



Cameron



The Magazine of Clan Cameron New Zealand Inc.

*Loch Leven and
The Pap of Glen Coe*

Vol 54 No5
October
2020

275th Anniversary of the '45



*I hear the pibroch sounding, sounding,
Deep o'er the mountain and glen,
While light, springing footsteps are trampling
the heath;*

'Tis the march of the Cameron men.

*Oh, proudly they walk, but each Cameron
knows*

*He may tread on the heather no more;
But boldly he follows his chief to the field
Where his laurels were gathered before.*

Photos: Bill Cameron

“Cameron”

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

Directory

Hereditary Chief and Captain of Clan Cameron
Donald Angus Cameron of Lochiel,
Lord Lieutenant of Inverness,
Achnacarry, Spean Bridge,
Imverness-shire, Scotland. PH34 4ES

New Zealand President and Commissioner
Nick Cameron
322 Auchenflower Road, RD 1 Darfield 7571
Ph. 027 232 6664
nick.cameron@cropmark.co.nz

Secretary
Tanya Cameron
97B McGarvey Rd, Whakatane 3120
Ph. 027 293 5603 Tanya.cameron30@gmail.com

Treasurer
Alison Thompson
8A Mana Street, Otumoetai, Tauranga 3110
Ph. 027 525 4766 alison.th59@gmail.com

Genealogist and Historian
David Weston
14 Tanguru Street, Wanganui 4500
Ph. (06) 343 2539 westmor@yahoo.com

First Light Exchange Convenor
Bryan Haggitt
96A Lucerne Road, Remuera, Auckland 1050
Ph. (09) 524 5254 bchecho@xtra.co.nz

Branch Presidents

Auckland
Rob Cameron
15B Gavin Street, Ellerslie, Auckland 1060
Ph. 022 525 3151 robcameronnz@gmail.com

Bay of Plenty
Tanya Cameron
97B McGarvey Rd, Whakatane 3120
Ph. 027 293 5603 Tanya.cameron30@gmail.com

Gisborne
David Cameron,
885 Wharekopae Rd, RD2 Gisborne. 4072
Ph. (06) 862 7803 camerondv@xtra.co.nz

Hawke's Bay
Hamish Cameron
76 Jarvis Road, RD 5, Hastings 4175
Ph. (06) 876 7509. h.jcameron@nowmail.co.nz

Iar (Taranaki / Whanganui)
Neville Wallace
275 Turuturu Road, RD 14, Hawera 4674
Ph.(06)278 6005. neville.wallace@talk2me.co.nz

Manawatu
Russell Cameron,
6 Woodland Grove, Feilding 4702
Ph. (06) 323 7432 russelldcam@gmail.com

Wellington / Wairarapa
Graeme Cameron
4 Karamu Street, Ngaio, Wellington 6035
Ph. (04) 977 6250 glcameron@outlook.com

Canterbury
Nick Cameron
322 Auchenflower Road, RD 1 Darfield 7571
Ph. 027 232 6664
nick.cameron@cropmark.co.nz

Magazine Editor
Neil Cameron,
28 Oxford Terrace, Devonport, Auckland 0624
Ph: (09) 446 1177 kncam@xtra.co.nz

Web Co-ordinator
Tanya Cameron Tanya.cameron30@gmail.com

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

A Message from our Commissioner...

Dear Clansfolk,

We have now moved our executive meetings into a new technology age because of the COVID-19 situation with a test run using Zoom conducted last month. Well done to our executive members who have had to learn to use of this facility. This technology change has led me to remember my early experience with computers in the early 1970's where at Massey University I was introduced to data processing using a language called FORTRAN and where we entered information using punched out holes in cards. The computer we used was housed in its own large building "a PDP-1100". This computer had significantly less computing power than our modern cell phones. Like many of my generation some years later I purchased and re-purchased the ever changing Personal Computer machines... a 386, a 486, and a Pentium full tower - all with ever changing input devices and forms of memory storage. Floppy floppy disks changed to floppy hard disks, then to CDs, to DVDs to USBs and micro SDs as well as Solid state hard drives with ever increasing storage capacities. We learnt to use Lotus 123 and later Excel for handling numeric information and Word for writing letters and correspondence. My early work involved scanning and fax machines which have now largely been superseded using email on the internet. Thirty years ago I learnt to programme in Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) writing an Analysis of Variance programme in order to process and analyse large plant breeding data sets. We have just purchased a large Ferrari (red) mower to harvest our field trial plots and fitted it with weigh cells to a large harvest bin. I have used VBA to transfer the data from the mower to excel on a ruggedized tablet. This tablet is military grade and can be dropped from 10 metres without damage and has as much computing power as our modern laptops. Currently I am writing a cell phone application in Kotlin using Android Studio - all of which is needed to keep abreast of the increasing technology changes for our company.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that my brother Andrew had returned to Hawkes Bay from Afghanistan to help with COVID-19 testing. He was pulled out of the last red cross assignment and is currently working in Wellington assigned to COVID-19 work at the Novotel quarantine facility.

At this stage the Hororata Highland Games event is still to be held on the 7th November. Assuming this goes ahead we will be looking for some help to look after our Clan tent.

We were disappointed that COVID-19 disrupted both the Auckland and Manawatu branch mid winter events - but the wise thing to do was to cancel. It is better to be safe than sorry as my grandmother often used to say!!

Keep safe.

Cheers, Nick.



Coming Events

Hororata Highland Games. 7 November. <https://hororatahighlandgames.org.nz>

Auckland Branch Dinner. 23 January 2021. More information from Neil

National Gathering and AGM. 10 April 2021. Hawera Club, Hawera.

**Clan Cameron New Zealand
Website**

www.clancameronnz.co.nz

**The Clan Cameron Interactive
Network**

<http://clancameron.ning.com/>

Next Magazine Deadline is 15 Nov 2020

Printed By

Folk Tale from Scotland

By David Weston (Clan Genealogist and Historian)

This month I have raided my library to bring you a tale about our Cameron Chiefs although not our current Lochiel. This extract is from *The Peat-Fire Flame: Folk-Tales and Traditions of the Highlands & Islands* by Alasdair Alpin MacGregor. This book was originally published in 1937 and contains numerous folk tales of the area. I was lucky enough to find a used copy for only a couple of dollars. I have copied it out below as it was published.

It would be interesting to know if any Clan members have had folk tales from Scotland passed down to them and kept alive in New Zealand.

The Silver Shoe of Lochiel.

Faith in the protective and curative power of silver persists in the Highlands and Islands to this very day; and folk-tales are related among the remote corners of Lochiel's Country of how the Silver Shoe came into the possession of the ancient and valiant family of Lochiel, and of how the retention of this heirloom ensured both the safety and the prowess of successive chiefs.

According to tradition, Cameron of Lochiel obtained



the Silver Shoe by his performing the old and gruesome mode of divination known through Celtic Scotland as the Taghairm. Moreover, no member nor follower of the Clan Cameron placed any reliance in the courage or leadership in battle of a chief or of his heir, except when the Silver Shoe was known to have fitted his left foot in infancy. When a son was born to Lochiel, it was customary, immediately after he had been christened, to submit him to the test of the Silver Shoe.

The record of the Clan Cameron for chivalry and bravery during the '15 and the '45 is unsurpassed by that of any clan; but it is still whispered in the remote Highland glens that the Cameron who, at Sheriffmuir, turned and fled from the enemy, had entered the world with the misfortune of a left foot too large for the Silver Shoe.

What ultimately became of the Silver Shoe of Lochiel is not known. Some say it was destroyed when, in the year 1745, fire consumed the home of "the Gentle Lochiel," one of the most lovable of all Prince Charlie's adherents.

(Taghairm was the ancient mode of divination, practised throughout Celtic Scotland, in which a man was wrapped in a fresh bullock's hide, and left by a stream to wait for inspiration).

Aonaibh Ri Chéile - 21st century style

By Bill Cameron

The Gaelic motto of Clan Cameron, Aonaibh Ri Chéile - (let us unite) has recently taken on a new meaning.

With the current covid restrictions on meeting up in person, Council members from the Clan Cameron association Scotland were united once again from across the country using the virtual meeting platform, zoom. Members of the association were able to exchange news from various parts of the country, share stories of how they used their time during lock down and made plans for the future using this new meeting platform.

With no international clan gathering taking place this year, the council members agreed that nothing can beat catching up in person, however in these uncertain times using zoom to catch up and virtually unite seemed to work out well.



Dr Roddy Cameron, president of the Clan Cameron Association with fellow council members during the recent zoom council meeting.

Our Congratulations to Colonel Charles Cameron who was 100 years old on 29th September.



Charles and Felicia meet NZ members at lunch, Visible are Hazel and Graeme Cameron from Wellington.

Charles, Lochiel's brother and uncle of the present Lochiel, represented the 26th Chief at the International Gathering of Clan Cameron held in Auckland in 2005.

We really felt that having Charles with us gave the gathering true international status.

On right, with his late wife Felicia and others representing Scotland at the gathering; from left Bill Cameron, Duncan Cameron (later President) and current Clan Cameron Scotland president, Roddy Cameron.



From the Branches....

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

Auckland by Rob Cameron

The Auckland branch has been quiet since the last update. At that stage we were preparing for the first organised events outside of lockdown.

The first event was the Clan Donald dinner for the changing of the New Zealand High Commissioner from Alan MacDonald to Andrew Wilkie held at the same place our branch annual dinner was scheduled for three weeks later. The event had representation from many of the clans not only in Auckland, but across the country. This event had about 100 guests, was a good indication for what the service and turn out would be like for our dinner.

Our annual dinner was the committees focus for the year until the breakout of Covid cases in Auckland put the region back into level 3 lockdown. Unfortunately, we had to postpone the event a week out from when it was to occur. The committee have decided it will be safe and appropriate to rehold the dinner on 23 January 2021. Luckily, Originz, the main entertainment will be available. Communication about this has been sent out.

Neil, Bryan (Haggitt) and I are in preparation for the Executive meeting which will be held electronically due to the current climate. It will be interesting to hear how the other branches are managing.

Looking at the near future we are still looking to hold a Christmas luncheon scheduled for December 6th, and possibly get something organised for Auckland Anniversary weekend next year, more on that to come...

Manawatu by Anne Walker

Clan Cameron Manawatu were extremely disappointed to cancel their mid-winter dinner in August. The numbers attending were down on previous years, as people were cautious about gathering in groups, and while that was not a problem, catering requirements due to Level 2 Covid-19 restrictions meant that we were unable to 'mix and mingle' as we have always done, and which is so much part of our usual dinner nights. Very reluctantly we decided to cancel and have refunded all the monies received. We are now moving forward and plan to re-schedule our special dinner event for the new year.

Clan Cameron Manawatu are hopeful that the usual outdoor events in our Cameron calendar will continue as planned over the summer. We have recently had a Clan Cameron banner made (with thanks to Neil Cameron) that will adorn our gazebo at outdoor events, and we are looking forward to the chance to use it.

In the meantime, we encourage members and friends to follow Clan Cameron Manawatu on Facebook, which interesting items are posted and shared on almost a daily basis. Find us on facebook at Clan Cameron Manawatu.

Hawke's Bay by Hamish Cameron

The last Branch Report noted our gradual emergence from lockdown and the promise of a return to Normality. ----- Such is mans optimism ----- all be it enhanced with the early signs of spring, coupling with the recent silence of Frost Fans. The imposition of yet another lockdown was, firstly, met with disappointment, then the



realization that its just got to be this way. It does seem harder to endure though, in the flush of spring.

At this time our membership has no inclination or desire to go exploring or partying -----so consequently on that front nothing has been our major achievement ! "Self isolation" – may be mankind's version of the animal kingdoms hibernation – and it might be easier to endure if we looked on it as such. Something that we will be released from in time.

The "new Normal" phrase is starting to wear thin though ----- as is its oft quoted riposte of "it is what it is" -----

Well, there is still a Christmas to look forward to !!

Bay of Plenty by Tanya Cameron

This July should have marked a time of travel and great excitement for the Clan Cameron International Gathering in Scotland. This event has had to be postponed until 2022 at this stage and hopefully those that were due to travel were able to reverse or delay their plans in time not to incur too big a loss. We look forward to the event taking place.

At the end of July this year, at our AGM we said goodbye to our long-time hosts and all round go to family for Clan Cameron. We are sad to see them go after 45 years in our midst. They are heading to Canterbury to be near family and we hope that will help make up for not having us around anymore. (Joy and Denis)!

This year's Executive meeting on September 20th is due to be hosted on Zoom. After the test drive we had recently, I think it will be interesting.

We were hoping to have a Clan Cameron BOP And visitors luncheon before the end of the year, but with the uncertainty over COVID 19 and gatherings I am hoping for an early New Year one instead.

I hope all is well with you and yours

Canterbury by Rae Magson

There have been no activities over the last couple of months, but the Hororata Highland Games is coming up. Hopefully that event will go ahead, but who knows with Covid19 what will happen. It is usually a wonderful event with Clan Cameron handing out the haggis and talking to interested passers-by. It is interesting to see people's reactions to the haggis - they either love it or hate it. I'm not going to tell you which camp I am in.

We are delighted to welcome Denis and Joy Cameron into Canterbury, they have been residing at Halswell, Christchurch now for a few weeks. Very busy unpacking all the boxes and putting them in their respective places. They have three children and seven grandchildren living nearby, so their company will bring them lots of enjoyment.

Iar (Taranaki/Whanganui) by Neville Wallace

Well we have survived another round of the Covid-19 getting loose and what a challenge it's been signing in at all the retailers plus other obligatory venues. Have you ever thought there must be an easier way! There is! At long last I taught Shona how to download the covid-19 app to her phone. And when we go anywhere there is not that hassle of divulging your phone number or address to a wily member of the public to scam you should they be tempted.



Now I know that there will be many members out there who will say I do not have any-one to help me achieve those skills. Yes there is, and if you don't have to have children or grandchildren when you decide to buy that smartphone, buy from a reputable phone dealer like Spark whose staff are very obliging to help the elder public get the most from their smartphones. We were listening to talk-back radio the other day and we heard how an 80 year old woman bought her smartphone from Spark, they set it up, whenever she needed help they were very obliging.

Now there is another source of learning more about our technical world and that is an organisation called Senior Net. Senior net is a community training network that supports seniors and older adults to use tech and computer skills in their everyday life and if you wish to find out more just ask your smart-phone and that's the tech gear that's available these days which if learned can help so much in our everyday life.

Now a few tips of how these smartphones can help in our everyday life. Most of our clan members are getting on in age and there is quite a few of us taking our regular medication. For some it can be quite a challenge to remember when to take them and if you are on your own it is even more critical! Did you know that there is an app that can be installed on your phone to remind you to take your pills any time of the day? We all have memories that we like to share. EG how old was Kirk Douglas when he died, Smartphones come with Google already installed

just click on Google and ask Google and the answer is he was 103 years old and he died on February 5th, 2020. Like a recipe for your evening meal just ask Google. It is an amazing encyclopaedia when you learn how to master it. Other built in features include a clock (international time, good when you have family overseas as it will give you their local time) and useful as alarm clock. A built-in camera which means you can send pictures to family and record events. In conclusion Facebook's messenger is a FREE mobile messaging app used for instant messaging sharing photo's, videos, etc. Extremely useful if you have family overseas because you can talk for FREE. No phone bill So for a modest outlay of approximately \$400.00 welcome to 2020. If Shona can, you can!

Wellington/Wairarapa by Graeme Cameron

The branch held a dinner and presentation by Rob and Cath Cameron at the Aston Norwood Cafeteria on Saturday 25 July 2020. We are now planning a family gathering in the Wairarapa in November. Branch members will receive information on this event once we have settled on a date and venue.



Two of the Editor's Scottish Photos. These were taken on the Isle of Tiree, Inner Hebrides. The one on the left shows the remains of the house in which his maternal grandfather, Neil Clark, was born and from whence he left to go to sea in the merchant navy. The one on the right shows existing homes in the vicinity. Note the thick walls. Photos: Editor.

Highland Heroes of St Valery Battle remembered at Commando Memorial

The 80th Anniversary of the Battle at St Valery was marked at the Commando Memorial in a commemorative event led by the West Highland Museum Team.

The battle on the 12th June 1940 saw the sacrifice of thousands of Highland soldiers who surrendered to overwhelming German forces at St. Valery-en-Caux on the French coast.

Roy Bridge piping brothers Sandy and Finlay Cameron played *The Heroes of St Valery* in tribute to the 51st Highland Division.

A number from the Braes were present including Sandy and Finlay, Ian Peter MacDonald, Chris Robinson, David MacFarlane and former Braes co-editor, Vanessa Martin.

Donald Cameron, MSP for the Highlands and Islands said earlier that St Valery was in some respects the "forgotten Dunkirk" as, "...unlike at Dunkirk, a few days earlier, it proved impossible at St Valery to evacuate the troops on account of the weather and the proximity of German artillery. As a result, thousands of soldiers who had spent weeks fighting gallantly, went on to spend years as prisoners of war...."

The loss of so many of our young fighting men was felt keenly across the Highlands and Islands, with few communities left untouched. Five years later, the reformed Highland Division re-entered as liberators – appropriately to the sound of the pipes."



Sandy and Finlay Cameron - Photo Iain Ferguson

-With thanks to the Braes newsletter

The Camerons of Callart

– Mull to Marangai

By Bryan Haggitt



Capt. Allan Cameron of Callart (b 1765 d 1829 and his son, John Cameron of Marangai (b 1817 d 1892)



Since writing of the disastrous times of my 18th Century Callart ancestors I have been re-reading John Stewart of Ardvorlich's "The Camerons". Lochiel's line is also littered with trials, tribulations, confiscations, forfeitures, murders, assassinations, torture and executions. The unfair dictates of nobles and kings – of, feuds, tribalism and patriarchy. Cattle "lifting" from neighbours was sport but through it all allegiance to the Chief, Lochiel, prevailed thanks to an incredible Clan spirit. The Callart land on Loch Leven was forfeited after Culloden, regained in 1784 on payment of a fine but sold to Ewen Cameron of Fassfern and the Callart family moved to North Uist where Capt. Allan Cameron, previously a Captain and Paymaster in the Lochaber Fencibles, was Factor to Lord MacDonald of Sleat. The local economy thrived on the kelp trade but this collapsed around 1820 and the family moved to Mull

By astonishing coincidence I have come across a two year old Country Life with a notable building advertised for sale – Castle Calgary, Calgary Bay, Isle of Mull – the home of Capt. Allan Cameron of Callart after he left North Uist.



Castle Calgary – from Strutt & Parker's advertisement, Country Life, 18 August 2018 – Built by Capt. Allan MacAskill, a cousin, it was the home of Capt. Allan Cameron in the 19th Century

Capt. Allan's third son, John Cameron my Gt Grandfather, had been born at Loch Maddy, North Uist, in 1817. John grew up at Calgary – an idyllic situation for a youngster, a glorious beach and many visitors came to stay. Young cousins – and the biographer of one wrote of holidays there "those boyhood days in Mull were of unclouded happiness. There they fished and bathed to their hearts' content". That cousin was James Cameron Lees who was to become Minister of St Giles Cathedral, Dean of the Order of the Thistle and Chaplain to Queen Victoria and then Kings Edward VII and George V. Another visitor to Calgary was so impressed that, on his return to the town he had founded in Canada, renamed it Calgary.

A far cry from the mayhem of past times in Lochaber but, for the family, the collapse of the kelp trade had forced the move from North Uist and then there were the Clearances. Few prospects for a third son and Capt. Allan purchased a passage for John, plus a sizable portion of land for farming, to New Zealand. The purchases were through Wakefield's New Zealand Company and 23 year old John embarked from Greenock on 25 August 1840 for Wellington on the "Blenheim". Also on board was a cousin, Jessie, married to Capt. Moses Campbell (for Jessie's diaries describing that voyage from Scotland to NZ on the Blenheim see earlier Clan Newsletters)..

The Campbells and John had purchased adjoining farms just south of Wanganui – John named his "Marangai" (East Wind) and the Campbells' "Wiritoa". John later purchased land in the Rangitikei but Marangai was where he lived. Considerable nervousness during the New Zealand Land Wars and a Block House was built where the family could retreat to if attacked. A series of bonfires on neighbouring hilltops back to Wanganui were set as a warning system should an attack be imminent but they were never lit. The local Maoris were very loyal and well regarded and the Hau Hau's from upriver never attacked.

John proved an excellent farmer, he took copies of all his outward letters. Held in the Alexander Turnbull Library, they were transcribed by Dorothy Newman and are a remarkable day to day record of farming life in NZ between 1853 and 1890. Apart from sheep and cattle, John bred thoroughbreds – imported stallions from England, rode a winner at the first Wanganui race meeting, and was an inaugural Vice President of the Wanganui Jockey Club.

John married Anne Sutherland, his housekeeper. Anne was born in Nova Scotia and came here, via South Australia to Waihi with the Rev'd Norman McLeod. They had five children – Allan, John, Hector, Mary (my Grandmother) and James. John built a large, two storey homestead to replace his original house and urged his brother Alex (Alick) to join him in NZ. Alex came out but didn't stay but several Lees nephews came, worked at Marangai and John helped them set up farms in the Rangitikei. The Rev'd Dr James Cameron Lees sailed out to visit the farm.

Allan inherited Marangai on John's death in 1890 and married Maude Ralston. John and Hector fought in the Boer War, Mary married Henry Wilson, a farmer from Gateshead-on-Tyne, and James (Jim) went Queensland to farm. WW 1 – the two bachelor brothers, John and Jim, went to war. John took ill and died in Egypt during the Gallipoli campaign. Jim was killed in action in France. Allan continued farming Marangai and Hector farmed elsewhere.

Allan, in his later years took on his son-in-law, Tony Corballis, as his farm manager – Tony having married Barbara, one of his four daughters. Allan's son, John, had died aged 20 so, on Allan's death in 1950, Marangai was divided into four with each daughter inheriting a block. The eldest, Anne Rachel (Nancy), married to Frank Newman, called her 300 acres "Arlington", Elspeth, a doctor and married to Dr Bobby Fitzgerald, named her block "Callart". Barbara and Tony Corballis took the main farm and homestead and Jean, the youngest, farmed "Norton" with husband Heathcote D'Arcy. Norton was named after a stallion that had stood at Marangai back in the 19th century and sired a number of successful racehorses.

Neil Corballis, who some Clan members may remember, inherited Marangai in the 1970s and, with wife Gill, farmed there till Neil's death a few years ago. Somewhat sadly Marangai, apart from the homestead, has been sold though there are still a strong connections to the past as the purchaser was the Campbell family, of nearby "Whititoa", descendants of Capt. Moses and Jessie Campbell. Neil's daughter, Catherine, continues to live in the Marangai homestead and Arlington is farmed by Nancy Newman's grandson, David Newman – land still owned by the family after 180 years.



Built 1866, the Marangai Homestead c. 1910 and as it is today. Neil Corballis removed the 2nd storey in a major renovation during the 1960s.



The Cameron Blockhouse



Mary Anne (b 1775) wife of Capt. Allan Cameron, dau of Duncan Roy Campbell of Barcaldine. Niece of Colin ("Red Fox") Campbell.



Anne (b.1832 d.1884) wife of John Cameron of Marangai. Dau of Hector and Jessie Sutherland of Nova Scotia, then Waipu.

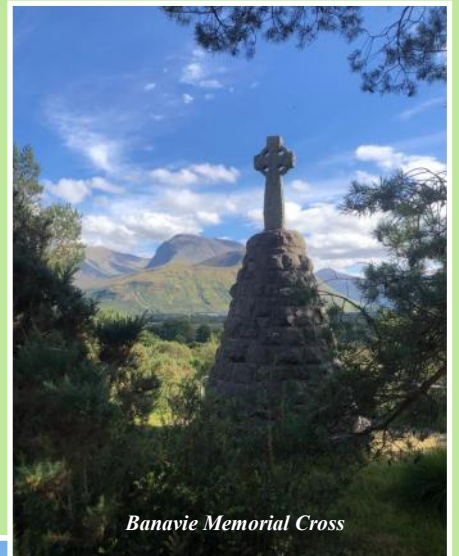


Mary (b. 1871 d. 1954) dau of John and Anne Cameron. Wife of Henry William Wilson of Whanganui—my Grandmother.

More of Bill Cameron's great Lochaber images.



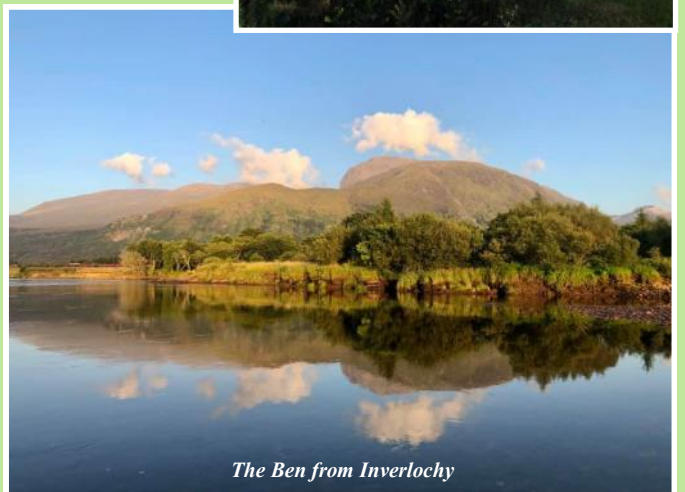
The Ben from Banavie



Banavie Memorial Cross



The Parade, Fort William



The Ben from Inverlochy

This week in 1745: the Prince sets foot on Scottish soil for the first time

by Ally Entwistle.

Part 2 and 3 (As published in the Lochaber Times)

Last week, we left Bonnie Prince Charlie aboard the Du Teillay, being battered by storms on his way to the western Highlands.

The 24-year-old Prince's travelling companions on board the Du Teillay were a motley crew of seven much older and rather infirm gentlemen – later called The Seven Men of Moidart – who must have found this rough passage quite trying.

No doubt they would have been greatly relieved when they saw the small isles, which form the tail bone of the Outer Hebrides, come into view.

The Seven Men consisted of four Irishmen, two Scots and an Englishman. Most were ages with the Prince's father, rather than the Prince, and had variously been involved with the Court in Exile, the 1715 rising or the French army.

The quartet of Irishmen were Sir Thomas Sheridan, who had been the Prince's tutor and was a veteran cavalry officer; Sir John MacDonald, a former cavalry officer; Sir John William O'Sullivan, who had served in the French army, and the Irish Episcopalian clergyman, the Reverend Kelly, who was in charge of propaganda for the Prince.

William Murray, Marquis of Tullibardine, who had been out in 1715 but suffered badly from gout, was one of the Scots. Aeneas MacDonald, a banker who had spent his life in Paris, and was responsible for securing much of the Prince's initial funding, was the other Scot in the party.

The Englishman, Francis Strickland, came from a long line of Stuart loyalists but was disliked by the Prince's father. On hearing he was with the Prince, James attempted to have him dismissed.

July 23 – the Du Teillay arrives at the isle of Eriskay. The Prince and his retinue are now in Scotland. They pass the night on Eriskay after a lukewarm reception

July 24 – The Prince and his companions return to the Du Teillay to wait for MacDonald of Boisdale to appear. Boisdale meets the Prince and refuses to join him in his endeavour and accompany him to the mainland.

July 25 – The Du Teillay sails on to reach the mainland and weighs anchor at Loch nan Uamh, between Lochailort and Arisaig – just down the road from Glenfinnan, where the standard will be raised the following month and the '45 begin.

The Prince disembarks, and sets foot on Scottish mainland soil for the first time. The Du Teillay sets sail for the return journey to Brittany. The Rising will begin in a matter of weeks.

Eriskay: A sign of things to come?

As Bonnie Prince Charlie arrives on Eriskay, at Coilleag a'Phrionnsa (The Prince's Cockle Strand), he pulls a handkerchief from his pocket and accidentally scatters seeds of morning glory (shore bindweed). The plant is not native to the Hebrides, and becomes known as 'The Prince's Flower'. He is immediately taken to the house of the tacksman, Angus MacDonald, and learns that Macdonald of Clanranald and Macdonald of Boisdale are in South Uist, so a messenger is despatched.

Word is put about that the Prince is a visiting Irish priest, so as not to arouse suspicion. The party pass the night at the

tacksman's house, which is uncomfortable as there aren't enough beds for all the guests. The Prince declines to take one.

The next day the Prince meets with MacDonald of Boisdale, who tells him that he will receive no support from the MacDonalds of Clanranald, the MacDonalds of Sleat on Skye, and the MacLeods of Skye, and would be better off going home.

The Prince reportedly replies: 'I am come home, Sir.' Undeterred, he plans to push on and find support elsewhere. The Du Teillay sets sail the next day for the mainland and drops anchor at Loch nan Uamh. An eagle is spotted hovering above the boat, and Tullibardine is said to have told the Prince: 'Sir, I hope this is an excellent omen, and promises good things to us.'

'The king of birds is come to welcome your royal highness upon your arrival in Scotland.'

A boat is sent with a message to young Clanranald, who is Boisdale's nephew, asking for a meeting. A tent on the deck is filled with wines and spirits ready to entertain guests. Aeneas MacDonald also goes ashore to bring his brother, Kinlochmoidart, to meet the Prince. After a short interview, Kinlochmoidart is despatched with letters to Lochiel at nearby Fassfern, and others.



The 1745 portrait of Prince Charles Edward Stuart by the artist Allan Ramsay. Photograph courtesy of the Scottish National Portrait

The Prince's Cairn

Close to the Loch nan Uamh viaduct, an old-fashioned metal sign points across the road to The Prince's Cairn. It is a quietly unassuming signpost to a place of great significance in the story of the '45.

A walk down to the lochside from the layby opposite brings you to a small promontory and the cairn making the spot where the Prince stepped from the Du Teillay onto Scottish mainland soil.

That first step began a chain of historic events, and 14 months later, it would be the spot where the Prince, a hunted fugitive, would leave the Scottish mainland on board another French vessel. He would eventually make his escape abroad to safety, and would never return to Scotland.

The cairn was erected in 1956 by the 1745 Association, a historical society, and bears a plaque in both English and Gaelic. Oddly, the plaque describes it as the spot where the Prince departed on September 20, 1746 and fails to mention his arrival there in 1745.

The prince meets with clan chiefs

This week, 275 years ago, Loch nam Uamh would have been a strange mix of heady anticipation and covert operations.

Letters were being sent out with trusted supporters prompting figures to arrive on the shore to be quietly rowed out to the Du Teillay, presumably in great expectation of a long-awaited meeting.

The prince's travelling companions, the 'Seven Men of Moidart', were still introducing the stranger on board as a man of the cloth – this time as an English clergyman 'who had long been possess'd of a desire to see and converse with Highlanders'.

One of these figures being rowed out to the ship was the summoned Clanranald, who stepped on board and almost

immediately disappeared into a cabin for a three-hour discussion with the Prince.

About half an hour after Clanranald emerged, a young man appeared. According to one account, he was 'a tall youth of a most agreeable aspect, in a plain black coat, with a plain shirt, not very clean, and a cambrick stock fixed with a plain silver buckle... at his first appearance I found my heart swell to my very throat.'

This effect which the Prince had on loyal Jacobites was also seen in the exchange he had with the reluctant Lochiel, who was concerned the Prince had arrived without the arms, men and weapons Lochiel believed would be necessary for a successful rising and advised him to return to France.



The rare portrait of 'The Gentle Lochiel' by the artist George Chalmers. Photograph courtesy of Art UK. NO F31 Gentle Lochiel

One account quotes the Prince as saying: 'In a few days, with the few friends that I have, I will erect the royal standard and proclaim to the people of Britain that Charles Stuart is come over to claim the crown of his ancestors, to win it, or to perish in the attempt; Lochiel, who my father has often told me was our firmest friend, may stay at home and learn from the newspapers the fate of his prince.'

This was a key moment for the Rising. Without Lochiel's

support – and the hundreds of men his support would bring – the other chiefs would

not have rallied to the standard and the spark of rebellion would have been snuffed out.

The account gives Lochiel's history-changing reply: 'No, I'll share the fate of my prince and so shall every man over whom nature or fortune hath given me any power.'

The Gentle Lochiel

Donald Cameron of Lochiel was the hereditary chief of Clan Cameron, which was traditionally loyal to the Stuarts. His father John was exiled after the 1715 rising and his grandfather, Sir Ewen, assumed his duties as 'Lochiel'. When Sir Ewan died in 1719, Donald became the 19th clan chief.

There had been heavy fines after the '15 and government garrisons kept an eye on the Highlands. No wonder Lochiel was initially reluctant to support the Prince and indeed wrote to him to dissuade him from coming – unless he brought 6,000 troops, weapons and money with him.

He refused to meet the Prince at Eriskay and sent his brother to urge him to return to France. But he was eventually persuaded to meet the Prince who used a combination of charm and clan loyalty to persuade Lochiel to join him. If this had not happened, perhaps the Rising would have failed before it had even started. Lochiel provided the Prince with between 800 and 900 men.

Once Lochiel had pledged to support the Prince, his loyalty was unswerving.

Badly wounded by musket fire in both legs at Culloden, Lochiel went on the run in Lochaber, spending time hiding out in Sunart and on Loch Shiel and at the foot of Ben Alder, where he met up with the Prince.

They both left from Loch nan Uamh for France in September 1746 where Lochiel remained in exile, dying just two years after Culloden at Bergues in 1748.

He is often referred to as 'The Gentle Lochiel', however, this is an attribution which first appeared in a poem written after his death.

On July 29, some of Clanranald's best men were chosen to be the Prince's guard. Others were tasked with unloading the ship of arms and ammunition.

In the following days, MacDonald of Keppoch and MacDonald of Glencoe, who had also met with the Prince, returned home to gather their followers, each taking arms and ammunition for the use of their own men. The Prince's conversation with Lochiel was bearing fruit.

With thanks to the Lochaber Times, Mark Entwistle and Bill Cameron

Hidden secrets and symbols

Fort William's West Highland Museum boasts a highly-impressive collection of Jacobite relics once owned by staunch Jacobites to show their loyalty to the cause.

There are items of the Prince's clothing, from tartan fragments to shoe buckles, a bonnet, jacket and a silk waistcoat. More personal 'souvenirs' include locks of the Prince's hair and the only known example of one of his teeth.

More usual memorabilia is glassware engraved with secret symbols of support for the Prince – white roses, oak leaves and acorns and the thistle. The words 'fiat' meaning 'let it be' or 'let it come to pass' and 'redeat' (Go back/return) 'redi' (return) or 'revirescit' (revive) suggest hope of a Stuart restoration. Toasts were made over a bowl of water, symbolising the king 'over the water' in exile.

In 2018 the museum was delighted to receive the famous Drambuie Collection on long-term loan, which includes many items of Jacobite glassware.

One very rare piece is an 18th Century glass depicting a five-coloured, enamelled portrait of the Prince, thought to be one of only three made.

Whilst the museum is currently closed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, it hopes to open again on September 1.



One of the rare glasses on show, with this one depicting a portrait of the young fugitive prince. NO F12 Bonnie Prince Glass



The rare snuff box is a recent acquisition for the West Highland Museum. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos NO F35 Jacobite snuff box 02

The Case of the Stolen Pipes

By Rob Cameron Auckland

On the evening of 13th of October 2016, while celebrating the completion of a pipe band AGM at a local pub, my car was broken into and my pipe case and music was stolen from the backseat. A night that I will always remember. The bagpipes that were stolen originally belonged to my Grandfather and I had been learning to play them for about a year. They were a set of early Starcks, estimated to have been created between 1890 and 1905, full ivory, and in great condition for their age. This was a set of Bagpipes that had a very distinctive sound and had a sentimental value not only to me, but to other family members as well.

I would not wish this scenario upon anyone; it can have a huge emotional impact on the victim. It also takes time and money to get back to normality. I had my first major concert in a couple of weeks after this, and I had no instrument to play with. Unfortunately, the opportunist thief does not see or care about any of these impacts which they have put upon their victims.

As the bagpipes were very distinctive, there was optimism that they might show up somewhere, and as it so happened, they did. It was about 8 or 9 months later that they appeared on trade me. A very good friend of mine, Michel Tent, who knew the set well, had alerted me to the auction. The auction had a very low buy now price, and seeing that there were other interested parties, Michel had purchased them at the buy now price to make sure they would not end up with someone else.

There was no doubt it was my set of bagpipes, it came in the stolen pipe case, came with all the pipe maintenance gear that I kept with the pipes, and also had my one of a kind Cameron tartan pipe bag cover. This was a huge relief as I now knew where my family set of pipes had ended up. The pipes were purchased on a Friday evening, and pickup was organised for the following Sunday. The police suggested to make the purchase without raising any suspicion. The goal is to get the goods back without invoking potential violence or suspicion from the seller, as the goods could be

damaged, or the sale may not be completed. Once the sale is completed the police could then start an investigation. Michel and I both went to pick up the pipes. I used my phone to record the conversations between the seller and Michel. The sale was completed successfully, and the recording went to the police. After a quick inspection during the sale, it was deemed that the pipes were in the same condition as when they were stolen, no alterations, and nothing missing. The pipes were now back in my possession.

After my pipes were stolen, I heard many different stories nearly the same story, not for just musical instruments, but bagpipes specifically. Unfortunately, most of the stories I heard did not end up with the same outcome as me and a lot of people did not get their stolen items back. I am one of the lucky ones, and I hoping that people reading this article will be able to take something away from it.

When travelling, I now always use the boot. It does not matter how small something is, if it is visible, a burglar is not going to care about the smashed window to take it. If something is concealed in a bag, it is not going to stop the curiosity of a burglar on the chance that there maybe something valuable in it.

I also use Bluetooth trackers on anything of value. These are low energy beacons, that can be concealed on an item, and a smartphone can be used to help track where the item is. You can track a beacon with your phone if the beacon is within 20 meters, however the app on the phone can connect to other users who also use the same tracker and now the range is extended to 20 meters from their phone or device. This means that the more people who use the same beacon, the larger the search area. If you are actively searching for a beacon, the last known location is sent to your phone. This is not guaranteed that you will get your item back, but in a densely populated area like Auckland, this greatly increases the chances. The trackers I use are called Tiles, and cost about \$40 each and can be purchased from Noel Leeming.



Photos from the Past....



By Bill Cameron:

I was recently given an old photographic collection, this includes three shots from a Clan Cameron gathering up at Achnacarry back in the 1950's. I thought they might be of interest for the newsletter. The shots were taken by the late Andy Paton.

(The other two photos are on the opposite page)



Remembering St. Kilda

- 90 years on

by Bill Cameron

On the 29th of August 1930 the last 36 people were evacuated from the island of St. Kilda, 110 miles west of mainland Scotland. For thousands of years the island had been inhabited by a Gaelic speaking community that once seen a population of over 300 people survive out on this lonely archipelago through wild fowling on the rich sea stacs that seen them through the cold and wet Scottish winters.

Most of the last 36 islanders were relocated to Lochaline, in Lochaber, where many of the men were employed by the forestry commission to plant trees. Ironically the island they came from had no trees on it at all. The men were adept climbers and were skilled in overcoming the obstacles of planting trees on very steep terrain.

To mark the 90 years since the evacuation, a series of talks were organised online by the St. Kilda club for those interested in the heritage and current developments on the island. St Kilda is an internationally renowned site and the only place in Britain to have two UNESCO world heritage listings for its natural and human history.

Many books have been written about the island since the last 36 islanders left in 1930.

A recent recommended title by Elizabeth Gifford, *The Lost Lights of St. Kilda*, tells a moving story of the St. Kildans whilst they were still on the island, as well as some who went of to war and were subsequently caught at St Valery. After writing the book the author was inspired to put together a small title called *The Last Families on St. Kilda*. The publication brings together photographs and a short biography of the last 36 St. Kildans. The title has been made to assist the national trust in the preservation of the islands rich history and wildlife.

For more information see

<https://www.stkildaclub.co.uk/product/the-last-families-on-st-kilda/>



The restored St kilda cottages in Village Bay on the main island of Hirta surrounded by the unique stone cleit structures that the St. Kildan's used to store and dry out many of the birds caught during the summer months to see them through the hard winter conditions.



Gannets flying around Boreray four miles distant from the main island of Hirta. The St. Kildans would spend weeks out on the sea stacks harvesting the guga, baby gannets. The bird meat was a staple of the islanders diet. The feathers were plucked from the birds and used to pay their rent to the land lord, Macleod of Macleod on the Isle of Skye. While the oil from the birds was used as fuel to light the lamps in their cottages.



Aonaibh ri Cheile

The Back Page



Photo: Highland Cinema



Photo: Bill Cameron

New Highland Cinema and Café in Cameron Square, Fort William.

Set to open on September 25th, the brand new, purpose built boutique Highland Cinema located in Fort William, Lochaber, has two screens and a café bar, bringing cinema back to the heart of the Highlands for the first time in 15 years.

Famous for providing majestic backdrops for films including *Harry Potter*, *Braveheart*, *Rob Roy*, *The Dark Knight Rises* and Bond films *The World Is Not Enough* and *Skyfall*, plus many others, the Highlands is home to some of the most rugged and beautifully cinematic scenery in the world. The new Highland Cinema aims to reflect this, showing a variety of Scottish classics alongside Hollywood blockbusters on release day, arthouse, indie and event cinema, as well as playing host to festivals, events and live music, providing an eclectic, exciting new destination for locals and tourists alike.

Owner, entrepreneur and author Angus MacDonald (57) lives in Lochaber, with a family history in the area going back centuries. "Several years ago I read an article that said the best way to bring life back into a small town was to have an independent bookshop and a cinema. Two years ago I opened a bookshop. Today I am very pleased to be on the cusp of opening our fantastic new cinema!"

Built on the former site of the town hall and a previous cinema that closed in 2005, the new Highland Cinema has been designed to reflect a traditional bothy, the



Photo: Highland Cinema



Photo: Highland Cinema

humble building that has sheltered travellers across the Highlands for centuries. The warm, welcoming entrance and café bar has been built using local stone and features a red corrugated roof, covered terrace, wood burning stove and seating for up to 84. The café offers a range of food from gourmet pizzas to charcuterie, pastries and more, while the bar provides a carefully curated selection of fine Scottish whiskies, gins and beers, plus wines and hot and cold drinks.

The back of the building houses two state-of-the-art cinema theatres with cutting-edge laser digital projection and sound systems, delivering a highly immersive experience for all audiences. Screen 1 has a capacity of 109, including two unique seats in a real red Lotus sports car donated by a local businessman. Screen 2 can take up to 62 guests.

Originally set to open in May 2020, the Highland Cinema was delayed earlier in the year due to Covid-19. Construction began again in July, with final details and charming touches now being added in preparation for opening.

"Our aim is to bring a smile to people's faces on even the wettest day, to be a gathering place for youngsters and the elderly, and to provide a range of films to please and interest a broad spectrum of visitors. We have Covid-19 procedures in place to ensure the comfort and safety of all our guests and staff, and we can't wait to welcome them in to see new films like *Tenet*, *Wonder Woman* and *No Time To Die*, plus classics like *The 39 Steps*, *Whisky Galore!* and many more showings and events!"



The Clan Donald Dinner. *Left: The haggis is piped in by members of the Signals Pipes and Drums. Right: Rob Cameron represents Clan Cameron*