



Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc. Naidheachdan

Issue 296

Newsletter

September/October 2025

Wonderful Wingham Weekend

With quite a cool nip in the early morning air, the day developed into a bright, sunny and perfect setting for the Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival. Originally planned back on Saturday 31st May, the festival had to be postponed due to extreme bad weather conditions, but the decision to defer the date to Saturday 27th September was obviously foretold and what a great day it was with a huge array of stalls, international food outlets, pipe bands, Highland games, contests re-enactments and so much more.



Great memories and a great day of Gaelic heritage and culture



The United Mineworkers' Pipe Band triumphed yet again winning first prize in the Quintet Section. For the first time Hunter Valley Scots Club presented an amazing array of Celtic jewellery and handcrafts for purchasing, which was a huge success, and we are now looking forward to producing our own branded goods, hopefully in time for Saltire Estate Highland Games on Saturday 22nd November. Congratulations to Joan and the Wingham Scots Club committee for the highly successful transition of your Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival from May to September and we're looking forward very much to next year.

Hunter Valley Scots Club Christmas Party

Come join us for our yuletide celebrations in the Sunset Lounge at Club Macquarie, Argenton on Tuesday 2nd December from 6.30pm. Buy your own dinner. New chef, new menu, great selection. For bookings - call Secretary Linda on 0434 617 842



Clan History MacPherson

The Clan Macpherson is part of the Clan Chattan Confederation and originated from a 15th century descendant of the Clan Chattan chief named Duncan, known as 'the Parson'. He was known as 'The Parson' because he collected tithes in the parish of Laggan, and his descendants became known as Macphersons. The name means 'son of the parson' in Gaelic and comes from Duncan, the son of Muriach Cattenach, who was the chief of Clan Chattan in 1173.



Today, the Clan is known for being the 'guardians of the heart of the Scottish Highlands' and is sometimes referred to as the 'Clan of the Three Brothers' after Ewan Ban Macpherson's three sons, who became the ancestors of the Macphersons of Clunie, Pitmain, and Invereshie. In 1309, Robert the Bruce granted the lands of Badennoch to the MacPhersons for defeating his enemies, the Clan Comyn and in 1370, the Macphersons joined the Clan Chattan at Invernahavon in a battle against Clan Cameron. The feud between Clan Chattan and the Camerons continued for many years. Then in 1396 a battle of champions was fixed to be held on the North Inch of Perth before Robert III and his whole court and Sir Walter Scott gave a vivid description of this bizarre encounter in 'The Fair Maid of Perth'.

Andrew MacPherson, reckoned as the eighth chief, acquired the abbey-castle grange in Strathisla in 1618. His son, Euan, was a great royalist and fought with Montrose during the civil war. Duncan MacPherson of Cluny, the tenth chief, became a famous Highland leader in the Forty-five. During the retreat from Derby he defeated a numerically superior force at Clifton Moor in Northumberland. During the Jacobite rebellion of 1745, clan chief Ewan MacPherson (known simply as Cluny MacPherson) raised 400 men in support of Charles Edward Stuart's doomed attempt to restore the Stuart dynasty to the British throne. After the defeat at Culloden, Cluny was able, through the faithful support his loyal clansmen, to escape capture by Hanoverian troops for nine years, despite a reward of £1,000 for his capture. Part of this time he had several notable lairs, including Cluny's Cave on an inaccessible cliff above Newtonmore and Cluny's Cage, a hut on the slopes of Ben Alder immortalised in Robert Louis Stevenson's adventure story 'Kidnapped'. Cluny finally escaped to France in 1755.

Nowadays the Clan MacPherson is a leading member of the Clan Chattan Confederation, a group of clans that united for mutual protection

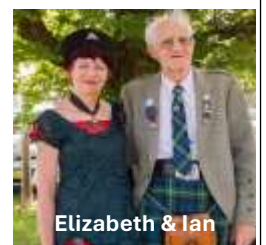
The 28th Chief of Clan Macpherson, James Brodie Macpherson of Cluny



James Brodie Macpherson of Cluny is the 28th hereditary chief of the Clan Macpherson of Cluny (Cluny-Macpherson). Born on 5th June 1972, he was educated at Summer Fields, Oxford; before going to Fettes College, Edinburgh; and then on to Guilford College, in Greensboro, North Carolina where he obtained a BSc in Sports Management and Business. On his return to Scotland, after working with Whitbread plc in London, he joined Ben Sayers Golf Company as a Commercial Manager before going into property and thereafter he set up his own property business in Melrose, aptly named Macpherson Property. In 2002 Jamie married Annie Alexandra Macpherson, a company director and a daughter of The Lord and Lady Macpherson of Drumochter, who was co-incidentally the son of one of the co-founders of the Clan Macpherson Association in 1947.

Farewell to a Jolly Good Fellow

Our treasurer, Elizabeth sent us details of the passing of a fine, yet somewhat eccentric gentleman, Ian Lamond, at the age of 88. Ian was, for many years, a member of HVSC and attended every Scottish event in NSW, always travelling by train from Bowral. He was a unique and extraordinary Scotsman with a heart of gold. Elizabeth recalls "Ian was a wonderfully unusual fellow, who I first met when he insisted on catching a train to the backpacker's hostel in Newcastle at 10pm ... dressed in a kilt! Typically, he was quite oblivious to the danger to which he was exposed. Since then, he has had a big influence on my life, and we have spent many happy times Scottish country dancing, gardening, reminiscing and philosophising". May he rest in peace.



Those Who Play Together ... Stay Together



Over the past year, we have enjoyed many months of pleasurable members' social evenings at various local venues and it has given us the opportunity of getting to know some of our newer and more senior members on a more personal level. It's always good to catch up with you for a meal and a chat and to learn the type of activities you prefer, especially our younger supporters who will be the future of the Hunter Valley Scots Club



September Members'
Social Night at Mr Zhou's
Chinese Bistro at
Teralba Bowling Club



So come join us for our November Members Social Night on Tuesday 28th October in Lake St Terrace at Warners Bay Tavern from 6pm with a varied menu to suit everyone's taste and budget. Please book in with **Linda** on **0434 617 842**.

Don't Forget Your Membership for 2024-2025

This is just a wee reminder to all of our valued members, that July is the beginning of our financial year and we can only do what we can do for you with your support. So, we invite you to complete the Application/Renewal form on page five so that we can continue keeping in touch and bringing you our news and amazing events.

**The Committee meets
at Club Macquarie
Argenton at 7pm on
the second Tuesday of
each month**

Mailing Address

Hunter Valley Scots Club
PO Box 34
Kotara NSW 2289

Email:

huntervalleyscots@gmail.com

Web Site

www.hvscots.org

Committee

President

Andrew MacPherson

Vice President

William Baer

Secretary

Linda Baer
0434 617 842

Treasurer

Elizabeth Lewin

Committee

Matt Baer

Robert Findley

Helen Fulton

Robyn Smith

Andrew Smith

Toni McLean



Upcoming Events 2025

Sunday 12th October

Hunter Valley Scots Club Annual General Meeting commencing at 2pm, but we also invite you to join us for lunch in the Bistro From 12 noon before the AGM to commence at 2pm, followed by afternoon tea. Financial members only may vote.

Tuesday 28th October

HVSC Member Social Night to be held in Lake St Terrace at Warners Bay Tavern, 5 John Street, Warners Bay with arrival at 6.00pm. See their menus online and call Linda on 0434 617 842 to book your spot.

Sunday 2nd November

NSW State Pipe Band Championship Athletic Centre 208 High Street Maitland 8.00am to 5.00pm.

Saturday 22nd November

Rescheduled date for Saltire Estate Highland Games, 113 Wilderness Road, Lovedale. Tickets available online. Come and say "hi" to our HVSC representatives. Look out for the big black gazebo with the thistle on top

Saturday 29th November Newcastle & Hunter Valley Folk Club presents a traditional Australian Bush Dance with a Celtic flavour at the Community Hall, Anzac Parade, Teralba with live music by Garry Roberts & the Waterbombers from 7.30-10.30pm. Tickets \$20.00 Donation, \$17.00 Concession \$15.00 Members Supper-please bring a plate to share and mug.

Sunday 30th November St Andrews Day service at Scots Kirk, Cnr Tudor & Murray Streets, Hamilton at 9.30am Including 'The Kirkin O' the Tartan'.

Tuesday 2nd December HVSC Christmas Party 📍🎄 Come and join your committee and other members for lots of fun and festivities in the Sunset Lounge at Club Macquarie from 6pm. Call Linda to make your booking 0434 617 842

Saturday 31st January

Hunter Valley Scots Club 2026 'Burns Night Celebrations' at Club Macquarie. More info and booking details to be announced soon.

Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc.

Membership Application & Renewal

The Secretary: Hunter Valley Scots Club, PO Box 34, Kotara NSW 2289

Email: huntervalleyscots@gmail.com

I, _____ (full name of applicant)
Address _____ D.O.B _____
_____ Post Code _____ Phone _____
Email _____ Mobile _____

Hereby apply to renew my membership/become a member of the Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc (HVSC). In the event of my admission as a member I agree to be bound by the Constitution and By Laws of the Association.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please note: The following is to be completed only for **NEW MEMBERS**

NB: Information provided on this form will only be used for the Register of Members as required by the Incorporation Act and for mailing HVSC information to members.

I, _____ a member of Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc, nominate the Applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the Association.

Proposer's Signature _____ Date _____

I, _____ a member of Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc, second the nomination of the Applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the Association.

Seconder's Signature _____ Date _____

FEES: Annual Membership & Renewals for Adults **\$15.00**: Name Badge (additional) **\$20.00** (opt)
Junior Membership: 5-12 yrs **\$10.00** Family Membership (Two Adults & two Children) **\$ \$40.00**

SUMMARY: Adult Membership (\$15.00 \$.....
Junior Membership (\$20.00) \$.....
Family Membership (\$40.00) \$.....
Badge/s (\$20.00) \$.....
Total \$.....

Direct Deposit:
Hunter Valley Scots Club (ANZ)
BSB 012-571
Acc. No. 2045 68722
ID: Please use your Surname
Be sure to return your completed form to the above address
Please do not send cash by mail

BADGE NAMES: (Please print clearly)

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