

POSTED AT  
MARINO.  
ON 9/5/88.

## DONALD & CHRISTINA McLEAN

FAMILY REUNION 18-20th March 1988

Laurence McLean, PRESIDENT, Ph 087-389301

Aif McLean, HONORARY SECRETARY/TREASURER, Ph 08-2983016

NEWSLETTER TO  
ALL KNOWN  
DESCENDANTS OF  
DONALD & CHRISTINA  
McLEAN

### GENERAL:

Over 200 descendants of Donald & Christina McLean registered for our Family Reunion. They were greeted on arrival at the Brighton Town Hall, with family trees of all 10 (or is it 12) known children of our pioneers, Donald and Christina, printed on 8 metre x 1 metre cardboard rolls pinned to the walls of the Civic Hall. This was the enterprising work of Mrs Diane Facey, and her sub-committee, at Millicent. Wonderful work, Di! The detail was in the form of computerised strips showing hundreds of lines of descendants known, and this was added to during the Reunion by family members extending the information, or correcting it.

It was added to in interest by many old photographs, press cuttings, etc. It is hoped that there are many more such items "out there" for us to hear about in due course.

Registration staff were kept busy during the afternoon checking registrations, distributing tourist and up-dated Reunion circulars. Also on sale were books of the Archibald Family Line, \$7 each; and souvenir stem wine glasses and beer glasses, \$3 each (more later).

### RECEPTION:

At 6.00 p.m. guests were entertained at the President's Reception in the Civic Hall, and at 7.00 p.m. moved into the Supper Room for dinner. This was catered for by the Committee with a "take-away" type of meal as main course, soup prepared in the kitchen, and home made style fruit pies, etc. And something else! A silence was observed in respect of departed relatives, and those who lost their lives in World War I & II. Soon the sound of bagpipes skilfully played by President Laurie heralded the arrival of The Glorious Haggis, carried in by committeeman, Jack McLean, of Milang. This was brought up from the South East by President Laurie - it was devoured with relish! After dinner, Laurie introduced all family members individually. After midnight when we got home weary, but a wonderful day and start to our Reunion.

### TRIP TO STRATHALBYN:

Saturday saw us assembling by 9.30 a.m. at Glen Osmond for trip to Strathalbyn. We did not stop at the Mountain Hut Inn, Mt Barker Road, (except yours truly who waved a tartan scarf to point it out) because it was just too busy with no parking space available. At Strathalbyn the conduct of "Penny Farthing Bike Rally" complicated things a trifle - a comfort stop was made at the Catholic Presbytery, genial Fr. Devese kindly opening up his home to us with greatest of pleasure. Onto the site of Donald's old home on banks of River Angas, off Murray Road. Jack McLean explained only stumps of old home visible, existing barn nearby is not original and covers the site of Donald's ensilage pit. Thence to the Cemetery in Parker Avenue where many McLean graves exist in various sections of the cemetery. It was noted John (son of Donald) and Mary lost 3 children within 2 months in late 1800's from diphtheria! By this time the day was getting hot! The gardens on each side of the Childrens Footbridge, giving access to Soldiers Memorial Gardens was a comfortable venue for lunch, picnic style from the Good Food Shop nearby in individual plastic packs, fruit tea & coffee. After a short rest an inspection commenced of the National Trust Museum in the Old Police Station, near Railway Crossing and of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Of particular interest was the Gaelic Bible bought out from Scotland by Donald & Christina, also other items of McLean origin. The Church was not open due the influx of "Bike Rally" visitors, but graceful exterior was viewed from various angles. Some of the party also visited the "Bikes" and inspected various parts of the town.

Perhaps if the Book Launch eventuates we can plan a visit to St. Andrew's on the Sunday, to attend divine service there.

*All correspondence to;*

13 NIMBOY ROAD, MARINO, S.A. 5049



# **DONALD & CHRISTINA McLEAN**

**FAMILY REUNION 18-20th March 1988**

**Laurence McLean, PRESIDENT, Ph 087-389301**

**Alf McLean, HONORARY SECRETARY/TREASURER, Ph 08-2983016**

## SATURDAY EVENING:

At 6.30 p.m. with a fine, warm night and very calm, we enjoyed a Barbecue on the lawns adjoining the Town Hall, then coming inside for sweets and coffee in the Supper Room. Trevor McLean, "Navarino" Milang, then reviewed the life and times of early McLeans in an interesting talk, followed by question time. Copies of this talk are available, \$5. (see later). Another after midnight night to end!

## UNVEILING OF COMMEMORATIVE OBELISK & PLAQUE:

Sunday, 10.30 a.m. saw a crowd of family members assemble in Richmond Road, Marleston, just west of intersection with South Road, to see 102-year old Mrs Eva Congdon, unveil a commemorative obelisk and plaque marking the site of Section 50 allotted to Donald McLean on which he grew the first crop of wheat in S.A. It reads as under:-

CITY OF WEST TORRENS

DONALD McLEAN

GREW FIRST CROP

OF WHEAT IN S.A.

NEAR THIS SPOT IN 1838

Erected by his family, Mar 20th, 1988

The obelisk is in reinforced concrete construction, coloured red with bronze extruded metal plaque affixed to sloping top of 1 metre high obelisk. Mrs Congdon, descended from Allan and a great grand daughter of Donald & Christina, looks wonderful for her years and has a good memory. Another very warm day, very bright for photography.

## BACK TO THE TOWN HALL FOR LUNCH:

This time chicken and vegetables, fruit pies, cake, fruit, etc catered by the Committee. In a talk to close the Family Reunion, President Laurie congratulated all concerned on the administration and organization demonstrated, and all members of the Committee for their dedication in seeing a successful reunion function staged. He then brought forward a important topic discussed during the last couple of days, viz., the publishing of a McLEAN BOOK from 1837 to 1988. This suggestion was well received, whilst recognising the formidable task of assembling sufficient valid material on the family, editing it and publishing same. See re Special Meeting (later on).

## SOUVENIR GLASSES:

These are 145 ml stem wine glasses, and 225 ml stud base tumblers, Corning quality, ex Glassware Ltd, Frankston, \$3 each plus postage & packing. Inscribed in gold Clan MacLean motto on one side, and on the other, Donald & Christina McLean Family Reunion, Adelaide, 18th-20th March, 1988. Any quantity available, orders to above close on 16/5/88.

## COPIES OF TREVOR McLEAN'S TALK:

In souvenir folder, abouts 20 pages, \$5 each. Any quantity available, orders close on 16/5/88. Orders to above.

## PHOTOGRAPHS:

A professional photographer was present at Strathalbyn, at the Barbecue, at the Unveiling of Plaque and at Sunday Lunch. These are normal sized color photographs, showing many family members attending, Mrs Congdon unveiling plaque, President Laurie playing bagpipes at the ceremony and addressing members, Committee photograph of most members. Cost \$2.50 each.

A color photograph Album will be on display at FAMILY MEETING ON SUNDAY 19/6/88, black and white photographs also available, proofs of these will also be available for inspection. These can be ordered any time. Enquiries in meantime Siegfried or Glenys, 95 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood, S.A. 5051. Phone 278 7790. Other enquiries re same to above.

## SPECIAL FAMILY MEETING & DISCUSSION OF BOOK PROJECT:

See special memo page attached.

Newsletter Editor-Alf McLean.

*All correspondence to;*

**13 NIMBON ROAD, MARINO, S.A. 5049**



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SPECIAL MEMO PAGE, with Newsletter dated 20/4/88.

## MCLEAN BOOK.

This is a big deal, as any of our family who have been involved in book publishing will know - ask Ian & Jill McDonald or Jack & Jean McLean

There have been a number of books published with considerable McLean mention in them, and some individual books, some of these are:-

"They Built Strathalbyn" by Harold Stowe.

"Alexandrina's Shore" by Jim Faull.

"Old Strathalbyn" by Nancy Gemmell.

and no doubts various others.

Individual books are:- "Ewan & Rachel McDonald" by Jill McDonald  
"Archibald McLean History" by Di Facey  
possibly others.

Whilst it is not particularly easy at the 4th, 5th, & 6th generation gap (for the want of a better word) to commence research, time will not make the task any easier.

Now is the time! Famous words, did you say!

If we can capture the accurate recollections of our oldest members (I suppose I am one!) and if the stories and anecdotes they've heard in days of yore from their parents, plus their recollections of life as it was in early this century or better still in last century) - then this is a starting point.

I type in this vein only to set you all thinking "What do I know?"  
"What have I heard?" "What memorabilia have I or know about?"  
"What are the stories, tales, scraps of conversation, the sad and the merry times of the family, the ups and downs of development on farms., etc?" "The depression years, the failures and the successes?"  
Write it down NOW or put it on a RECORDING TAPE but do it NOW?

Obviously if the Committee (yet to be formed) arising from the call by Reunion President Laurie McLean decide to proceed, then no time must be lost in alerting all our family members to help us.

A SPECIAL MEETING OF ALL FAMILY MEMBERS WILL BE HELD AT  
13, NIMBOYA RD, MARINO, S.A. 5049 (Phone 298 3016) AT  
2.00 P.M. ON SUNDAY 19TH JUNE, 1988. Afternoon tea will be served  
BUSINESS (PLEASE ADVISE IF ATTENDING BY 16/6/88)

To receive final report & financial statement on 1988 Reunion.  
To consider the "Book Publication" proposal.

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**All correspondence to;** Enquiries to Alf McLean

**13 NIMBOYA ROAD, MARINO, S.A. 5049**

IF SOMEBODY WANTS A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER  
APPLY TO ABOVE



FROM PRESIDENT, LAURIE McLEAN.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A NEWSLETTER

1. Thank you to all who attended the family reunion. The committee is thrilled with the success and comradeship of all in attendance.

INPUT OF INFORMATION

2. Thank you to all the family who added and corrected information on their family charts. However more information is needed for the compilation of a book.

GENEROLOGICAL SHEETS

3. A Generological sheet is enclosed.
  - (1) Follow the example provided. Photo copy original sheet for extra copies if required.
  - (2) A new sheet is needed for each couple with children marriage dates optional.
  - (3) If your children are young write their names on the back of the sheet as suggested on sample.
  - (4) Enclose your name, address and telephone number with your generological sheet.
  - (5) When your sheet is completed please return to .....

MRS DIANNE FACEY  
Box 114, MILLICENT, S.A. 5280  
087 382288

PHOTOGRAPHS AND MEMORABILIA

4. The committee are overawed at your response in displaying photos, and memorabilia at the reunion, the financial position of the committee does not enable them to take prints of photos, we appeal to you as family members to copy your photos and donate them to the committee, post card size photos approx. 10 inches x 8 inches in preparation for our book.

SUB COMMITTEES

5. We suggest that sub committees be formed in each section of the family to gather information on that family, suitable for inclusion in the book, that one delegate represent each line on the committee from the sub committee.
6. List of committee members names and address, date of next meeting and venue, date of A.G.M. and venue.

DONATIONS REQUESTED FROM ALL FAMILY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS TO DEFRAY COSTS:

7. It is requested that all individual family members remit a \$2 donation or more if available, to enable us to defray running costs especially postage - to Alf McLean, Hon. Secretary/Treasurer, 13 Nimboya Rd, MARINO, S.A. 5049. Phone 08 298/3016.