



Clan Cameron New Zealand; founded 1935, incorporated 2000

◆ Cameron ◆

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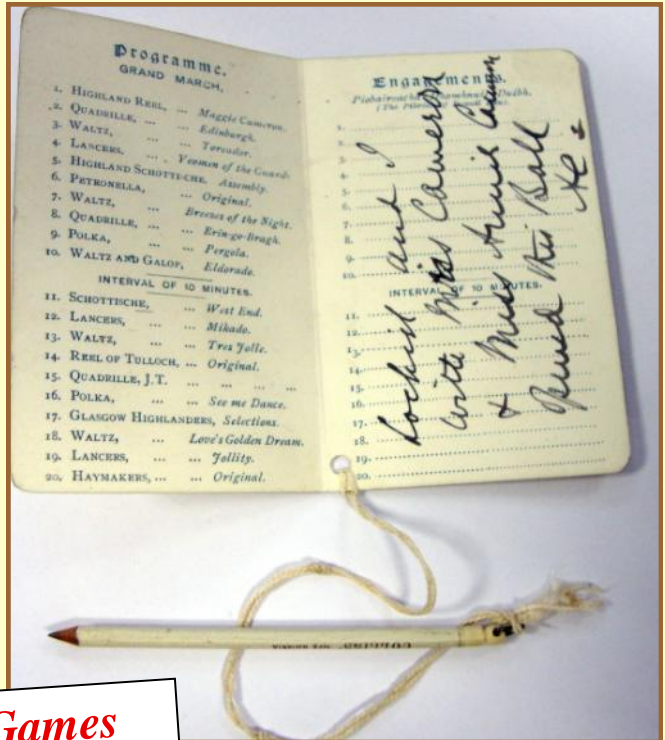
Shall we
Dance?



This small dance card is one of the earliest artifacts of the Clan Association of 1891 and is from its inaugural dinner dance that year. Of interest is the old Clan Rallying Cry or *Sluagh-ghairm* translated as "Sons of the hounds, come here and get flesh"

It is part of the recently organised Cameron Collection in the Lochaber Archive, all of which came from the loft at Achnacarry, and was presented to the Archive by Lochiel.

Card photographed by Bill Cameron



Paeroa Highland Games

Don Cameron, Lesley Chitty, John Cameron, Joy Cameron, Hazel Cameron, Fraser Cameron, Patricia Duncan, Judith Bean and Denis Cameron pose outside the Cameron tent



Photo: Editor

Eliot Fenton, son of Clan Cameron member Mary-Anne Cameron and grand-son of Fraser Cameron, warms up at the Paeroa Games.

Eliot was playing with the Rotorua Highland Pipe Band and this was his first competition.

He accompanied his mother on the 2009 tour to the Achnacarry Gathering and was enriched by the experience



Photo: Rhys Fenton

Paeroa Highland Games

By Denis and Joy Cameron

The 17th Paeroa Highland Games and Tattoo took place at the Paeroa Domain on 13 February featuring 12 hours of Scottish entertainment with plenty of activities for all the family to enjoy.

Originally this event started out as a small Pipe Band Contest, but has grown over the years and today it is a fully fledged Highland Games complete with an evening Tattoo. Each year, between 4000 – 5000 people attend with visitors and competitors coming from throughout New Zealand and overseas.

The Games start with Solo Piping, Highland Dancing, an Axemen's Carnival and then the heavyweight athletes take over attracting large crowds. The ever popular, a fun and fashionable Tartan wear competition attracts many and new competitors each year.

Fraser and Elaine Cameron arrived early in Papamoa and we left for Paeroa arriving at about 8.20 am in time to assist Neil and members of the Auckland Branch to put up the Clan Cameron tent. The Bay of Plenty had 10 members present on the day; and we were delighted to welcome John Cameron from Palmerston North, who later became the Bay of Plenty Branch Banner carrier.

Games. It was nice to hear that her great grandmother had sailed to New Zealand in 1920. Nadine was accompanied by Mr. Murdock McDonald, President of the Scottish Clans Association of the Auckland District.

During the day, we were delighted to have a chat with Celine Toner, a very talented Scottish and Celtic singer, who came to New Zealand as a teenager with her musical family. Celine came in and visited the clan tent. Her mother was telling us that all of her children have some sort of musical talent. It was nice to be able say that Joy and I had seen Celine performing with the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, during their tour of New Zealand.

A first for any Highland Games we believe; and that was the "Black and White" dog show, a competition run by the Auckland West Highland and Scottish Terriers Clubs. It was a fun day with no champions allowed and pets were welcome. It was nice to see all the terriers walking proudly around the domain. The Scottish Highland cattle were again in full view and they all looked magnificent.

This year, all of the clan tents were made into a large square and visitors were able to come and take their time and ask many questions about the clan. It was a pleasure to welcome them and they were very appreciative. I think the number of clan tents could be down this year, but with the new lay out one could not be sure.

The heavyweight field events are always something special to see and I think the competitors are getting bigger



Photo: Ed

Don Cameron, Denis Cameron and Murdock McDonald with Nadine Terry from Gore, the "Queen of the Heather"



Photo Valmar Cameron

The Pipes and Drums of Thames Valley about to lead the Clan's March to the Town Centre, following a heavy shower of rain.

The weather was a bit 'iffy' during the day with some heavy rain coming at various times throughout the day, but the persistent rain left in time for the Clan March to the Town Centre. We can say that the new Auckland tent performed very well during the inclement weather and was relatively cool during the sunny parts of the day.

This year the Games had 17 Pipe Bands taking part including one from Australia – the Redlands Sporting Club Pipe Band from Brisbane - a record, plus some new activities throughout the day, culminating in the spectacular evening tattoo which, they believe is now the only one being staged in New Zealand. They plan to have the next Games on 12th February 2011.

It was so nice to meet Nadine Terry "Queen of the Heather" who had come all the way from Gore. It is just wonderful for Nadine as one of her prizes is to take a trip to the North Island and be one of their guests at the Paeroa

and stronger every year. This year they had the women's heavyweight events but later in the day. Naturally the Pipe Bands Contest is always something I like seeing as it brought back fond memories of my days with the Ashburton Highland Pipe Band in which I was one of their tenor and base drummers. A good day for us all and we look forward to the next one in February 2011.

The evening programme started with the Pipe Bands Street March at 5.15 pm with the official Flag Raising Ceremony by the Paeroa Girl Guides. This was followed by the official opening of the Tattoo that started at 6.20 pm. The National Anthem for New Zealand was played by the City of Tauranga Highland Pipe Band and the Redlands Sporting Club Pipe Band from Australia played the Australian National Anthem. As always the lone piper sends goose pimples up everyone necks and the day ended in spectacular fashion. Ray and Janet Crafts were present for the night's programme.

Welcome to the following Members who have recently joined us:



Bay of Plenty Branch
Tania Cameron

Opotiki

Tristan Sanders
Allan Cameron

Cambridge
Waihi

Auckland News *by Don Cameron*

There were several important -- but very different -- items from the Auckland branch annual meeting in late February.

The first was the installation of Alison North, one of the original members when the branch was reformed in 1986, as a life member. This honour was announced at the branch annual dinner last August, but had to wait until the annual general meeting for final confirmation.

Alison accepted the honour with a pleasant speech about the history and romance of Scotland. She also accepted a life member's certificate -- and this brought Neil Cameron, then former national and Auckland president into the limelight. When Neil was made an Auckland life member a few years ago there was a small speech and a dram or two to mark the occasion. But no certificate.

As Alison's award approached Fiona Cameron, our historian/genealogist who is also clever with her handcraft, got busy. The result were handsome certificates bearing the Cameron

crest for both Alison and Neil.

The other major announcement was the fact that Auckland now has enough money in the bank to invest in a trailer for carrying the equipment, including a new larger tent, to the various Highland Games in the northern part of the North Island.

Until now Neil Cameron's station wagon has served as the gear transport, meaning that Neil has to remove the back seats to make room for the large amount of gear.

A sub-committee of three -- Neil, treasurer Bryan Haggitt and president Don Cameron -- has recommended the purchase of a Pinto galvanized trailer, a permanent storage place and transport for all the clan equipment.

One sad point from the annual meeting was that Linda Garland, a sterling contributor with time and food for the various branch functions, has resigned from the committee, but she promises to be involved in future clan events. Ian Cameron has become a new member of the committee.

The Parnell Cricket Club again made their clubrooms available for the annual meeting, which was followed by a very pleasant barbecue.



Photo: Joint effort - North Family - Fiona's camera

The Auckland Branch meet at the Parnell Cricket Club for their Annual General Meeting and Barbecue

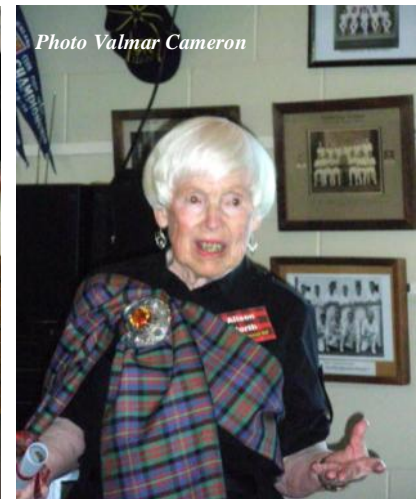


Photo Valmar Cameron

Alison North replies after her presentation

Canterbury News *by Rae Magson*

The Executive of the Clan Cameron Canterbury met recently. The main aim of the meeting was to make plans to revive the membership. We intend to have a meeting in Christchurch probably in June and to send out invitations to Camerons in the phone book, also a notice in the newspaper.

There are lots of ideas for this meeting but we hope to have our NZ President, Denis Cameron attending, and also to have a talk from a genealogist and Scottish entertainment of some sort. Approximately twenty years ago this idea was tried and proved to be successful then, so we will do it again!

Other events being planned are a luncheon and, at the end of the year, a garden party in the grounds of the beautiful home of Nick Cameron.

Hawke's Bay News *by Helen Shaw*

Autumn has arrived and the nights have become cooler. After a record rainfall in January we could now do with some in the Napier area. The last Cruise Ship for the season has been and gone this last week with some 400 French speaking tourists aboard. French translators were much in demand to help with shopping.

Clan Cameron held a pot luck lunch in mid February at the home of Shane and Tony East at Bridge Pa. Their warm hospitality was much appreciated by those who attended. The table was well covered in true Kiwi style with a good range of food. The swimming pool looked inviting but we were quite content to sit and talk.

Clan Cameron will be in attendance with our display tent at the Easter Highland Games at Lindisfarne College on Easter Saturday and Sunday. Out of town Camerons will be very welcome. Several members will be travelling to Masterton for the Annual gathering.

A message from our President

Dear Clan Cameron Members



A True Story as told to Rear Admiral Jack Steer ONZM RNZN

Anzac Day Address given at the Christchurch Boy's High School – 2006

It all happened in Belgium in a war graves cemetery beside a small village called Passchendale. Thousands of young New Zealanders gave their lives there. At the rear of the cemetery is a Memorial Wall, with its central crypt being dedicated to the New Zealand dead?

There was an old British soldier there, who had committed himself to giving personal conducted tours of the Battlefield. He said that he had been at the cemetery one day and watched unseen as two buses arrived at the entrance some distance away. Young children got out of the buses, followed by two young teachers. They gathered together for a short while, and then the children dispersed into the cemetery, laughing, playing, joking and generally seeming to be having a good time. The old soldier was shocked at the irreverence of what he was seeing and made his way towards the two teachers.

He introduced himself in a rather curt and offended manner and then demanded to know why the children were allowed to play amongst the graves. One of the teachers responded, "We are sorry, we did not know that anyone else was here. We hope that we have not caused you any offence. You see, all these children have just started school this year. They live in houses surrounded by war cemeteries. One of the first things we teach these children is what the cemeteries mean. We teach them the history of wars that have swept Belgium over the years. We teach them why wars are fought and by whom. We tell them of the thousands of young men who came to our country to fight for our freedom, and suffered under the most appalling conditions and died here. Many of them having just left school, are little more than children themselves. We tell them of the far away countries, that they came from, like New Zealand and Australia. And we tell them that those young men died for Belgium's freedom, and are buried here, and have probably never been visited by their own families. It was simply too far to travel in those days. For most, it was the first time – and the last – that they left home".

"The experience of war in the last century has left a deep imprint on us, perhaps the deepest influence on a society, which has had a few other such intense experiences in its short life."

"We then tell the children to go and play amongst the graves. Sing, dance, and be happy. After all, those young men died for these children's future. It is not the least that we as a society can do? To show these men that the loss of their youth and lives was not in vain? That our children are happy and free because of them? Is it not what young men would want to see, so far from home, to be forever young

themselves?" Wonderful sentiments.

The old soldier was moved to tears. In his desire for solemnity and remembrance, he had overlooked the most obvious indication of why they died – the renewal of life and hope exemplified by the children playing.

So, all of this is why today is truly a national day, the most solemn in the year's calendar. Its hold on our imagination has little to do with events in military history; everything to do with the enduring the Anzac experience has left on our national calendar. For the landings at Anzac Cove were not carried out by professional soldiers, but by a citizen's army. The losses, the endurance and the sadness of failure were not something read about; they were part of the nation's experience. Everybody had a friend, or relative in the Anzacs and everybody felt the deeds as their own. This was equally true of the Second World War.

The experience of war in the last century has left a deep imprint on us, perhaps the deepest influence on a society, which has had a few other such intense experiences in its short life.

The citizen's army of New Zealanders wrote the opening pages of our nationhood, and they did so with memorable courage, a large vision and a generous spirit. Our gratitude to them is best expressed, not in words, but in preserving and enlarging their bequest. Our future has been bought and paid for in full. It is up to us to honour the sacrifices made by fellow New Zealanders by committing ourselves to uphold their ideals. Our success will be measured by the values our children take with them into their adulthood.

"Leis gach dhurach and Slainte mhath"
[With every good wish and good health]

Denis Cameron

Gaelic and English Numbers

From Mary MacKellar's "Tourist's Hand-Book of Gaelic and English Phrases for the Highlands"

Gaelic	Pronunciation	English
Aon	Un	One
Dha	Ghà	Two
Tri	Tree	Three
Ceithir	Kéhir	Four
Coig	Cōik	Five
Sia	Shèéa	Six
Seachd	Sheachk	Seven
Ochd	Ochk	Eight
Naoi	Nui	Nine
Deich	Dyech	Ten
Aon-deug	Un-dyek	Eleven
Dha dheug	Ghà-yiék	Twelve
Fichead	Fichut	Twenty
Leth cheud	Leth-khy-at	Fifty
Ceud	Kyat	One Hundred
Mile	Meelū	One Thousand

With thanks to the Clan Cameron Museum



Aonaibh ri Cheile

Cameron

is the magazine of the Clan Cameron Association of New Zealand (Inc) and is published on or near the 1st day of every even month of the year.

Deadlines for articles are on the 15th of the month before publication. Items of urgency or importance may be accepted up to 10 days later.

Articles about Camerons, Branch activities with photographs, and advice of Coming Events are especially welcome.

Deadline for the June issue:

15 May 2010

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Coming events

Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 April 2010
60th Hawke's Bay Highland Games.
Lindisfarne College, Hastings.
Camerons will have their usual display
Enquiries to Mike Topham: 06 879 8215

15 - 17 April 2010
Clan Cameron Annual Gathering and AGM.
Cophthorne Hotel and Resort, Masterton.
Full details and a downloadable registration form are on the website: www.camclan.orconhosting.net.nz and were also sent out with the Dec newsletter. Please get the completed Registration Form to Warren Cameron as soon as possible.

15 May 2010
Clan Donald Dinner
At Alexandra Park, Rutherford Room 6.30 for 7pm.
Cost \$55 per person. The Clan Donald Historian, Carl Bradley is the guest speaker and will talk on "The military situation after the '45". Other clansfolk are welcome.
Enquiries to Murdock McDonald 09 298 4802



Scottie dogs at Paeroa photographed by Valmar Cameron

Useful Websites

Clan Cameron New Zealand website
<http://www.camclan.orconhosting.net.nz>

Clan Cameron Online
<http://www.clan-cameron.org>

Clan Cameron Scotland
<http://www.clanccameron.org.uk>

Clan Cameron Australia
<http://www.clan-cameron.org.au>

Scottish Clans Association Auckland District
<http://www.scottishclans.co.nz>

Scottish Music for Sale
www.musicscotland.com

Clan Cameron NZ Webmaster:
Warren Cameron
camcraft@orcon.net.nz



Clan Boosts MS Charity

As Camerons from across the globe gathered at their Chief's house at Achnacarry they, like their ancestors, were able to enjoy the taste of good local salmon thanks to a charity barbecue run by members of Marine Harvest staff.

The event raised a total of £250 which was presented to Donald Cameron of Lochiel by Marine Harvest Farms secretary Iona MacFadyen (left), PA to managing director Jayne MacKay, and farm manager David Corrigan, who said "We were happy to put on a salmon barbecue to fund-raise for charity, with members of the Clan Cameron and visitors alike donating generously."

"All proceeds are going to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, which was the charity chosen by Lochiel himself"

*Article transcribed from the Lochaber News
Photograph by Iain Ferguson of The Write Image
Thanks to Bill Cameron for arranging use of the picture*

We were saddened to hear of the death on February 26th of Molly Cameron, of Masterton. Molly was married to the late Donald Cameron, President of Clan Cameron New Zealand, and Lochiel's Commissioner, from 1984 until 1992.

We have pleasant memories of the great hospitality shown by Molly and Donald at the annual Executive Council meeting held in their 'bach' at Turangi, and the wonderful trips and visits the spouses of committee members were taken on by Molly while the meeting was in progress.

Our condolences go to Rob, Catherine, and the family

History Corner *by Fiona Cameron*

Cyclopedia of New Zealand

While many of us love leafing through old books in search of history and genealogy snippets, it can be difficult to access rarer items that are only available in libraries or museums.

The Electronic Text Centre is one remedy to this problem. In partnership with Victoria University, the Text Centre has been digitizing copies of significant New Zealand books and making them freely available for viewing through their website.

One particular goldmine of information is the *Cyclopedia of New Zealand* – a *Who's Who* of New Zealand at the turn of the last century. Its aim was to "place on record plain facts regarding the settlement and progress of the Colony". That being said, members of the public paid to feature in *The Cyclopedia* and supplied the compilers with the material to be published. As a result, material is not always accurate and is also at times wonderfully self promotional.

The publishers even commented that they "have recognised the advisability of representing the various subjects of notice as they individually appeared to themselves and their friends, in their best and happiest moments, rather than as they might have appeared to their enemies, at their worst." So don't expect to find any black sheep or family scandals in the *Cyclopedia*!

The *Cyclopedia* was published in six volumes between 1897 and 1908 - each volume covering a region of New Zealand – Auckland Provincial District (1902), Taranaki, Hawke's Bay & Wellington Provincial Districts Z(1908), Wellington Provincial District (1897), Nelson, Marlborough & Westland Provincial Districts (1906), Canterbury Provincial District (1903) and Otago & Southland Provincial Districts (1905).

You can search the *Cyclopedia of New Zealand* at the Electronic Text Centre <http://www.nzetc.org> and there is a wonderful search guide available at <http://www.nzetc.org/downloads/cyclopedia.pdf>

Other treasures from the Electronic Text Centre include an early edition of the Edmonds *Sure to Rise Cookery Book* from 1914 – scones anyone?



Camerons Assemble in a Downpour 700 Loyal Clansmen at Achnacarry

The feet, if not the spirit, of 700 loyal members of the Cameron Clan were damped this morning when torrents of rain ushered in the great day chosen by the clan to pay homage to their chief, Sir Donald Walter Cameron of Lochiel, at Achnacarry, the ancestral home of the chief of the clan.

As bus after bus and car after car arrived at the castle and disgorged their complements of Camerons, waterproofs and heavy capes were much in evidence, revealing underneath bright glimpses of Cameron tartan.

Soaked grass and dripping trees did not hold out much prospect of brighter conditions, but as the morning drew on towards noon the heavy mist which hung low over the sentinel mountains gradually lifted, and pale gleams of sunshine transformed the thinning mist into tenuous veils of gossamer beauty.

Under the shadow of its guardian hills the stately pile of Achnacarry Castle lay embowered in flaming masses of rhododendrons, and as the members of the Inverlochy Pipe Band and the dancers of the 1st Battalion of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders arrived a bright spark of colour was added to the velvety green of the park in front of the castle.

As the day wore on and more and more visitors arrived the grounds were soon full of eager sightseers anxious to see in the short time at their disposal the romantic and historic spots which are mute evidence of the troubled history of the warlike clan.

One of the most popular spots was the low-lying marshland with its tangled beech woods redolent of memories of the '45 uprising.

Here it was that the Lochiel of the day was engaged in planting a beech wood when the call to arms came, and he hurriedly marshalled his men to join the Young Pretender at Glenfinnan.

To save the young trees he gave orders that these should be "sheughed" in pending his return. Alas, he never returned, but died in exile in France, and the trees, forgotten in the bloody years that followed the uprising, were allowed to grow higgledy piggledy. They stand today a living memorial of the loyalty of that long dead person.

There was a stream of interested

sightseers to see all that remained of the former castle that was sacked and burned by Cumberland after the '45 as a lesson to this hot-headed chief who had stood behind the the romantic figure of the Young Pretender on his ill-starred bid for the throne.

Massive and ivy clad, the thickness of its walls drew astonished gasps from the overseas members of the clan, for many of whom this was their first visit to the land from which their forefathers had emigrated a century ago.

Intermingling with the music of the Gaelic and the soft lilting voices of the West Highlands could be heard the accent of Canada, the United States, India, Burma, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania and Kenya, and on every hand one heard the delighted surprise with which relationships were discovered by visitors from every part of the globe.

Cameras were much in evidence, and as the chief and his lady appeared from the castle a tumultuous cheer greeted them, and the shutters of cameras and cine-cameras clicked merrily.

Almost as popular a subject as Lochiel and his family was the prim figure of Norman McRae, who for 30 years has been piper to Lochiel.



By The Editor:

The two newspaper articles on this page have been transcribed from photographs of cuttings in the Cameron Collection donated by Lochiel to the Lochaber Archive. This collection is formed from articles found in the loft at Achnacarry. The articles scanned and forwarded by Bill Cameron.

The gathering took place in 1938, the same year as the Empire Exhibition in Glasgow. I thought they would be of interest in light of the recent 2009 gathering. It seems gathering weather doesn't change!

Like One Huge Family

Big Contingent leaves from Glasgow

“There’s many a man of the Cameron Clan” judging from the crowd which entrained at Queen Street Station, Glasgow, this morning for the great rally. There were a large number of women in the Glasgow contingent but few children.

The massive engine was appropriately named Loch Eil. It was manned by Driver Kenneth Cameron and Fireman Allan Cameron, both of Glasgow. The guard was Mr Farquhar Cameron, also of Glasgow.

The station was gay and colourful with bright tartan when the party, numbering about 300, arrived. There was fraternising and hand-shaking. **It was just like one huge family going on holiday.**

Camerons from Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, India, Burma and America were among the large gathering proceeding to Achnacarry, where they are being received by Lochiel, the chief of the clan.

The Glasgow contingent proceeded by train to Spean Bridge, calling en route at Helensburgh and Rannoch. They then motored to Achnacarry, and after the rally were scheduled to motor back to Fort William and return to Glasgow by train.

The Glasgow and West of Scotland Camerons were accompanied by the band of the 1st Battalion of the Cameron Highlanders and Highland dancers.

The party was organised by Mr Thomas Cameron, president of the Clan Cameron Association of Glasgow.

Eight members of the family of the late Chief Constable Cameron, of Partick, travelled with the Glasgow party.

Hundreds of Camerons have come to Glasgow from all parts of the world to see the Empire Exhibition.

“The rally is not being held this year because of the Exhibition,” a member of the contingent said to a “Times” reporter, “it was decided to hold the rally this year before the Exhibition was thought of. It is a happy coincidence, however, that it should be taking place at the same time as the Exhibition.”

Allan Cameron, a young farmer of 14,000 acres in New Zealand, who is with the party, told a “Times” man that he visited the Exhibition the other day and his first call was at the New Zealand pavilion.

“I thought it was splendid,” he said enthusiastically, “the New Zealand exhibit is in keeping with the high standard of the entire exhibition. I hope to go back on my return from the rally.”



Turakina Highland Games - The Clan Banner Bearers at the end of the march



Photo: Erina Wood



Photo: Ed

Ruth helps Alison North adjust her sash at the Auckland AGM



Photo: Ed

Above: Linda and Rex Garland with Barbara and Ian Cameron at the Auckland Branch AGM

Left: The Rev'd Bryan Cameron Haggitt becomes a Cantabrian very quickly, at his installation as Vicar of Halswell Prebbleton, Christchurch, in February. Looking on approvingly are his fiancée, Rebecca Wharton, and the Bishop of Christchurch, the Rt Rev'd Victoria Matthews



Photo: Bryan Haggitt



Photo: Ed



Photo: Ed

At the Paeroa Highland Games. Above: Camerons All! Joy, Elaine, Hazel and Valmar
Right upper: Cameron member Liz Horne with husband Laurence and President Denis.
Right lower: Cameron member Sarah McQueen making a clean sweep of firsts in her age group



Photo: Ed