



# CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (AUST)

## Newsletter No. 75 November 2008

### MACMILLAN

**CREST BADGE:** *A dexter and a sinister hand brandishing a two-handed sword, proper.*

**MOTTO:** *Miseris succurrere disco*  
(I learn to succour the distressed).

**GAELIC NAME:** *MacGhille-Mhaolain.*

President	- June Danks, 66 Campbell St., Kew Vic 3101 Phone & Fax: 9817 3148 E-mail: <a href="mailto:jd15631@bigpond.net.au">jd15631@bigpond.net.au</a>
Vice-President / Editor	- Mick McMillan, P.O.Box 350, Belgrave Vic 3160 Phone: 9754 4578 E-mail: <a href="mailto:mickmack@alphalink.com.au">mickmack@alphalink.com.au</a>
Secretary	- Myrna Robertson, 1/56 Fairbairn Rd., Cranbourne Vic 3977 Phone: 5996 8667 E-mail: <a href="mailto:myrnar@alphalink.com.au">myrnar@alphalink.com.au</a>
Treasurer / Asst Editor	- June Senior, 41 Lincoln Ave., Glen Waverley Vic 3150 Phone: 9560 8746 E-mail: <a href="mailto:junemax@alphalink.com.au">junemax@alphalink.com.au</a>
Webmaster	- Kaye O'Reilly, 28 Dunbar Gr., Churchill Vic 3842 Phone: 5122 1282 E-mail: <a href="mailto:macore@taduast.org.au">macore@taduast.org.au</a>
Committee	- Debra Vaughan, 8/14 Stevedore St. Williamstown Vic 3016 Phone: 9397 6619 - Jan Brooks, 15 Everest Drive Cheltenham Vic 3192 Phone: 9584 4085 Email: <a href="mailto:janicebrooks1@optus.com.au">janicebrooks1@optus.com.au</a>
Web Page	- <a href="http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan/welcome.htm">http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan/welcome.htm</a>

### President's Report AGM 2008

This, the 25th A.G.M. of CMSA, is a celebration of a group of people who have descended from emigrants from Scotland and Ulster from about 1840's. Presumably their aim was to find greater security as times were hard with Clearances and potato famine added to a harsh climate and difficult geographic conditions. Many of the migrants went to Canada and USA but Australia was next on the list of possible countries and emigration here has been fairly consistent over the years. Australians can appreciate the benefits from the legacy of Scottish culture. The relatively high educational standards, the religious and democratic values and abilities in agricultural, commercial, legal, medical and artistic fields have helped to create a society of which we can be proud.

This year in Melbourne we had a luncheon at the Docklands, a tent at the Geelong & Ringwood Highland Games, attended the Kirkin'O' the Tartans at Scot's Church, and enjoyed lunch at the Scottish Clans and Associations function. We are particularly keen for younger people to join in our activities.

Next year 2009 is the year Scotland is having a "Homecoming" which is a Gathering of Clans throughout the world to join together in Edinburgh 24th -26th July 2009. Several events are being organized but exact details are still to come. Passports are available and I have purchased mine.

Clan McMillan Society of North America celebrated its 50th anniversary with a gathering in Los Angeles, California, 2-7 August 2008. Host was CMSNA President J. Connall Bell and Honoured Guest was Chief George Gordon MacMillan of MacMillan and Knap.

At the meeting it was passed that a donation of \$US8.00 per paid up branch member per year be paid to CMIC  
Also a grant of \$US1200 be given to cover costs of 2 B&W Magazines

Notice was given of World Gathering in Scotland (14th) of Clan MacMillan in July 2009 with investiture service of CTS in Knapdale.

Prior to this meeting many emails plus a telephone conference took place discussing the budget for 2009. So it was very pleasing that the above motions were accepted. This means that the salaries of Graeme and Pauline will be increased and that the magazines can be produced and circulated.

Finally I want to thank all members of the committee for the work they have done over the past year. They have been a good team.

With Season's greetings to everyone,  
June Danks.

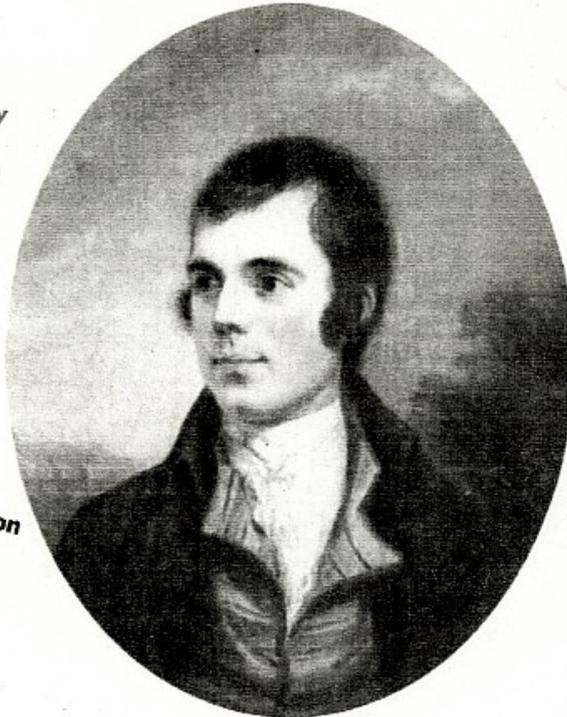
1759-2009

# 250 Years of Robert Burns

**Burns Statue Celebration  
and Picnic Sun 25<sup>th</sup> January**  
Treasury Gdns Melbourne  
Guest speaker Rev D Robertson  
Scots Church Melbourne.

**Burns Supper Sat 7<sup>th</sup> February**  
Karralyka Receptions Ringwood  
Guest Speaker Hon. Steve Crab

**Pleasant Sunday Afternoon**  
Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
Altona RSL Sargood Street  
Altona Folk singer Jamie  
Mackinnon



**Scots/Australian Seminar**  
June /July Ormond College  
Melbourne  
Speakers TBA

**Masonic Burns Night**  
Tues 11<sup>th</sup> August  
Western Masonic Centre  
Sunshine

**Poetry Night**  
TBA

2009 This is the year of the Scottish home coming. This is also the 250th anniversary of Scotland's national poet Robert Burns this is not coincidental. Burns was born 25<sup>th</sup> January 1759 and died at the age of thirty seven.

The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne which has been part of the Scottish scene in Melbourne for over fifty years are celebrating this anniversary with a special year long programme of events.

The Burns Club would like to invite all Scots whether by birth or ancestry or by inclination to join us in celebrating this historic mile stone. Our programmes generally have Highland dancers or Scottish Country dancers a Piper and guest speakers.

For further information contact  
Secretary Bev Tait 03 9743 5383  
President Ina Graham 03 8361 0308

## SUBSCRIPTIONS



**Subscriptions** are now due and because of increased costs, have been increased to \$20.00 for 2008/9. We only have 3 opportunities a year to remind members about their subscriptions, so please respond, and make the treasurer's job that much easier. So, if members could forward their Subscriptions to:

**Mrs. J. Senior, 41 Lincoln Ave, Glen Waverley, Vic 3150.**

Also, if you would like to receive this Newsletter by E-mail (a saving on postage costs), could you please include your E-mail address with your Subscription.

## Vale

We were saddened to hear that Stuart McMillan, a foundation member of CMSA, died recently. Condolences to the family [*daughter Sue Thompson is also a member. Ed.*].

## COMING EVENTS

### **Maryborough Highland Games      Thursday, 1st January, 2009.** Maryborough

There is a website at <http://www.maryboroughhighlandsociety.com> for further information. Enquiries: Ph. [03] 5461 1289.

At Princes Park, Park Road, Maryborough. First held in 1857, this is the oldest sporting event in Australia. Apart from the athletic events including the Maryborough Gift, there are Highland Games, Street Parade, Pipe Bands, Stalls, plus an evening Concert and Fireworks Display.

### **Berwick Highland Games      Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.** Akoonah Park, Berwick.

There is a website at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~narre/highlandgames.htm> for further information. Enquiries: Phone BH: [03] 9703 1161 or AH: [03] 9707 2093.

Activities on the day include Pipe Bands Competition, Solo Pipes and Drums Competition, Massed Pipe Bands at Closing Ceremony, Heavy Games, Haggis Throwing, Scottish Highland & Country Dancing, Clan Representation with Stalls and Displays, Black Scottish Terriers & West Highland Whites, Food and Drinks Available, Publicans Booth, Vintage & Classic car display, New Attractions, Flyball Dog Competition, Obedience & Agility Dog Demonstrations.

### **Geelong Highland Games      Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2009.** Queens Park, Newtown, Geelong.

There is a website at [www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au](http://www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au) for further information. Enquiries: Ph. [03] 9513 9301.

Music, Pipe Bands, Scottish Folk Bands & Singers, Haggis Hurling, Wood Chopping, Children's Farmyard Nursery, Stalls, & Clan Tents. And much much more.

### **Ringwood Highland Games      Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2009.** Jubilee Park, Ringwood

There is a website at [www.ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au](http://www.ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au) for further information. Enquiries: Ph. [03] 9876 4140.

Highland Dancing Competitions, Pipe Bands [massed Bands Display], Stalls, & Clan Tents. And much much more. [Free bus from & back to Ringwood Station].

## **Gathering of Clans Scotland 2009**

The Gathering will take the form of a major Highland Games, but with the addition of a special clan ceremony, designed by the producers of the Edinburgh Tattoo. This will be held on the magnificent castle esplanade and will commemorate the contribution made by the clans to the culture and history of Scotland. The Gathering is being hosted by the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, and it is hoped that all clan associations will attend.

The Scottish Government declared that 2009 should be the “Year of Homecoming” and VisitScotland [The Scottish Tourist Board] asked the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs if they would organize something that would attract their overseas clanspeople back to Scotland. The result was “The Gathering 2009 Ltd” set up by Lord Sempill, The Vice-Convener of The Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs. Clan MacMillan -and many other Clans – are holding individual events to complement the Edinburgh extravaganza; and there are various historical, genealogical, and cultural events happening elsewhere in Scotland during the week or two prior to it.

The Gathering 2009 Ltd has opened offices in Edinburgh, for further information, please visit <http://www.thegathering2009.com>

*[For those interested in attending and require further information about the “MacMillan Homecoming 2009 Package” included in the Clan MacMillan International magazine please contact our President June Danks. Ed]*

## **Wholegrain Muffins**

1 ¾ cups rolled oats  
½ cup Wholemeal flour  
1/3 cup raw sugar (can be less)  
½ tsp bicarb soda  
2 tsp baking powder  
½ tsp salt (optional)  
1 egg, beaten  
½ cup raisins, chopped (or sultanas or dried apricots or mixture)  
½ cup dates, chopped  
½ cup walnuts, chopped (or sunflower seeds or coconut or mixture)  
1 cup buttermilk or sour milk (add 1 tsp vinegar to fresh milk)  
3 tablespoons butter, melted



Sift together dry ingredients. Add sugar, rolled oats, chopped fruit and nuts. Pour in milk and beaten egg, stirring lightly. Fold in melted butter and mix only until dry ingredients are moistened. Mixture may appear quite moist- but oats will absorb as they cook.

Place in lightly greased muffin tins (or paper-lined, my preference).

Bake in moderate oven for 20-25 minutes.

Makes 12 muffins. Can also be made into small cakes (patty pan size).

Serve warm or cold.

Keep refrigerated or freeze.

This recipe was taken from “Nutritious Oat Cookery” by Ann Creber ISBN 0 9594234 0 0 (1981) for the “Parsons John Bull” brand of oats.

*From her introduction:*

.....“Coming from a long line of Scots, I grew up in a household where oats went into almost every dish! Breakfasts, snacks, soups, stews, breads – all were cooked with their quota of oats as an ingredient.....”

*[For those interested, apparently these Muffins were a hit at the A.G.M. thanks to Jan Brooks. Ed]*

## **Historical News and Background Briefings**

*With thanks for the heads up from the Western District of Victoria Mailing List:*

### **Death Notices Become Living Tributes at [heraldsun.com.au](http://heraldsun.com.au)**

Heraldsun.com.au today announced the launch of a new online memorial website at HeraldSun Tributes:

<http://tributes.heraldsun.com.au/HeraldSun-AU/Obituaries.asp>[heraldsun.com.au/tributes](http://heraldsun.com.au/tributes).

The site enables relatives and friends to build interactive tributes to deceased loved ones.

Users can upload obituaries, photographs, videos, create an online book of condolences and leave a permanent memorial page on the site, meaning memories of loved ones will never fade.

Heraldsun.com.au editor, Matthew Kitchin, said HeraldSun Tributes transformed death notices into interactive, multimedia-enhanced, living tributes.

He also said HeraldSun Tributes invited a new demographic to consume and interact with media online. "The Internet doesn't just belong to the MySpace generation," he said. "We have received numerous queries about online death notices from our older readers who also want the ability to communicate and share memories about deceased loved ones over the web."

Mr. Kitchin said younger people were also keen on the initiative, mostly for the purposes of genealogy research and studying famous lives. He said that from October this year, HeraldSun Tributes would give users the ability to search all death notices that had appeared in the Herald Sun since 1995. "Our target audience is substantial and encompasses all age groups. The reality is people from all demographics are genuinely interested in reading about the lives of other people. One of the most significant attributes of HeraldSun Tributes is that it gives death notices an ongoing presence."

Where the deceased is well-known, HeraldSun Tributes will link to feature stories on [heraldsun.com.au](http://heraldsun.com.au) and more than 600 newspapers in the United States and United Kingdom.

The site also contains links to helpful resources such as funeral homes and places of worship. Death notices published in the HeraldSun newspaper will automatically be listed online at Herald Sun Tributes at no extra cost.

<http://www.newsdigitalmedia.com.au/media-centre/death-notices-become-living-tributes-at-heraldsun.com.au>

*Debra Vaughan*

© 2008 [debra.vaughan@defence.gov.au](mailto:debra.vaughan@defence.gov.au)  
(03) 93976619

## **Correspondence**

*An Email received from Graeme MacKenzie [Clan Genealogist] and it reads as follows:*

*Please see revamped Clan MacMillan International website at [www.clanmacmillan.org/](http://www.clanmacmillan.org/)*

*If you find any links that don't work or any other problems please don't hesitate to notify us - such a major rebuild is very time-consuming and some glitches are inevitable.*

*Any suggestions for further improvements would be most welcome.*

*Email: - [graeme@highlandroots.org](mailto:graeme@highlandroots.org)*

*Graeme Mackenzie  
Clan MacMillan Centre  
Scotland.*



## **Like oil and water? - Religion and human rights in Australia**

The Race Discrimination Commissioner, Tom Calma, called for as many Australians as possible to become involved in a discussion about the current state of freedom of religion and belief in Australia when he launched the Australian Human Rights Commission's *Freedom of religion and belief in the 21st century* Discussion Paper in Canberra today.

"The fundamental human right of freedom of religion and belief is protected by a number of international treaties and declarations," said Commissioner Calma. "It encompasses freedom of thought on all matters and the freedom to demonstrate and express our religion and belief individually, with others, in private or in public."

"The intent of this discussion paper is to examine and report upon the extent to which this right can be enjoyed in Australia today by drawing from practical everyday experiences and observations," said Mr. Calma. "This is easy for some, while others feel religion and human rights don't mix, like oil and water."

In calling for submissions from the public, the Commissioner pointed out that the intersection of religion and belief with human rights is illustrated daily in our news headlines.

"The involvement of religious institutions in school curriculums and practices, religious and ethical concerns about scientific research, the status of Muslim communities in society since the events of September 11 2001, the involvement of religion in debates about homosexuality or abortion, and our politicians declaring their faith on the campaign trail - these are just some of the stories that involve us every day at the intersection of religion and belief with human rights," said Commissioner Calma.

"Given that these issues are continually in the headlines, it is timely that they be comprehensively evaluated in terms of their impacts on the practice, expression and perception of religion and spirituality in Australia," said Mr. Calma. "A better understanding of these issues and the way they influence, and are influenced by, our attitudes and laws will assist us as to advance our nation's social and cultural prosperity."

Commissioner Calma emphasised that gaining a comprehensive understanding of these issues could not be achieved merely by consultation with academics, religious institutions and government.

"To achieve the intention of our discussion paper, we need to hear from as many people as possible, from as many walks of life, with as many different experiences to share as we can."

### **To read the discussion paper and make submissions**

Submissions **close** on 31 January 2009.

Electronic submissions are encouraged by visiting [www.humanrights.gov.au/frb](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/frb) or emailing [frb@humanrights.gov.au](mailto:frb@humanrights.gov.au)

Submissions can also be made by post to Race Discrimination Unit:

Education and Partnerships Section,  
Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission;  
GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001.

For enquiries, call (02) 9284 9600 or 1800 620 241.

The *Freedom of religion and belief in the 21st century* project is being run in partnership with the Australian Multicultural Foundation, RMIT University and Monash University.

### **Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria press release:**

Mr. Sam Afra, Chairperson of the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV), encouraged all quarters of Australian society to have their say in a public discussion on religion and belief initiated by the Australian Human Rights Commission.

"The religious composition and spiritual disposition of Australian society in the 21st Century is markedly different to that of one hundred, fifty, or even twenty years ago," Mr. Afra said. "So it is timely to take a fresh look at how matters of faith - in all its various forms - guide, govern and engage contemporary Australians."

Mr. Afra was particularly pleased that individuals have the opportunity to contribute their own insights into the discussion, and not rely on self-proclaimed leaders who may misrepresent the common view.

"Too often in discussions on matters of religion and morality, attention stays focused on those that speak the loudest," Mr. Afra said, "and the views that are proclaimed are not necessarily shared by everyone within the same religious community."

"As a society with an extraordinary array of spiritual influences and affiliations, it is crucial that that diversity is given due recognition and representation," Mr. Afra said.

The Human Rights Commission has produced a discussion paper which includes questions about the roles and responsibilities of religious, spiritual and civil society organisations, protections from discrimination, and the interface with political and cultural aspirations.

"There is no doubt that we are seeing a widening variety of spiritual philosophies - and personal interpretations of religious doctrines - play an increasing role in the way people consider certain aspects of their own lives, and the lives of those around them."

"At its best, this has led to the strengthening of societal ties and improved understanding amongst followers of different faiths and belief systems. At its worst, it has led to shameful attacks on the safety, dignity and personal freedoms of others and their fundamental democratic human rights."

"Australians are fortunate to live in a country where they have the right to practice their chosen beliefs within the provisions of the law," Mr. Afra said.

"It is a right that should not be taken for granted, nor treated with contempt," Mr. Afra added, "because coupled with this right, is an equal responsibility to respect the right of others to do the same without fear of persecution or discrimination."

"Hopefully the outcome of this new discussion into religion will not only be a more up-to-date picture of Australia's multi-faith population, but a greater degree of acceptance and meaningful co-operation."

### **Scottish Resource Centre**

Scottish Resource Centre at The Celtic Club,  
Level 2, 316 – 320 Queen Street, Melbourne.  
Office hours: 10:00am – 3:00pm Monday to Friday.

The Co-Ordinator, Ian Murdoch, would appreciate more helpers, so if you are retired and would like to help out for a few hours contact Ian on: [03] 9670 6766 or A/H [03] 9787 5961

*[One such helper, member Ed Hawkes says ".....I would like to support Ian Murdoch in his plea for more help at the Scottish Resource Centre – I am normally in at the Thursday a.m. slot....."  
So if anybody can help out just give Ian a call. Ed]*

The Clan MacMillan Society of Australia's  
**WEB NEWS**

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan>

Using the World Wide Web for your family history research.  
*Focusing on Australia*

The first place M'Millan researchers should visit when looking for family members in Australia is our own web site, address above. Here you will find a variety of family history records already sourced for you. Kay Morris has spent a good deal of time listing M'Millan's in shipping records while other members have sent in M'Millan's in their local cemeteries. Some historic B.D.M. records are also listed on the site. Transcriptions of M'Millan family history birth, death and marriage records are also available. Consider sending in copies of yours for inclusion? Linking your name to any of these records is a great way to attract contacts to further your research.

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan/interests.htm>

The Members Interest page has been set up for you to list your Family Interest with the intention of connecting with other lost members of your wider M'Millan family. There are also links to stories written by members who have already compiled their family histories. If you would like your email address linked to any of the names on the site then email you requests to Kaye at [macore@tadaust.org.au](mailto:macore@tadaust.org.au)

Many Australian States now have their Historical Birth, Death and Marriage Indexes online.

**Victoria:** <http://online.justice.vic.gov.au/>

Records include; Births 1853 to 1907, Deaths 1853 to 1985 and Marriages 1853 to 1942.  
Marine Index; B.D.M'S on board ships coming to Victoria from 1853 to 1907, with ship's names.  
There is a small fee charged for this search

**New South Wales:** <http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/familyHistory/searchHistoricalRecords.htm>

Births 1788 to 1907, Deaths 1788 to 1977, Marriages 1788 to 1957  
All searches of these Indexes are free.

**Western Australia:** <http://www.justice.wa.gov.au/>

1841 to Births minus 75y, Deaths minus 25y, marriages minus 60y. (of 2008)  
Home > Births, Deaths & Marriages > Family History > Searching WA Online Indexes >  
'Select' is a drop down menu, click on the blue v for Births, Deaths or Marriages. Free Search.

**Queensland:** <http://www.justice.qld.gov.au>

Births 1829 - 1914, Deaths 1829 - 1929, Marriages 1829 - 1929.  
Home > Births, deaths and marriages > Family history research > Search the historical indexes >  
Launch the online historical index search tool.

**Clan MacMillan Society of Australia** <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan>

**Tasmania:**

Note: Once you have the registration number you can apply for an historical certificate thru  
The Archives Office of Tasmania: <http://www.archives.tas.gov.au/>  
Email: [archives.tasmania@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:archives.tasmania@education.tas.gov.au) The advantage is a great cost saving.

**South Australia:** <http://www.ocba.sa.gov.au/bdm/>

Historical certificates are any minus 75 years. Standard fees for a B.D.M. certificate is \$38

**GSV:** <http://www.gsv.org.au/>

The Clan MacMillan Society of Australia holds a membership with the Genealogical Society of Victoria. Our research officer is happy to undertake research for members. Inquiries should be clear and precise. Email your request to Kaye at [macore@tadaust.org.au](mailto:macore@tadaust.org.au)

## The Last Sunday in England

The emigrants kneel in the old parish church.  
For the last time, it may be forever:  
They scarcely had known that it would be so hard,  
The ties of a lifetime to sever.

For the last time they look on the ivy-clad walls,  
For the last time they hear the bells ringing.  
'Twas there they were married, and now to that church  
How fondly their sad hearts are clinging.

They listen once more to the good Rector's voice,  
They will try to remember his teaching:  
And hope that they may never forget what he says,  
As they look in his face while he's preaching.

That voice they have heard by the bed of the sick ~  
That face they have seen by the dying ~  
At the altar, the font, and the newly dug grave  
The means of salvation supplying.

For the last time they stand where their forefathers' names  
They read on the headstones and crosses:  
There are newly cut names: and others so old,  
They are covered by lichens and mosses.

Then a last look they take at a green little mound,  
Where one of their children is sleeping,  
And gather a daisy that grows at the head ~  
Then turn away silently weeping.

The neighbours are waiting to bid them "God Speed"  
To think of them each one professing  
At the gate of the churchyard the old Rector stands  
To give them his fatherly blessing.

He placed in their hands the best of all gifts,  
A Bible and Prayer Book, at parting:  
They could not say much, but he knew what they felt ~  
In their eyes the warm teardrops were starting.

"Keep these in your heart" as he gave them, he said,  
"And trust to the cross of Christ only:  
The Lord will be with you wherever you go,  
And then you need never feel lonely."

ANON

*[With thanks to Colac and District Historical Society]*



**Clan Luncheon Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2009. [12 noon] Docklands, Melbourne.**

Our next Clan luncheon is to be held at:

**"Berth" 45 New Quay, Promenade, Docklands.**

Directions to New Quay are: Catch the Circle Tram in the city, and then alight at the corner of Latrobe St & Harbour Esplanade, cross Harbour Esplanade and walk north approx 100m to New Quay, then to the Café.

If unclaimed, please return to:  
**CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY (AUSTRALIA)**  
41 Lincoln Ave, Glen Waverley Vic. 3150

