

## Mr Simon Fraser

**Rushworth Chronicle**

**7 January, 1927**

The announcement of the death of Mr. Simon Fraser, which took place at his residence "Lovatsville", Stanhope road, Rushworth, on Wednesday, will be received with universal regret.

The late Mr. Fraser was born at Inverness, Scotland, and had reached the great age of 97 years. Until lately his vitality was very marked and gave every promise of carrying him to the century. Recently he began to fail and he gradually weakened until his end, which was a quiet passing away.

In his early life Mr. Fraser followed the sea as a calling, but the lure of Australia called and he joined the great band of British pioneers who by their persistence and virility, in the face of great disadvantages, well and truly laid the foundation of the Commonwealth.

His first attraction in Australia was the Victorian goldfields, and he found his way to Rushworth, at that time a field of great richness and which he always maintained still carries hidden wealth. Forsaking mining for farming, Mr. Fraser was one of the early selectors, and here again perseverance and courage against difficulty won through with the nice holding on Stanhope road as a reward.

All Mr. Fraser's district contemporaries have predeceased him, and in late years he often made feeling reference to his comrades of earlier days. In his long lifetime he had seen the development of science from the merest beginnings to the almost miraculous features of today. His was an interesting personality, and he had no difficulty in winning and retaining friendship, evidence of which offered in the gathering of friends about him, who always found him hospitable and full of reminiscence.

Mr. Fraser led an essentially private life, but his heart warmed to his native land, and its traditions, and his great pride was that he was a Scot and a clansman. He was the founder of the Rushworth Caledonian Society, and until last Boxing Day attended every Gathering. His love of highland music and dancing was with him a passion, and a week before his death he was greatly cheered by the visit of a piper and lassie dancer.

On the death of the late Mr. William Gunn, Mr. Fraser was elected Chief of the Society, and his pride in the office was equalled only by that of his fellow officers and their attention towards him.

Mr. Fraser's wife died several years ago, and a family of ten children three sons and three daughters [sic] survive him. The funeral, which takes place today, will leave "Lovatsville" at 2.30 p.m. and will be Highland in character.

**Rushworth Chronicle**

**14 January, 1927**

FRASER.—On January 5th, at "Lovatsville", Simon, dearly beloved husband of the late Marjorie, and loving father of William, Mary, Donald (deceased), Madge, Jean, Margaret (deceased) Simon and Hugh. Aged 96 years. Sadly missed.

The funeral of the late Mr. Simon Fraser took place on Friday last to the Rushworth Cemetery. When the funeral procession reached the outskirts of the town it was met by Pipe major Hugh Fraser, of Melbourne, who played "Will Ye No Come Back Again" to the graveside.

Mr. H. Hannah (Rushworth), in his uniform of the Black Watch, also walked at the head of the procession with Mr. Fraser.

The coffin, which was covered by the Scotch flag, and had on it a bunch of heather from Scotland and the deceased's Scotch cap, was borne to the grave by Mr. A. Wilson (president of the Rushworth Caledonian Society and Messrs A. McCaskill, A. Spence, J. B. Stewart and W. E. Cochrane (members of the Society, of whom the deceased was Chief).

The service at the graveside was read by the Rev. J. Raff (Presbyterian). At the conclusion of the service Mr. J. B. Stewart, in a short address, referred to the great loss the society had sustained by the death of the late Chief, who had blazed the track for those who came after them, and they acclaimed the virtues which he had possessed. They would always think of him with affectionate remembrance.

Piper Fraser then played Lord Lovatt's "Lament", the scene being very impressive. The Rev. J. Raff then pronounced the Benediction.

#### **Rushworth Chronicle**

**21 January, 1926**

In our report of the funeral of the late Mr. Simon Fraser we omitted to mention that Pipe Major Hugh Fraser played "Lochaber No More" before the funeral left the house, and on the way to the cemetery the Scotch funeral tune "The Land of the Leal" was played.