



THE Ard Choille

The Australasian Clan Gregor Newsletter



April 2024

Welcome Gregorach to this edition of the Clan Gregor Society Newsletter for Australasia.

It's already been a busy year for us in regards to events involving Clan Gregor.

First up in January, our official representative, Iain McGregor Stockwell for New Zealand manned the Clan tent at the 159th Turakina Highland Games. Apparently it was quite a damp day but they didn't get wet.

FYI, New Zealand now has its own Facebook page so please give them some support by giving them a like or follow. <https://www.facebook.com/clangregornz>

February was a highlight with the very successful Tasmanian Highlands Gathering. A story about this is in the April edition of the Scottish Banner.

In March, the Clan tent was up at the Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival and we signed up six new members.

Clan Gregor was also the honoured clan for these games.

Coming up in April, the Clan tent will be up at the Bundanoon Highland Gathering on Saturday April 6th.

Bundanoon Highland Gathering.

For those of you coming, the Street Parade starts at 9am and we will be marching behind the St George-Sutherland Pipe Band. They are easy to spot as they wear the MacGregor Red and Green Modern Tartan.

It would be wonderful to have many of you turn up early and participate in this and show your colours as we march into the Stadium.

Reminder!

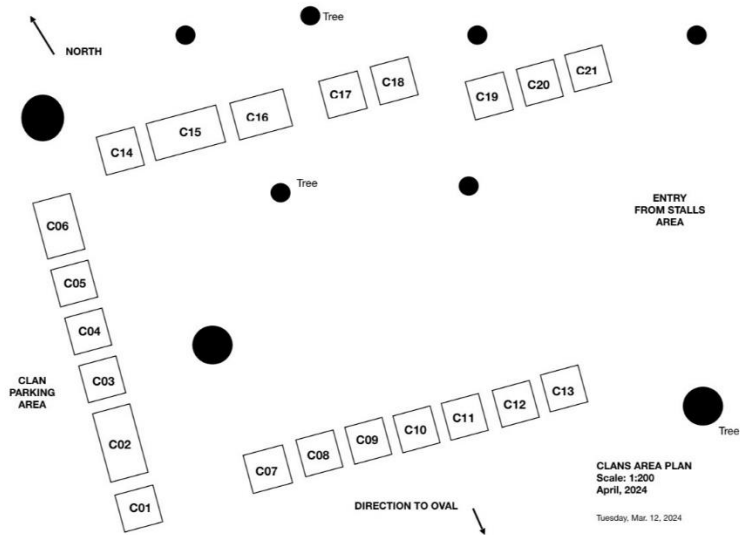
At 12 noon, we request that all MacGregor's come to the Clan Gregor tent at site **C10** for the annual group photo. Just be aware, the photo is **taken at 12 noon** so to be in it, you need to get there before then. In the past, we have had stragglers turn up late and were very disappointed to miss out being in the photo.

For more information about Bundanoon and entry ticket sales, go to their website at <https://brigadoon.org.au/>

Please see below the clan list and sites. I have also included a flyer about Bundanoon in the email attachments.

2024 CLAN SITE CODE NUMBERS

- C01 YOUNG
- C02 BUCHANAN/GIBSON
- C03 LINDSAY
- C04 DAVIDSON
- C05 CAMERON
- C06 DONALD
- C07 EDMONSTONE/DOUGLAS
- C08 EWEN
- C09 FRASER
- C10 GREGOR
- C11 HOPE
- C12 MACARTHUR
- C13 MACLEAN
- C14 CAMPBELL
- C15 MACCALLUM/MALCOLM/MCDIARMID
- C16 MACLENNAN
- C17 MACNICOL
- C18 MACPHERSON
- C19 STEWART SOCIETY
- C20 SUTHERLAND
- C21 SINCLAIR



MacGregors out and about.

Here is a pic of John Macgregor-Skinner on the left with the Association Chief Peter Smith at the recent Maclean Highland Gathering and Frank & Fiona McGregor about to attend a Robbie Burns night in Deloraine Tasmania.





Here is Iain McGregor Stockwell with members manning the tent at the Turakina Highland Games in New Zealand.

At this stage, my wife Fiona and I are planning on going to New Zealand for the Hororata Highland Games on the 9th of November. Our official Clan Gregor Society webmaster Richard McGregor is also keen on attending. New Zealand hospitality is amazing.

Tasmanian Highlands Gathering.

As you would have read in the last 'Ard Choille' newsletter or seen on the Clan Gregor Australia Facebook page, Tasmania has a new Celtic Festival based in the highlands of Tasmania and its inaugural launch in February was a resounding success.

Called the Tasmanian Highlands Gathering, kinfolk travelled from many parts of Australia to be treated to a weekend of Celtic music, Tasmanian whisky, Scottish inspired food and highland hospitality.

The success of this event could not be achieved without the support of all the musicians including the pipe band, distillers, Central Highlands Council and the generous hosts and major sponsor, James and Andrea Johns. They are the owners of the Great Lake Hotel which has just taken out the Grey Nomads Gold Award for Best Pub Stay in Australia.

As mentioned earlier, there is a full story of this event in the April edition of the Scottish Banner. You can purchase this newspaper on-line or they are for sale at most newsagencies.

So if you want to embrace your inner Highlander, save the date of 21-23 February 2025 and come join us at next year's Tasmanian Highlands Gathering.

For more information, please follow the THG Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tasmanianhighlandsgathering or email connect@mienavillage.com.au



This is the edition to buy.

This was one of the whisky's for sale at the whisky tasting. Does the name look familiar to you?



Andrea and James Johns.

Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival.

This was a terrific day for our clan as Clan Gregor was the Honoured Clan for this year's event and in addition to that, I was humbled to be the Chieftain of the Day.

Our official Clan Gregor Society representative for Victoria, Natt McGregor manned the tent and signed up six new members. It was a long day for Natt as we have to get there early to set the tent up.

It was also wonderful to finally meet Clan Gregor Society member Graeme Roy who made an effort to come along to say hello.

We welcome the new members who joined up at this event in Teagan McGregor, Fiona Kovacevic, Gary Windsor, Carly Khassaia, Claire Andrews and Dean Hallett.



Frank McGregor and Graeme Roy



Teagan McGregor and Natt McGregor

Angus McGregor was the official videographer for the day. Here he is interviewing Natt.



Membership Renewal

The 31st of Dec is the annual expiry date for your Clan Gregor Society membership so for many of you, your membership may have expired unless you have taken out a multiple year membership. Unfortunately, the price has gone up slightly due to the woeful Australian dollar compared to the UK Sterling.

The individual membership fee is now \$38AUD or \$40NZ per year or \$152AUD or \$160NZ for a five year subscription. Family rate is currently \$76AUD or \$80NZ per year.

Can you please renew by the following options.

1. Pay directly into the Clan Gregor Australia Bank Account.

BSB 017010 Account 296210751

In the message/reference section, state your membership number or name.

Once you have done this, please email clangregoraustralia@gmail.com that you have renewed. You will then receive an email confirming your payment was received and receipt number.

2. Pay by cheque or money order and post to the address at the end of this newsletter.

For New Zealand members, Details are:

Clan Gregor New Zealand
Bank of New Zealand
Account 02 0536 0217902 00

Please remember when paying into the account, to enter in the reference section your name and CGS membership number. You then email Iain Stockwell stockwellian@hotmail.com so that he is aware that you have deposited your money into the account.

If the details confuse you here, don't hesitate to email Iain first to ensure it's done correctly.

Of course there is always the option of paying by PayPal into the CGS in Scotland. Details of this are in the Bi-annual newsletter you receive from Scotland or the membership section on the Clan Gregor Society webpage. www.clangregor.com

Birthday Present Idea

Can I give you an idea for a present that lasts a whole year? Why not gift your father, mother, daughter/son, uncle, sister etc. a membership to the Clan Gregor Society or renew their membership for them.

Perhaps they have been thinking of joining or you have tried getting them to join in the past but they just don't get around to it. Well hey, why not make a membership their birthday

present? Its only 38 dollars! What kind of material present can you buy for that small amount? You won't just make their day, you will make their Year!

Facebook

In case you are not aware, Clan Gregor Australia has a Facebook page.

This is the link for it so please give it a like if you would like to be kept abreast of what is happening out there on a regular basis. This is the current cover page image for it.

www.facebook.com/clangregoraustralia



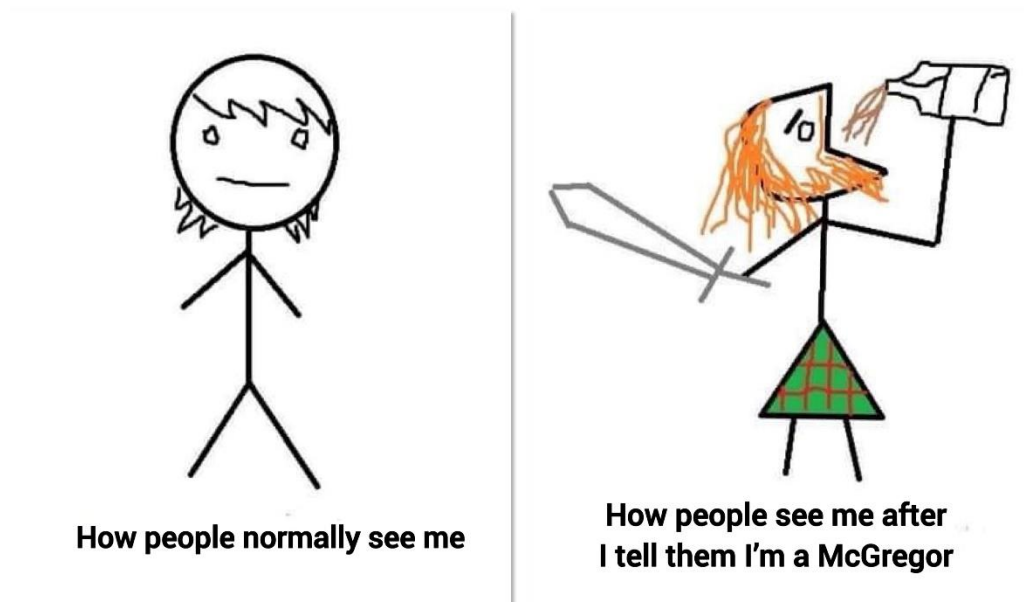
Can we also recommend that you follow the Official Clan Gregor Society Facebook page at;

<https://www.facebook.com/ClanGregorSociety>

This is what their cover photo looks like.



Clan Humour



Clan Gregor Society Representatives

Frank McGregor – Overseas Rep Australasia clangregoraustralia@gmail.com

Rex Harding – NSW North rexharding@optusnet.com.au

Col McGregor – QLD cmc56505@bigpond.net.au

Natalie McGregor – VIC nataliemcgregor@hotmail.com

Iain McGregor Stockwell – New Zealand stockwellian@hotmail.com

Positions vacant – SA, NT, WA and perhaps QLD North e.g.; Townsville

Official Sword Bearer – Peter Grieg

Pipers: Richard McGregor and David Bowers, both based in Sydney. We do have other pipers in the Society so if you wish to be added to this list, please let me know.

Just so you are aware, our Pipers can be hired for functions.

So until the next edition, always remember that “While there’s leaves in the forest, and foam on the river, MacGregor despite them shall flourish for ever!” Yours aye

Frank McGregor

High Commissioner
Clan Gregor Australia
PO Box 14
NORTH HOBART TAS 7002
Australia

M: 0429 490 446

Finally, some more Tasmanian Highlands Gathering Images



L-R Neil Woodforth, Chris McGregor and Bill McHenry of McHenry Distillery at the Whisky tasting event. This was so good. Thank you to all the distillers who supported this event.