



THE CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

NEWSLETTER

No 88

December 2010

The first meeting of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia was held on December 3, 1986 in Brisbane.
The current elected committee is:

<i>PATRON:</i>	<i>Mr Archibald Douglas</i>
<i>PRESIDENT:</i>	<i>Mrs Jan Shaw</i>
<i>VICE PRESIDENT:</i>	<i>Ms Jenny Smith</i>
<i>MINUTES SECRETARY:</i>	<i>Ms Jenny Smith</i>
<i>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:</i>	<i>Mrs Sue Taylor</i>
<i>TREASURER:</i>	<i>Ms Kate Godfrey</i>
<i>EDITOR:</i>	<i>Mrs Mary Smith</i>
<i>GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH OFFICER:</i>	<i>Mrs Mary Smith</i>
<i>WEB SITE ADMINISTRATOR:</i>	<i>Ms Penny Shaw</i>
<i>GENERAL COMMITTEE:</i>	<i>Mr Archie Douglas, Mr John & Mrs Robin Godfrey</i>

Aims and Objectives of the Association

- To act as a representative body of Douglas's and Septs
- To encourage genealogical research and documentation of Douglas history
- To promote fellowship amongst members
- To establish and maintain contact with other Douglas associations throughout the world
- Provide members four Newsletters a year (members are invited to contribute articles of general interest)
- Provide social gatherings to enable Members to meet.

Clan Douglas Website - www.clandouglas.org.au

The website currently offers the following features for members and general public.

- General Information about the Clan Douglas (members and public)
- Events (members and public)
- Discussion board (forum for members and public)
- Newsletters (members only)
- Photo gallery (members only)
- Family tree software (members only)
- Application form (public and members)

Members can log in with a user name and password to view area that are not available for the general public, thus maintaining privacy and adding value to your membership.

All members must first register on the site. Registration follows a confirmation and approved process so that only paid-up members can register. Just follow the instructions sent in the registration email. Once approved, you can use your username and password to log in at any time.

Website Help - please email the Web site Administrator at administrator@clandouglas.org.au for assistance.

President's Message



The end of the first decade of the 21st Century is fast approaching. How time flies! Time moves slowly for those with little to do — or who are awaiting some exciting event.

Recently I took out from a local library a book on Heraldry and found this interesting illustration. A carving of the salamander, the badge of Francois I of France (1515-47).



It made me pose these questions — how and when did the Salamander become the emblem or talisman on the crest of the Earls of Angus branch of the Douglas Clan ? And what connection did it have to King Francois I of France?

I HOPE YOU WILL ALL HELP ME TO SEARCH FOR THE ANSWERS.

What we do know is that Mary, Queen of Scots was first married to Francois II of France and secondly to Lord Darnley who was the grandson of the 6th Earl of Angus. Is this the connection?

Wikipedia has a lot of information about the 500 species of salamander and Douglas Archives website (<http://douglashistory.co.uk/history/>) has a little about the crests of different branches of the Douglas Clan but nothing yet to answer my questions of HOW? and WHEN?

This Newsletter will give reports of our recent AGM as well as articles of Douglas History and current news of members. In conclusion, I wish all members a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS and A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Jan Shaw (nee Douglas)
President.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE CDAA 2010

I have much pleasure in presenting my report to the AGM of 2010.

It has been a 'steady' year with the committee meeting quarterly and the newsletter being the main form of contact with members, and once again I'd like to thank the Committee for their loyal support and diligence in carrying out their duties.

This year we went out for two of our Committee Meetings. Firstly to Old Government House where we learnt something of our early Queensland history before we had lunch and our meeting, both very pleasurable ways to conduct the business of CDAA.

Kirkin' o' the Tartan was well attended by our members. It is always a pleasure to see our Douglas banner being proudly presented amongst those of other clans.

Mary and I had another opportunity to raise our banner when we represented CDAA at the Jondaryan Woolshed Heritage Festival in August. The annual festival was this year focusing on Scottish settlers to the Darling Downs.

We have accepted an American 'cousin', Harold Edington, to our membership. Harold is a regent of Clan Douglas of North America and is currently doing some research into the Septs of our clans. We welcome this opportunity to foster good will and the sharing of information between our brother/sister associations.

Testing of Douglas yDNA continues in the attempt to link families and search to find which branch is the most senior Douglas family line. The search becomes complicated with 'non parental interference', illegitimate sons inheriting titles and marriages into other noble families where the Douglas name becomes hyphenated. Dr Beryl Turner assures me that she will provide us with an update as soon as the findings are available. I wish to acknowledge all those male members of CDAA who have had their yDNA tested for this project.

The winner of this year's Ron Douglas Memorial Bursary at Scott's College Warwick is Billy Potter and my congratulations go to him. [As you are aware, the Association donates \$100-00 for this award. At the AGM this year, the bursary was augmented by \$50-00 to \$150-00.]

In conclusion, I'd like to thank you all for your support and interest and wish you and your family good health and happiness in the coming year.

Jan Shaw (nee Douglas)
President.



MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT 2010

Currently Clan Douglas Australia has:

- 72 Current members in total - (all financial in past 2 years)
- 12 Life members
- 1 new member – Ms Julie Bythell-Douglas - Great grandfather Captain Charles Douglas born Sutton Surrey, England. Place of family origin in Australia: Victoria 1882, Captain Charles and family arrived on "Ben Voirlich".

Sue Taylor
Membership Secretary

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT FOR 2010

It gives me much pleasure as Newsletter Editor, to present the Report for 2010. Four newsletters have been produced since the AGM in November 2009 and I have tried to keep the main interest stories evolving as much as possible. Our president has contributed her "Earls of Angus" writings for each Newsletter over the past year for which I thank her. It is a great help to me to have something already written to go in the newsletter before I start on the next one. I hope those of you of the Red Douglas line have had pleasure in reading of your ancestors. As you are aware, we have featured the Black Douglas Line for years past so no doubt, it is time for the Red Douglas' to have their say.

We do need research queries too to help other members who may be looking for long lost relatives or ancestors. Please help us to help you and so keep the newsletter a viable and sought after publication.

My thanks must go to my daughter Jenny, who has taken over the printing, posting and emailing of the Newsletters at the present time. Thank you to my daughter-in-law Karen whom I rely upon heavily to edit the Newsletters for me. I am not altogether computer literate and Karen helps me with that. A special thank you to all members who send me articles/photos for publication. I do appreciate your help.

Just a reminder — A different Christmas or birthday present to give a loved one could be the gift of membership to the Clan Douglas Association of Australia. On every newsletter you receive there is always an application form at the back. Just fill this in and mail to the Membership Secretary, Mrs Susan Taylor, 6 Helidon Grove, Jacob's Ridge, Ormeau 4208, Queensland, Australia with the \$20-00 (Aus) membership fee.

Mary Smith
Newsletter Editor



TREASURER'S REPORT - CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC
Profit and Loss Statement For the year ended 31 August 2010

	31-Aug-10	31-Aug-09
	\$	\$
Income		
Membership Income	1,150.00	1,340.00
Donations -	-	5.00
Interest Received	112.71	125.42
	1,262.71	1,470.42
Expenses		
Bursary	100.00	100.00
Filing fees	41.00	40.00
Newsletter	453.66	750.15
Postage/Telephone	14.20	21.40
Sundry expenses	60.00	80.00
Website -		87.80
	668.86	1,079.35
Operating profit/(loss)	\$593.85	\$391.07

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2010

	31-Aug-10	31-Aug-09
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current Assets		
Suncorp 04667 1315 Everyday Options	8,118.75	7,636.82
Suncorp 16077 6416 Deposit	2,802.29	2,690.37
NET ASSETS	\$10,921.04	\$10,327.19
Reserves		
Reserves - Un-appropriated Profit		
Opening	10,327.19	9,936.12
Current year profit/(loss)	593.85	391.07
Closing	10,921.04	10,327.19
TOTAL RESERVES	\$10,921.04	\$10,327.19

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

CLAN DOUGLAS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2010

NOTE 1 : Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) This financial report is special purpose financial report prepared for use by the executive and members of the Association. The executive have determined that the Association is not a Reporting Entity. This financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards: AAS 1: Profit and Loss Accounts; AAS 5: Materiality; AAS 8: Events Occurring After Reporting Date. No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issued Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied. The financial report is prepared on a cash basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

Kate Godfrey
Treasurer

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT 2010

Launched in December 2007, the CDAA website has now been operational for a full 3 years. Since January 2010 the site has attracted 2851 unique visitors (i.e. repeat visitors are only counted once) with approximate 29951 hits in total. This number is down on previous years, probably due to the number of new sites popping up related to Douglas and Scottish history.

Technical Information: The site is now hosted by Siteground at a cost of \$166.80 for 24 months. This contract is due to be renewed in March 2011.

Website Help: I am more than happy to help members with using the site. If you need help, please email me at administrator@clandouglas.org.au or phone me after hours on (07) 3278 3397.

Statistics - How many unique visitors 2010

Month	Unique visitors
Jan 2010	171
Feb 2010	234
Mar 2010	342
Apr 2010	314
May 2010	348
Jun 2010	379
Jul 2010	233
Aug 2010	214
Sep 2010	211
Oct 2010	255
Nov 2010	68
Dec 2010	0
Total	2851

Where are our visitors from? Top 10 Countries of Origin

United States	5066
Australia	1666
Germany	1542
Latvia	1319
Ukraine	1252
Russian Federation	870
Poland	381
France	377
Luxembourg	353
Netherlands	270

Penny Shaw
Website Administrator

GENEALOGICAL CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT FOR 2010

It gives me much pleasure to present my report for 2010.

This year has been similar to previous years and I regret that there has been very few letters for me to answer regarding genealogy. There continues to be much interest in the yDNA data and I know that a few of you have taken advantage of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia's offer to finance your application to find out more. I should be interested to hear your results and how you fit into the family. Please do advise me as I may be able to help further with more details. You will find a detailed explanation of this project in Newsletter #77 for March 2008. For more information about the project please contact Dr Beryl Turner (berylvt@gmail.com).

Again I ask if any members are aware of Douglas or Sept family history books that may have been published this year, the Clan Douglas would like to know about them subject to purchasing for our library.

Research queries are needed for insertion in the newsletters. We have not received any this year and this free facility continues to be underused.

Mary Smith
Genealogical Co-ordinator



DRUMLANRIG (continued)
CASHOGLE OR COCHOGLE



John Douglas "of Creetown" was born 20/Jun/1807; died 1875; married Jean, daughter of Walter Patterson and Elizabeth Hannay; and had issue:

1. Jean Douglas born 1828;
2. James Douglas born 1829;

Robert Thomson Douglas born 20/Jun/1820, farmer in Kilmarnock; died 1893; married Margaret Newbury (born Dunscore 1820; died 1887;) and had issue:

1. Alexander Douglas (see under)
2. Duncan Douglas born 1846; died 1905; married Isabella Burns and had issue:
 - 2.1. Currie Douglas
 - 2.2. Frederick T Douglas
3. James Ruthven Douglas born 1848; died 1918; married (1) Annie Shaw and had issue:
 - 3.1. Annie Douglas
 - 3.2. Archibald Douglas
 - 3.3. John R Douglas born 1884; died 1884;
 - 3.4. Infant Douglas born 1885; Died 1885;
 - 3.5. Hugh Alistair Douglas born 1887; died 1887;

James Ruthven Douglas married (2) Helen Lennox Livingston and had issue

- 3.6. Helena Douglas born 1891; died 1971; married Rolf Van Trentini and had issue;
- 3.7. Dorothy Douglas born 1895; married Walter Lang and had issue
- 3.8. Ruthven L Douglas born 1898; married (1) Polly Duncan and had issue;
Ruthven L Douglas married (2) Margaret Carruthers and had issue
- 3.9. Andrew Gordon Douglas born 1905; married and had issue;
4. Frederick William Douglas born 1850;
5. John Campbell Douglas (see under)
6. Mary Douglas born 1856; married Angus Shaw and had
 - 6.1. Jack Shaw
 - 6.2. Grace Maryette Shaw married Allan C Douglas;
 - 6.3. Caroline McInnes Shaw married ? Embleton and had issue
 - 6.4. Robert Shaw married Elsie ? and had issue
7. William Herbert Douglas born Govan, Glasgow 15/Mar/1859; married Madge ? had issue
8. Ellen Caroline Douglas born Kilmarnock, Dumbartonshire, 12/Dec/1863; died 1877.

1. Alexander Douglas born 1844 son of Robert Thomson & Margaret Douglas nee Newbury; married Dumbarton 18/Jun/1869, Margaret Gilchrist; and had issue:

- 1.1. Robert Douglas born Glasgow Anderston, 14/May/1870;
- 1.2. Jessie Jarvis Douglas born Glasgow Blythwood, 15/Dec/1872;
- 1.3. Margaret Newbury Douglas born 1876; died 1905;

5. John Campbell Douglas born Glasgow 07/May/1854; died Glasgow 1932; ship's engineer, later a wine and spirit merchant in Glasgow; married (1) Wallhamstow, Essex, 30/Apr/1881, Florence Robinson daughter of James Robinson and Mary Saunderson; and had issue

- 5.1. Allan Campbell Douglas, Dr. in Dunfermline; married Grace Shaw and had
 - 5.1.1. Grace Mary Douglas married Arthur Easterbrook and had issue;
 - 5.1.2. Muriel Douglas married
 - 5.1.3. Kenneth Malcolm Douglas married (1) Gwyneth (div.) and had issue; married (2) Margaret Beattie or Law
- 5.2. William Newbury Douglas (see under)
- 5.3. John Glencross Douglas born 1887; died 1898;

- 5.4. Robert Percy Douglas, chemist in Bolton; married Jess Ritson and had 3 sons
- 5.5. Arthur Leslie Douglas married Mabel Sole and had 2 sons
- 5.6. Colin Cuthbert Douglas married and had 3 sons
- 5.7. Florence May Douglas married Dick Petter and had 2 daughters and 1 son
- 5.8. Charles Edward Douglas, chemist in Glasgow married Isabella Candell and had
 - 5.8.1. Ian Campbell Douglas married Wilma Smith and had 4 sons.

John Campbell Douglas married (2) Alice Robinson, his sister-in-law; no issue.

5.2. William Newbury Douglas born Glasgow 04/Nov/1884 eldest son of John Campbell & Florence Douglas nee Robinson; dental surgeon in Dunfermline; died Dunfermline, 21/Apr/1953; married Burdington House, Glasgow, 09/Aug/1920 Helen Jamieson Bone Stevenson daughter of William Stevenson; and had issue

- 5.2.1. Norman Cairncross Douglas (see under)
- 5.2.2. Evelyn Douglas born 1926, married Walter Douglas Jamieson

5.2.1. Norman Cairncross Douglas of Dundarrach, Scotland, born Dunfermline 25/Sep/1922 son of William Newbury & Florence Douglas nee Robinson; electrical engineer with the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board; died 199?; Norman matriculated his Arms 20/May/1969, the Court of the Lord Lyon, Edinburgh; Motto — *Toujours en avant* — Always in front; married Dunfermline 09/Jun/1951, Margaret Brown, daughter of James Kellie Brown; and had issue

- 5.2.1.1. Katrina Margaret Douglas born 1953; married (1) Thomas Aitken (divorced 1980); married (2) David McConnell and had issue:
 - 5.2.1.1.1. Craig McConnell
- 5.2.1.2. Sheena Marjorie Douglas born 1954; married Campbell Arendt 1952 and had issue:
 - 5.2.1.2.1. Ian Arendt born 1978
 - 5.2.1.2.2. Andrew Arendt
- 5.2.1.3. Gordon Allan Douglas born 31/Jul/1957; electrical engineer in Glasgow;
- 5.2.1.4. Terry Douglas (fostered).

Robert Douglas born 1743 son of John & Elizabeth Douglas nee MacCubbin of "Nethertown" of Collieston, parish of Dunscore, Dumfriesshire; died 1828; married Margaret Aitken daughter of Hugh Aitken in Halhill; and had issue:

- 1. Elizabeth Douglas born and baptized Holywood, 19/Mar/1775;

James Douglas born 1743 son of John Douglas "of Nethertown" of Collieston, parish of Dunscore, Dumfriesshire; (illegitimate); married and had issue:

- 1. James Douglas of Halfmark born 1761; died 1843; married Barbara Rae; and had issue:
 - 1.1. Janet Douglas married David Crosby and had Barbara Crosby;
 - 1.2. Mary Douglas
 - 1.3. John Douglas
 - 1.4. William Douglas born 1791; died 1849;
 - 1.5. Minny Douglas born 1794; died 1851;
 - 1.6. Mary Douglas born 1796; died 1880;
 - 1.7. Henrietta Douglas born 1800; died 1851;
 - 1.8. Marion Douglas born 1801; died 1852;
 - 1.9. Robert Douglas
 - 1.10. Elizabeth Douglas born 1812; married ? Glencorse; and had issue John Glencorse born 1831;

Archibald Douglas son of Sir William & Lady Janet Douglas nee Douglas of Kirkbryde; mentioned in the Privy Council register 1582; married Barbara Napier (on trial for witchcraft 1591, not guilty); issue:

- 1. John Douglas (see under)
- 2. James Douglas

John Douglas son of Archibald & Barbara Douglas nee Napier; 1569; he and his father were in possession of the lands of Durisdeer; 1612; of the lands of Vicarland; married; and had issue and their great grandson was:

James Douglas who obtained in 1714 some lands from Charles Douglas, 3rd Duke of Queensberry.

(Taken from *The History of the Family of Douglas* by Percy Douglas, pp.179-182)

(Taken from the Douglas Family of Cashogle submitted by the late Norman Douglas of Arrochar, Scotland).



NOTICE BOARD

Governor Lachlan MacQuarie's Birthday Dinner, with special guest Ms Marie Sullivan LL.B, Instigator of the MacQuarie Bicentennial Year, at The Women's Club, 4th Floor, 179 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW. On Tuesday 1st February 2011 at 6.30pm for 7pm
Bookings essential — contact by 21st January 2011 — subscription \$70-00 per person.
Tel. (02) 9361 3810 or 0425 263 705.

The NSW 2011 Festival of Highland Dancing will be held in May 2011.

The Brisbane Clans Pipes & Drums Burns Night will be held at Gaythorne RSL on 22/Jan/2011. Contact Kaye on T. 3360 2232 for more information.

The Ipswich Thistle Burns Night will be held at the Band Hall, Limestone Park on the 22/Jan/2011 Contact Mobile 0414 776361

It has been announced that **Billy Potter** of the Scots PGC College, Warwick, is the winner of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia's Ronald Douglas Memorial Bursary Award for 2010

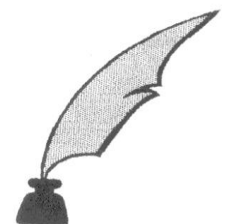
COMMITTEE RESIGNATION: It is with much regret that the CDAA Committee have accepted the resignation of Mrs Dell Armstrong. Dell has been on the Committee since its inception in 1986 and has had a strong role in shaping the Association as its Secretary and then on the general committee. Many thanks to Dell for all her hard work over the years. Dell will continue in her general membership to CDAA.

ENGAGEMENT: It is with much pleasure that the engagement of **Richard Douglas**, son of Ross and Ann Douglas of Toowoomba (members of the Clan Douglas Association of Australia), to **Louise Harris** of Brisbane is announced. The couple plan to be married sometime in 2011. Currently working in Sydney, NSW, they plan to leave shortly to work in Hong Kong. The Clan Douglas sends its congratulations and warmest wishes to Louise and Richard.

VALE: It is with regret that we record the passing of Margaret and Ron Douglas in November 2010.

EDITORIAL

Here it is nearly Christmas again — another year has flown by. A reminder that it is time to renew your membership to the Clan Douglas Association of Australia if you have not already done so. Again the society has not increased the subscription as we have managed to keep costs down in spite of inflation. We hope you continue to enjoy the Newsletter. On behalf of the Clan Douglas, I wish you all a very safe and holy Christmas with good health and happiness in the New Year.



Mary Smith
Editor

THE EARLS OF ANGUS

THE 9TH EARL OF ANGUS

(Taken from the writings of Robert Maxwell in "The History of the House of Douglas" & from Wikipedia)

As we have read in the preceding Chapter 7, when Archibald Douglas the 8th Earl of Angus died on 4th August 1588, the heir to his title was his cousin Sir William Douglas of Glenbervie. With the death of the 8th Earl of Angus, the male line of the eldest son of Bell-the-Cat ended and so devolved on the descendants of Bell-the-Cat's second son, William Douglas of Braidwood, who had also perished at Flodden in 1513.

William Douglas, 9th Earl of Angus was born about 1532 and died in 1591. He was the only son amongst several daughters of Archibald Douglas of Glenbervie and his first wife, the Lady Agnes Keith. Archibald Douglas married (2) Elizabeth (Bessie), daughter of Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum and it is to this second marriage that:

[Descendants of Robert Douglas of Kangaroo Point, may note that their line is descended from John Douglas of Cruixton, who was a half-brother to the 9th Earl of Angus.]

William Douglas 9th Earl of Angus married on St Valentine's Day 1552 Egidia (Giles) Graham (daughter of Robert Graham of Morphie) and they produced a family of 9 sons and 4 daughters.

1. William who succeeded as 10th Earl of Angus
2. Archibald, Parson of Glenbervie, died 1584 without issue;
3. George also a clergyman died in 1590;
4. Robert obtained Glenbervie from his eldest brother in 1590;
5. Duncan a clergyman who died before 1591;
6. Gavin Douglas married Elizabeth Keith and died before 1616;
7. John Douglas of Barras married Jean Fraser whose line ended with 3 grand daughters
8. Francis Douglas died in Rome 1600;
9. Henry Douglas of Tannachy died 1595;
10. Margaret married William Forbes of Monymusk;
11. Jean married 1576 John Wishart of Ballisycht;
12. Elizabeth married Thomas Gordon Friar of Cluny;
13. Sarah married twice — first to Robert Strachen Friar of Thornton and secondly to George Auchenleck of Balmanno.



Glenbervie House 1974

The succession in 1588 of Sir William Douglas of Glenbervie was not at first accepted by King James VI who brought a suit against him, producing charters connected with the title. James VI attended the court in person and was mortified to hear the Lords of Session pronounce unanimous judgement against him. However, the royal prerogative exercised by Stuart Kings was far-reaching and James extracted 35,000 merks and then the surrender of the Braidwood lands in favour of the Chancellor, Maitland of Thirlestane. James VI continued to exhort money from William in borrowing from his courtiers and sending them to the new Earl for payment. Angus was by this time an elderly invalid and had no strength to oppose this imposition, fearing a worse thing might befall him.

Religion and the division of factions within the powerful Christian Church played an important and diverse part in the lives of the people at this time. James VI's Mother, Mary Queen of Scots, was a devout Catholic and had been executed in 1587, the year before William Douglas became 9th Earl of Angus. However, William, although a staunch Presbyterian, had been a zealous supporter of Queen Mary. It was stated that 'Sir William Douglas of Glenbervie (as he was styled prior to his succession to the Earldom) was a man of great honour and integrity and a steady friend to Queen Mary. He accompanied her on her expedition to the north and took part in the Battle of Corrichie in 1562. He had two charters under the Great Seal of Scotland from Queen Mary, of the lands and barony of Glenbervie, Kemnay and several others.

However, after 1570 when he had succeeded to Glenbervie on his father's death, he took little part in public affairs as both he and his wife had become invalids. A licence granted to them in 1578 by King James VI states that during lent they may eat flesh "as oft as thai pleis" because they were "subject to seikness and diseiss of the body".

Due to his seniority and position as the Earl of Angus, William was one of the Lords appointed to carry on the Government during James VI's wedding tour to Denmark in 1589 (James VI of Scotland married Anne, the 15 year old daughter of King Frederick II of Denmark). Angus carried the sword of state before Queen Anne at her coronation.

About this time, feeling that his end was drawing near, William became uneasy about leaving his earldom and possessions to his eldest son William who was a Roman Catholic. He had intended to make a will in favour of his second son George, but George died before his father and the succession was never altered. William died at Glenbervie on 1st July 1591 and was buried there under a sarcophagus upon which is inscribed the genealogy of the lairds of Glenbervie carried back to the mythical founder of the House of Douglas in the year 730. The 9th Earl of Angus was succeeded by his eldest son William Douglas 1552-1611. (to be continued)

*. - Signatures of William Douglas of Glenbervie, 9th Earl of Angus.



THE DOUGLAS CAUSE

Most members will know of or have heard of “The Douglas Cause” in the mid 18th century. It was the outcome of a law case that caused Scotland much heartache — death threats, riots and the huge amount of money that was bet upon its outcome. Archibald, the Duke of Douglas, the main participant didn’t have much going for him really — he lived alone, unmarried, took no part in state affairs and died childless.

The big hoo-hah was all about his successor. His heir was his sister Jane, and should she fail to marry or produce off-spring, the Duke’s fortune and most of his ancient titles would pass to a cousin who was married to the Duchess of Hamilton. However, Jane did marry but to an unsuitable suitor, Colonel John Stewart and at rather a late time in life. Jane was 48 years of age and the Hamiltons considered this age a bit late to produce any children. Much to everyone’s surprise, Jane and the Colonel went off to Paris for a period of two years and during this time, Jane was purported to have given birth to twin sons, Archibald and Sholto.

The Hamiltons were flabbergasted at this turn of events — they had considered the Douglas estates and fortune already theirs! They encouraged Jane’s brother the Duke of Douglas not to recognize the boys as Jane’s children and his heirs. He cut off Jane’s allowance which was a great sacrifice to her and when the couple returned to Scotland in 1751, Colonel Stewart was imprisoned for debt. Jane and her son Sholto both died in 1753 and young Archibald ended up in the care of the Duke of Queensberry who saw to his education and upbringing.

To the general astonishment of all, the Duke of Douglas married in 1758, his cousin Peggy Douglas who managed to persuade him just ten days before his death, to accept young Archibald as his heir. Archibald changed his name from Stewart to Douglas and, after a brief legal tussle with the Hamiltons, entered into his inheritance. However, the Hamiltons were not satisfied and decided to send an investigator to Paris to look into the twin’s births. He came back with the news that Archibald was actually Jacques Louis Mignon son of a glassworker, who had been kidnapped in July 1748 by ‘a Lady, a Gentleman and their maid’. Sholto was the son of Sanry the Rope Dancer who had vanished in similar circumstances. The investigator also reported that Jane’s pregnancy was a fraud, that witnesses to it could not be found, that the couple had not stayed where they said they had.

In 1762, the Hamiltons launched an action in the Court of Session in Edinburgh claiming that Archibald was no Douglas and had no right to the inheritance. As well, they claimed that it was stupid to think that Jane could have produced twins at the age of 51. For the next eight years, as long as the case lasted in the courts, it racking up costs of 52,000 pounds, before it was resolved. Litigation took place in Scotland, England and France with a tremendous public interest throughout Europe with every stage of the process publicized. Everyone had an opinion and everyone took sides. David Hume, Adam Smith and Dr Samuel Johnson all supported the Hamiltons. Johnson’s biographer James Boswell chose the opposite side and after several articles and three books on the subject, had the Edinburgh people on side.

After much speechifying lasting twenty-one days and various lawyers having their say, it was decided on 14th July 1767 by the Court of Session, in favour of the Hamiltons by the Lord President Robert Dundas’ casting vote. The lawyers for Archibald immediately lodged an Appeal to the House of Lords in London. Apart from anything else, 100,000 pounds worth of bets depended on the outcome — perhaps 150,000,000 pounds in today’s money. The case opened in January 1769 and lasted over a month. Even a duel was fought during this time between one of Archibald’s lawyers and the private detective working for the Hamiltons — fortunately, both missed their targets. The decision was unanimously reversed and Edinburgh went wild. Mayhem resulted for the Hamilton faction and it became necessary for troops to be deployed to restore order in the capital.

The Dukedom became extinct with the death of the Duke of Douglas but Archibald became one of the richest men in Scotland owning land in Wiltshire as well as eight counties north of the border. He became a land improvement landlord, married twice into ducal families and entered politics as MP for Forfarshire. In 1782, he was raised to the peerage as Baron Douglas of Douglas. He lived an unexceptional life and died in 1827 aged 79.

An interesting post-script to the story occurred in 2008 when letters were found in the archives of the Earl of Home written by Archibald’s mother Jane and one of her lawyers. They strongly indicate that Jane and her husband did actually buy the babies in Paris!

(Compiled from Robertson, James Irvine, “The Douglas Cause”, Issue 50 SCOTLAND Magazine, pp.39-40).





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We invite you and your family to join this Association. We ask you especially to support the Committee and help us bring together people of Douglas Ancestry, Sept families and other connections, from all over Australia, New Zealand and the world. Any one descended from, connected by marriage, or adopted by a Douglas or Sept of Douglas is eligible to join.

The **Sept families** of the **House of Douglas** are:

Bell, Blacklock, Blackstock, Blackwood, Brown, Brownlee, Cavers, Dickey, Douglass, Drysdale, Forrest, Forrester, Foster, Gilpatrick, Glendinning, Inglis, Kilgore, Kilpatrick, Kirkland, Kirkpatrick, Lockerby, MacGuffey, MacGuffock, McKillrick, Morton, Sandlilands, Sandlin, Simms, Soule, Sterritt, Symington, Syme, Young.

The Clan Douglas Association acknowledges that on the list of Sept families there are some who are recognised as belonging to other clans, but some families of these surnames were closely linked with branches of the Douglas' in the early years. We ask you to please notify anyone else you know to be eligible to join, especially those who may not be on our mailing list.

Clan Douglas of Australia - Membership Form

Surname:.....First Name:.....

Address:

.....Post Code:

Telephone number: () Email address:.....

Place of family origin overseas (if known):.....

Place of family origin, Australia or N.Z.:.....

Would you like your Newsletter emailed or posted: (please circle) Membership fee per year \$20-00 per family

Signature of applicant:.....

Please make cheques payable in Australian currency to Clan Douglas Association of Australia and post to The Membership Secretary, Clan Douglas Association of Australia, 6 Helidon Grove, Jacob's Ridge, Ormeau 4208, Queensland, Australia.