



## THE DURIE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter Number 3 Summer 2012

Dear Fellow Member,

As you will know, we held our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 22nd May at the Studio, in Glebe Place, Chelsea, London. There was a good turnout with over twenty members and their guests present, some of whom have now joined the Association. It was a good and convivial occasion and a great opportunity to meet other Duries. Sadly, but understandably, no overseas members could come. Obviously they were much missed; we will see if we can arrange things to make it easier for all to attend next year or, more likely, the year after (see below).

The formal business of the evening was soon over (Alistair Durie our Treasurer was re-elected to the Executive Committee and I was re-elected Chairman). The Treasurer's report showed that we had made a small loss but that was after heavy expenditure on the website. Future profitability would depend on continuing to recruit new members and renew the existing ones. My Chairman's report underlined steady progress throughout the year with growing membership – but there is always room for more, so if you know of any Duries who might be interested in joining do encourage them to do so or pass contact details to the Secretary (e-mail address below). Also, we are always looking for volunteers to help with secretarial and website work. Do you know of anyone?

After the formalities we had a fascinating description from our genealogist, Bruce Durie, of 'The Durie Diaspora', describing briefly the spread of Duries across the globe. The slides presented will soon be available on the website.

In the last Newsletter, I described Bruce as *Sennachie* (Genealogist and Historian) to the Chief. We have now agreed that the spelling should take the Scots (as opposed to Gaelic form) – therefore he is *Shenachie*.

Although the details are still far from clear, planning is moving slowly forward for another **Homecoming Year** including a **Gathering of the Clans and Families** in 2014 and other events such as the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn. Something will take place, however small or large, in or near Stirling around **13th/14th July 2014**. Although the DFA Executive Committee has taken no formal decision, we are all determined that the Duries will be there. This is now a date that all of us, especially our overseas members, can pencil into our

diaries in the hope that it will happen on a grand scale. We will keep you posted as plans unfold. It would be splendid if there was a good contingent of Duries from overseas present (only Guy Clevenger and Steve Helfert from the USA, with their wives, were present from abroad at the last Gathering in Edinburgh in 2009).

Those of you who would like to have the opportunity to sample and buy a **Durie whisky** will, I am sure, be pleased to know that the Chief is in discussion with a well-known distiller about a Durie brand, with a distinct and historic label. There will probably be both a single malt and a blended whisky. As soon as we can we will announce exactly what will be available and how it can be acquired.

Turning to DFA matters, the **Forum** on the website is beginning to be used a little more. I draw your attention to two items on it. *First: A Durie's Psalm* which two members found in their papers but did not know its origin. Bruce had mentioned it in the piece on John Durie I – 16thC in 'Duries in History' and has elaborated on its source and history in the Forum. *Second: if any UK member has money to spare, there are two vehicle number plates available for sale – H1DUR and DURIE*. There is an interesting personal history associated with the **DURIE** plate, which you can read about on the Forum.

Bruce is still working on how best to present the various **family trees** on the website. He would welcome any that you have that could be added (e-mail [genealogist@duriefamily.co.uk](mailto:genealogist@duriefamily.co.uk)). *N.B. Any information put onto the Family Tree will not include details of anyone living.*

We will update you on DFA news in the Autumn/Fall; in the meantime, have a great Summer (or for our antipodean members, Winter!). I am spending part of the summer as a Volunteer helper at the London 2012 Olympic Games which will take quite a lot of time. I will let you know of anything memorable that happens.

Yours aye,



Sir David Durie, KCMG, Chairman

**Chief:** Andrew Durie of Durie, CBE DL  
**Honorary Treasurer:** Alistair Durie, FCA  
**Contact:** The Secretary, DFA, 3 King's House, 400 King's Road, London SW10 0LL, Great Britain  
**Website:** [www.duriefamily.co.uk](http://www.duriefamily.co.uk)

**Chairman:** Sir David Durie, KCMG  
**Honorary Secretary:** Christian Dewar Durie, FRSA  
**e-mail:** [secretary@duriefamily.co.uk](mailto:secretary@duriefamily.co.uk)