



Clan Cameron New Zealand; founded 1935, incorporated 2000

◆ Cameron ◆

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August 2010



Photo: Jenny Leishman

Pat Tarbotton, Rae Magson, David Cameron, Sharon Wallace, Ngaire Power, Joy and Denis Cameron
At the Canterbury Branch Membership Drive



Photo: courtesy of Lochiel

Lochiels of the Future!
Donald the Younger of Lochiel and Sarah
rejoice in the birth of Donald Fergus on 3 July

Canterbury News *by Rae Magson*

At a committee meeting Clan Cameron Canterbury members made the decision to have a membership drive, consequently plans were put into action. The Caledonian Hall in Christchurch was booked for Sunday 27 June, 2-4pm. The N Z President and Commissioner, Denis Cameron, agreed to come down and address the meeting. A member of the Family History Group, Margaret Cockburn, was contacted and indicated she would be willing to give a talk on how to go about researching family history.

Then the work started. More than 200 invitations were sent out, to people by the name of Cameron in the Christchurch phone book, also anyone that was known to be interested, as well as present members of course. Replies slowly came in, either by phone calls or e-mails. Don Offwood was in touch asking if he could sell his books at the meeting, also asked if he could give a short talk. Don is a direct descendant of the first settlers in Otago. *A Safe Pair of Hands* is his eighth book, the earlier ones include the Otago pioneer trio, *Oatcakes to Otago*, *Heather's Gold* and *Camerons of the Glen*.

The day arrived, it was cold, but the hall soon became warm and welcoming. Displays of family trees, scrapbooks and memorabilia were set up and people starting arriving. All in all about 40 people attended and we were happy about that. A friendly atmosphere prevailed. Jigsaws, books and bookmarks were for sale. Firstly Margaret spoke about family history research, and then Don told of his books, with particular emphasis on his book – *Camerons of the Glen*. There was a short break, during which the raffle was drawn. The first prize was a bottle of whisky, and then Don had kindly donated four copies of his books, these were gratefully received by the winners. NZ President Denis then told of the history of the Clan Cameron in New Zealand. Later a delicious afternoon tea of sandwiches and scones was served. It was felt that it had been a very successful afternoon, with new friends being made.

On a personal note, I was talking to a person by the name of David Cameron, and he showed me some family history that he had and I realised he was a second cousin of mine that I had never met before. That afternoon I introduced him to several new cousins, also another David Cameron!

Wellington/Wairarapa Branch

By Ken Cameron

The AGM of the Wellington Wairarapa Branch of the Clan was held recently at the Stokes Valley Cosmopolitan Club with a small but committed group of stalwarts attending on a rather wintry day. In his annual report Rob Cameron referred to the very successful gathering in Masterton in April and thanked all members for their various contributions to that success, especially Lorraine, Warren, Erina & Maureen who live in the Wairarapa and did much of the planning & running of the event. After four years as Branch President Rob Cameron stepped down, and has been replaced by Ken Cameron, other office holders remaining the same. Ken has been a member for about 8 years.

The coming year's Branch programme includes a Barbecue in October at Bruce & Sonja Camerons' Raumati Beach residence (always a must attend event), and attendance at the St Andrew's Day celebrations at Waitangi Park, Wellington City on Sunday 28 November 2010".

Ken Cameron is the new President of our Wellington-Wairarapa Branch and was born and raised in Eastbourne, Wellington

Ken's forebears on his father's side came from Skye and Lochaber, his father working on Clan Line Ships, including the *Clan Cameron*, before arriving in New Zealand via China in the 1920's. His mother was a daughter of well-known architect Frederick de Jersey Clere, who with his father designed many churches and heritage buildings in Wellington. Ken has a brother in Rotorua and sister in Tauranga.

Ken is married to Marilyn and they have a daughter and three grandchildren in Napier. Before joining the Clan Cameron, Ken & Marilyn were committee members of a Lower Hutt Dutch Karnaval Society (the Nutcrackers) and after it closed joined De Duimstokkers another Dutch German Karnaval Society, based in Melbourne Australia. Neither Ken nor Marilyn have Dutch or German ancestors – they got interested in the societies and became involved.

After attending Wellington College Ken initially joined

the NZBC as a Technician then travelled to the UK to pursue his interests in yachting, both as a competitor and journalist covering the sport for newspapers, radio and magazines. This interest in sports coverage enabled him to attend many events, including the 1972 Olympics in Germany. In the UK he commenced a career in Hotel Administration, managing residential hotels in London Devon and Cornwall, however in 1974 returned to New Zealand. He joined the Union Steamship Company and had various positions in their travel, shipping and accounts divisions, then moved to P & O where he was regional finance co-ordinator. As the shipping industry declined he moved to Prudential Assurance and subsequently to Jacques Martin where he was again involved with accounts administration and Superannuation.



Marilyn and Ken Cameron

Welcome to the following Members who have recently joined us:



Canterbury Branch

Neil and Angela Cameron
David and Buena Cameron
Christine Crowe

Kaipoi
Christchurch
Diamond Harbour

Manawatu Branch

Beverley and Yvette Morrissey

Palmerston North

Auckland Branch

Stuart Cameron

Auckland

Manawatu Branch *by John Cameron*

Celebrating our heritage and culture

Since our last report we have had quality not a quantity of activities. President John helped out over 3 days of the Turakina Highland Games and also looked after the Clan tent which supports the Wanganui Branch along with Sonia Cameron (when she wasn't busy selling raffle tickets). Beautiful weather as always in this district.

Jessie Annabell arranged some new Clan displays which attracted some enquiries, but as always not as many as we need or want. It was a pleasure to have a surprise visit from Erina Wood of Masterton. It became evident that other Clans seem to be experiencing the same man power/active member difficulties.

By Jessie Annabell -

Paul Godbaz, a former Wanganui member, has donated a Cameron of Erracht crest to the Manawatu branch. Paul is moving to Christchurch and has to downsize. The crest has an interesting history. Featuring the figure of St Andrew standing behind the saltire cross, on a backing of Erracht tartan, it used to hang in the old Grand Hotel building in Wanganui. The whole room was carpeted in Erracht tartan and a photo of John Cameron of Marangai also hung on the wall. John, one

March 28th was the annual Clan picnic at picturesque Mt Lees Reserve but poor weather this year resulted in a poor turnout of members and families. 7 members had a very enjoyable day eating great food, talking and listening to Scottish music.

The Branch is planning its Annual Dinner for the **25th of September** in the Awahuri Hall, so put it on the calendar now to keep that date free as we would love to have lots of visitors and guests. Watch this space and more information will become available.

We look forward to participating in local and national events and continuing to meet our old and some new clan friends as we move further into 2010

By Editor: My apologies for leaving out this report last issue.

of the earliest settlers in Wanganui, a prominent farmer and horse breeder, came of the Callart line. When the room was redecorated, Paul managed to snaffle the crest, but the carpet was acquired by Wanganui identity, Johnny Meikle, who used it to carpet his "shed". It must have been some shed! John Grant of Wanganui recalls a Cameron branch AGM being held in Johnny's shed sometime in the 1980s. Perhaps readers recall more about the history of the Cameron room and about the furnishings. Maybe some one has a photo.

Photo of the crest, showing the badge of the QOCH, is on back page -Ed

Bay of Plenty News

by Ray and Janet Crafts

Mid Winter Luncheon

This year the BOP Branch Mid Winter Luncheon was held on Sunday 27th June at the new RSA premises in the old Fahy's Restaurant in Tauranga. This was our first time we have held a social event in their new premises and we were delighted with them and in the way they looked after us.

We were pleased to report that approximately 40 members and friends came to our mid winter luncheon. The Haggis was piped in by Ray Crafts with Jim Carruthers once again doing a wonderful rendition of the Address to the Haggis. Robert Burns would be delighted.

Our raffle brought in \$117 towards the First Light Exchange proceeds. There were plenty of prizes donated by our members and everybody who was a winner went away well pleased with their prizes.

We had a wonderful selection of entertainment that included piping, some ditties, and a few poems and then we had John Baillie playing his fiddle accompanied by his wife Shirley with her small harp; certainly made for a wonderful afternoon of entertainment. We would like to thank Shirley and John for taking time from their busy schedule in Te Aroha to come all the way to Tauranga to play for us was much appreciated.

The Clan Tartan Day at Frankton – Hamilton

Well, another Combined Waikato – BOP Clan Tartan Day has come and gone. Saturday, the 3rd of July turned out to be rather cold and misty that never cleared until we arrived in Hamilton. Everybody arrived with scarves and thick coats to keep the chill away. Because of the misty morning some of our group had problems finding the venue, so they missed out on the Clan march.

A small group of BOP members and friends marched down the Frankton streets under the BOP Clan Banner, ably carried by Ray Crafts to the Agora Café. It was as they say - a great day for the Scots. Everybody from near and far arrived well laden, where a sumptuous spread of finger food was enjoyed by all.

This year the entertainment was entirely different, where we sat back to enjoy a story about the Jacobite rebellion. The entertainment was excellent with the highlights being the verse, song and acting with a narrator taking the story line through to the days leading up to the Jacobite rebellion and the years after. It was very interesting and well planned day. Well done Clan MacLachlan. This will be a hard act to follow in the years to come.

Hazel Cameron took over a tartan skirt that she sold for \$40.00 - the proceeds of which will be given to the First Light Exchange.

A message from our President



Dear Clan Cameron Members
[Madainn mhath - good morning]

Joy and I would like to thank David Cameron and his team in Gisborne for a very warm welcome that was accorded to us on 11th June, when they had their meeting. The weather was not too pleasant on the road, but it was a nice to be with the team on the day.

It has been confirmed that Scotland is to stage a second year of Homecoming in 2014. This event will coincide with the Commonwealth Games, the Ryder Cup, as well as the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn. This could be a good time to start to plan your trip and participate with them. This could also be the year for the Clan Cameron International Gathering in Fort William. .

A significant milestone, in the new Robert Burns Birthplace Museum project, was recently reached with the exterior of the building being completed. The National Trust for Scotland's museum will house one of the world's most important Burns collections and will be split into four sections; 'Identity', Inspiration, Fame and Creative Works. The museum is due to open in autumn 2010, in Alloway, Ayrshire.

Enchanted by your Scottish roots but not sure where to dig up your family history once you get there? Check out their interactive map of Scotland and use it to help you plan your trip. Not only does Scotland have over 790 islands, thousands of lochs and the highest mountain in the British Isles, their excellent family history and archives resources across the country will help you to walk in the footsteps of your ancestors.

Sir Donald Cameron: One of St Kilda's and Dunedin distinguished citizens, died 8th October 1962 at the age of 85 years. He was born in Dunedin in 1877, his parents having arrived from Scotland in 1861. In 1891, Sir Donald began work with the firm Reid and Gray [manufacturers of farm machinery] as an office boy, finally becoming its Chairman of Directors and throughout his life was a staunch Methodist. Retiring in 1935 he still kept a very strong interest in the Methodist Church in St Kilda, and for many years was a Layman Reader. Sir Donald had the unusual distinction of serving on the Church Executive at the same time as his father who held a similar office. In 1925, Sir Donald was elected to the highest post to which a Layman can be called – that of Vice President.

Men such as Sir Donald, a long-term resident of St Kilda, who became Otago's most famous example of the rise from office boy to general manager, helped prove that tidiness and refinement entailed no loss of manhood.

His civic career began when he was only 29 years old, becoming a successful candidate for the St Kilda Council in 1906. In 1910, he was elected as Mayor of the Borough for a term. St Kilda is a suburb of South Dunedin.

“a Scotsman, in honour of the pioneers of the Settlement, wearing the Cameron Tartan”

In 1935, on his retirement he was elected to the Dunedin City Council as a Councillor, and from 1938 to 1944, held the position of Deputy Mayor of the City, then in 1944 he became Dunedin's Mayor; a position he held until 1948.

On the City of Dunedin Coat of Arms; the supporters are a Scotsman, in honour of the pioneers of the Settlement, wearing the Cameron Tartan, a compliment accorded by the Council to Sir Donald Cameron, who was Mayor at the time of the grant of the Arms and a Maori chief, from whom the land was purchased, symbolical of New Zealand. The motto *Maiorum Institutis Utendo* means “By following in the steps of our Forefathers”.

For his work in communal affairs he was awarded a Knighthood in 1948. He served on the St John's Ambulance Association, was a Director of Starr - Bowkett Society and a Justice of Peace. For several years he was a member of the Otago Education Board, the Otago Boy's High School Board, the Otago University Council and a Committee Member of the Musselburgh School.

During his career, Sir Donald took a keen interest in sports and for more than 25 years was a selector for the St Kilda Bowling Club. He was also a Champion of Champion of the Otago Bowling Singles Club and had been the Singles Champion of his own club.

At one time at Achnacarry, there were 3 prominent Camerons present together. They were Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel, Lord Cameron and Sir Donald Cameron from Dunedin. Sir Donald Cameron, Mayor of Dunedin received the Freedom of the City of Edinburgh on 30th August 1949.

Lady Cameron, whom Sir Donald married in 1905, was formerly Miss Frances Raines of Invercargill [Taken from the book “St Kilda – The First One Hundred Years” by H J A Aitken]

“Leis gach deagh dhurachd and Slainte mhath”
[With every good wish and good health]

Denis Cameron

Tristan's Adventures Begins

By Heather Cameron

This year's First Lighter, Tristan Sanders from the Bay of Plenty, left for Scotland on Sunday 11 July and has arrived safely in Fort William. Robert Nairn (2008 First Lighter) met Tristan and took him to Achnacarry where he is staying with Astie and Tracy Cameron for the first part of his time in Lochaber.

Tristan's family along with Neil Cameron, Don and Val Cameron, and Heather Cameron (from the Auckland Branch) were at the airport to wish him well on his journey. Those of us there to farewell Tristan were rugged up against the cold Auckland night. Tristan was pleased to be flying off to the sunny warmth of Scotland and is looking forward to doing some research into his heritage and learning more about the Lochaber area while he is there.

Bill Cameron and Astie Cameron are organising his three months in Scotland. Tristan is due to arrive back in New Zealand early next year, after visiting family in Canada. We look forward to hearing about Tristan's adventures in Cameron Country and will bring you further updates in upcoming newsletters.

See the back page for Tristan's departure photograph.



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 October issue:

15 September 2010

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Coming events

Saturday 14 August 2010

Auckland Branch Annual Dinner
Fairway Lodge, Glenfield. 7pm
\$50 per person.

Contact editor for a copy of the flyer.

Visitors welcome. We would love to see you.
Enquiries to Don Cameron 09 520 0716

September 25 2010 at 7 pm

Manawatu Branch Dinner

Awahuri Hall

Pot luck dinner and bring a tin of fruit for desert
BYO drinks

Enquiries to John Cameron 06 358 0417

Saturday 27 November 2010

Auckland Highland Games

Three Kings Reserve. Free entry and a wonderful day for all the family

Visit the Cameron tent for a friendly welcome and to learn about the clan.

Enquiries to Don Cameron 09 520 0716

April 22-24 2011

Clan Cameron NZ Annual Gathering and AGM

Lindisfarne College, Hastings.

Something to look forward to!

Gisborne News

by David Cameron

The A.G.M. of the Gisborne branch of Clan Cameron New Zealand was held on the 11th June at the Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club. David Cameron was returned as President and Georgina Cameron was returned as Secretary/Treasurer - both unopposed respectively. A delicious lunch was enjoyed by the attendees prior to the meeting convening. Four special guests attended the meeting, the new Zealand President Denis, Joy Cameron, Bay of Plenty President Fraser and Elaine Cameron. Their presence and company was warmly received. An enjoyable afternoon ensued with 'catching up' conversation peppering our get together. All too soon our meeting ended, and the return journeys of our guests contemplated to the Bay of Plenty and Hawkes Bay.

Useful Websites

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

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

History Corner

by Fiona Cameron

Camerons at rest

While spending an afternoon in a cemetery, peering at lichen-covered tombstones may not be everyone's cup of tea, cemetery records and headstones can be a great source of information for genealogists and family historians. Inscriptions may include birthplaces and dates, family relationships, occupations, causes of death and a host of other information.

Increasingly New Zealand local bodies are putting historical cemetery records online, making the search for the final resting places of long departed relatives much easier.

Where were they buried?

New Zealand death registrations after 1875 include the date and place of burial as well as the name and religion of the minister or witness officiating at the burial. Before this, only the place of death is recorded, so you would need to search all the cemeteries in the area to locate where the person was buried.

An alternative source of information is the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Burial Locator CD. This searchable index CD is available at many public libraries (or you can purchase a copy from the NZSG). This index lists over 3 million burials in mainly New Zealand cemeteries, with the occasional inclusion of overseas burials if these are also mentioned on a New Zealand inscription.

Are the records online?

The New Zealand Cemetery Database, run by the wonderful Murray Lynn, contains all known cemeteries in New Zealand, including some private ones. You can search by place or cemetery name, and see which records are available online.

http://fhr.kiwicelts.com/Cemeteries/NZ_Cemetery_Map.html

Details available on the online cemetery records vary greatly from place to place. Some cemetery databases give

only the name and plot, while other, like Timaru Cemetery are gradually adding headstone photos to their online records



Inscription from the Iona Cross in the Cameron plot at Tapanui cemetery.

Pray for the soul of Ewen Cameron a native of Inveroy Lochaber Scotland who died on the 7th of August A.D. 1874 aged 74 years.

Continued from the last issue —

Online passenger lists

There are some passenger lists available online. Some of the best sites are

New Zealand Yesteryears
<http://www.yesteryears.co.nz/>

Denise & Peter's 'Our Stuff' site
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ourstuff/OurPassengerLists.htm>

NZSG Shipping Database
http://www.genealogy.org.nz/Shipping_Database_362.aspx

Genealogy Question - Can you help?

"I am writing you this email in order to get in touch with some one from the Cameron Clan who may have some Genealogy records of my past family who lived in the Tauranga area. My mother's mother was a Cameron (Vere Elizabeth Cameron) and her father was William Cameron who married Margaret Cameron from Glasgow. Vere married Hassard Turner and then along came Nancye my mother who was their daughter. Any help in connecting me with some one would be greatly appreciated. My Mother died earlier this year, so it has got me all geared up

And, of course, our very own Cameron Shipping Index compiled by Dorothy Cameron-Gavin.

Good hunting and fingers crossed that your Cameron forebears are detailed somewhere in the records and do not appear simply as "Cameron, Mr with wife, 5 children".

Please contact me if you would like a 'lookup' of the Cameron Shipping Index or assistance with any queries.

Fiona Cameron
clancameronhistorynz@gmail.com

to put our history together.

John Cameron of Glenmore had children called Charles, John, Marjorie, Angus, Duncan, Alan, Dougall and Archibald - John Armstrong's connection.

His Grandmother Vere had siblings named Alice, George, Archibald, John, Sarah, Annie, Mary and Duncan. Her father was William Cameron - his father was Archibald Cameron and his father was John Cameron who married Janet McGregor and he brought the Glenmore Property in 1852."

Please contact John Armstrong
"john Armstrong" <bluedude@swimwear.co.nz>

More Gaelic and English Phrases

From Mary MacKellar’s “Tourist’s Hand-Book of Gaelic and English Phrases for the Highlands”

Gaelic Ciamar tha sibh an diugh?
Pronunciation Kemmer ha shiv un dew?
English How are you today?

Gaelic Cia as a thainig sibh?
Pronunciation Ke ass u hanik shiv?
English Where have you come from?

with thanks to the Clan Cameron Museum

Gurkhas pay homage to the Commandos

MARCHING FUNDRAISERS PARADE IN FRONT OF FAMOUS MEMORIAL

Soldiers of the famous Gurka regiment last night paid homage to another elite band of fighting men, the British Commandos.

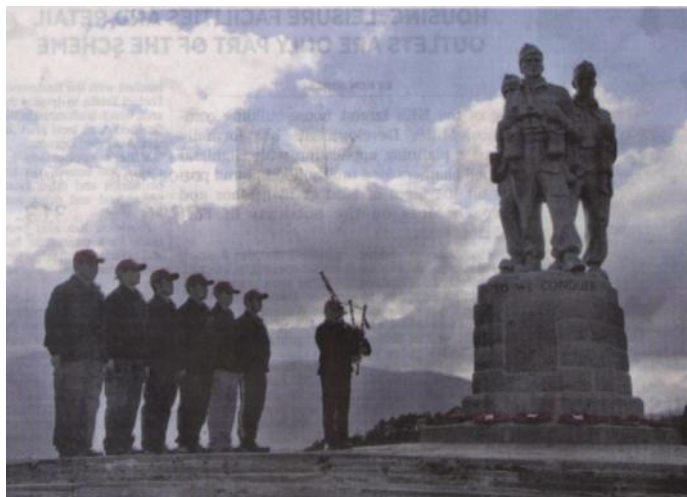
The Nepalese soldiers took time off from their annual fundraising hike overland from Malaig to Stonehaven to parade at the world famous Commando Memorial, beside the A82 Inverness to Fort William road above Spean Bridge.

They were joined for the wreath laying ceremony by members of the Royal British Legion’s Fort William branch.

The Gurkhas regularly make a pilgrimage to the memorial during their annual fundraising expedition.

The site was chosen as a memorial to the Commando heroes as it overlooked the glens and moors where the soldiers did their training for special operations during World War 2, based at the Commando Training Depot established in 1942 at Achnacarry Castle.

Unveiled in 1952 by the Queen Mother, it has become one of Scotland’s best known monuments, both as a war memorial and as a tourist attraction, offering views of Ben Nevis and Aonach Mòr.



With thanks to The Press and Journal



A Study in Black and White - The summit of Ben Nevis as seen by Tristan and Bill last week. Photo by Bill Cameron

Clan Cameron Assembly

By Editor: Bill Cameron has sent me this interesting piece transcribed from the first Clan Cameron Association minute book talking about the inaugural dinner.

From the Clan Cameron Assn. Scotland AGM Minutes 13th February 1891

“Our recent social gathering in the city presided over by our beloved and esteemed chief must be fresh in the minds of all present. The arrangements, excellent in their design, were carried out with the most complete success and the proceedings of the gathering were characterised by the utmost enthusiasm. As was appropriately expressed by Lochiel such a gathering of the clan had not been held since the fateful day of Culloden and it was with unalloyed pleasure and surprise that our hereditary chief met face to face with such an array of warm hearted and devoted Camerons. One gratifying result of our gathering is a most encouraging rush of new members to our ranks; but nothing short of the enrolment of every true Cameron in the country, not to speak of our Camerons beyond the seas should satisfy our aim and ambition.”



Farewell Tristan. Vivienne, Zailie, Tristan, Isla and Douglas Sanders at Auckland Airport with Don, Valmar and Heather Cameron

Photo: Editor



Hilary Harbour and Rae Magson at ChCh

Photo: John Atkinson



Above : Sonja and Bruce Cameron and Left: Andrew Miller with past president Rob Cameron at the Wellington /Wairarapa AGM

Photos: Warren Cameron



Below: Denis with new found cousin David Cameron. Photo: Jenny Leishman



First Lighters Tristan and Bill on top of Ben Nevis in misty conditions a few days ago. The view improved as they descended

Photo: Bill Cameron



Newly weds, Rebecca and the Rev'd Bryan Haggitt. Bryan is Auckland's loss but the South's gain. Photo: Bryan Haggitt

Below: Jessie Annabell and Paul Godbaz with crest - see page 3 Photo: John Annabell



