Appendix 3 (a) Early Members of Comunn na Feinne – 1856-1860 - from the Carmichael Notes.

Archibald Douglas
James D. Rankin, of Brougham Place – Wine and Spirit Merchants. Also Tea,
Sugar, Provisions.
Dougal Rankin, of Brougham Place – Wine and Spirit Merchants, Tobacco and Cigars.
Robert A. McInnes, School Teacher
Alexander McInnes, School Teacher, the Gaelic School, La Trobe Terrace.
Charles Bowie Dawson, Prop., Prince of Wales Hotel, Ryrie Street.
William Rae, Prop. Argyll Hotel, Western Highway (now Aberdeen Street)
Alexander McKenzie, Chairman of the Barrabool Hills Road Board.
Donal Cameron, "Farmer", Little River.
William McNab, Secretary Barrabool Hills Roads Board, Road Engineers' Department.
Hector Munro, Engineer.
John Clark, Teesdale (Farmer?)
William Fraser, Secretary, Geelong Race Club.
Thomas Brown, Printers, Booksellers and Stationery.
John Riddoch, Wholesale Grocer and Wine and Spirit Merchant – Office, James St.,
John Hedrick, Shipping Agent and Firm of Wool Brokers – Office, James St.,
Charles Anderson, "Squatter"
Duncan McNicol, Manager for Neil Black, Glenormiston Station.
William Clarkson, Wholesale and Retail Seedsman and Florist, Colonial Seed Store, 8 Great Ryrie
Street, West Geelong.
John MacIntosh
Robert de Bruce Johnstone, Saddler, Great Malop Street
Robert Shirra, "Draper" Glasgow House
James Munro, Engineer
James M. Anderson, Draper, 14 Malop Street – Sold out to Robert Shirra April, 1867.
William Ashmore, General Furnishing Warehouse and Manufacturer 125 Moorabool Street,
Geelong.
Andrew Lowe, Retail Butcher – Cnr Moorabool and Malop Streets opposite the Farmer Arms
Hotel.
Charles Ross, Builder in Geelong
Donald Scott, Wholesale and Retail Timber Merchant, Corio Street, West
Angus MacCallum, Draper, Tartan House, Market Square
Peter Skirving, Draper, Glasgow House 15 Malop Street, later Edinburgh House, 56 Moorabool
Street, Geelong.

John Maxwell, Lawyer
David M. Barry, Architect
Donald M. Spedding

Edward Harkness
William Weddell
Ossian MacPherson, Golden Eagle House, Main Colac Road
Dr William H. Baylie, Practitioner of Medicine, Moorabool Street
Dr James G. Carstair, Practitioner of Medicine, Moorabool Street
Dr Alexander Thomson, "Pastoralist", local and state politician.
Robert Scott, Saddler, Geelong
Adam S. Robertson, of Struan, Pastoralist, Lismore, Victoria
J. Bews, Geelong Tea Warehouse
Robert Maxwell, Auctioneer
Thomas Patterson
William Watt, Auctioneer and Money Lender
John Davidson, Auctioneer - House and Land Sales
Adam S. Robertson, Pastoralist "Struan" Lismore
David M. Barry, Architect
Alexander Fyfe, Member of Parliament, State Parliament, Victoria
James McPherson, Edinburgh Castle Hotel
John Guthrie, Collector of Customs
John Bell of "Bell Park" - Pastoralist
John Carmichael
James M. Tulloch, Draper, Tartan House, Market Square
Edward Harkness
James King, Contractor
Alexander Forbes, Prop., Culloden Castle Hotel, La Trobe Terrace
James Stirling, Prop., Bunyip Hotel, Little Scotland.
Dr C. Erskine Wyer, Practioner of Medicine, Ryrie Street
William G. Free, Prop., Sir William Wallace Hotel, Autumn Street
Alexander McLeod, Prop., Caledonian Hotel, Little Ryrie Street
XXXX McGregor, Prop., Red Lion Hotel, Moorabool Street
Samuel Hubbard, Prop., Comunn na Feinne Hotel
William McGregor, Prop., Olive Hotel, Moorabool Street
Hugh M. Walker, Prop., Railway Hotel, Hope Street
The Union Club Hotel, Malop Street
XXXX McPherson, Great Western Hotel, Aberdeen Street
Thomas Story, Victoria Hotel, Little Malop Street
James Miller, Albion Hotel, Market Square

Appendix 3 (b) - Brief Biographies of some members, and others, associated with Comunn na Feinne

Allen, George T. (1852-1940)

George Thomas Allen, was the older brother of Harry Brooks Allen (see below). He was born at Geelong on 23rd August, 1852. Like Charles Kernot and Harry B. Allen, he was a product of Flinder's National School at Geelong.
He was the recipient of Comunn na Feinne's Silver Medal for Junior Class in 1863. He was awarded the Gold Medal of Honour by Comunn na Feinne in 1864. This medal was awarded by the Society, "for general exellence in all subjects in the Senior Class." He attended Flinder's National School and was Dux of that school in 1865.
He entered the State Public Service of Victoria and, from 1901, when the Commonwealth Public Service came into being, and until he retired in 1916, he worked as the first Secretary to the Commonwealth Treasury. He was honoured in 1913 by receiving the award as Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George.
He died on 20th April, 1940.

Allen, Harry Brookes (1854-1926)

Harry Brookes Allen (later Sir), had been a pupil of E.R. Lennon at the National Grammar School

(later Flinders National School) Geelong and excelled in the Comunn na Feinne annual educational

competitions. Harry Brookes Allen was born at Geelong Victoria 13th June, 1854. His father,

Thomas Allen, was a bootmaker. He was initially educated at Flinders School, Geelong and it was

while a student at that school he won the Comunn na Feinne gold medal.

He went on to Melbourne University and became an outstanding student. He "achieved a matriculation record of passes in nine subjects including credit in five.' Although this qualified him to enter University. However, because he was too young to enter university, he spent a year (1869-70) at Melbourne Church of England Grammar School until reaching the age at which he was allowed to enter university.
He was a brilliant student and entered Melbourne University studying medicine in 1871 when just 17. He was an exceptional student coming top every year and in every subject of his course and graduated M.B. in 1876 with first class honours.
He achieved first class in Arts and Law and, in 1870, he took out the exhibitions in Mathematics, English, Law and Classics. In each year of his degree he obtained first class honours. He graduated MB in 1876, MD in 1878 and gained a Science degree in 1879. By the beginning of 1883 he had achieved the Chair in anatomy and pathology. He subsequently taught at the university and was

pathologist to the Melbourne Hospital. Further studies led to his appointment as lecturer in anatomy and pathology. He was appointed professor "of descriptive and surgical pathology" in 1882. He later became Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Melbourne, 1886-1889 (acting), 1897-1924.

He served on many government committees and a royal commission. He was widely honoured both in Australia and overseas and his activity led to the setting up of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. He was knighted in 1914. Greatly overworked, Allen was suffering severe health problems by 1923 and resigned his positions in that year and died in 1926 when only 56 years old.

His career was full of honours and he made much of his teaching of the young undergraduates and made an outstanding contribution to the study of diseases, both in humans and animals. In all of the pressure of his own work, Allen fulfilled that vision of Comunn na Feinne, to be involved in the community. He gave of his time to government and community, chairing various Royal Commissions looking into disease and improving the general health of ordinary people in Melbourne and Victoria.

Anderson, James Martin (1829-1901)

James Martin Anderson was born at Crawford, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He received his education at the Parish school. He then spent three years in the drapery business and then in the House of Todd Burns & Co., Drapery, Cork, Ireland for a time. He returned to Scotland in 1847, working in Edinburgh. In 1852 he immigrated to Australia and arrived at Melbourne. He made his way to Geelong and opened a drapery business in Malop Street on 20th August 1853. He later opened a branch at Ballarat which continued for ten years and then sold that business. He continued his Drapery in Geelong until 1867 when he also sold that. He joined the National Insurance Company of Australia.

J. M. Anderson joined Comunn na Feinne at its founding and became very much involved with community concerns and, in 1863, he was elected to the Geelong Council. He was elected to the position of Chairman of the Water and Sewerage Supply, Public Works Committee. He also served as secretary of the Geelong Sea Bathing Company from 1861-1888. He also became involved, with others, in establishing the Free Library.

His involvement with Comunn na Feinne was a long-standing one. He was a Trustee of the Comunn na Feinne Grounds at South Geelong between 1860-1896. He was a Comunn na Feinne Director from 1860-1880 and a long-time auditor. He was a Comunn na Feinne Vice-president from 1879-1883.

He died on 13th February, 1901 aged 72 years.

Baylie, Dr Willim Higston (1815-1867)

Dr Baylie was born at Cork, Ireland, to a Scots father, and undertook his medical training in Britain. He married Grace Francis Reeves in 1840. They did not have any children. He arrived in Sydney, Australia 7th January, 1840, on the *Alfred* having served as the ship's doctor on the voyage out. He sailed on the *Christina* for Port Phillip on 18th February, 1840 and was appointed Medical Officer for the Aborigines at the Goulburn and Loddon Aboriginal settlements. He served there 1841-42 when he then went to Van Diemen's Land (named Tasmania from 1856) serving as Surgeon, Convict

Service, Van Diemens Land between 1843-47. He was appointed House Surgeon at the Government Hospital, Hobart in 1847. He returned to Port Phillip (Victoria from 1851) and was appointed District Surgeon Geelong in 1852. He served as Chief Magistrate at Geelong and was a member of the Immigration Board at Geelong. He entered local politics and was Mayor of Geelong, 1853-55. He was an active member of the Geelong Volunteer Rifle Corps, 1855 where he had the rank of Major. His interest in Aboriginal health problems led, in 1841, to his appointment as Medical Officer for the Aboriginal population of Goulburn and Loddon Rivers district. He was the author of a major report, 'The Health Conditions of Aborigines at Goulburn and Loddon'. This study was the result of his having examined the large number of cases where the patient was reported as having a particular disease among the Aboriginals of the district. This disease had been put down to Aboriginal sexual immorality. Dr Baylie concluded, among other things, that the disease may, in fact, have been the result of factors other than the so-called "immoral behaviour" of Aboriginals as attributed by others. This report was published over several issues of the *Port Phillip Magazine*, as well as overseas.

Dr Baylie's activism, however, was not confined to Aborigines or to the local health concerns at Geelong to where he had shifted in the early 1840s. Following the incorporation of Geelong as a town in 1849, he entered local politics (Councillor 1851-1852; Mayor 1853-1854), where he used his position, first as a local councilor and then as Mayor, to become involved in a range of liberal/radical causes. These included the anti-transportation movement. A report in the late 1840s that the Government intended sending convicts from England to the Port Phillip District brought huge protests from the people. Dr Baylie was a prominent member of the anti-transportation movement which emerged to oppose such a move, and he was involved in organizing a protest meeting at Theatre Royal Geelong on 22nd March, 1849.

He was also involved in a further demonstration relating to convict labour in 1854 when he was Mayor of Geelong. The use of prison labour from the hulk *Sacramento,* stationed in Corio Bay for a time, was loudly opposed. The strength of the opposition to this on the part of Baylie and many other activists, many of whom later were members of Comunn na Feinne, characterized Geelong as a determined opponent to such government moves.

> "No town, Melbourne included, was more violently opposed to the English system of transportation of convicts to the colonies. The alarm was raised again, and 1,200 residents assembled in the Market Square on the afternoon of 30th October, 1854, "… to devise measures of preventing the influx of criminals." (Brownhill, p94)

A huge platform was erected in the middle of Market Square from where Baylie addressed the large crowd. He said that a fresh attempt was being made "to pour a deluge of convicts from Van Diemen's Land into Victoria" and, leaving the evil affect this might have, "it would have the effect, if not prevented, of depriving the working man of earning an honest competency." Like many Comunn na Feinne members he was community-minded and was prepared to join with like-minded townsfolk to agitate for necessary reforms locally and for issues which went beyond Geelong itself. Brownhill records that he had some eccentricities and that he was described, in his time, "as the most picturesque figure in the history of Geelong." (Brownhill, p.94)

Following Geelong's incorporation as a town on 12th October, 1849, a town council was elected and this included Dr Baylie. Its first meeting took place on 9th February, 1850. Among the long list of 'to do' projects – streets, roads, hospital etc., - "Dr Baylie was chiefly responsible for the inclusion of £100,000 for sewers." He referred to "pestilential disease' in Geelong being due to lack of proper drainage and underground sewerage. The presence of stagnant waters in cellars and vaults of shops etc., was "a menace to the whole community." (Brownhill, 88)

It is probably no coincidence that Dr Baylie, later a committeeman of Comunn na Feinne, should infect that Society with his enthusiasm for many of the projects he advocated and which became Comunn na Feinne concerns too. For example, when Mayor, Dr Baylie called a public meeting to discuss forming a Volunteer Fire Brigade. He convened this meeting on 3rd March, 1854. At the public meeting a committee was formed and Baylie was elected Hon. Secretary. He promoted this project with vigour so much was fire a present and recurring danger to the town and businesses. Baylie summed up the fears by appealing to the financial risks for those councillors who were in business in town proving, once again, that the hip pocket is the most sensitive 'nerve' in the body.

> "If a fire were to break out in the town, on such a night as the present, how many of you who are in affluence would find themselves paupers in the morning?" (Brownhill. p241)

At a follow-up meeting Baylie was able to report that £930.10.0 had been raised in the town, "and help had been promised by the each of the Banks, making a total of £1,330.0.0." This meeting passed resolutions authorizing the obtaining of necessary equipment. Those volunteering for the service were enthusiastic and none moreso than Dr Baylie himself, who was elected as Foreman. (Brownhill, p241) Fires in the town and the gallant efforts of the Volunteers saw Newtown and Chilwell follow suit with their own Volunteer Fire Brigade in 1859.

Another volunteer movement afoot in Geelong, which Comunn na Feinne was to take up and expand, was that of a volunteer defence force. The Crimean War had raised fears in the colony that the people and business were largely unprotected.

> "Britain was at war. The dramatic happenings in Europe gave strength to the fears in the colonies, and in Geelong and other places which were unprepared to withstand any attack, there were many advocates of the immediate formation of Cavalry Brigades, Rifle Corps, and Artillery Brigands." (Brownhill, p635)

The Geelong public presented an address to Dr Baylie, who was Mayor of Geelong at the time, requesting that he do something to protect the town and people from "privateers or other armed forces." Consequently, Baylie convened a public meeting on 3rd February, 1854. A Rifle Corps was proposed and Baylie was urged to contact the state government with the object, "of obtaining its sanction to the movement." (Brownhill, p.635) After Government approval, various Volunteer military groups (such as the Rifle Corps) were formed at Geelong and elsewhere and, as we will see, Comunn na Feinne was actively involved with them.

Another area of constant concern for Comunn na Feinne was the need for an institution to care and protect orphans and those children who needed care. This led to the establishment of orphanages in the town. Again we see the realization of these institutions through the efforts of men like Dr Baylie.

He was "in the forefront of the appeal" to help the children through establishing an Orphanage. (Brownhill, p.273) The Government had promised to give a grant of land for the purpose of erecting a building to house the children. Baylie persuaded many of the townspeople with means, "to give the movement an initial boost." He also called a public meeting "for the adoption of measures for the erection of an Orphan Asylum on the land granted by the Government." (Brownhill, p273) At a subsequent public meeting, on 5th May, 1854, "Baylie announced that the promised subscriptions amounted to £1,200. A fortnight later a report was presented showing that donations and promises amounted to £4,400."
Tenders were let and the foundation stone was laid 14th March, 1855. Appropriately, the stone was laid by Dr Baylie. (Brownhill, p.274)

Although the Orphanage was open to children of all denominations, the Roman Catholic Church proceeded to establish their own (opened 1857). It said that it could not, "on conscientious grounds avail themselves of the benefits of the Geelong Orphanage." (Brownhill, p274). In other words, it would not allow Roman Catholic children to be part of the Geelong Orphan Asylum. In 1862, to indicate the distinction, the Geelong Orphan Asylum changed its name to the Geelong Protestant Asylum while the Roman Catholic Orphanage took the name of St Augustine's.
It was not the policy of Comunn na Feinne, in its charitable work for orphans, or for any other cause for that matter, to distinguish the Orphanages and the children of each of the institutions were treated alike.

Bell, John (1821-1875)

John Bell ('Big John Bell'), was born at Middlebie Hall, Dumfries-shire, Scotland, on 23rd February, 1821. He trained as a surveyor and, in 1839, he migrated to Australia, arriving at Launceston aboard the *Minerva* on 14th August, 1840, from Adelaide, South Australia. He initially lived with his uncle, Captain John Bell, who had arrived with his wife in Tasmania as early as 1827. Captain Bell owned a 10,000 acre ('Annandale'), sheep station in Tasmania. His uncle's station was being managed by John Calvert who was Bell's cousin. Both Calvert and Bell crossed to the mainland in 1840 to take up land, which they did, close to Colac, and named Watch Hill Station. After a while they also took up land at Irrewarra. After prospering the two men dissolved the partnership with John Calvert retaining Irrewarra and John Bell the property, Watchhill. Over the next twenty years, Bell, for varying periods, also leased Inglewood and, with another proprietor, obtained two stations in the Riverina. He also had leases at Wirmbirchip, Lake Bolac, Mt Mercer, Warrambeem and Bell Park. John Bell married Margaret Chirnside. They did not have any children.

John Bell was also part of a group of like-minded sportsmen who, in December, 1864, met to discuss the formation of a Golf Club. This took place with Bell being elected the first President of the Club.

John Bell was elected for the seat of South Grant as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in the state parliament of Victoria and held this seat 1856-59. Bell was very much involved in local affairs at Geelong and when a volunteer military force was established (the Geelong Troop of Light Horse), Bell was appointed Captain, later Major. Bell was renowned for his strength and regularly outdid

other athletes as they competed in the Heavy Events at the Comunn na Feinne's annual Highland Games at Geelong. John Bell won the Gold Medal at the Paris Exhibition at the age of 18 years as the most powerful athlete in Europe." Tales of his strength, and demonstrations of this, passed into Geelong folk-lore. (*Geelong Advertiser* 19th December, 1912)

> "It is said of Major Bell that, when in his prime, he could clear a 4-rail fence with a full-grown sheep under each arm. The writer of this article has seen him clear 2 bullocks opposite Mack's Hotel and can remember seeing a "Striking Machine" in the Great Exhibition of 1851 smashed. This he was told was the work of a gigantic Australian. This Australian he learnt (sic) years afterwards was Major John Bell." (See, *Hobart Town Mercury* of 4th February, 1876)

He was a member of Comunn na Feinne, and served as its third President, 1863-69, and also as its Chief from 1873 until his death in January, 1876.
John Bell had sought help in Europe for his failing health but he continued to experience problems which were eventually to cause his early death on 27th January, 1876, at age 55 years, and was buried in the Presbyterian Section of the Eastern Cemetery.

Bell was an enthusiast at whatever he did whether it was in sports, in charitable giving, in establishing and supporting churches (including the one at Leigh and also St George's in Geelong), in volunteer military work and in supporting Comunn na Feinne financially and with prize donations. He also was behind the efforts, in 1861, to establish local government at the Shire of Leigh.
> "The deceased was of a generous and large-hearted disposition, giving liberally, but unostentatiously, to every worthy cause, whether of a public or private character, and his loss will be long felt by the general community."

Brownlee, John Mackenzie (1900-1969)

John Mackenzie Brownlee was born and raised at Geelong. His father, James Watson Brownlee, was a farmer. His mother's maiden name was Isabella Finlayson Mackenzie, and it was from his mother that he acquired his middle name. Until he was 14 he was educated at a local state school and, after a short period at the Gordon Technical College, he joined a local hardware business, Hawkes Bros, in 1915, while also studying accountancy part-time. He was a successful contestant in the vocal competitions at the Comunn na Feinne Eisteddfodau and also successfully competed at the South Street Competitions, Ballarat, in 1919, 1920 and 1921, winning several first places as well as others awards. He was awarded the gold medal in 1920 for his outstanding performances over six categories of singing. He achieved four 'firsts', one second place and an honourable mention and these performances earned him the top award, the Gold Medal.
Melba admired Brownlee's voice, hearing him sing a role in Handel's Messiah in 1922, and encouraged him to go overseas for further training. Common na Feinne supported Brownlee financially and aided his passage to England. His first real opportunity came when he sang for the Paris Opera after which he was taken on as a contract performer (the first British subject ever to have that honour) engaging, for example, with that Company for seven months in 1925-26 to perform in La Traviata. He later became a regular artist at the Metropolitan Opera House (USA), an

association which lasted for two decades (1938-58). He eventually settled in America and continued to give concerts and recitals as well as giving training to young singers. Brownlee returned to Australia many times and did extensive tours including New Zealand. On his visit to his home town of Geelong in 1928 he was persuaded, despite a heavy round of professional engagements, to hear Marjorie Lawrence sing. He much admired her voice and recommended that she go to Europe for training. He did much to assist in this direction and, following his death in 1969, Lawrence gave a warm tribute to him as a singer and as a friend who had helped her greatly in her career and who had been an encouragement to her when she had been stricken with polio in 1944. John Brownlee was much admired for his character as well as for his singing voice.

Bunce, Daniel (1813-1872)

Daniel Bunce had a long, exciting, controversial and distinguished career. He was born in England in the town of Chesham, Buckinghamshire. It is thought that he had undertaken some training at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew. He left England in 1832 arriving at Hobart Town in March of the following Year. He was soon collecting and cataloguing plants engaging in long journeys to various parts of Tasmania. He published some of his work and composed an early instruction book on The Manual for Practical Gardening. He married Sarah Macro in November, 1838. He crossed over to the mainland arriving at Melbourne late in 1839 with his wife following a few months later. He continued his exploratory and botanical collecting in Victoria, often accompanied by several Aborigines and gaining knowledge of their languages. His attempt, in 1841, to persuade the governing authorities in Victoria to establish a Botanical Gardens in Melbourne was not successful. His financial and marital life at this time was, unfortunately, quite explosive.

He was companion to Ludwig Leichhardt in his second attempt, 1846, at crossing Australia from east to west. After six months, they returned without success and more dead than alive. He later published an account of this called Travels with Dr Leichhardt. Bunce also did some exploration work on his own. He again accompanied Dr Leichhardt and his party on another exploration to Fitzroy Downs. Dr Leichhardt organised a further exploration in 1848 but Bunce's request to accompany it was rejected. This proved fortunate for Bunce as none of Leichhardt's party survived. Bunch continued with his own work of exploring, cataloguing native plants and contributing to the newspapers and publishing some of his work. His wife having died, he later married John Batman's youngest daughter, Pelonamena in March, 1851. His two children by his second wife died in infancy with their mother following suit in 1859 at the young age of 25. He was appointed curator of Geelong's very basic Botanic Gardens and, within a short time, had developed it into a much-admired area. He married for a third time at Geelong in April 1860. His new wife was Julia O'Connor who was 20 years old and Bunce 48. They had five children but the first four died from an outbreak of diphtheria in a single week in August, 1869. His own death occurred in July, 1872. His wife and a fifth child, Florence, survived him with Julia dying in 1914. Bunce was helpful in aiding Comunn na Feinne 'beautify' their original grounds at South Geelong, by providing bushes, trees and plants and setting them out. His interest in Aboriginal languages led to the publication of this Dictionary a specially bound copy of which was presented to the Duke of Edinburgh by a local Aboriginal, 'Jerry', during the Duke's visit to Geelong on 3rd December, 1867. He also wrote prolifically on the topic of nature and its flora.]

Campbell, Neil (1859-1936)

Born: 8ᵗʰ August, 1859
Died: 3ʳᵈ August, 1939

Neil Campbell was born on 8 August, 1859, at Point Campbell (which had been named after his father) near the Connewarre Lake just outside of Geelong. He attended Geelong College and, following his education, Neil Campbell began to study the methods of wool production and he travelled interstate to compare and to gather knowledge in this subject. He established himself in Geelong as a "stock and station" agent and developed an expertise in sheep breeding and wool production. He became an active member of the Geelong community. He served as President of the Agricultural Society of Geelong and was, for ten years, secretary of the Geelong Racing Club. He was also a long-time member of the Geelong Council and was Mayor in 1903 and 1904.

Neil Campbell was also a member of Comunn na Feinne and held senior positions with that Society as President, 1896-1902 and as Treasurer, 1904-1912. According to the *Argus* newspaper, Neil Campbell, along with some others, is credited with being part of a group which revived Comunn na Feinne in the late 1890s. (*The Argus* 9ᵗʰ December, 1936, p16)

He also involved himself in the affairs of the Geelong College and was a founding member of the Old Geelong Collegians Association (O.G.C.A.) which provided the following references to his activities.

> For many years he was identified with public activities in Geelong, was Mayor of the City of Geelong in 1903 and 1904 and well known in polo, racing and golf circles. The OGCA owed a great deal to Neil Campbell. He was one of its founders in 1900 and filled various offices, being particularly active in the period following the death of Norman Morrison, when Stanley Calvert was laid aside by ill-health and the future of the Association was in doubt. For a number of years, he was a member of the College council.' (Source*: Pegasus* December 1939 p 72.)

Campbell's son, Neil Leslie Campbell (1893-1915) enlisted in WW1 and was killed in action at Helles, on the Gallipoli Peninsula. He had been an outstanding student at Geelong College and, later, at Melbourne university, gaining many academic and sporting awards at each institution. Neil Campbell donated a block of land to the College to commemorate his son.
(Sources: *Geelong Collegians at the Great War,* compiled by James Affleck. pp 16-17 (citing *Early Pioneer Families of Victoria and the Riverina; Henderson, Alexander. Henderson's Australian Families.* Melbourne: Henderson, 1941 p361).

Carandini, Marie (1826–1894)
Marie Carandini (maiden name, Burgess) was born at Brixton, London in January, 1826. Her father, James Burgess, was a coachman. Her mother's name was Martha. James Burgess, his wife and family travelled as assisted migrants to Australia arriving at Hobart in September, 1933.

Marie married Jerome Carandini on 11ᵗʰ March 1843 at Hobart. Jerome Carandini (1803-1870), her

husband, a titled landowner, had fled Italy in 1833, exiled for his nationalist activities. He had been part of a musical group and had arrived in Australia, also as an assisted migrant, in January, 1842. He possessed a fine counter-tenor voice and, able in languages, he was appointed as a language teacher in Queen's School, Hobart in March, 1842. Marie Carandini, had undergone voice teaching in Hobart and, in 1843, went to Sydney with her husband where she continued with voice instruction under Isaac Nathan, an English composer, singer and teacher, and Sara Flower a well-known English contralto, opera and concert singer.

Carandin made her Sydney debut at the Royal Victoria Theatre in April 1845 with excerpts from various operas. In 1849, back in Hobart, she gave a series of concerts again singing operatic selections. She sang, with Sara Flower, late in 1850, in Sydney, where she received good reviews. A famous Irish soprano, Catherine Hayes, toured the eastern states of Australia beginning in 1854 and, in October 1855, Hayes chose Marie to sing with her in a series of operas at Theatre Royal in Melbourne, which were a great success. Due to the scarcity of suitable tenors in Australia, Carandin sang the tenor parts in these performances. With the departure of Hayes, Marie Carandini emerged as the leading contralto in opera in Melbourne.

Carandini, along with her teacher, Sara Flower, and the Irish soprano, Catherine Hayes, in 1859, all took part in a series of performances to inaugurate Sydney University's Great Hall.

Carandini, along with most of the performers, travelled to Melbourne to give a season of operas at the Theatre Royal. With her daughters, who were also now accomplished singers, and some male singers, and others, Carandini then formed her own concert company. This group toured extensively in Australia in the 1860s and 1870s. It was during one of these tours that the Carandinis gave a series of concerts at Geelong. In addition, they toured India, United States and New Zealand. Her husband, Signor Carandin died on 18th January, 1870, after catching gastric fever while in Italy to reclaim his confiscated estates. Marie Carandini gave her farewell performance in Australia in February, 1892, at the Melbourne Town Hall. She then returned to England where she lived out the rest of her life with one of her daughters. She had seven children five of whom were daughters each one of whom, in their own right, became accomplished singers. Marie Carandini died, on 13th April, 1894, at the home of her daughter at Bath, England, who, through marriage to Captain Sir Henry Moreland, Bombay, whom she met on her mother's tour to India, had become Lady Moreland. Lady Moreland's husband had died in 1890.

Clark, John (1834-1904)

Born 30th March, 1834
Died 28th August, 1904
John Clark was the first Treasurer of Comunn na Feinne when he was elected to the position in December, 1856. However, he soon after relinquished that position. He lived at Teesdale and was a Gaelic speaker. It was Clark who, by hand, wrote out the first programmes for the Highland Gathering in Gaelic as well as English from 1857 to 1860. He was an able Gaelic writer and speaker and he won Comunn na Feinne literary competition, 1894-95, for translating Portia's Speech from Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* from English into Gaelic.

Douglas, Archibald (1816-1891)

Archibald Douglas was born at Oban, Argyllshire, Scotland in 1816.
He is recorded as being an Accountant although he ran a General Store in Foster Street, South Geelong from 1854-60. He was also remembered as being a school master. (see letter re Buninyong during gold rush days. – the announcement of gold as recalled by a schoolboy at Buninyong.

> "Upon the Tuesday, I think it was, we first heard the news, and during the week our schoolmaster (Archibald Douglas), the distinguished scholar and Highlander, who founded the Comunn na Feinne Society in Geelong) went out, and he was given a piece of clay, about the size of your thumb, out of which he washed in a saucer, about an ounce of gold which he showed us." ("Early Geelong Memories" by 'Moye', *Geelong Advertiser* 29th December, 1906, p4)

This may be the same correspondent (D.M. Morrison), who, in a letter to the *Geelong Advertiser*,

described his early memories of a Comunn na Feinne procession to its ground at South Geelong,

and who identified Archibald Douglas as having been his "old schoolmaster".

> THE CALEDONIAN GATHERING.
> To the Editor.
> Sir, "Time flies, man dies, but fame lives," sang the heralds of old when the knightly combatants played the tourney game with cold steel. One typical summer morning, such as we were usually favored (sic) with in Australia Felix in January, half a century ago, upon Tuesday next, being in town promiscuously (sic), the writer met face to face his old schoolmaster, the distinguished Gaelic scholar, Archibald Douglas, at the head of the clan gathering which had been enrolled chiefly at his instigation, to perpetuate the customs and games of Caledonia, "stern and wild," as named by their immortal bards.
> Very little exhortation was needed ere I fell in behind the pipers, and marched to Geelong, to the inspiriting strains that often have enabled the clans to vanquish [many] walls of steel and fortifications …
> D.M. Morrison
> 83 Swanston-street, Geelong. (Geelong Advertiser 31st December 1906, p4)

Douglas was a foundation member of the Gaelic Church, Geelong 1854-60. He was involved, as a social activist, in many of the causes involving Geelong and in other places. For example, he was involved in meetings to form a volunteer military force in early 1850s.He also taught children on the gold fields at Buninyong.
He was one of the founders of Comunn na Feinne in 1856 and was elected first President on 1st December, 1856.

He keenly promoted education through the Comunn na Feinne educational competitions with a view to raising the standards of teaching and of the curriculum in schools.
He resigned his position at Comunn na Feinne on 2nd June, 1860, and moved to Queensland

He returned in 1870 and was elected secretary of Comunn na Feinne, a position which he held until leaving for New Zealand following the 12th November, 1873.

Archibald Douglas married (possibly in Queensland or in New Zealand). His wife's name was Mary Anne Douglas. He had at least one child- a son (name unknown). This son is mentioned in the Argus (Melbourne) in the 'Death Notices' section.
"On the 23rd ult. At the residence of his son, Waipu, N.Z., Archibald Douglas, beloved husband of Mary Anne Douglas, North Brighton, aged 75. First President of the Comunn-na-Feinne, Geelong."
(Argus 18th May, 1891, p1)
NB There is a North Brighton in NZ so this reference could either be to North Brighton, New Zealand or to the Melbourne suburb.
Douglas died on 23rd April, 1891 and was buried at Waipu, New Zealand April 1891.
His will showed that he had acquired an amount of property in Queensland.

Emery, Elbridge Gerry (1827-18XX)

Born in Ohio in America in 1827, he came to Australia in 1852 first working for D.B. Clark, and then for Cobb & Co., and drove coaches between Geelong and Ballarat carrying the late-night mail. He was also one of the few drivers who were able to manage the giant stagecoach named the Great Leviathan Coach, built for Cobb and Co., in Ballarat in early 1856, to run between Ballarat and Geelong. It could carry 76 passengers, "though frequently more than 100 travellers found sitting room on it." It was hauled by a team of 12 horses and it took an expert reinsman to manage it.

Although excelling as a coach driver, it was his prowess on the athletic track (for which he was nicknamed the 'yankee pirate') which was to make him widely known in Geelong and district. In his thirtieth year, he competed at the first Comunn na Feinne Highland Games at Geelong, winning the 300 yard sprint, the standing leap, the running leap and the running long jump. His abilities, also demonstrated in other sporting venues, were to gain him many titles and some large purses! His reputation was clearly not exaggerated.

> [He] … was the champion pedestrian of Victoria having, in 1860 beat [James] Joshua at Geelong, for the championship and a prize of 400 guineas. He also ran and vanquished L.L. Mount, and many others about the same time, competed against Walker for £200 a side, distance of 130 yards. … the race was won by Emery beating his opponent by seven yards; the time of the race 13 seconds.

Emery was one of those competitors who did the circuit of Sports meetings. For example, he competed successfully at Ballarat, Buninyong and the North Western Caledonian Society, Castlemaine, to name a few. He incurred the judges' wrath at the 1861 Games at Castlemaine when he and another competitor were disqualified for "unfair conduct", and it was one of the few occasions when he was unsuccessful.

Fergus, Rev. Robert Morrison (18XX-19XX)

Robert Morrison Fergus was the minister of St Andrews Presbyterian Church at Geelong. Fergus was also a poet, composer and lyricist.

A service conducted by Chaplain Captain R. M. Fergus, M.A., Geelong was held in connection with the unveiling of the Honor Roll was held in the McLennan Memorial Church Birregurra, on Sunday afternoon 24 March, 1918. The preacher was proud to be there to unveil the Honor Roll, containing the following names, three of whom would never return:

> May, R. A. Ramsay, J. C. Farquharson, A. F. Campbell, J. W. May, S. Griffin, P. McCallum, D. Gelletly, S. Nicholas, A. Fletcher, W. C. Robertson, A. B. Camm, A. Wilson, R. J. Sanderson, G. Sanderson, C. Hamm.
> (*The Colac Herald*, Wednesday 27 March, 1918, p3)

Fink, Wolf (1853-19XX)

Comunn na Feinne Secretary, James Galbraith, on consulting the educational competition results of the early years of the Society "discovered in that section devoted to records of the Society's past educational examination, the name of Wolf Fink mentioned as having won an important prize in 1862, at the age of 10 years. This information was communicated by Theodore Fink, Chairman of the *Herald and Weekly Times* Board of Directors, who replied that the boy mentioned as having won the prizes would probably have been his brother. Theodore Fink commended the Society's educational work and stated that he would fund next year's essay competitions.

Fraser, Hugh
Hugh Fraser, the son of Simon Fraser was a member of the famous Fraser family of pipers which included his brothers John and Ralph and, of course, his father Simon Fraser a noted piper and authority on the 'classical' music of the pipes, the Piobaireachd. Hugh was a member of the Victorian Regiment's Pipe Band and, in his day, was the pre-eminent piper in Australia. He won the Piping Championship of Victoria many times and was also Champion Piper of New South Wales. He was pipe major and tutor for a time of the Comunn na Feinne Pipe Band.

Fyfe, Alexander (1827-1903)

Alexander Fyfe was born in 1827 in Scotland
He arrived at Melbourne aboard the *Stag* in January, 1848
Settled at Geelong
He died 1st May 1903 at Preston, Victoria

Alexander Fyfe was the consummate member of a community. He devoted himself to improving society by becoming involved in many of the volunteer organizations established to look after the welfare of the town generally, and the underprivileged in particular. For example, in Geelong, he worked towards the formation of a volunteer fire brigade, a Mechanic's Institute (of which he was president), the first Building Society and a Chamber of Commerce. He was president of the first cricket club formed in Victoria and was president of the Agricultural Society of Geelong. Other activities included the Flinders State School, the Botanical Gardens at Geelong and the formation of the Geelong to Melbourne railway. He was also an enthusiastic member (and captain) of the initial volunteer regiment formed at Geelong.

His work in the interests of others, however, extended beyond local concerns. Fyfe was a political reformer and champion of the rights of other groups. For example, he was secretary of the anti-gold license committee at Ballarat. (*Geelong Advertiser* 14th September 1853. p. 2)

He fully supported the aggrieved miners' cause, contributing to the legal defense fund for Peter Lalor one of the miners' leaders at the Eureka Stockade rebellion at Ballarat on 3rd December 1854. Fyfe fully entered into politics when he was elected to the Victorian Legislative Council representing Geelong, in June 1854-56. (*Geelong Advertiser* 26th June, 1854, p4) At the first representative parliamentary election in Victoria in 1856, Fyfe was elected to the first Legislative Assembly of the Victorian state parliament as one of the four representatives for Geelong. Due to financial insolvency, Fyfe had to resign his seat in November, 1857 and shifted to Queensland. He worked as a pastoralist and, again, became involved as a social reformer. He was elected to the Queensland Legislative Assembly, representing Rockhampton, and served from June 1870 to November 1873. Following his political career in Queensland, he returned to Victoria and died on 2nd May, 1903. (*Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Queensland)*, 12th May, 1903, p5)

Galbraith, James (1866-1945)

The *Geelong Advertiser* carried a full obituary of this indefatigable man, on 26th July, 1945.

> Veteran business-man and sportsman, James Galbraith, died yesterday morning at his home in Myers Street, at the age of 79 years.
> He had been confined to his home for a long period. James Galbraith had a long association with public and sporting bodies in Geelong."
> He was probably best known for his long connection with Comunn na Feinne of which he was secretary for many years. He was founder of the Geelong Highland Pipe Band and a former secretary of the Victorian Pipe Band Association, Melbourne, and Vice-President of the Victorian Scottish Union. As secretary of the Comunn na Feinne Musical and Elocutionary Competitions, he came into contact with artists who have since won world-wide distinction. Among them were:

Marjorie Lawrence	Lucy Ahon	Rita Miller
Ella Riddell	John Brownlee	Norman Menzies,
Thomas Goodall	Ernest Wilson	

> to all of whom he gave valued assistance in the early stages of their careers.

> He was a member of the Geelong Football Club Champion Team of 1886, and, in later years, was Vice-President of the Geelong Football Club and President of the Geelong Junior Football Association. He was one of those who took a leading part in the movement to establish the Football Oval at Kardinia Park. He was an expert gun shot and for many years was a member of the Geelong Gun Club. He was also keenly interested in the Fire Brigade activities and figured as a prize winner at demonstrations. He also achieved success in other pedestrian activities.

> For many years James Galbraith conducted the business of a hairdresser and tobacconist and, in more recent years he was associated with the printing firm of Kenwood and Darcy. He is survived by three daughters and two sons.

Representative Gathering at Funeral of the late James Galbraith.
Government, public, cultural and sporting organizations were represented in the large attendance at the funeral yesterday afternoon, the 27th July, 1945, at the old section of the Eastern Cemetery of James Galbraith of Myers Street, Geelong.

The Premier, Albert Arthur Dunstan and the Minister for Lands and Forests, Albert Lind, were represented by the secretary to the Premier's Department, J.W. Jungwirth and the Forest Commission also was well represented. The Rev W.L. Simpson and the Rev W.H. Waters represented the Geelong Presbytery and Senator William Plain and George Raymond King and Robert Henderson represented Comunn na Feinne. J. Conway and J. D'Helin were among many life-long sporting associates of the late James Galbraith at the graveside. Representatives of the Glenbuck Burns' Club were also present.
The services at St Giles Presbyterian Church, Geelong, and at the graveside, were conducted by the Rev D.S. Jones. The organist at the church service was Mrs W.M. Reid, wife of the church choirmaster. At the graveside, Piper Major Kenneth McAulay, played the Laments 'Flowers of the Forest,' and 'Lochaber no more.'
The coffin bearers were: W. Orchard and D. Orchard, John Cameron and Lieutenant Stuart McColl. (Geelong Advertiser 26th July, 1945)

If anything signified the end of Comunn na Feinne more decisively surely it was the death of its long-time secretary and the veritable heart of the Society for so many years, Mr James Galbraith.

"On the 25th July, 1945, at his home 165 Myers Street, Geelong, James beloved husband of the late Marjorie Marie Galbraith, and devoted father of Alfred (Alford?) V. Galbraith, Walter J. Galbraith, Ettie (Mrs W.H. Orchard), James C. Galbraith (deceased), Janet (Mrs E.E. Coleman) and Doreen F. Galbraith, aged 79."

The *Geelong Advertiser* carried his obit on 26th July, 1945.
"Veteran business-man and sportsman, James Galbraith, died yesterday morning at his home in Myers Street, at the age of 79 years.
He had been confined to his home for a long period. James Galbraith had a long association with public and sporting bodies in Geelong."
"He was probably best known for his long connection with Comunn na Feinne of which he was secretary for many years. He was founder of the Geelong Highland Pipe Band and a former secretary of the Victorian Pipe Band Association, Melbourne, and Vice-President of the Victorian Scottish Union. As secretary of the Comunn na Feinne Musical and Elocutionary Competitions, he came into contact with artists who have since won world-wide distinction. Among them were;-
Marjorie Lawrence
Lucy Ahon
Rita Miller
Ella Riddell
John Brownlee and the late Norman Menzies,
Thomas Goodall and Ernest Wilson; to all of whom he gave valued assistance in the early stages of their careers."

"He was a member of the Geelong Football Club Champion Team of 1886, and, in later years, was Vice-President of the Geelong Football Club and President of the Geelong Junior Football Association. He was one of those who took a leading part in the movement to establish the Football Oval at Kardinia Park. He was an expert gun shot and for many years was a member of the Geelong Gun Club. He was also keenly interested in the Fire Brigade activities and figured as a prize winner at demonstrations. He also achieved success in other pedestrian activities."

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"The services at St Giles Presbyterian Church, Geelong, and at the graveside, were conducted by the Rev D.S. Jones. The organist at the church service was Mrs W.M. Reid, wife of the church choirmaster. At the graveside Pipe Major Kenneth McAulay played the Lament 'Flowers of the Forest,' and 'Lochaber no more.'

The coffin bearers were: W. Orchard and D. Orchard, John Cameron and Lieutenant Stuart McColl."

Garbutt, John (1846-1910)

John Garbutt was born at Dyfed, Pembrokeshire, Wales in 1846 and arrived in Australia, while still a very young child, with his parents John Garbutt and Amelia Garbutt (nee Williams) from Wales, and the family settled in Geelong. He attended the National Grammar School, Geelong and, later, the Geelong College under the Principal-ship of Dr George Morrison MA., BA., LLD.
He was an outstanding student and was Fifth Class Dux Gold Medal winner.

His awards were for excellence in the following:

Algebra	History
Geography	Latin
French	Greek
Arithmetic	Geometry

He was also a prominent prize winner at the Comunn na Feinne Educational Examinations and was the recipient of Medals from this organization being awarded, for example, the Silver Medal in 1860. He also distinguished himself on the sports field both in athletics and football.

After graduating, BA and then MA, from Melbourne university where he had excelled, John Garbutt served as Master at Scotch College Melbourne for seven years (1870-76), the last three years being as Senior Master. He had married, in 1872, Mary Kiley Harrison who was a daughter of James Harrison, inventor and one-time proprietor of the *Geelong Advertiser*. From Scotch College, he was appointed Principal of Ballarat College in 1871 with the high recommendation of Dr Alexander Morrison. John Garbutt is referred to by Morrison, in a letter to the College authorities at Ballarat. He wrote, "I have no hesitation in saying that Ballarat may be congratulated if she can secure the services of John Garbutt."
He served as Principal of Ballarat College for 33 years, retiring only through ill-health in 1909. He died only a few months later on 30th April, 1910 when he experienced ill health from recent heart problems made worse by having contracted pneumonia.
"As a volunteer and a militiaman, Major John Garbutt was a success but after obtaining his majority as a member of the 3rd Battalion he retired from active military work."

Harrison, James (1816-1893)

James Harrison was born at Bonhill near Renton, Dunbartonshire, in 1816, and after a typical education for a Scottish boy at the time he was then apprenticed as printer at Glasgow. He studied at evening classes and then at the Glasgow Mechanical Institution where he specialised in Chemistry. He went to London in 1835 where he was employed as a compositor with Tegg & Co., publishers and booksellers.
He sailed for Sydney in 1837 and worked in journalism. He left to settle in Port Phillip (from 1851 named Victoria) and worked for the Port Phillip Patriot owned by John Pascoe Fawkner. Harrison, on behalf of Fawkner went to Geelong to establish a newspaper, the *Geelong Advertiser*, in 1840. Harrison bought this paper in 1842. He a member of Geelong's first town council and represented Geelong in the Victorian Legislative Council from November 1854-1856. He was elected to the Legislative Assembly where he represented Geelong (1858-59) and, subsequently, Geelong West (1859-60). During this time Harrison had experimented with Refrigeration producing ice and set up a factory to produce ice for Geelong in 1851. He expanded his invention, cooling beer, preserving meat and so on, and taking out several patents in Australia and England. He went to England in 1856 where he promoted his ideas regarding refrigeration with several businessmen later adopting it to their own industry (although, apparently, without much profit to Harrison.) After losing a libel case against the Crown Prosecutor in 1854, and forced to pay damages, financial difficulties forced Harrison to sell the *Geelong Advertiser* in 1862 and although he launched the paper, the *Geelong Register*, his difficulties led to him losing that as well. His attempt to transport meat to England, keeping it fresh by means of a cool room (instead of using refrigeration) unfortunately failed when the supply of ice ran out during the voyage. Subsequently, back in Australia, he became editor of the Melbourne *Age* in 1867. He died at his home outside Geelong in 1893, more or less penniless. A public subscription paid for a gravestone with a biblical text that may well have summed up Harrison's life.
"One soweth, another reapeth."

Higinbotham, George (1826-92)

George Higinbotham was born on 19th April, 1826 at Dublin, Ireland. After a sound education, he studied at Trinity College, Dublin. He worked as a parliamentary reporter for the London paper, the *Morning Chronicle*, in 1847 and the following year began legal training at Lincoln's Inn. Following his call to the Bar in June 1853, he sailed for Australia in December of the same year, arriving at Melbourne. At first he combined law and journalism as a career adhering, in theory at least, to liberalism in his politics. He entered the Victorian state parliament in 1861, being elected for the lower house seat of Brighton, adhering to a liberal/radical position, he was a supporter of a fully democratic system. Although he was considered a political radical at the time, or a small 'r' radical liberal as he might be called today, he accepted that compromise was inevitable at times to allow things to get done, although towards the end of his career he recognized that any compromise inevitably led to the loss of principle. He was appointed attorney-general in 1863. His independence as a liberal led to his disenchantment with the factional and party nature of politics and, although he was in and out of parliament during the 1860s and 1870s, he finally resigned his seat in 1876. He was appointed a judge to the supreme court in 1880 and, in 1886, he became chief justice of Victoria. He died in 1892.

Hughes, David (1821-1895)

David Hughes was another of Geelong's prolific versifiers and, on occasions he welcomed the New Year's Day Comunn na Feinne Highland Gathering with verse published in the *Geelong Advertiser*. Hughes always managed, no matter the theme of his verse, whether tragic or celebratory, to end with an advertisement for his shoe shop.
He published a magazine called The Telephone but this appears not to have survived more than a couple of issues.
Hughes ran a business, the Victoria Boot Mart, in Malop Street, however his constant appeals for someone to purchase it, 'lock, stock and barrel', gives an indication that he was not too successful. A fire, during the night on 2nd January, 1877 unfortunately destroyed his shop with all its stock. He moved into a new shop a few doors down from where he had been burned out. A verse by him perhaps suggests that the fire was no accident.

> "My New Year's Gift I know too well;
> My loss it's only I can tell
> Dark was the deed – who did the crime!
> This ends at present Hughes's rhyme."

Failing to make a go of it at Geelong, Hughes advertised that he was shaking off the dust of Geelong and opening his business at Colac.

He commemorated this act in a poem.

D. Hughes Farewell to Geelong

I tried the fight, but all in vain,
I find I cannot here remain,
As competition is too strong,
And I must go, though here so long.

To say farewell, Geelong, it grieves me
After so many years to leave thee;
The happy days I have seen here,
Forever they have gone, I fear.

Old pioneers, they seem downcast,
When looking back upon the past;
Yes, those in life have missed the tide
Must leave, they cannot here abide.

Yet what's the odds, the end's the same,
We come, and pass away again;
Beneath the sod, there troubles cease,
No matter if we are at peace.

Still, I from here must clear away,
I find the boot trade will not pay;
The competition is too strong,
And I must say farewell, Geelong.

Returning thanks to the public for past favors, I now offer my stock of first-class boots and shoes at cost prices, in colonial made and imported, until cleared out, which those will find who favor me with a call, that, according to quality, I sell the cheapest in Geelong, and until cleared out, all kinds of boots and shoes made to measure, and repaired; charges moderate. David Hughes, Proprietor. (*Geelong Advertiser*, 5th November, 1879, p4)

Hughes was married to Christina Hughes and they had a family of three daughters and at least one son.
David Hughes died on 26th July, 1895 at his home in Corio Street, Geelong, aged 74. Hughes' wife, Christina died in Melbourne in 1905.

Hughes, Miss Ethel

Miss Ethel Hughes was a very successful teacher of Highland dance, as well as general dancing, and had a great many successes with her pupils. At the 1919 South Street, Ballarat competitions, 17 of

her pupils won medals. She also taught all forms of dancing including modern. There is quite a bit of information on Ethel Hughes together with lists of the names of her dancers if we require them. She raised many thousands of pounds during the first war with her troupe of dancers for the Patriotic and Benefit Fund.]

The Society staged a concert on 21st October, 1919, which included a full range of song, recitation and dancing. The Comunn na Feinne Reel Party danced the Reel of Tulloch. All of the dancers making up this group were taught by Miss Ethel Hughes.*

At a Comunn na Feinne meeting held 5th September 1920, it was announced that the Society Concert, which had been discontinued for the duration of WW1, was to be re-instituted with the first Concert to be held 6th September 1920.

There was also reference to the annual reunion of Miss Ethel Hughes' war-time dance party to be held at the Comunn na Feinne hall on 4st September1920.

If required, the list of the Dance Party is given.

A photograph is available.

Jenkins, William Stitt (1812-1878)

William Stitt-Jenkins was born at Whitehaven, England on 30th June, 1812 and arrived in Victoria in the 1850s. He was soon in Geelong at first working for Dalgety, Ibbotson and Company. He attempted to go into business for himself by opening a store in Ashby called the Commercial Pivot Hay and Corn Store. This was not a long-term success. Jenkins was a temperance man and campaigned long and hard with the Temperance Society providing many poems and talks on the evils of alcohol. His range of social causes included animals, parks and places of relaxation, free libraries, the poor and neglected children and many of his poems are written around these themes. He wrote prolifically to the Geelong Advertiser so much so in fact that the paper was taken to task by some readers for apparently bombarding them with Jenkins' long and, sometimes, awful verse. He wrote several poems introducing Comunn na Feinne's New Year's Day Highland Gathering as well as others on Scottish themes.

Although soundly criticized for his many intrusions into people's lives through his moralizing crusades, few doubted his sincerity or his genuine concern for the children and animals on whose behalf he campaigned.

When he left Geelong in 1876 after purchasing a news agency in Melbourne, he was given a town send-off which included a money gift raised by the people's subscription. The Mayor at the time,

> "On your departure from Geelong we desire to offer you some recognition of the valuable services rendered by you during your long residence amongst us. We believe the main object of your life is to benefit your fellow creatures, particularly the working classes with whom you have most closely identified yourself, and that your constant aim has been to make 'the man a better mechanic and the mechanic a better man.' That your efforts in such a philanthropic direction have not been thrown away there is ample evidence to show. In parting with you we feel that we lose a good and useful man …"

Jenkins wrote his own gravestone inscription which his widow faithfully had inscribed. It read:

When I am gone, When I am gone,
Then bear me to the lonely spot
Where birds with lullaby of Song
Shall warble fond "Forget me not."

When I am gone, When I am gone
Let no vain sculptures mock the dead
But one umbraceous tree arise
To wave its branches o'er my head.

When I am gone. When I am gone
Let none approach in garb of woe
Who cared not for the living man
What care they for the dead below?

When I am gone. When I am gone
Too late will tears bedew the sod
Give me to earth and go your way
And leave me to myself and God. (Quoted in Brownhill, p345)

Jenkins died on 1ˢᵗ August, 1878 and was buried in the Eastern Cemetery. His wish, to some extent, was fulfilled and a young tree was planted by his grave and, "grew quickly and soon spread its shade over the grave." (Brownhill, p347)

Johnstone, Robert de Bruce (1821-1881)

Robert de Bruce Johnstone was born in London in 1821. His father was a Scot and served as a non-commissioned officer in a Scottish Regiment in the British army and was killed in battle in Europe. Johnstone was orphaned at the age of 6 when his mother died. He was subsequently educated at the Caledonian Society's School in London and, following his schooling, he was apprenticed to a saddler where he acquired his trade. He later went into a partnership with Thomas March and they opened a saddling business in London. The discovery of gold in Victoria in 1851 drew Johnstone and his partner to the colony and they opened their business in Malop Street, Geelong as March and Johnstone. March soon returned to Britain and Johnstone carried on the business on his own.

He was one of the founders of Comunn na Feinne in 1856 and fulfilled the roles as secretary and as treasurer at various times and, from 1876 until his death in 1881, Johnstone served as President of the Society. He was also soon active in public life being elected to the Geelong Council in 1859. He remained on the Council until his death in 1881. During this period, he served as councilor and alderman and served three successive terms as Mayor. He was President of Comunn na Feinne 1867-1876 and subsequently Chief 1876-1881. He also served in the State Parliament as an M.L.A. 1868-1881.

Johnstone, whilst on the Geelong Council, initiated the scheme to turn what was an ugly and dangerous open swamp in lower Gheringhap Street into a beautiful and extensive, tree-filled park stretching, then, from Gheringhap Street all the way to La Trobe Terrace. Since its opening, the Park has greatly dwindled in size giving way, for example, to such 'needs' as the erection of the Gordon Technical College.

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY
Mayor of Geelong   1866, 1867, 1868
Member of Parliament   1868-1881

The Working Boys' Club
Industrial School
Working Boys' Night School

Treasurer of Comunn na Feinne   1858-1879
President of Comunn na Feinne,   1867-1876
Chief of the Comunn na Feinne,   1876-1881

Kernot, William Charles (1845-1909)

William Charles Kernot was born in Rochford, England on 16th June 1845, and arrived in Geelong from England as a 6 years old child with his family in 1851.
He first attended Christ Church School, then called Flinders National School, Geelong where George Morrison was principal and to whom, Kernot said, he owed "an untold debt of gratitude."
While still at school in Geelong, Kernot was a medal winner at the Comunn na Feinne annual education competitions and went on to have a "brilliant scholastic career"
He was only 15 when admitted to Melbourne University from which he graduated with a BA., in 1864 and then an MA., in 1866, winning "many scholastic prizes and exhibitions" along the way.
He completed a certificate in civil engineering also in 1866 and, "he became the first qualified engineer to be produced by the university…" He also later went on to graduate with a master of civil engineering in 1898. (*Australian Dictionary of Biography* M.U.P., Vol.5, 1974)
After some unhappy years in government departments including Department of Mines (1865), the Water Supply (1867) and then to the Department of Railways (1870) and finding little in the culture of these departments which recognized any need for tertiary training, Kernot resigned from Government service.

He was lecturing part-time in surveying at the university in 1868 and in 1869 was similar giving lectures in civil engineering. In 1883 he was appointed professor to the new post of engineering.
He travelled widely overseas acquainting himself with institutions which taught engineering. He also served on many government enquiries in Victoria and interstate and published articles and books on bridge design and bridge engineering.
He was generous in funding scholarships and facilities especially at the Working Men's College where he was Chairman for a decade.

His skills in fair negotiations led him to chairing a 'board of arbitration' involving a strike on the waterfront. In what surely must be a first, "his successful work" in bringing this strike to a peaceful conclusion was recognized in the form of an address which both the Employers' Union and the Trades Hall Council expressed "the esteem and satisfaction of both bodies of his impartiality." Kernot was also an earnest Christian and, "an active member of the Baptist Union of Victoria" over which he served as President 1902-1903.

Although no religious, political or economic idealogue, Kernot identified "with all the wants, ambitions and trials of the so-called working man."

He long championed issues such as safety and economy especially challenging the ignorance of government departments as they related to bridges and other social matters.

He fought long and hard for the introduction of degree courses some of which were eventually introduced such as mining engineering (1901) and mechanical engineering (1907), although one of his desires, a degree in electrical engineering, was not introduced until 1912 three years after his death in 1909.

However, his constant battles on behalf of engineering courses and tertiary training for engineers which eventually saw the "development of academic courses at the university and elsewhere" were part of his legacy.

Kidd, Piper John (1871-1934)
b. 15th December, 1871, at Cupar Fife, Scotland
d. 19th March, 1934, at Belmont, Victoria.

His mother was Margaret Seath. His step-father was Matthew Kidd who was an itinerant farm worker. Subsequently John Kidd attended a large number of schools as his father travelled finding work. When John reached school leaving age, he too took farm work until the age of nineteen when he enlisted in the Gordon Highlanders on 29th September, 1890. After basic training and piping instruction, he was posted, in 1892, with his regiment to Subatka in the Punjab, India. It was during this period that unrest had taken place on the border between India and Afghanistan and the Gordon Highlanders, along with other troops, were sent to ensure British control. They were held up at Chitral by the Pathans' control of the Dargai Heights and it became imperative that this area be taken by the British. This was accomplished on 18th October, 1897, although the successful force was then, foolishly, ordered to withdraw. This led to the enemy moving back and the Britsh forces again having to face the same problem. The second attempt at retaking the Heights took place on the 19th October, 1897. Successive assaults by the British to take the Heights, had been held up and, at last, the Gordon Highlanders were called to take the strategic area. Piper Kidd, along with Pipers Findlater and Milne, led the charge over the final 200 metres to the Heights. All three Pipers were shot and wounded although Kidd was least restricted by his wounds, however, his Pipes had been lost in the fight. He took up the sword of a wounded officer and continued in the successful assault. It was in a subsequent battle in the Waran Valley on 15th November, 1897, that Piper Kidd sustained a serious wound to his left leg which, on December, 1897, had to be amputated.

It was while recuperating at a hospital in Netley, that John Kidd met Jennie Farquharson Bremner, a Scottish girl who was in domestic service. They were married on 30th December, 1898 at Cupar, Fife. He was attracted to Australia by better prospects and John Kidd, his wife Jennie and their five children left on board the *Wilcannia* and reached Melbourne in July 1911.

The story of the 'Dargai hero' was told and retold until it became something of a legend. Piper Kidd did not tell the story as it was published by the *Geelong Advertiser*, and other sources, and it must have caused him some embarrassment at each re-telling. The real story, however, takes nothing away from Kidd's experiences on the Dargai Heights or his later wounding at Waran Valley leading to the amputation of his left leg. He was a true hero and the shameful pension allowed him by the British Government (1/9d per day) and the difficulty he had finding work because of his injuries, forced him to leave his native land.

A typical example of the re-telling of Piper Kidd's story is found in the following *Geelong Advertiser* account. John Kidd never told of his experiences in this way. The incidents of his wounding and the subsequent amputation of his leg occurred in a later battle but the reporter had, for dramatic effect, combined the two incidents into one. Heroic as was Piper Kidd's own story, the *Geelong Advertiser* managed to add additional drama to it while covering the Geelong Highland Games.

"When John Kidd, a fine strapping man who walked with a perceptible limp, stepped on to the dancing platform at the Comunn na Feinne Gathering at Kardinia Park, to play his pipes for the childrens' dances, those in the crowd who knew his history put hands together and received him with loud applause. Perhaps there were many that did not know what the clapping was all about. John Kidd's history may have been told before, but it is so thrilling that it bares repetition. John Kidd, together with Pipers George Findlater and Alexander Milne, have become immortalized in history, for it was this trio that led the charge at Dargai Heights, a memorable incident in the Chitral war in India. With kilts flying in the wind, and regardless of the hail of bullets whistling around them, the three pipers led the soldiers into action to the inspiring air 'Cock of the North.' Although his leg was riddled with shot, John Kidd played his pipes until loss of blood and exhaustion caused him to collapse, but he retained his hold on his pipes. When the smoke of battle lifted, John Kidd was picked up, and in due course sent back to England, where he was for many days in the Netley Hospital. Hearing of his courageous conduct, the late Queen Victoria, often paid him visits. On one occasion she asked him how he was getting on (he had lost one of his legs as a result of the action). The Scot replied with the true philosophy of his race, "I'm doing well." Like so many of his compatriots John Kidd left the shores of his native land some years ago outward bound for Australia. He was swallowed up in Melbourne for some time, nobody guessing his real identity or displaying the least interest in him. Comunn na Feinne, however, heard that the brave Scot was in the city and they forthwith induced him to come to Geelong where his true worth was recognized. They secured for him a block in the Belmont Closer Settlement Scheme, and now in the evening of his days, he is surrounded by friends who have not forgotten the valour he displayed at the charge of Dargai Heights. As he played for those tiny children yesterday, and kept in time with their twinkling feet, who knows that his mind was not carried back to that wild charge of the Highlanders at Dargai Heights when, with Pipers George Findlater and Alexander Milne, he helped to make history." (*Geelong Advertiser*)

John Kidd's Death
Piper John Kidd, aged 63 years, died at his home in Belmont on 19th May, 1934. Comunn na Feinne sadly announced the death of Piper John Kidd, the hero of Dargai, who had given good service to the Society. Members of Comunn na Feinne attended the memorial service as did representatives of

the Limbless Soldiers' Association and the British Ex-Services Legion. The service was held at the Belmont Presbyterian Church. (*Geelong Advertiser* 4th June 1934, p3)

Mr. Kidd lived in Geelong for 24 years, and for a number of years he was in charge of the municipal weighbridge in Corio terrace. He is survived by a widow, four sons, and two daughters.

The flag at the Soldiers' Club was flown at half-mast in his honour.

King, George Raymond (1872-1950)

George Raymond King was born at Ballarat on 16th October, 1872. His father, George Joseph King, was from Ireland and worked as a Blacksmith. His mother, Annie Mercer, was from Scotland.

King was in Geelong from his early years and he was educated at Ashby state school. Upon leaving, he became articled to the Architect J. Derrick in Geelong and did further studies at the Gordon Technical College. He then partnered in an architectural business with Thomas F. Seeley. He was secretary and then director of the Gordon College from 1898 and later taught on architecture from 1902. In 1908 he pursued further studies in England on behalf of the College as well as arranging for the machinery which was going to be necessary for the College's proposed instructional area involving Textiles. When he returned, he relinquished his partnership with Seeley and was appointed Principal of the Gordon Technical College which was renamed the Gordon Technical Institute in 1921. He also became head of the College's architectural area in 1909; a position he held until he retired in 1935 due to ill health. He received many honours and awards during his career. King is credited with having saved the Gordon and for establishing its high reputation in areas such as Textiles, Engineering and Architecture and for his influence over Technical education in general in Victoria. He was also responsible for insisting that architectural training at the Gordon included the element of humanities to produce the well-rounded architects of the future.

 "King is credited with being the first educationist in Victoria to provide for the complete training of the architect. He 'has indirectly fostered more good architecture than any other man in Australia', Robin Boyd wrote of him in 1947. Although classical and conservative, he trained many who became leading modernists and his students, as teachers or advisers, carried on his influence at the Gordon." (*Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 9, (MUP), 1983)

"Among King's strengths were his constant aim for excellence, his purpose being to give boys and girls not only practical but cultural training; his flair for vocational guidance; and his ability to recruit strong senior staff and lead them in a tradition of placing the interests of the students above all else. In pursuing his ideals, he was pragmatic, ever ready to bend rules and cut red tape. This and his very human foibles gave rise to many anecdotes about him as 'the last of the Bohemians'; but former students still revere the memory of one who inspired them to accomplish more than they thought possible and who then secured jobs for them." (*Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 9, (MUP), 1983*)

Comunn na Feinne also featured greatly in King's life. On several occasions, as Treasurer, he saved the Society from financial ruin and he did everything possible, in its latter years, to solve some of its difficulties. His influence and his political contacts helped establish a means whereby the Society could finish its life without debts either to individuals or to institutions. He was also responsible for re-introducing and maintaining the cultural aspect of Comunn na Feinne especially in the areas of

literature and music.

King was also a very community-minded man and served on many committees of organizations dedicated to improving society. His musical interests and his possession of a good voice led him to active membership in the Geelong musical society. He was also a keen photographer and helped establish a Camera Club for students at the Gordon Institute.

George R. King died on 11th September 1950 at Geelong.

Kirkwood, Thomas McKenzie

Thomas McKenzie Kirkwood, a Melbourne businessman (he had a Melbourne store which was called "The Home of the Collar King". He founded the Victorian Soft Goods Association and served as its Hon. Secretary for a long period. He was an original member of the Melbourne Caledonian Society and he was in great demand throughout the State of Victoria (as well as New Zealand) as a Judge of Highland Music and Dance. He was a long-time supporter of Comunn na Feinne, Geelong. Through his many political contacts, and his influence within Melbourne Scottish groups, Kirkwood was able to render many benefits to the Geelong Society. He it was who helped secure the regular visits of the Volunteer Scottish Regiment to Comunn na Feinne's Highland Games. He was made a life member of Comunn na Feinne for his many years of support and the many favours he had done on behalf of that Society. Kirkwood was also a tireless worker for community causes and he originated the movement to erect a Statue "to the memory of our late beloved Queen Victoria.

Thomas McKenzie Kirkwood's son, Corporal Athol Macgregor Kirkwood, DCM, 323, 6th Btn. Australian Infantry, AIF, was to be killed in action 27th July 1915, aged only 20, at Gallipoli.

Laird, John Angus (1862-1936)

A.J. Laird (as he was generally referred to), was the son of a western district pioneer, John Laird, who had arrived in 1852 from Scotland, and later became manager of Eddington Station in the Western District. J. Angus Laird was born in 1862 and was educated under a tutor and at the age of 15 he was placed with Joseph Watts architect at Geelong. He later became the "supervising architect for Joseph Watts." In that capacity he supervised the erection of the Grand Hotel at Queenscliff as well as other works throughout the district.

"He started on his own account in 1891, and the following year took as a partner Fred J. Barlow … The firm gained in open competition the premium design for the Geelong Show Grounds and building, and carried out the work at a cost of £10,000. They were also architects for Dalgety and Co's wool warehouses at Geelong. The Geelong Butter Factory and Creameries, the Geelong Sports Oval, Kardinia Park, the home of the Geelong Football Club, and many works connected with public buildings and private residencies throughout the district were like-wise designed by them."

The firm which he built up expanded interstate and continues to this day.

A.J. Laird was a member of Comunn na Feinne and served in various capacities including secretary, financial secretary and, as President from 6th June, 1916. He was also active in the financial affairs of the Society in its last days and was chairman of the Trustees working with others to find a solution to the Society's financial problems.

Lawrence, Marjorie Florence (1907-1979)

Marjorie Lawrence was born in the small town of Deans Marsh outside of Geelong. Her father was a butcher and an amateur musician. Her mother, too, played the organ but had died when Marjorie was only two years old. But she grew up in a stable family and musical environment. She entered various singing competitions but it was not until the Comunn na Feinne musical concerts that she was successful, winning the Sun Aria award in 1928 at the Comunn na Feinne Eisteddfod. John Brownlee, the Australian baritone, who had already achieved a measure of success in Europe, on a visit home to Australia, touring and giving concerts, heard Marjorie Lawrence sing and encouraged her to go to Europe for training. Helped by Comunn na Feinne and others in raising funds, and with her father's help, she left for Europe in 1928 and studied in France under Cecilie Gilly, the wife of Dinh Gilly who had taught John Brownlee. It was during this period that Lawrence's voice register was extended from Contralto to Soprano. After several setbacks and health problems, she eventually made her debut at Monte Carlo in 1932. The Paris Opera followed in 1933 and then a successful debut at New York in 1935. Lawrence achieved international acclaim, singing before royalty at Buckingham Palace as well as before the U.S.A. President, Theodore Roosevelt, at the White House. She returned many times to Australia on family visits as well as singing engagements. During the second world war she visited and entertained troops in Australia, in Europe and in the South Pacific, as well and promoting Red Cross work during this period. She received many honours for her war-time work including, in 1946, the French Legion of Honour. She also visited Australian troops in Vietnam in 1966. Marjorie Lawrence was stricken with Polio in 1944 which left her paralysed in both legs. After two years of some intense and experimental rehabilitation, although still much without the use of her legs, she returned to the Concert Hall and to Opera, although only in a limited number of roles. She retired from the Operatic stage in 1952 although she continued to teach. Marjorie Lawrence died at Little Rock, Arkansas in America in 1979.

Leitch, Capt. James B.

James B. Leitch received his commission while serving as an army veterinarian in the African Wars in the late nineteenth century. When WW1 broke out, Leitch again entered the army and his former rank was accorded him. He was a talented sculptor as well as an art lover and gifted some of his work to Comunn na Feinne to adorn the walls of their hall. His bust of the Society's piper, Donald ('Dosh') McLennan was also donated to Comunn na Feinne.

Leon, Samuel

Comunn na Feinne was pleased to be reminded of its early efforts in raising the standard of education in schools through the visit on 9th May, 1924, of Samuel Leon, who was the then current Crown Prosecutor, and who had been a school pupil during 1857-1867 at Geelong.
  When Samuel Leon, Crown Prosecutor, was in Geelong on Wednesday, he was interested to

learn that the Comunn na Feinne Competitions were at present being held.* In conversation with W.R. Anderson senior, he intimated that he had vivid memories of the scholastic competitions that were conducted in the Mechanics' Institute Hall in 1861 by the Society. He was then a pupil at the Flinders School and was successful in securing two handsome silver medals in that year. He still possesses them, and remarked that he prized them greatly, while it was his intention to hand them down to his grandchildren. In those days the presentation of prizes won at the examination took place at the Commun na Feinne sports gathering at South Geelong on New Year's Day. At the same examinations, prizes were won by George Synnott who was for many years connected with the Postal Department, and Annie Anderson, a sister of W.R. Anderson, now Mrs McBride, whose husband C.A. McBride is at present Mayor of Echuca. Samuel Leon, although he is over 70 years of age, is still quite hearty and had a very interesting chat with W.R. Anderson. (*Geelong Advertiser* 10th May, 1924)

*[This may refer to the literary competitions Comunn na Feinne continued to hold (eg essay writing, poetry and Gaelic and English literary and translation competitions), or it could be referring to the Eisteddfodau which the Society held until 1929.]

McDonald, James Robert (18XX-1934)

The death of yet another Comunn na Feinne stalwart, James Robert McDonald, was reported as having taken place on 5th November, 1934. He had been secretary of Comunn na Feinne and Mayor of Geelong West.

McKenzie, Alexander

Alexander McKenzie was elected vice-president of Comunn na Feinne when it was first formed in

December 1856.

McLaughlin, William

McLaughlin was born at Aberfeldy, Scotland. He served in the 5th Battalion of the Black Watch for seven years, and then came to Australia enlisting in the AIF on 6th August 1914, two days after the declaration of war by Britain. Going overseas with the 5th Battalion he took part in the landing on the 25th April as sergeant and, two days later, was wounded on the Plateau. He was sent to Alexandria Hospital and while there he received letters with the inscription 'Killed in Action' on the envelopes, the authorities apparently being under the impression that he had met his death on Gallipoli. After being an inmate of Epsom Hospital, London, he transferred from 5th Battalion to the Australian Flying Corps, and had service in England and France. With others who had service since the early days of the war, he was waiting in England for a vessel to take him to Australia on leave when the Armistice was signed. He returned to Australia with the rank of W.O. first class in January, 1919, and joined the 23rd Battalion Citizens Force, Geelong, received his commission and remained with the unit for six years."
He was President of the "recently formed Anzac Association, composed entirely of men who landed at Gallipoli on the morning of the 25th April, 1915, and believed to be the only organization of its kind in Australia."

McNeilage, Allan (1851-19)

Allan McNeilage arrived in Australia from Glasgow in 1870, aged 19. He worked in the technical section of the Mines Department.
He was also a Scottish-Australian poet who wrote in the lowland Scots language and who was given the epithet 'Australia's Robert Burns' by the Royal Caledonian Society, Melbourne, Victoria.In addition to poems in the Scot at Hame an' Abroad, He succeeded to the post of bard to Comunn na Feinne following Allan Fullarton Wilson's death in 1917. McNeilage contributed the welcoming verse in the first issue of *The Scot at Hame an' Abroad* of which the following is the opening.

The welcome "Scot" has come tae haun';
My fegs! It's hard tae un'erstaun'
Hoo ye produce a treat sae graun'
For fee sae sma';
Oor hairts will be the closer drawn
Since licht it saw.

In addition to his very popular verse, McNeilage also contributed to the V.S.U.'s magazine a long-running series of letters purportedly written by 'Wullie Waggett', in which he would comment on everyday matters of complaint dispensing his 'philosophical' wisdom in a humorous, 'everyman' manner. (Alec Chisolm, *Scots Wha' Hae – The History of the Royal Caledonian Society of Melbourne*, Angus and Robertson, Melbourne 1949, Chapter VI) The Caledonian Society, 1917, also "sponsored the publication of a book" of McNeilage's Poems. (Scots Wha Hae, Chapter V11).

Macpherson, Ossian (1821-1875)

Ossian Macpherson was born at Badenoch, Inverness-shire, Scotland. He had three brothers and a sister. His father named two sons (Oscar and Ossian) after characters in the ancient saga of Fingal composed in the C3rd AD by the warrior poet Ossian. He was educated in London at the Scottish School, Hatton Gardens remaining at that school for seven years (1825-1832). He had been taken there by his father at the age of 4. The school was also designated in his obituary in the *Hamilton Spectator*, as the Caledonian Asylum.
On leaving school he started working as a "humble errand boy" as he described himself, and he hated it. He began writing poetry quite early in his life and it may have been, for him, a way of escaping his daily drudgery.
He was, apparently, a sickly youth and in 1843 he wrote that he was recovering from "a long and severe illness" and he in a state of complete destitution. He declined to follow up a suggestion that he join the army declaring that he was conscientiously opposed to fighting. With subscriptions, he was able to publish his first book of Poems, *A Bard's Reverie,* which appeared in 1846.
He had fallen in love with a lady called Mary who, unfortunately died before they married, and this left MacPherson with a life-long sadness. Several of the poems included in his first book refer to this loss. He may, in fact, have suffered some sort of emotional 'breakdown' over the death. He took a trip to Portugese Madeira for a lung complaint which, he thought, would kill him before his return. He decided, for health reasons, to immigrate to Australia. It is not known when he arrived or when he travelled down to Geelong although we know that he was resident by 1853. He had published a second book of Poetry, *The Dreamer*, in London in 1848, so it would seem that it must have been after that date that he travelled to Australia.

He contributed poems to the *Geelong Advertiser*, winning several of the Poetry competitions both at Geelong and at Melbourne. Some of his poems were published as pamphlets.

He left Geelong at some point to reside in the Hamilton area and, finding that education among children of the district was practically non-existent, he established a school in the area assisted with contribution of building materials from some parents. He also contributed many poems, essays and stories, to various newspapers in the western district as well as contributing a column to the *Hamilton Spectator* under the byline 'Redruth Correspondent'. He also had occasional work as a private tutor for a time with Mr John Quigley on whose property he lived. However, a falling out between the two men deprived MacPherson not only of a source of employment but also shelter. His health deteriorated as he had to take to a life 'on the road'.

His travails, not to say his 'delicate' condition, made it necessary that he have several periods in the Portland Asylum. His only 'home' was a cave behind the Wannon Falls and, when on the 'tramp', he had to rely upon the charity of different stations to accommodate and feed him for the night. It was during one of these stays that he died at the home of Mr George Kelly in April, 1875. The *Hamilton Spectator* included his obituary in the issue of 10th April, 1875.

McRae, Alexander (18XX-1912)

Alexander McRae was born in Ross-shire, Scotland and arrived in Victoria in 1851. He spent two years near Geelong before moving, with his parents to a farm close to Birregurra where he remained for 22 years. He then moved to Cobden where he stayed for twelve years. He then bought a property 'Eglintoune' in 1896 where he specialized in cheese-making. He was a keen athlete and participated in many outdoor sports. He married in 1889 and had a family of three sons and one daughter. He had been a member of Comunn na Feinne for more than 50 years as well as other Scottish societies competing at Gatherings throughout Victoria. He also became a judge of Highland Dancing at Comunn na Feinne and at South Street, Ballarat, as well as other places. When the Caledonian Society of Colac was established, McRae was elected as part of the executive on 13th June, 1906. He served as Vice-president, President and, finally, as Chief to that Society.He also served as secretary of Comunn na Feinne, Geelong as well as being a committeeman for many years. When the Chief of Comunn na Feinne, Geelong, Andrew Chirnside retired in 1912 due to ill-health, Alexander McRae was elected to the position. However, after just three months he had to undergo an operation for a health problem and died on 10th November, 1912. A memorial tablet to him was later installed in the Comunn na Feinne Hall.

Menzies, Norman (1910-1941)

Norman Menzies was born at Ocean Grove and was gifted with the possession of an outstanding baritone singing voice and had early training with the singing teacher, Mrs R.M. Black of Geelong. In 1928, after three years with his Geelong teacher, Menzies, at the age of 18, became a pupil of the singing teacher, Ivor Bousted, of Melbourne, who had also taught John Brownlee.

He sang frequently in various church choirs and amateur concerts as well as with the Geelong Amateur Operatic Society. He was a member of the Gheringhap Street Presbyterian church and sang in that church choir for some years.

He competed in the singing competitions at Ballarat (South Street, Ballarat) where he won the Sun Aria award in 1930. He also entered the Comunn na Feinne eisteddfodau at Geelong and came second in the Sun Aria award in 1930. Dame Nellie Melba on hearing him sing at Geelong was greatly taken with his voice and urged Comunn na Feinne, as well as other organizations, to support Menzies to travel to Europe to further his training. In 1931 he was awarded the Clarke Scholarship which covered a three years' course at the Royal College of Music in London and a living allowance of £50 per annum for the three years of the scholarship. Comunn na Feinne, along with others, greatly assisted in raising funds by means of concerts and other events, both in Geelong and in the western district, and managed to raise the sum of £765. Among those who were supporting singers at these concerts, was Miss Muriel Clark of Geelong who, later, was to become Menzies' wife. Norman Menzies left for England in 1932 and took up his studies in London performing in various events staged by the College. Norman Menzies and Muriel Clark both sang in the choir at Westminster Abbey for the coronation of George V1 in 1937. Norman and Muriel married in 1939. Sadly, Menzies' wife died in 1939, only 6 weeks after their marriage and Menzies himself, ill with tuberculosis, had to return to Australia in 1940 dying, a few months later, on 20th March, 1941.

Milliken, Francis (18XX-1914)

Ormond, Francis (1829-1889)

Francis Ormond was born 23rd November, 1829, Aberdeen, Scotland. He arrived in Australia as a 13 years old, along with his parents, at Hobson Bay in 1842. His father, also named Francis Ormond, leased land at Shelford, building an Inn there which was very successful. Selling this, Francis Ormond senior in 1851 bought extensive land in the district of Skipton which his son Francis successfully managed as sheep stations. Francis later took over his father's properties.

Francis married Mary Greeves at Geelong in 1851 and, after her death in 1881, he married again. His second marriage took place at the Presbyterian Church in London where, in 1885, he married Mary Irvine. Becoming a wealthy man, Ormond began a long list of philanthropic ventures, many related to education and religion. Although a Presbyterian Ormond's donations included those to other denominations. He also interested himself in technical education in Melbourne and at Geelong, donating large sums of money to technical institutions in Melbourne and also to the Gordon Institute at Geelong. His interest in, and connection with, Geelong extended to Comunn na Feinne, and he was chosen Chief of Comunn na Feinne in 1881, after the sudden death of Robert de Bruce Johnstone. He held that position until his own death in 1889 and he was generous in his financial support towards the Society. His life demonstrated the central aims of Comunn na Feinne and this was exemplified in his support and encouragement of education in its various forms – secular, religious and utilitarian - and his belief that through education the whole of society could be raised in character and for the general good.

He put his own views into practice serving the State in many ways. He was elected to the Legislative Council in Victoria in 1882, for the South-West Province, and interested himself in education, serving on a Royal Commission on Education between 1881-1884. He died suddenly in France on 5th May, 1889 while on a visit to Europe. His body was returned to Australia and he was buried at Geelong on

7th September, 1889. He left a large estate out of which he had made provisions for many worthwhile bodies including hospitals and charitable organizations as well as to educational causes.

Plain, William (1868-1961)

William Plain was born in Peebleshire, Scotland. He went to work as a ploughboy when he was 13 years old. At the age of 22 he came out to Australia and started work on the land in Victoria. He share-farmed at Lake Hindmarsh and Hopetoun in the Mallee during the 1890s and at Hopetoun and Willaura in the early 1900s. He had little success at farming and took any work to survive including construction of rail tracks. Because of his experiences as a share-farmer, he developed an interest in land policies and closer settlement. He became involved with local political organizations (e.g. Wycliffe Road Political Labour Council) while at the same time improving his public speaking through his involvement with the Willaura Debating Society. He took an interest in and supported government action to acquire large private estates which could then be subdivided into small farms. In his role as President of the Wickliffe Road (Willaura) Land Resumption Association and the Willaura Progress Association, he supported the argument for the extension of closer land settlement and, in 1907, he applied for, and was granted, land on the "new Lara Closer Settlement Estate." He stood for, and was successfully elected to the Victorian State Parliament as a member of the Legislative Assembly of the Labor Party, in December 1908.
His interests remained that of land and land use and it was in this capacity that he became his party's spokesmen on "settlement and rural development policies." Over the years he served in many capacities on parliamentary committees relating to land and marketing including the Commissioner of Crown Lands and, in the brief Elmslie government (of two weeks), he was Minister of Agriculture. Although his party was now in opposition Plain served as a member of a Royal Commission on Closer Settlement (1914-1916)

Plain supported the referendum to introduce conscription in Victoria 1916 and was expelled from the Labor Party over the issue. In 1917 he resigned from the Victorian State Parliament and successfully contested a Senate seat as a Nationalist in the election of 5th May 1917. He did not take part in many of the debates in the Senate and explained his efforts in the following way.

> "I have been for sixteen years a member of Parliament, and in connexion with every grievance which I considered required attention I have gone in the first place to the Minister concerned, and I am in a position to say that during the whole term of my political life I have never asked a Minister, State or Federal, for anything in reason that was not granted to me. That will account for much of my silence as a member of Parliament."
> (*Argus* [Melbourne], 29 March. 1917, p. 8, 2 July 1919, p. 9, 6 December, 1922, p. 20; Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates (CPD), 4 October, 1922, p. 3)

Plain lost his seat at the December 1922 general election but was chosen to fill a vacancy caused by the death of another Senator. He then successfully contested the November, 1925 elections and the following Senate election in 1931. His interest, and his committee activities in the Senate, continued to be related to farming and, especially the wheat farmers. Plain was defeated at the general election of October 1937 and subsequently retired.

"In his last speech in the Senate in 1938, he welcomed the National Health and Pensions Insurance Bill, describing it as the 'most humane legislation that has yet been placed before this Parliament'. He was anxious that the legislation 'be placed on the statute-book' before he left the Senate. He had been a senator for some eighteen years."

Senator Plain was an active and enthusiastic long time member (and later Chief) of Comunn na Feinne at Geelong. He also helped, along with his colleague James Galbraith who was secretary of Comunn na Feinne, form the Victorian Pipe Band Association in 1924, over which he was, for a time, President and James Galbraith secretary. He was also active in the parliamentary struggle to allow the Kilt to be worn by the Volunteer Victorian Scottish Regiment. (CPD, 23rd June 1938, p2568, 29th June 1923, p503; *Geelong Advertiser*, 16th October, 1961, p1; CPD, 27th November, 1929, p265.)

William Plain died on 14th October, 1961.

Rankin, Dougal (1837-1919)

Dougal Rankin arrived from Scotland on the *Hope* in 1850. From his arrival, he became actively involved with Scottish affairs. He was one of the founders of Geelong's Comunn na Feinne and, for a time, its treasurer. He also became the Ballarat Highland Society's first secretary. Rankin was a Gaelic speaker and seriously took up the Comunn na Feinne's charter aim of preserving and encouraging Highland culture, including its language and music and sports. He also competed in Highland sports at Gatherings held at Geelong, Ballarat and Buninyong. In addition to the athletics, Rankin also competed as in Highland dancing and, later, he acted as a judge at such competitions. Dougal Rankin operated a business, Wine and Spirit Merchants, Tobacco and Cigars, in Brougham Place, Geelong.
He was also involved with Gaelic teaching in Melbourne.
Dougal Rankin died on 21st February, 1919.

> "On the 21st of February, 1919, there passed to his rest, at the ripe old age of 82 years. He was a well-known Scot in the person of the late Dougal Rankin. The deceased man was an old Victorian identity having arrived in the sailing ship '*Hope*,' in 1850. He soon became interested in Scottish affairs and proved a capable organizer in many Highland Gatherings. He was the first secretary of the Ballarat Highland Gathering, was one of the founders of Comunn na Feinne and its first secretary.
> Being Gaelic born, he worked hard to popularize the language of the Highlands, and was principal of possibly the only Gaelic school in Australia.
> As an athlete he also gained distinction winning prizes against all-comers at Ballarat, Buninyong Gatherings, while he also excelled as a Scottish dancer and often officiated as a judge. The late Dougal Rankin was a familiar figure at Scottish entertainments and his genial manner and lively temperament up to the last made one often forget his great age.
> Comunn na Feinne extends its sympathy to the bereaved family trusting they will be sustained with the thought that he lived more than the allotted span, that he left behind a record of doing good deeds well done and is now at rest in 'The Land o' the Leal.'"

Riddoch, John (1827-1901)

John Riddoch was born at Turriff, Aberdeenshire Scotland 27th October, 1827 and immigrated with his parents and siblings to Australia in 1851. He was involved in gold prospecting and supplying goods to the gold fields. From the profits he made, he established a business in Geelong dealing as a general store and wine merchant. He married Eliza King at Geelong and they had three daughters and a son.

He was an early member of Comunn na Feinne and became its second President in 1860 following the move of Archibald Douglas to Queensland. After a very short tenure, Riddoch resigned in 1862 following his decision to move to South Australian. He graciously agreed to remain until the January, 1863 Highland Gathering when he was succeeded by John Bell as President. Along with a younger brother, George, John Riddoch moved to South Australia where they established partnerships in several properties. One of his initial purchases was that of the Yallum Park Estate at Penola, South Australia. Yallum Park he stocked with merino sheep, becoming a knowledgeable breeder and member of the Pastoralists Union of South Australia. He entered politics and was elected to the South Australian Parliament in the House of Assembly, where he served in 1865-70 and 1871-7 and was part of the Select Committee of the House of Assembly looking into the, Question of Improvements in South East Australia. He also served in local politics, as President and member, on the Penola District Council, as well as the Roads Board and many other useful bodies. He was part of the Mt Gambier Caledonian Association.
As well as pastoral interests, John Riddoch also had estates which yielded large market volumes of export fruit such as pears and peaches Yallum and Coonawarra also became famous for the wines produced there and which bear their name.
John Riddoch died on Monday 15th July 1901 after a long illness and he was buried at Penola, South Australia. His wife and their four children all survived him.

Russell, Phillip (1866 – 1932)

The Russell family were very much associated with development in the Western District of Victoria. Alexander Russell had settled in Victoria in 1842 and it was his son, Phillip Russell, born 6th December, 1866 who later succeeded to the property 'Mawallok' at Beaufort Victoria on his father's death in 1869. The Russell were from Clunie Mains in Fifeshire, Scotland.
At one time Phillip Russell owned Osbourne House, purchasing it in 1888, which he had bought and whose property he extended to include a Polo Field, a Race Course and a Cricket field on which were played some famous matches including an English test team as well as interstate teams.
He married Mary Gray Guthrie daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Guthrie of "the Hermitage" Geelong, on 17th October, 1888. Their son, Alexander, was born on 4th June, 1892.
Phillip Russell was Chief of Comunn na Feinne from 1896-1923 when ill-health forced him to relinquish the position. He was elected as a Life Member in 13th September, 1905.
Phillip Russell had to spend several years overseas in the early part of his Chieftainship due to ill-health. He was a generous benefactor to Comunn na Feinne, to its Pipe Band and to many other causes both at Geelong and Beaufort.

Shannon, Charles (1841-1922)

Charles Shannon was born at Greenock, Scotland 27th November, 1841 and received his education in that town. When he was 29 years old, he left for Australia arriving at Melbourne on 4th April, 1870. He immediately travelled to Geelong where he was employed by John Wilson (his brother-in-law) in his Wool Merchants business (John Wilson and Company). This business was bought, in 1872, by John Sanderson and Company and Shannon became a partner. In 1875 this was amalgamated with John Strachan's company to become Strachan, Murray and Shannon. Shannon also had other business interests including the founding, in 1887, along with Godfrey Hirst, a Woollen manufacturing business called Godfrey Hirst's Woollen Mill. In 1890 they bought the Barwon Woollen Mill Company and operated under the name of Excelsior Woollen and Worsted Mill.

Shannon became active in social concerns soon after his arrival at Geelong. He was a member of the Geelong Hospital Committee from 1877-1919 and was its president 1899-1919. He entered local politics in 1879 on his election to the Geelong City Council resigning in 1883. He was a member of the Council of Newtown and Chilwell from 1894-1920, serving as Mayor in 1902, 1903 and 1904. He also served on the Geelong College Council from 1908 to 1921and the Council of the Gordon Institute and was a generous financial benefactor of that institution. Shannon was a faithful member of St George's Presbyterian Church, serving as an office-bearer for many years.
Charles Shannon had been a keen competitive Rower in Scotland and carried that interest into his years at Geelong forming, along with E.H. Lascelles and F.R. Pincott, the Barwon Rowing Club. He was a long-term member of Comunn na Feinne and became one of its vice-presidents.

One of Charles Shannon's social concerns grew out of his awareness of the gap between rich and poor, and the depression of the 1880's worsened the matter. Children were especially affected and street boys, unemployed and often homeless, were common in Geelong and were often drawn into petty crime and faced a bleak future. Shannon, along with James Wighton, also a Comunn na Feinne vice-president, called a meeting of similarly-minded social activists with the aim of forming a "poor boys club". Wighton was appointed honorary secretary of the organization and his legal firm, Wighton and McDonald handled all of the legal affairs of the organization. This club was not only to give the boys something to do but also, where necessary, to teach them skills and to find them work. Shannon had modelled his idea on a Try Boys' Society which had been formed in Melbourne in 1884 and which had been very successful. One of the objects was to give the boys hope and to show them that if they 'tried' they could succeed. Hence 'Try Boys' Brigade." This initial meeting agreed that something had to be done in Geelong and Shannon set about finding premises and equipment and a suitable person to become the leader and manager of the club, a position that would be a paid one. Shannon put up the sum of £200 to fund the club for a year, and the new society was advertised with the result that 300 attended each week.
Charles Shannon died on 7th April, 1922 and Shannon Avenue, West Geelong, Victoria, is named after him.

Shirra, Robert (1826-1906)

Born - Glasgow, Scotland 23rd August, 1826
Died - Geelong 1906
Age 79 years

Robert Shirra emigrated from Scotland in the ship *Montgomery* in 1852, arriving at Melbourne in October, 1852, and he left for Geelong on the day following his arrival.
He went into partnership with William Moodie (also from Glasgow, Scotland) in a drapery business in Mooorabool Street. Their shop was named 'Glasgow House'. He was a founding member of Comunn na Feinne in 1856 and held several positions during his long life. He was Secretary in 1858, and later served as a director. Following the sudden death of Robert de Bruce Johnstone in 1881, Shirra filled the role of President from 1881-1894.
Along with Robert de Bruce Johnstone, and Archibald Douglas (until the latter moved interstate in 1860), Robert Shirra was the architect of the Society's social policies especially as they related to Aborigines, street children, education (including the Industrial school and the working boys' night school.)
Robert Shirra was a strong Presbyterian - church elder, treasurer, Sabbath School teacher and Superintendent - at St Giles' Church (the High Presbyterian Church), which was originally in Little Malop Street but moved into new church premises in Gheringhap Street, Geelong, in 1862. This building is now used as commercial premises.
He filled many positions at Comunn na Feinne.
Secretary 1856-1860; 1876-1881
Director continuously from 1856
Vice-president 1861-1876
President 1876-1895

Shirra, Arthur Urie (1879-1936)

Arthur Urie Shirra was the son of Robert Shirra (see above)
Died 8th May, 1936 – aged 57 years.
Director of Comunn na Feinne
Member of St Giles Presbyterian Church Gheringhap Street, Geelong.

Sinnott, William Henry (1848-1935)

William Sinnott was born in county Kildare, Ireland on 18th October, 1848 and arrived at Geelong with his parents and family while he was still quite young. When Comunn na Feinne was formed in 1856 he would have been eight years old and was attending the Presbyterian School in Gheringhap Street. The headmaster of that school was Andrew Burns M.A. who was a Scot and a university graduate and a very able teacher.

William Sinnott excelled from the very first of the Comunn na Feinne Educational Competitions in 1858 when he won a Silver Medal. This he followed up with two Silver Medals in 1860. At the Comunn na Feinne education competitions held on 30th November 1861, and now in the senior

class, William Sinnott won the Comunn na Feinne Gold Medal of Honour, for all-round excellence. He actually won five silver medals for individual subjects at these 1861 Comunn na Feinne examinations, which carried him into the award of the Gold Medal of Honour. This meant, of course, that he did not receive the individual silver medals but the Gold Medal of Honour for his overall performance. The Silver medals were awarded to those who were next in order of merit in the various subject categories. (*Geelong Advertiser* 2nd January, 1862)

Silver Medal 1st January, 1858 for Natural Science
Silver Medal 2nd January, 1860 for Advanced Arithmetic
Silver Medal 2nd January, 1860 for Interest
Silver Medal 2nd January, 1860 for History and Grammar
Silver Medal surrounded by 'Gold Wreath' 1st December, 1861 for Best Scholar.

Unlike some other of the pupils excelling at the Comunn na Feinne education examinations such as the Allen brothers, Charles Kernot etc., Sinnott did not pursue an academic career. Passing the civil service examination, William Sinnot, 'little Billy Sinnott,' as he was called by his companions, became attached to the Savings Bank which was located at the Post-Office. Thirty-two years ago William Sinnott left Geelong for Melbourne, and he now resides at Essendon. He has a keen recollection of Comunn na Feinne doings of long ago. He referred to the fact that he was present at the first gathering held at the old Comunn na Feinne grounds in South Geelong, the first gathering held on the Corio Oval and, on Saturday, attended the first function of the Society in Kardinia Park.

On 18th October, 1927, on the anniversary of William H. Sinnott's birth, the Society congratulated him on his 79th birthday and announced his historical connection with the early Comunn na Feinne. He is still "well and hearty and occasionally visits his daughter who resides in Geelong."
"Many of Geelong's older citizens will doubtless remember William H. Sinnott who, in the latter part of the last century was better known as Little Billy Sinnott of the Post Office. His popularity was largely due to the obliging manner which he always carried out his duties as an official in the Post Office Savings Band, as well as the brilliance he showed in competitive educational work. Forwarded to James Galbraith, secretary of Comunn na Feinne, with a portrait of William H. Sinnott was the following list of medals he won in connection with Comunn na Feinne."

William Henry Sinnott died in 1935 aged 87 years.

Small, Dr John (1859-1916)

Born – 1st October, 1859, Fifeshire, Scotland
Died – 9th January, 1916 at Geelong

"He was the son of Lindsay Small, of Fifeshire, Scotland, and was born in that country on the 1st October, 1859 … [and] was educated chiefly at St Andrew's in Fifeshire. On leaving school he attended there for a time, but on his family moving to Stirlingshire he commenced his medical education at Glasgow university, and afterwards studied at Edinburgh for two years."

His father intended moving the whole family to New Zealand and to take up a farming life. Dr Small came out to Queensland beforehand to gain experience on the land in order to help his father. After a short time, he became ill but his father had already decided to return to Scotland. Dr Small also returned and did further medical study at Edinburgh and, in 1881, he successfully took out the diplomas L.R.C.S and L.R.C.P.

He took the position of ship's doctor on a vessel bound for Brisbane. He then opened a practice at Gympie where he remained for three years. Dr Small's uncle, Dr James G. Carstairs, had a practice at Geelong and he arranged for Small, "to take over the practice of the late Dr Erskine of Ryrie Street, Geelong, which he enlarged.

> "He gave the Geelong Hospital the benefit of his wide experience and ripe knowledge, having served on the committee for about twenty-five years. Whilst practicing his profession he acted as honourary surgeon to the institution, and afterwards as hon. Consulting surgeon, and too great a value cannot be placed on his professional services to the Hospital. He was vice-president of the Hospital for many years, and mostly filled the position of chairman of the House Committee. He played a prominent part in the creation of the Infectious Diseases Ward."

Dr Small also put into effect in his own life the Society's desire that members act as a 'leaven' in the community.

> "About seven years ago he entered the City Council as a member for Villamanta ward, and took a close interest in municipal work. At the time of his death he held the office of Alderman for the ward. He was an uncompromising opponent of the City Hall scheme,* and made several notable speeches against it. Even at the time when it was apparent he was not enjoying good health, he showed remarkable vigour in denouncing the proposal; the large crowds who followed the City Council debates while the controversy was proceeding expected, when Dr John Small rose, to hear a forcible utterance, and they were never disappointed. He could marshal his facts well, and his presentation of a case in clear and concise terms left no doubt whatever of his views. But for accepting the position of senior medical officer at the Geelong camp in August he, most likely, would have been elected Mayor of the city. Since that date he only attended one or two council meetings, extended leave having been granted him. As in every other department in which he interested himself, his work as a councillor was marked by thoroughness and a desire to advance the interests of the community. Before the formation of the Water and Sewerage Board, Dr John Small opposed the undertaking chiefly on the ground that he regarded the water supply as inadequate. Since then the capacity of the works has been greatly enlarged. Dr John Small represented Newtown and Chilwell on the Water Sewerage Board, and was a valuable member."

*This matter related to a proposal that the Geelong Council, at great expense, move into the building which had housed the Geelong Grammar School. Dr Small was a vocal opponent of this within, and without, Council meetings.

After working at his practice for seven years Dr Small developed a severe case of influenza and went to Europe to regain his strength. This illness left him with a weak constitution which dogged him for the rest of his life. He took the opportunity for further medical studies at Edinburgh Royal College

of Surgeons where he obtained the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons. He returned to Australia and to Geelong where he eventually had to retire in 1910 due to continuing poor health.

On the outbreak of World War 1, Dr Small volunteered his services and he was appointed Surgeon-Major at the Geelong Military Camp. It was during this period that he again became ill and died shortly afterwards on 9th January, 1916.

Smith, Charles Anderson (1860-1942)
Charles A. Smith was born at Aberdeen, Scotland in 1860. As a young man he emigrated from Scotland to Australia settling in Queensland where he worked for the Queensland Meat Export Co. He later joined Lindy and Co., Refrigeration Engineers and transferred to Geelong as that firm's "guarantee engineer" at the Geelong and Western District Freezing Works (later called Fletcher's Freezing Works, North Shore. He left this firm to set out on his own with the Union Ice Works which later became the Polar Products Pty., Ltd. Charles A. Smith joined Comunn na Feinne as a member and later became a Director and then President (1923-33).
He had the unfortunate duty to preside over the decline and eventual closure of Comunn na Feinne His wife, Helen, pre-deceased him but he left a family of three daughters, Isabella, Mary and Florence (all of whom were married) and two sons, Alexander Ross Smith and Robert H. Smith. Charles A. Smith was cremated at Fawkner, at a private ceremony on 20th May, 1842.

Stirling, Miss Maggie (18XX-1932)
"Maggie Stirling has been surprisingly difficult to research for solid biographical data. She was Australian born in Victoria, probably in Melbourne and this date is at present unknown, as are the names of her parents. She died 24th November, 1932 at her home 'Craigneil, Orrong Road, Toorak, Victoria.
Her education and her singing training in Australia is largely unknown, but she was described as a pupil of a Signor Cecchi; as well the year of her first singing performance in Australia is uncertain. However, The *Argus* (Melbourne) on 28th June 1892 describes her performance in the 'MELBOURNE LIEDERTAFEL' as follows: Miss Maggie Stirling, a pupil of Signor Cecchi, was down on the programme for a song by Michael Watson but "O Mio Fernando" from "La Favorita" (Donizetti) was substituted. Miss Stirling possesses a mezzo-soprano voice of abundant volume, pleasing quality, and good carrying power. When to this is added that her vocalisation is good and her intonation correct, it will be seen that, although she can hardly as yet be considered a matured artist, much may be expected of her in the future, and her further appearances will be watched with interest")

Some further biographical information is given in 'Miss Maggie Stirling - The Theatre, September 15 1906', author unknown, which attests to the fact that her singing career did progress considerably in the next fourteen years: "Miss Maggie Sterling is in Melbourne once again. Miss Sterling has been absent from Australia for six years, during that time (she) has won world acclaim abroad. She went from Melbourne to Paris, where for twelve months she studied diligently under the great Mme Marchesi, at the end of which time she secured good engagements in London, and put up a fine record. After her London season she toured the provinces, and afterwards, Scotland and Wales, winning golden opinions wherever she sang. Miss Stirling is not only perfect in technique and

musical ability but possesses 'soul' which even Melba lacks. It is the sweet symphony of her rich and cultured voice that wins the heart of people and causes them to feel that there is an affinity between them and the singer."

> "Miss Maggie Stirling is in Melbourne once again. Miss Stirling has been absent from Australia for six years, and during that time has won fame abroad. She went from Melbourne to Paris, where for twelve months she studied diligently under the great Marchesi, at the end of which time she secured good engagements in London, and put up a fine record. After her London season she toured the provinces, and afterwards Scotland and Wales, winning golden opinions wherever she sang. Miss Stirling is not only perfect in technique and musical ability but possesses "soul" which even Melba lacks. It is the sweet sympathy of her rich and cultured voice that wins the hearts of the people and causes them to feel that there is an affinity between them and the singer. Miss Stirling never fails to touch a responsive chord in her audience and, through her wonderful voice, is able to lay upon their feelings in a marked manner. The Scotch as a nation all love Maggie Stirling, for perhaps no one has ever sung their national ballads as she has done, and, we are sure, Australia will not be lacking in praise and appreciation of one of her offerings. Miss Stirling's fine contralto voice was heard to great advantage in oratorio whilst abroad, under the leadership of Sir Hubert Parry, Sir Frederick Bridge, Coleridge Taylor, Sir Charles Stanford and other equally prominent men. Miss Stirling's Melbourne season will commence on 19th September, but will be very limited as her Australian tour only lasts for three months, when she returns to England for the London season. Next year Miss Stirling is to fulfil engagements in America and Canada." (Miss Maggie Stirling-*The Theatre*, September 15th 1906)

Her short obituary appeared in the *Argus* (Melbourne) on Friday 25th November 1932, on page 6, and her death occurred the previous day, but the NLA beta newspaper clipping is illegible*. She married a Mr. Riddell, date unknown and was known as Mrs. Maggie Stirling Riddell. She was predeceased by her son Robert Riddell who died in 1918 during WWI in France. An estate sale was advertised on 12 July 1937 for her home at "Craigneil" at 158 Orrong Road, corner of Sargood Street, Toorak (Melbourne), as well as for her Bechstein piano.

*Addendum (November 2010): Malcolm Dennis wrote: " I am a relative (1st cousin 3x removed!!) of Maggie Stirling and came across your website to-day. I have read the illegible obituary in the *Argus* and here is a transcript for you...

> "OBITUARY: Madame Maggie Stirling, "Many people will regret to learn of the death of Madame Maggie Stirling, which occurred last evening at her home "Craigneil" Orrong road, Toorak. In her former years Madame Stirling was a popular vocalist and she was distinguished for the sympathetic way in which she sang "Scottish songs". Before the war no popular concert programme was considered complete without items by Madame Maggie Stirling. She was born at Geelong and she married the late Robert Burns Riddell. She had two children whose untimely deaths saddened the latter years of her life. Her only daughter Mary, who married the late Dr. S.P Croom died in the first year of her marriage. Her son Lieutenant R. B. Riddell died from wounds while on active service with the 38th Battalion, A.I.F. Madame Stirling is survived by her young grandson Stuart Croom". (The *Argus*)

Volum, James (1803-1884)

James Volum was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, 1803
Died (Geelong) 8ᵗʰ April, 1884 – aged 81 years

James Volum had been a sea captain before settling in Australia. He turned his hand to business activities in Geelong buying the Geelong Brewery in January, 1857, and employed a brewer (Mr E. Hooper) from England to run it, and the name was changed to Volum's Brewery.
He later set up a Paper Mill on the Barwon River in 1878 and was a director of the Victorian Woollen Cloth Manufacturing Company.
On James' death in 1884, his brother Andrew conducted the brewery until 1887 when it was then placed in the hands of a Company which continued until 1953 at which time it was taken over by the Ballarat Brewery Company.

Volum, Andrew (1819-1906)

Andrew Volum, brother of the above, was born at Aberdeen, Scotland, 1819
Died (Geelong) 29ᵗʰ May, 1906 – aged 87 Years

Wilson, Alan Fullarton (18XX-1917)

Allan Fullarton Wilson was born at XXXX, Scotland.

Wilson died 16ᵗʰ August 1917, in his sixtieth year leaving a widow, and eight children, the youngest being only six years old.
He was Comunn na Feinne bard although he was also published in such journals as *The Scot at Hame an' Abroad* as well as in newspapers such as the *Geelong Advertiser*.
After his death, Comunn na Feinne published a collection of his verse.

> "A very handsome book, bound in khaki cloth, and embellished with a portrait of the deceased poet, has been published by John Purdie of Moorabool Street, Geelong, entitled: '*Poems by an Australian Scot:Selections from the Writings of Allan Fullarton Wilson,*' who was freely recognized as the Bard of the Geelong Comunn na Feinne. As the selector had thirteen volumes of carefully written manuscript and, probably, printed copies to examine, he had an onerous task before him. However, the result of his labours is a nicely printed volume, bearing unmistakably the brand of an affable, keen and comprehensive mind, gifted with manifold varieties of versification, and pregnant with ardent love of the motherland."
> Printer: Arbuckle, Waddell Pty Ltd
> Published in cloth bound
> Price 4/- each

Worland Dynasty of Athletes

Worland, George Henry (1830-1891)

George Henry Worland was the son of Frederick Worland who arrived at Point Henry in 1852. He made his home at Barrabool Hills and then Shelford. He died 18th October 1891, aged 61 years.

Worland, George Henry (1867-19XX)

George Henry Worland was born at Highton on 25th June 1867, and married Jessie McDonald of Winchelsea, who was the sister of the late James McDonald MLA. They had four sons, Colin Frederick, George Henry, James Allan and John.

They had 4 sons.

(1) - Colin Frederick Worland (1895-1978) – Born Kensington Vic. – Died Winchelsea Vic.

(2) – George Henry Worland (1896-1946) – Born Kensington – Died Winchelsea.

(3) - James Allan Worland (1897-1972) was born at Kensington, Victoria and died at Geelong in 1972.

(4) – John Henry Worland (1897-1970)

Since 1919, George Henry Worland has been most active in his capacity as Justice of the Peace. Although now nearing his seventieth birthday, he carries his age remarkably well and this, perhaps, is more easily understood when it is remembered that, in his prime, he was a notable Scotch Athlete, excelling in the Caber, Hammer Throwing, and Putting the Stone. In these competitions he won at many other sports gatherings throughout the State of Victoria. It is but natural that his son Colin has since worthily and successfully followed in his father's footsteps.

Worland, James Allan (1897-1972)

James Allan Worland was born in Kensington, Victoria, Australia on 1897 to George Henry Worland and Jessie McDonald. He passed away on 1972 in Geelong, Victoria, Australia.

Parents

Father: George Henry World (1867-19XX)

Mother: Jessie McDonald (1861-1934)

Children of foregoing

George Henry Worland (1896-1946)

George Henry Worland was born in Kensington, Victoria, Australia on 1896. He passed away in 1946 at Winchelsea, Victoria, Australia.

John Henry Worland (1897-1970)

John Henry Worland was born in 1897 to George Henry Worland and Jessie McDonald. He passed away on 1970 at Winchelsea, Victoria, Australia.

Colin Frederick Worland (1895-1978)

Colin Frederick Worland was born in Kensington, Victoria, Australia on 1895 to George Henry Worland and Jessie McDonald. He passed away on 1978 in Winchelsea, Victoria, Australia.

George Henry Worland (1867-19XX)

George Henry Worland was born in Geelong, Victoria, Australia on 25th June 1867, to Frederick Worland and Elizabeth Henry Worland (nee Mansfield).

Worland, Frederick (1830-1891) and Elizabeth Henry Worland, nee Mansfield, (1830-1884,) arrived at Point Henry in 1852.

They made their home at Barrabool Hills and then Shelford.

They had a son, George Henry Worland, born at Highton, Victoria 25th June, 1867.

Frederick Worland died 18th October, 1891 aged 61 years

George Henry Worland (1867-) married Jessie McDonald (1861-1934) from Winchelsea on 25th June 1867. She was the sister of the late James McDonald MLA.

Colin Frederick Worland (1895-1978) – Born Kensington Vic. – Died Winchelsea Vic.

George Henry Worland (1896-1946) was born at Kensington, Victoria, Australia on 1896. He passed away on 1946 at Winchelsea, Victoria, Australia.

James Allan Worland (1897-1972) – born at Kensington and died at Winchelsea Victoria in 1946.

John Henry Worland (1897-1970)

Others of the Worland family continued in the Highland Games tradition as can be seen from the results and the frequency of the names of the Worland family appearing as prize winners.

Details can be found in the Table of results on the attached tables.