

MATHESON INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

Australia & New Zealand - 28 March to 10 April 2008

Preparations are proceeding for the Matheson Gathering which is to be held in Australia and New Zealand in 2008. The Gathering will commence in Melbourne, Australia, on the 28th March. After 5 days of exciting and entertaining events in and around Melbourne, the focus will then shift to New Zealand for a further week of activities commencing on the 4th April.

The following activities have been organised for the **Australian** part of the gathering. There is obviously a lot more to see in and around Melbourne than what is represented here. For those who plan to arrive before the Gathering commences, information on accommodation, sights and events can be obtained from www.melbournetrivia.com.au and www.visitmelbourne.com.au

Information regarding the **New Zealand** programme will be provided separately by the New Zealand Organising Committee.

A Registration Form is attached. Please complete and send with your cheque,
payable to: **The Clan Matheson Society of Australia Inc**
post to: Mrs Lois Langford, 36 Valley Parade, Glen Iris, Victoria 3146.

For our overseas visitors, an international bank draft, **in Australian Dollars**, will be accepted.

If you require further information regarding the Australian events, please contact:

Abigail Butler, Co-ordinator - tel: (61) 3 9877 4029, fax: (61) 3 8812 2575

Roma Jorgenson, Secretary – tel: (61) 3 9614 1021, email: rjorgenson@bigpond.com

Lois Langford, Treasurer - tel: (61) 3 9889 6547, fax: (61) 3 9889 7624. goodsir.matheson@bigpond.com

Robert Mathieson, Marketing/Merchandising - tel: (61) 3 5824 2763, email: Emla53@mcmedia.com.au

For those requiring accommodation, the Radisson on Flagstaff Hotel, where we will be commencing the Gathering, has a 4 star rating, and is located on the edge of the Central Business District. It has a Business Facility and Fitness Centre, and is offering us a special accommodation rate. If you are interested, contact Denise Burgess, tel. (61) 3 9322 8198, or deniseburgess@radisson.com and mention you are participating in the Matheson Gathering. Further details regarding the hotel are available on www.radisson.com/melbourne.au

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR AUSTRALIA

Note: All prices are in Australian dollars, and are for one person.

DATE	FUNCTION	TIME	VENUE	COST p/p
Friday 28/03/08	1A Registration & Introductions	11:00am – 3.30pm	First Floor Function Room Radisson on Flagstaff Hotel, 380 William Street, Melbourne	\$25

The Function Room will be open all day from 11:00am, for participants to call in, collect a conference kit, and meet other participants. The Radisson Hotel is located opposite Flagstaff Gardens, an attractive park to walk and talk in, and is a short distance from the Victoria Markets and the Royal Historical Society of Victoria Library. The free City Circle tram passes nearby, and can be used to access other city centre venues and sites. The hotel's coffee shop, bistro, and bar will provide refreshments, if required, during the day.

As previously advised, those requiring accommodation please contact Denise Burges, tel. 03 9322 8198 or deniseburges@radisson.com and mention you are participating in the Matheson Gathering.

1B	Informal Dinner	6:00pm – 10:00pm	Radisson on Flagstaff Hotel 380 William Street, Melbourne	\$65
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Dress: Neat Casual

Drinks and a buffet style meal will be served in the first floor Function Room, from 6:00pm. This forms the official start to the Gathering, and the Committee Members of the Australian Branch of the Society look forward to welcoming you to Melbourne.

DATE	FUNCTION	TIME	VENUE	COST p/p
Saturday 29/03/08	2A Museum, Lunch, Clan Parliament & Genealogy Forum	10:30am – 4:00pm	Immigration Museum, 400 Flinders Street, Melbourne	\$55

The Immigration Museum is located in the Old Customs House, which was once the centre of Melbourne's Maritime Trade, when sailing vessels moored almost at the front door. The cost includes access to the Museum, which has exhibitions that focus on Victoria's immigration history and cultural diversity. Access to the "Discovery Centre" data base is also included. The data base cross references to the Australian National Archives and the Public Records Office, and contains a number of historical records, including shipping lists for Victoria. A guide will be on hand to assist those participants who wish to do their own historical research.

Morning tea will be served on arrival.

A light lunch will be served in the Atrium at the rear of the Museum from 12:00 noon to 1:30pm.

Afternoon tea will be served in the Atrium.

The Clan Parliament will be held in the Theatrette on the ground floor of the Immigration Museum. This will be followed by a Forum, which will provide the opportunity for participants to exchange genealogy information and to discuss ways to extend the Clan genealogy data base.

DATE	FUNCTION	TIME	VENUE	COST p/p
Saturday	2B Formal Dinner	7.00pm	Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club Unc. 489 Glenferrie Road Kooyong 3144 9822 3333	\$100

Arrive at 7.00pm for drinks before dinner

Dress: Evening wear. Suits or kilts for men.
The price includes wine, beer and soft drinks.

Formal dinner at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club.
The Matheson dinner overlooks the Centre Court where tennis has been played for 100 years. The Kooyong Tennis Club is close to Citylink the (Monash Freeway). Public transport is less than 20 minutes by train, tram is available also. Car parking is available across from the tennis courts.

Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club was built in 1926 for the growing interest in the sport at the time and was venue for Davis Cup Challenge games over the years.
AAMI Classic is held here every January prior to the Australian Open.

DATE	FUNCTION	TIME	VENUE	COST p/p
Sunday 30/03/08	3A Church Service The Scots' Church Melbourne was the first Presbyterian Church in Victoria, and was founded in 1838. The present building was completed in 1874. Scots' Church regularly welcomes clan gatherings such as ours. The Kirkin' of the Tartan occurs here each year in July. Car parking available behind church Lt Collins Street.	10:30am – 12:00pm	Scots Church 99 Russell St , Street, Melbourne	Donation
	3B Ringwood Highland Games Various competitions and displays of traditional skills take place throughout the day, including Highland dancing, bagpipe playing, tossing the caber, etc., and the afternoon ends with the March of the Mased Pipe Bands. (About 24 bands take part.) Jubilee Park is approx 25 kms east of the city centre, and is near the Ringwood Railway Station. The Matheson tent will provide a "drop in" point for anyone wishing to sit and chat. A variety of snack foods and drinks will be on sale from stalls around the grounds. Trains run at regular intervals from the city to Ringwood, and a free shuttle bus will be operating on the day between Ringwood Station and Jubilee Park.	10:30am – 4:30pm	Jubilee Park Gardini Ave, Ringwood	\$20
	3C Evening Entertainment This will be an opportunity to sit and chat, listen to some lively music, and, if you wish, join in such traditional dances as Strip the Willow, The Pride of Erin, etc. The bar will be open for anyone wishing to purchase drinks.	7:30pm – 10:30pm	Radisson on Flagstaff Hotel, 380 William Street , Melbourne	\$35

DATE	FUNCTION	TIME	VENUE	COST p/p
Monday 31/03/08	4A Historic Homestead & Wineries Tour	9:30am – 5:00pm	Gulf Station Homestead De Bortoli, & Yering Station Wineries, Yarra Valley Region	\$80
	<p>Gulf Station was established as a pastoral property in the 1850s by William Bell and his brother-in-law Thomas Armstrong, immigrants from Scotland. William Bell married Mary-Ann Little, who had also migrated from Scotland with her parents, and their descendants continued to live at Gulf Station until 1976, when it became a government-owned property, managed by the National Trust. Few modern alterations have been made to the property and Gulf Station therefore provides a fascinating illustration of early life in the colony of Victoria.</p> <p>The Yarra Valley is one of Australia's well-known wine regions and the location of approximately 35 wineries. Lunch will be at the De Bortoli Winery, with views over the vineyards. The tour also includes a visit to the Yering Station Winery, site of the Valley's first vineyard, planted in 1838.</p>			
	4B River Cruise & Dinner	7:00pm – 11:00pm	Floating Restaurant Southbank, Yarra River	\$80
	<p>The floating restaurant will cruise through the Docklands area, and across the bay to the old maritime seaport of Williamstown. During the cruise, a 3 course meal will be served. The price includes a choice of wine, beer and soft drinks.</p>			
Tuesday 1/04/08	5 Various tours			
	<p>Various tours are available for individual bookings, e.g Sovereign Hill Historic Gold Mining Village, Dandenong Ranges, Great Ocean Road. Check out www.melbournetrivia.com.au and www.visitmelbourne.com.au. If you wish, indicate your preferences on the Registration Form, and if sufficient numbers are interested, a group tour can be organised.</p>			