



THE CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

No 72

DECEMBER 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 Douglasses 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 four 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, MACGUFFOCK, 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

President's Message

As I have outlined CDAA activities in the President's Report to the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 11 November, this message will be relatively short.

At the AGM the existing Committee was re-elected to the executive and General Committee positions. A notice of motion regarding a clause in our Constitution resulted in an Extraordinary Committee Meeting called for Saturday 24 March, 2007 at 2pm at my home. As it stands, only those born a 'Douglas' or bearing the surname 'Douglas' may hold positions of President & Vice President. It has been decided to change the wording to also include those members descended from a Douglas to allow more scope for representation. We would like members to either send their opinion or a proxy vote to the March Extraordinary meeting.

Our committee discussed ways in which we would celebrate our 20th Anniversary and several ideas were put forward. It was agreed that we would like to find some way of including as many members as possible. However, as so many of you are scattered widely across Australia and New Zealand, it seemed an impossible task to bring you all together except through the Newsletter.

Would members please write a short note about 'what CDAA means to you' or just send a few congratulatory lines to the Newsletter editor. We decided also to have a celebratory lunch after Kirkin' the Tartan on 24 June 2007 — either a b.y.o. picnic in a park or perhaps at a city restaurant. After we make enquiries as to costs, decide on a venue and the church location has been announced, we will inform you in the March newsletter.

I do hope as many as possible can make a special effort to attend both the Kirkin' the Tartan and the 20th year celebration lunch.

On the 27 January 2007, the Scottish Clans Congress of Queensland will hold the Burns supper at the Irish Club in Brisbane. I shall have a table and members and their friends are welcome to join my table. It's a friendly happy occasion with Scottish traditions of Piping the Haggis and Scottish Dancing being practised. Please contact me at (07) 3379 6357 for further information.

Finally, as this is the last newsletter for 2006, I wish you all a HAPPY CHRISTMAS and A HEALTHY and PROSPEROUS 2007.

Jan Shaw (nee Douglas)
President.



President's Report
Annual General Meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia
11/Nov/2006

As members of Clan Douglas have been kept up to date with C.D.A.A. activities throughout the year with my President's Message in the Newsletter, I shall in this report, re-iterate those main points.

Following the resignations of Jan Waller and David Douglas — Jan as newly elected Membership Secretary and David as Treasurer — replacements needed to be found as our depleted committee felt a bit like a 'sinking ship' at that time. I'd like at this point, to thank both Jan and David for their past work for the Association and also to thank Del Armstrong for filling the Membership Secretary's position and Kate Godfrey who moved from Auditor to Treasurer. You both saved the ship from sinking and we are now sailing along with confidence. Del has had the experience of being both an executive and ordinary Committee member since we began over 20 years ago and Kate brings a breath of fresh air with her younger and more innovative ideas.

On the subject of thanks, it's Mary our Newsletter Editor who deserves a round of applause. Without her tenacity and dedication, our ship would almost certainly have sunk. Thank you Mary. I do know the time and thought a Newsletter Editor uses to compile 4 newsletters a year and Mary does it single handedly.

Every Committee member contributes in different ways like a crew and so I would like also to thank John and Robin Godfrey, Dawn Douglas and Penny Shaw for their loyal response to our needs.

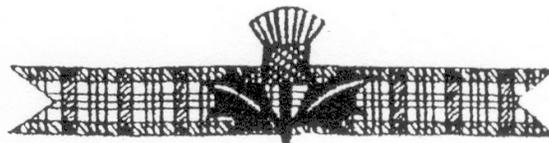
As CDAA President, I have enjoyed representing you all at several functions throughout the year. The Burns Supper in January was a lively and friendly gathering of Scottish Clans; Kirkin' the Tartan with its historical overtones of proud Scots' descendants carrying out a traditional cultural blessing of their family Tartans and where our former Acting President Jan Waller carried our Douglas Tartan to be blessed; The Clan Forsyth Ceilidh another friendly gathering, this time with a whole clan who shared their fellowship with other invited clans. As well, I attended meetings of the Scottish Clans Congress of Queensland where I met again clansmen and women who had attended the activities already mentioned.

Our new Douglas Banner has finally arrived although not in time for Kirkin' the Tartans in June. It will however, be borne by a Banner bearer at the next Kirkin' the Tartan on 24 June, 2007. Please watch for the church location and time of service in our newsletter and mark it in your diaries. We plan to have it photographed for the next newsletter so those who live afar can catch a glimpse.

A special thanks to those members who have become more active in the Douglas Clan by sending in articles to the newsletter and writing a note to our membership secretary when you send in your subscriptions. We are attracting a few new members but would welcome more, especially some of the Septs. So please keep a look out for friends and acquaintances who bear one of the Sept names and persuade them to join our CDAA.

With Christmas and the New Year almost on our doorsteps, I will end this report by wishing you all good health and happiness in the coming Festive season.

Jan Shaw
President, 2005-06.



GENEALOGICAL CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT FOR 2006

It gives me much pleasure to present my report for 2006.

This year has been similar to previous years and I regret that there has been very few letters for me to answer regarding genealogy.

So far, I have not been notified of any Douglas or sept families' publications. Again I ask if any members are aware of Douglas or sept family stories, the Clan Douglas would like to know about them subject to purchasing for our library.

Research queries are needed for insertion in the newsletters. We have not received many this year and this free facility continues to be underused.

Mary Smith

Genealogical Co-ordinator

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT FOR 2006

It gives me much pleasure as Newsletter Editor, to present the Report for 2006.

Four newsletters have been produced since the AGM last year and I have tried to keep the main interest stories evolving as much as possible. However, I do need other material to publish. Please help in this department if you are able as many of you would be surprised at just how many people rely on the newsletter for Douglas news and information. We are all interested in YOUR news! And I am always happy to receive news of births, deaths (biographies) and marriages (brief accounts) from ALL members.

We need research queries also to help other members who may be looking for long lost relatives or ancestors. Please help us to help you and so keep the newsletter a viable and sought after publication.

A different Christmas or birthday present to give a loved one could be the gift of membership to the Clan Douglas Association of Australia. On every newsletter you receive there is always an application form at the back. Just fill this in and mail to the

Membership Secretary, Mrs Dell Armstrong, K34 Forest Place, 356 Blunder Road, Durack, 4077, Queensland, Australia with the \$20-00 membership fee.

Mary Smith, Newsletter Editor

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT 2006

Welcome to another AGM and to all those members near and far who are rejoining — may we have a very happy year ahead.
I have enjoyed my first year as Membership Secretary and it has been a great experience renewing old friendships, mostly by name only.
There are still quite a number whose memberships are outstanding but I am sure your busy life has caused you to overlook it for the present.
This year, we have had two (2) resignations — sad, but true — age catches up with us all.
Thank you for a happy year and to all office bearers & committee members, thanks for your assistance and for making my job so much easier.
To members everywhere, a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Dell Armstrong,
Membership secretary.

NOTICE BOARD

Increase in cost of NSW Certificates

From 1 September 2006, the NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages has increased the cost of its certificates by \$1-00. This makes a standard certificate \$33-00 or \$25-00 where the index number is quoted. Further details will be found on its website at www.bdm.nsw.gov.au

Reminder to members of the Robert Burns Dinner to be held at the Irish Club in Brisbane on the 27th January 2007 at 7pm. If interested in attending and would like to join other Clan Douglas members, please contact our president Jan Shaw who is getting a table together for the occasion.

The 2007 'Kirkin of the Tartans' will be celebrated at a R.C. Church. Further details will be advised at a later date. A Clan Douglas luncheon will be held following the service to celebrate the 20th Anniversary since the inauguration of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia. Please come and make this function a memorable event.



Clan Douglas Association of Australia's recently purchased Banner

NEWS FROM THE AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia was held at the President's home at Graceville on 11/Nov/2006 at 1.30pm. Many items were discussed including the following:

- Would someone living in the cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart and Darwin please volunteer as a representative of the Clan Douglas in his/her city and state. No onerous duties are attached to the office of 'Regent'.
- 1. The Clan Douglas members of the executive have recommended that other members be asked their opinion regarding the changing of the Constitution dealing with the clauses "Office Bearers" and a "Quorum".

The Constitution states 'that only members bearing the name of Douglas or born bearing the name of Douglas may occupy the position of Patron, President and Vice President'.

Rationale: Our membership has dropped over the years and as a result of our aging executive and the busy lifestyle our younger members embrace, we may find it difficult in the future with this restrictive wording as it effectively rules out descendants in the female line who will not bear the name of Douglas.

Therefore, we ask that the clause 'that only members bearing the name of Douglas or born bearing the name of Douglas may occupy the position of Patron, President and Vice President' be deleted from the Constitution and the clause 'that any members descended from a Douglas may take the positions of Patron, President/Vice President' be inserted.

- 2. That the Constitution be changed regarding a Quorum. The Constitution states 'that at all General Meetings of the Association, nine (9) members shall form a Quorum – Committee Meetings five (5) members'.

Rationale: With our aging membership, the busy lifestyle our younger members embrace and the lack of attendance at General Meetings, it is suggested that this clause be deleted and the following clause inserted: 'that at all General and Committee Meetings of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia five (5) members shall form a Quorum'

The Clan Douglas Association of Australia would appreciate members filling in the enclosed Proxy form and returning to the President so that an Extraordinary General Meeting may be held for the 24th March, 2007 prior to an ordinary meeting in order that the Constitution be changed.

- Membership fee of \$20-00 per annum will remain the same. However, if the fee isn't paid by the end of February 2007, the member will be regarded as non-financial and no further newsletters will be dispatched to that member.
- The executive committee for 2006-2007 remains the same.
- **Ron Douglas Bursary for 2006** has been awarded to Thomas Brassington of Scots College, Warwick and a cheque for \$100-00 was presented to him at the School Speech Day on 17/Nov/2006. (See enclosed)
- Next AGM was set down for 11/Nov/2007.

All Saints' Anglican Church
Wickham Terrace,
Brisbane

This church was used as the venue for the June 2006 'Kirkin of the Tartans'.

It seems the very early history of All Saints' Church was pretty sad with quarrelling & bickering over money, power, voting-rights which finally led to disenfranchisement of the congregation in 1862. It wasn't until 1869 that the Hon. John Douglas M.P. called and chaired an 'Indignation Meeting' which decided to ask for a statement about certain uses of moneys etc.

The idea was to extinguish the debt and to appoint 'Trustees'. The Bishop had built the original church without consulting the congregation as to the style or accommodation, yet expected the congregation to pay for it, which they did paying off the interest and principal in a short time. Their incentive for this arose from the fact that the Bishop if he so desired, could close the church for public worship and open it as a school. The Bishop was interfering in 'pew letting' and the parishioners considered also that there was a need for older men of standing to be involved in the church who would have an influence in the community.

Parliament at that time proposed a 'Public Lands Bill' which excluded the Church of England from the 'Trustees Act' and gave the Bishop full power over all church lands. A public meeting in protest declared that other churches were allowed to manage their own affairs so why couldn't Wickham Terrace? Eventually another public meeting was held and it was announced that the Bishop had appointed the Hon. John Douglas as warden representative. However, the troubles didn't stop there. According to the *History of All Saints' Church Brisbane* by D.L.Kessick, B.A., the Bishop retained the 'right of appointment' of the Trustees. The Rev. Shaw, the Hon. John Douglas and Mr R Phelan were appointed. There was also the question as to whether the land on which the church stood was granted under Sir Richard Bourke's Acts or under the Crown Lands Alienation Act. Things were made difficult too by the Bishop who had managed the church's finances from 1862 to 1864 and the wardens were confronted with debts and arrears of stipend. Up until the reconstruction in 1869, the church was known as the 'Brisbane Tabanacle' but after that was designated 'All Saints' Church' by the Bishop when the Foundation Stone for the new church was laid 05/Apr/1869 by the then Governor of Q'ld. Sir S.W. Blackall.

D.L.Kessick reports that the Hon. John Douglas C.M.G. had special gifts and his power to influence others was at all times, devoted to the service of his church. A Durham man of considerable learning, he was a capable and industrious administrator. He came of the family of the "Marquis of Queensberry", was mild mannered, but had an extreme degree of obstinacy! His full and sonorous voice was a delight to the ear and at one time, he gave the public the full benefit of it in a series of readings from ecclesiastical history. He was Premier of Q'ld. from 1877-1879, Agent-General in London, Administrator of New Guinea and finally, Government Resident on Thursday Island from 1885 until his death in 1904. He remained Trustee of All Saints' Church from 1865 until his death and for many years acted as a Synodsman and was also one of the first wardens.

(Information sent in by C Douglas of Toowoomba, descendant of the Hon. J Douglas)



DRUMLANRIG (continued)

Archibald Douglas was the third child of James & Janet Douglas nee Torry and was born at Sandown Barricks, Isle of Wight, 14/Sep/1802, and died Edinburgh 03/Jul/1857 and buried at Dalry Cemetery. On 06/Mar/1844, Archibald was admitted to the Priory of the Lothian's of Knights Templar and constituted a Knight Commander of the Order. He married (1) 09/Apr/1833, Caroline Montagu Scott, daughter of Ebenezer Prentice Scott of Christianstadt. Caroline emigrated to New Zealand with the children and died Mossgiel, 10/Nov/1886. Their issue

1. John Torry Douglas, born 06/Feb/1835, Edinburgh, Scotland and died at Dunedin, New Zealand 23/Dec/1887 unmarried.

2. Elizabeth Campbell Douglas, born 08/Nov/1836; died Mossgiel, New Zealand 13/Sep/1907. She married Dec/1859 Dr Robert Burns, MRCS of Edinburgh. He was one of the first doctors in Dunedin and died Apr/1907.

3. Ann Jean Douglas born 04/Jan/1839; died Mossgiel New Zealand 19/Nov/1898; married 18/May/1858, George Supples of Admiralty Cottage, Newhaven near Edinburgh, Scotland.

4. Margaret Antoinette Douglas was born 30/Jan/1842; died Mossgiel, New Zealand 17/Jul/1909; unmarried.

5. Caroline Douglas was born 13/Mar/1845; died Dunedin 17/Jul/1909; unmarried.

6. Helen Brydon Douglas, born 1849; married David Con Hutton of Lorne Lodge, Dunedin, New Zealand.

7. Janet Torry Douglas, born 22/Dec/1851; married 28/Feb/1871, Keith Ramsay one of the founding fathers of Dunedin, New Zealand.

James Torry Douglas, brother of Archibald Douglas and son of James & Janet Douglas nee Torry was born Castle Cornet, Guernsey the 3rd or 23rd Feb/1804; died Edinburgh 06/Jan/1877; buried Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh; writer of the Signet and searcher of Public records at Register House Edinburgh. On the 27/Feb/1867 James and his brother John David Wilber Douglas formed the company of Douglas & Co. at Edinburgh. In 1868, James joined the Freemasons and was admitted to the Priory of the Lothians as Knight Companion and the following year was promoted to the rank of Knight Commander.

James Douglas married (1) St Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh 17/Oct/1831, Helen Brydon Brown, daughter of Alexander Brown of Whitesome, Berwickshire. They had issue

1. a child who was born and died young.

2. a child who was born and died infancy.

3. Thomas Harigad Douglas

James Douglas married (2) 08/Aug/1869, Anne Duncan Lennie, daughter of James Lennie of Edinburgh. Their family

4. Archibald Douglas

5. Taylor Douglas born 23/Jul/1873; died 21/Apr/1901, unmarried.

6. Eliza Brown Douglas born 08/Aug/1870; married Luther A Renner of Manila, the Philippine Islands.



7. Janet Torry Douglas born 29/Dec/1874; married Edinburgh 04/Sep/1900, George Kirk.

Thomas Harigad Douglas was the only surviving child of James & Helen Brydon Douglas nee Brown and born Edinburgh 23/Apr/1832; died 30/May/1896; buried Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh; succeeded his father as searcher of public records in Edinburgh; resided at Hermitage Hill, Leith. In 1862, he joined the Freemasons of the Priory of Glasgow and in 1868, he transferred to the Priory of the Lothians and became a Companion 07/Apr/1868. Thomas Douglas married (1) Edinburgh 22/Jul/1863, Jane Catherine Rachel Simpson daughter of Alexander Simpson of Edinburgh. Their family

1. James Torry Douglas
 2. Alexander Simpson Douglas born 03/Dec/1865; died Priimandeis, North-Africa 16/Feb/1901; unmarried.
 3. Robert Hinde Douglas
 4. Gavin Douglas born 1873 died infancy.
 5. Sholto Thomas Harigad Douglas born 24/Jun/1875; drowned at sea 1901.
 6. William Dodds Simpson Douglas
 7. John Archibald Douglas born 25/Aug/1881; resided at Drylaw Farm, Balcarres, Saskatchewan, Canada.
 8. Anne Grieg Douglas was born 27/Aug/1867; married 19/Mar/1884 John Ogilvie Douglas.
 9. Helen Brydon Brown Douglas was born 13/Feb/1870; died 06/Dec/1871.
 10. Jane Catherine Rachel Simpson Douglas was born 03/Oct/1878; married F. Alphonso Daniell of Mableton, Georgia, U.S.A. Thomas Harigad Douglas married (2) 1882, Elizabeth Strangeway. No family.
- James Torry Douglas** was the eldest son of Thomas Harigad & Jane Catherine Rachel Douglas nee Simpson of Edinburgh and was born 11/Jul/1864; Captain in the merchantile marine and senior partner in the company of Goddard & Douglas Marine Surveyors, Hongkong. James Douglas married Dec/1896, Mary Louise MacGowan daughter of Rev. John MacGowan of Amoy, China. Their family
1. Sholto Douglas, born Hong Kong 02/Sep/1911
 2. Marjorie Douglas, born Amoy, china 27/Apr/1898; married 16/Jul/1919, Hugh Nelson, son of William Henry Nelson of Coventry.
 3. Mary Douglas, born 25/Aug/1907.
- Compiled from "A History of the Family of Douglas", by Percy Douglas.
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Editorial

Many of us have had a very eventful year. Some of us have endured sorrows. Others have had a happy and prosperous year and those of us on the land are still enduring the effects of this very prolonged drought. May we all have a very happy Christmas and Prosperous 2007 and may it rain and rain and rain.

Mary Smith

Wedding & Courtship Customs

(compiled from "The Journal", Kilmarnock Family History Society, Issue 19, August 2006, p.17)

Courtship and marriage are important in all societies and many customs and rituals have risen as a result. Below are a few such events which used to happen in Scotland and which many of our forebears have brought to the countries in which they chose to live when they immigrated.

Prophecies

Remember the custom of foretelling your marriage partner? One such event was by paring an apple so that the skin came off in one length. As the clock struck 12, the skin was swung round the head and thrown over the left shoulder. When it landed it would form the first letter of the name of the future spouse. Another such custom was the burning of two nuts in a fire. If they burned quietly then all would be well but if they exploded and burst, true love would be hard to find.

Valentine Dealing

On 14 February an equal number of male and female names were written on bits of paper and placed in separate containers. Each person drew out a name from the appropriate tin. Whoever became paired were sweethearts for the following year. The modern custom of sending Valentine cards stems from this arrangement. Modern envelopes have "Postman, postman, do not tarry, take this to the girl I'll marry" and "SWALK" (sealed with a loving kiss) and/or HOLLAND (how our love lasts and never dies) written on them.

Courting/winching

Going out together was a popular activity for the young men and women and still is. Everyone would gradually pair off but in the old days, when they became engaged, they stood on opposite sides of a burn, dipped their hands in the water and joined hands.

Bundling

Orkney was particularly active in this custom although it was practised in many parts of Scotland too. The courting couple were encouraged to share a bed — but with a somewhat strange twist to the sharing. The girl's legs were tied and covered securely with a sheet or quilt with the idea being to allow the couple to talk and get to know one another but in the safe (and warm) confines of the girl's home.

Name Carving

We've all done this at some stage or other. Initials were often carved or written on tree trunks/stones/school desks/toilet doors etc. sometimes surrounded by a heart — DH loves JB.

Dance Halls

Ever the popular meeting places for the young in both town and city. It was customary for the men to stand on one side of the hall and girls on the other. When the announcement "Please take your partners for..." was made, there was a mad dash by the boys across the dance floor. The legendary question was "Are ye dancing?" to which the reply was "Are ye askin?" As the evening progressed, there might be a mutual agreement for the young man to 'lumber' a girl home.



CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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President:

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Mrs Jan Shaw
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Gen. Co-ordinator

Mrs Mary Smith,
S/A

Septs.

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,

NAME -----

ADDRESS-----

-----POSTCODE-----

PLACE OF FAMILY ORIGIN OVERSEAS (IF KNOWN)

PLACE OF FAMILY ORIGIN, AUSTRALIA or N.Z.

TELEPHONE-----

MEMBERSHIP FEE PER YEAR \$20-00 PER FAMILY

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

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

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

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.

Best wishes for a blessed and happy Christmas and good health and prosperity for 2007

From members of the executive and committee of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia.