



Cameron

The Magazine of Clan Cameron New Zealand Inc.

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Sunrise on
Carn Mor Dearg
(See page 11)

Photo by Bill Cameron

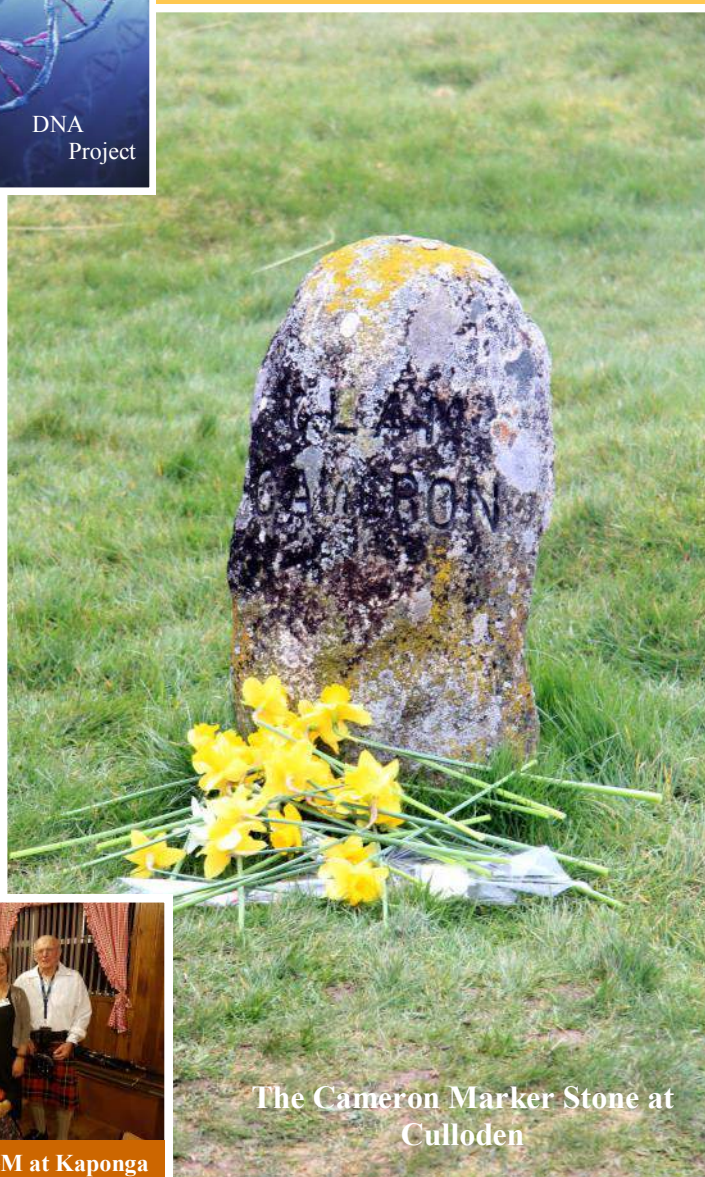
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The Clan
Cameron

DNA
Project



**Bill Cameron lays a wreath at the
Culloden Memorial Service**



**The Cameron Marker Stone at
Culloden**



A Memorable AGM at Kaponga

"Cameron"

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

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Clan Cameron New Zealand website
Coming soon - Watch this space
Use Clan Cameron facebook page in the interim

<https://m.facebook.com/ClanCameronNZ>

A Message from our Commissioner...

Dear Clansfolk,

I would like to thank Neville and Shona Wallace for hosting the National AGM at the Swiss Club rooms in Kaponga in South Taranaki. They both put in a lot of work to organize this function behind the scenes and apart from having to change a venue and Shona organizing the food they also managed to have two local parliamentarians attend as guest speakers, organize highland dancers, a very good raffle and prizes and put together extremely well presented information packs for the attendees. Next year this event will be held in Masterton on the 8th April.

Our local Clan Cameron Canterbury branch has this year teamed up with the Scottish Heritage Council Canterbury to organize a tartan day lunch to be held at the Hotel Ashburton, Racecourse Road, Ashburton on Sunday 3 July at 12.30pm. There will be a haggis ceremony and this is to be followed by local Museum Archivist, Kathleen Stringer speaking on "Victorian Underwear". Anyone interested in attending should contact Rae Magson as soon as possible to confirm numbers.

In July Julie and I are looking forward to attending the Clan Cameron Manawatu branch mid winter dinner event to be held at the Coachman Hotel in Palmerston North on the 30th July.

Some years ago my son Hamish made me a gate fashioned in steel to represent the five arrows of the crest after many years earlier seeing a similar gate at Achnacarry. If you were wondering what the five arrows represent there is an interesting article on the following website:

http://www.clan-cameron.org/5_arrows.html

Central to the Clan Cameron badge are the five arrows united with one another with a gules ribbon or band. The meaning of the five arrows, which is not found in any contemporary publications, is offered here in the words of Colonel Sir Donald H. Cameron of Lochiel, K.T., the XXVI Chief of Clan Cameron (1910-2004.)

"This crest goes back to pre-1745 as it is engraved on the Gentle Lochiel's pistol, which I have at Achnacarry, and also on a silver snuffbox that belonged to him. As regards the meaning of the five arrows, it definitely refers to the five branches of the clan, and I remember my father at a pre-war clan gathering mentioning this and stating which were the five branches concerned but, unfortunately, I have no record of what he actually said. I have, however, looked up my history again and there are only five branches of any significance which were in existence before 1745, so I am sure these are the ones relating to the five arrows. They are as follows:

- 1) MacMartins or Camerons of Letterfinlay
- 2) Camerons of Glen Nevis
- 3) Camerons of Callart and Lundavra
- 4) Camerons of Erracht
- 5) Camerons of Clunes"

Best wishes.

Nick.



The gate at Achnacarry

How do you pronounce our Clan motto?

"Aonaibh ri Cheile"

[Uhniv ree Hail]



Next Magazine Deadline is 15 July

Welcome to the following Members who have recently joined us:

Auckland:
Hawke's Bay

Beatrice Hale
John Cameron

Dunedin
Porangahau

Ceud M'le Fàilte
One Hundred
Thousand Welcomes

First Light Exchange

By Bryan Haggitt

To all Clan Cameron NZ members.

The First Light Exchange was set up some 20 years ago to encourage young Scots of Cameron descent to venture out to New Zealand and, likewise, young Cameron Kiwis to visit Scotland and, particularly, Lochaber.

In its early years the Exchange was highly successful. Three of the earliest First Lighters to come out here from Lochaber were Astie Cameron (now Lochiel's Estate Manager at Achnacarry), Bill Cameron, school teacher at Fort William and regular provider of photos for Neil's Newsletters and David Cameron. David now lives just out of Christchurch with his wife Karen, a New Zealander.

A number of Kiwis took advantage of the Exchange and enjoyed great hospitality and the opportunity to explore ancestral haunts in the Highlands. Unfortunately, it is some years since Robert Nairn came out here and entertained us so well with his piano accordion, of which he was a master. Dr Roddy Cameron, the new Clan Commissioner in Scotland, is eager to have a Scot come out to New Zealand - it is New Zealand's turn to host. The usual period is around 3 months though this is negotiable. Some financial assistance is given



and the First Lighter is hosted by Clan members and help given for them to find work.

We need to prepare for the next First Lighter - great hosting offers have been made in the past. President Nick has offered work in the seed and grain industry through summer months. Are there other hosting offers which may tempt a young Scot to visit? New Zealand leads the world in so many farming methods - dairying and beef plus silviculture, viticulture and horticulture. And home hosting in various parts of the country - who can help?

Further thought - post graduate studies at Massey of Lincoln Universities?

Please, come back to me with ideas and offers - I look forward to hearing from you.

Bryan Haggitt

First Light Convenor - Clan Cameron NZ

bchecho@xtra.co.nz Phones: 09 524 5254 or 021 0264 5021

Note: My Grandmother was a Cameron - Mary, daughter of John Cameron who arrived on the "Blenheim" 1840 and farmed at "Marangai" just south of Wanganui. John was one of many Scots who settled in that area. Mary's mother was a Sutherland born in Nova Scotia. We continue to treasure our Scottish heritage - I was a foundation pupil of Saint Kentigern College and my son, Bryan, attended both the School and the College where he learned the pipes and how to address a haggis..



Coming Events:

(See facebook page for details and for other events)

Sunday 12th June 2016

Bay of Plenty Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 12th June 2016 at the home of Denis and Joy Cameron, 8 Kokomo Key, Papamoa commencing at 2 p m and followed by afternoon tea.

Sunday 3 July 2016

Canterbury Tartan Day Luncheon.

See Canterbury report page 4.

Enquiries to Rae Magson raejohn@xtra.co.nz 03 308 8927

Saturday 30 July 2016

Manawatu Branch Mid-Winter Dinner

See page 8.

Saturday 6 August 2016

Auckland Branch Mid-Winter Dinner

at the Quality Hotel, Parnell.

6pm for 6.30.

Price will be \$60 per person. This includes mulled wine on arrival.

Last year's dinner is still being talked about. This year we hope it will be even better. Kintail House will be in attendance with Cameron items for sale.

Please let Neil know if you are coming. Registration form is enclosed for all Auckland members.

Criomagan (Odds & Ends) *by the Editor*

Congratulations to Donald the Younger of Lochiel, who has been sworn in as Member of the Scottish Parliament for Bute and Argyll.

On request he kindly sent me the photo, shown on page 7, and the message:

"Please just say to the NZ clan that I am very grateful for all the kind words and good wishes from the Clan across the world, and I look forward to letting you know how I get on!"

From Lochiel...

"Just to let you know that Donald Andrew has been appointed by the leader of the Tories at Holyrood (Ruth Davidson) Shadow Minister of Health and Sport - a fantastic accolade although it will be a tricky job !"

2018 Cameron Gathering in Australia?

Clan Cameron Australia are considering hosting an International Gathering, or a National Gathering with an open invitation to international visitors, in 2018. It is only an idea at this stage but some Australian Camerons are very enthusiastic.

Commissioner James Cameron has asked in the C.C. Australia News for support, feedback and offers of help to organise such a gathering.

When we held an International Gathering in NZ in 2005, we were well supported by Australia. It would be great if a large party of NZ Camerons could attend.

We will keep you informed

From the Branches....

The views expressed in these reports are those of the writers. Some have been lightly edited.

Auckland by Norman Cameron

The highlight of this report is the transfer of Alison Jordan from Bay of Plenty Branch to the Auckland Branch. Alison is the National Treasurer of Clan Cameron and her expertise will be very welcome in the Auckland Branch.

The National AGM was attended by Neil Cameron, Bryan Haggitt, my wife Jill and I. It was scheduled to be held in Hawera but at the last minute the meeting was transferred to Kaponga which meant a round trip of sixty kilometres for the delegates whose accommodation was in Hawera. Nick Cameron, the National President was an excellent chairman of the Executive Council and Annual General Meetings. It was decided to shift the Executive Council meeting back Turangi and this will be held on October the 8th. While the meetings were being held the non delegates were taken on a garden tour. An enjoyable lunch and dinner were supplied, but the Branch Committee did have problems owing to the shifting of the venue.

The Auckland Branch held their AGM at the Parnell Cricket Club with fourteen in attendance including our Patron Angus Fletcher. I wish to welcome Past-President Brian Cameron onto the Committee. Brian was President after Neil Cameron and before Don Cameron, I welcome his expertise.

Our Secretary Elaine Ebbett has organised a luncheon at Devonport to be held on Sunday the 15th of May. Will report this luncheon in full in my next report.

On Saturday the 7th of May Bryan and Jenny Haggitt and Jill and Norman attended the Clan Donald dinner at the Quality Hotel, there were forty guests and we were made very welcome as the Cameron Clan was the only other Clan in attendance.

Finally I must ask fellow Clansman to keep the evening of August the 6th free as this is our annual dinner and hopefully Nick Cameron will be the guest speaker.



Bay of Plenty by Denis Cameron

There is not a lot to report at the moment. Our committee meeting was cancelled as we had a family bereavement.

Please remember the Annual General Meeting which is to be held on Sunday 12 June at 2 p.m. at 8 Kokomo Key, Papamoa.

Many thanks to all who have already paid their subscriptions – remember to get your early bird discount and pay by 1st June and it is \$20.00.

Your invoice is on coloured paper and was included in the April magazine.

We look forward to a good gathering at our Annual General Meeting.



Canterbury by Rae Magson

In conjunction with the Scottish Heritage Council, Clan Cameron Canterbury is organising a Tartan Day luncheon to be held at the Hotel Ashburton on Sunday 3 July. There is to be a haggis ceremony, to be followed by the local Museum



Archivist, Kathleen Stringer speaking on “Victorian Underwear”. The following was from a report in our local newspaper about Kathleen’s address - “Victorian ladies wore so many layers of clothing, up to thirty-five or forty pounds in weight. Lace trims and collars were worn on dark clothing which could be detached to launder. Lavender was worn to try and disguise any odour. It was unseemly to venture outside in windy conditions as you might expose your ankle, also in wet conditions the clothes would get too heavy.”

A fascinating topic! The meal is a two course meal, with a choice of three meats, and then two desserts.

Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend, we are also inviting Camerons from the local Ashburton phone book, and a representative of the Ashburton Scottish Society.

Hawke’s Bay by Helen Shaw

We had our usual display at the Hawke’s Bay Highland Games. Our stall was attended by Helen, Shane and Mike. We were once again grateful for the use of Neil Cameron’s display boards. Many thanks, Neil.

We were kept busy discussing Scottish history etc. with many interested visitors. We signed up one new member, John Cameron of Porangahau, who took over the selling of our whisky raffle and did a great job for Branch fundraising. Visitors from other branches were our N.Z. Commissioner Nick Cameron of Canterbury and Auckland members Sarah, Jean and Duncan McQueen. Another visitor was Tom MacDonald, N.Z. Commissioner for Clan Donald.

One of the major trophies competed for at the Highland Games was the Ian Cameron Challenge Cup presented to the piper winning the premier Gold Medal Piobaireachd event. This cup was presented to the Highland Games Association by the late Ian Donald Cameron O.B.E., M.B.E., J.P., who was President of Clan Cameron N.Z. from 1956 - 1984. Ian was at one time, Dominion President of the N.Z. Academy of Piping and Dancing and also Dominion President of the Royal N.Z. Pipe Band Association.

Our branch delegates to the 51st Annual General Meeting at Kaponga, Taranaki, were Hamish and Joan Cameron.

Our new Hawke's Bay Member is John Robert Cameron who was born in Calais, France in 1924, but raised in London, U.K.

In 1943 he joined the Royal Navy serving on mine sweepers on the Channel Coast.

Following the war John worked in the forestry industry for some time before joining the farming sector.

His next employment was as a plant operator at the Nuclear Power Station at Hinkley Point, Somerset, U.K. John returned in 1989 and lived in France for thirteen years.

John has four nephews and two nieces living in Australia and New Zealand who suggested he should come to the Southern Hemisphere and join them. After spending some time on the Gold Coast and then Melbourne, Victoria, John now lives with his nephew Paul Cameron, a farmer at Porangahau, Hawke's Bay.

We welcome John to the Branch membership.

P.S. Our National Commissioner, Nick Cameron said the only way our organisation can prosper in the future is for us to recruit young blood. That is why Nick has introduced his young-at-heart uncle above to our membership.



There has not been much activity since the April Championships in Feilding. Russell and John both attended the National AGM and Executive meeting which they both found very worthwhile and fruitful.

Our main focus at the moment is on the forthcoming midwinter dinner at the Hotel Coachman in Palmerston North on Saturday July 30. Our mayor Grant Smith, is an excellent and invigorating guest speaker.

Members of other branches are most welcome to attend and we have negotiated special accommodation rates for those who would prefer to stay the night.

For more information see page 8.

Iar (Taranaki / Whanganui Area)

By Neville Wallace

Overall the AGM day went well - there were no issues of consequence but shifting the venue to Kaponga proved strange as we had encountered enquiries, re "where can we change". So all outsiders were informed that wasn't difficult, we would arrange suitable area. After viewing the hall we decided that there was ample area in the hall that could be closed off as a dressing area. Moving furniture didn't seem a big job thanks to the many willing hands. Floor was swept at the end of proceedings - not a big drama.

But on the day, all those that were staying in Hawera drove back to Hawera to change which took most of the remaining afternoon and were consequently late getting back for the entertainment we had arranged, which was provided by the Washer sisters doing a sword dance and a fling. Margy Bishop did a great job providing lunch with a wide variety of food and afternoon tea, which very few had as they were all going back to Hawera to get changed!

The evening itself seemed to hit a snag with our Haggis party as there was some misunderstanding as to who would recite the Ode to the Haggis, so it was cut, but wait..... George Baird a visitor said he would do it with the help of Mr Google so he recited the ode to the haggis. Something we should all keep in mind.

Andrew Fage did a great job with the catering with a wide variety of food. A head count revealed that we had 33 people there; we had catered for 35 but the strange aspect was that the people who came and did the Job for Andrew said there is food left over we will put it in containers and you can take it home.....loads of it!

Barbara Kuriger Taranaki/King Country MP came along with Louis and mixed in well with all and gave a very interesting account of her beginnings in Parliament. The Rt. Hon Chester Borrows spoke well about his parliamentary role then with a bit of encouragement spoke about some of his police experiences which went down well.

Shona and I got the raffle drawn early (about 8 pm) before our guests had to leave which satisfied those who liked a flutter with the odds. It was after this that Chester and Barbara asked if we would pose for a photo or two with them along with Nick. It was when we went down to have a photo taken with the Cameron Banner in the back ground that I noticed people moving towards the door. As Barbara and Chester left so did many of our guests. In fact they shot through like cows breaking through the electric on to a fresh break of grass! We had all worked very hard to make the



event a total success and it was very disappointing that no one wanted to celebrate the evening with Auld Lang Syne. Margy Bishop was disappointed as I had asked her to do a blessing at the end of evening.

I must acknowledge our sponsors and those who have helped make the evening a success Andrew Fage your Caterer, Margy Bishop and my daughter Kelly Judkins who put on lunch and afternoon tea, NZ Compendium of Farm Facts from B & L NZ, FMG Insurance Tawhiti Museum, Kaponga Swiss Club for the use of their facilities at short notice. The members of Clan Cameron Iar who put in so much time and effort thank you.

A few statistics; of all members Clan Cameron New Zealand present, our local clan of some 17 members with 11 present represents over 60% so well done.

The mayor Ross Dunlop made a special trip to open the proceedings at the AGM this afternoon. Also Nick Cameron who we roped in at the last minute to pipe in the haggis. Special thanks to my wife Shona who did all the paper work like keeping track of registrations, money, transferring money,

I did receive a letter or two thanking us for such a great event along with the comment I have never been to a function where there's been two MP's plus the local Mayor! No one wanted to come to a breakfast at the Black and White; the elderly were worn out. This leads to a few ideas that were kicked around at the AGM like should the event be run over 2 days some wanted it but not enough for change. A comment was passed that if we had had another 7 or 8 present it could have delivered a better financial outcome - or those that had withdrawn had come along

A lot of discussion took place over communication such as Face Book and a web page which was given the green light. But when it comes to smart phones as such; is the outlay of better communication going to benefit existing members? It will inform the curious but will it benefit rank and file members? There was a pertinent remark posted on a Face Book photo "Where's all the kilts?"

To summarize; the day was successful, and they, that booked later, had arranged accommodation in Kaponga much to their advantage.....if only we had stuck to our guns and gone there in the first place. A conversation had with Ross Dunlop leads me to believe that the TSB Hubb isn't as organized as it could be. Normanby hall would have been too big for our numbers.

Wellington/Wairarapa by Rob Cameron

Next year's AGM and Gathering will be held in **Masterton** on Saturday 8 April 2017. Details and Registration forms will be in a future newsletter. Put this date aside now.

Rob Cameron has requested that any Wellington Wairarapa Branch members who would be available to help the committee with the organisation and/or running of the day to please contact him on opakirob@gmail.com 06 3770377 or 0274802374



Correction

Re picture of Ben Nevis on April Magazine front page....

From Bill Cameron: "The view of Ben Nevis is from Callop, not Gallop. Ironically a local musician from nearby Glenfinnan has just released an album of Scottish fiddle music called Gallop to Callop."

Thanks, Bill, my apologies. Ed

The Clan Cameron AGM in Kaponga hosted by the Iar Branch



A group photograph taken after the AGM. *Photo: Editor*



A pleasant evening in Hawera before the AGM. *Photo: Ed*



Hawke's Bay representatives Hamish and Joan Cameron. *Photo: Ed*



Lunch at the Swiss Clubhouse *Photo: Ed*



Neville shares a joke with the Mayor of Hawera, Ross Dunlop



Photo: Barbara Kuriger

Nick Cameron and Neville Wallace with MPs Barbara Kuriger (Taranaki-King Country) and Chester Borrowes (Whanganui)



Photo: Barbara Kuriger

Sisters Grace and Gemma Washer dance in the afternoon



Erina and Rex Wood photo: Tanya Cameron



To quote Robbie Burns "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft agley"



The Haggis party - who will do the honours?



Photo: Ed



Photo: Barbara Kuriger



Photo: Barbara Kuriger

Left: Val Grant with the placemat she designed. Centre: Barbara Kuriger speaks at the dinner, watched by Julie and Nick Cameron. Right: Bryan Haggitt serves the haggis.



Donald Andrew Cameron, Lochiel's son, being sworn in as a member of the Scottish Parliament



Photo: Ed

At the Auckland AGM: Jenny Haggitt, Linda and Rex Garland, Duncan McQueen



Photo: Ed

Auckland Camerons and friends enjoy a lunch in Devonport on 15 May.

Meet our new Clan Genealogist..

David Weston

Hi, I have been a member of Clan Cameron for over 20, perhaps even 25 years but I must confess not a very active one. I joined when living in Palmerston North and remember meeting Harold Lampen-Smith soon after I joined but only finding out some time later we were actually cousins, both descended from John Cameron and Janet McGregor who settled in Turakina. When I later moved to Whanganui I met another cousin when we needed a plumber to do some work on the house, once again only realizing we were related further along.

My interest has always been more in genealogy and family history although I have tried to participate in other activities such as attending the Turakina Games. If nothing else it gives me an excuse to air my kilt, which incidentally is a McAlley tartan not Cameron as my great grandmother, Marjorie McGregor Cameron married a Robert McAlley. Marjorie's father was John Cameron, son of John Cameron and Janet McGregor of Turakina, mentioned above.

I have now lived in Whanganui for 20 plus years and often pass through Turakina and think of my great-great-grandparents moving there and breaking in the land, probably when not a lot younger than I am now. Perhaps the illicit whiskey they were distilling in the area helped them cope, not to mention running the local Ben Nevis hotel at one stage.

My interest in family history probably began at a young age when my mother telling stories of her childhood in Australia and what she knew of her family. I guess hearing that her grandmother was brought out to Australia by her sister to an arranged marriage to pay off gambling debts added some spice and my mother was good at telling stories. The interesting thing is that the story was true as I have found out through contact with another cousin descended from my great-grandmother's sister arranged another marriage for a daughter to pay off other debts. In fact the court reports in the local Australian papers made my great-grandmother's story even

more interesting than the stories passed down from my mother

With this interest in genealogy it was obvious where I would go with my wife and 7 year old son when I had long service leave in 1997. We went to the UK and

hired a camper van to tour all the places that our respective families had lived.

This meant covering England, Scotland and Wales over a 6 week period.

Included in the trip were visits to Achnacarry and the Clan Cameron Museum.

Unfortunately there was no time to visit Northern Ireland where I also have ancestors. A great experience but I do not advise spending that much time in a camper van with a strong willed child. Now we have nearly another 20 years of research we are aware of many more places we could have visited if we had only known.

With genealogy there is always more to find out and you never know there may be some information in the Clan Cameron NZ records that will help with that. I hope, though, with my years of working on my own genealogy plus calling on the genealogical knowledge

of my wife and stepdaughter, also keen genealogists, I will be able to assist Clan members wanting to find out more about their own family history and make the information we hold readily available to others. I am sure with computers and the internet we can find some way of achieving this aim.

I would like to acknowledge the work of our previous genealogist, Fiona Cameron and I hope I can continue with the work she has done. From helping her get some of the records on to a computer system I am aware of the effort she has made to make the information we hold more accessible. I am planning to spend some time with her so she can pass on her knowledge of the records.

I trust that by the time you read this the transfer of the records will have happened. We are hoping this can be done in early June. It is not an easy task with the sheer amount there are, and given our Scottish heritage, we hope to borrow a van rather than pay a moving company. I am, though, looking forward to taking on the role and being available to assist people with any queries.



Clan Cameron Manawatu Midwinter dinner

When: Saturday July 30 2016

Venue: The Coachman, Fitzherbert Avenue, Palmerston North. Hunterville and McKelvie Rooms

Cost: \$45 per head (children's price yet to be confirmed)

Time: From 6pm gather in bar. **Cash bar only**

6.45pm Haggis ceremony, 7.15 meal

There will be a good guest speaker and entertainment as usual

RSVP (including payment) by 16 July

Payment:

Electronic: BNZ 020727 0307628 50 Please send confirmation email to bjbpbarber@gmail.com indicating how many are attending.

Cheque: "Clan Cameron Manawatu" to Barbara Barber, Treasurer, 28 Aranui Rd, R.D. 5, Palmerston North 4475. For queries please ring Barbara 06 354 5811

Accommodation:

We have negotiated group rates at the Hotel Coachman 140 Fitzherbert Avenue | Palmerston North

Phone: +64 6 356 5065 | Fax: +64 6 356 6692 |

www.coachman.co.nz

Prices from \$104 (\$124 B and B)
to \$183 (\$203 B and B)

For two persons

When booking, please ask for the Clan Cameron accommodation rates.

Start The Conversation

By Rev. Bryan Haggitt



Last November, Rebecca and I welcomed Katie Jane Haggitt into the world. We had journeyed through an emotionally tough pregnancy, with an expectation that Katie would be very sick when born. She has a condition called biliary atresia in which bile duct damage restricts the flow of bile from her liver. An eight-hour operation failed to resolve the problem and the only solution was a liver transplant. A few weeks before Easter, Katie's liver function deteriorated rapidly and she was prepared for transplant urgently.

Weeks went by. Katie remained in Starship Children's Hospital but no deceased donor liver became available for her despite the fact that at her age a blood-type match was not necessary. The liver could come from anyone aged 18 to 60 but the "plumbing" (blood vessels) had to be in the right position for it to be viable. Not wanting to chance Katie's fragile state any longer, Rebecca's brother, Simon offered a piece of his liver as a living donor for his niece. Fortunately, Simon's liver was suitable and the transplant took place on 13 April 2016.

Katie is now doing amazingly well, and we thank God every day (even in the overnight feeds). There is every reason to believe that she will lead a relatively normal, productive life. Simon's recovery is much slower but his liver should have



regenerated to its original size within two months of the transplant. It was hard to watch Simon go through a such painful and traumatic operation for the love of his niece.

Had a deceased donor liver been available for Katie, it would probably have come from someone who had sustained an irreversible, fatal brain injury, such as from a road accident or brain haemorrhage. Only hospital deaths can be considered for organ donation and only 1% of hospital deaths occur in circumstances that make organ donation possible. Some of us will have ticked the "donor" box on our driver licence form but despite this, at the time of our death, the decision to donate our organs lies with our family.

Through our journey we have met so many lovely families with very sick children waiting for organ transplants. New Zealand has relatively low rates of deceased organ donation compared to other developed countries. Unfortunately, not all of the people waiting for deceased organs will get one.

Whilst it is never easy to talk about our future deaths, please start the conversation with your family, loved ones and friends about whether you, and/or they, wish to be an organ donor. It is important to know that you can specify the organs and tissues that you wish to donate. An adult deceased donor liver can benefit two recipients - it can be split so that one larger section can be transplanted into an adult and the smaller segment given to a child like Katie.

More information can be obtained from:
Organ Donation New Zealand www.donor.co.nz

Remembering Culloden

By Bill Cameron

On Saturday the 16th of April 2016, hundreds of people gathered at the Culloden Battlefield Centre near Inverness to commemorate the two hundred and seventy years, to the day, since the last land battle on British soil took place.

Two hundred and seventy years earlier the scene was very different as hundreds of clansmen from various clans gathered to fight against Cumberland's government troops. This would see the slaughter of many men on both sides, yet more so on the Jacobite side and would put an end to Charles Edward Stuart's dream of taking control of the British crown.

Outside the entrance to the Culloden Battlefield centre, a good number of Camerons from the clan Cameron association gathered along with Lochiel and our clan piper, Astie Cameron, to take part in the march onto the battlefield and on to the memorial cairn.

Astie led our party out onto the moor alongside other clan associations and individuals, as the timeless sound of his Highland pipes drifted across the moor. With the distinctive red and yellow banners of the clan Cameron association held aloft by members of the association, I am sure many would have considered in their minds eye, the men who had fought and died for the Jacobite cause; and how close they were to changing the course of history. Some of course say they did.

This annual commemorative event is organised by the Gaelic Society of Inverness in conjunction with the Culloden Battlefield centre. The commemoration takes the form of a march from the centre to the memorial cairn by a number of clan associations, as well as individuals and people from re-enactment societies dressed in distinctive period costumes.

With everyone assembled at the memorial cairn, a member of the Inverness Gaelic Society opened proceedings in Gaelic, welcoming people from near and far. There followed a religious reading in Gaelic from a minister, after which a lilting Gaelic psalm was sung.

Representing the Gaelic Society of Inverness, Professor Hugh Cheape from Sabhal mor Ostaig, the Gaelic College on the Isle of Skye gave a very informative talk on the significance of the battle, bringing to life the effects it had on many people across Scotland in the build up and aftermath of the battle.

After a number of speeches, the convenor of the Gaelic Society of Inverness asked individuals who wished to lay a wreath at the memorial cairn to come forward and say who they were laying it on behalf of.

I was honoured this year to represent Clan Cameron in laying our wreath at the memorial cairn for the many Cameron clansmen who fell on the battlefield.

Following this formal part of the proceedings the Cameron party, led once again by Astie on the pipes, we marched as a single group across the battlefield in wet and windy conditions to the clan Cameron marker where everyone laid a daffodil at the cairn. Dr. Roddy Cameron, president of the Clan Cameron association Scotland recited a poem and a fitting song was sung by all around the Cameron marker. I should also like to mention that we were joined at this point by two young ladies visiting from Hamilton New Zealand, one of which was a Cameron. They were delighted to meet Lochiel and other members of the clan.

Following the Culloden commemoration, Lochiel, members of the association and friends attended a lunch at the near by Cawdor Tavern. After which we were given an interesting illustrated talk on Jacobite artefacts by David Forsyth, principal curator at the National Museum of Scotland.

Genetic Genealogy and the Clan Cameron DNA Project

By Joanne Cameron (Manawatu)

There has been much interest lately on the topic of Genetic Genealogy, DNA. It is one of the newest, fastest changing and most widely publicized innovations in family history research. We inherit DNA from each of our parents so we each have as a result a unique DNA fingerprint which we can use in combination with traditional genealogical and historical records to document a family tree.



I began our family's DNA journey because of a brick wall with my husband's Cameron family who descend from one of the numerous Camerons who settled at Turakina in the mid 1800's. History has never been able to sort some of these families out definitively, and the usual paper trail sources went cold after the death of Dean's Great Great Grandfather Alexander Cameron who died at Wanganui on the 4th August 1916. Alexander had married Jemima MacDonell, who was the youngest of 14 children born to Archibald and Annie MacDonell of Auchluachrach, Glengarry, Inverness, Scotland, in Wellington on the 27th January 1864.

After exhausting all avenues known to us to find out who Alexander's family were, we decided to dive into the unknown and join the Clan Cameron DNA Project.

The Clan Project's main goal is to assist Cameron's in their genealogical research and to uncover some of the oldest mysteries that our Clan has. The majority of those bearing the Cameron surname probably come from the original "Camshron" (Lochiel) line, the MacGillories, MacMartins or MacSorlies.

The admins for the project are in the United States and give their time voluntarily. They do their best in trying to connect members with their matches privately and when time allows updating the online project page.

With so many Camerons now participating in the project through the family finder/autosomal DNA tests, the admins are actually getting to a point where they can start to reconstruct DNA patterns of common ancestors--maybe even Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel (1629-1719) and other famous Camerons.

Doing this is not easy. It takes a lot of interested people, and a lot of work comparing both family trees and DNA segment matches to find those segments we can attribute to specific individuals.

The Clan Project uses an American Company – Family Tree DNA, which offers three tests to consider:

Family Finder (autosomal DNA) - Family Finder test focuses on autosomal DNA, which is inherited from both your mother and your father, your four grandparents, your eight great-grandparents, etc. This test is designed to find living relatives on all of your ancestral lines within the last five generations and can also give you a breakdown of your ethnic makeup by percentage.

Y-DNA – Your direct paternal lineage is the line that follows your father's paternal ancestry. This line consists entirely of men. Your Y-chromosome DNA can trace your father, his father, his father's father, and so forth. It offers a clear path from you to a known, or likely, direct paternal ancestor.

Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) – Traces the direct maternal line (mother's mother's mother's etc).

As advised, we opted to have tested the oldest living male of our Cameron line, my father in law John Ross Cameron who is the Great Grandson of Alexander.

We then opted for the suggested entry level Y test of 67 markers and the Family Finder autosomal test.

Sample given (a painless method of using the provided cheek scraper to extract epithelial cells from the cheek, a bit like brushing the inside of your cheek with a toothbrush) and sent back off to the US we sat back and waited for about 8 weeks for the results to be in.

There was the theory that maybe our Cameron side were of the same family of that of Thomas Ross Cameron (of whom has been mentioned a number of times in this Newsletter in the past) who married Annie MacDonell, sister of our Jemima.

Results in took us by surprise. The majority of Camerons who have tested belong to the haplogroup R1b. John's haplogroup was I-M253. It is overwhelmingly a Norse / Northern Germanic Haplogroup. Our family's haplogroup is a minority in the Cameron project. The results also showed zero paternal matches worldwide with the last name of Cameron, and about 40 matches with differing surnames, however none were within the time range since surnames historically came into existence about 800 years ago.

This is an indication that our Cameron line is underrepresented in the testing process so far. Our next challenge was to find another Cameron cousin and get them to also test.

So I looked to the family of Thomas Ross Cameron, of whom we were certain there are familial ties to via the MacDonell family, but who the question mark remained over the Cameron side also. Since joining the Manawatu Branch of Clan Cameron NZ, Dean and I had gotten to know John Colin Cameron who is a 3rd cousin to my husband through his paternal descent from Thomas Ross and Annie Cameron. John agreed to also test on his paternal and autosomal DNA which in due course showed for certain that both are related, but not on their paternal side.

John C. Cameron's Y haplogroup is R-M269, which means simply that both John's could not have the same paternal Cameron ancestors.

John C. Cameron's paternal Y results however in contrast to our John's were brilliant. He had two exact paternal matches, one in the US and one in Australia, and multiple near identical Cameron matches which means that the MRCA (most recent common ancestor) is further in the past.

The identical match to John in the US was able to present a family tree that extended back through Canada and beyond to the Lochiel family line.

As vital records in Scotland can be sparse before 1855 esp. amongst the Catholic population, using DNA as another tool in the chest is turning out to be invaluable to further our research. With more paper records available in both Canada and the US we will be able to back up our research with viable sources.

So where does this leave our Cameron family? At this stage it is a wait and see process. Until we get a paternal Cameron match for our family we have to be patient and we will look into an upgrade of our Y67 marker test to test more SNP's or even the Big Y, the most comprehensive Y DNA test of all.

The Clan DNA project is without a doubt a "more the merrier" project. The more people who participate, the more people benefit.



Carn Mor Dearg

Perfect light and weather conditions have to coincide for one of the Highland's tallest mountains to live up to its Gaelic name when covered in snow.

This can only happen on a few mornings in March and, when it does, it only lasts for a couple of minutes at sunrise.

Carn Mor Dearg, next to Ben Nevis in the Nevis Range of mountains, near Fort William, translates as "the great red peak", but this spectacle is rarely seen in the winter.

However, keen photographer Bill Cameron, of Inverloch, managed to be in the right place at exactly the right time and caught the moment in a series of photographs taken from Spean Bridge.

He explained that in the summer the mountain takes its name from the red colour of its rock, but in March it sometimes appears red when the sunrise colours its snow-covered summit.

Mr Cameron, 42, said: "It only happens on a couple of days a year, when the light just catches it at sunrise.

"There needs to be clear skies, good weather and snow on the top so it was a real delight to see it.

"I was stood on General Wade's Road at High Bridge watching the sun come up.

"And, at 6.40am, its peak was illuminated in a triangular form of pinkish light for a couple of minutes as the sun slowly continued to rise up and over on to the North Face of Ben Nevis."

The image (on the cover) shows the pink triangle created as the early morning sun struck Carn Mor Dearg's summit. Mr Cameron had zoomed in for a closer look at the great red peak as the rose-coloured light spread further down the mountain.



the north face of Ben Nevis

At 4,003ft, Carn Mor Dearg is the ninth highest mountain in Scotland, but it is completely overshadowed by Ben Nevis.

However, it is recognised as the perfect viewpoint from which to admire the Ben's magnificent North Face.

Its graceful peak crowns a fine ridge, joined to its great neighbour by the Carn Mor Dearg arete. And it is considered the finest way to climb Ben Nevis for mountain walkers, who are not climbers.

With thanks to Sue Restan and the Press and Journal newspaper. Thanks also to Bill for the early morning photos.

A Royal Occasion in Marton



These photos are of Al Cameron's (see Obituary last issue) grand mother, Mrs Elizabeth Cameron Bailey, youngest daughter of Thomas Ross & Annie Cameron, aged 90 meeting HRH Elizabeth 2nd on the Marton Railway Platform in 1954. The photos were taken by the late Jim Richards, father & father in law of Lyn and the late Winston Lumsden of Wanganui. This photo was published in the "Weekly News" and then worldwide. Accompanying her is her niece



the late Mrs Chloris MacDonell Marsh of Turakina. Elizabeth was Marton's eldest resident, now there are about 4 residents over 100! Chloris Marsh is also a descendant of "Big" John & Janet Cameron of Turakina.

*Sent in by
Bruce Cameron, (Manawatu), Elizabeth's great grandson.*



Aonaibh ri Cheile The Back Page



Culloden Memorial Service 2016

Above Left: A group, including two New Zealanders, talk to Lochiel. The Cameron Stone is at right

*Above Right: Bill lays a wreath on the Memorial Cairn
Left and Right: Astie Cameron leads the parade. Lochiel (obscured) is in the wheelchair.*

Below: Another view of the parade.



The McQueen brothers - ANZAC parade Howick

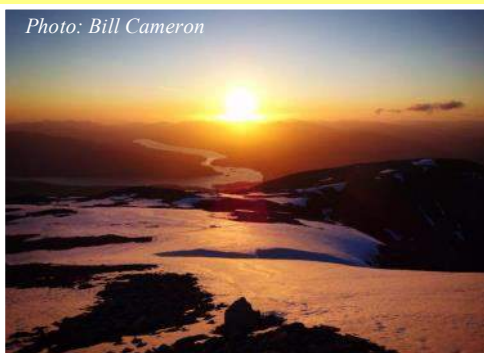


Photo: Bill Cameron

Sunset from the summit of Ben Nevis



At the Hawke's Bay Highland Games. *Left: Mike Topham, John Cameron, Helen Shaw and Shane East with welcoming smiles at the Cameron Stall
Centre: Nick Cameron presents raffle prize to Bruce Ayers of Palmerston North. Right: John Decker holding the Highland Society of London Trophy and the Ian Cameron Challenge Cup. (see page 4). Top Right: President Helen Shaw. Photos by: Duncan McQueen, Nick Cameron and David Horsburgh.*