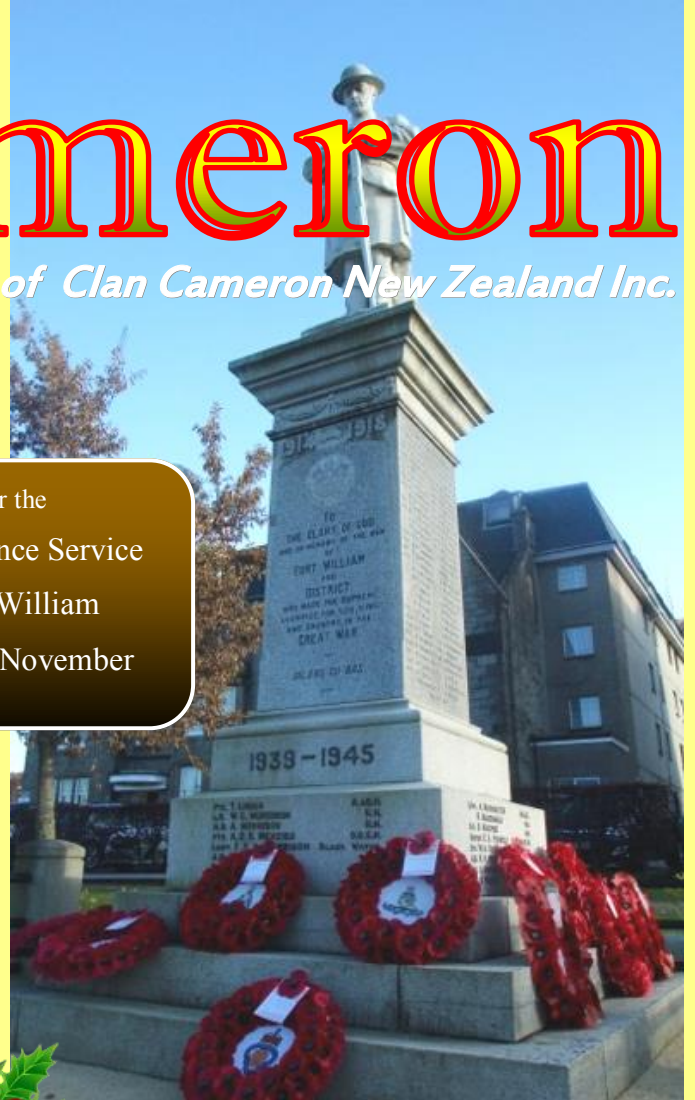




# Cameron

*The Magazine of Clan Cameron New Zealand Inc.*

After the  
Remembrance Service  
In Fort William  
Sunday, 9 November



**Merry**



**Xmas**



**Vol 48 No 6  
December  
2014**

**Turakina Presbyterian  
Church 150 Years**

*Left: Piper Stewart  
McKenzie*

*Right: Nancy Rhodes and  
Eoin Cameron plant a  
Dawn Redwood tree*



*Turakina Photos by Ewen Grant*



## "Cameron"

is the magazine of the  
Clan Cameron Association of New Zealand (Inc)

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(This has links to other Clan Cameron sites)

## A message from our President.....

Dear Clan members and friends,

Well folks, it has come to my notice that it is time to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. Please take care should you be travelling during the holiday period.

Our Mid Year Council meeting was well attended. Thank you all for your attendance - sorry I missed the pre council meeting on the Friday evening.

Thanks to Bryan Haggitt, after discussion with Bill Cameron during his visit, for his explanation of the problems with Scotland as regards the First Light Scheme.

It was a pleasure to welcome the offer of the Wanganui Branch to host the AGM for 2016. This will assure members of a good visit. Manawatu appear to have matters under control for the 2015 AGM.

Once again I would like to wish a "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" to you all and your families.

See you all at the Paeroa games - if not before.

Regards to all,

*Fraser Cameron*



## Coming Events:

**Thursday 11 December 2014**  
**Hawke's Bay Branch Christmas Get together.**

6pm Clansman Motor Lodge. Members are asked to bring a small plate of finger food.

Enquiries to Helen Shaw. (06) 844 8398

**Saturday 13 December 2014**

**Palmerston North Square Day**

Clan Cameron Manawatu will be there with their sausage sizzle and extremely popular haggis sandwiches. And, as always, assistance from members would be appreciated.

Enquiries to Jessie Annabell, 06 355 2705  
jannabell@xtra.co.nz

**Sunday 14 December 2014**

**Taranaki/Wanganui Christmas**

**Gathering and Pot Luck Luncheon**

275 Turuturu Road, Hawera

Contact Shona on 06 278 6005 if you are interested in attending

**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

**Saturday 31 January 2015**

**151st Turakina Highland Games**

Cameron Road Turakina

Www.turakinahighlandgames.co.nz

**Saturday 14 February 2015**

**22nd Paeroa Highland Games and Tattoo.**

Paeroa Domain from 9am. Join us for the Clan march to the town centre at 11am. The Cameron tent will be there. Tattoo at 6.30pm.

www.paeroahighlandgames.co.nz

**Friday 17-Sunday 19 April 2015**

**50th Annual Gathering and AGM**

Palmerston North.

See enclosed registration form.

## A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all

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 Jan.

Printed By

## Welcome to the following Members who have recently joined us:

*Ceud Mìle Fàilte*

### Auckland Branch:

Fiona Cameron                      Auckland  
Elizabeth Cameron-White        Auckland  
Elaine McGowan                  Auckland

Jock Cameron                      Auckland  
Nicholas Clark                    Auckland  
Gillian Martin                    Auckland

*One Hundred  
Thousand Welcomes*

## History Corner by Fiona Cameron

### Colonel Cameron of Fassifern

Sometimes it is amazing what you can find when you are looking for something else. I was searching for information on various Southland properties managed by my branch of the Camerons, and also found this rather splendid poem. Written by John Stuart Blackie around 1867 (and also known as *The Lay of the Brave Cameron*), it appeared in the Otago Witness on February 4, 1882.

#### COLONEL CAMERON OF FASSIFERN.

At Quatre Bras, when the fight ran high,  
Stout Cameron stood with watchful eye,  
Eager to leap, as mettlesome hound,  
Into the fray with a plunge and a bound:  
But Wellington, lord of the cool command,  
Held the reins with a steady hand,  
Saying, 'Cameron, wait, you'll soon have enough,  
Giving the Frenchmen a taste of your stuff,  
When the Cameron men are wanted.'

Now hotter and hotter the battle grew,  
With tramp, and rattle, and wild halloo ;  
And the French poured, like a fiery flood,  
Right on the ditch where Cameron stood :  
Then Wellington flashed from his steadfast stance,  
On his Captain brave a lightning glance,  
Saying, 'Cameron, now have at them, boy,  
Take care of the road to Charleroi,  
Where the Cameron men are wanted !'

Brave Cameron shot like a shaft from a bow  
Into the midst of the plunging foe,  
And with him the lads whom he loved, like a torrent Sweeping the  
rocks in its foamy current ;  
And he fell the first in the fervid fray,  
Where a deathful shot had shore its way,  
But his men pushed on where the work was rough.  
Giving the Frenchmen a taste of their stuff,  
Where the Cameron men were wanted.

Brave Cameron then, from the battle's roar  
His foster brother stoutly bore,  
His foster brother, with service true,  
Back to the village of Waterloo.  
And they laid him on the soft green sod,  
And he breathed his spirit there to God,  
But not till he heard the loud hurrah  
Of victory billowed from Quatre Bras,  
Where the Cameron men were wanted.

By the road to Ghent they buried him then.  
This noble chief of the Cameron men ;  
And not an eye was tearless seen  
That day beside the alley green ;  
Wellington wept, the iron man,  
And from every eye in the Cameron clan  
The big round drop in bitterness fell,  
As with tho pipes he loved so well  
His funeral wail they chanted.

And now he sleeps (for they bore him home,  
When the war was done, across the foam).  
Beneath the shadow of Nevis Ben,  
With his sires, the pride of the Cameron men :  
Three thousand Highlandmen stood round  
As they laid him to rest in his native ground,  
The Cameron brave, whose eye never quailed,  
Whose heart never sank, and whose hand never failed,  
Where a Cameron man was wanted.



## From the Branches....

### *Hawke's Bay* by Robin Stout

Hilary Stout (nee Cameron) had her 90th birthday on 3 November 2014 in Hawke's Bay. She is the daughter of Dr Percy and Nancy Cameron of Wellington. Hilary's grandfather, Angus Cameron arrived in New Zealand in 1861. He was born at Appin, Argyleshire in Scotland and became a master mariner, based in Dunedin.

Dr Percy Cameron was the first Dominion President of Clan Cameron in New Zealand from 1935. He was a pioneer radiologist who practiced in Dunedin and in Wellington. As a result of his work, he was blind for many years. Dr Cameron was awarded an OBE in 1959 for his services to radiology. He was Patron of Clan Cameron New Zealand in 1968.

Hilary has always been very fond of Scotland and because of this she chose a Scottish theme for her birthday celebration.

We celebrated on the actual day with a surprise visit by a local piper who came and played for her. He was resplendent in

full attire and looked superb as was his playing. Champagne branded Mumm, some of her favourite food (not too many vegetables!) and fireworks with friends and family continued the evening.

Then on the weekend following, we had a larger gathering of family and friends for lunch at a local winery. In keeping with the Scottish theme, the venue was decorated with blue and white balloons and flowers, tartan ribbon, homemade shortbread and mini Scottish flags graced the table, and many of the guests wore blue and white with one sporting a kilt.

Hilary grew up in Wellington, lived near Featherston for many years, has four children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She has enjoyed living in many different homes in the countryside, with many well-loved dogs, and still lives in her own home with three dogs and a large garden."

### *Auckland* by Norman Cameron

I missed the Executive Committee meeting at Turangi as Jill and I were cruising on the "Eurodam" from New York to Quebec. One of the ports we called at was Sidney, Nova Scotia and we

went on a tour to Iona, a Highland Village on Cape Breton Island. The first settlers arrived from Scotland in 1770 to a very rugged landscape with extreme temperatures, I can understand why the Rev McLeod built three ships and sailed to Waipu. We did not meet any Camerons in the short time we were there but met a lot of MacNeills from Barra, Scotland.

While I was away I missed the Combined Clans Assoc Auckland District Annual Dinner and I am pleased to hear that Clan Cameron made up a table. However I did attend the Clan McPhee dinner on October the 18th to celebrate their 30th Anniversary and also to welcome their Commander from Scotland.

On Monday the 3rd of November Bryan & Jenny Haggitt had to stay Alan Cameron a vet from Louisiana USA who is in New Zealand for the World Highland Cattle Conference. On Tuesday Alan and his wife Sharon came and had lunch with me here on Waiheke Island. Bryan & Jenny had a BBQ for them in the evening and Past President Don Cameron and his wife Val attended.

On Monday the 3rd of November the Combined Clans Assoc. of Auckland held their monthly meeting and it was decided to have a Burn's Dinner on the 24th of January at the Quality Hotel, Parnell.

The Auckland Highland Games are to be held at Three Kings Reserve on the 22nd of November and I hope there will be a good attendance of Clansmen.

*PS by Editor:* The Auckland Highland Games took place in windy and overcast conditions, which may be why the crowd was smaller than usual. Nevertheless, our tent was well patronised and two new members were signed up.

Support from the Auckland members was disappointing. Duncan McQueen towed the trailer and helped erect and take down the tent, assisted by Reuben Cameron in the afternoon. Anne Cameron spent most of the day helping us in the tent and talking to all the interested people who wished to know more about the clan. We thank them all for their enthusiastic assistance to us 'oldies'.

### *Bay of Plenty by Denis Cameron*

The Bay of Plenty Branch would like to wish all Clan Cameron members and their families, both in New Zealand and overseas, a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year for 2015. This year seems to have passed so quickly – or is it we are getting older and time moves much faster.

Unfortunately we have had to postpone our pre-Christmas get together but hope to have a function in the New Year when the weather has settled. The Haggis is ready and waiting!

Joy and I were pleased to have Alan and Sharon Cameron from the USA visit recently. We met them at the International Gathering in Achnacarry in 2009 and it was great to catch up again. They are visiting New Zealand for the International Conference of the Highland Cattle Association which was held in Rotorua, catching up with Clan Cameron members where possible and taking in some of our beautiful country. We wish them a most enjoyable visit and a safe journey home.

Take care if travelling over the holidays, enjoy good health, the company of family and friends, and we look forward to seeing you all in 2015.

### *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, and 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 Shona Wallace*

Clan Cameron Taranaki/Wanganui has been very quiet since our last meeting in September. Neville and I would like to send Christmas greetings to all our members and to all other branches. We wish you all a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Our branch is meeting in Hawera on December 14th at 275 Turuturu Road for our Christmas Gathering and pot luck luncheon. Contact Shona on 06 278 6005 if you are interested in attending.

### *Manawatu by Jessie Annabell*

Some members attended the Turakina St Andrew's Presbyterian church anniversary last month. A well organised occasion with lots of current and former parishioners attending.

Not so well-attended was the minigolf afternoon. A real pity - because the weather was sunny and calm, and the venue, Putt putt in Church St, Feilding, was exactly the right place for a picnic. It had to be hastily re-organised because the original venue, Cuba St ten pin bowling in Church St, Palmerston North, was closed for renovations. Many thanks to those few who did actually reply to the several emails.

Square Day is fast approaching. Saturday 13th December is a day to be in the Square to enjoy the piping and dancing competitions. As always, Clan Cameron Manawatu will be there with their sausage sizzle and extremely popular haggis sandwiches. And, as always, assistance from members would be appreciated, even for an hour or two, just to let others have a break. Many thanks to those who have already indicated their help, but we could still do with a few more. Part of this money goes towards the First Light programme, which was set up to benefit your children when they do their UK experience. Please email Jessie jannabell@xtra.co.nz or ring 06 355 2705 if you can help.

Planning for the 50th national Clan Cameron AGM in Palmerston North in April next year. You will find a registration form in this newsletter. All functions will be at the Hotel Coachman in Fitzherbert Avenue, Palmerston North, and as you will see, we have secured an excellent deal for accommodation. We have also put together an interesting and popular set of outings – The Feilding Coachhouse Museum, The Rugby Museum and the Orlando Country Club with driving range and artificial lake. ☆



# Representing Scotland

## Lochaber Shinty Players

*with thanks to 'The Braes of Lochaber'*

fortunate enough to score. It was a privilege to play shinty for my country and I hope to represent Scotland again next year."

*- Kirsty MacDonald*

**L**ochaber Camanachd Club were well represented in the Scotland national sides when they faced Ireland in the annual Shinty / Hurling fixture.

The Scotland Women's Squad were victorious over County Down in Newry on 25th October with the full time score, Scotland 4-2, Ireland 1-6. Missy Cameron, Kirsty Delaney and Kirsty MacDonald from Lochaber Camanachd played an outstanding game, with Kirsty MacDonald scoring a goal for Scotland.

*Three players from Lochaber Camanachd Club tell us a little bit about their experiences playing for the national team.*

"On Friday the 23rd of October I travelled out to Newry in Ireland with 19 other ladies as part of the Scottish Women's Shinty team. I was delighted to take part in the annual Shinty/Camogie match and was



"This year the Scotland women's squad travelled to Newry to face current All-Ireland champions in their division, County Down. Scotland started the game the stronger of the two, scoring two goals early on, although Down came back hard in the second half. Lochaber's Kirsty MacDonald scored the goal of the match, with the game finishing 1-6 to 4-2 so Scotland won 14-9. It was great to be selected for the team and to have been involved in a fantastic weekend. Thanks to all the family and friends who travelled over to support us!"

*- Missy Cameron*

"I was delighted to be selected for the Scotland squad again this year. We played with a great squad of girls and had a brilliant weekend. It was a privilege to play for Scotland and I would love to have the opportunity again one day"

*- Kirsty Delaney*

Missy Cameron, Kirsty MacDonald & Kirsty Delaney. (Photograph by Kim Ferguson.)

## Camerons from Louisiana

*by Bryan Haggitt*

**E**arlier this month, Alan and Sharon spent a very pleasant couple of days with us in Auckland.

Alan is a veterinary surgeon, specialising in small animals but has an interest in anything Scottish and, most particularly, his hobby is breeding Highland cattle. This is done at Scotland-Farms, their 320 acres in the hills, near Minden in the north west of Louisiana. Expanded from the original 158 block of pine forest it is, apparently, an ideal environment for raising these shaggy, friendly animals.



All the detail is on their website [www.scotlandfarms.com](http://www.scotlandfarms.com). Their reason for coming to New Zealand was to attend An International Highland Cattle Gathering from 6 November. This started with a conference at Rotorua and covered venues in both the North and South Islands. A visit was also paid to Tullochgorum Fold at Turakina, home of Ewen and Roz Grant.

Back in Louisiana, Alan and Sharon host an annual Scottish Tartan Festival and they issue an invitation to join them each year as they celebrate Scottish culture and heritage

It was great to meet Alan and Sharon - Camerons from another and very interesting part of the world.



Sarah with her dancing prizes at the Auckland Games and almost 10 years earlier, at the International gathering, with the late Lewis Turrell.

## Congratulations to:

**Hilary Stout** (Hawke's Bay) on reaching the age of 90. We know she had a wonderful day with family on November 3.

**Sarah McQueen** (Auckland) Year 13 student at St. Kentigern College, who has been awarded a University of Otago Academic Excellence Scholarship worth an incredible \$30,000 towards tuition fees, accommodation and living expenses for three years of study. Sarah is planning to study pre-med for her first year of tertiary education next year. Sarah is a talented dancer (above)

Grandparents **Hamish and Joan Cameron (Hawke's Bay)** on the recent birth of another bonnie lad, a first born son to daughter Kirsty and husband Mark Dinsdale of Southfields (near Wimbledon) London. Leonardo Cameron Dinsdale was born on 26th September, weighing in at just over 6 pounds. All well.

Joan flew over to London for a month to meet their new grandchild - a cousin for Lachlan "Lachie" Cameron who lives in Adelaide. Great news !

# Four Generations of Camerons...

*By Patricia Cameron (Bay of Plenty)*

Rex and Patricia Cameron welcome with love their great-grandson Xavier Lochiel Cameron to their Cameron family. Xavier's parents are Frazer and Tammy Cameron from Auckland, his grandparents are Bryan and Jane Cameron, also from Auckland.

Rex comes from a long line of Camerons starting as far back as John Cameron born in 1762. John married Isabella McPherson in 1782 and they lived in Ballintomb in the Highlands of Scotland. They had two sons, James and Peter, and we follow the line of Peter born in 1802.

Peter married Margaret Grant in 1826 at Kirkmichael and they lived at Strathdon, at a place called 'Bluefold'. They had nine children, Peter's son Charles married Annie Michie in 1871 and they are Rex's great grandparents. Their son Charles emigrated to New Zealand in 1892 as a single man and worked on his uncle Charles McHardy's farm in Taranaki. He arrived with only a shilling in his pocket. In 1904 he married Mary Augustina McHardy and they shifted to Morrinsville and bought a farm.

Their eldest son William Glennie, married to Annie Watt didn't emigrate until July 1924 - he is Rex's grandfather. Rex's father, also called William, was 16 when he arrived in New Zealand. His father William Glennie bought a farm in Scotchman's Valley at KIWITAHU, and lived there until he died in 1944. Rex's father William married Ella Haynes and took over the farm - Rex and his brothers and sisters grew



*Four Generations: Rex, Frazer with Xavier, and Bryan.*

up there. Rex married Patricia Hornsey in 1961 and they have five children, Bryan being the eldest. He married Jane Bygrave in 1983 and they have two sons, Frazer and Max. Frazer married Tammy Buckley in 2011 and Xavier was born on 20 June 2014.

Frazer and Tammy went on their O.E. for two years after they married. They visited Achnacarry and met with Astie and his family and had a lovely time there.

As a matter of interest, the line carries through William Glennie to William, to Rex, to Bryan, to Frazer, to Xavier - six eldest sons.

*(abridged - Editor)*

## Turakina Presbyterian Church

*by Roz Grant (Turakina)*

St Andrews Presbyterian Church in Turakina celebrated 150 years of worship in the present church and 162 years in Turakina on Sunday 12 October 2014 - and what an occasion that turned out to be.

Around 200 people attended travelling from Auckland, Wellington & between, many reconnecting with their roots and with people and all found the service of celebration enjoyable & for many quite emotional.

The Bible was piped into the church carried by Elder Ewen Grant. The Service jointly led by Moderator Rev. Ken Wall & Rev. John Peill. Rev. Wall is a direct descendant of the Rev. David Hogg who had lived in Wanganui & would ride out on the third Sunday of the month on a bullock "Albert" to take services until a Minister was appointed in 1857. Rev. Ken had grown a beard especially for the occasion to play the part of the Rev. Hogg during the service giving us a narration of historical events.

Stewart McKenzie a descendant of Thomas U McKenzie who had lived & worked in Turakina in the early 1850s was our piper. Stewart & Eoin played a very stirring Highland Cathedral on the organ & pipes during the service. At the finish Stewart played a piece he had composed in memory of his great-great-grandfather called "Poyntzfield".

Bible readings by Isaac Grant, Rachel Auret & Ewen Grant all members of the congregation & descendants of early settlers Donald Bane & Mary Cameron.

Peter McNaughton, dressed in the McNaughton tartan recited a blessing in Gaelic as all the early church service were in Gaelic and was a requirement of the early minister to be able to speak Gaelic. Following the service Nancy Rhodes & Eoin Cameron planted a Dawn Redwood tree in the church grounds.

Another highlight was the cutting of the cake by Stan Bebarfald our oldest member & Isaac Grant replacing the 2 little Auret girls who had gone down with Chicken pox & much to the surprise and

delight of the gathering Stewart followed with happy birthday on the pipes.

We are very grateful to Heather, Eoin & Peter Cameron, descendants of the Rev. K. I. Cameron, who did a display and history of the past ministers. Both Heather & Eoin travel up most months to play the organ for us from Waikanae.

In pride of place in front of the communion table sat Big John Cameron's chair, Big John and his family were the first family of settlers to arrive in Turakina and it was at their home the first church service in Turakina and the Rangitikei was held in December 1852, led by the Rev. James Duncan.

The church was open on Saturday afternoon Sunday morning & Roz Grant gave a Turakina history talk to a good group of people both days



The centenary cake is cut by Stan Bebarfald and Isaac Grant.

*Photos by:  
Ewen Grant*



# Vale

## John Colin Cameron

28 May 1930 – 27 September 2014

John was the eldest son of Robert Colin Cameron and Alma May Cameron (nee Watson). His great grandfather was Kenneth Cameron, who arrived at Lyttleton from Inverness-shire in Scotland in 1860. John married Beverley Jean Cameron in 1961 and they have three children, nine grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Born at Methven in 1930, his early days were spent in various places around Mid Canterbury where his father Bob worked. In 1939, the family shifted to “Dundas”, the property of his grandfather Albert or [Bert] Cameron. His father Robert [or Bob] Cameron took over the management of the estate after his grandfather Albert had died.

John attended 4 years at Ashburton Technical School. Following school he spent 4 years high country mustering and shepherding (the best years of his life he said) and should have stayed in the high country. After a year at Lincoln College in 1951, he went home to work and 5 seasons of shearing. In the 1950s, “Dundas” was bought by Bob and Alma Cameron off the estate. In 1962, it was divided between John and his brother, Brian. John and Beverley took over the homestead block. Farming fine wool sheep and some cropping, it changed in the late 1970s, when irrigation was put in and he had to turn to more cropping.

In 1990, he sold out and “Dundas” went out of Cameron ownership which had been bought by his grandfather Bert Cameron in 1906. He retired to a five acre block on the outskirts of Ashburton, where he had been running deer and had two restored McCormick vintage tractors, a Sunshine Header, which he took to vintage rallies.

For many years, he was keenly interested in pipe bands and played in Ashburton District Highland Pipe Band and the Metropolitan Pipe Band of Christchurch. John also played as a solo piper in piping competitions with success in lower grades. Unfortunately he had to give up being actively involved through lack of time.

He was interested in most sports. He played rugby for Ashburton Technical 1<sup>st</sup> XV, and was in the 1<sup>st</sup> XV for Lincoln

College in 1951. He represented all grades from primary school reps to senior rugby. He was injured in 1952 and had to give up all rugby at the age of 22. John represented Mid Canterbury at small bore rifle shooting. When he gave up rugby, he took up full bore rifle shooting, representing Canterbury from 1952-1958. He also represented New Zealand from 1967 to 1979. John shot at Bisley (United Kingdom) Queen's 1967, finishing 8<sup>th</sup> out of 1200 world wide shooters.



*John and Beverley at the 2005 International Gathering*

John went to Canada after Bisley and got 5<sup>th</sup> in the Governor General's shoot. He was 5<sup>th</sup> in the Australian National Queen's in 1976. His highest placing in the New Zealand Queen's was 5<sup>th</sup> in 1975. He shot 18 times in New Zealand Queen's 50. He enjoyed deer stalking, shot many thar in the late 1950s. He was also a keen salmon fisherman and one of his best results was a 29lb salmon from the Rakaia River while he was fishing with Harold Cameron who was visiting from the Bay of Plenty. It was a very exciting day for both very keen fishermen.

He was a member of Clan Cameron Canterbury Branch for many years and attended a number of National Conferences as well as local events in Ashburton. He attended the International Gathering in Auckland.

John was the elder brother of Brian Cameron, Ashburton and Denis Cameron of Tauranga.

### More Turakina pictures:



*Left: Talented organists Eoin and Heather Cameron from the Wellington/Wairarapa Branch, who played at the service.*

*Below: Big John's Chair*

This Chair belonged to John Cameron, known as Big John. John and his family were the first to arrive at Turakina after the land purchase and camped on Cameron Park until the land was surveyed off. He settled on the land behind the church and around Scot's Road.

It was at his home that the first Christian church service was held in December 1852

I asked Jessie Annabell if she could add to the above .....

“I’m afraid I don’t know anything more about Big John’s chair except that it was said to come from his son’s farm, Glenmore, up the Turakina Valley. I guess the old man used to sit in it when he lived at Glenmore. The chair is said to be made of rewarewa wood. Polished rewarewa has a beautiful fluttery ribbon pattern in it. I do not know who made it or when but it looks to be a rather poorly made traditional peasant chair, like the generic type which gave rise to the Windsor chair. Perhaps John made it himself? The legs are set straight, not at an angle, and with only three of them it must have been quite unstable - and yet the seat is so wide – was there room for John & Janet together? Or was it meant to accommodate Janet’s wide skirts? I have seen a picture of a similarly wide four legged Windsor chair in a magazine recently.”

Can anyone add to this - Ed





# Remembrance Services in Fort William



The memorial statue of a soldier with bowed head, shown on the front page, was taken on Sunday 9th November, after the Remembrance commemorations. The statue stands alongside the Cameron memorial on the Parade in Fort William. The Parade ground was gifted to the people of Fort William by the Fairfax Lucy family. They are of the Callart sept of Clan Cameron.

During the service of commemoration, the names of those who had fallen in both World Wars and the Gulf War were read out, while pipers played 'Highland Cathedral'. There were many Cameron men on this roll of honour. Also shown is a full picture of the memorial including the inscription, and poppy wreaths. It shows the fallen from the first and second world wars, as well as a number of others killed in other wars.

Lochiel was there to take the salute in Fort William, and was also up at the Commando memorial commemorations on the Sunday afternoon.

- Bill Cameron

*Left:* Taking the salute in fort William. Lord Lieutenant Donald Cameron of Lochiel, accompanied by Councillor Thomas MacLennan and Lord Lieutenant's Cadet, Oscar Wineberg, of the Army Cadet Force

*Below:* The scene at the Commando Memorial on Sunday afternoon of the 9th November. This service was organised by the Commando Veteran's Association.

*Photos: Iain Ferguson - Lochaber News*



## "Commando" The Achnacarry Project

The Achnacarry Project was completed in August this year and consists of a "Commando Trail" of eight interpretation panels recognising the connection the brave Commandos who trained at Achnacarry have with the area. The panels are situated at (1) Spean Bridge Railway station, (2) The Commando Memorial, (3) Caledonian Canal at Gairloch, (4) Bunarkaig, Loch Lochy, (5) Clunes, (6) and (7) Achnacarry and (8) Lochaber High School.

Local company *Me On My Wall* based in Spean Bridge constructed the panels.

More details and panel texts can be found on their website: <http://www.meonmywall.co.uk/corporate.php> - Click on Achnacarry Project. (with thanks to *The Braes of Lochaber Newsletter*).





# Mystery Poem found in World War 1 Kilt

*With thanks to Wayne Laurence FSA*

A hidden poem from a Glasgow woman has been found sewn into the folds of a World War One kilt owned by a Southampton academic. Dr Helen Paul discovered the hand-written message when she was removing the packing stitches from the kilt, which has been passed down her family. The note is a poem with lines including: "If married never mind, if single drop a line".

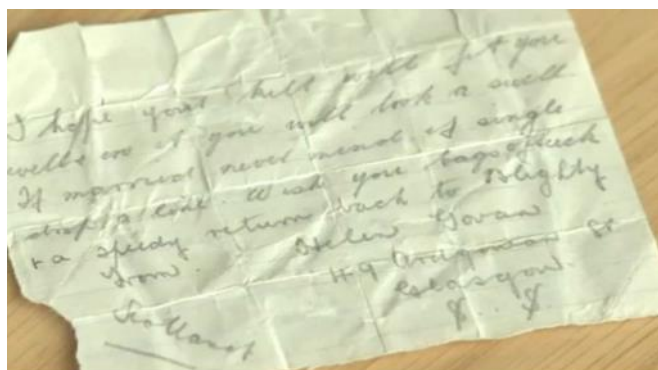
It is signed by Helen Govan, of 49 Ardgowan Street in Glasgow

*I hope your kilt will fit you well  
and in it you will look a swell  
If married never mind  
if single drop a line  
Wish you bags of luck  
and a speedy return back to Blighty*

Dr Paul said: "It would be fantastic to trace who this lady was and learn more about her history."

The London Scottish Regiment kilt was manufactured by Peter Wilson of Bridge Street in Glasgow. It was destined for a soldier heading to the front during WW1 but for unknown reasons it was never unpacked or worn.

Dr Paul, an economics historian at the University of Southampton, said: "This garment has been in our family for a number of decades and until recently we were completely unaware there was such an intriguing secret hidden in its folds. "It was a real surprise when the note fell out."



Note found in kilt - The poem was written by Helen Govan



The London Scottish Regiment was formed in 1859 as the London Scottish Rifle Volunteers and at one stage were attached to the Gordon Highlanders, but are now part of the London Regiment.



## New Commissioner of Clan Cameron Scotland

(left) Roddy Cameron takes over as Commissioner of Clan Cameron Scotland from Duncan Cameron at the recent AGM.

Roddy is a doctor at Ninewells Hospital in Dundee. He is a consultant radiologist. His family have a longstanding involvement in the clan association. His father was involved in the association, and his brother David is a past president of the association. Roddy is a keen walker and has undertaken a number of mountain hikes in Britain and abroad.

Both Roddy and Duncan attended our International Gathering in Auckland ten years ago in January 2005 (see 2005 photo of Roddy at right)



# *Extracts from the letters of Jessie Campbell,*

**to her family from Petone and Wanganui 1841-1845**

*By Editor: These letters were sent to me by Roz Grant of Turakina. They came to her from Lochreen Liburn but their earlier provenance is unknown. Further letters will be published in coming issues of 'Cameron'. You may recall that **Jessie Campbell's Journal** was published in this magazine early in the millennium and, with a significant date for the **Blenheim** coming up next year, it seemed appropriate to publish these letters as a follow up. If you would also like the journal re-published, please let me know.*

The "Blenheim" 4.30 p.m.

My dear Isabella

Here we are at last and I am glad to say the accommodation is even better than I expected, our cabin, when put in order will be very comfortable. I am in better spirits today strange to say, than I have been since I saw you. The children are very good and have had a comfortable sleep.

Ewen came on board with us still here, he is to put this into the P.O. for you. I.B.S. is quite brisk, when I came on board she came to ask me what she could do for me. We came alongside in a Helenburgh steamer, and got drenched with rain. There was terrible confusion with baggage and our escritoire and No.9 came on board and was put into the hold on Saturday last, we cannot get them out till tomorrow night, tonight we do the best we can. Tibby never looked better than she does and is so merry. The emigrants have all been mustered today, I have not been out of my cabin as yet, not even to see the Capt. Gray I mean. They say if the wind is fair, they will sail at daylight.

I am quite ashamed of dear Ewen's making presents to us, he has given me the writing portable box which I know he valued and Grandfather's takes for John. Ewen is off-I must have done.

Your much attached sister

J. Campbell

Tuesday evening 8 o'clock

My dear Isabella,

I have just ascertained that the Blenheim will certainly sail this night at 11 o'clock- a steamer being engaged at that time as a tug. Jessie and the Capt. I left at about 6 o'clock in wonderful spirits, they seem quite pleased with their cabin and I have not the least doubt that will be very comfortable.....The wind is very fair at present.

With best regards to all at Viewfort-in haste

Your affect. Brother

E.Cameron

Petone, 8th.Nov.1841

My dearest Isabella,

This will be the 4th letter besides my journal which have written to you, my last was written in June and announced the birth of William Patrick on the 13th May exactly a week after Captain C. sailed for Sydney. In case my letter may not have come to hand, I may as well mention that I never suffered so little or had so good a recovery. My medical attendant Dr.Stokes, was very attentive and skilful. I had no midwife, my servant and Mrs. Butler were the only attendants, how much I would have given to have had my old friends Crighton and Coley. Miss Beals arrived a few hours after Baby was born and very kindly remained until I was by the fireside. It was a great trial having to part with my husband at such a time ,you may fancy what his anxiety must have been for the ten weeks of absence, he did not get any of my letters, he did not know of the birth of his son , not whether we were dead or alive until his return to Wellington.

Willie is now almost 6 months old, he is very like John, is

hardly ever heard to cry and he has never tasted medicine. My mother will be surprised to hear he had not the least of the yellow gum.

The other children are all in rude health, John is a tremendous fellow in size and strength, he is already of great use. We have had no man for almost 3 months, John brings the cow home regularly from the bush. When his Father is from home, he goes to the Pah to buy potatoes from the natives and makes a good bargain as I can. He has great confidence in himself, in some respects he is the better of this, his greatest fault is being very obstinate. When he takes a thing in his head, it is no easy matter to convince him of being wrong.

Colin is taller for his age than John, he is quite healthy and much stronger and more active than when you saw him. We think he shows symptoms of being wormy which makes him thinner than he was some time ago. If he had advantages, I think he would be a tolerable scholar, his judgement is very much improved, he learnt by heart much quicker than John. He is the only one who takes a pleasure in keeping himself neat and tidy. A rent in his clothes distresses him beyond measure.

Louise is a sad romp, from being so much with the boys, she is very hoydenish. She is growing very tall and is thinner which has rather improved her appearance. Her abilities are better than her brothers, she has an immense mop of hair.

Susan Anne ,I am sure you would think a dear little pet, she has dark blue eyes, rosy cheeks, and small regular features. She talks continuously and is not the least shy, which makes her very engaging to strangers.

I am delighted to say that altho' the Captain continues thin he is in excellent health, he takes so much exercise it keeps him down in flesh, he never has heartburn and much less rheumatism.

I am not quite so stout as I was, my health is excellent, the only thing I complain of is having too keen an appetite. The children are ravenous, it is quite delightful to see how they enjoy their food.

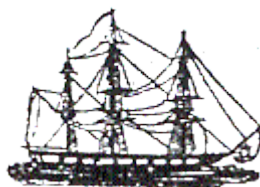
Now that I have satisfied you as to our health, I will begin with all that has happened since the month of June which was when I wrote you last.

Mr. Butler died on the 18th of that month, we miss him very much. On the 15th of July Captain C. returned from Sydney, he has returned a month sooner than I expected. I got quite hysterical between joy and suspense when in the dusk of the evening he popped in among us, he brought with him a good deal of livestock, viz. 3 cows, one died on the voyage, 2 mares, 2 goats, 5 turkeys, 5 geese , 6 ducks, 6 hens and a cock.

The vessel went into a harbour in the S.Island and waited for a favourable wind, the Captain, while there, got two large pigs for a small blanket each. He got a present of two sheep laid in for stock on the vessel from one of the owners, so that we have been living in clover for some time.

I shall send you a newspaper so you shall see the prices of things in Wgton. Altho' we have cows, we have only one giving milk, she has enough for the children and rears a very nice calf besides. Last week I got 8/9 for ½ lb of butter and expect the same this week. The eggs I have sold have more than paid the original cost of the hens. We are fortunate in having our milk cow very quiet which is a rare thing to be met with in this country. Some of the other cows will calve in a few months. The Capt. sold one his mares and a cart for which he got 75 pounds, he had a handsome profit by them. Our two goats are heavy in kid. The Capt. has also 4 bullocks and a dray and a yearling ox, he had likewise bargained with an agent here, to give him 20 young heifers which are to be imported from a superior herd in N.S.Wales. A ship load of the same kind came to the Colony some time ago. Unfortunately Capt.C. was absent at Wanganui, they were immediately snatched up by others, 40 head were bought by Mr.Macdonald for which he paid 480 pounds, he has six months in which to pay this, has got people to back his bills in the meantime. He expected to sell them at a good profit before his bills became due.

We are astonished at his making so large a purchase, the Capt. took some trouble to find out all about it. Mr.M. is trying to turn over every penny just as he did at home, I have no doubt if he avoided his besetting sin he would do well. I think he is more drunken here than ever he was at home, for the last fortnight he has scarcely been a day sober. On first coming here he was so steady and clever and so





pushing that he was very much respected, he is fast losing his respectability. Many people have cut out his acquaintance, many people thought we were related to him. I take every opportunity of denying any relationship. I should feel it now assuredly a most disgraceful connection. His favourite is the blacksmith from--- in fact he does not care who he drinks with.

I feel deeply for his miserable wife, the oldest son is very fond of his glass and every penny he gets is spent on gin. I wrote you before that he was deprived of his situation for being drunk and was re-instated. Everyone is astonished that his situation has not been again taken from him.

It is thought Col. Wakefield is not aware of his carrying on. I likewise wrote you that Catherine had an offer of marriage, her parents were very anxious for the match but she was determined in her refusal. I have since seen her admirer, he is very vulgar in manner and appearance. He is an agent here for one of the wealthiest houses in Sydney. He offended J.B.S. beyond measure by whistling a valse on Sunday. I said to her some allowance should be made for the poor man's state of mind.

What will Brodie say when he hears our manservant left because he did not consider 30pounds a year, bed, board and washing, sufficient wages. The Capt. is so active that with assistance of John, we do very well without a man. My Skye servant has got married, she was so plain looking I thought I was sure to have her for some time. Her husband is a smart good looking young man who came out in the Blenheim from Skye. Likewise I gave her at the rate of 15pounds a year.

The Capt. got his grant of land in N.S.W. in the Government township of Ulladulla on the coast. If he is spared two years he will require to go back to Sydney to get his title deeds. He hopes to be allowed to dispose of his grant. He met with great attention from Macpherson Grant, Ballindalloch, he and a brother officer had gone into partnership and bought a station with sheep, cattle, enclosures etc. of which they got a good bargain from some unlucky nome who was in great need of some ready money. Macpherson was in Sydney when the Capt. was preparing.

Wanganui May 8th 1842

My dearest Brother

I have just heard the dear expeditious Brougham is to return to London direct. I am so glad to have an opportunity of writing home at last. No vessel has left the settlement direct for London since the Bailey sailed last November.

With what delight I received your letter about the end of February and both Isabella's marked Nos. 1 & 2. When I last wrote I was busy preparing for our removal to this place. I shall begin with an account of all our adventure since that time.

We embarked on board the Clydeside on 24th Nov. with all our luggage, poultry, 3 goats, 2 kids, 2 cows, the rest of our cattle were to follow by land, and an arduous undertaking it was to pack up with only one stupid woman servant to assist.

We narrowly escaped shipwreck at the entrance of the river, the Clydeside was too large a vessel to be easily managed in so narrow a space. The pilot, from nervousness, put her on a reef, called the North Spit, among the breakers. For a short time we had no hope that all our lives would be saved, even now it makes me nervous to write about it. One gentleman, who had a life preserver and had taken a fancy to Susan said he would take charge of her. I was the only one on board with children.

While we were sitting awaiting our fate, they were getting the boats out to try and get the women ashore. The vessel gave a tremendous bump and we slid into the proper channel. In a short time we were safe at anchor inside the bar. Oh, how thankful I was. Capt. C. was so composed he gave their liberty to a pup and a cat we had on board shut in a box.

To add to our distress poor John was very ill altho' his complaint must have been coming on for some time, we did not observe it until on board the Clydeside. Immediately on our arrival, he was put under the care of Dr. Wilson, his complaint was a very rare one, viz. St. Vitus dance. It was distressing to see at times, quite worn out with the involuntary motion of his muscles. For many weeks he was as helpless as a baby, could not walk or even feed himself. His speech

became very imperfect and for some time left so entirely he could not ask for his wants. He spoke so like his Grandmother, nothing that Dr. Wilson could say would convince me that it was me that it was not a paralytic stroke altho' the convulsive motions were so different from paralysis.

When John took the turn his recovery was very rapid, he is long ago as well and strong as ever. His illness was caused by worms and an accumulation of bile. He has grown very big and strong.

We are so fortunate to have them all at school here and making very good progress, they are taught by Miss King and an Irish lady who came here with her brother. She is an old maid and very capable of doing them justice. Her method is excellent, and is so kind and at the same time determined. They have books called the judgement books in which she gives an account of how each task was said and of there conduct. This is brought home every night, and has a most excellent effect. Our treatment of them is, of course, regulated by this account. Colin was used to be so backward, is doing wonders, he generally brings home the best exercise, he has quite a craze for writing—from Aunt Isabella he must have taken this turn—certainly not from Papa!

Miss King encouraged them to write letters to her, Colin's and Louisa's productions are very amusing. Miss King takes great pains to give them a taste for reading, lends them story books. She has three pupils besides my three, unfortunately for poor Louisa they all boys. Two of them are English, the sons of Mr. Dawson our police magistrate, they are about John's and Colin's ages and very nice gentlemanlike boys. I consider it a great advantage for my children having such companions, the third is a son of Dr. Wilson, a little fellow half Spanish half English about Louisa's age. She gave him such a thrashing the other day that he had to go home. My children will speak a queer lingo half English, half Scotch, half Irish. Miss King says Louisa has better abilities than the boys. I think Susan will be the cleverest of them all, she is very smart and promises to be very good looking.

Willie is a great stout fellow with a quantity of fair curly hair, he is very good tempered and has never had an ailment since he was born.

Capt. C. is in excellent health and spirits, he is still very thin. I suppose he will never be stout again. He finds himself more able to take exercise than when he was stout. I do not think you would know him, his thinness and the dress he wears have changed his appearance so much, he wears a broad blue bonnet and round blue jacket and occasionally the French shirt which proves a most suitable dress in the summer. He is delighted with the climate, it is so temperate, there no country in the world where the thermometer ranges so little.

We like this place much better than Petone. We occupy the best house in the place, it belonged to a Missionary. Living is very cheap so far as pork and potatoes go, which are the principle produce of the country. We buy everything from the natives by barter, will get a basket of potatoes weighing 20lbs for a fig of tobacco or a tobacco and pipe. I have bought a basket for a needle and small quantity of sewing thread. They will give a good pig for a single English blanket which costs in Wellington 11/-.

I am glad to hear such good accounts of my dear Mother's health. How often we speak of you all and wonder what you are all about. You cannot write too often, the postage is trifling, it is too bad of Colin to forget me completely.

And now my dear Brother, it is time to bring this long scroll to a conclusion. Capt. C. joins me in love to you.

Believe me your most affectionate sister,  
Jessie Campbell.

It is 2 o'clock in the morning, John Cameron is busy beside me scribbling home.

Will my mother believe that all summer 6 o'clock never caught my better half nor me in bed

We had this evening to tea, McLeod of McLeod's only brother, he and Mr. Brodie came down here to look at the place and are so pleased they intend to settle. Brodie has often been at Fort William markets and knows McDonald.



*To be continued*





Aonaibh ri Cheile

*The Back Page*



90th Birthday Celebrations for HB member Hilary Stout.  
From Left back: Robin Stout, Jo Shoebridge, Doug Potts (piper),  
Rob Stout (son of Hilary) *Photo: Robin Stout*



*Photo: Jenny Haggitt*

From Left back: Alan Cameron., Bryan Haggitt,  
Don Cameron, Celia Haggitt, Sharon Cameron,  
Jenny Haggitt, Val Cameron. *See page 5*



1. Nick Cameron's grand daughter Andrea Walton  
eating her first haggis at the Hororata Games. 2. The  
busy Cameron tent at Hororata. *Photos: Nick Cameron*



*Photo: Editor*

The Executive Council after the meeting in Turangi



*Photo: Editor*

Anne Cameron signs up Nicholas Clark at the  
Auckland Highland Games

*Photo: Editor*



Camerons in the opening parade at the Auckland Highland Games.  
From Left: Reuben Cameron with daughter Eva, Nicholas  
Cameron, Freddy Stuth, Anne Cameron, Bruce and Yvonne  
Cameron, Glenis Cameron (in front), Duncan McQueen.



*Photo: Editor*

The Whangarei and County Pipe Band, resplendent in the Cameron of Erracht  
Tartan and new uniform, warms up beside the Cameron tent at the Auckland  
Games. The band, led by Pipe Major Bain McGregor, was recently promoted  
to Grade 2 after winning the Grade 3 championship this year in Tauranga.