierlaw Cemetery also MARGARET MCHUTCHON his wife who died 10.4.1941 aged 90 years; also JEMINA MCHUTCHON his niece who died 18.5.1960 aged 81 years.

Chest Stone. ----- also AGNES Rutherford the granddaughter of ANDREW DOUGLAS in Upper Hindhope who died 24.4.---- WILLIAM their son who died at Swinsidehall 18.7.1863 aged 68 years; also CECIL SMITH his wife ;who died at Swinsidehall 30.4.----

## History of the Blue Mountains Pipe Band

The band formed in 1990 under Pipe Major Malcolm Stewart. Through years of hard work performing at numerous engagements including Hospital fetes, festivals, Yule fest celebrations, street marches and Anzac commemorations, the band became larger and more experienced. The initial dress was an army jacket with blue Trousers. Then, as funds became available, kilts were worn. At first the band could only afford to hire kilts, but can now afford to purchase them. The band wears the **Ancient Douglas Tartan** — its vibrant blues and greens corresponding with the natural beauty and unique surroundings of the Blue Mountains. The band has also performed with the highly regarded Scottish Accordion player John McDonald, who performs throughout New South Wales, and resides in the Blue Mountains.

The Blue Mountains Pipe Band has enjoyed a number of successes on the competition field. Its first outing in grade 4 was at the Appin Highland Games in 1996, with the band gaining 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Also in 1996 the band took 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Drummoyne Highland Games. In 1997 the band competed at Scots School Bathurst highland gathering and placed 1<sup>st</sup>.

The end of 1997 saw the retirement of the Pipe Major Malcolm, and along with the departure of a number of other members, the band became very small with 3 pipers and 1 tenor filling the ranks. Subsequently, it became non-competitive and less active in the community. However as time went on the band gained a few new members (and the return of some old ones) and during February 1999 ex Rooty Hill Piper Gordon Maxwell was appointed the new Pipe Major. During 2002 the band was fortunate enough to gain the skills and expertise of renowned Pipe Major James D. Smith and in 2003 the support of his offsider, June McLeish. With a new inspiration and the guidance of two great masters, the band experienced a period of growth, and subsequently launched a new assault on the competition field.

The band has competed and won at a number of contests including 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the 2002 Drummoyne State Championships. In 2003 the band came 2<sup>nd</sup> at Blacktown Britfest contest, 1<sup>st</sup> at the Scots School Bathurst, and 1<sup>st</sup> in the set of marches element at the State Championships at Castle Hill. In 2004, it won Scots' School Bathurst again, and also came 1<sup>st</sup> in the Bankstown mini-band comp. in both grade 4 and grade 3. In 2005, the band only managed to compete at the Bankstown mini-band comp and was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in grade 3, the band's current registered grade.

The Blue Mountains Pipe Band displaying the Douglas Kilt marching in procession.

## More Monumental Inscriptions of HOUNAM & LINTON of Roxburghshire, Scotland

In memory of WILLIAM DOUGLAS late tenant in Swinside who died in November 1788 aged 65 years; also of ELIZABETH MURRAY his spouse who died in December 1798 aged 55 years; also of two of their children.

To the memory of GEORGE DOUGLAS tenant in Plenderleith who died 16.12.1859 aged – years; also his brother JOHN DOUGLAS of H.R.N. who died on board H.M.S. London off Sebastopol 10.6.1855 aged 48 years.

Sacred to the memory of ANDREW DOUGLAS farmer of Swinsidehall who died 10.12.1867 aged 58 years; also JOHN DOUGLAS son of GEORGE DOUGLAS farmer of Hindhope died 27.7.1872 aged 20 months; also ALICE DOUGLAS wife of the said ANDREW DOUGLAS who died ---- aged 66 years; also GEORGE DOUGLAS son of GEORGE DOUGLAS died --.9.1877 aged 11 months.

To the memory of ALEXANDER PRINGLE who died at Pennymuir 7.2.1851 aged 75 years and JANET DOUGLAS his spouse who died at Bierhope 1.8.1851 aged 73 years and of CHRISTIAN DOUGLAS her sister who died at Bierhope 8.2.1857 aged 70 years.

To the memory of AGNES DOUGLAS wife of WALTER TINLINE who died at Pennymuir 11.9.1877 aged 44 years; also the above WALTER TINLINE who died at Fulton nr. Jedburgh 12.12.1912 aged 88 years; also JOHN TINLINE their grandson who died in infancy.

In memory of ALEXANDER BELL who died at Hownam Mains 13.7.1889 aged 73 years; also ISABELLA MITCHELL HILL ? his wife who died at Upper Nisbet 21.11.1907 aged 73 years.

In memory of ELIZABETH DOUGLAS spouse to GEORGE BELL who died at Yett 19.6.1853 aged 78 years; also GEORGE BELL late tenant in Yett who died at Kirk Yetholm 6.4.1857 aged 81 years.

To the memory of ROBERT SHIELL tenant in Sourhope who died 21.9.1846 aged 90 years and of ANN DOUGLAS his wife who died at Kelsocleugh 3.8.1814 and of JANET RUTHERFORD his wife who died at Sourhope 7.6.1843 aged 64 years and of THOMAS SHIELL their son who died at Broomhouse Durham 1.4.1864 aged 42 years.

In memory of BETTY MATHER spouse to JOHN BELL tenant in Nether Whitton who died 12.2.17— also ROBERT BELL their son who died 1724 GRISSEL BELL their daughter died 24.12.17—and JAMES BELL died 29.8.17-9.



### EDITORIAL

Half of 2006 has already gone and we will be entering July shortly. Where have those months gone? Have you managed to finish your family history and it is now ready for publication? Don't hesitate to compile it or put your notes together in their proper order. When we are gone, all that information we have collected over many years will be wasted if our children can't make head nor tail of all our notes. Take each family name and put all the information you have belonging to that family together. Then sort through it making piles for each person in that family as well as sorting photographs accordingly. Slip the pages of notes etc. into polypropylene pockets and keep in one folder marked with name of family. At least you will have gone some way to preserving your family's history for future posterity.

Mary Smith, editor

## BANNOCKBURN BATTLE

In the year 1314, after 18 years of war, Scotland north of the Forth was free. However, Stirling, one of the few castles still held by the English lay under Scottish siege but Edward Bruce the King's brother, lacked siege equipment and was hoping to starve the English out. So it was thought expedient to make a pact with Stirling's governor Sir Philip Mowbray. This was to the effect that if the English relieving force had not arrived by midsummer's eve, the castle would be surrendered to the Scots — very chivalrous! When King Robert heard of the pact, he was very angry as up to that time, he had relied on guerrilla tactics to oust the English and it would now mean that King Edward 11 of England would undoubtedly send a force north and a pitched battle would ensure if Stirling was to be saved.

Of course, King Edward was only too happy to oblige and he amassed a huge army of some 40,000 men with the intention of crushing the rebellious Scots once and for all. His army included 2,500 heavy cavalry, 2000 Welsh bowmen and 500 light cavalry with the rest consisting of highly trained infantry. Following behind this army, came a huge train of equipment and supplies — weaponry, siege engines, foods, wines, and the riches of the Knights and Barons. The Scots on the other hand, had a small army of 13,000 men in comparison.

A fortnight before the deadline of midsummer's eve, King Edward mustered his army at Berwick-upon-Tweed, crossed the border at Coldstream and marched north on the old Roman Road to Stirling arriving on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1314 before the Bannockburn ford.

Having anticipated these strategies, King Robert the Bruce set his opposing army to line the road under cover of the forest. For him to win, he would need to fight the battle on his terms and keep the bulk of the English army confined within a narrow area, too small for them to fight at full strength. The scene of the battle chosen by Robert, was a gap between the woods surrounding the Bannockburn village and those on Gillies Hill near to where the road fords the stream at Bannockburn. Within the woods, he set up road blocks with branches and had dug pits which he had covered with sticks. Then he waited for the English to arrive.

Knowing that the English had arrived at Bannockburn, Sir Philip Mowbray rode out to meet with King Edward. Sir Philip asked for a force to be dispatched to relieve the siege at Stirling and the King agreed to send 500 cavalry under the command of Sir Clifford and Sir Beaumont. However, Sir Philip knew that to take the direct route to Stirling would not work so he guided the cavalry along a narrow bridle path down the gorge to Stirling. Fortunately for the Scots, this manoeuvre was spotted and King Robert dispatched Randolph to intercept. Randolph with his men quickly charged down towards the English blocking their path with the Scots schiltrom.<sup>1</sup> Repeated charges by the English to break through the Scots lines, resulted in many knights crashing to their deaths.

Meanwhile James Douglas was very concerned for Randolph's men and persuaded King Robert to let him take a small division of reinforcements down to

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<sup>1</sup> A large circle of men who carried huge 15ft pikes and who had been trained to march consistently in this formation with pikes outwards, forming an impenetrable wall of spears.

the battle. What a surprise awaited him! Randolph had the situation well in hand as the English had given up charging and now resorted to using hand weapons though with little effect. The English began to withdraw and the Scots swarmed after them. In blind panic, the English scattered and arrived back at their camp somewhat the ‘worse for wear.’

Douglas and Randolph returned to the Scottish lines where they heard of King Robert’s narrow escape with death. Apparently, a young English knight Henry de Bohun, noticed that a lone rider (Robert) was supervising his troops and decided to attack Robert. This could have been disastrous for the Scots if Robert had been killed, but Robert stood his ground and it was the Englishman who became a statistic. Many skirmishes followed along the front line but now the decision had to be made as to how to proceed with the real battle. Robert knew that the site that he had previously chosen for the battle would not now work but if he could somehow force the English to cross a small gorge near the field where he realised the fight must take place, maybe he could cause confusion and disorganisation among the English. After discussing his plan with his commanders, Robert set his men in position above the field where the Englishmen were camped.

At daylight, the Scots were ready and noticed by this time that some of the English had already crossed the gorge and had formed up on the field in preparation for the charge. Robert ordered his troops to move out from the trees and gathering into their schiltroms, prepared to take up positions for the onslaught.

In the English camp, confusion reigned and the battle began in some disorder. Many Englishmen died on the pikes but their bowmen caused havoc within the Scots’ lines. Robert knew this would happen when the men left the cover of the trees and sent Keith the Marischal of Scotland who commanded 500 mounted infantry to charge out of the woods and rout the archers from the field. When this happened, the English didn’t know what to do. They struggled to retreat back towards the gorge, but their own men were still trying to cross and their paths were blocked whichever way they went. The Scots’ pikes were at their backs, and advancement could not take place. The English army’s fate was sealed.

The schiltroms pressed on, pushing more and more and more men into the horrific crush the gorge had become. Horses and men tumbled down the sides tripping over each other until, as one witness described it “bodies lay so thick a man could cross the burn dry-shod.” Shortly afterwards, almost all the English — some not having had a chance to fight — were scattering. Many drowned as they tried to cross the Forth, others were killed or crushed by their own companions in the mad race to escape. Those still left fighting on the battlefield were few and Robert seeing the victory was theirs, gave the order to break up and give chase. Sir James Douglas spotting the escape of King Edward, was given permission by King Robert to follow. The young king reached the gates of Stirling Castle but was denied entry. Sir Philip Mowbray was set on keeping his side of the bargain he had made with the Scots and King Edward was forced to flee south. He reached Dunbar Castle thoroughly beaten and humiliated, and took ship south to England. For the Scots, the battle was undeniably one of the greatest in history. King Robert had fought for a cause once thought impossible and had led the Scots to victory. King Edward may have had the military might of all England behind him, but in the end it was no match for an army of freedom fighters distinctly lacking in ‘blue blood.’

## Greentree Ceremonies

Philip Greentree of Salamander Bay, NSW advises that he is an authorised Marriage Celebrant who performs a wide range of civil ceremonies in Scottish dress. For those who want a traditional Scottish wedding ceremony, he has adapted an early Scottish ceremony to conform with Australian civil wedding requirements. Will travel — Sydney, Hunter Valley and Central Coast NSW . For further information contact

Website: <http://greentree.com.au>

e-mail: [philip@greentree.com.au](mailto:philip@greentree.com.au)

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Some useful addresses when searching for servicemen/women compiled by William McSkimming and Anne Geddes in Scotland, (especially those who died in the First and Second World Wars or who served in both wars).

Ministry of Defence (MOD) — serving Army Officers and soldiers  
Army Personnel Centre, Historic Disclosures, Mail Point, Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street, Glasgow  
Website: [www.army.mod.uk/contacts/divisions](http://www.army.mod.uk/contacts/divisions)  
The Army Personnel Centre can assist in tracing soldiers either still serving or those who have discharged in the last 5 or 6 years (or later if they are still on the Army Reserve List). The Army Personnel Centre cannot undertake to divulge the current location and/or the address of individuals, but will undertake to forward a letter where an individual can be positively identified.

Scottish National War Memorial (SNWM)  
Scottish National War Memorial, The Castle, Edinburgh, EH1 2YT  
Website: [www.snwm.org](http://www.snwm.org)  
The SNWM commemorates nearly 150,000 Scottish casualties in the World War 1 over 50,000 in the World War 11 and the campaigns since 1945, including the Malayan Emergency, the Korean War, Northern Ireland, the Falklands War and the Gulf War. The Memorial is to be found in Crown Square at the very top of the rock on which Edinburgh Castle stands. In 1927 the architect Sir Robert Lorimer and two hundred Scottish artists and craftsmen created a serene Hall of Honour and Shrine where the names of the dead are contained in books that are on permanent display. The Memorial, which is an independent charitable trust is open to the public free of charge on application to the Castle Ticket Office.

There is a search facility to check for inclusion of a particular individual. The first set of search results gives surname, first name, service number, date of death, fighting force and rank. By 'clicking on' the underlined number you get another screen with more information like place of birth. From this screen you can buy a roll of honour or certificate for an individual — examples of which are included on the Website.

Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, Lambeth, London SE1 6HZ  
Website: [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)

The Imperial War Museum can help with some family history enquiries as the extensive library holds an outstanding collection of published material and maps relating to 20<sup>th</sup> century military, social, political and economic history.

There are numerous World War 1 & 11 Websites on the Internet — just type your search into a search engine like [www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk)

Veterans Agency [www.veteransagency.mod.uk](http://www.veteransagency.mod.uk)

World War 1 [www.1914-1918.net](http://www.1914-1918.net)

World War 11 [www.bbc.co.uk/ww2](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ww2)

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