



# Cameron



The Magazine of Clan Cameron New Zealand Inc.

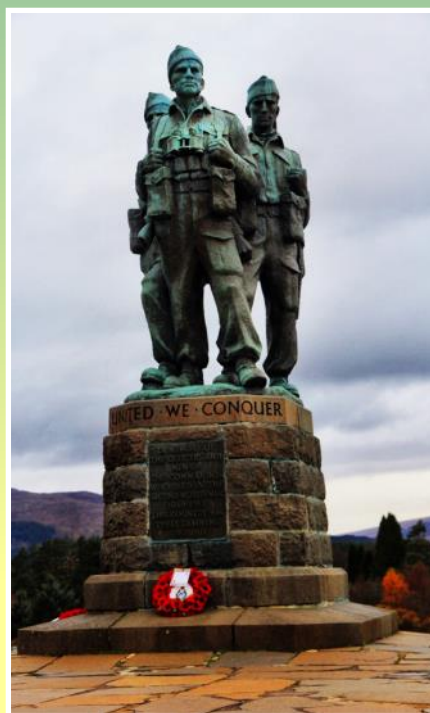
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2018

The Armistice Day Centennial 11 November 2018



Photos: Jenny Haggitt and Christina Jones

The grounds of the Auckland War Memorial Museum with 18 277 named crosses remembering each of the New Zealanders killed in the First World War, 40 of whom had the surname Cameron. Some of the Cameron crosses are shown above. ....We will remember them.



Armistice Day in Lochaber

The Commando Monument, Lochiel taking the salute at the march past, and the War Memorial in Fort William



Photos: Bill Cameron



We wish you a Happy Christmas and hope you have a rewarding and healthful 2019



## “Cameron”

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

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

## A Message from our Commissioner...

Dear Clansfolk,

During October I spent 3 weeks travelling between Johannesburg and Cape Town speaking to large scale dairy farmers regarding the use of pasture varieties and visiting some of our company trial sites. Fortuitously my return flight was cancelled and this meant a delay of 24 hours in Johannesburg enabling the watching of the All Black – Springbok rugby game amongst a crowd of Bok supporters. I was nearly lynched in the last 2 minutes of that game (enough said!).

Last weekend the local Canterbury Branch of Clan Cameron once again held a successful tent display at the Hororata Highland Games with slightly more than 9,000 people attending.

We once again baked a Lechies' Butchery haggis and this was given out as free haggis on crackers by my daughter Rowan, Pat and Rex Tarbotton, Julie Cameron, and Marcie Clarke. They also were busy selling raffles and educating the large crowd about our clan.

As I was also competing in the pipe band events during the day I was not much help apart from cooking the haggis and setting up the tent before the public arrivals.

We were also very pleased to have support from Rob Cameron and his parents who had travelled from Nelson for the event. Rob carried our banner for the main clan banner parade.

Cheers,

*Nick.*



## And from Lochiel, our Chief ....

I would like to wish all clansfolk a very happy Christmas and I hope that 2019 brings you all health and happiness.

We, the family, are all in good shape and we now have eight grandchildren – Donald Andrew's wife, Sarah, produced a baby boy called Ossian on October 10<sup>th</sup> - Donald Andrew is still enjoying his time as a member of the Scottish Parliament. My wife, Cecil, and the children are all well and Lucy's husband, Richard, has returned from Somalia safe and sound which is good news.

We have had a meeting regarding the clan gathering in 2020 and I hope very much that some of you will be able to attend. It should be a very happy and interesting few days.

The estate is, I think, in good shape and the hydro schemes are making a big difference to our finances. We have lots of plans and hope that by the time of the Gathering everything will be looking spick and span!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who help to keep the spirit of the clan alive. I am very grateful to you all and realise that many of you spend a lot of time and trouble on matters relating to the clan. I hope, too, that we can attract younger people to join our various branches across the world.

With very best wishes to you all,

*Donald Cameron of Lochiel*



Clan Cameron New Zealand  
Website

[www.clanameronnz.co.nz](http://www.clanameronnz.co.nz)



Next Magazine Deadline is 15 Jan

Printed By

# Clan Cameron International Gathering. Achnacarry 2020

Let us Unite - Aonaibh Ri Chéile...once again.

Cameron clansfolk, septs, descendants and friends are cordially invited to an International Gathering of Clan Cameron at Achnacarry, that stunning residence near Loch Arkaig upon the Lochiel Estate near Spean Bridge, Inverness-shire, Scotland.

The main event takes place on Saturday 1st August 2020, with plans also scheduled for the previous Thursday and Friday (30th / 31st July) and also Sunday (2nd August). On these dates you will have a wonderful chance to enjoy yourselves, learn about your ancestry and to meet fellow clansfolk. In the words of our host Donald Cameron of Lochiel, XXVII

Chief of Clan Cameron, Lord-Lieutenant of Inverness: "I hope lots of you will be able to come, as I think it will be a memorable occasion."

Come to our Lochaber ancestral (or, for many Cameron Clansfolk, current) homeland and share this experience with family and friends, old and new.

Over the coming months additional details will be unveiled via Clan Cameron's numerous social media avenues:  
[www.twitter.com/theclancameron](http://www.twitter.com/theclancameron)  
[www.facebook.com/clancameron](http://www.facebook.com/clancameron)

For background information, please see the sub-site previously created for the 2009 Gathering:  
[www.clan-cameron.org/gathering](http://www.clan-cameron.org/gathering)



By Editor:

John Cameron, of Operatunity Travel, has been working very hard on planning a tour for you.

He says "I have secured accommodation, all in one hotel, that will allow the trip to take 28 people. I literally have never had to work so hard to find rooms - it seems this gathering is going to be larger than last time. I have been in contact with over 30 hotels and all saying fully booked already for the Gathering dates.

I got a bit creative and looked out in the country and found this lovely place at Roy Bridge that has a view of Ben Nevis. and we will have the whole hotel for us.

It's a 20 minute drive from Fort William which is not a problem as we will have our own coach.

I have not priced the trip up at all - there are so many



The hotel at Roy Bridge

things to price but the first big step is to lock in the Fort William accommodation and then I will contract all the other towns (i am planning for Glasgow → Aberdeen → Inverness → Fort William → Dundee → Edinburgh - about 2 1/2 weeks long and price will be likely to be somewhere between \$14,000 and \$16,000 say (we will be staying in 4 star hotels with a 5 star one in Edinburgh for a final flourish.)

There is absolutely no chance of taking more than 28 and so when it is launched it will be 'first in first served' for bookings with a deposit."

So far only 8 clansfolk have given me their names as possible starters for John's tour. If you are thinking of going, please let me know as soon as possible.

Neil ([kncam@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kncam@xtra.co.nz))

## Coming Events:

**Saturday 8 December 2018**  
**Jenny Mair Highland Square Day**  
The Square, Palmerston North  
8am - 6.30pm.  
A great day for all.

**Tuesday 1 January 2019**  
**Waipu Highland Games.**  
The Cameron gazebo will be there. Visit us and give us your support.  
Begins with street march at 9am.  
[www.waipugames.co.nz](http://www.waipugames.co.nz)

**Saturday 26 January 2019**  
**Turakina Highland Games**  
Cameron Road, Turakina  
Come and enjoy a day in the country.  
Starts 8.30am.  
[www.turakinahighlandgames.co.nz](http://www.turakinahighlandgames.co.nz)

**Saturday 26 January 2019**  
**Visit to Highland Cattle Farm**  
James and Fay Cameron have again invited us to visit and enjoy their hospitality.  
Auckland members will be emailed with details nearer date.  
Enquiries to Editor

**Saturday 9 February 2019**  
**25th Paeroa Highland Games and Tattoo**  
9am to 9pm Paeroa Domain.

The Cameron gazebo will be there.  
[www.paeroahighlandgames.co.nz](http://www.paeroahighlandgames.co.nz)

**Sunday 17th February 2019**  
**Clan Cameron Manawatu AGM**  
Mt Lees reserve, near Fielding.  
See Manawatu report on page 4.

**Sunday 24 March 2019**  
**Auckland Branch AGM and BBQ.**  
Parnell Cricket Club. AGM 4pm, BBQ 5.30pm. Details next magazine.

**Friday - Sunday 5-7 April 2019**  
**54th Clan Cameron AGM and Gathering**  
Quality Hotel, Parnell, and other venues.  
Registration form will go out to members with this newsletter.



## From the Branches....

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

### **Auckland** by Norman Cameron

Jill and I attended the Executive Meeting held on Saturday the 8th of September at Turangi with sixteen Clans People attending. The highlight was the in depth power-point presentation by Jo Cameron of the Manawatu Branch on the Clan Cameron DNA project. As I have taken DNA tests I found the subject very interesting. A cousin from Raumati Beach, Colin Cameron has been able to read my tests with interesting results.



On Saturday the 17th of November I attended the Auckland Highland Games at the Ellerslie Racecourse where the Clan Cameron new gazebo was used for the first time. The old gazebo used to take two hours to erect where the new one took fifteen minutes. I was the sole banner bearer representing Clan Cameron. Neil Cameron and myself had a long afternoon looking after the gazebo. It is a pity that more rank and file members did not attend, The weather was good and the massed Highland Bands were the highlight of the day.

On the following day that is Sunday the 18th the Clan Cameron Executive held a meeting at Bryan & Jenny Haggitt's house. It was decided to have a pre-Christmas lunch on Sunday the 9th of December at the Esplanade Hotel Devonport at midday. It was decided to have the Auckland Branch of Clan Cameron AGM at the Parnell Cricket Club on Sunday 24th of March 2019 at 4pm followed by a BBQ. The format for the National Gathering on the 5-6-7th of April 2019 will be a social evening on the Friday night at the Cricket Club. On Saturday morning the Executive and AGM Meetings will take place with dinner and entertainment in the evening. Sunday there will be a church service at the Devonport Naval Base at 9am followed by a walkabout around the Base and finally an early lunch at the Naval Museum.

### **Bay of Plenty** by Tanya Cameron

Our branch has had no events since the last magazine was issued. My son fought in Mortal Combat, our local competition in September and won his fight. This is his first fight since he was knocked out in April in a fight while I was in Australia at the Clan Cameron Gathering so this was a boost for him.



Clan Cameron BOP members will unfortunately not be having their annual luncheon this year as we have been unable to organise this in a timely manner due to illness and family matters of several key members. I apologise profusely and hope to have something else organised early in the new year.

Thanks to the Clan Cameron BOP members who have already paid their subscription for this year. We would appreciate if outstanding subscriptions of \$25.00 could be forwarded to our treasurer – Joy Cameron, 8 Kokomo Key, Papamoa, Tauranga 3118 or paid direct into the Clan Cameron BOP Branch Bank Account – 030435-0024933-00.

To those Clan Cameron BOP members who have not paid your subscriptions after Joy has reminded you, your newsletters will cease until your subscription for the year is

forthcoming. This is unfortunate, but costly for our branch to fund your unpaid for subscription.

Please send me any articles or photos you would like included in our magazine regarding your Cameron Connections.

### **Canterbury** by Rae Magson

Due to being away with family I was not able to attend the Hororata Highland Games, however I have heard good reports about it. The following was written by my sister, Pat Tarbotton - The Hororata Highland Day held recently was a success, with Clan Cameron having the usual stall. The day dawned fine and mild after a downpour of rain the day previous. The crowds poured in to witness events all Highland. The free haggis tasting as usual was very popular at the Clan Cameron base. A very happy lady won our whisky raffle. Altogether a very entertaining day had by all.



We are due to have the Annual General Meeting very soon, date still to be confirmed, we are waiting until our President, Colin Cameron returns from overseas.

### **Iar (Western North Island)** by Shona Wallace

Our branch is meeting on November 25th for our Xmas meeting and final function of the year. As usual only the faithful are coming but we will enjoy Haggis etc.



Nothing of any significance has happened within our branch but we look forward to a bright, happy and healthy New Year for all.

Our Best Wishes and greetings to all Clan Members for a happy, healthy, holiday season.

### **Manawatu** by Anne Walker

Clan Cameron Manawatu are about to conclude a busy year. We are grateful for the support and enthusiasm of Clan members who have attended Clan events, and to Committee member John Cameron who has represented Clan Cameron Manawatu at national meetings and regional gatherings. We wish all members a very happy Christmas and New Year.



The final event for Clan Cameron will be on December 8th, at the Jenny Mair Highland Square Day will be held in the Square, Palmerston North.

This year Clan Cameron Manawatu will have a presence there, and this year will host a hospitality tent. Clan members are welcome to come along to the tent to enjoy the piping and company of others. This year the Clan will not be selling barbeque food, but will offer Christmas shortbread and a raffle. All members and supporters are welcome.

The Clan Cameron Manawatu AGM will be held at 12 noon Sunday 17th February, at the Summerhouse on the Mt Lees reserve, near Fielding.

### **Hawkes Bay** by Helen Shaw

While it has been a quiet time in our Branch we are looking forward to our Christmas gathering to be held on Saturday 1st December at



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

Canterbury Branch

Marcia Clarke

Christchurch

*Ceud Mile Fáilte*

Auckland Branch

Archibald Cameron

Papatoetoe

*One Hundred*

*Thousand Welcomes*

Speight's Ale House, 68 West Quay, Ahuriri, Napier at 12 noon.

We are thrilled to advise that Shane has now returned home after a lengthy spell in hospital and is making slow but steady progress which will be ongoing for some time. Our love and good health germs go out to you Shane.

From our Branch to yours, we wish all Cameron's and their families a very Happy Christmas and a very healthy New Year.

*Gisborne* by David Cameron

Gisborne Branch extends a warm welcome to our new member, Colin Cameron.

Colin descends from one of Poverty Bay's early pioneering settlers. His Great Grandfather Ewen Cameron landed at Auckland in 1860 from the *Chariot of Fame*. He joined the militia and later served with a Government Snagging Party, clearing the



Waikato River. By 1865 he was engaged in farming activities near Napier and in 1870 he purchased land which he named "Toanga" at Matawhero, near Gisborne.

Colin's father, John Corrychoillie Cameron was a foundation member of Gisborne Branch and was on our Committee for seventeen years, being the Branch President from 1992 till his death in 2003.

*Wellington/Wairarapa* by Graeme Cameron

The Wellington-Wairarapa Branch held a lunch at the Co-Op Kitchen & Bar, Whitby, on 17 Nov. We had 15 members attend the lunch which was enjoyed by all. While waiting for the meal to arrive Rob & Cath Cameron gave an interesting talk on their recent travels by campervan through the outback of Queensland.



## Tracking Cameron Families in New Zealand

by David Weston

I am sure some Clan Cameron members will remember completing charts showing their connections to their Cameron ancestors, I certainly remember doing so. As Clan Genealogist and Historian these have provided the information that created our database of Cameron's in New Zealand – a task that is on-going.

Now I am working on these charts I realise there are problems with using these as the basis for our database.

- 1) It only shows a small number of descendants of those early Cameron settlers to New Zealand. As the information was provided to show the connection of the submitter to their ancestor it misses out all the other descendants unless they also submit information.
- 2) It is a snapshot in time. Most information was provided 20 or more years ago and has not been updated since and many of the people who provided the information have since died.

Having given thought to this I feel it is time to ask people to provide updated information on their Cameron relatives who came to New Zealand.

Many of you will have done research on your family or know who in your family has done research. Where this research has been put onto a genealogy programme on a computer it can be easily added to the Clan Cameron data base along with a record of who provided the information.

Even if you hold information that is not on a computer it would be great if this could be provided. I continue to work on putting the information already provided on to our data base and extra information does not cause any difficulties.

For those of you who have previously provided information you may wish to think about adding further information on your



family – who has died, who has married, who has been born. I see our database should be a living document and it should reflect the changes in each 3) Some people have been very enthusiastic and provided information on people who appear to have either no Cameron connection or relate to Cameron's who have no connection to New Zealand Cameron family.

I do not see this as a large problem. If some people on the existing data base are not directly connected to Cameron's in New Zealand I am not going to change that. In future, though, I will concentrate on only adding people who are Cameron descendants living in New Zealand.

I have also decided not to record Cameron ancestors back beyond a generation or two earlier than the Cameron who came to New Zealand. I will note on the data base the person submitting the information has provided further information that can be provided (perhaps only to those related to the family?)

By going back two generations from the earliest settler should enable the database to show connections between cousins who came separately to New Zealand. If there is a known connection a generation or two earlier I would also consider putting sufficient on the data base to show the connection.

Longer term our data base may be able to be linked in with others held by other Clan Cameron Associations in other countries but at this time I see our priority is to ensure we have a record of Cameron members who came to New Zealand.

I would welcome any comments or thoughts on this article. I am also open to offers of help in inputting information to our data base.

On another note I believe I now have added all the Cameron families who settled in Turakina onto the database and this has shown multiple connections by blood and marriage. Sometimes I speak rude words about the limited number of names our ancestors gave their children when trying to sort out who is who.

*Clan Cameron New Zealand Genealogist and Historian*  
[clanameronhistory@gmail.com](mailto:clanameronhistory@gmail.com)



**Wellington/Wairarapa Branch Lunch** photos by Graeme Cameron



Left: Eoin Cameron, Findlay Cameron, Heather Cameron, Ollie Cameron, Hannah Carty, Hamish Cameron, Shirley-Anne Thomson (in front), Cath Cameron, Caterina Cao, Rob Cameron, Liam Ross, Iona Cameron, Sonja Cameron, John Vaughan. Right: Cath & Rob giving their talk.

**Hororata Highland Games** photos by Nick Cameron



Rowan doing her Clan duties—giving out free haggis.

Above and Below: Rob Cameron carrying our banner



A busy Clan Tent at Hororata



**Warmest Congratulations to  
Florence Cameron and Donald (Donnie) Corbett,  
on their recent engagement.**

*Florence and Donnie are spending some time in New Zealand, staying with Florence's son, first lighter David, and Karen in Christchurch.*





*Maisie Earle with the Blenheim pipes*



*Maisie Earle's birthday - Kevin Sinclair playing Blenheim pipes*



*Banners: Bryan Barber (Cameron), Nancy Rhodes (Grant), Gary Muir (House of Gordon), and Kate Smith (Burns Club)*



*Blenheim Pipes on Big John Cameron's Chair*



*Callum Cameron piping at the Service*



*Ross Duncan's patchwork flag*



*The Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service*



*Callum playing the Blenheim Pipes*



# Clan Cameron DNA Project

by Jo Cameron (Manawatu)

It was my pleasure to be invited and then attend the Clan Executive Meeting in September, where I gave a talk about the Clan Cameron DNA Project and about the process of DNA testing.

## Here is a summary of my talk:

Each of us is about 99.9% identical, on average, to any other human. In genetic genealogy, we're exploring the information in that remaining 0.1% where we differ from one another.

The genetic differences among us are caused by random errors that occurred usually when the DNA was being copied. These mutations are basically typos. Some happened tens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of years ago and were widespread in our respective ancestral populations; others happened more recently.

The various genealogical DNA tests that we do examine sites in our DNA that are known to have mutated at some point in the history of the species.

We all inherit 23 pairs of chromosomes, one from each parent. The first 22 pairs are autosomal chromosomes. The 23rd pair is the sex chromosome, men inherit an X (from his mother) & Y (from his father), women inherit 2 X Chromosomes, one from each parent.

## Why test your DNA?

Break down those Genealogy brick walls

Confirm family lineages ie.

Clan septs/cadets

NPE – Non-Paternal Events

Adoptee's

Preserve the Genealogy for future generations

## Where and how do you test?

Family Tree DNA – Houston Texas

Tests are ordered & paid for online <https://www.familytreedna.com/>

Everything is done online via your FTDNA account which is set up once you order and pay for the test.

All surname/Clan Projects are run through FTDNA by

volunteer administrators who work on their projects in their own free time.

Project administrators do not receive any payments or incentives from Family Tree DNA.

## Types of DNA tests:

**Autosomal:** Identify close relatives and used to find cousins via all ancestral lines, for men and women, we receive about 50/50 atDNA from each parent, atDNA makes up over 95% of our DNA but does not include Y or mtDNA.

**Mitochondrial (mtDNA):** Men and women, for researching your mother's, mother's, mother line and so on.

**Y Chromosome (YDNA):** For men only, for researching your father's, father's, father line and so on, Surname/Clan studies.

**Big Y 500:** Men only. A Y-chromosome direct paternal line test to explore deep ancestral links on our common paternal tree. This test examines thousands of known branch markers as well as millions of places where there may be new branch markers. Additionally, the Big Y-500 tests 450 Y-STR markers and provides you with at least 389 short tandem repeat (STR) allele value results on your Y-DNA Y-STR Results page



comprising Panel 6 (112-561). The Big Y-500 also includes your Y-111 STR results. **This is the test which gives the most valuable information to the Clan Cameron DNA Project.** We have a team of experts to help you understand your test results and where you sit in the Cameron Tree.

The Big Y 500 will be on sale at Family Tree

DNA this December when they have their big annual sale. I urge anyone who has done any Y DNA testing or are considering testing to take this test.

## The Clan Cameron DNA Project and what we have so far:

The Clan as a whole is very diverse which is reflected in the results. Many families must have taken on the Cameron name over the course of history which is reflected in the differing Haplogroup results.

We have a defining SNP (pronounced Snip) which only Cameron men, in the chart below, have so far proved positive for - R-A6138. R-A6138 is thought to be the progenitor of Clan Cameron.

Two well documented Cameron cadet lines are now recognised through Big Y testing with two or more descendants having done the Big Y test, these lines are Clunes & MacGillonie.

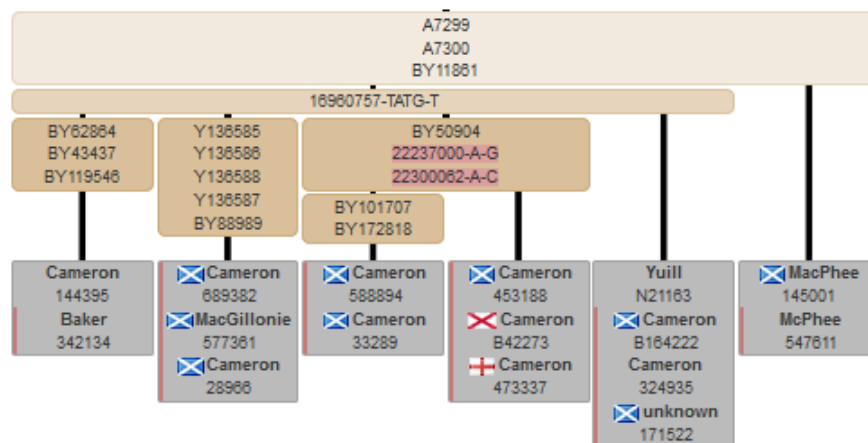
A third line with the Cadet unknown is now also recognised.

The Cameron tree to date looks like this (source- The Big Tree by Alex Williamson)

The SNP A7299 is thought to be a male who lived 2372 years before present (this date may well change once we get more

## The Big Tree: R-A7299

R-P312/S116 > Z290 > L21/S145 > DF13 > ZZ10 > MC14 > Y16773 > BY31281 > A7298 > A7299



data from new Big Y tests).

As you can see our project is still in its infancy and we need many more Cameron men to test, especially those with well documented family trees, to grow our tree and trace each of the cadet's and septs.

I have to at this point mention someone who has become invaluable to our Clan Project.

Lorraine Smith who is the Shennachie to the Chief of Clan Macnab, came to the rescue of the project after it floundered and began going backwards after years of neglect. This was no easy task and we are indebted to her for all the time and energy she puts towards the project. Lorraine lives half a world away in Canada but has fast become a friend to myself and many Cameron's worldwide who she has helped. Thank you Lorraine!

I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and hope the New Year brings us all health and happiness.



# The History of the Half Set of Pipes (The Blenheim pipes) *By Denis Cameron*

In 2005 I was gifted the half set of pipes by Don Cameron of Upper Hutt, with the following letter:

“When I was 13 years of age, I started to learn the bagpipes – my mother bought me a practice chanter but couldn’t afford bagpipes as my father had passed away and we were hard up at the time.

My great uncle, John Cameron, was thrilled when he learnt that I was learning the bagpipes and invited my mother and I around to his place in Oriental Bay, Wellington, and surprised us by giving me his half set of bagpipes.

He related the history of them, saying they had been brought out from Scotland by his grandfather Donald Cameron, who landed in Wellington with his wife and family on 27 December 1840, from the ship *Blenheim*. My great uncle John had no family himself, so he was interested that I was keen on learning the pipes.

His grandfather Donald died in 1870, and these pipes were handed down to his father Alexander and, on his death in 1899, they were handed down to his son John, who was my great uncle. Both Alexander and John never learnt the pipes – so between some time prior to 1870 and 1940, these pipes were never played.

I had a new bag on them and played them for two years. Then I joined the band of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Wellington Regiment (Pipes and Drums). I had to get a full-size set of pipes and hence the small set has not been played for the last 64 years.

When we shifted from Silverstream to Upper Hutt 3 years ago, I sold my pipes but retained the small set of pipes. As the bag on these pipes went hard as a crust, I destroyed it with the idea of getting a new bag, but just haven’t got around to doing it.

So, it’s my pleasure to hand them on to a family with the name of Cameron and particularly to you Denis, who has done so much for Clan Cameron.”

Since then, I (Denis Cameron) have had a new bag put on to the half set of pipes by John Park of Te Uke, Raglan, who then made sure the pipes were able to be played and that the drones and chanter did not have any cracks in them or had dried out.

John Park was very happy with the condition of the pipes after so many years and played them before us the day he delivered them back.

So, these wonderful small set of pipes are now over 178 years of age and have been handed over to *Blenheim* descendant Ewen Grant, of Turakina.

## Postscript by Roz Grant, of Turakina

Ewen Grant is now the custodian of these historical bagpipes. He wishes to thank Denis for his trust in him and for his care of these small pipes over many years

Donald Cameron was the third son and child of Donald [Weaver] and Christine [McLean] Cameron, they arrived on the *Barque Blenheim* in 1840 with their 7 children. Donald being 16 at the time was born in Ockle, Ardnamurchan, Scotland. He married Isabella Glasgow in 1853 and went on to have 6 children, he died at the age of 40 at his residence, Waiwhetu, in Upper Hutt in 1866.

During the voyage Donald the piper would play the pipes on deck which the passengers would dance to.

From Jessie [Cameron] Campbell’s journal:

*It was also mentioned in Poyntzfield [the story of a pioneer family, the McKenzies of lower Rangitikei] Eliza McKenzie remembers a trip that the family had to Soames’s Island, on the return journey to Kaiwharawhara by boat we heard the well-known strains of the pipes, though we did not see him we knew that it would be Donald [Cameron] the Piper, the tones sometimes so stirring of this heart-reaching instrument were now soothing and lent additional softness to the lovely evening light.*

On the chanter of the pipes is the makers mark ALEX R GLEN EDIN R but no date. They would have been made prior to 1840.

Are they the first set of pipes in Wellington or New Zealand? Alexander Glen was born in 1801 died 1873. His son David took over the business following this death and then his sons Alexander [Sandy] 1877-1951 and David 1883 -1958, the business survived until 1978.

## Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan

*by Lindsay Campbell*

St. Andrew’s Church, Turakina, was the venue for what has become a tradition. As traditions go, the Kirkin’ o’the Tartan, as carried out on Sunday, 14th October 2018, is of comparatively recent origin. Those of us with long-ish memories will recall the name of Peter Marshall, whose tracts and writings featured well over 60 years ago. Mr. Marshall was born in Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire, Scotland, in 1902 and he became the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. He was also appointed as Chaplain of the United States Senate. Whether or not New Zealanders were aware of those appointments we should remember the film called, "A man called Peter" starring Richard Todd as Peter Marshall.

Peter Marshall died and was buried in Brentwood, Maryland USA in 1949. He had conceived the idea that the Tartan of Scotland be honoured, so to speak, by an annual Kirkin’. This event has taken place every year since then and it has spread but not in Scotland. It is in essence an American tradition which has been taken up in this country.

Sunday beamed forth brightly with a touch of a breeze strong enough to set the Saltire flying. During the Kirkin’ various tartans were on display inside the church and also in the adjacent church hall. I am one who has never attended a Kirkin’ before and it was interesting inasmuch as our Scottish origins were remarked upon and the visible sign was there for all to see.

The Rev. John Peill, (retired), was the leader of the service and Heather and Eoin Cameron were the organists. We were privileged to have Callum Cameron playing the pipes. The song, really an ode, "The Tartan" was played with the voice of Kenneth McKellar surely an Argyll man of the Campbell clan. During the ceremony, representatives of some clans spoke of what the Tartan meant to them and the ties they had with old Scotia. It is important that our Traditions are not forgotten and such ceremonies as the Kirkin’ help keep the knowledge and memories alive.

Callum Cameron played the "Flowers of the Forest" towards the end followed by the blessing. Benediction and Recession were undertaken and the Haggis was piped into the Church hall wherein afternoon tea was consumed. Jock Hannaford addressed the Haggis in forthright tones and the pudding duly met its fate. The bearers were Peter McNaughton, John Peill, Ailsa Stewart, Alan Shaw, Bryan Barber, and Heather Cameron.

People travelled from Wellington, Auckland, Masterton and Manaia to attend.



*Denis hands custody of the pipes to Ewen Grant*

## Enlarging Clan Cameron in New Zealand!

By Dorothy Gaunt (Auckland)

Donald and Christina Cameron emigrated as assisted emigrants from Argyllshire, Scotland, in 1840. With their family of seven, they were on board the *Blenheim*, the so-called 'Cameron ship'. There were five sons, Dugald (18), Alexander (17), Donald (16), John (10), and Duncan (8), and two daughters, Catherine (14), and Anne (12).

They arrived in December 1840 and settled first at Kaiwarra (Kaiwharawhara). The older sons, all 'labourers' on the *Blenheim* list, initially worked on the construction of the Hutt Road before acquiring land to farm, in Waiwhetu (in the Hutt), Wairarapa, and Rangitikei. Catherine, at age 24, and Anne, at 19, married other immigrants – John Macfarlane and James McDonell who took up land in Canterbury and the Rangitikei respectively. None of the boys married early; presumably they wanted to offer their bride a decent home and their own farm, albeit these were in partnership with each other.

Dugald married Annie Jeffs in 1862 when he was 40  
Alexander married Mary Morrison in 1855 at age 32  
Donald married Isabella Glasgow in 1853 at age 29  
John married Annie Stewart in 1868 at age 38  
Duncan married Mary Gillies in 1863 at age 31

This Cameron family not only made a notable contribution to the New Zealand economy by being successful farmers, but they also made an enormous contribution to the population! At least 63 grandchildren and 153 great grandchildren were born, with the vast majority living to adulthood. Christina and



Left: Donald and Christina Cameron. Right: Christina Cameron

Donald could have had no idea that they would have so many living descendants, as it is very unlikely this would have been the case had they remained in Scotland.

I am the great granddaughter of Dugald and Annie (Jeffs) who were the least prolific of Donald and Christina's children: they had three sons (Donald Francis, George Alexander Allen, William Duncan) and two daughters (Catherine Lyons – Kate – and Christina Anne). Kate was the only one who had children: two daughters, Dorothy and Ida. Dorothy did her bit and produced seven children and had 32 grandchildren: Ida had only three children and seven grandchildren. Luckily, Catherine Macfarlane and Annie McDonell made up the numbers by having eleven children apiece.

Rob Cameron, current Vice-President of Clan Cameron Auckland, is also a descendant of Donald and Christina - he is the 3xgreat grandson of Donald The Piper, Donald & Christina's third son.

## 150 years old

by Tim Clarke

On 18 December 1849, Annie Cameron, daughter of Donald and Christina Cameron, married James ['Big Mac'] McDonell. They rode on horseback round the coast to land that James had acquired near Turakina, and established a property known as "Inverhoe". Several of James' brothers, and eventually his widowed mother, joined them. Their first child, Archibald McLean McDonell, was born in 1850, the first European child born in the area, and brothers and sisters arrived soon after.

They were baptized by Father John Etienne Pezant, Rector of the Catholic Mission Station at Whanganui who, on 20 September 1868, also "solemnly blessed and dedicated" the newly built Roman Catholic Church of St Joseph at Turakina,

James died in an accident in 1875, and Annie in 1919, aged 90. They are both buried in the Catholic cemetery at Turakina which contains other McDonell graves. Descendants of Annie Cameron and James McDonell have, therefore, a firm link to both the church and the cemetery.

By the 1960s, diminishing congregations, fewer priests, and better road transport led finally to the doors of St Joseph's being closed. Then, in 1985, it was sold and moved to St Matthew's Collegiate School, an Anglican school in Masterton, where it was renovated to become the school chapel. It is now 150 years old..

This milestone was celebrated on Wednesday 19

September with a Eucharist for the school and invited guests. The Ven May Croft, Archdeacon of the Wairarapa presided, assisted by the Chaplain, the Rev'd. Lesley Mouat. The senior choir, Viva Camerata, performed a beautiful Te Deum. The address was given by Tim Clarke, a former staff member who is a great great grandson of Annie Cameron and James McDonell. →



Tim Clarke, Heather Cotter and Susan Pini, in front of the St Matthew's School Chapel, Masterton. All are descendants of Annie Cameron and James McDonell.



Guests included Tim Clarke's cousins, Susan Pini and Heather Cotter, along with Liz Cheetham, who is also descended from Donald and Christina Cameron, and a group from Turakina who remembered the church in its original location.

Tim Clarke also presented a banner commemorating the Chapel's first 150 years. At the conclusion of the Eucharist, invited guests and Year 13 students moved to the Chapel for the hanging of the banner.

This celebration was a significant event in the life of the school, recognizing that the chapel, which had been built, given and restored in love, is the spiritual heart of the school.



## Charles Archibald Cameron

More to the story .... by Colin Cameron

Last weekend Marion and I, my brother Richard (left in the photo) and my younger son Dugald went on a road trip to Flat Point on the Wairarapa coast to spread the ashes of Charles, (my and Richards' youngest brother).

On route we visited the Masterton Cemetery to pay our respects to our father Eric, grandfather Charles Archibald (after whom my brother was named) and great grandfather Allan.

The photo is of Richard and I at the headstone of our Great grandfather Allan Cameron and his wife Margaret. Allan was 8yrs when he came to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840. Margaret's parents were also passengers, and Margaret was born on the voyage.



## The Para Handy Stories

by Editor

At a church book fair recently, I found and bought a copy of Neil Munro's *Para Handy*, containing all the Para Handy stories. The back cover reads:

"For more than half a century Para Handy, and the puffer, *Vital Spark*, have carried a variety of cargoes up and down the Clyde, and further afield to Highland harbours.

The adventures and antics of the crew, on board and ashore, have been a constant source of entertainment and hilarity for generations the world over.

You can be sure that if the crew are not in the process of getting themselves out of a predicament, they are almost certainly in the process of getting themselves into one."

The stories are set in the Firth of Clyde, Loch Fyne and occasionally the Western Isles of Scotland. The stories are known for their humour and also for their evocation of a lost era in the life of these coastal communities when they depended completely on the water and not, as now, on road transport and the ferry service. This was a time when Gaelic was still spoken by some as their native language and everyone in the community was known to all, for good or ill. The church (the kirk) was much more significant in community life and a lot of humour in the stories is derived from scriptural misquotations, which contemporary readers, with their thorough knowledge of the



Bible, would have understood. Reference is also made to schisms in the kirk, with the same humour, which could sting those who were over-serious in defence of their splinter denomination.

The stories give an insight into the life and attitudes of the Firth of Clyde, its sea lochs and the city of Glasgow. They were written as occasional pieces in the "Looker On" column in the "Glasgow Evening News" and were designed to be recognisable to Glaswegians with Highland backgrounds and also those who were city-bred but regularly escaped the smoke to go "doon the watter" to the Clyde resorts of Rothesay, Millport, Dunoon and Tighnabruaich. The *Vital Spark* also makes it to Arran and Loch Fyne, which were more adventurous destinations but also accessible to city dwellers by the railway steamers that Para Handy often envies. Some of the stories were written during the First World War and give insight into the home front of the time, casting it always in a humorous light.

Three television series were made, in 1959 (b&w), 1965/66 (b&w) - 1973/74 (colour) and 1994/95.

During the First World War puffers carried out sterling service supplying the fleet in Scapa Flow and also kept the Highlands and Islands supplied when all other means failed. This service was remembered in the Second World War, and a number of "Vic" lighters, based on the puffer design, were built to service the fleet.

The photograph on left, taken by Bill Cameron, is of a "Vic" puffer, VIC 72, now re-named *Vital Spark*, in honour of the fictional puffer in the Para Handy stories. She is berthed in Inveraray harbour.

Thanks to Wikipedia for some information.





*The massed pipe bands at the closing ceremony*



*Lone marcher, Norman Cameron*



*New members (from left): Abi, Jasper, Archibald and Lauchlan Cameron*



*The Haggis Ceremony*



*Three generations: Chris, Cameron and Mary Wallace*



*Highland Dancing*



*Morea and Allan Cameron from Blenheim. Hororata Games last week, now Auckland*



*Country Dancing*



*Above: Norman Cameron, Bryan Haggitt, Allan and Morea Cameron, Brian Cameron.  
Left: Duncan McQueen and Bryan Haggitt who helped erect our new tent for the first time.*

