

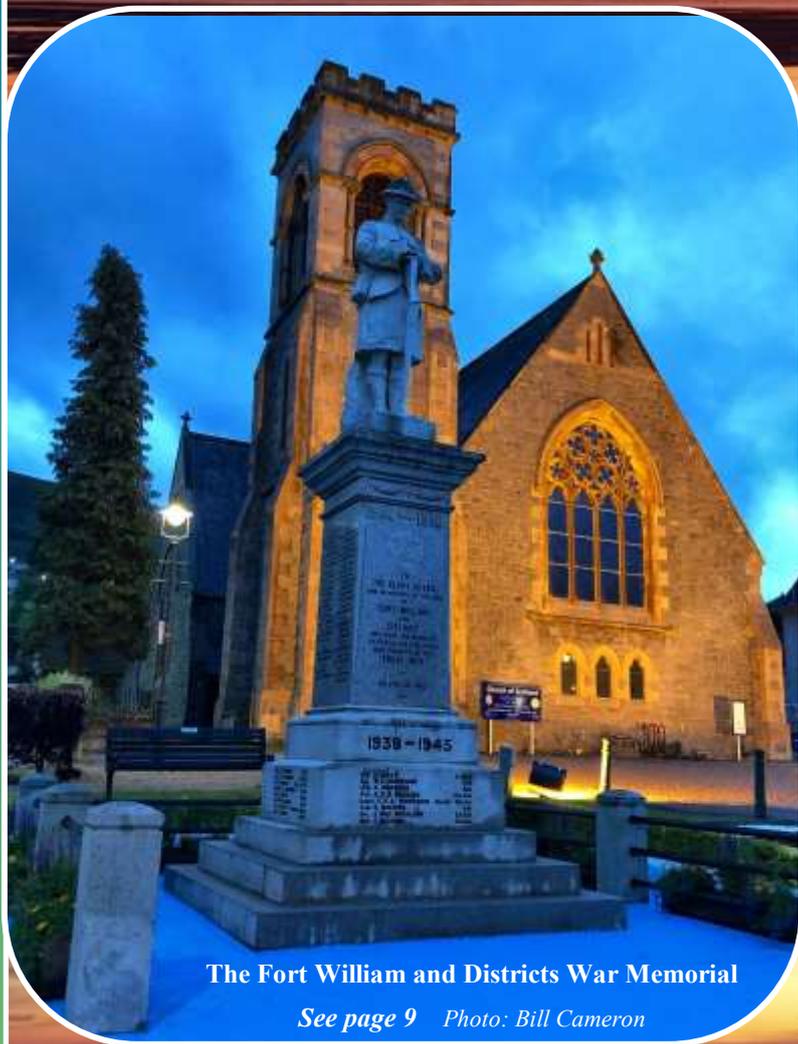


Cameron



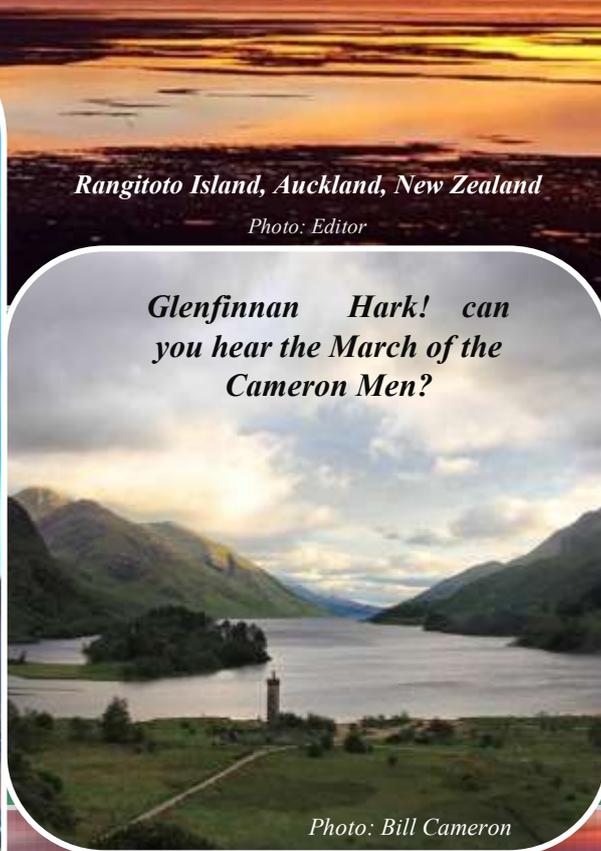
The Magazine of Clan Cameron New Zealand Inc.

From Sunrise.....



The Fort William and Districts War Memorial

See page 9 Photo: Bill Cameron



Rangitoto Island, Auckland, New Zealand

Photo: Editor

Glenfinnan Hark! can you hear the March of the Cameron Men?

Photo: Bill Cameron

... To Sunset

**Vol 53 No 4
August
2019**

Solstice sunset from Ben Nevis

*Looking down on Loch Linnhe,
Fort William and Loch Eil*

Photo: 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
10 Albert St., Coromandel 3506
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
Norman Cameron
31/37 Natzka Road, Ostend, Waiheke Is,
Auckland 1081
Ph. (09) 372 8442
norman.cameron37@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 camerondvd@xtra.co.nz

Hawke's Bay
Helen Shaw
3/33 Avondale Road, Napier. 4112
Ph. (06) 844 8398. locaber@xtra.co.nz

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

Manawatu
Russell Cameron,
5 Ranui Place, 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
Collin Cameron,
11B Wills Street, Ashburton 7700
Ph. 03 308 8334 collincameron1938@gmail.com

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

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

Clan Cameron New Zealand website
www.clanameronnz.co.nz

A Message from our Commissioner...

Dear Clansfolk,

Julie and I are looking forward to attending the Manawatu mid winter dinner on the 10th August – so hopefully we can catch up with some of you there.

Locheil (*see below*) has emailed regarding the 2020 Clan Cameron Gathering which contains some information regarding limited accommodation and transport if not already booked – for those that are going but perhaps not part of John Cameron's tour group – you might like to contact either Neil or myself for further information.

Your executive will be attending a meeting on the 7th September in Turangi – so if clan members have ideas to enhance our organization can you please pass them on to your branch presidents.

I was saddened to learn of Mike Topham's passing – he was a tremendous and generous supporter of our clan and was often sending me snippets of news of Camerons from the Bay. He will be greatly missed.

Things are a little quiet on the local pipe band front with most of the serious activity being gearing up for the “Worlds” in Glasgow. We wish the New Zealand bands all the best for this competition.

I was recently thinking about the fuels we use and alternative energy changes over recent time. My niece Emily Cameron is studying towards a degree in Germany researching some of these subjects. In the early 1980's I was working alongside a group growing sugar beet for ethanol production in New Zealand. This project ultimately failed because of petrol and diesel price drops at this time. In the 1990's our Seed Company was heavily involved in breeding out-of-season canola for biodiesel until the New Zealand regulations banned the use of Genetic Modification. Electric cars and recharging stations are now becoming common place in our towns and New Zealand has heavy investment in wind and hydro electric power generation. I see the NZ Agricultural Field Days advertising a Japanese car using hydrogen fuel cells as an alternative low emission fuel. I wonder how long the infra structure needed to power these vehicles will take?. Perhaps not too long. Food for thought!

Cheers

Nick.

The 2020 Gathering - from Lochiel...

Ronald Cameron (who is on the committee for the gathering) and I have been discussing accommodation over the period of the 2020 gathering. We have made some enquiries and things look very tight as bus companies seem to book well in advance with the result that it is going to be quite difficult to find appropriate hotels.

I should be very grateful if you would let me know whether you want some help or whether you are happy to make your own bookings in hotels or B and Bs. Some of you may have already booked accommodation but we could let you know the names of appropriate places.

I don't know if you have any clearer idea about how many will come from your country but it would be helpful if you could give me an update.

I hope you are all well and with best wishes,

Locheil

**Clan Cameron New Zealand
Website**

www.clanameronnz.co.nz

**The Clan Cameron Interactive
Network**

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

Next Magazine Deadline is 15 Sept

Printed By

Welcome to the following Members who have recently joined us:

Auckland Branch

Jack Cameron

Sandringham

Ceud Mìle Fàilte

Manawatu Branch

Peter and Gail Cawkwell

Hamilton

One Hundred

Thousand Welcomes

VALE

Michael Norman Topham (Mike)

Mike was born in Gisborne on 26th November 1939 and was educated at Hasting's Boy's High before commencing his working life in the Insurance industry, where he was employed for 33 years. His interest in Clan Cameron New Zealand was sparked when Trish and Mike were invited by Vivienne McConnell – to attend a Clan Cameron Gisborne Branch meeting and from that day on Mike became immersed in genealogy and research pertaining to all things Cameron. He corresponded with people from many parts of the world and built up a library of extensive information which willingly shared with others.

Married to Trish for 47 years, he derived much pleasure from their overseas adventures – especially their



trip to Scotland where they stayed at “Corriechoillie Lodge “ Mike's Great Great Grandfather John Corrychoillie Cameron the famous livestock dealer's former home, which was then an upmarket Bed and Breakfast establishment. The Lodge is by Spean Bridge, Inverness-shire, Scotland.

A Member of Gisborne Branch, he was also Secretary of the Hawke's Bay Branch – a role which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Mike had an outgoing personality and thoroughly enjoyed his Cameron family connections and friends with whom he enjoyed robust conversations, socialising, and partaking of the occasional wee dram.....

Scot's Wae Hae !

We will all miss him.

The 2020 Gathering at Achnacarry .

By John Cameron. (Operatunity Travel)

I have contracted hotel rooms to take a capacity of up to 35 people on the trip in all towns that we plan to visit. Certainly when I started planning the trip I had to make contact with over 25 properties before I settled on one. (Gleanspean Lodge I have booked completely out and have capacity also booked at a small place for some overflow)

We will have our own charter coach so can be completely independently with travel arrangements. The link would be as below.

<https://www.operatunity.co.nz/trip/Scotland-2020/>

Our Tour of Scotland is now online and available to anyone who would be interested - at this moment we have only half a dozen Camerons committed with other customers putting us about 35% sold at present - so still plenty of spaces for more folk.

Last time we gave it a push with Clan Cameron Australia - online and in the combined clans newsletter and maybe we should do that again if they don't have an official tour underway. Happy to pay costs of an add. Last time we went with 25 people in total - a mix of NZ and aussie camerons and Operatunity folk and ended up being the largest group there and had a great time.

Operatunity Ltd PO Box 132-150 Sylvia Park
Auckland 1644. Ph. 09 588 4250

See more on page 2 and below

Coming Events:

Saturday 10 August 2019
Manawatu Branch Annual Dinner

Whareraata Function Centre, Massey University, Palmerston North. See Manawatu Branch News on page 4

Saturday 7 September 2019
Executive Council Meeting

Parklands Motor Lodge Conference Room, Turangi
Motel Booking: Phone 0800 456 284

We hope to have a finger food lunch with payment to Neil at the time.

9 November 2019
Hororata Highland Games
Hororata Domain, Canterbury
Clan Cameron will be there.
Www.hororata.org.nz

16 November 2019
Auckland Highland Games.
Ellerslie Event Centre
Come and support us in the Cameron tent.
Www.ahg.org.nz

30 July - 2 August 2020
Clan Cameron Gathering Achnacarry

A very full programme is being arranged which will include all the traditional gathering events - plus a lot more.
Lochiel has asked for numbers likely to attend from NZ. If you intend going, either individually, or with John Cameron's Operatunity tour party please let Neil Cameron know.

John Cameron's tour was described in the December issue of 'Cameron'. Further details of John's tour can be found on our website.

From the Branches....

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

Auckland by Norman Cameron.

On Sunday the 30th of June at 10am the "Kirkin Of the Tartan" was held at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, on Symonds Street, only Bryan Haggitt and myself attended representing Clan Cameron; with Bryan Haggitt carrying the Cameron banner. There were six other Clans, Matheson, Stewart, McLeod, Campbell, Wallace and Donald. The Clans were piped in and out of St Andrew's by Malcolm Campbell and Murdock McDonald was the organiser. After the service we retired to the church hall for a cup of tea and haggis. On May the 11th Clan Cameron were invited to the Clan Donald dinner at the Quality Inn, the Clan was represented by Bryan and Jenny Haggitt, I was not well on the night and was unable to attend.



Wellington/Wairarapa by Graeme Cameron

The Wellington-Wairarapa Branch had a visit to the Zealandia Native Wildlife Ecosanctuary, Karori, on Saturday 15 June 2019. We first met for lunch in the Zealandia café before proceeding for a tour of the ecosanctuary. Unfortunately, and very unlike Wellington, the morning drizzle set in as persistent rain in the afternoon. (The tour guide who comes from the Wairarapa was not expecting rain either as he came without a rain coat !) Shortly after 1 pm the intrepid trampers set out for a tour of the ecosanctuary in the persistent light rain. After about half an hour and with the rain becoming steadier the consensus of the party was to call off the tour. No Kiwis were sighted !



Manawatu by Anne Walker

Clan Cameron Manawatu will hold our annual mid-winter dinner on Saturday 10th August, commencing with pre-dinner drinks at 6pm. This annual festive occasion will be held at the Wharerata Function Centre, Massey University. Wharerata is one of Palmerston North's original homesteads, set in lovely gardens, and now part of the Manawatu Campus of Massey University. The homestead has classical Edwardian ambiance and as we found last year, provides a lovely venue and superb catering service.



We are delighted to be hosting New Zealand President and Commissioner Nick Cameron and Julie Cameron at our dinner. Already some Clan Cameron members from out of town have confirmed they are planning to travel to join us for this occasion. We are looking forward to warmly welcoming you all.

Pipers from Manawatu Scottish Pipe band will entertain, and pipe our haggis ceremony. Our guest speaker, Linda Stewart, hails from Scotland. Linda is the CEO of Central Economic Development Agency, based in Palmerston North, which is charged with facilitating and creating sustainable economic development in the Manawatu and wider region. It'll be interesting to see her perspective on this challenge.

All members, friends and supporters of Clan Cameron

branches are invited. We would love to see as many as possible attend.

Cost is \$58, and this includes a welcome drink on arrival. Cash bar.

As numbers are limited, please ensure you register your interest as early as possible by emailing Anne Walker on akwalker@xtra.co.nz, or ringing or texting on 027415 4105. Please RSVP by 31st July 2019.

Hawke's Bay by Helen Shaw

Hawkes Bay Members of Clan Cameron are deeply saddened with the passing of Mike Topham and extend our deepest sympathy and love to his wife Trish. Mike was secretary of the branch from its inception in 2003 although he did remind us from time to time that he was a Gisborne member.



His enthusiasm and knowledge of things "Cameron" will be spoken of and written about for years to come. He was ably supported by Trish who spent many many hours typing for him when he was working on stories or someones genealogy. He was also a piper and member of the Hastings pipe band and organized H.B. Cameron members to concerts by the band which were held from time to time at Lindisfarne College.

His Legacy to the Branch is a wonderful scrap book of members past and present and activities they were involved in. He worked on this despite his health failing him with help from Trish with typing. This is a marvelous record for future members.

Bay of Plenty by Tanya Cameron

The Bay of Plenty Branch had their AGM in June at Denis and Joy Cameron's Papamoa residence and returned most Officers. We currently have no Bard and post AGM we have confirmed Elaine Cameron (David Cameron's wife) as our Accounts Auditor/Reviewer. We had a wonderful afternoon tea after our AGM and enjoyed catching up with all the members that came. From the National Gathering the Bay of Plenty Branch has been nominated for the 2020 Annual Gathering which we hope to run as well as our last one in Tauranga. Any input you would like to give on ideas or thoughts for this event would be happily received to me direct by email. We will be holding it the weekend of the 4th of April 2020 so sooner rather than later would be great.



Sadly Mike Topham, our wonderful friend and tireless worker from Clan Cameron Hawke's Bay and Gisborne Branches, passed away on Monday 27th May 2019. Even up until the end he was sending out information about the Camerons in New Zealand to all who should know about it. We will miss him.

On Queen's Birthday weekend our Patron Fraser Cameron received notification of his Queens Service Medal for service to his community and all the work he does there, whether paid or unpaid. We wish him well. And we know he will enjoy another feather in his cap.

Sadly, as most branches are also finding, our subscriptions are very slow in coming in. PLEASE, if you would like to continue to belong to our wonderful organisation, let us know by sending in your payment for the year. If you would rather not receive our wonderful magazine and enjoy the friendship of fellow Camerons, please let us know that too. If you are not paying your subscriptions then your magazine is coming out of our pockets.

I am looking forward to attending the Manawatu dinner and catching up with my cousins while I am in Palmerston North and also fellow Camerons

Stay warm and well.

So far this winter we have not had any Clan Cameron Canterbury events, it is time we did something!

On a personal level, with a small committee we are still working on producing a booklet about the dreadful fire of 1926 that went through Mid-Canterbury, causing huge damage on my grandparent's (John and Elizabeth Cameron) farm. Also a man lost his life and another was seriously burnt. My



grandmother lived with my family in later years and used to tell me of the time she was in the house with her two children (my mother and uncle) and the house was surrounded by flames.

An experience never to be forgotten. They were fortunate in that the house did not burn down, except for a verandah post, but the outside lavatory did, as well as lots of other sheds.

We have managed to gather a lot of information, so this project is on-going.

Lochaber cannon may be linked to Bonnie Prince

Charlie. by Iain Ferguson - The Oban Times

A cannon which may have a direct link to Bonnie Prince Charlie and his Jacobite army has been discovered in a river at Glen Loy, near Spean Bridge, almost 274 years to the day from when the 'Young Pretender' set off from France to reclaim his throne.

Paul Rigby, 56, made the find while walking his dog, having passed the very spot, only a few hundred yards from his home almost daily since moving in 14 years ago.

The three-foot nine-inch long cannon, which is strikingly similar to an 18th century French naval, two-pounder, 'swivel gun', could have come from the 'Du Teillay' which set off from France on July 16, 1745, with Prince Charles Edward Stuart aboard.

A month later, he raised his standard at Glenfinnan, marking the start of the '45 rebellion.

In an incredible piece of historical co-incidence, on Sunday July 14, 2019, Paul spotted the cannon sticking out of the peat and gravel on the river bed when the water level fell in the warm, sunny weather.

A laboratory scientist in Fort William's Belford Hospital, he caught a glimpse of what he thought looked like the barrel of a gun below him in a deep gully and walked further down the bank to access the river, paddling back towards the mystery object.

As a keen historian who recently spoke to the Lochaber History Society on his main topic of interest, the Vikings, Paul could not believe what he had found and the excellent condition it was in, with little sign of wear or corrosion. He told us: 'I was absolutely gobsmacked and completely taken aback about what was lying there.

'I know that a cannonball was found in the area a few years ago and that metal detectorists have been searching for further historical artefacts, but there it was, an actual cannon right in front of me.'

Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard in Glenfinnan on August 17, 1745, bringing together his army of Highland clans.

It is known that small cannon were taken from the French ship for use by the Jacobites. The touchhole used to ignite the gunpowder is the only part of the weapon showing significant damage, so it is possible this was a done as deliberate act to disable it before throwing it into what in that era may well have been a deep peat bog.

With no marks of identification immediately visible on the cannon, its provenance has still to be verified, although it is known that the Jacobites, not wishing to immediately face the soldiers stationed in Fort William, did take a circuitous route from Glenfinnan heading towards Spean Bridge. It was just a few miles from this spot that the first shots of the '45 were fired as a small band of Jacobites attacked

Government troops as they crossed 'High Bridge' on the route linking the garrisons of Fort Augustus and Fort William. The narrow bridge meant that soldiers could only cross two abreast so were easily picked off by musket fire, with no reference to any cannon being used.

Paul contacted the manager of West Highland Museum in Fort William, Colleen Barker, who lives nearby and she was equally excited by the find, asking him to bring it in for further examination.

She said: 'It is a very exciting find, especially to me as I live very close to Glen Loy. Out walking your dog and you find this!

'It will now be reported to Treasure Trove who will decide what happens to it, although hopefully it will find its way back to our museum.'



BONNIE PRINCE CANNON 16/7/19

Paul Rigby in the Governor's Room in West Highland Museum which was once located in the Old Fort - contemporary with the cannon which may have been used by the Jacobite army in 1745.

Photo by Iain Ferguson, The Write Image

First Lighter Shona Shirley

First Lighter Shona Shirley, nee Cameron, plans to visit New Zealand with her husband Gavin and baby Alasdair in mid December this year.

They intend to visit Auckland and Palmerston North.

The Auckland Branch intends to welcome them with a barbecue.

If you would like to re-new your friendship with Shona at this function, please let Neil know.

Further details will be promulgated when known.



Ross Boyd and the Waipu Cameron Plaque See page 9 photo: Julie Paton



Inverie, Knoydart

Photo: Bill Cameron



A fine day in Lochaber

Photo: Bill Cameron



In June, **Yvette Morrissey** (Thomas Ross/Archibald/Colin Cameron), was named as a finalist in the Young 'Women in Tourism Scotland' awards. She narrowly missed winning the category 'Influencer of the Year', but was humbled and excited to be given the Highly commended award, along with her colleague Kathi Kamleitner, who won the award. Yvette and Kathi tour together to certain areas of Scotland on behalf of **Hosteling Scotland**, filming and blogging for promotional purposes. The awards were created to highlight the achievements of the future leaders of their sector.

Yvette's adventures can be followed on her Facebook page, **Wayfaring Kiwi** or website: www.wayfaringkiwi.com She currently resides in Edinburgh, working as a Website Design & Digital Marketing Manager.

Human Y Chromosome Testing Milestones at FTDNA

By Joanne Cameron (Manawatu)

Co-admin Clan Cameron YDNA Project

In 2013 Family Tree DNA released the advanced Big Y test and since then they have analyzed 32,000 Y chromosomes in ultra-high resolution. This has allowed them to identify hundreds of thousands of unique Y chromosome mutations. These mutations are the building blocks of the Y-DNA Haplotree. This is also known as the great family tree of all paternal lineages in the world.

As we know the Y chromosome is passed down mostly unchanged from father to son. Small mutations occur randomly every few generations. It's then passed down to all direct male descendants. Because of this, the genetic signature of every Y chromosome can be scanned to detect the paternal lineage. This all goes back to one man. The common paternal ancestor of all humanity. Commonly called Y-chromosomal Adam, he lived in Africa between 200,000 and 300,000 years ago.

Earlier this year, Family Tree DNA announced an enhanced chemistry formula for Big Y. This new test, the Big Y-700, provides even greater coverage of the Y chromosome. This allows them to detect even more mutations. As a result, all branches of the great tree of mankind are becoming further refined.

For those who have already tested the Big Y 500 and upgrade to the Big Y 700 it means:

- Everyone's personal SNPs will zoom up by about 60%.
- More SNPs and greater refinement in matching along with better time estimates.
- The number of called SNPs has gone up by about two thirds so that now the time estimation has dropped to about 82 years per SNP (from 150 yrs) according to Data Warehouse stats.
- We expect one mutation every 3 generations or so, which gives us a
- lot more discrimination and makes Big Y 700 more feasible than Big Y 500 for surname studies.

Essentially the Big Y 700 is a brand new test. All Big Y 500 tests need to be redesigned and run again with all the physical costs of new sequencing. This is the reason why Big Y 500 customers are required to pay an upgrade fee for Big Y 700.

Family Tree DNA have regular sales throughout the year and this is a good opportunity to take advantage of those reduced prices and either upgrade from the YSTR tests or the Big Y 500 to get the latest testing.



(see illustration on previous page - page 7)

World's largest Y-DNA Haplotree from FamilyTreeDNA

Clan Cameron Y DNA Project Update

Our Clan is a rich tapestry of people, history and traditions. From our Chief Lochiel, the cadets which are represented in our Clan crest to the various septs which are also associated with the Clan, we are a confederation of people

with huge pride in who we are and where we come from. This is well reflected in the Y DNA results to date.

The aim of our project is to explore the origins of the surname Cameron. In doing so we are finding that our Clan is made up of many different paternal lines and Haplogroups who are united alongside our main paternal Cameron line. The Cameron Clan is not necessarily defined by who is and who isn't related to the main Paternal Cameron lineage.

When surnames were adopted in Scotland, around the 12th century for the upper echelons of Scottish society and the 18th for ordinary people, not every man who pledged allegiance to a Clan Chief would have been a descendant of the same patrilineal ancestor. There can be a misconception that anyone bearing a clan surname is automatically descended from a Clan Chief, this isn't always the case. They instead could have been related through adoption, marriage or even by proximity.

The ability of a clan to defend its territory from other clans depended greatly on attracting as many followers as possible. Being a member of a large and powerful clan became a distinct advantage in the lawless Highlands and followers might adopt the clan name to curry favour with the Laird, to show solidarity, for basic protection, or maybe because their lands were taken by a more powerful neighbour and they had little option!

We currently have sitting in our Group A, men who descend from our paternal Cameron SNP R-A6138, 21 testers who break off into 5 different branches. Two branches are identified by family research to be MacGillonie and Clunes. By far the largest sub-clade off of R-A6138 is a branch yet to be identified. There is much potential for R-A6138 to have many different branches or as we call them sub-clades beneath it.

There are about 50 YSTR testers who would most likely turn out to be in our Group A if they upgraded to the Big Y 700 test.

The vast majority, over 100 YSTR Cameron surname testers in the Project, are not descended from R-A6138. They come from mainly the haplogroup R1b but a good number are from the I1 haplogroup with some also from haplogroup R1a, J and E.

We also have 31 Cameron men who have only tested 12 YSTR markers which is insufficient to determine where they sit in our Project. A bare minimum test of 37 YSTR's are needed for placement in the Project.

There are 2 new Big Y 700 tests currently in progress and 6 new upgrades to the new Big Y 700 from the Big Y 500. The SNP above R-A6138, or as we call it the Grandfather of A6138, is the SNP R-A7298 which at current estimates indicate was born about the year 1042AD. A7298 is the common shared ancestor of Clans Cameron, Macnab and McPhee.

In my next article I hope to bring news of the McMartin Cameron's which may make us look at their history a bit closer!



Trail of Tartans

The following is Waipu resident Ross Boyd's story, as told by the Northern Advocate:

Just in time for International Tartan Day, Waipu's streets bear a fresh reminder of the town's Scottish roots - 32 poles along the Braigh and Shoemaker Rd carry plaques of clan tartans.

A trip to Nova Scotia five years ago sparked the idea. As Waipu's Ross Boyd and wife Wendy walked along the waterfront of Pictou town they noticed plaques on each light pole representing clan tartans.

"We thought: wouldn't that be great in Waipu?" said Boyd. "each of us thought the other had taken a photo but it turned out neither of us did."

Relying on memory, Boyd pitched the idea to the Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association, which received it enthusiastically.

Enlisting the help of sign company Splash Signs to make the plaques, he began the arduous task of sorting out which clans should be recognised.

He looked at the names on the monument outside Waipu's museum, which lists families of Scottish ancestry who travelled to Waipu from Nova Scotia in the mid 19th century.

Boyd whittled the list down further, using the phone book for the names of families still in Waipu.

Deciding an oval rather than a square plaque would stand out more, Boyd next chose which form of each clan tartan to use a trickier task than he expected.

"The first one I looked at, Anderson, had 42 varieties," he said. "There were ancient, modern, hunting, private, corporate."

He consulted local families, asking which they thought was appropriate, but sometimes had to choose for them.

Putting the signs up last month also proved tricky. Boyd planned to install them on poles in alphabetical order so people could find the clans easily, but unstable roadsides by some poles meant the plan had to change.

Boyd plans to put a map showing the location of all the signs on the Waipu facebook page so people can find their clan plaques.

The project has taken him hundreds of hours over more than two years and the overriding feeling he has seeing them in place is, he said, relief.

He is grateful to all the people and organisations who supported and helped fund the project - the Lotteries Commission, Whangarei District Council, along with several local businesses, families and a couple of clan organisations.

People seem to like the new plaques, he said. "One girl said to me: "That's my mother's clan on the pole outside her house." he said. "She was thrilled - it wasn't planned, it just happened."



The plaque on it's pole

By Editor:

The Cameron plaque is located outside No.13 the Braigh which is on the R.H.S. southwestern entrance to Waipu.

The tartan used is an unusual one, known as Cameron Hose (STWR (Scottish Tartans World Register)1151). It was designed for the socks of Highland dancers, hence its name. Most appropriate for the Waipu Highland Games, where Highland dancing plays such a big part

Clan Cameron Auckland have given financial support to this project.

See photo on page 6.

We are grateful to Ross Boyd for making this article available to us.

War Memorial named among best in Scotland.

By Louise Glen

The Press and Journal

The war memorial in Fort William has been named as one of the best in Scotland by the British Legion.

The memorial, which features the figure of a lone kilted soldier with his head bowed looking out over Alexandria Parade, is maintained by a team of volunteers from Fort William's Town Team.

The memorial has inscriptions of 116 names for the First World War, 35 names for the Second World War and one name for the Gulf War. It is thought the memorial was unveiled in 1920.

Karen Dean, the co-ordinator of Fort William Town Team, said: "It's an absolute privilege to work with the British Legion on the war memorial and it is a real mark of the respect in the town that we have managed to win this award.

"We are delighted. The Town Team feel privileged to be the guardians of the war memorial and care for it along with other groups in the town.

"It is a mark of how much the memorial means to people—and to the people who have fought in the wars and conflicts that it stands there today.

"We are doing so little, when they gave so much. "It is great the memorial has been recognised and the award goes to everyone who has helped us over the last few years."

The memorial is one of a number of projects undertaken in the town by the Town Team.

Mrs Dean added: "We are only a small committee of four people, and we have very committed volunteers who support the work.

Legion Scotland chief executive, Dr. Claire Armstrong, said "Legion Scotland's Best Kept War Memorial competition aims to foster public awareness of war memorials, and to encourage a high standard of continuing maintenance.

"We congratulate everyone who has played a part in the upkeep of the Fort William and District War Memorial."

"More than 100 entries have been received for this year's competition and the standard has, once again, been especially high from across the Highlands.

By Editor: Bill Cameron tells me that there are a good number of Camerons listed on the memorial

Photo of the memorial is on the front page.

Achnagauna: A Sense of Place - Part 4

Further Places in Scotland where John 'Mòr' Cameron lived prior to his 1840 emigration to N.Z.

By Roger Cameron (Marrickville, Australia and Iar Branch NZ)

Newspapers of the time give us clues to the nature of the farmland in the time of Big John. They give us an indirect description of the area surrounding Big John's croft on Drimnin and later the Club Farm that was Achnagauna - being part of the larger Acharn Estate. Words such as excellent pasture, native trees, oakwoods, the River Aline, Loch Aryennes (now Loch Arienas), salmon, trout, grouse, roebuck, hares, partridges, all help create in our mind's eye a picture of fertile farmland that was "... romantic and picturesque ..." (Caledonian Mercury, 27 Sep 1824, p.1). The for-sale and to-let newspaper advertisements over these areas (see Newspaper Cuttings 1,2 & 3) clearly talk in terms of prime arable land.

ESTATE IN ARGYLLSHIRE.
DATE OF SALE FURTHER POSTPONED, BY DESIRE OF INTENDING PURCHASERS, AND UPSET PRICE FIXED.
To be Sold by public roup, in the Royal Exchange Coffee-house, Edinburgh, on Friday the 23^d February 1816; (instead of 19th January, as formerly advertised) at two o'clock, if not previously sold by private bargain,
THE ESTATE OF DRIMNIN, in Morvern, Argyllshire, situated on the Sound of Mull, opposite the safe and well frequented harbor and thriving settlement of Tobermory.
This estate contains upwards of 3030 Scots acres, of which 261 are at present arable, 73 capable of being easily made so, 384 green pasture, 2280 hill pasture, 13 moor, and 181 under thriving plantations of larch and every kind of forest trees. The pasture is adapted to either sheep or black cattle: All the farm-houses are in good order.
There is a mansion-house sufficient for the accommodation of a numerous and genteel family, commanding very extensive views of the finest Highland scenery, with an excellent court of stables, office-houses, and a good garden-wall. Vessels of every burden daily pass and repass in the Sound of Mull; and from the constant communication by water with Liverpool, and all the ports in the north of Ireland, and on the west of Scotland, a family resident here has always a cheap and regular supply of every necessary of life. Sea-fish of every variety is to be had in great abundance during the whole year on the shores of the estate; and herrings, in great quantity, are annually taken in Loch Sunart; its northern boundary. Kelp, to a considerable amount, is annually made on the shores. The lands abound with game of every sort; and several lakes upon the estate afford fresh-water fishing.
A great part of the estate, which was in the late proprietor's natural possession, may be immediately entered to, and the leases of the rest are but of short endurance.
The estate will be sold with as much superiority as will afford a Freehold Qualification in the country.
The present rent of the estate; including 1,105 as the value of 20 tons of kelp annually made; is L.554 10s. and the public burdens trifling. The upset price is to be L.14,500, being only 25 years purchase of the above rental and L.500 for the freehold qualification, exclusive of any value being put upon the mansion-house, office-houses, and thriving plantations.
Further particulars will be learned upon application to Archibald Macdonald, Esq. Raue, by Arisaig; John Gregorson, Esq. Ardornish, by Auchnacraig; or Robert Graham, W. S. Edinburgh, any of whom will treat for a sale by private bargain.

Newspaper Cutting 1 (above). This advertisement not only describes Drimnin Estate in 19th Century language but it also alludes to reasons why so many crofters were evicted. The estate would be sold with "... as much superiority ..." - I interpret this to mean as unencumbered with crofters and cottars as possible. Drimnin, however, was not sold until 1817 (or ?1818) to a John MacLean (Gaskell, 1980).

FROM: Caledonian Mercury, Mon. 19 Feb 1816 p.1. British Library Board 2017. (Downloaded from www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)

New Zealand-born genealogist and author Jan Worthington, when she spoke at a NSW/ACT Branch meeting of the NZSG (18 Feb 2017) in Sydney, also stated the need for writers to say 'what has not been said', the 'importance of place' and 'walking in their footsteps' and above all to 'create a sense of place' for the people about whom one is writing. One immediate irony is that we can best get a sense of place from the newspaper property sale ads of the time - so we create this sense of place from ads destined to deprive Big John and Janet of their sense of place (Newspaper Cutting 1). A sense of place is important as places are portals - 'place' does not go away. Big John may well have identified with Inver Mallie but his children ?mostly identified with the parish of Morvern - Morvern provided their sense of place within the 'landscape' of Scottish society. 'Place' can be just seen as 'geocentric'; a variable mix of maps, geography, geology and associated peoples. When we consider, however, the people's affinity with the land, then that is when a 'sense of place' becomes paramount.

The earliest authoritative maps (with respect to scale, features and detail) were the 6 inches to 1 mile maps by Britain's Ordnance Survey - see Map 2. Whilst this map shows features mapped 32 years after Big John and Janet's departure, it is the first publicly available mapping that shows individual crofts and associated agricultural features from Big John's time.

Well, "... romantic and picturesque ..." is not what we saw when we walked up through a monoculture of Sitka spruce on Wednesday 24 August 2016. The Forestry Commission purchased much of the land prior to WW1, in 1930 (Gaskell, 1980), and planted Sitka spruce throughout (Thorner pers comm, 2016). Perhaps their perception of a need for timber was preconditioned by the timber shortages during WW1? Today, this conifer plantation is characterised by closely-spaced mature trees, interspersed with many stumps from earlier (pre-1988) tree-felling operations and large piles of pre-cut lichen-covered logs that presumably have not been sold (Photograph 3). These are now rotting in situ leaving one to wonder what bureaucratic thinking resulted in this mess. Sadly, what was once prime arable land is sterilised by the now-uneconomic conifers of the Fiunary Forest.

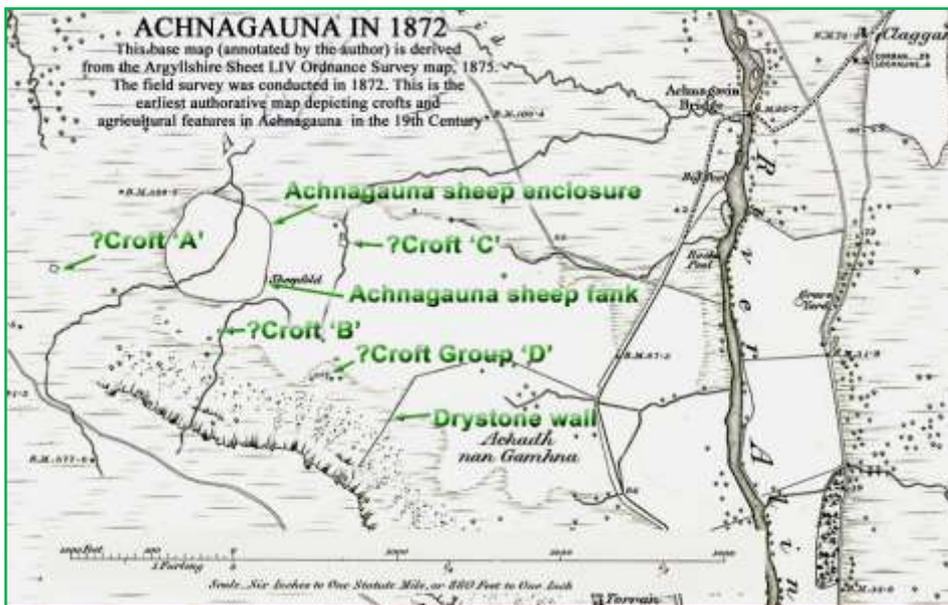
So, walking in the footsteps of my ancestors is achievable in a literal sense for me but I struggle to call it evocative (Photograph 1, below). One cannot look out over the arable farmland they saw - given the density of the conifers, one can see only as far as, say, 80m (Photographs 2 & 3).



Forestry machinery has bulldozed holes in the old drystone walls and building remnants have had dumped rubbish and demolished stones left in them (Photographs 5, 6 & 8).



By Editor: Miniature photos are shown here as they are referred to in text on this page. Larger versions with explanatory notes will be displayed in coming issues.



Map 2 - Remaining crofts and sheep facilities - post clearances. The sheep enclosure is relatively intact today and appears on modern topographic maps. Now for a 'mea culpa': I did not have this map when I visited here on Wednesday 24th August 2016. I found the drystone wall, the sheep fank and large sub-circular sheep enclosure as they were on the modern topo map, but I was blissfully unaware during my visit that there were croft ruins (B, C and Group D) nearby within the dense pine forest. I did not see these at the time due to the close spacing of the conifers.



**TO LET,
ENTRY AT WHITSUNDAY FIRST.**

THE ESTATE of ACHARN in the District of Morven, Argyleshire, comprehending the Farms of Acharn, Corospine, Arryinnes, Derrynamart, Achnagauna, Imbeg and Larachbeg.

These Farms, joined together in one Tenement, are of considerable extent, capable of rearing from 2000 to 2500 Sheep and about 170 Head of Black Cattle or thereby, the Pasture is uncommonly sound and healthy, and the Lands of easy access, being situated within a short distance of the salt water lake called Lochaline, past which the Steamboats plying in the Sound of Mull sail two or three times a week.

Should this Estate not be Let as a whole, it will be Let in two Lots as follows:—

1. The LANDS of ACHARN, COROSPINE, ARRYNNES, and DERRYNAMART, capable of carrying about 1000 Sheep and 70 Head of Cattle. This Lot comprehends about 62 Acres of Arable Land.
2. The LANDS of ACHNAGAUNA, INIBEG, and LARACHBEG. This Lot is peculiarly adapted for a Black Cattle Stock, of which it is capable of rearing about 100 head, besides 300 Sheep. The Arable Land is of great extent and excellent quality.

The SALMON FISHERIES belonging to the Estate will be Let along with the Lands or separately.

Offers will be received by Messrs Walker, Richardson, and Melville, W.S., 110, George Street, Edinburgh; and by James Macgregor, Writer in Fort-William, either of whom will conclude a bargain.

19th January, 1834.

Newspaper Cutting 2 (above). Achnagauna comes in for a specific, favourable mention here. Clearly the basaltic soil is considered, and 'sold', as arable - a description that cannot be applied to much of the highlands. In fact, 'arable' is a highly-prized description for a property in the Highlands.

FROM: *Inverness Courier*, Wed. 29 Jan 1834 p.1. British Library Board 2017, (Downloaded from www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)

The shortage of arable land in the Highlands, and its value to the sellers, is illustrated by the emphasis given in this particular ad to the amount of arable land here within the Archarn Estate. The larger amount of arable land on a property, the greater the property's value.

LANDS IN ARGYLESHIRE TO LET.

THE Estate of ACHAIRN in the district of Morven, comprehending the Lands of Achairn, Corospind, Arryinnes, and Achnagaun, with their Parts, Pendicles, and Pertinents.

These Grazings are of great extent, and produce Stock inferior to none in that part of the country; on the Farm of Achnagaun there is a great extent of Arable Land capable of being enlarged and improved, at very little expense.

The Lands lie within a mile of the head of Lochaline, to which there is a good country road, and the Steam Boats plying between the West Coast and the Clyde, call in at Lochaline generally twice a-week.

The Lands will be let in two Lots, if more agreeable to intending offerers, viz. Achairn and the other Lands on the north of Loch Arryinnes and the river, in one lot, and Achnagaun in another.

Sealed offers will be received till the 8th of February next, by Messrs Walker, Richardson, and Melville, W.S. Edinburgh, or by James Macgregor, Writer, Fort-William.

Newspaper Cutting 3 (above). Again, Achnagaun(a) merits a special mention with its "... great extent of Arable Land ..." but it makes no mention of crops grown. By 1838, steam boats provide a regular service back to the industrial and population centers on the Clyde (Glasgow). There is also a road back to Fort William that did not exist in 1800. With Achnagauna being let yet again (and as one lot), Big John and Janet were subject to another eviction. It was no longer to be a club farm. Acharn Estate was sold to Patrick Sellar (infamous for earlier brutal clearances) in 1838 (Gaskell, 1980).

FROM: *Inverness Courier*, Wed. 17 Jan 1838 p.1. British Library Board 2017 (Downloaded from www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)

To be continued



Aonaibh ri Cheile

The Back Page

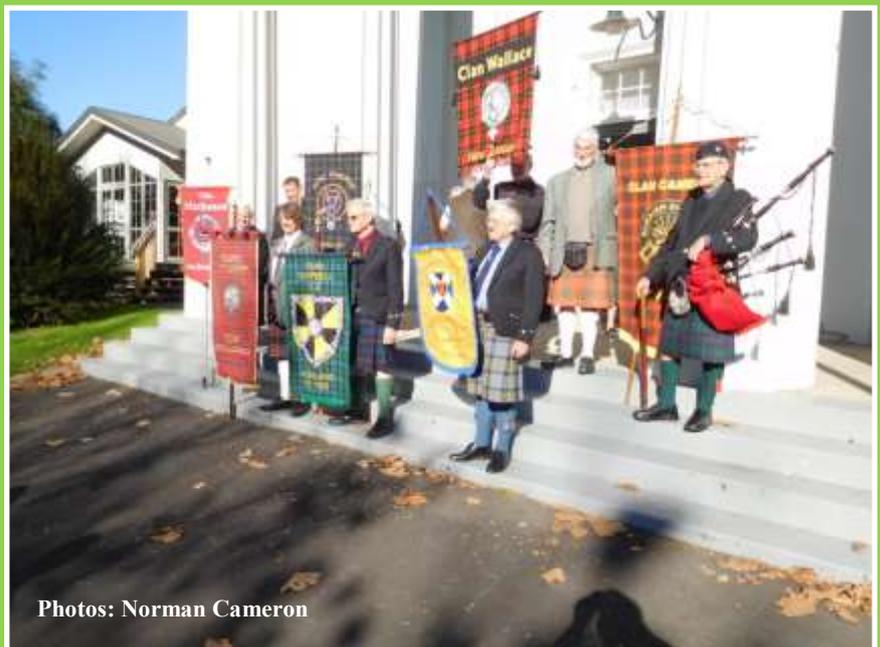


Wellington/Wairarapa Branch - Visit to Zealandia Ecosanctuary

From left: *Eoin Cameron, Finlay Cameron, Hannah Carty, Heather Cameron, Ollie Cameron, Rob Cameron, John Vaughan, Sonja Cameron, Hazel Cameron, Graeme Cameron, Cath Cameron.*

.From Left: *Hannah Carty, Finlay Cameron, Ollie Cameron, Heather Cameron, Eoin Cameron, Hazel Cameron, Graeme Cameron, Cath Cameron, Catarina Cao, Rob Cameron, Alex Cao, John Cao.*

Photos: Hamish Cameron



Photos: Norman Cameron

Auckland Kirkin' o' the Tartan. Left: *Bryan Haggitt and Norman Cameron.* Right: *Banners displayed*