



Cameron

*The Magazine of
Clan Cameron New
Zealand Inc.*



*Cormorants and a seal pup
- Muisdile Island*

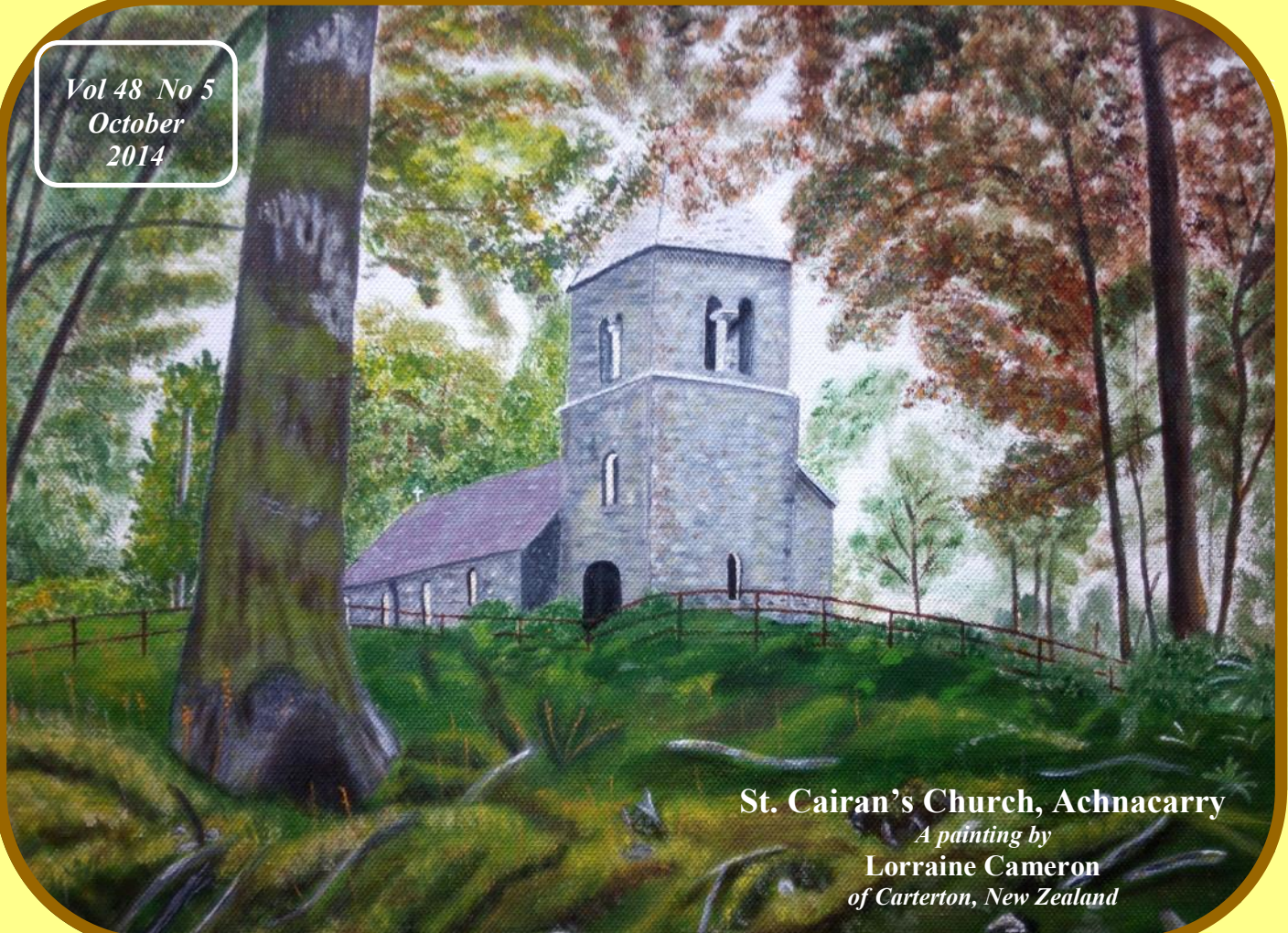
Bill Cameron speaking at the Auckland Branch Dinner

Photos: Left and Right: Bill Cameron, Above: Duncan McQueen



*Muisdile Lighthouse,
Loch Linnhe*

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2014*



St. Cairan's Church, Achnacarry

*A painting by
Lorraine Cameron
of Carterton, New Zealand*

“Cameron”

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(This has links to other Clan Cameron sites)

A message from our President.....

Dear Clan members and friends,

Welcome to all members and friends - it is time for another newsletter, with the year getting closer to December and Xmas.

The Council meeting on the 27th at Turangi will be a quiet day as we have a few apologies for the meeting. The election will be over and all persons will accept what has been the result - for better or worse, richer or poorer.

Our Secretary is putting together my video recorded efforts of Tristan's talk at the Auckland dinner in 2013 and the talk by Bill Cameron of Scotland at the 2014 Auckland dinner. These will be available for branches to screen at their leisure. We may be able to add the very good 'address to the Haggis' by the 12 year old St Kentigern School laddie, also at the Auckland dinner.

Tristan is at present working on a goat farm in New Plymouth. He speaks well of the friendly people of the district, I understand he has also joined the local pipe band which will keep his playing in good stead.

It certainly was a pleasure to meet with Bill Cameron at the Auckland dinner, also to later hear of his visit to St Kilda in Dunedin. Neil has coverage from the visit. The Auckland dinner was as usual a very successful evening with a very good Master of Ceremonies, Duncan McQueen.

Nick Cameron has apologies for the council meeting as he is defending his piping title. We wish him well and trust he is able to retain his title.

Regards to all,

Fraser Cameron.



Coming Events:

Sunday 12 October 2014

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church,
Turakina at 2pm.**

St Andrew's is holding a service of thanks giving & celebration to commemorate 150 years of worship in the present church & 162 years in Turakina.

All associated with the church and friends are welcome.

enquires to Ewen or Roz Grant
06 327 3861 - tullochgorum@xtra.co.nz
The church & hall will be open on Saturday from 12pm to 4pm and Sunday from 10-30am onwards for anyone to visit

Sunday 19 October 2014

Kirkin' O' The Tartan

1pm. St Andrew's Church, Christchurch
Enquiries to Rae Magson
raejohn@xtra.co.nz

Saturday 1 November 2014

Upper Hutt Highland Gathering

Harcourt Park, Upper Hutt. 8.30am - 3pm
Enquiries to Rob Cameron (see left)

Saturday 8 November 2014

Hororata Highland Games

Hororata Domain, Hororata.
Enquiries to Rae Magson
raejohn@xtra.co.nz

Saturday 22 November 2014

Auckland Highland Games

Three Kings Reserve. Commencing 10.30am. Free entry and a wonderful day for all the family. Visit the Cameron tent for a friendly welcome and to learn about our clan.

Thursday 1 January 2015

144th Waipu Highland Games

Events open with the formal clan march at 9.30am. Come and visit the Cameron tent and give us your support.
Info: www.waipugames.co.nz

Clan Cameron NZ is now on Facebook



Link to Facebook and 'How to Get Started on Facebook' are on our website.

Next Magazine Deadline is 15 Nov.

Printed By

Welcome to the following Members who have recently joined us:

Auckland Branch:
John and Joanna Sharp

Auckland

Ceud Mile Fàilte

One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



History Corner *by Fiona Cameron*

Thistle Do

By the time this newsletter goes to press, the referendum for Scottish Independence will be over. The discussion of Scottish governance and identity got me thinking about the various icons of 'Scottishness' – the haggis, the kilt and what has to be one of the more peculiar national flowers in the world – the thistle.

England's national flower is the elegant tudor or red rose (although apparently Elizabeth I had a morbid fear of roses), Wales is represented by the springlike daffodil, Ireland has her lucky shamrock. So how did Scotland end up with such a prickly invasive 'weed' as a national flower?

According to legend, the thistle was adopted as the Emblem of Scotland during the reign of Scottish Alexander III. In 1263, an army sent by Norse King Haakon landed on the northern coast near Largs intent on a surprise invasion. Under cover of darkness, the Norsemen planned to surprise the sleeping Scots and removed their footwear to quiet their footsteps. But the thistle also lurked in the darkness. One of Haakon's men stood on a thistle and cried out in pain, alerting the Scots, who routed the Norsemen. And so the thistle saved the day. Or did it?

In reality the war between Scotland and Norway was over the 'ownership' of the Hebrides. In the 1240s, King Alexander II



wished to purchase the islands from Norway. He was unsuccessful, and the matter lay dormant until his son Alexander III came to power in 1262. Alexander III sent King Haakon a demand saying they would take the islands by force if Haakon continued to refuse to sell them to the Scots.

In July 1263, Haakon responded by sending a fleet of warships to defend the islands. The fleet stopped at Arran while the kings negotiated. Alexander stalled the talks, hoping the coming winter storms would stymie the Norse plans.

The ploy worked. In October 1263 several of Haakon's ships got stranded at Largs in stormy weather. A rescue party was sent ashore to help salvage the ships, where the Scottish forces launched a surprise attack, and a minor skirmish followed. The "battle" ended indecisively with a tactical draw.

The following morning King Haakon's forces sailed back to Orkney for the winter, where he died in December. Alexander III actually captured the Hebrides in 1264, and made a formal claim to the Islands which were bought from Norway for a sum of 4,000 marks.

So while the thistle may not have been decisive in a battle against invading Norsemen, it does seem to have some relevant attributes to represent Scotland.

The Cotton Thistle or *Onopordum acanthium* (to give it its official name) has a very strong root system - much like the clans of Scotland. Also removing the entire plant from a piece of ground is not an easy task – also much like the clans of Scotland



From the Branches....

Manawatu *by Jessie Annabell*

Over 40 members of the Manawatu branch and friends, including branch members Ian & Sue McKelvie (Ian is the member of parliament for Rangitikei) gathered in the Hunterville room at the Hotel Coachman in Palmerston North for their annual midwinter "Christmas" dinner on the 26th of July. Representatives of the Chisholm and Campbell clans were also present. It made for a cosy and convivial occasion. Bruce Cameron performed the "Ode to the haggis", and the Celtic Inn provided the haggis. Who would have guessed that chilli would have been such an excellent addition to the haggis?

Sebastian King, a rising star, entertained us with his remarkable piping and Richard Steedman, a branch member from the upper Rangitikei, spoke to us about his recent trip back to Lochaber. Determined to get to the bottom of the mystery about Big John, Richard and his mother, Margaret, spent considerable effort locating old maps and liaising with Lochiel and local historian Ian Thornber to locate the site where Big John was born, the several sites where he and his family lived in Morvern and how many children he actually had.

Our lovely Square Day will be on the second Saturday in December. The popular haggis sandwiches will be on offer again possibly with a little bit of tatties and neeps. On a misty day so romantic, on sunny days like an early celebration of Christmas and New Year. We look forward to seeing members, whether you can help or whether you are just passing through. If you are able to

help, even for an hour, please ring Jessie 06 355 2705 or email jannabell@xtra.co.nz

Our branch AGM will be at enchanting Mount Lees again on February 22nd 2015. Bring something for a shared lunch. We will be in touch nearer to the date.

Work is progressing on setting up the national AGM in Palmerston North next year, 17th and 18th April, at the Hotel Coachman in Fitzherbert Avenue, a one-stop venue. We have negotiated a good rate for a certain number of rooms, so timely booking will be an advantage. There will be a registration form in the next newsletter. We are putting together a very nice set of outings for Saturday afternoon, in which there should be something for everyone. And there is something in the air for Friday night. Keep watching this space!

Local members, do not forget the Wanganui commemoration of the the Blenheim's departure, a dinner on the 25 August next year. We offer all support to Roz & Ewen.

Auckland *by Norman Cameron*

The Branch's annual winter dinner held at the Quality Hotel Parnell on 2nd of August was very successful thanks to the hard work of the Committee. There were just under eighty guests who enjoyed a great evening of entertainment with an ex First Lighter, Bill Cameron from Fort William, Lochaber, being the guest speaker. A week later I had dinner with Bill here on Waiheke Island.

Continued overleaf →

From the Branches - *Auckland continued* :-

On the 30th of August a Ceilidh was held at St Kentigern College and Bryan & Jenny Haggitt organised a Cameron table. I was a non starter as I showed the flag at the Clan Donald dinner which was held on the same night. On Monday the 1 September I attended the Auckland Clans Association meeting. They are having their dinner on 4 October and I hope some Clansfolk support their dinner.

Just a reminder that Clan McPhee are holding a dinner in honour of their Commander from Scotland on the 18th of October, I will be attending.

Bay of Plenty by Denis Cameron

Joy and I will be going to Turangi for the Executive Council Meeting on the 27th September. This is a good opportunity to catch up with representatives from the other branches around New Zealand and together make sure everything is running smoothly with the Clan.

The Bay of Plenty Branch has 82 members but unfortunately we do have a few who are a bit slow in paying their subscriptions which are now \$25.00. These can be paid direct to our treasurer, Joy Cameron, 8 Kokomo Key, Papamoa, Tauranga 3118, or paid direct into Clan Cameron BOP Westpac Bank Account Number 030435-0024933-00. This would be much appreciated.

We would like to hold a pre-Christmas gathering in November – date and venue to be advised. Our loyal committee will be in touch with members to advise of details and get numbers attending.

We look forward to hearing from Ray and Janet Crafts with a report on their recent trip to the UK.

Clan merchandise is still available and we will take existing stock to Turangi so other branches can purchase and save on the cost of postage.

Now that Spring is here, the weather is getting a little warmer and we can all hopefully get out and about and enjoy the company of friends, family and other Clan members.

Canterbury by Rae Magson

The Clan has been quiet recently, however there are lots of events coming up. We have the Kirkin' of the Tartan, at 1pm on 19 October at St Andrews Church, Christchurch, then the Hororata Games on Saturday 8 November. This is a fun day and the Clan Cameron has a stall, along with lots of other clans. Last year the day was rather chilly so we are hoping for better this year. However there are masses of people there and lots of interest in the Camerons. On 23 November the Annual General Meeting is to be held, arrangements still being made.

On a different subject, I read a fascinating book recently. It is only small and called *The Chrysolite*, New Zealand Immigration Ship 1861-1862 by Belinda Lansley. It is available on Trade Me, if you are interested. My ancestors Peter and Margaret Doig came out to New Zealand on this ship in 1861 and eventually settled in Chertsey, Mid-Canterbury, having a family of 12 children. Also on the ship were Duncan Cameron aged 22 years, and John Cameron aged 18 years from Inverness, described as farm labourer and shepherd. The book says that John was at one stage employed as game-keeper and deer-stalker for the Earl of Stamford in Glenmore Forest. He worked for two years on a station before going to the West Coast diggings with two mates. They were the first to find payable gold in Kaniere Creek, where they worked with good luck for two years. He farmed for 25 years at Mount Grey Downs. In 1892 he bought a 3500 acre property called "Glenmore" at Motunau, with his eldest son farmed at Scargill and Waipara. He married Miss Frame in 1873 and they had four sons and four daughters. These Camerons are not related to me as far as I know, but thought this was of interest. Also on the same voyage was

James Speight, a debt collector and his wife who went to Dunedin. He was one of the founders of the famous brewery James Speight and Co in Dunedin in 1876, but he died young at the age of 54 years. His brewery still runs today under the name of Speights.

Taranaki/Wanganui by Neville Wallace

Atholl John James Byers 1984- 2014

I first got to know of Atholl when I was observing animal welfare problems, and seeking advice from the SPCA, it was always a reasoned reply. A little later on it was Don Cameron who had been to a business function, where awards were being handed out to the prominent Hawera businesses, came to me and told me how he had met a Scot in his kilt at this function and had invited him to become a member of the local Clan Cameron. We were planning a function at the Hawera Club and Atholl came along and took part.

I understand that at about this time Atholl was holding down two jobs. At this time Shona, myself and a friend used to frequent the corner coffee bar as a meeting room. Some of the time Atholl was there having his breakfast and we would have a catch up on Scottish news and history plus local gossip. It was at one of these occasions that Atholl told us that he was entering the police force and would be away at the police training academy.

So for about nine months we never saw Atholl. We had Clan meetings at Waitotara that Atholl would arrive at unaccompanied. But at our last Clan meeting down at Waitotara Atholl brought all the family along. The seating arrangements weren't set up for round table talking so I sat with Atholl, Amy and family. We talked about Scottish independence.



We talked about their getting married and was surprised that the celebrant, who married them, was our daughter! It was at this Clan Cameron meeting that the meeting put it to Atholl to become Clan Cameron treasurer thus we became closer to Atholl.

Please accept condolences from Clan Cameron to Atholl's mother, sister and brother in law. Our thoughts are particularly with Amy, Finn and Evie

To the wider family, condolences from our Clan.

-foi do' anam a Atholl

Arrival of the Blenheim celebrations

The celebrations will include a family picnic at Kaiwharawhara Park on 27 December 2015 to mark the arrival of the Blenheim and other functions at Auckland and Wanganui in 2015 to celebrate the departure on 25 August 1840.

Contact for: Kaiwharawhara Picnic is; Hugh McPhail, 7 Westland Road, Mt. Cook, Wellington 6021. Ph. 04 97 9851. email blenheim175@gmail.com

Wanganui dinner; Roz & Ewen Grant, Tullochgorum, 2153 SHW3, Turakina, R.D.11, Wanganui 4581. Ph. 06 327 3861. email tullochgorum@xtra.co.nz

Auckland dinner; Norman Cameron, 31/37 Natzka Road, Ostend, Waiheke Is. Auckland 1081. Ph. 372 8442. email norman.cameron37@gmail.com



Message from Lochiel...

... read by Bill Cameron at the Auckland Branch Winter Dinner.

I am delighted that my friend Bill is attending the Association dinner in Auckland and through him I pass on my very best wishes to you all. The clan is, I believe, thriving across the world and that is due to all the hard work done by the many clansfolk who give their time and energy to ensuring that the flame doesn't die and for that I thank you most sincerely. Make sure you attract the next generation to the cause !

At the moment, we are having wonderful sunny weather and the Lochiel family are all well with our six grandchildren are growing fast and keeping us busy. We will soon be starting the last phase of redecoration at Achnacarry and it will be a relief to finish what we started over five years ago. You might be interested to know that we are developing a number of Hydro schemes on the Estate and this will, hopefully, make a big difference to our finances which have always been a bit rocky ! Someone once said that owning a Highland Estate was like standing in a cold shower tearing up £5 notes but perhaps, for us, no longer.

We are hosting a clan BBQ at Achnacarry in August on the day before the Glenfinnan Games and I am glad to say that my uncle Charlie who some of you will remember and who is 93 years old, will be coming. Also, we are shortly going to publish a new edition of the clan book which will include more information on the overseas Associations and many thanks to those who have helped with this.



whatever should now be addressed to him !

As I am sure you know, and being $\frac{1}{4}$ New Zealandish through my grandmother who lived in Wellington, I am always delighted to welcome visitors from New Zealand to Achnacarry and so please don't hesitate to let me know if you are planning a trip.

I will finish by wishing you all good health and happiness.

With warmest regards

Donald Cameron of Lochiel

The Referendum

- some musings by the editor

I found the referendum fascinating and was glued to my computer which was set to the Daily Telegraph result tracker. I watched the results coming in from the local authorities during the day, starting with Clackmannanshire and finally ending with the vast (in area) Highland Authority, with a voting tally of 166,000. I had wondered if the Highlands might produce an 'aye' result, considering the Highland Clans' history but, although slightly above the mean, it was a decisive vote for 'no'.

Although initially uncertain, I think, if I was able to vote, I would have supported remaining in the United Kingdom. It is good to keep the old Cameron traditions alive but 307 years as part of the UK has engendered something valuable which we should not hastily discard. During this time, certainly with my family, considerable intermarriage has taken place. As British units, Scots have played a major part in conflicts all around the world and Scotland, although having only one tenth the population of the remainder of the United Kingdom, has punched above it's weight in it's development.

There will be disappointment for the 1.6 million who voted for independence. Many will have hoped for more power over Scottish affairs, which they felt were controlled from far away in London, with only 59 members in a House of Commons of 650. (I must admit that I hoped I might be able to apply for a Scottish passport by having a grandfather born in Scotland).

All is not lost, however, as when the polls at one stage showed that the 'ayes' were leading, Prime Minister David Cameron promised that, in the event of a "no" vote, new powers would be devolved to Scotland for tax, spending and welfare. He has since confirmed that he will keep his promise, but he will have considerable opposition. This may mean that similar powers will also be given to Wales and Northern Ireland.

As an ex-Navy man, my interest lay in what would happen to the Rosyth Naval Base, home to the Royal Navy's nuclear submarines, including those carrying the nuclear deterrent, in the event of an 'aye' result. These submarines and arsenal would have had to be removed to Devonport, and new supporting facilities built there. Also, shipbuilders BAE Systems intend to build the Royal Navy's future combat ships, the Type 26 Frigate, in Scotland. This would involve upgrading their Govan yard or building a state of the art facility at Scotstoun, or both. Independence would probably have de-railed this project.

I believe there is a sense of relief in much of Scotland, and certainly in England, at the result. There was uncertainty about the currency, a bank run, business flight, and the effects on the economy of both countries. All are relieved that the long and acrimonious campaign is over, hopefully for at least another generation.

Her Majesty the Queen said on the day following the referendum:

"For many in **Scotland** and elsewhere today, there will be strong feelings and contrasting emotions – among family, friends and neighbours. That, of course, is the nature of the robust democratic tradition we enjoy in this country. But I have no doubt that these emotions will be tempered by an understanding of the feelings of others.

Now, as we move forward, we should remember that despite the range of views that have been expressed, we have in common an enduring love of Scotland, which is one of the things that helps to unite us all."

And finally from Bill Cameron:

"I do hope that the recent divisions that have occurred during this long campaign will be healed, with everyone moving forward as one country."

(These are my personal views - Editor)



Down Memory Lane

Concluding an interview with

Lt.-Col. Charles Cameron
for 'the Braes of Lochaber'

**Tell us a bit about your work with
Alginate Industries.**

I worked for the Company for more than 30 years, from 1948 until 1980. We bought seaweed, mainly from North Uist and Lewis for processing in various factories we set up. There were two sorts of weed we bought - rod weed which was driven up on the shore by the winter storms, known as 'The Tangle of the Isles' and rock weed - which was harvested. The rod weed was gathered and taken up above high water mark to be dried before purchase and the wrack or rock weed was harvested. At low tide, a team of men would lay a net round rocks where the weed grew and as the tide came in the weed floated and the net was drawn underneath it and when the tide went out, the weed was cut and dragged ashore by a tractor; this was bought wet and paid for by weight, loaded onto puffers which brought coal to Lochboisdale and then taken to Girvan for processing and the tangle weed was milled and went to the factory in Barcaldine. It fitted in with the rhythm of crofting life as the men could fit kelp gathering in with other work and it provided much needed cash.

Most of the Islanders joined the Territorial Army--the Camerons mostly, or the merchant navy. Many were captured at St. Valery and spent the rest of the war in prison—they

had to work in salt mines but, happily, not that many were killed. In the late 40's there was of course no hydro-board electricity and there was still the occasional black house in Uist, with a fire in the middle of the floor and most houses were thatched with heather. After living on Uist for two years, I knew that I had to move and Bobby Campbell-Preston who was Chairman was quite happy as long as I could supervise things from the mainland; at the end of my employment, I found I had crossed the Minch every month for the better



Diamond Wedding Celebration

part of 30 years!

**And your time with the Cameron
Highlanders ?**

I joined in Feb. 1939. During the First War, as far as the Camerons were concerned, Kitchener's Army was recruited mainly from Glasgow but in 1939 it came mostly from the Inverness area; the TA doubled in size and the Battalion was split into two, the 4th and 5th Camerons. The 4th comprised people from the outer

Isles, Inverness, Foyers and Beaully and the 5th came from Lochaber, Nairn and Badenoch. After St Valery, where most of the 51st Division was captured, our division took on the name.

**Do you remember the unveiling of
the Commando Memorial ?**

Oh yes; there had been great discussion as to where it should be and one of the ideas was to have it on the estate. Somewhere between Achnacarry and Banavie where they had actually trained, but the present site is much the best. After the opening, Queen Elizabeth came for lunch and, when I offered her a drink, she said she would like a glass of sherry. Drinks were mostly kept in decanters and, as you know, dry sherry can look very like whisky. Inadvertently, I poured her a glass of whisky, but happily my mistake was spotted before it reached her!

**What was Fort William like in
those days ?**

It was a thriving market town. Fishmongers and butchers, good general provision merchants, an excellent shoe shop, a chemist and all the services a rural community could need. Marion Weir, O.B Ross, Macfarlanes, Laurie Blair, and, of course, the vans. All the people here lived from the vans, --Colquhouns, MacLennans and others- they were a most important part of country life.

*This recording was collected and edited by
Richard Sidgwick and Donald Cameron of
Lochiel*

With thanks to 'the Braes of Lochaber'



Oats

by Sue Tregoweth (Clan MacRae)

Throughout history, oats were often disparaged as weeds. Scotland was one of the few places where oat was appreciated; it has been a staple of the Scottish diet since medieval times. Many different names are used for the various oat products, which can be confusing. The important thing is to look at the texture. All oats start off as groats. These are then cut, steamed and rolled or milled - the degree of processing determines the taste, texture and cooking time. Oatmeal comes in varying degrees of coarseness. The coarsest is usually called pinhead or Scotch oatmeal and is made by cutting whole groats into two or three nibbly-looking pieces. Until rolled oats were introduced, porridge was traditionally made with this coarse oatmeal.

The 20th Annual World Porridge Making Championship was won in Carrbridge, Inverness-shire, for the second in three years by John Boa. The trophy, known as the 'Golden Spurtle', goes to the maker of the best traditional porridge using only oatmeal, salt and water. Mr. Boa said the trick to producing world-class porridge is to "keep stirring" using a spurtle - a rod-shaped tool traditionally used to stir porridge.



"Donald & Sarah's Growing Family

The family of our future chief, Donald Andrew, is growing. See above recent addition, Rose, with elder brothers Donald Fergus and Finnian. A very cute brood!"

With thanks to James Cameron (Australia)

A Mission to the three St. Kilda's

by Bill Cameron (Lochaber)

Having visited the remote St. Kildan archipelago here in Scotland on a number of occasions over the years, and after reading so much about the island's rich history, it was only a matter of time before my interest was drawn to finding out more about the connections between the other two places in the world called St. Kilda. These are found in Melbourne, Australia, and Dunedin, New Zealand.

I was also aware of smaller places in the world where the name St. Kilda is used, however, these were not on my list, and there was only so much I could fit in to a summer holiday.

Early in 2014, I made the decision to visit all three St. Kilda's across the world, and in the process, try discover what connections there were, if any, between St. Kilda here in Scotland.

August, 29th, 2014, marked the eighty-fourth anniversary since the last thirty six islanders left St. Kilda, after thousands of years of habitation. They had lived off the seabirds, climbing up the highest sea stacs in Britain, and applying their successful bird fowling techniques.

After the evacuation, most of the thirty six St. Kildan's settled in Morven, here in Lochaber.

Today, the island is still home to many thousands of seabirds. The same birds that islanders had once survived on. Ironically, the islands now attract bird watchers to the area often referred to as, 'Islands on the Edge of the World'.

Starting out from Lochaber in early July, I headed over to the island of Harris, from where I made my way out to St Kilda by boat. After a bumpy voyage out in to the rough Atlantic Ocean, we eventually landed safely in Village Bay on the main island of Hirta.

Each time I visit the island, I try to go to new parts which usually involves a steep climb over the hills around Village Bay. This year I wanted to visit the well of virtues, as well as making for Conachair, the highest point of the island which commands great views over to the sea stacs. With St. Kilda Scotland visited, I then made my way back to Lochaber and on to Glasgow to fly down to Australia.

A day in the air later, I flew in to Melbourne, Australia where I would visit my second St. Kilda. Arriving in this bustling suburb of Melbourne, I soon spotted many signs with 'St. Kilda' in the title, which was quite surreal, given that I had come from the remote island of St. Kilda in Scotland only a couple of days, earlier and where there were no signs, just thousands of birds.

Over a number of days I was able to explore the suburbs of St. Kilda, finding out about its history and many links with Scotland. I discovered that this part of Melbourne takes its name

from the schooner '*The Lady of St. Kilda*', a trading ship owned by Sir Thomas Dyke Acland from Devon. Acland and his wife Lydia had visited St. Kilda Scotland in 1810 and the schooner was a regular visitor to Port Philip from 1841 onwards.

Ironically, eleven years after this suburb of Melbourne was renamed St. Kilda, thirty six St. Kildan's would leave their remote island home in Scotland to make a perilous journey on the emigrant ship *Priscilla* to nearby Port Philip at the other end of the world, all in the search of a better way of life. Sadly, only sixteen of the St. Kildan party survived on the journey from Scotland.

The surviving St. Kildan's were employed in the brick factory, or employed on farms throughout Victoria.

Moving on from St. Kilda Melbourne I gradually made my way up the east coast of Australia over a number of weeks to Cape Tribulation, before travelling over to New Zealand to visit my third St. Kilda.

Flying in to Auckland in early August, I was delighted to stop over in the city of sails for a couple of days, catching up with clans folk at a wonderful Cameron dinner in the city. Staying with former first lighter, David Cameron, and his wife Karen. They made me very welcome and it was great to catch up with them.

Leaving Auckland, I had arranged to meet up with my old friend Joyce Forsyth who hails from Letterfinlay. Joyce has worked in one of the hospitals in Auckland for the past ten years. We then headed off by plane to Dunedin to visit my third and final St. Kilda.

Landing in Dunedin in the late afternoon, we made our way from the airport over to St. Kilda beach, where breaking waves crashed on the shore, and the setting sun created a wonderful pink sunset. The next day we explored parts of St. Kilda, visiting a number of interesting local attractions.

Whilst staying in St. Kilda, I was delighted to meet up with Elizabeth and Bill Purdie - members of clan Cameron Auckland. Elizabeth and Bill were able to give some further insights to St. Kilda, as Bill had been brought up there.

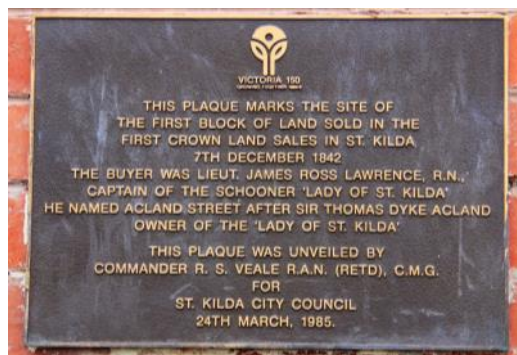
In researching the origins of St. Kilda Dunedin it appears that the area was named by the Australian property developer George Scott, after the Melbourne suburb of the same name in 1862. Scott had come over from Australia to develop property in Dunedin and apparently the area reminded him of St. Kilda Melbourne. The area was previously known by its Maori name of Whakaharekau. Again, surprisingly I have since discovered a number of connections with descendants of the original St. Kildan's who came over on the *Priscilla* in 1852 and who now stay in this area.

I was very lucky to have an article published in the Otago Daily Times asking for information on the origins of St. Kilda in Dunedin. This produced some very interesting findings, which I am still following up.

Having had this unique opportunity to visit and research the connections between the three St. Kilda's across the world, I managed to amass some interesting research along the way. It is my intention to put together a small illustrated publication at a later date.



View of the old croft houses in Village Bay, St Kilda Scotland.



Wall plaque in St. Kilda, Melbourne



Bill on St. Kilda beach, Dunedin New Zealand.



Mary Barber, Ian McKelvie, Russell Cameron and Roz Grant at the Manawatu annual dinner. Photos: above and below left: Ewen Grant



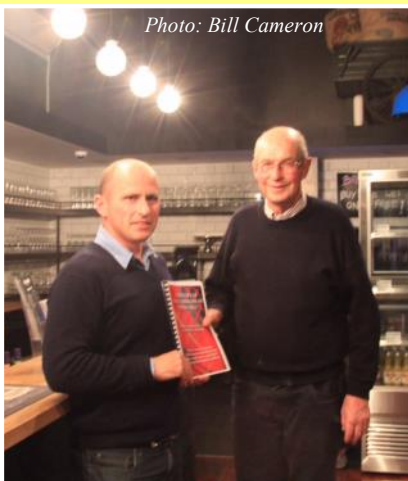
Bryan Haggitt with the reception team of Elaine Ebbett and Anne Cameron at the Auckland dinner



Richard Steedman tells of his trip to Lochaber at the Manawatu dinner



Norman Cameron (Auckland) hands the Vivienne McConnell banner to Fraser for BOP safe keeping



Norman Cameron presents Bill with a copy of his book



Part of the young haggis party - Cade Garland



Brian and Pam Cameron with their extended family at the Auckland dinner



Bill Cameron with Auckland Branch (Dunedin member) Elizabeth Purdie and her husband Bill in Dunedin.



The wonderful people who entertained at the Auckland dinner. From left: Anton Hodson, Ben Lerner (haggis addresser), Sarah McQueen, Celia Haggitt and Alex Milligan. (un credited photos on this page by Jean or Duncan McQueen or Editor)