



# Cameron

*The Magazine of Clan Cameron New Zealand Inc.*

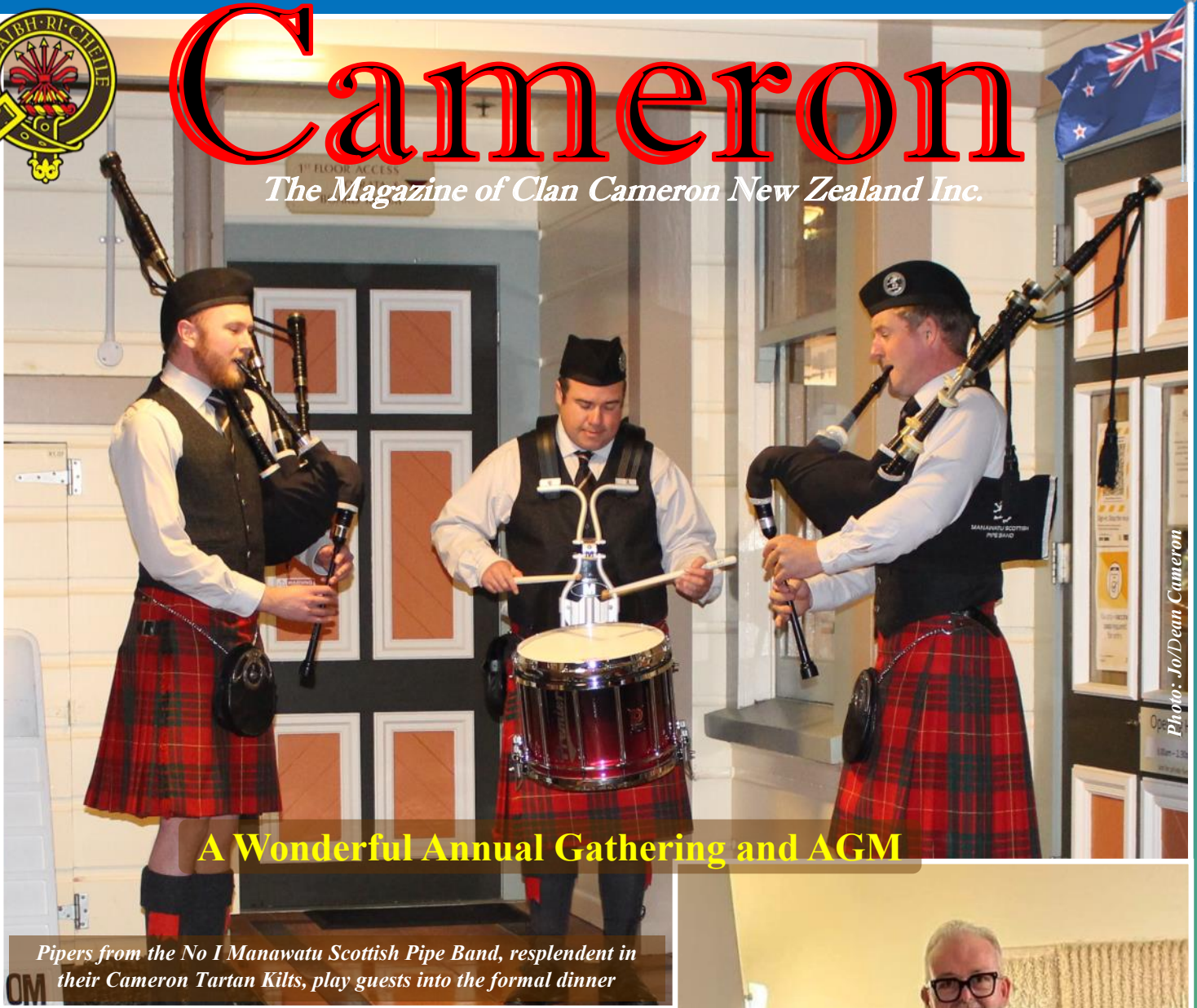


Photo: Jo/Dean Cameron

## A Wonderful Annual Gathering and AGM

*Pipers from the No 1 Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band, resplendent in their Cameron Tartan Kilts, play guests into the formal dinner*

**Vol 56 No 3  
June  
2022**



Photo: Jo/Dean Cameron

*Manawatu Branch member Patrick Coogan, a descendant of Donald "The Piper" Cameron who came to NZ onboard the Blenheim in 1840.*



*Our new president, Dale Bailey, with Lena Orum*

## “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,  
Achnacarry, Spean Bridge,  
Inverness-shire, Scotland. PH34 4ES

**New Zealand President and Commissioner**  
Dale Cameron Bailey  
6 Harapaki Street, Meadowbank, Auckland 1072  
Ph. 09 521 5329 dale.bailey@xtra.co.nz

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

**Treasurer**  
Hillary Hakaraia  
2 Crestlands Place, Papakura, Auckland 2110  
09 299 8672 HillaryHak@xtra.co.nz

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

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

### Branch Presidents

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

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

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

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

**Iar (Taranaki / Whanganui)**  
Neville Wallace  
242B Turu Turu Road, RD 14, Hawera 4674  
Ph.(06)278 6005. neville.wallace@talk2me.co.nz

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

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

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

**Magazine Editor**  
Neil Cameron,  
SA 551, William Sanders Retirement Village  
7 Ngataringa Road, Devonport,  
Auckland 0624  
Ph: 027 948 5808 kncam@xtra.co.nz

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

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

## A Message from our President..

*Kia ora tatou, nga mihi nui.* Greetings to you all.

It is so particularly good to be able to get together in Palmerston North after a couple of very disrupted years. The dreaded virus has upended so much and continues to wreak havoc on our plans and activities. It is so good to get together to share some time and talk about what unites us all. In a world with so much that divides us, our clan motto Aonaibh Ri Chéile Unite is never more appropriate.

I have been attending Clan Cameron functions all my life, as a child I met Lochiel, and attended garden parties and dinner functions in this very region. My maternal grandfather James Quarrie Cameron was on the original Clan Cameron committee in 1935 now 87 years ago. He enthusiastically rounded up his family and grandchildren to the Clan Cameron cause.

Something he was obviously successful as there are a four of us grandchildren were in the room at the dinner along with his nephew, cousins, plus his daughter Elaine, my mother.

On my father's side, his grandmother was also a Cameron. A descendant of the Big John Cameron family so I have the distinction of having Cameron on both sides of my family tree.

Thank you all very much for electing me to the tenth president of Clan Cameron. Can I start by acknowledging the previous nine Presidents of Clan Cameron: Nick Cameron, Fraser Cameron, Denis Cameron, Neil Cameron, Maisie Earle, Harold Cameron, Donald Cameron, Ian Cameron and Percy Cameron. Their leadership over the years has created much to be proud of.

Nick thank you so much for holding us together and bringing our South Island closer to us all.

The original objects of Clan Cameron still hold very well today in the 21st Century.

- *To revive, conserve and promote the interest sentiments and associations of the Clan*
- *To cultivate social intercourse among members*
- *To give assistance to deserving clansmen and clanswoman*
- *To encourage education*
- *To collect and preserve records of the Clan*

There is another line in those opening notes that also resonates across the years.

*'Proud of great deeds under every sky'*

We may be making our home on the other side of the world here in New Zealand, but we have ties that connect us. Our families came here to build their lives.

Māori have a whakatauki which I think very much resonate with the importance of Clan associations.

*Kia whakatomuri te haere whakamua –*

*"I walk backwards into the future with my eyes fixed on the past".*

How apt that is for us, looking backwards and carrying forward what we see as important to carry on. Handing on our special connections, genealogies, and elements of Scottish and Cameron culture.

A well-known Scot who made his life here in the South Pacific Robert Louis Stevenson also provides us with a useful proverb:

*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant"*

Passing on our customs, ideas and thoughts is so important. And doing this over food and social intercourse is always great fun. Our First Light Exchange is 'the seeds we plant.'

Learning is important to me, my working career has been devoted to education, museums, and learning. I am currently the Chief Executive of the Springboard Trust a not for profit working in education. So, I am so interested in how we bring opportunities for learning and connection together.

I am very much looking forward to working on the Clan Cameron Association again. I am looking forward to using modern technologies to engage new members, connecting us together.

Can I thank the local committee in Manawatu for their hard work to create a great occasion at the annual gathering, thank you Russell and the team. You have worked so hard for us all.

Dale

## *From our retiring President*

### *Nick Cameron*

Covid issues have again dominated our lives over the last year with the omicron variant now rampant throughout New Zealand. Covid has severely impacted many of our Clan events and workplaces over the last two years.

I need to acknowledge the help various members have made to my seven years as your commissioner and in particular to Neil for his sage advice and support to the clan throughout. Special thanks also to our National secretary Tanya who works tirelessly to keep us organized and informed and to Alison who has streamlined the payment of accounts and for her accurate delivery of our accounts. I would also like to acknowledge the guiding presence of Lochiel ... whose emails to me have been a pleasure to receive.

Hopefully with internal travel restored and international travel nearly fully restored we can resurrect many of the clan activities and visits in the coming years. It will be good to see the restoration of the fabulous evenings our various branches have previously put on. Our mid-winter dinners have been sadly missed this year.



The restoration of the First Light Scheme has been a work in progress and Bryan Haggit has been working tirelessly to organize the visit of a candidate from Fort William. I am sure you will all support this visit in various ways whether it be with hosting, providing work, organizing trips, a meal, or local travel support... as I know many of you have done with previous First Lighters.

Thank you to our Branch Presidents for allowing me the honour of being your Clan Commissioner. I hope we can resurrect the Turangi executive meetings as this not only provides good communication but is a great social activity for those attending.

I will not disappear from the Clan as my local Canterbury Branch will no doubt give me some tasks. With that in mind I would like to remind those visiting the South Island that the Hororata Highland Games is forecast for the 5th November 2022 where we intend to provide a tent display and free haggis and Christchurch will be hosting the National Pipe Band contest on the 10th-11th March 2023.

Good wishes, stay positive and keep safe.

Nick

## *Meet our new President ...*

### *Dale Cameron Bailey*

**We all connect  
to this place and  
from this place  
we thrive**



Dale has dual Cameron descent. His mother is Elaine Bailey, youngest daughter of James Quarrie Cameron and Mary Goodwin. On his father's side Francis Bailey was a grandson of Frances Mitchell Cameron, daughter of Dugald, the youngest son of 'Big' John Cameron and Janet McGregor of Turakina.

Dale's grandfather James Q. Cameron was the founder of the Manawatu branch of Clan Cameron in 1938, and reformed in 1958. He was Vice President of Clan Cameron North Island and made a life member in 1972. Dale's aunt Mary Barber was also President of Clan Cameron Manawatu.

Dale has been a long time member of Clan Cameron, first of the Manawatu Branch and then Auckland. He attended his first Clan Cameron meeting at the age of 5 in 1969 when the Manawatu branch welcomed Lochiel. Dale was Clan Cameron Newsletter editor 1996-2006. He was active in establishing the First Light Exchange programme

His interest in Clan Cameron sits alongside his interest in Heritage matters. He has been the President of Manawatu Museum Society, an honorary life member NZ Historic Places, founding chair of the Te Manawa Museums Trust, Deputy Chair of the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

He is currently on the board of SPELD NZ, the Auckland Medical Museum Trust and is the Chair of the John Kinder House Society in Parnell.

In his professional career Dale has focused on education. He started out as a teacher of Social Studies and Geography at Awatapu College in Palmerston North, worked for the Education Review Office (ERO) in Auckland, Careers New Zealand, was Deputy Chief Review Officer (Northern) for ERO and Director of Collections Research and Learning at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. Dale is currently the Chief Executive of Springboard Trust, an education not for profit focused on providing support for school leaders in their strategic planning.

Dale has a Masters of Arts (hons) in Geography, a Masters of Public Management and a Teachers College diploma. He was awarded a Nuffield Commonwealth Fellowship to the Commonwealth Institute in London in 1994

### **Auckland Branch Clan Trailer—New Home Sought**

The editor has been custodian of the trailer but as he has moved into a retirement home a new storage for the trailer is needed.

The box trailer contains the clan tent, chairs and tables and display material. It is used at least three times a year, for Auckland, Waipu and Paeroa Highland Games. It may also be used on other occasions, such as pipe band contests.

Storage should be within a property and under cover if possible (cover is not essential but desirable—it has been in the open up till now!)

#### **Are any Auckland members willing to take custody?**

It will be collected by clan members when required and contents checked and updated prior to use. It is insured.

### **Clan Cameron New Zealand Website**

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

**Next Magazine Deadline is 15 July 2022**

**Printed By**

# From the Branches....

**Auckland** by Rob Cameron

It has been quiet over the last two months; however, our branch will be preparing for a busy period of planning now we have a positive response from young Finlay Cameron with regard to First Light.



We were able to hold our postponed Branch AGM on Sunday 1st of May. The meeting was conducted at the newly renovated Parnell Cricket Clubrooms. I had hoped that we would have had a few more members attend however I understand that people are still wary of gatherings as we still have covid circulating in the community.

I want to re-iterate some points that were mentioned at the AGM for our Auckland members here. We are looking for a new home for the Clan Trailer as the current custodian will not be able to keep it at his residence in the upcoming months. We use the trailer for 3 annual events, the Auckland, Waipu, and Paeroa Highland games. We also continue to look for people who may be able to spend some time in the tent at these events to engage with people who visit it. No commitment for this is too small, and if you have a strong family history interest or would like to give this a go, then please let me or an Auckland committee member know.

Our Branch AGM was just in time for Bryan Haggitt to announce our positive progress with the First Light Exchange. We now have a strong interest and commitment from Finlay Cameron to take up the offer and come over. He has indicated that his trip could be from September through to May depending on the plans. This is great news not only for the exchange, but hopefully all the clan branches throughout the country. We will quickly move now to start planning what he can do and generate an itinerary for his stay.

It is with a heavy heart that I write in this report the passing of Ruth Cameron, a shock to us all and our thoughts are with Neil and his immediate family at this time. Neil and Ruth have been stalwarts for the clan for many many years, and Ruth will be missed by many of our members across the country. As I write this her funeral will be on Tuesday 17th May 1pm at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Devonport.

We had a reasonable group of Auckland members attend the Clan Cameron New Zealand Gathering and AGM in Palmerston North. This went very well when Bryan gave his First light update, I am humbled by the other branches support in what we are doing for First Light. Finlay Cameron is an exceptional young Scot, and his presence here will be a benefit to anyone wishing to get involved.

We also had Auckland branch members taking Treasurer position with Hillary Hakaraia and New Zealand President with Dale Bailey. Both very capable of these positions and I look forward to how they drive the Clan in the coming months and years.

Neil will continue with the newsletter but is requesting an understudy who will take over some time in the future. Neil does an outstanding job on the newsletters, and this would be a great opportunity for someone who is interested.

Our annual dinner plans are progressing, this will be at the regular place, The Parnell Hotel and Conference Centre, on 6th of August. A flyer will be enclosed with this newsletter for Auckland members and will be on the website. Further copies can be obtained from Neil.

We will also be planning some more regular events for our membership starting from October. We will let our Auckland members know more about these closer to the time.

**Manawatu** by Anne Walker

Much energy and time has gone into preparing for the Clan Cameron New Zealand AGM and Gathering in

Palmerston North. It's been a team effort and we were pleased with how the weekend went.

Going forward we are planning an information Spring gathering, planned for mid-September, when we shall enjoy a visit to the impressive Coach House Museum in Feilding, and afternoon tea. The venue is entirely accessible and has great parking. Information will be sent to all members once details are confirmed.

Please follow our Facebook site *Clan Cameron Manawatu* where you will find lots of photos from the weekend. Thanks to our official photographer Dean Cameron, and to Jo Cameron for updating our Facebook page. It makes great reading.



**Hawke's Bay** by Hamish Cameron

Well it's happened again.

The Hastings Highland Games weren't held in any shape or form. I say it that way because, although the official notice decreed very early to once again cancel the whole event, we as a branch were still on the ready ---- just in case -

We had earlier witnessed the official cancelation of Napier's Art Deco Week. However, various movements usually involved still showcased their own displays however they could without contravening Covid rules. This meant that, even though officially the Art Deco event was cancelled, there was quite a number of clubs etc exhibiting their passions publicly at hastily arranged venues.

Hence our decision to stay on the ready -- Just in case the Highland Games scenario unfolded the same way, --- but it was not to be in 2022.

Oh well ! look on the positive side. Maybe it will let us experience some of the other events that traditionally are drawn to Hawke's Bay, and its reliable weather, over the Easter Weekend----It was about then that the idea of becoming an interested spectator at some showcased event evaporated. For if the Covid rules precluded the games it surely accounted for other organisations as well.

This probably explained the huge number of people on bikes exploring the multitude of bike trails, and Wineries, all over Hawke's Bay.

How our leisure time has changed -----

**Bay of Plenty** by Tanya Cameron

Hey Folks,

On behalf of the Bay of Plenty branch I will be attending the Clan Cameron NZ Annual Gathering and AGM. We hope that snow and Mt Ruapehu warm crater lake wont keep us away.

We have don't nothing since the last magazine came out but will be having our Branch AGM as soon as we are able. There will be an email and ring around to see what our branch would like to do moving forward.

I hope we can address a strategy going forward at the Annual Gathering to give us and some other struggling branches guidance on how to proceed.

Maybe there will be better news next magazine



**Canterbury** by Rae Magson

No happenings for Clan Cameron in this area. Everyone seems to be staying at home where possible and living quietly.

It is a difficult time but we will get through it.

Keep well everyone.



# Clan Cameron AGM and Gathering in Palmerston North

By Anne Walker

Over the weekend 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May, Clan Cameron Manawatu hosted the annual Executive Meeting, AGM and gathering in Palmerston North. We were very pleased with the level of support we received, and hope all who attended returned home having enjoyed a positive experience.

We were all saddened to hear of Ruth Cameron's passing in the previous few days, and Neil Cameron, our valued newsletter editor, was most certainly in our thoughts all weekend.

Friday night Welcome Drinks and canapes was well attended and almost all went on to enjoy dinner in the La Patio Restaurant attached to the Distinction Coachman Hotel where the meetings were all held. It was a large, last-minute booking that I'm sure the hotel was very pleased to have in the tough trading times.

Saturday was full of meetings. An Executive Meeting started at 8.30am, followed by the AGM in mid-morning. Branch reports reflected a frustrating year of event cancellations due to the ongoing pandemic, and challenges.

However, there was a optimistic mood that things were improving. Dale Cameron Bailey was elected as President and Commissioner of Clan Cameron New Zealand. Hilary Hakaraia as Treasurer and all other currently serving Officers re-elected. Nick Cameron, and Alison Thompson were both acknowledged for their contribution to Clan Cameron NZ.

Young piper, and Clan Cameron member, Patrick Coogan, played a set of tunes during our lunch break. Patrick is still at High School and has only been learning, under the tutorage of Willie Rowe on Manawatu Scottish, for two years. It is apparent that he has a bright future as a bagpiper.

In the afternoon, we heard from local kiltmaker, Isabel Mason-Hillier, who spoke about the kiltmaking craft and fielded plenty of interested questions from the floor. We learnt that there are very few kiltmaker in New Zealand. Isabel trained in Scotland, and sources her tartan fabric from Scottish mills.

Jo Cameron outlined progress made in the important Clan Cameron DNA project. We finished the days with an opportunity to capture all the bright ideas about what we could do to increase value to our current members and grow our membership base.

Saturday night gala dinner and haggis ceremony was held at Wharerata Function Centre, Massey University. A capacity crowd filled the Edwardian homestead. New Clan Cameron President and Commissioner, Dale Cameron Bailey presided. Russell Cameron was Master of Ceremonies. Mayor of Palmerston North, Grant Smith welcomed us all to Palmerston North.

We were privileged to have the Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band entertain us. Led by Pipe Major, Stewart McKenzie, pipers Martin McPhee, Brett McKeown, Willie Rowe and drummer Cameron Hurn, played throughout the evening. Pipers played as guests arrived, piped in the Top Table, piped in the Haggis, and played a set of tunes during the evening. It was quite something to hear these pipes and drum. Manawatu Scottish has had a long association with Clan Cameron. They wear the Cameron tartan and until recently had the Cameron crest on their bass drum. Pipe Major Stewart McKenzie told us that Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band will be 100 years old in 2023, and they're planning a big celebration of this milestone. The Clan are all invited to attend.

Our keynote speaker for the evening was Professor Glyn Harper QSM, a renowned NZ military historian, and author. Glyn spoke about the role of the NZ Battalion and the Highland Battalion who fought side by side in the brutal, and historic battle at El Alamein in WWII. Both suffered considerable losses, but this was the turning point of WWII. It was particularly poignant to see images of the inexperienced Scot battalion in their Highland kilts, and the battle weary and understrength New Zealanders. Several people spoke with Glyn afterwards to relate their stories of family connections to this event.

Later in the evening, our own Clan Cameron Manawatu member, Patrick Coogan, played a tune.

Finally, Bruce Cameron played the precious and very old Blenheim pipes. He played a tune that he and Astie Cameron from Lochaber (and former First Lighter) has composed in honour of past Clan Cameron NZ President and Commissioner, Maisie Earle, and the final tune 'Auld Lang Syme' closed the evening.





1. The Cameron memorial stone marker on the field of Culloden.

2. Members of The Clan Cameron Association Scotland gather at the memorial.

3. The Clan Cameron wreath laid by Alan Cameron.

4. Rosemary, Margaret and Dr. Roddy Cameron (Scottish Commissioner) at the Culloden Battlefield centre.

*Photos by Bill Cameron*



*Above: The Auckland Branch AGM at the Parnell Cricket Club  
Left: Ewen and Roz Grant with daughter Tracey after graduating as a Bachelor of Nursing. Congratulations, Tracey.*



A French Town celebrates its Kiwi Connection

*See page 3*

Top Left: The official delegation,

Top Right: The local memorial to the NZ Division.

Left: Local children signing "God of Nations"

Right: NZ street names



# Vale

+
 We are saddened by the death of Ruth, beloved wife of Neil Cameron. Ruth, although very English, supported Neil to the hilt with Clan Cameron activities. Until her deteriorating health forced her to stop, she attended the Highland Games at Auckland, Waipu and Paeroa every year with Neil from the 1990s. She sold Cameron cards and jigsaws for First Light and was very persuasive in encouraging many folk to join the Clan. Ruth loved talking to the many visitors to their tent, always ready to tell a joke or a story. Ruth, with Neil, also hosted many branch gatherings at their Lochiel Orchard.

Ruth will be sadly missed by Neil and the family and also by the many members of the clan, other clans, and her many friends. Above she is seen in an early photo with son-in-law Duncan, showing that familiar welcoming smile.

# Remembering the fallen at Culloden

by Bill Cameron

After three years absence, due to covid restrictions. hundreds of people from near and far gathered once again on Culloden Moor to commemorate the fallen who paid the ultimate price in their fight for freedom.

With blue skies and a bitterly cold wind driving across the moor, the assembled crowd were piped from the Culloden battle field centre by Euan MacCrimmon to the commemorative Forbes cairn.

The procession was made up of international visitors, members of various clan societies, re-enactment groups, as well as local people from the surrounding area.

2022 marks two hundred and seventy six years since that ill-fated day, when on the 16th of April 1746 The Duke Cumberland's troops killed between 1500-2000 Jacobites. Many more were left badly wounded. Those who did survive, lived the rest of their life with a price on their head for supporting the Jacobite cause.



The Forbes Cairn where wreaths were laid at the 2022 Culloden commemoration. Photo: Bill Cameron

Giving the chiefs address at the commemoration, Dr. Allan Campbell welcomed the assembled crowd, first in Gaelic, then in English. As part of his well considered and moving address he recalled how his own family had a strong connection with the battle. His x4 grandfather Donald Campbell had fought at Culloden. Sent to fight by his feudal superior in Glendale on the Isle of Skye. Fortunately he managed to survive and returned to his home on the Isle of Skye. He recalled how the 1746 act of proscription had affected the Highlands right up to the present day, when the Duke of Cumberland tried to obliterate the Scottish clan culture by banning the playing of Highland bagpipes, the wearing of tartan and trying to quash the use of the Gaelic language.

Mr Campbell went on to say how fortunately these rich traditions have managed to survive and flourish in present day Scotland. Modern day examples include the success of educating youngsters in bilingual schools, increased programming in the Gaelic media and the resurgence and developments in the rich music tradition. The wide uptake in the language learning app, duolingo has increased massively for learning Gaelic. He encouraged the assembled crowd to honour

the tradition and keep the Gaelic language alive by learning Gaelic on the app.

In his final remarks, Mr Campbell drew poignant similarities with the atrocities currently taking place in Ukraine, and how a rich culture was being erased at the hand of another.

As the crowd stood quietly for a minutes silence in memory of those who lost there lives on the battlefield two hundred and seventy six years ago, and those who are being killed overseas today.

As the cold wind whistled across the moor and the lowered flags fluttered. In the skies above a skylark broke the silence with its song sung on the wing. A sure sign that spring has arrived and a sign of hope.

Members of the public who wished to lay a wreath at the Forbes cairn were asked to come forward and state who they were laying it on behalf of. The Clan Cameron Scotland wreath was laid at the cairn by former president of the clan Cameron association, Alan Cameron.

Following the commemoration, the assembled members of the clan Cameron association gathered at the Cameron marker to lay flowers. The current president of the association, Roddy Cameron gave an address which included words from Lochaber No More.



Plaque on the rear of the Forbes cairn. Photo: Bill Cameron

***Farewell to Lochaber, farewell to my Jean  
Where heartsome wi' her I ha'e many day days been  
For Lochaber no more, we'll maybe return  
We'll maybe return to Lochaber no more.  
These tears that I shed, they are a' for my dear,  
An' no' for the dangers attending on weir,  
Tho' bourne on rough seas to a far distant shore,  
May be return to Lochaber no more.***

A contingent of Camerons then walked across the moor to the marker where the Lochiel regiment were assembled when the battle commenced.

After the commemoration event, members of the Cameron association gathered for the first time in almost three years for lunch at the Cawdor Tavern. It was heartening to catch up in person with friends and family.

More photos on page 6



# *A French town commemorates its Kiwi connection*

*By Andy Cameron*

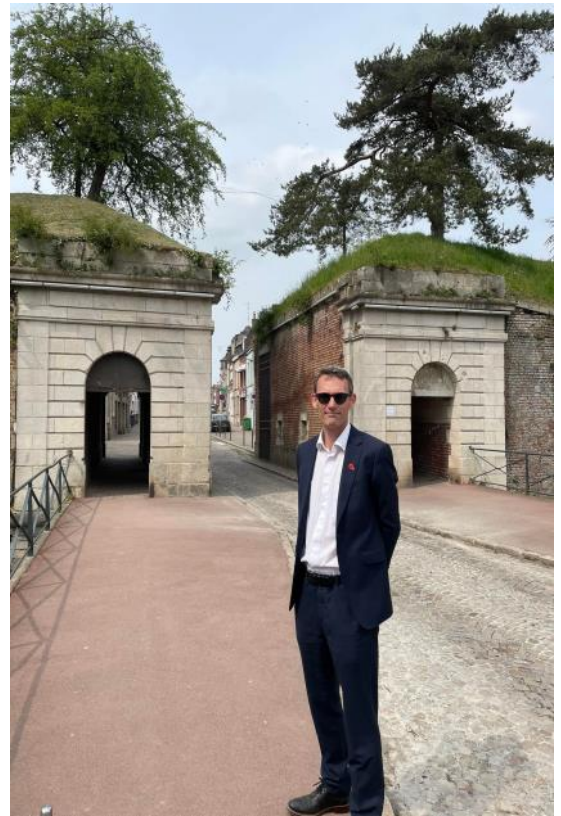
The French are generally very conservative when it comes to street names. So when a town renames the Rue du Marechal Joffre as *Rue Hélène Clark*, the Place du General LeClerc as *Place des All Blacks* and Avenue de la Liberation as *Rue de la Nouvelle Zélande*, it is clear something special happened there.

Le Quesnoy is a small village in the north of France with spectacular medieval walls surrounding it. On the morning of 4 November 1918, the New Zealand Division scaled the walls with ladders, and liberated the town from four years of German occupation, all without any civilian casualties.

This year, following two years of limited commemorations, the town was once again able to gather and remember those deeds from over a century ago. We were lucky enough to attend, along with a couple of hundred locals and a small number of dignitaries from New Zealand, Australia and the UK.

The local Mayor noted that the shadow of the Ukraine war was hanging over Europe, and that even in her town of less than 5,000 people, there were now a number of Ukrainian families being housed and looked after, as in many other towns and cities across Europe.

The New Zealand memorial is a simple carved panel inset into the old town walls. But the connection with New Zealand has become an element of pride for the locals, with New Zealand flags on all the civic buildings, and people are more than willing to try out their English on any visiting Kiwis. The liberation of Le Quesnoy was just one very small element in the grand scheme of the Great War, but it is one that means a lot to the locals, even now.



*Andy Cameron in Le Quesnoy*

*By Editor:*

*Andy Cameron, wife Anna and boys attended Anzac Day in Le Quesnoy France. Andy is the brother of Bruce Cameron, of the Manawatu Branch, who has kindly forwarded this article for inclusion in the magazine. Photos on page 7.*



*The green fields of Achindaul with Ben Nevis in the distance*



*Glen Nevis*



*Midweek rays on Corpach, from Tom na Faire*

***More of Bill Cameron's Great Photos***

*In Memoriam: Dr Robert Stewart  
(Bob) Cameron, 1 Dec 1934 – 12 May 2022*

By James Cameron (Australian Commissioner)



to complete through available written documentation.

However, regardless of the tools used, the greatest resource has always been the vast network of enthusiastic family historians, eager to share their work with others. I want to thank all the contributors who have helped create this valuable resource for Camerons and their families, in Australia and around the world.

My son Stewart is taking over the maintenance

of the database and can be contacted by email at [genealogy@clan-cameron.org.au](mailto:genealogy@clan-cameron.org.au). The change-over may take a few months, so if there are enquiries, please be patient. I feel confident that in Stewart's hands, the rigour and discipline required to ensure that the database remains a reliable and valuable reference will be maintained.

My service to the Clan, first as a member, then President, then Commissioner as well as Clan Genealogist, has always given me great pleasure and forged life-long friendships. I will always treasure the opportunities it has given me, not only with Camerons in Australia, but to work with two Chiefs, as well as our strong collaborations with other Clan organisations and Scottish Heritage enthusiasts.

While I regret that I can no longer be involved in the Clan genealogy and other Clan affairs, I know Clan Cameron Australia has a strong future and wish all members the very best.

*Dr. Bob will be sadly missed by genealogists here in NZ.*

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Dr Bob Cameron, former Commissioner of Clan Cameron in Australia and creator of the Cameron Genealogies on Thursday 12 May.

We owe Bob an enormous debt of gratitude for all that he did for the clan, and we all appreciated his wisdom, knowledge, company and good humour. Bob and wife Bet were primarily responsible for re-establishing a clan organisation in New South Wales in the 1980s, after the former branch closed in World War II. He will be very much missed.

**Final Message from Dr Robert Cameron**

After more than 30 years developing and maintaining the Cameron Genealogies database, I am now stepping back due to poor health (cancer with a terminal prognosis). The database now contains over 120,000 individuals back to the 16th century, and includes over 37,000 families, with contributions from hundreds of researchers around the world.

When this research started, it involved meticulously searching through dusty births, deaths and marriages ledgers in the public records offices, or parish records and cemeteries in far-flung churches. The advent of microfilm records and the significant contribution made by the Mormons greatly accelerated the work of determined genealogists. The internet brought the next revolution in family history research, but it has taken decades to mature to the remarkable resource that it now represents. Genetic techniques have opened a completely new approach and are now starting to fill gaps which are impossible



***“We will remember them”***

*Top Left: Auckland War Museum prior to Anzac Day 2022*

*Top Right: The Commando Monument. Spean Bridge*

*Left: The City of Auckland Pipe Band marching on Anzac Day 2022. Rob Cameron, Auckland President, is in the front rank.*



# *Finlay Cameron—our next First Lighter*

*By Bryan Cameron (Convenor First Light CCNZ)*

## **Field Marshall Montgomery Pipe Band**

Formed in 1945 by a group of farm boys outside Belfast. They named it after their WW 2 hero after obtaining his permission – the Field Marshall, when agreeing, sent a 10 shilling note for band funds! The Band has gone from strength to strength and is current World Champion – and Finlay is a member.

**F**inlay, a 20 year old very talented piper, is to come to New Zealand representing First Light thanks to sponsorship from Auckland Branch.

Back in September 2019 Commissioner Nick had identified Finlay as an ideal candidate to resurrect the Exchange some time ago and news of Finlay's acceptance of our offer was greeted enthusiastically at the Clan's AGM.

Dates of his visit are still to be set but he hopes to see a lot of NZ – Finlay has given some details of himself in a recent email:

*"I'm beginning to get back into the swing of things with a more normal piping season ahead. I have focussed more intensely on my pipe making and flute/whistle playing over the duration of the pandemic, as piping opportunities have been limited. As of this season, I will be playing with the Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band, alongside the usual solo competition/games circuit here in Scotland. I also travelled out to Switzerland a few weeks ago to teach the Pipes & Drums of Basel alongside Calum Kaye, Connor Sinclair and Craig Baxter.*

*I am in my third out of four years at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland studying traditional music – I will leave with a 'Bachelor of Music' degree at the end of this year, with the chance to receive the relevant honours if I stay on for a final year. I am currently in discussion with my head of department regarding taking a full year out to make the most of this opportunity – this would be my ideal result – though there are other options too.*

*I would ideally like to come out between September/October and April/May, though perhaps not for the full duration, depending on the sort of opportunities that become available.*

*I will contact Nick regarding Saint Kentigern College Pipes & Drums, and also about other piping opportunities. I will look into the VISA issue as it is something I am not familiar with, particularly post-Brexit. I am sitting my driving test at the end of the summer, so hopefully I will be able to drive by then.*

*My bagpipe making is something I'm developing in the background, and I have taken on a reasonable amount of work during the last few years, and it is a possible career path in the long term. Perhaps Nick may be able to put me in contact with a maker in NZ or AUS, as another potential avenue to pursue during my trip? Martin MacBeth – I think he is in or around Brisbane – is from Lochaber and I know his father fairly well, so perhaps I will try and contact him too."*

Past Commissioner Nick points out that the Field Marshall Montgomery is probably the World's leading pipe band – for Finlay to be a member indicates his immense talent. The members of Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band who played at Clan New Zealand's Gathering Dinner knew of Finlay and are very keen for him to play with them. Pipe Sergeant Willie Rowe knows Finlay having played with and competed against him during his couple of years in Scotland.

It will be marvellous to renew this connection with Scotland and Lochaber in particular – Maisie would be so pleased! Thanks, too, to the several people who have already offered to host Finlay whilst he is here in NZ.



*Piping Awardees – Finlay Cameron on the right*



*Finlay, centre, in Switzerland – during his time in Basle*



*Roy Bridge piping brothers Sandy and Finlay Cameron played The Heroes of St Valery in tribute to the 51st Highland Division in 2020 - Photo Iain Ferguson*



Allan Cameron and Rob Cameron



The Ode to the Haggis



Nick hands crest of office to Dale



Bruce Cameron and Nick Cameron fine tuning the Blenheim pipes



Joanne Cameron and David Weston



Dean Cameron and John Cameron



Our new Treasurer Hillary Hakaraia



Shona Wallace hands the Vivienne McConnell Memorial Banner to Russell Cameron



Ewen and Roz Grant