



Cameron

The Magazine of Clan Cameron New Zealand Inc.

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2025



Paeroa and Turakina Highland Games

Photos: Editor.

Paeroa above: Glenis Cameron, Dale Bailey, Tanya Cameron, John Baillie, Rob Cameron and Duncan McQueen.

Turakina below: Bryan Barber, Rob Cameron, Glen Rodgers, Dale Bailey, Bruce Cameron, John Cameron and Dean Cameron.



“Cameron”

is the magazine of the
Clan Cameron Association of New Zealand Inc.

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A Message from our Commissioner....



Naumai haere mai, Failte, Welcome

We have had a wonderful session at the RNZPB championships in Invercargill. It was great to see a good number of members. This was the second year Clans have had a presence at the pipe band championships. This year 10 were in attendance along with some other heritage and Scottish societies.

Unfortunately, the competitions were disrupted somewhat by the inclement weather. Luckily we had rather a robust tent so we were able to provide some lovely hospitality to all sorts of guests and shelter from the storm. Special congratulations to Manawatu Scottish who wear the Cameron tartan for becoming Grade 1 Champions this year. A very special performance in the centenary year. Lena and I added to our trip to Southland with a wonderful few days on Rakiura Stewart Highland something we had been wanting to do for some time.

It was wonderful to have Sandy Cameron (First lighter Finlay's brother), Sandy's partner Eireann along with Ken and Rhona in New Zealand again. Sandy and Eireann were playing for Manawatu Scottish and surely added to their success.

Our next First Lighter Lochiel Nielsen departs for Scotland in May. It is great to see another young Cameron journey to make connections to her family history and connections. Lochiel we wish you the very best.

This year our annual gathering will be held in Napier on Saturday 17th May. Full details are provided in this newsletter. All are welcome to attend and we would love to see you there at the historic Hawkes Bay Club. We have an annual meeting in the morning and a lovely dinner in the evening. I do hope we will see you there.

Thank you all for your support of Clan Cameron New Zealand.

Aonaibh ri Cheile

Dale



Meeting in Tents by Dale Bailey—page 11

Next Magazine Deadline is 15 May 2025

Printed By

Welcome to the following Members who have recently joined us:

Auckland Branch:

Joanne Stern

Judith Selvaraj

Papamoa, Tauranga.

Hobsonville Point, Auckland.

***Ceud Mìle Fàilte One
Hundred Thousand
Welcomes***

The International Gathering. 22/23 January 2005.

This Gathering was the first International Gathering of Clan Cameron held outside of Scotland. Although a national project it was held in Auckland and organised by the Auckland Branch. With two years in the planning, a committee under the chairmanship of Neil Cameron, (National President), and consisting of Brian Cameron, (Auckland President), Rev. Ann Batten, Hillary Hakaraia, Dale Bailey, Don (DJ) Cameron and Duncan McQueen brought to fruition a very memorable gathering.

Emphasis was given to fund raising and seeking sponsorship to cover the mounting expected costs. This was so the cost to people attending could be kept to a minimum and encourage a wide range of people to attend. A large grant was obtained from a Sports and Cultural Society and many fund raising schemes, including having a limited edition Clan Cameron jig-saw of 500 copies produced, enabled the whole project to conclude debt free. A grant of \$2000 from central funds was able to be returned.

The event was well publicised. All families with the surname Cameron in the phone book were written to, articles appeared in newspapers, a large billboard was erected in a prominent position in downtown Auckland and Ann Batten and Neil Cameron appeared on morning television. Clan piper Lewis Turrell was with Ann and Neil and finished the interview with a rousing 'March of the Cameron Men'.

Over 360 attended the Gathering, held in glorious weather. Leading the visitors was Lt. Colonel Charles Cameron, Lochiel's uncle and official representative. He was accompanied by Duncan Cameron and Roddy Cameron, both future presidents of Clan Cameron Scotland, and by First Lighter Bill Cameron. Australia and North America were also well represented.

The gathering opened with a Powhiri where the guests were welcomed with prayer, speeches and song. His Worship the Mayor of Manukau City, Sir Barry Curtis, opened the Gathering. Lt. Colonel Charles Cameron spoke on behalf of Lochiel and North American Clan President Don Cameron spoke on behalf of the guests. The organising committee had put together a varied and interesting programme which included a parade led by the City of Manukau Pipe Band, piping displays, mock battles, genealogical research, talks on Robbie Burns and a hall of displays by each of the New Zealand branches. These were supplemented by displays from America, Australia and Scotland. In the afternoon highland dancing and children's events entertained the young.

After the evening dinner we were entertained with a

ceilidh which featured items from the branches, the piping in of the haggis and Scottish country dancing.

On the Sunday the day began with the Kirkin' o' the Tartan and a chapel service. This was led by Clan Cameron Auckland member and organising committee member Ann Batten. Other clans with branches in Auckland were invited to this event and were hosted to lunch following the service with haggis and baps. In the afternoon people took time to view the displays, explore the genealogical resources available and watch a friendly exhibition game of cricket. Many players were in kilts.

The gathering had a warm and friendly atmosphere taking the style of a family re-union. At the farewell function members from across the globe praised the organising committee for the work that had gone into the gathering and pledged that the clan would "unite" together again soon.



Red faced after dancing at the ceilidh, 8 year old Sarah McQueen, future First Lighter, is with piper Lewis Turrell.



Sir Barry Curtis opens the Gathering.

Coming Events

Saturday 17 May 2025

Clan Cameron NZ Gathering and AGM.

Hawkes Bay Club, Napier

Flyer enclosed with this newsletter

We hope we will see you there.

Saturday / Sunday 19-20 April 2025

Hawke's Bay Easter Highland Gathering

Lindisfarne College, Pakowhai Road,

Hastings

Piping and Dancing

Saturday 28 June 2025

Manawatu Branch Annual Dinner

Wharerata, Massey University.

Further details will be advised.

Saturday 16 August 2025

Auckland Branch Annual Dinner

The Parnell, Gladstone Rd, Parnell.

Further details and flyer in the June newsletter.

From the Branches....

Auckland by Rob Cameron

With it being the height of the Pipe band season, I have been very busy over the last couple of months as all Pipe Bands increase their practices and also prepare for competition, City of Sails no exception.



I took Bryan Haggitt down to Turakina for the Highland games again this year using his batch in Kakahi as a rest stop in the middle of the journey. I was helping tune one of our young band members, Thomas Bottomly, tune up for his D grade competition. Thomas won the grade despite it having about 30 other competitors, he will be competing at the Hastings Highland Games over Easter. The weather was good, unlike the previous 2 years which made it great to watch the bands at their peak including the Manawatu Scottish Grade 1.

Next event was the Paeroa Highland Games. There was confusion again over the clan tent placements. In the end it didn't seem too bad, however the Cameron tent alongside the McMillian tent seemed very close to one of the music stages which could have been a bit loud for our tent visitors. The event was also marked with the visit of Sir Alexander Matheson, 28th Chief of Clan Matheson. Clan Matheson led the parade of clans and the Chief and his wife had various responsibilities during the day. I was also helping another one of our young band members tune up in the solos in the morning and then competed in the band competition in the afternoon.

This was one of the hottest days I have had in Paeroa as my feet were burning in my black brogues. I have never experienced that before.

February 22nd and 23rd had 2 band competitions back-to-back. The Central North Island Contest in Mt Maunganui, then the Auckland Centre Contest at Waikaraka Park. Clans had an opportunity to attend the Auckland contest, however we could not get enough people to help with the tent.

The RNZPBA Nationals was held over the 7th and 8th of March. The weather held out for the Grade 3 and 4 competitions on Friday. However the rain washed out half the Street March on Saturday and cancelled the Massed Bands at the end of the competition. It was great to hear that Manawatu Scottish won the Grade 1 competition. They played a challenging Set and Medley which was great to listen to on the park. I hope everyone will get a chance to hear it on the live feed which is available on YouTube. Their music was also boosted by the inclusion of Sandy Cameron and his partner Eireann Lannetta-Mackay. The competition kept me busy - however I was able to catch up with Sandy, Eireann, Ken and Rhona during the competition while making several visits to the Clan Cameron tent, the tent most prepared for the weather. Sarah's band City of Dunedin with a 4th overall including a first in drumming, and a first in the Street March in Grade 4b. Nicks band Canterbury Caledonian Grade 4a came 6th overall with a 5th in drumming for the grade. I felt a bit sorry for both Sarah and Nick as both their bands got drenched in the street march during the worst of the downpours of the day.

City of Sails, the band I competed with, got a 12th placing overall with a 4th in the street march. This included a 3rd in Drumming for MSR which included the contribution from Auckland member Gina Cameron. Although not shown in the judging sheets the band has improved immensely since the first competition in Paeroa this year. The band is proud of its accomplishments, especially where many were competing for the first time.

On Saturday 15th of March, I performed at the Auckland Town Hall with a small group of pipers and drummers including Michel Tent for a tribute to Gene Kelly - A life in Music. We played alongside the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra to recreate a scene from Brigadoon, a 1950s movie he starred in. This was only a week after the

Nationals, and we had some intense practice sessions to make sure we had the music off at the pace required. The pipes were a surprise for the audience and it made for a fun night.

We held our branch AGM on Sunday 16th of March. We brought the meeting forward to 2:30, so we could include Ken and Rhona during the Barbecue and meet some of our members. This gave us a chance to thank them for all the help they have given during Sarah's First Light experience and continuing support with Lochiel when she goes over in May.

There were no changes to the committee, however our Branch Treasurer, Neil, is looking to hand this responsibility over to someone at the end of this year. If there is any Auckland member who is interested in the Branch Treasurer or Secretary roles, please let me know.

We have also started planning for our Annual Dinner for August 16th. We will have a change to our main entertainment, the Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club which hopefully will be a refreshing change this year.

Manawatu by Anne Walker Long

The year has started in busy form, with our usual attendance at the Turakina Highland Games. It was a great celebration of the games 160 year history. We received a number of inquiries about Clan membership which we hope will translate into new members.



We have been delighted to see the success of Manawatu Scottish in the national pipe band competitions. A fitting success in their centenary year.

On April 6th we plan an informal farewell to Lochiel Neilson. Members will meet at 5pm at the Hilltop Restaurant, Summerville, Palmerston North. No RSVP's are required - just turn up - all welcome. Drinks and meals are at own cost.

Branch members have been encouraged to attend the CCNZ AGM in Napier in May.

The branch has deferred its Annual Meeting until May 26th. This will be held by Zoom this year, and hopefully this will enable greater attendance and in particular enable some of our more distance members to link in. Further information will be sent to all Branch members closer to the time.

Finally the annual Clan Cameron mid-winter dinner is confirmed for 28th June, at Wharerata, Massey University. Further details will follow.

Remember to follow us on Facebook for more information.

Hawke's Bay by Hamish Cameron

For the H.B. locals at this time of year, the social pursuits always take a back seat to what is a "must" as regards the land and its bounty.

Although HB hosts all sorts of national gatherings over summer, where visitors bask in our Mediterranean climate, the locals are more concerned with trying to turn this year into an improvement on last years effort. It is with this concentrated focus that I find myself being surprised at the closeness of yet another Clan Cameron A.G.M.

This year it is Canterbury's turn to host the national AGM. After H.B.'s facilities proved such a winner last year in all aspects a guest would require, Canterbury have decided to use those same facilities themselves.

There is no doubt that the visitor to our region, and particularly Napier, is well catered for with almost every attraction within walking distance. Probably why Napier has become a "fly in - fly out" tourist destination.....easily accessed with no great planning required ! !

However, before the national AGM in May, there is the annual Hastings Highland Games held over Easter weekend. Over the past decades Clan Cameron HB have focused our public appearance at these games. We were one of a number of



clans in a row of clan tents, all held outside alongside the Piping and Dancing boards and in close proximity to the traditional athletic pursuits of a "Highland Games".

Various weather events in the past have necessitated the moving of both the Piping and Dancing events indoors with little chance of accommodating the traditional 'games' themes at all. For the past few years Clan Cameron has been the only clan present at these games – and not in the "normal" way but as a trestle table indoors in some hallway or thoroughfare.

The moving of both the Piping and Dancing events indoors was absolutely a necessity so as to insure competitions that are scheduled years in advance, actually happen – and it is this knowledge by all competitors that keeps them coming back year after year. Unfortunately there is no place indoors for the other features that make a "games" – no athletic events – no stalls – no clan row tents – no food vendors etc. In other words, unless you Pipe or Dance, there is not much on for your entrance fee..... As a spectacle the moving indoors – which has become really well organised and successful – has rendered the Games into a Piping and Dancing event only. In both of these disciplines the Easter event is a pinnacle competition with competitor numbers increasing yearly.

The realisation that the "Games" are no longer delivering what we expect of them, brings us to the decision to not have a Clan Cameron presence at the Hastings Highland Games this year. History wise, a rather sad decision, but one made in the reality of the situation faced.The same feeling Grandad must have had when he finally put old Dobbin out to pasture after the arrival of his first motor-car

Canterbury by Nick Cameron

The Clan Cameron Canterbury branch has had no events planned since our attempt to hold an executive meeting before December last year. This is mainly my fault due to pressures with seed harvest and ongoing pressures of frequent weekend pipe band practices and competition events in Ashburton and Christchurch leading up to the Nationals held on the 7th and 8th of March in Invercargill.

Dale had requested that we support holding a clan tent at the Nationals... and knowing of the fickleness of Southland weather we decided to fund a larger tent to hold our displays. Alan and Morea generously agreed to help man the tent over this time with Dale.

In the weekend before the Nationals, Sandy Cameron (Finlay's older brother) and his partner Eireann Iannetta-Mackay competed piping with the Manawatu Grade 1 pipe band in "Pipes in the Park" in Wellington. Sandy (Alexander Archibald Cameron) has been playing with the Field Marshall Montgomery Pipe Band since 2016 and is one of the top pipers in Scotland. Both Sandy and Eireann were invited to come to New Zealand to compete by Willie Rowe who is currently one of our top soloists in New Zealand and pipe sergeant for Manawatu. Willie was taught the pipes by our Clan Cameron Manawatu branch member Bruce Cameron from Hunterville.

Sandy's parents Ken and Rhona came from Scotland to watch the competitions in Wellington and Invercargill, with the bonus that the Nationals were won by Manawatu...it has taken 17 years for this band to re-claim this title!. My sister Fiona was delighted to host Ken and Rhona in her flat in Wellington and remarked to me later that they are a truly delightful couple.

After the event in Wellington, Sandy and Eireann crossed the Cook Strait by Ferry, hired a rental car and drove down to stay the Monday night with Julie and I at our home in Kimberley. We were to host Alan and Morea Cameron on Wednesday night. They had offered to take the displays down to Invercargill. However sometimes the best laid plans go astray.... with a phone call from Alan on Monday to say he had an injury and could not walk.. so could not come to Invercargill. My plans were suddenly changed .. so instead of taking the bus with the band on Thursday morning I managed

to find accommodation for Wednesday night and drive down that day with the clan gear to help Dale set up the tent the following day.

The fickleness of Southland's weather was truly on display during the Nationals with regular rain and we were very lucky to have had a large clan tent. Dale did a superb job of manning this through-out and even allowed my nephew's band Celtic from Nelson to tune up in it during one of the torrential down pours. Dale was ably supported in the tent for the two full days by our Canterbury branch member Roger Tobin who had travelled down from Dunedin.

The Street March event on Saturday was arguably the most complete saturation I have ever had playing the pipes, with the event cancelled after our event due to the extreme weather. Chris Stevens (one of the judges) commented to me the following day that the judges reports for the Street March event had turned to paper mache.

Ken had brought with him copies of the book published by Finlay entitled "Music of the Clan Cameron" with Dale and I both purchasing 10 spare copies each. Any of the South Island members should contact me should they want to own a copy.

First Light News

by Bryan Haggitt—First Light Convenor



Lochiel Nielsen, Lochy, is shortly to depart for Scotland as our next outward First Lighter. Lochy leaves from Auckland on 18 May having been farewelled the evening before at the Clan's Annual Dinner at the Hawkes Bay Club in Napier.

I believe Lochy will be met at Glasgow by our 2022/23 First Lighter Finlay Cameron. She will probably then take the train to Tulloch Station and stay 2 weeks with Finlay's parents, Ken and Rhona, at Inverlair in Glen Spean. Ken and Rhona have very kindly agreed to host Lochy for this time and introduce her to Lochaber.

Ken has also arranged for Lochy to then work at the Glengarry Castle Hotel, owned and managed by his two nephews. She also has accommodation there – necessary as the Hotel is in the heart of the Great Glen between Fort William and Inverness. A most picturesque setting on the shore of Loch Oich which is between Lochs Lochy and Ness. Lochy follows in the footsteps of Rob and Cath Cameron, also of Masterton, who worked at the Hotel for 6 months quite some years ago. Rob told me at Wellington's Pipes in the Park that he and Cath had a marvellous time working there and, quite recently, stayed there again and were thrilled that so little had changed – great atmosphere, the epitome of a Scottish country hotel. Quite glorious, by the Loch, surrounded by magnificent trees and the old castle ruins nearby – superb!

Come August, Lochy will be joined by her parents, Garry and Malissa, and possibly her brother. They will do some touring of Scotland and, following that Lochy may seek early childhood work for which she is qualified. She may be able to do this in Lochaber but, if not, then in Edinburgh or Glasgow. A drummer, like her dad and brother, Lochy also wishes to hone her skills whilst in Scotland. First Light should be the most wonderful experience for Lochy!



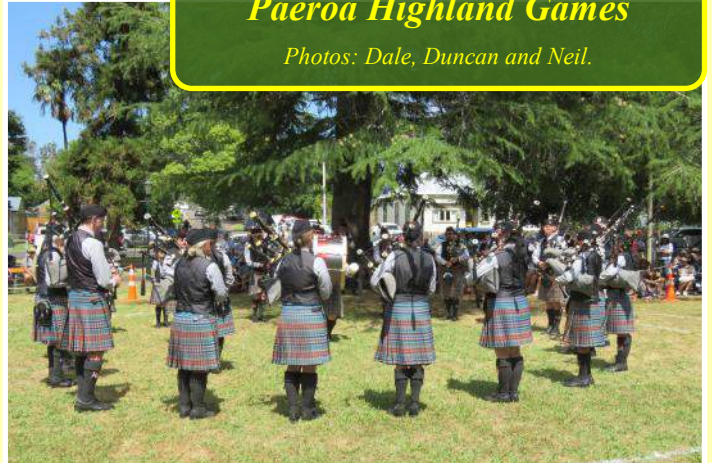
The Glengarry Castle Hotel

Paeroa Highland Games

Photos: Dale, Duncan and Neil.



Tent up, ready for the day.



The City of Sails Band being judged in the arena



The banner bearers ready for the march. Rob Cameron, John Baillie, Dale, Duncan McQueen and Tanya Cameron.



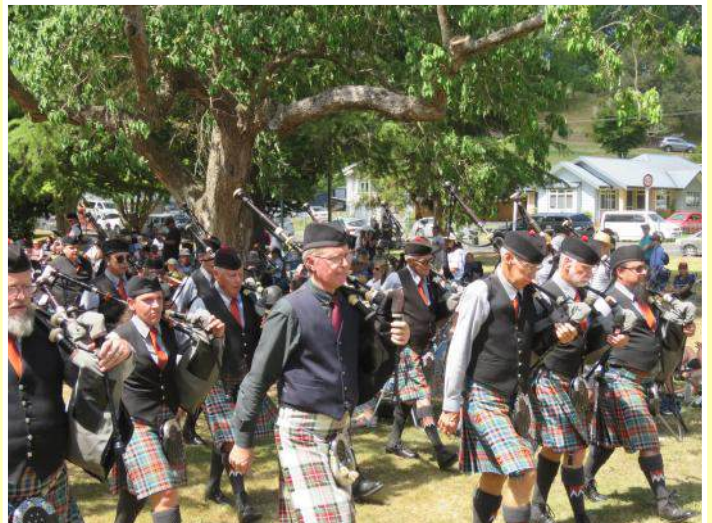
Auckland member Kaye Forester-Hill



Auckland members Jock and Catherine Cameron.



Rob Cameron and Dale Cameron Bailey.



The City of Sails Band march off after judging. Rob Cameron on right.



Above: The clans forming up ready for the opening march. Right: Auckland member Glenis Cameron with Dale Bailey.





First Lighter Sarah McQueen is back with her band, the City Of Dunedin Pipe Band, in which she is a piper.

On left they are here seen practicing for the Nationals and below taking part in a very wet street march in Invercargill

The City of Dunedin Pipe Band is the second oldest pipe band in the Southern Hemisphere. It wears the Gordon tartan.



At the National Pipe Band Championships at Invercargill



Sarah McQueen competed with the City of Dunedin pipe band



Glen Rogers, Auckland Clan Cameron member



Rob Cameron and Gina Cameron, City of Sails PB



Roger Tobin (Otago) ready for visitors to the Clan tent



Left and Centre: Well done to the Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band for pulling off a long deserved win at the Invercargill Pipe Band Nationals. New Zealand's grade 1 Pipe Band who proudly wear the Cameron tartan. Great to also have Sandy Cameron and his partner Eireann playing with them contributing to the bands achievement. Right: Rob Cameron with the City of Sails Pipe Band.



Above: A little damp this year. Right: Phillip Bell aka Phil the Piper proud of his Cameron heritage

Down Memory Lane with Lt.-Col. Charles Cameron, Achnacarry. Born 1920

*This article was collected and edited by Richard Sidgwick and
the late Donald Cameron of Lochiel for the Braes
Magazine (transcribed by Bill Cameron)*

Tell us a bit about your work with Alginate Industries?

I worked for the Company for more than 30 years, from 1948 until 1980.

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

Most of the Islanders joined the Territorial Army--the Camerons mostly, or the merchant navy. Many were captured at St. Valery and spent the rest of the war in prison - they had to work in salt mines but, happily, not that many were killed. In the late 40's there was of course no hydro-board electricity and there was still the occasional black house in Uist, with a fire in the middle of the floor and most houses were thatched with heather. After living on Uist for two years, I knew that I had to move and Bobby Campbell-Preston who was Chairman was quite happy as long as I could supervise things from the mainland; at the end of my employment, I found I had crossed the Minch every month for the better part of 30 years!

And your time with the Cameron Highlanders ?

I joined in Feb. 1939. During the First War, as far as the Camerons were concerned, Kitchener's Army was recruited mainly from Glasgow but in 1939 it came mostly from the Inverness area; the TA doubled in size and the Battalion was split into two, the 4th and 5th Camerons. The 4th comprised people from the outer Isles, Inverness, Foyers and Beaully and the 5th came from Lochaber, Nairn and Badenoch. After St Valery, when most of the 51st Division was captured, our division took on the name.

Do you remember the unveiling of the Commando Memorial ?

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

Inadvertently, I poured her a glass of whisky, but happily my mistake was spotted before it reached her!

What was Fort William like in those days ?

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

The above narrative sheds a wonderfully informed light on a past era. To enjoy the full impact of the story, listening to the narrative on disc introduces a further dimension; Col. Charlie's delivery, diction and vocabulary make their own unique contribution.



Lt Col Charles Cameron and his wife Felicia talk to members at the International Gathering in Auckland 2005. Charles was representing Lochiel. Visible are Hazel and Graeme Cameron of Wellington.



Lt Col Charles Cameron addresses the gathering at the 2005 International Gathering in Auckland.



The editor speaks to Charles at the Achnacarry Gathering in 2024. Charles, then aged 103, was accompanied by Roddy Cameron, president of Clan Cameron Scotland.

Pipes in the Park.

Wellington 2025

by Bryan Haggitt



The Finale – the Massed Pipe Bands



Lochiel (Lochy) Nielsen, Clan Cameron NZ's next outward First Lighter, with Ken and Rhona Cameron of Inverlair, Glen Spean, Scotland

*Behind, between Lochy and Ken, is Fiona, sister of Nick Cameron, immediate past Commissioner of Clan Cameron NZ
Lochy flies to Glasgow 18 May, will stay 2 weeks with Ken and Rhona before being employed at Glengarry Castle Hotel, Invergarry, Loch Oich*

Lochy is a drummer, like her father and brother, with Wairarapa Fern and Thistle Pipe Band.



Sandy with Kellie McGrath and her son and daughter. Kellie descends from Donald Angus Cameron of Glenfalloch Station, Nokomai, Central Otago. The story of Glenfalloch Station is told in Donald Offwood's book "Camerons of the Glen"



Sandy and Eireann with Lochy Nielsen



Right: The Manawatu Scottish Band—champions!



Rob and Cath Cameron from the Wairarapa with Rhona and Ken. Years back, Rob and Cath worked for 6 months at the Glengarry Castle Hotel and, also, at the Achnacarry Estate



*Front: Hillary Hakaraia, Rob Cameron, Shona Cameron, Jean McQueen, Jenny Haggitt. Pam and Brian Cameron, Rhona and Ken Cameron, Bryan Haggitt.
Back: Sarah and Duncan McQueen, Don Cameron.*



Rob and Sarah play the Blenheim Pipes



Auckland Branch AGM

The AGM and Barbecue were timed to enable us to say farewell to Rhona and Ken, who were flying out back to Scotland that evening.

*Soraidh gus an coinnich sinn a-rithist
(Farewell until we meet again)*

Turakina Highland Games

By Bruce Cameron

(Clan Cameron Manawatu member and Chief of the Turakina Highland Games)

The 160th Turakina Highland Games began at 6pm Friday night with the Lament & memorial service at the Turakina Cemetery. A stunning rendition of the Flowers of the Forest was performed by Gold Medallist Stuart Easton & a moving eulogy from Koitiata local Reverend Trevor Jurgens.

Saturday 25th of January dawned fine & warn. Perfect for the very large entries in the morning's solo piping, drumming, highland dancing and children's field events. The NZ solo piping championship was run at this year's games which Greg Wilson won from Liam Kernaghan.

Sam Foote from St Andrew's College Christchurch won the under 21 competition. The Clan Cameron Manawatu Cup for D grade most points was won by Thomas Bottomley. The open drumming overall winner was Elliott Gardner. in the P&D Highland dancing Keighley Fielding-Woodmass from Levin was the overall champion.

Midday witnessed a huge massed highland fling with approximately 100 dancers & a very large Clan March led by the Combine Pipe Bands of Manawatu, Whanganui, Rangitikei & Horowhenua. Clan Cameron had a large presence on the field! At the rare of the march were the troopers of Queen

Alexandra's Mounted Rifles in their Black Watch Kilts.

The afternoon was the continued Highland dancing, the pipe band's competition and the adult athletics. The winner of the youth band's competition was the Auckland & Waikato area Lewis Turrell Juvenile Pipe Band. The late Lewis Turrell was the piper to Clan Cameron Auckland Branch and a long time member. Runners up were the Manawatu Scottish Juvenile PB. Feilding Caledonia PB won the grade 4, Hamilton

Caledonia the grade 3, Manawatu Scottish won the grade one and 1 premier band.

The many clans, stalls and added to the atmosphere of the day. Clan Cameron DNA project filled a Clan Cameron tartan biscuit tin manufactured by Phillipa Cameron's 'What's for Smoko' business with homemade short bread (Samantha Cameron (Peppermint slice (Joanne Cameron)). The winner was a very happy Auckland Branch President Rob Cameron!

After the prize giving & evening's event's began with the haggis ceremony. performed wonderfully by Ayrshire native Maggie Whittle. The all women haggis party included Clan Cameron's next first lighter Lochiel Nielsen. Then followed the inaugural Twilight Dance Choreography competition when highland dancers performed their own dance routines. It was a wonderful addition to the day. Ceol Manawatu performed spirited dance and vocal sets as the evenings Ceilidh band to conclude a wonderful day.

ScotDance NZ at the Turakina Games

The ScotDance NZ dancers & teachers are independent of the P&D dancing competitions. Some of these dancers are going to the World Highland Dancing Championship in Cowal Scotland this year. Pictures on right and top of page 11.



The all female haggis party, with the haggis addressed by Maggie Whittle. (First Lighter Lochiel on right)

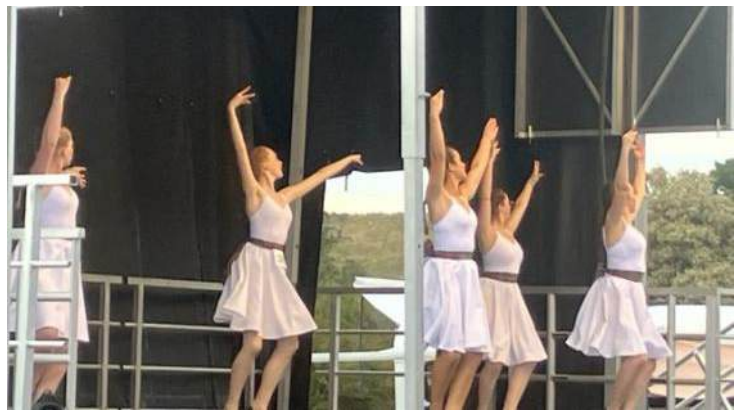


Left: Kyle McKenzie. Centre: Callum Grant (great nephew of Ewen & Roz Grant). Right: Kyle's dad Stewart. Stewart & Kyle are cousins of Allan, Morea & Rob Cameron through Rob's late grandmother Alison.



ScotDance New Zealand





Pictures from the past



This photo was taken at the 1989 Achnacarry Gathering. Neil is holding the flag and in the centre is the late Rodney Cameron. (Rodney was newsletter editor, father of Auckland member Allan and grandfather of Auckland president Rob). Rodney is filming and his record of the gathering was produced as a DVD.



Lewis Turrell winning the Gold Medal at Inverness in 1958, the first non Scot winner. With Pipe-Major Donal MacLeod.

Meeting in Tents

by Dale Cameron Bailey



oldest games) in January, Paeroa in February just after Waitangi Day. This year we were also a distinguished presence in at the National Pipe Band competitions in Invercargill. Why do we do it?

Our displays, hospitality and information are greeted with enthusiasm. Connecting at these events is so important as it's a place where people interested in their Scottish heritage come. It's like the shop window for our association.

We have met lots of members, visitors to New Zealand and people wondering about their Scottish heritage. Often, they are keen to know a bit more, having almost all wished they

We have just completed our summer of Clan Cameron tents across the country. Starting in November at Hororata in Canterbury, then Waipu on New Years Eve, then Turakina (the

had paid more attention to their grandparents stories.

They often want to be guided to the proper tartan they should wear, or where in Scotland their family came from. Maps, photographs and tartan samples are the currency of the interaction. A little bit of hospitality goes a long way too, whether its home baking, a cold water or a sample of haggis they are the currency of a wonderful social exchange.

I have had several young men wondering about the Cameron father or grandfather they never really knew. Trying to establish some type of a connection in that absence. These are special moments in our tent.

The sharing of what we do as a Clan Cameron association always impresses. Particularly when they see our newsletters and photographs of events we have held in different parts of the country. A big impression is made by our First Light Exchange, people understand the importance of connection across the distance of the years and generations.

A very special shout out to the display designers, the tent erectors, the get up early volunteers, the display of our banners, the hosts and hostesses and the team in kilts. The clan who line up to march with pride behind the banner, the encouragers who say you really should join you know. There is also the wonderful exchange of genealogy and family historical notes and tidbits. The making of connections. The development of aha moments in understanding your history.

This makes it all a special place to connect and make our Clan Cameron come alive. We need to continue to recruit new members and this is a very special shop window to what we do and value.



Dean Cameron, Samantha Cameron, Joanne Cameron and David Weston



Above: Our next First Lighter, Lochiel Nielsen at the Cameron tent. David Weston in background.



The new Manawatu Branch tent



The band leads the clan march



Ready for the march. Lochiel, Rob Cameron, Bev Morrissey and Samantha Cameron



Samantha Cameron with a visitor to the Cameron tent.



Lochiel, Wayne & Gae Stephenson and Bryan Haggitt. The Stephensons are old friends of Bryan



Left: John Cameron,



Centre: Bryan Haggitt with Joanne Cameron,



Right: Lochiel competing in the Solo Drumming.