



Clan Munro Australia

Newsletter of the Clan Munro (Association) Australia

Volume 9 Issue 1

April 2012

Have you visited our Website at <http://clanmunroaustralia.org>

Chat

This Month

We have known for some time that the next Clan Munro Gathering is in 2014 but I now have the date. It will be held on the 26/28th of July, so you can start making plans.

More details as they come to hand.

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Next Newsletter

A Munro country visit

Another famous Australian

An old obituary

Maybe another Munro convict

Some family history advice

And, hopefully, there will be more!

Don

Inside you will find a report from Gail Munro about her UK visit in which she mentions her ancestor, Colin Munro & his book *Fern Vale or the Queensland Squatter*. This book was Queensland's first novel & was originally published in three volumes. I received an invitation to the launch of the book in its new, abridged, one volume version by Rod Fisher but unfortunately could not attend. But I did buy the book.

I think the original three volumes would have been a bit difficult to read but the abridged version, although presenting a few problems because it is written in the language of the time, is very readable. The work combines fact & fiction and was written to encourage migrants to Queensland the new Eldorado. It is a story of love and adventure in a new and untamed land. It gives a very clear indication of the settlers' views on the aborigines; the Chinese coming in search for gold; the convicts; and the very hot topic of the times – the vexed question of the separation of Queensland from New South Wales. As for encouraging migration, the very graphic description of the massacre by the aborigines of the members of a homestead would, I think, be more likely to discourage than encourage! It must be said that the massacre was the result of ill treatment & poisoning of the aborigines by some of the settlers.

All in all an interesting & informative read.

I made contact with Donald Munro when I read about a Munro Family Gathering in Queensland. Donald has written a book called *The Diaries of a Stretcher Bearer* & the diaries are those of his father L/Cpl Edward Munro MM & Donald very kindly sent me a copy. Without a doubt these men were the unsung heroes of WW1. The book details all that Edward Munro & his comrades went through. Conditions were horrific, especially in winter. For his unstinting devotion to duty, Ed was awarded the Military Medal.

Interesting though that part is, what makes it even more interesting is that the author has intertwined some of the stories of Edward's two brothers who served in Gallipoli & France and that of his father who served in Papua New Guinea. Ed's brother Don survived Gallipoli but caught typhoid fever, recovered & transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. He had two serious crashes, the second one being fatal. Ed's other brother Chris was twice wounded and survived until the last year of the war but died of his third lot of wounds received near Franvillers.

The book also details this family's history which adds another dimension to the book. The whole family had migrated to Australia by 1914 and the Dad and his three sons all volunteered to serve in the Australian forces in WW1.

A very interesting & readable book and I hope to tell the story of this Munro family in a later newsletter.

Welcome To Our New Members

It's terrible seeing this space empty!!

Famous Australian Munros

David Munro (1844–1898)

David Munro was an engineer, a contractor and, like many others of that time, a speculator. The following biography is by Michael Canon and is the © copyright of the Australian Dictionary of Biography. I have been given permission to use it in our newsletter. Please check out their website <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/>

David Munro (1844-1898), engineer, speculator and contractor, was born in Kirkintilloch, Dumbartonshire, Scotland, son of John Munro, blacksmith, and his wife Esther, née Dunlop. The family and some near relations migrated to Victoria in 1854 in the *Tudor*. The adult males worked at Geelong for £90 a year with rations. John soon started business as a blacksmith and contractor in King Street, Melbourne, where his three sons joined him as they grew up. They won the contract for the Moorabool viaduct in Geelong in 1858 and as the colony's railways extended shared in many government contracts. By 1869 only David remained with his father, trading as John Munro & Son. In September they filed a voluntary petition in insolvency, showing a deficit of £1419 from business losses. Their schedules showed that John Munro controlled all the assets while David owned only the £3 worth of clothes he wore in court, 'a very unsatisfactory Estate' according to the official assignee. After release from sequestration in February 1870 David apparently did not resume business with his father. In 1871 he married Sarah Elizabeth Sydenham.



David started his own engineering and machinery business, finally occupying land in Queen Street, à Beckett Street, and Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. His trademark was a phoenix arising from the flames and his motto *Resurgam*. In the construction and railway boom of the 1870s and 1880s David Munro & Co. was one of the colony's biggest employers of labour. Two of his best works still carry traffic across the Yarra: Queens Bridge built on the site of the old Falls Bridge for £45,000 and opened in April 1890; and the new Princes Bridge built in 1888 for £137,000. His many railway contracts included the Fitzroy-Whittlesea line built for £100,000, and the Frankston-Crib Point line for £53,000. Munro sold every type of sawmilling, threshing and mining equipment, either for cash or on his new 'Purchasing Lease System'. His patented or improved machines were commonly used by selectors and included a post-boring machine, the 'Victory Self-adjusting Windmill' and portable engines using 'the colonial fire-box, the steam jacketted cylinder, the variable expansion gear, the sliding crank shaft bracket, the three-way force-pumps'. Like many capitalists he was harsh on his employees and in the temporary slump of 1887 cut their wages from 7s. to 6s. 6d. a day. Unmoved by

protests he told the men that their union leaders were 'vermin to be squelched'.

Munro served as president of the Chamber of Manufactures, councillor of the National Agricultural Society and in 1881-83 on the royal commission on the tariff. He also developed close links with Thomas Bent after sharing with him the construction of the Nepean Road tramway. They were directors in the Brighton Gas Co. Ltd. In 1888 Bent and John Blyth suggested to Munro that he convert his business into a public company and offer shares on the stock exchanges. In return for his assets Munro received 40,000 shares with a face value of £5 paid up to £2 10s. each and 80,000 shares paid up to £1 each. Bent and Blyth each took up 10,000 partly-paid shares and persuaded the graziers W. and S. Kiddle to take thousands more. Munro plunged into the land boom with abandon, borrowing large sums on mortgage from the Bank of South Australia and Bank of Australasia and investing it in land for subdivision at Somerton, Canterbury and elsewhere. He bought several expensive acres in Kooyong and built a mansion. Under his wife's name, large sums were borrowed from the Mercantile Finance Co. Ltd for land speculation.

Munro floated the Caledonian Land Bank Ltd, its purpose the acquisition of his properties at Brighton and Canterbury. A meeting of shareholders early in 1889 claimed that he had sold the properties to the



company at grossly inflated valuations. Munro offered to make good any loss, produced a bag of bank-notes and on the spot bought the shares of

dissatisfied shareholders. Eleven days later a shareholders' committee of investigation asked Munro to buy all the remaining shares. He refused and wrote scornfully to the newspapers criticizing shareholders who sought 'to relieve themselves of their personal liability'. Nineteen days later he filed a voluntary petition in insolvency. While speculating in land he had continued as managing director of his engineering business on a five-year agreement. At the time of flotation he had about £500,000 worth of contracts in hand. Recommended by Bent and Blyth, he arranged a large overdraft with the City of

Melbourne Bank to finance these contracts, but weaknesses in the land market led the bank to insist on Munro's resignation from the engineering works. Incompetent managers were appointed, many contracts ran late and the company suffered heavy loss. A shareholders' meeting on 5 April disclosed losses on contracts of £90,000.

In the land-boom collapse the value of shares in David Munro & Co. Ltd dropped almost to nothing as did the market price of his land. When a call of 5s. a share was made, Munro could not pay and had to forfeit his 120,000 shares. His personal estate showed debts of nearly £380,000 on bank overdrafts, calls on shares and sums owing to other

land speculators. His wife also went through the Insolvency Court with debts in her name to land companies of a further £45,000. Six years later a Supreme Court investigation found grave irregularities in the City of Melbourne Bank's manipulations of his engineering works. Since the bank's manager, Colin Milne Longmuir, had disappeared at sea, no criminal charges were made and Munro was not recompensed for his losses. The Munros moved from their mansion to a small cottage in Parkville, where he died on 31 March 1898 from a haemorrhage and alcoholism. He was survived by his wife who died in 1914, three sons and two daughters.

DO NOT MISS STAYING AT NAIRN

We have a couple of reports this month of member's visits to Scotland. This one is from Quentin Munro and he and his family fell in love with Nairn. In the photo the handsome trio from left to right we have Guy Munro, Scott Munro and Quentin Munro. They must have outshone all but the wedding couple!!



Last year, our family returned to Scotland to attend the wedding of a cousin. We also planned a visit to Foulis Castle to see our Clan Chief Hector Munro of Foulis.

Having been to the highlands a few times, one of the important rights of passage is a visit to Culloden Moor, where the famous battle of 1745 was held. Whilst Culloden is about 10 kms east of Inverness, we had never proceeded further east than the turn off to the battle ground. It came as a surprise to find that the wedding was to be held at a place called Nairn, a further 15 kms east on the main road past Culloden. What a surprise Nairn turned out to be! We can now thoroughly recommend a Nairn as a base for any visitor to the Highlands

Nairn's was "discovered" as a holiday destination back in Victorian times and became "the" place for the wealthy, which explains why so many of the homes can be described as "Grand".

It nestles on a peninsula of land on the Moray Firth coast and enjoys a unique micro climate by virtue of the fact that the warm waters of the Gulf Stream that flow relatively close by off shore, so it is significantly warmer than Inverness. Not only this, Nairn can boast that it has more hours of sunshine than anywhere in the United Kingdom! (Well, that's what the locals told us). It also gets 10 inches of rain a year less than Inverness which is very welcoming when you are on holiday!

There are sandy beaches, wonderful walks along riverside promenades with fantastic views over the Moray Firth. We enjoyed a very enjoyable round of golf on one of the two championship golf courses. The big tip is to stay out of the rough. Whatever grass they grow there makes it almost impossible to find your ball, let alone extricate it with a single stroke!

We stayed in two B&B's, both in charming Victorian homes and found them to be wonderful. Inveran Lodge in Seafield Street, Nairn and Glebe End B & B in 1 Glebe Road, Nairn. Both had warm friendly hosts and excelled in both "B" and "B". There are dozens of other B&Bs in the area but you do have to book well in advance.

Having stayed at numerous other places north of Inverness, we found Nairn to be an excellent base for exploring the Highlands of Scotland. You are inside an hour's drive of Foulis Castle, Cawdor Castle, Brodie Castle, Culloden Battlefield, Fort George, Clava Stones, Loch Ness, Castle Urquhart, Culbin Forest and the new viewpoint tower, the Cairngorms National Park, Cairngorm Mountain Railway, the Strathspey Steam Railway, Ballindalloch Castle, Elgin Cathedral and the Whisky Trail.

The wedding, by the way was staged at the historic Nairn Hotel. We all frocked up in our Tartan kilts (hired from Chisholms Highland Dress, 47 - 51 Castle Street Inverness). One minor disappointment was that we could not find anywhere that would hire the traditional red Munro tartan, so we went with the Back Watch...very smart, too!

HMAS Kuttabul

In response to my email & to the story about the HMS Kuttabul in the previous newsletter, I received the following responses from members.

The first was from Ian Munro from NSW who wrote - "My uncle was on the Kuttabul but was on leave when the attack took place. He was a man with a charmed life. While some of his friends were posted to the HMAS Sydney, he was posted to the corvette HMAS Pirie. He survived an air attack by the Japanese when a shell went down the funnel but did not explode - about 8 of the crew were killed. He had an incredible memory. He was in Tokyo Bay when the Japanese surrendered and I think that he could name every ship that was in the Bay, I remember him telling me how all the Allied ships were given an order that meant that they could have all lights blazing."



The second was from Kathryn Brain (now in Scotland) who remembered a family story about the HMAS Kuttabul and sent to her uncle (coincidentally another Ian Munro) and this was his reply. 'Yes, your Grandad, John Henry Munro, was a coast watcher in the Volunteer Defence Corps in WW2 (too old for the AIF). When stationed near Clairview, on Broad Sound, between Mackay and Rockhampton, he reported seeing a large submarine on the surface, proceeding south. It appeared to have three torpedoes or miniature submarines bolted to the deck. It was probably charging its batteries in readiness for submerging again. The response from HQ was, "What are you drinking down there?" I don't know if a record of the report would have been kept, but a week or so later came news of the attack on shipping in Sydney harbour. How different things might have turned out if the order had been, "Find that sub!" instead of, "Cue laughter track!"'

When Ned Kelly "Found" the Horses

You can find some interesting stories in the old newspapers. Who would have thought that we would find a Munro connection to Ned Kelly. This item is from The Argus, Monday 6 July, 1925 and also tells a little of this Alexander Munro's story. At that time he had been a colonist for 67 years. I wonder if he is one of your ancestors!!

When the American clipper The Planter berthed at Port Melbourne or Sandridge as it was then called, on New Year's Day, 1858, from Liverpool, there were on board many passengers full of high hopes and high resolutions for their life in the new land. One of them was Mr. Alexander Munro, who is now living in Russell Street, Coburg. He was keen to obtain work and did not lose time in applying for it. In his ignorance he made his first application to a warder guarding a gang of convicts who were building walls at Pentridge. Since that first amusing mistake Mr. Munro has had many diverting and interesting experiences in Victoria. He found it a country ready to welcome and reward the man prepared to work and now at the age of 92 years he is still able to take a keen interest in affairs.

For a time Mr. Munro worked as a teamster, carrying food and other supplies to the Wangaratta, Benalla, and Mclvor (Heathcote) gold diggings. The route was through the heart of the country later made notorious by the exploits of the

Kelly gang. "In those days," said Mr. Munro, "there were no roads, and often we had to make our way with only the sun to guide us." Ned Kelly's father, known as "Red" Kelly, was living at Black Springs, on what is now part of the Sydney road. "Returning from Wangaratta on one occasion I astonished the other teamsters by deciding to camp at Black Springs, near the Kelly's place," said Mr. Munro. "They would not stay with me, but pushed on to Winton. In the morning my horses were lost. After searching for them for an hour or so I called at the Kelly's place for a drink of water. Mrs. Kelly invited me to stay for breakfast. She observed that I looked very hot and tired. "So would you be," I replied, "if you had tramped the ranges looking for six horses." "Oh, you have lost your horses? Ned there! Avie!" she called.



When the lad came she told him to take his pony and see if he could find them. The horses were duly found but I did not let it be guessed that I knew they had them "planted" 'Arrah, go away out of that," said Mrs. Kelly when I suggested payment. I expressed a desire to pay for drinks all round at least. In less than a minute, men had appeared from everywhere. The "shout," however, only cost me 10/. When I arrived at Winton I found that my fellow teamsters had also lost their horses. They were not "found" till a fortnight later and then rewards of £2 a head on the 12 horses had to be paid. Mrs. Kelly had told me that any time I lost my horses again, "the boy would find them." That boy was Ned Kelly.

Mr. Munro was born near Fortrose in Ross-shire, Scotland. Of fine physique and with eyes that

sparkle as he recalls memories of other days, he is more active and alert than many men 30 years his junior. He enjoys excellent health, and is happiest when busiest. Gardening is a hobby and wood chopping a gentle exercise, while for relaxation Mr. Munro chooses "listening in."

For 27 years Mr. Munro was chairman of the Pentridge (later Coburg) Board of Advice, forerunner of the modern school committee. He is a trustee of the Loyal Rose of Denmark Lodge of the Manchester Entity of Oddfellows, and has been since it was founded. At a recent meeting the Coburg Council passed a resolution congratulating Mr. Munro upon his birthday, and wishing him "many happy returns."

Munros & the Cinema

Did you know that we have Munro connections with the Cinema? Charles E Munro was a pioneer in the movie industry in Australia and Gwen Munro was one of our early actresses. What would we be without a mystery? There are a couple in this story so if you know the answers, please let me know. Most of what I have written is taken from the newspapers of the day & the language in those days was a lot more flowery than now, so it makes interesting reading from that aspect alone.

From the Brisbane Courier, Friday November 6, 1925
SHOWMEN'S DINNER. FAREWELL TO Mr. CE. MUNRO.

A number of gentlemen associated with the picture show business in various capacities and personal friends, were the guests of Mr Richard F Stephens at a farewell dinner to Mr Charles E Munro, at the Café Majestic last night on the eve of his departure for Sydney. Mr Munro has been appointed manager for the Fox Film Corporation in New South Wales.

It was joyous gathering, with a real movie atmosphere the menu was arranged in 'spools.' It started with "Fihelly's Election Bombs" and finished with "Savoy's Deadheads" and "Housemaids' Horrors" The toast list was facetiously headed "Don't Argus - Tell the Truth Exchange Managers Do!"

The Royal Toast was drunk with Musical honours. Mr George Wallace comedian from the Empire Theatre, provided the "superthriller" by recounting some of his stage stories and Mr Michael Crosby (baritone) also by courtesy of Fuller's Theatres Ltd delighted the gathering with his manly singing of "Friend of Mine"

The Chairman (Mr Barrington Waters), on behalf of the picture show fraternity and personal friends presented to Mr Munro a pair of gold sleeve links and a pair of silver hair brushes (on which the names of every one present will be inscribed) a silver hand mirror for Mrs Munro and silver serviette

rings for the children. "Mr Roy Crick, secretary of the function, received a gold mounted fountain pen, in appreciation of his services

In proposing the health of Mr. Munro, the host, Mr. Richard F. Stephens, recounted the wonderful strides the pictures had made since Mr. Munro embarked on his career, 20 years ago, in conjunction with Mr. Syd. Cook, "in a soul-crushing and heart breaking tour of the country towns, trying to arouse the interest of the apathetic rural population." That bitter apprenticeship, under a hard taskmaster - unresponsive public in the bush - had enabled their guest to work himself up to the top of the tree in one of the largest and most influential industries in the world. His motto had been "Nil Desperandum." For his dogged perseverance he had to thank the blood of Scotland; but all the good qualities of the races of the Rose, Thistle and Shamrock" blended charmingly in their guest.

In supporting the toast, Mr. E. Lane said that Mr. Munro was "100 per cent masculine." He would be keenly missed by all the picture show men, who, however, rejoiced that he was improving his position. The toast was also supported by Dr Gray and Mr. Hector R. Doughty.

In responding Mr Munro told some amusing anecdotes of his boyhood in connection with the industry - particularly of the stirring days in the bush.

So now we know a little about Charles E Munro and his obituary gives us some more. This time it is from the Sydney Morning Herald, Tuesday, December 1, 1953



It was simply headed "Death of Mr. C. E. Munro."

Mr. Charles Eric Munro, one of the pioneers of the Australian film industry, died at his home at Bellevue Hill yesterday, aged 62. Mr. Munro started in the film industry as a spool boy and rose to be managing director of Hoyts Theatres Ltd. He also owned a chain of country and suburban cinemas throughout New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland. In July, 1951, Mr. Munro was the head of a group which bought a controlling interest in the Macquarie Broadcasting Service. Pty. Ltd. He was a director of the company when he died.

A keen race goer, Mr. Munro owned several race horses which won several minor prizes at tracks in Sydney and Melbourne. Mr. Munro was a member of the Tattersall's Club and American Club in Sydney. He received an MBE in the 1952 Honours List.

He leaves a widow and two daughters. After a service at 3 p.m. to-morrow, at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Macquarie Street, the funeral will take place at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Ryde.

His wife was Elsie Alway and they were married on July 17, 1913 in Queensland. Mystery No 1 - on the printed marriage certificate his name is Charles Evie Munro everywhere else that I could find he is shown as Charles Eric. Was Evie his real middle name or simple an incorrect transcription of Eric?

From the obituary we can see that he had two daughters. I could not find their birth certificates but I found that Charles & Elsie made 3 trips to America. In 1930 they travelled to San Francisco by themselves. In 1934 they travelled to Los Angeles on the Monterey & this time they had their two daughters with them - Betsy Shuley Munro aged 21 & June Adele Munro aged 16. In 1937 they again travelled to Los Angeles (on the Mariposa) with daughters Betty aged 22 & June aged 19 - a slight age difference from the last trip & Betty instead of Betsy, so that's OK.

Gwendolin May Munro

Now to our film star Gwendolin May (Gwen) Munro. I could find no record of Gwen Munro as



Charles E Munro's daughter but did find this in the West Australian July 1, 1939.

"Gwen Munro, daughter of Mr. C. E. Munro, managing

director of Hoyts Theatres Ltd., as she appears in "Let George Do It," a new Cinesound picture, starring George Wallace."

So who am I to argue with the West Australian - this would make three daughters!

OK, so where did she come from? From other newspaper articles, she would have been about the same age as Charles Munro's eldest daughter Betsy Shuley Munro. Perhaps Gwendolin May was a better sounding name for a film star so she simply changed her name & there was in fact, was no third daughter.

Gwen married in 1939 as this item from the Adelaide Mail shows.

CANBERRA, Saturday 22nd April, 1939 - The picturesque 94-year-old Church of St John the Baptist, Canberra, was chosen for the wedding today of Miss Gwendolin Munro, of Toorak, Melbourne, Australian film star, to Hubert Francis Middows of Sydney. The bride, who was given away by her mother, wore an afternoon frock of turquoise blue, and her hat was finished with a shoulder-length veil. Her shoes were in the same shade. Stone putty was the colour chosen for her handbag and gloves. She was un-attended. The ceremony was performed by Archdeacon Robertson, of Canberra. A reception was held at Hotel Canberra. This was attended only by relatives and a few close friends.

Did you notice who was missing? Charles of course - was he ill, did have a falling out with Gwen, maybe he did not like her new name!!

Was Gwen the daughter of Charles Munro?

Having said all of the above, I also found another couple of newspaper items that say Gwen was the daughter of Mrs Harry Munro of South Yarra, Melbourne - so was that item in the West Australian incorrect? I'm sure it was but in the end, it does not really matter, it is a good story.

How did Gwen Munro get into the film industry? This article in the Australian Women's Weekly dated May 9 1936, explains it all

Women's Weekly Prize Winner Transformed By Hollywood

When Miss Gwen Munro was chosen as Australian winner of the Paramount "Search For Beauty" Contest, conducted through the columns of The Australian Women's Weekly, she left Melbourne for Hollywood a fresh, well-built, sporting type of Australian girl.

But in giving her this golden opportunity, The Australian Women's Weekly contest also gave her a chance to attain something that Hollywood alone can give - glamour! And Gwen, being an intelligent girl, made the most of this chance.

It is all very well to be a beautiful Australian girl with a natural aptitude for acting, but that does not get you so very far along the difficult trail that leads to screen fame. The experience of Hollywood has meant all the difference to Gwen Munro, and Gwen is the first to admit it.

Studying a recent portrait of Gwen Munro, one is staggered at the change Hollywood has made to her. Her once rounded figure, through careful

dieting and exercises, is now extremely slender and graceful, enabling her to wear her clothes with the chic of the French or American woman. Her face now shows the delicate moulding of the bone formation, and has attained the intriguing contours of Dietrich. Her bronze hair is dressed to show a lovely forehead, and the eyebrows shaped to set off the beauty of her large hazel eyes. Her mouth, full and mobile, is stressed by careful make-up.

The experience of working in a Hollywood film with famous stars, and constantly meeting interesting and talented people, has added something of equal importance-poise! The excellent training of a year's hard work, travelling with a stock company through California, and appearing at the famous Pasadena Community

Playhouse, has provided two more important attributes confidence and experience. This was recently supplemented by a season in Melbourne, and a tour of New Zealand with the J. C. Williamson "Wind and the Rain" Company

Now, equipped with everything that makes for stardom, Gwen Munro has been chosen by Cinesound Productions Ltd. to play the leading role in their new film "Wilderness Orphan," written by another famous young Australian, Dorothy Cottrell. This picture, which will go into production immediately, is under the direction of Ken C. Hall.

Gwen was very superstitious – would not wear clothes coloured green. She appeared in a number of films including Orphans of the Wilderness; Dear Bill; Search for Beauty & Let George Do it.

Vale Peter Tibbett

It is with much regret that I let you know of the passing of Peter Tibbett. Peter was, for a time, the Representative of the Clan Munro in Australia; many of you will remember that during that time he also published a newsletter; he was our Clan Munro webmaster until the site was hacked into & destroyed. Peter was a great help to me when I first started, especially with the website and he was very patient with me while I made sure the site was just the way I wanted it to be. He was very involved with the Vietnam Vets & ran a number of connected websites. Peter will be sadly missed

Vale Robert Donald Munro

It is with much sadness that I tell you of the passing of Robert Donald Munro from East Fremantle. I used to enjoy my chats on the phone to Don & now miss that. Don traced his ancestors back to Ross & Cromarty and was a member of a very sports minded family & with his brother played football for East Fremantle as well as cricket & tennis. Don is sadly missed.

Gail Munro's UK Visit

You might remember a few issues ago we connected Gail Munro with a cousin in the UK. Last August, Gail went to the UK on holiday & this is what she sent me.

Good afternoon Don. Thanks for all your assistance in passing on the request from Angeline Phillips regarding her great-grandmother, Mary Neil Young. I am sure you would like to know that I visited her and her family in August last year and learned a lot about our mutual ancestor. In fact, I have a lovely mahogany portable make-up case with Mary Neill Young's initials engraved on a mother-of-pearl crest on the front of the make-up case. She was the wife of my great grandfather, Colin Munro 111.

You may also like to know that, through the Clan Munro website, I found out that Rod Fisher, a historian, has just published an edited version of an autobiographical novel by Colin Munro, entitled, *Fern Vale or The Queensland Squatter*. It turns out that Colin Munro wrote what was the very first Queensland novel, which was published in London in 1862. He met Mary Neill Young when he returned to the UK from Queensland in 1860 to find a wife and she turned out "to be suitable".

Ailsa Stubbs-Brown's Legacy

The following article was sent to me by one of our Queensland members. You will remember that I featured Ailsa's story in one of our earlier newsletters.

Physiotherapy and medical students at The University of Queensland will benefit thanks to the foresight and compassion of the late Mrs Ailsa Stubbs-Brown (nee Munro), one of UQ's first physiotherapy graduates. Mrs Stubbs-Brown's generous bequest will establish two perpetual endowment funds to support the Ailsa Munro Physiotherapy Student Scholarship and, in memory of her late husband and respected orthopaedic surgeon, the T.V Stubbs-Brown Medical Student Scholarship.

Part of the first group to graduate from UQ's newly established physiotherapy course in 1941, Mrs Stubbs-

Brown made an impact in the field, running her own private practice from 1955 to 1973 She worked at hospitals in Queensland and the UK, including the Nambour General Hospital, where she was employed as its first full-time physiotherapist and was instrumental in developing its physiotherapy department.

A trailblazer in the field, Mrs Stubbs-Brown was elected as President of the Australian Physiotherapy Association Queensland branch in 1973 - the first physiotherapist to fill a post traditionally held by a medical practitioner.

Mrs Stubbs-Brown remained closely connected to the University, working as a lecturer, demonstrator and clinical supervisor for nearly 30 years. Up until her passing in January last year, Mrs Stubbs-Brown continued to take an active interest in physiotherapy research undertaken at the University, donating more than \$100,000 to various projects in the past decade.

Mrs Stubbs-Brown's generous bequest for physiotherapy scholarships is the first of its kind in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Services and shows her determination to continue making a positive influence on the field and a real difference to its students and the wider community



Margaret Bardin

Margaret Bardin keeps in close contact with me during the year. She is my opposite number as editor of the Clan Munro USA magazine & does a great job. Margaret is also very involved in the Munro USA genealogy and with the Clan Munro DNA Project. She can answer all of your question on that subject, so if you want to know more, contact me & I will put you in touch with her. This was Margaret's Christmas card with lovely granddaughter Sophie McKenna.

Can You help

Remember, if you recognise any of the Munros below and you are not on the internet, write to me & I will put you in touch. No one needs help this month!!

Annual Membership:	\$25.00	Spouse or children of member under 18 years	\$8.00**
Three Years:	\$55.00	Spouse or children of member under 18 years (3 years)	\$20.00**
Ten Years:	\$160.00	Spouse or children of member under 18 years (10 years)	\$70.00**
Life Membership is calculated according to age as follows: -			
Up to Age 40:	3 X 10 Year Dues	\$480.00	
Age 40 to 50:	2 X 10 Year Dues	\$320.00	
Age 50 to 60:	1½ X 10 Year Dues	\$240.00	
Age 60 and over:	Same as 10 Year Dues	\$160.00	
Age 80 and over	Half Ten Year Dues	\$80.00	

* The fees charged include membership of our parent organisation in Scotland

** Correspondence from Clan Munro (Association) Australia will only be sent to the full member

Clan Munro (Association) Australia Newsletter

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