



Clan Forsyth

SYDNEY BRANCH

NEWSLETTER

CLAN FORSYTH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA – SYDNEY BRANCH
PO BOX 396, ROSEVILLE NSW 2069 **JULY 2006**

Alan Arthur Forsyth: 1927 to 2006

During the period that Oliver Cromwell and the English Parliamentary troops occupied southern Scotland, many of the Lord Lyon's Clan records were lost or destroyed. On the restoration of King Charles II, he commissioned the Lord Lyon to gather together the lost thread of the Clans in Scotland. The re-registration was very expensive and so many Clans did not do so. The Forsyths being one of those Clans.

Finally in March 1979, our Present Chief Alistair Forsyth of that Ilk, was recognised by the Lord Lyon in Scotland and so we progressed. The Clan Society's motto is "Instaurator Ruinae", taken from Isaiah, Chapter 58, Verse 12, broadly meaning Repairer of the Ruins – quite appropriate.

After the appointment of our Chief he in turn appointed Commissioners in Countries around the world. The first Commissioner appointed in Australia was Alan's father, Arthur, in November 1979. That occasion was the beginning of the Clan Society in Australia and produced much hard work and organisation. Alan & Elizabeth were members of Sydney Branch from the very first day and worked tirelessly in promoting Clan Forsyth Society in Sydney. Alan held many executive positions on the Committee.

Much later when it became necessary for another Commissioner for Australia to be appointed, what better choice could our Chief have made. On Saturday, 16th March, 1996, Alan Forsyth became the 4th Australian Commissioner, a ceremony of commitment and dedication was conducted by the Brisbane Branch at Ipswich, where Alan received the warrant of office from the Lord Lyon, the pinsel and medallion. Don & Beth from Brisbane Branch are here today and were also at Alan's inauguration.

Alan held the position with capability and modest pride, and continued to help where ever he could. He loved all things Scottish, which was evident in the functions he & Elizabeth attended. He loved wearing his kilt, he loved the skirl of the pipes, the massed bands, the Kirking of the Tartan services. Many a happy time was spent at the Burns Clubs dinners, Scottish Marches through Sydney Streets, the Glen Innes Standing Stones weekend and Bundanoon, which becomes Brigadoon for the day each April.

For 27 years Alan has been an integral part of our Clan Society – helping, guiding and loving. He will be sadly missed by us today, but will always be in our records for those who follow us, as a diligent founding member and Australian Commissioner for 10 years.

Alan Forsyth – Rest in Peace.

*(James D. Forsyth's eulogy at the funeral of Alan A. Forsyth, 11th May, 2006,
St Paul's Presbyterian Church, Armidale. NSW)*



Jim Forsyth, Australian Commissioner Designate



James D. Forsyth is to be appointed by the Clan Chief, Alistair Forsyth of that Ilk, as the 5th Australian Commissioner of the Clan Forsyth, following the passing of Commissioner Alan Forsyth.

Jim is pictured with his wife Judy at the 'Brigadoon at Bundanoon' highland gathering held in April.



Pictured left to right: Tim Crossley, Barbara Forsyth, Chris Lee, David Forsyth, Keith Forsyth.

Results of the AGM elections for the Sydney branch office bearers, 2006-07:

President: David Forsyth

dsforsyth@bigpond.com

Treasurer: Tim Crossley

Secretary: Keith Forsyth

Membership: Barbara Forsyth

Newsletter Editor: Chris Lee

Genealogist: Judy Forsyth

Forsyth Items for Sale

Here's a selection of Scottish imported items featuring the Forsyth tartan. Some items may be in stock for prompt delivery. Others may take up to 6 weeks for delivery from Scotland. Order soon to take advantage of their warmth in winter. Prices include \$5 for postage and packing.

Mens Ties: \$47.00, Scarves: \$48.00, Sashe: \$105.00, Tamoshantas: \$54.00

Golf Caps (country cap), elastic back, peak front, no trim on top: \$80.00

To order, please send your name and address, item(s) and quantity with a cheque or money order to Clan Forsyth, Sydney Branch, PO Box 396, Roseville NSW 2069.

Clan Forsyth's Scottish Website

For what's happening in clan activity, particularly in Scotland, go to the website:

www.clanforythsociety.net/

Of particular interest could be the Genealogy link which can help trace your family tree.

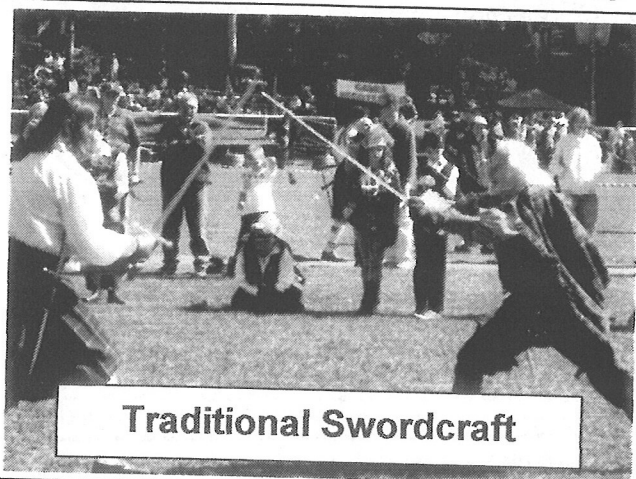
The Clan's Australian Genealogist

Judy Forsyth is the clan's resident Australian Genealogist, and she is happy to help any clan members to trace their Forsyth family tree, primarily in Australia. Contact Judy through her email address on: jaforsyth@ozemail.com.au or write via the clan's Roseville PO Box.

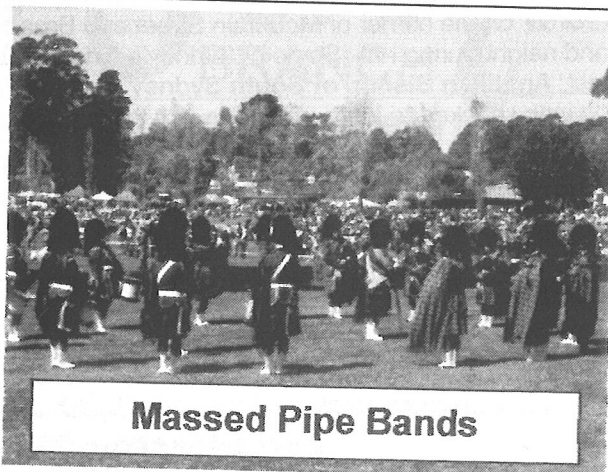
COMING EVENTS

- Scottish Day at historic "Lynwood" 25 Byron Rd, Guildford: 13th August
- Toukley Scottish Gathering: 26th August
- Highland Gathering, Castle Hill Showground: 29th October
- Scottish Week: 24th to 30th November

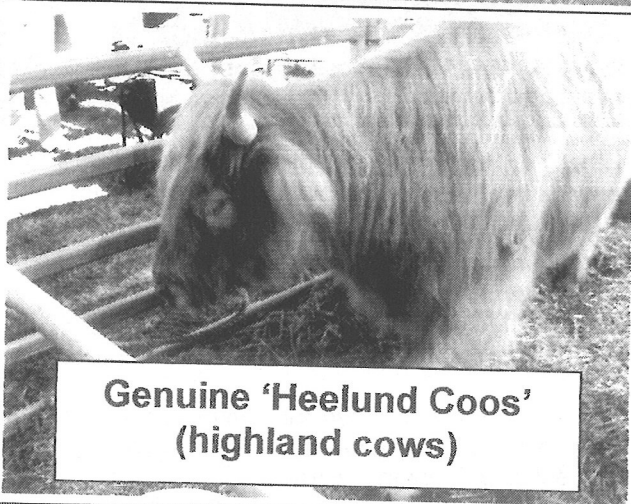
Photo highlights of Brigadoon at Bundanoon in the NSW Southern Highlands on Saturday 8th April. **Clan Forsyth was there with our clan tent.** It was a beautiful sunny day with lots of fun, spectacle, pipe bands, highland dancing, games, food and craft stall plus festivities.



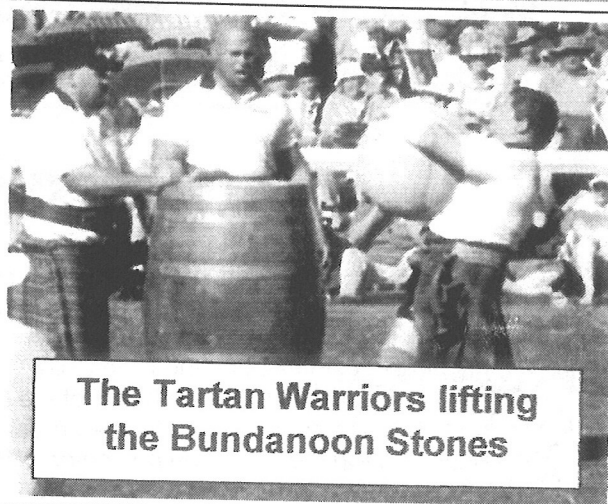
Traditional Swordcraft



Massed Pipe Bands



Genuine 'Heelund Coos'
(highland cows)



**The Tartan Warriors lifting
the Bundanoon Stones**

Make a note in next year's diary to take the whole family to Brigadoon at Bundanoon on Saturday 28th April 2007. Clan Forsyth and our clan tent will be there! For more details visit:
www.highlandsnsw.com.au/brigadoon

Ray Forsyth honoured at the AGM



At the clan's Annual General Meeting, held on 2nd April at the Willoughby Uniting Church hall, Ray Forsyth was presented with his honorary life membership. Ray is a past president of the Sydney branch. He is pictured with outgoing president, Jim Forsyth (right) and the incoming president, David Forsyth, who is Ray's son.

OTHER NEWS

Sydney's historic St Barnabas Church destroyed. On 10th May firefighters were called to the 148-year-old church, on the corner of Mountain Street and Broadway, about 3.30am after the fire broke out in the building and neighbouring hall. Some of Sydney's oldest stained glass and one of the oldest organs had also been lost. **Anglican Bishop of South Sydney, Robert Forsyth**, who was minister of the church for 17 years, said he was shocked to learn of the fire, but there was no doubt St Barnabas would be rebuilt.

Clan Members reach their 90s:

Jean Nash celebrated her 90th birthday on 29th March.

Mabel Wyatt, wife of the late Ivor Forsyth Wyatt OBE, celebrated her 90th on 28th June.

Passing of Jim Neenan

Jim passed away late last year at Gorokan on the Central Coast. Jim is sadly missed by his wife, Judith, who is a committee member but is now taking twelve month's leave.

Reminder about 2006 subscription renewals:

Single member: \$10 Family: \$10 Pensioner (single or couple): \$5

If you haven't yet renewed your membership, please post your subs. to Clan Forsyth Sydney Branch, PO Box 396 Roseville NSW 2069. You may wish to pay a year in advance. Donations are also welcome.

NEW PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all Forsyth Clan members. It was an honour to be asked to be President of the Sydney Branch and I look forward to meeting Forsyths from around Sydney over the coming year.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Jim Forsyth for his dedicated and enthusiastic work over many years as past President. It is a fitting tribute to Jim that he has been nominated as Australian Commissioner, Designate, pending appointment by the Clan Chief.

It is with great sadness that we heard of the death of Alan Forsyth, our current Commissioner. There is a tribute to Alan in this newsletter. Alan had great knowledge of his Forsyth heritage and of wider Clan matters, having been involved from the beginning of the Clan establishment in Australia.

The Annual Highland Gathering, 'Brigadoon at Bundanoon', was held in April, and Clan Forsyth again had its presence ably represented by Jim and Judy, plus Chris and Monica Lee, who ensure our Forsyth tent stands tall among the Clans.

The AGM was well attended and was followed by an enjoyable lunch at Forsyth's Coffee & Tea at Naremburn. Thank you to all Committee members, who continue to voluntarily give their time to the running of the Clan in Sydney. Welcome to our new Treasurer, Tim Crossley, and many thanks to Karen, our past Treasurer, for her dedication and support over recent years.

David Forsyth

Balance Sheet @ 31.12.2005

<u>Current Assets</u>	\$
Commonwealth Savings Bank	1783
IBTD @ HSBC	2483
Inventory Merchandise	531
Less Provisions for Merchandise	<u>133</u>
	4399
<u>Current Liabilities</u>	
Membership in Advance	<u>163</u>
	4236
<u>Funds</u>	
Previous Funds	3689
Current Surplus	<u>547</u>
Total	4236

Income & Expenditure Statement @ 31.12.2005

<u>Income</u>	\$	\$
Membership and Donations	955	
Interest	123	
Loss on sale of Merchandise after provision for slow stock	<u>(21)</u>	
	1057	1057
less		
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Bank Fees	99	
Meetings/Subscriptions	30	
Miscellaneous	95	
Printing Postage and Stationery	<u>286</u>	
	510	<u>510</u>
Net Income		547