



THE CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT

2010

THE CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| President: | Val Chisholm Perry 51 Evans Lane, Keene, NH. USA 03431-5243 Email: jperry6@ne.rr.com |
| Immediate Past President: | F. Merritt Chisholm #4 - 9885 Second Street, Sidney, BC. Canada V8L 3C7 Email: fmchisholm@shaw.ca |
| Vice President: | Ian Chisholm 982 – 2829 Arbutus Road, Victoria, BC, Canada V8N 5X5 Email: ichisholm@shaw.ca |
| Vice President: | Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield 11 Croyard Drive, Beauly, by Inverness. Scotland IV4 7EE Email: juliette@morella.co.uk |
| Secretary/Treasurer: | Susan Chisholm of Chisholm, 127 Undley Hall, Lakenheath, Suffolk, UK. IP27 9BY Email: susanchisholm@tinyworld.co.uk |

CLAN COUNCIL:

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Chairman: | Val Chisholm Perry |
| Secretary/Treasurer: | Susan Chisholm of Chisholm |
| Immediate Past President: | F Merritt Chisholm |
| Vice President: | Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield |
| Vice President: | Ian Chisholm |
| Australia Branch: | Carolyn Chown |
| Canada Branch: | David Holmes |
| New Zealand Branch: | Fay Chisholm |
| United Kingdom Branch: | Ben Chisholm-Broomfield |
| United States Branch: | David Chisholm Higgins |
| Web Master: | Alastair Chisholm |
| Editor, <i>Clan Chisholm Journal</i>: | Ben Chisholm-Broomfield |
| Genealogy Co-ordinator | Ian Chisholm |
| Honorary Counsel: | Judge Marc C. Chisholm |
| Clan Historian: | Dr. Jean Munro |
| Co-opted Members: | Duncan Chisholm |
| 'Chisholm Chronicles' Editor | Dr. Margaret Collin |
| DNA project co-ordinator | Robert Chisholm |
| Artefacts Register | Fay Chisholm |

Auditor: Michael Sayers, Thetford, Norfolk, UK

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2010

It has been a good year for the Society. Progress has been made on several of our long-term projects. Please refer to the branch reports and to the special project reports for the highlights.

Many thanks to our Council members for their efforts throughout the year. I'd also like to thank our special project teams and our branches for their contributions.

Plans have been completed for the International Gathering that is to be held in Duluth, MN, USA in July of 2011. Special thanks to the US Branch President, David C. Higgins, for making this gathering a reality. I hope that many of our world-wide members, especially our US and Canadian Chisholms, will be able to attend. I will see you there!

I hope that all of you will join me with renewed interest and enthusiasm in the Society for the coming year. Together, we can accomplish much.

Val Chisholm Perry
President

BRANCH REPORTS – for the year ending 31st DECEMBER 2010

UNITED KINGDOM BRANCH

Chairman - **Ben Chisholm-Broomfield**,

11 Croyard Drive, Beaulieu, by Inverness, Scotland, IV4 7EE Email:juliette@morella.co.uk

The Branch is still very active despite only one Gathering held in 2010. This is due to the Members being kept informed by our Secretary's excellent Newsletters four times a year. These Newsletters are always very informative with varied subjects and historical recollections. Susan is always looking for material for these issues. Maybe you have something of Chisholm days of years ago?.

Our actual Gathering took place in Inverness to coincide with the City's Highland Games. On Thursday morning we all gathered at the New Archive Centre where we were given a tour behind the scenes. All manner of historical records and manuscripts are kept in the storage areas. Our guide explained how material was received and conserved. The members also learnt how to donate or loan items for safe keeping if the records were old or frail. After this we had a light lunch in the nearby Garden Centre run by the Highland Council.

In the evening we all met at the Priory Hotel, Beaulieu for high tea and watched the local children performing in the Square with Scottish Dancing. The Beaulieu Pipe Band marched down the Main Street into the Square and gave a fine performance of tunes plus skills.

The next day, being Friday we all met at The Cnoc Hotel for lunch followed by our A.G.M.. The lunch was excellent and the meeting (like so many of our Annual General Meetings) was interesting with all participating in our discussions. Light hearted banter was often injected into the proceedings. We all gathered outside after tea and coffee for a group photograph in perfect sunshine.

Saturday dawned and the arrangements were to meet at the Northern Meeting Park in Inverness for the Highland Games; sadly no Clan Village this year; (but who knows what the future will bring)? The Games went fairly well and the weather was pretty kind to all. It was nice that the theme was for Help the Heroes and this was a highlight for many. We then all met at the Palace Hotel in Inverness in the evening where another enjoyable meal was taken; plus a final chat amongst ourselves with the lasting memory of a good gathering.

For those Members left; before going home; we went for our usual walk plus tea at Aigas House where Sir John and Lady Lister Kaye kindly held an open day for local charities. It is always a nice setting in their grounds; that afternoon was enjoyed by us all.

Finally I thank the President and Clan Council for their help and support to our Society; plus, also, to Susan Chisholm of Chisholm our Secretary who works very hard for us all.

Yours Aye

Ben

R C B Chisholm-Broomfield.
Chairman – UK Branch

AUSTRALIA BRANCH

Chairman: **Donald C Chisholm**
9 Culliford Drive, MS1082, Toowoomba Qld
E-mail: donchisholm@dodo.com.au

Branch Representative on Council: **Carolyn Chown**
129 Somerville Road, Hornsby Heights, NSW 2077
E-mail: carolynchown@bigpond.com

We held our AGM in Goulburn, NSW in March, 2010, our biannual meeting place with its Chisholm family associations.

On the Saturday we met at lunchtime at the Goulburn Rail Heritage Centre, just on the outskirts of Goulburn. There were a number of the volunteer enthusiasts there to provide us with a BBQ lunch.

After lunch they took us in groups around the centre, full of old engines and carriages, many privately owned by enthusiastic collectors. We heard some interesting stories of the old days of steam train travel in NSW; the volunteers were very knowledgeable as they had been trained as engine drivers etc. and had spent years plying the rails with the old engines. The centre is still used for repairs and refurbishment, with the old turn table still operating.

On the way back we went up to the TAFE College to have a look at the Caroline Chisholm Memorial that has been there since 1968. The memorial was built from stones rescued from the Caroline Chisholm Barracks in Goulburn, with a sundial on top.

We also stopped off at the Bourke St. public school to have a look at the gardens they had put in behind the Caroline Chisholm memorial plaque we placed there some years ago. We were pleased to see how the garden has matured, particularly as they have had such a bad drought in Goulburn.

In the evening we gathered in the bar of the Posthouse Country Comfort Motor Lodge for drinks before an excellent dinner.

On Sunday morning we made our way out to Kippilaw Church. As we made preparation for our meeting we had a nice surprise when Ken and Ruth Watson came in. We had not been expecting them and it was great that they were able to come and join us. Ken has not missed many meetings in all the years he has been part of the Clan. We also welcomed new members Judy and Malcolm Buchanan.

One of the most interesting outcomes of the AGM meeting was the report Max Bott, our genealogist, gave us on his endeavours with the genealogy records that Margaret Chisholm had originally put together. Max showed us on his computer how the records can be accessed for different family lines. Members were very interested in what he had to show and the amount of information that can be accessed.

The Reverend Philip Saunders, Dean of Goulburn Cathedral arrived and gave us a short service. During the singing of the second hymn the old organ that has been in the church since the 1860s finally gave out its last note.

Following this we went outside to the old Chisholm vault under the pine tree. Here we remembered the first burial 150 years ago, of Andrew James Chisholm, eldest son of William Alexander and Jane Chisholm, who died on 20 December, 1859 aged 12 ½ months.

We finished our meeting and went down to Kippilaw grounds for a picnic lunch.

Office Bearers. All office bearers were reelected with unanimous approval.

Membership. While our numbers remain somewhat the same each year, we are happy to welcome some new members but also have attrition from non financials and also the passing of older members. It continues to be a struggle to keep the balance in attracting new membership.

Fees

As many of our members are couples, we decided to change the fee structure to: \$50 p.a. for couples; \$30 singles; \$12 child.

Next Meeting. Our next AGM and get-together will be held in April 2011 at 'Brigadoon in Bundanoon' in the Southern Highlands of NSW.

Greetings to all,
Carolyn Chown
Secretary.

CANADA BRANCH

The Clan Chisholm Society, Canada Branch Annual Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2010

BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION:

Branch President:
David Holmes
2635 – 30th Street S.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3E 2M3
Phone: 403-686-6048
Email: bandit77@shaw.ca

The Canada Branch of the Clan Chisholm Society has now completed its fourteenth year as a separate entity. We now have approximately 147 paid members. As stated in last year's report this declining number is of concern to us and we continue to attempt to address it.

Branch AGM:

The Branch will hold, by electronic means, an AGM beginning March 21, 2011. A new Executive and Board of Directors for 2011 will be confirmed at that meeting and are:

President: David Holmes, Calgary, Alberta
Vice-President: George Pyron, Toronto, Ontario
Vice-President: Bill Pickering, Cornwall, Ontario
Treasurer: John Chisholm McBean, Calgary, Alberta
Membership Secretary: John Chisholm McBean, Calgary, Alberta
Clansman Editor & Web Master: Mary Jane Pfeifer, Okotoks, Alberta
Branch Genealogist: Bill Pickering, Cornwall, Ontario
Branch Council Representative: David Holmes, Calgary, Alberta
Director at Large: Marlene Chang, Victoria, British Columbia
Director at Large: Sandy Chisholm, Hawksbury, Ontario
Past President: Roderick J. Chisholm, Antigonish, Nova Scotia

We have been unable to fill the position of Secretary (like last year, apathy continues to be an issue).

Clansman Newsletter:

Mary Jane Pfeifer continues to do yeoman work as the Editor of our quarterly newsletter, as well as acting as our Branch Web Master. We are on constant lookout for articles of interest for our members and would gladly accept anything from other branches. The letter continues to be produced in a PDF format in order to minimize mailing costs, as well as hard copy format.

Genealogy:

Bill Pickering, after an absence due to illness, is back to play a very important role in our society by maintaining and updating the Canadian Genealogical Data Base. This information is available to any paid-up member that may wish to access it. We have also initiated a "Personal History Project" intended for our senior members that is made up of a questionnaire asking a series of questions about the early days of their lives such as "where were you born?", "what was your favourite pastime growing up?", etc.

We intend to publish the results once they have been acquired and edited. We think it should prove to be interesting reading.

Tent Kits:

As in previous years, our tent kits will be utilized at the various Highland games in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia as long as we can get volunteers to man them (again, the apathy has to be dealt with and overcome).

Merchandise:

We are maintain an inventory of Clan Chisholm merchandise that proved very popular at the Canmore Gathering in September, 2008. If anyone has any interest in acquiring something of it, Merritt Chisholm of Sidney, British Columbia is the contact.

2010 Clan Gathering:

The western Canadian Chisholms (basically Merritt's extended family) held their bi-annual Clan Gathering from July 16 – 18, 2010 at a camp ground a few miles west of Innisfail in central Alberta. It was very well attended and received with beautiful Alberta summer weather being enjoyed the whole time.

Respectfully submitted,

David Holmes, President, Clan Chisholm Society, Canada Branch

February 21, 2011

NEW ZEALAND BRANCH

Clan Chisholm Society

New Zealand Branch Report for 2010

Chairman: **John C Ross,**

8 York Place, Palmerston North, NZ, 5301

E-mail: J.C.Ross@Massey.ac.nz

Branch Representative on Council: **Fay Chisholm**

7 Stevenson Lane, Gisborne, NZ

E-mail: mj.fd.chisholm@xtra.co.nz

Again, this has been a quiet but steady year. Our annual gathering was in Wellington, at the Miramar Uniting Church Hall, on Saturday 1 May 2010. It was admirably organised locally by Jan Peleton, Anne O'Regan and Fay White, to whom we are very grateful. We had a goodly number of people present, several of whom signed up as new members. The branch's committee has carried on, with Robert Chisholm now a member.

Audrey Barney, still carrying on as our Historian and Genealogist, was able to attend, and delivered her talk and report, although this will probably be for the last time, as she has since had to move out of her Orewa house, and into a retirement village. She has, since, sent down to me a number of boxes of family history material to store, in Palmerston North, until such time as we have a successor to take over these roles. (They will come in useful in compiling a contribution to "Chisholm Chronicles.") There is also an online database of New Zealand Chisholms, being kept up to date where possible. She has also kept on with her work on a further Chisholm book, "Lest We Forget", a collection of the stories of New Zealand Chisholms who served in the two world wars.

Robert Chisholm was present, and presented a report on the state of play of the DNA Project. Curiously, his own DNA test linked him back to, most probably, a survivor of the Spanish Armada. Fay White also gave a talk on family history concerns. Gary Tonks, a local historian with family links to Wellington Chisholms, was also present, with copies of his latest book.

Other proposals for activities, during the afternoon, didn't attract takers; but in the evening, we had a dinner at the Shanghai Restaurant, in Manners Street, near the St James Theatre.

The following day, Audrey Barney and I were able to take the cross-harbour ferry to Somes/Matiu Island, and then carried on to Days Bay, where Audrey was able to spend some time with Jocelyn Chisholm, who had been present at the gathering. Jocelyn was a notable local historian, copies of whose book Brind of the Bay of Islands; also Brind Amplified (2009), about the master mariner and whaling ship captain William Derby Brind, and his descendants, had been on sale. Brind's sixth child Amelia Kate had married Thomas Sedman Chisholm, and lived on, in Nelson, till 1946. Sadly, Jocelyn died later in 2010.

During the year, Robert Chisholm produced two splendid newsletters. We had several committee meetings. Now having a membership leaflet, we intend to continue distributing copies when this year's Journal is mailed out to members, with a message urging them to encourage other people within their extended families or social circles to join up. The need to boost or at least maintain our membership remains a serious concern, with a few older members passing away each year, or giving up their memberships because of advanced age.

John C. Ross

President, CCS of NZ

07.02.2010

UNITED STATES BRANCH

United States Branch
2010 Annual Report

Chairman – **David Chisholm Higgins**
1352 Dewfrost Place, Castle Rock, CO 80104
E-Mail: higginsdavidc@gmail.com

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Vice Chairman – Gene Jones | Acushnet, Massachusetts |
| Treasurer – Gene Jones | Acushnet, Massachusetts |
| Secretary – Marcey Hunter | Norfolk, Virginia |
| Newsletter – Marcey Hunter | Norfolk, Virginia |
| Database/Membership – Bob Chisholm | Sun City, Arizona |
| Genealogy – Kathryn Chisholm | Antrim, New Hampshire |
| Mail Order – Pat Kingrey | Glasgow, Kentucky |
| History – Phil Chisholm | Belmont, Massachusetts |

We held **branch elections** at midyear. Gayle Gray, secretary for 10 years, chose not to stand for re-election. Marcey Hunter and Gene Jones, looking to add to their responsibilities, chose to stand for secretary and vice chair, respectively, while retaining their existing positions. I chose to run for the chairman's position for a final year. Submitted ballots were unanimous and there were no write-in candidates.

Year-over-year **branch membership** remained flat at approximately 150. Most telling, however, is that it took 41 new members to replace a roughly equal number who no longer saw value in the Society. The genealogy/DNA projects and the 2011 Gathering in Duluth were the primary attractions for first-time members.

With the objective of stimulating broader interest in the two projects, the Gathering and renewed membership in the branch, we mailed the midyear issue of **Clanship** to approximately 500 existing and former members. While inquiries into the projects and the Gathering surged, not one of those who have fallen away renewed.

The **genealogy initiative** garnered only marginally better results: six new submittals. One conclusion: Many Americans have trouble going back three or four generations and, if they can clear that hurdle, their records are not acceptable within the standards of the international database.

As an aside, out of curiosity, and on a tip from another Chisholm, I joined the social media site, Facebook. There are countless young Chisholms out there. Conversations with many generated lots of questions but very little interest in an organization such as ours. "Young" proved to be the operative word in that experiment.

On the **games** front, Clan Chisholm was a first-time participant in the Caledonian Club of San Francisco's Highland Gathering and Games in Pleasanton, California. New member Laura Whitsett, with the valuable assistance of Washington's Gordon Chisholm, hosted the tent. Kat Moore and Jon Espy took over from Gayle Gray and family at the Longs Peak Scottish Festival, the third largest Scottish festival in the county. And, as is generally the case, many other branch members continued to represent the Society at events throughout the country.

Planning for the **2011 International Gathering** of Clan Chisholm in Duluth was completed with the negotiation of contracts with the Comfort Suites Hotel, Grandma's Sports Garden (meet-and-greet), the Vista Fleet (dinner cruise), the Kitchi Gammi Club (Dinner with The Chisholm), Northland Country Club (golf), and Top Travel, Inc. (North Shore bus tour). The various registration documents were distributed electronically to the five branches, posted to the Society's website, and mailed to members of the United States branch with the recent issue of Clanship.

For the most part, the Gathering is now on automatic pilot. I urge all to submit registration documents sooner rather than later.

Respectfully submitted,

David Chisholm Higgins

GENERAL REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Overall Membership in the Society remains fairly static. Australia and New Zealand branch are still seeing a slight decline. Canada branch has gained a few members but the 2010 numbers are still lower than in 2008 and the branch is keen to find ways to attract and keep members. USA branch is stable but again with fewer members than for 2008. The UK remains stable, losing some members and gaining a few.

The following table shows the number of Regular and Life Members of The Clan Chisholm Society.

| Branch | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Australia | 80 | 81 | 77 |
| Canada | 179 | 160 | 169 |
| New Zealand | 75 | 67 | 64 |
| United Kingdom | 141 | 141 | 144 |
| United States | 190 | 175 | 175 |
| total | 665 | 624 | 629 |

CLAN CHISHOLM JOURNAL

2010 Annual Report

Clan Chisholm Journal

Editor: **Ben Chisholm-Broomfield (UK Branch Chairman)** E-mail: juliette@morella.co.uk

The 2010 journal was produced using the same print firm as for 2009. The original quote for 720 copies was significantly over budget. I managed to make some modifications and some colour details were reduced to bring the cost down before a quote was then accepted.

The cost of mailing the bulk orders to branches was reduced by using a slower, economy shipping service.

720 copies of the 2010 Journal were produced with branches receiving the following numbers:-

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Australia | 70 |
| Canada | 170 |
| New Zealand | 70 |
| United Kingdom | 235 |
| United States | 175 |

As usual a few more copies were produced than the number requested by branches and the UK branch picked up the cost of these extras. Next year for the 2011 journal fewer extra copies will be produced.

It is always my aim to ensure articles from around the world are included in the journal and I thank all those who have sent articles and contributions from each of our branches. I hope our members enjoy reading them.

Respectfully submitted

Ben

R C B Chisholm-Broomfield.
Clan Chisholm Journal Editor

CLAN CHISHOLM WEBSITE

report for 2010, Submitted by Alastair Chisholm.

I took over from Bard Higgins in April and in the first few months made some minor updates as requested by various members.

As the annual website subscription with APLUS was due to end in September, Bard suggested it would be an opportunity to look for a replacement. I checked on alternatives and selected ONE.COM with whom I already have a site and which is used by the society where I am webmaster (Pax Christi International). The content of the site was migrated from APLUS to ONE.COM in a few days (with only a couple of minor glitches!) and Bard cancelled the subscription with APLUS at the end of September. The new annual subscription is greatly reduced at just under 40 euro.

The standard small business profile has been subscribed:

- 3GB storage of which we use only 105MB
- Full support for managing the PHP and HTML scripts
- Webmail (used for group accounts)
- Photo Gallery (unused)
- MySQL database (unused)
- Statistics reporting

In October on request of Juliette I looked at ways to brighten up the website, and produced 4 templates – the brightest one was eventually chosen and is now implemented apart from a couple of features; an authentic crest (blue tongued boar) and a brighter picture of Glen Affric are intended. Have located copies but they are watermarked; I will need to get permission to use the true images and have so far been unable to get replies from the owners (www.scotsconnection.com and stockscotland.photoshelter.com). At the same time, some consistency was added in general layout.

Statistics

| | Hits | Visits |
|----------|-------|--------|
| December | 2808 | 258 |
| November | 25535 | 2114 |
| October | 17933 | 1521 |

Future Potential Updates

Depending on the Council's wishes, future updates could be:

An electronic membership form (adapted if required for the various regions).

A means of distributing journals by e-mail (for those who might prefer this)

A means of archiving the journals if they are available electronically and at a later stage providing search facilities to find articles of interest.

More detailed logging of most/least used pages for future content planning

Alastair Chisholm
2nd December 2010

[GENEALOGY PROJECT](#)

Chisholm Genealogy Database Report to Clan Council December 4, 2010

Preamble

The purpose of The Clan Chisholm Society Genealogy initiative is to preserve the heritage of our Scottish clan through the creation and implementation of a worldwide database of Clan Chisholm genealogy records. The Society's Branch Genealogists are collecting family tree data that will be merged into an international database in an effort to facilitate genealogical research by making these records accessible to our members. Known as "The Chisholm Genealogies web site", it is now up and running and available to our general membership.

What is The Chisholm Genealogies web site?

The Chisholm Genealogies web site is devoted to uncovering the past and forging yet undiscovered links to Chisholm family history. It is a repository and navigational aid to a database of integrated genealogical information organized around family trees. Members with authorized access are able to search the database for links to their family tree. In addition, they can add to the database with new information on their family trees that has been verified by the genealogical experts who are responsible for the administration and maintenance of the database.

Additional functionality includes the ability to post and subsequently access a variety of media types including: photos, documents, headstones (includes photos and ancillary information), histories, recordings, videos and albums. All of these media types can be directly linked to individual family members and provide a richness to family history not otherwise available using only the printed word.

Major activities/accomplishments

Family Tree (FT) additions to the database

Family tree data and other documentation, e.g., photos, can be transferred onto the database subject to verification. Submitted data needs to be accompanied by documentation- (birth/death/marriage certificates, census data or other reliable sources) before it will be included on the main database. There is a small sub-group of members (the Certification Group) dedicated to verifying FT's submitted for inclusion in the database.

In 2010 one FT was submitted for inclusion into the database but has been rejected by the Certification Group. As Bob Chisholm points out "the object of the database is to build a factual picture of Chisholm families and to achieve that means supplying source information along with the application. A list of names and dates will not do nor will a FT constructed from the internet." From Bob's comment, it appears that some sort of education is required before contributors forward their family tree information.

Here are some statistics with previous year's numbers in brackets. There are currently 8,680 (5,814) individuals listed on the database, grouped within 2,869 (1,916) families and 42 (32) family trees. Most of these family trees were previously researched by Bob Chisholm and others.

Research activities

A report prepared by Dr Eve Lutz Mackenzie accounts for expenditure of Research Funds from the current year research grant funding from the CCS of £300.

Chisholm Genealogies International (The 'Forum')

This bulletin board style web site continues to be a popular and very useful forum for the exchange of information on 'things Chisholm'. New members are warmly welcomed and, best of all, it's free. New members are encouraged to post a note to let other members know a little about themselves and their interests - and gain access to the wider forum

To date, there have been 3,484 unique postings on 439 topics. There are currently 92 registered members, up from 66 registered members at this time last year.

Alastair Chisholm, Hampshire, UK continues his administrative responsibility for the site.

The following synopsis of Forum "Hot" topics has been kindly provided by Robert Chisholm (NZ) and has been determined mainly by the amount of discussion evident on the topic:

From the Genealogy Board:

- Teawig Origins; Origins of Dr Stewart Chisholm; Fordyce in Banff, and Rev George of Ashmore, Rev Charles of Eastwell, Rev George of Hammersmith, Doctor Robert of Kent (Canterbury Cathedral Plaque), and Duncan of the Indian Army families.

From the Borders Board:

- William Chisholm, the soldier who retired to Sheffield (from the Stirches family)

From the McKenzie Revisions Board:

- The Selkirk Chisholms and the ultimate fate of the Chisholms of Chisholme, and the foundation property of Chisholme on Borthwick Water.

Of all those topics, the first topic has a very good hypothesis running (Teawig origins), still needing more proof and DNA samples from any descendent who can be linked with a fully documented paper trail. The last topic (Selkirk, and the Latter Day Chisholms of Chisholme) has been well worked over, by and large resolved, albeit some detailing still to flesh out. This topic is ripe for a few good paragraphs in a McKenzie revision. Robert had thoughts of writing it up for the Clan Journal, but other things have intervened to take up his time. The other topics mentioned remain open to further enquiry and further research wherever a research opportunity presents itself.

Planned Activities

The sections immediately following address planned activities required to make the web site more accessible to the general membership.

Family Tree (FT) additions to the database

Respond to requests from individual members, as required.

Research activities

Continue with research activities, subject to identification of worthwhile topics for further exploration.

Finance

For 2010, financial support in the amount of £300 was forwarded to the research member who is accountable for the funds. During the year only a small portion of these funds were used. Please see Appendix 1 for an explanation on how the funds were spent. The research member also provides bank statements to Susan on a periodic basis.

Additional funding will be requested to continue research activities during 2011.

Core Group

Bob Chisholm, UK Branch Genealogist and Master Database Administrator

Audrey Barney, NZ Branch Genealogist

Bill Pickering, Canada Branch Genealogist and backup Master Database Administrator

Alastair Chisholm, Hampshire, UK, CGI Forum Administrator

Anna Chisholm-Dickinson, Spokane, Washington State, USA

Eve Marie Lutz MacKenzie, Glasgow, UK

Robert Chisholm, NZ (also DNA Project Coordinator)

Ian Chisholm
Project Liaison,
Genealogy Initiative

[DNA PROJECT REPORT](#)

Clan Chisholm DNA project report to Clan Council 4 Dec 2010

The past year has been one of consolidation for the project. Growth has been gradual rather than spectacular, membership is now 124. This slow rate of growth is somewhat disappointing, but not surprising given the state of the world economy over the past year.

Participation in the DNA project does come with a price tag, but it's a very reasonable price in view of the many services provided by Family Tree DNA.

The basic outline as reported last year has not changed. What we see, from the male progenitor lineages within the clan is the great dominance of the "Norman" founder genetic family. However, within the totality of the clan, the Norman family remains a minority at between 35-38%. Celtic genetic types do form the majority at around 50%, but the Celtic groupings of Clan Chisholm are made up of many distinctive families, none of which singly exceed 5% of total clan numbers. The Celtic families are spread between Gaelic, Pictish, and British.

Particularly gratifying is that the data from the DNA project totally backs up what is held to be the modern accepted history of Chisholm. That is the "Norman Knight" being established in the Scottish Borders near Hawick, generations later becoming established as a Highland Laird, with the Celtic people within this realm accepting The Chisholm as their Clan Chief, and later after the of use Gaelic patronymics fell into disuse, adopting the Chisholm surname.

It's also nice to realise that Clan Chisholm was a welcoming clan; for there are many other genetic families which do not fit into these two primary categories, notable amongst them is the numerically significant Spanish group (4 -5%), and the several Anglo groups. The nature of a clan is dynamic, and there may be reason to believe that the Y-genetic base of Clan Chisholm has widened in the post Diaspora period, particularly in America, where newer types have been welcomed and embraced. If any society member would like a more simple, or a more technically complex explanation of how genetic genealogy works, and how it assists in Family Trees, just go to the Clan Chisholm Forum where there is a special discussion board for the DNA project. For members not connected to the internet, just ask your local Clan Chisholm Society Branch and they will forward your enquiry to the DNA project committee.

An interesting development in the Clan Chisholm project is an increasing number of non Chisholm people who join the project. They do so on the basis of their close matches to a very large number of Chisholms, members of the Norse-Norman group. These are mostly people who descend from a common ancestor who lived in the Viking or Norman period prior to the life of the very first Mr Chisholm. However recently we have a pair of McDonalds as guests in the Chisholm project, and their DNA analysis shows that they are more closely related (in time) to the old Chisholm chief's line than most of the Chisholms within the Norse Norman group. Not surprisingly, they don't find a match to the main McDonald DNA types. Their descent can be traced to a McDonald family who lived in the mid 1700's at Balvenie and Auchindoun, little mill towns on the Fiddich, either side of the Glenfiddich distillery in Dufftown, Banffshire. The DNA shows quite clearly that in some previous generation there has been a biological interaction involving a Chisholm. A typical scenario would be a young woman who loses her Chisholm husband to an early death, remarries a McDonald, and young children of the first union take on the name of their stepfather. Since the late 1600's there have been Chisholms present in the area between Inverness and Aberdeen, comprising Elgin, Banff, and Morayshire. Such families include the Chisholms of Turriff, and the family of Rev George Chisholm, Rector of Ashmore, two families associated with the non Catholic religions, and both families holding "lore" which relates them back to an old chief. Actually before the Lyon Court awarded the Chiefship to the family of Mary Gooden Chisholm in the late 1880's, there was hearsay that Rev Charles Chisholm, son of Rev George, had actually been anointed to take over, by the 26th chief Duncan MacDonnell Chisholm. Back in the late 1600's early 1700's, there was a Protestant family of power and influence back in Strathglass, the Teawig Family, who also produced several churchministers. The Chisholm Forum, in combination with the DNA project, has come up with a potential origin point for these Chisholms in the Elgin and Moray areas, thanks to the perception of Glen Chisholm in Chicago. It is just an hypothesis at the moment, several pieces of circumstantial evidence fit the puzzle, but because we are digging deeper into the recesses of time, facts are elusive. Glen's hypothesis is that the youngest son of Chief John XIV, John of Urchany, who grew up with his Sutherland mother in the Elgin area, may be the progenitor of the Teawig family. I have expanded this idea to include the possibility that his descendents may include those Chisholms who remained in the east.

With what we know of the DNA from Chief John XIV, the two McDonalds from Speyside can quite easily be his biological descendents. Needless to say, if you think your Chisholm ancestors may be from Turriff, from Teawig, or from Rev George / Rev Charles Chisholm, Clan Chisholm DNA project would love to hear from you. A key thing to look for in your most distant ancestor, especially if you can reach back into the 1700's in your Family Tree, is the

religion. If that religion is protestant, then it's worth making an enquiry via the Forum or the DNA project. There remain other Chisholm families of considerable historical note where the DNA project has not yet obtained a DNA sample, and we seek your help in trying to see where these families may fit into the Chisholm puzzle. Where paper records are failing, DNA gives us the opportunity to look back into the past. It may not give an exact name and address, but it can certainly point us in the right direction. Some such families, in no particular order, would include the following people:

John D Chisholm of Knoxville, infamous grandfather of Jesse Chisholm of "Chisholm Trail" fame. A key player in the "Blount Conspiracy".

The late Shirley Chisholm, who, along with Jesse, would be the most googable Chisholm.

Shirley has no children, but what we would be looking for would be Jamaican Chisholm's, for Shirley obtained her superior surname by marriage to one. There has been a lot of recent research into Chisholms involved in the plantations on Jamaica. Jamaican slave owners include William Chisholme of Chisholme, the Selkirk doctor who repurchased the original Chisholme estate in the 1780's, some 150 years after it was lost just before the Civil War era. Border Chisholms from the original Roxburghshire area, and directly north in Selkirk and Tweeddale, are under-represented in the project. We have got a large contingent from the eastern marches, and their DNA analysis suggests that they are an early branch off the main stem, consistent with the given historical accounts that the very early de Chesholmes were not only Dukes in Roxburgh, but were also Lairds in Berwick. The lower branches of the Border chieftains Tree, and the closely related Selkirk Chisholm Tree, are extinguished in terms of male descent. However just one or two generations back from the records we currently hold, there will be sibling lines with Chisholm or Chisholme named descendents who have survived into the present. Could it be you? Could you be the rightful heir to the ancient title "Chisholme of that Ilk? The DNA project could help you find out.

Speaking of Slaves, we still have nothing to positively connect the Chisholm family of Charleston to the main Chisholm Tree. It is claimed they descend from Knockfin. They held plantations in the Charleston area, including Chisholm Island. One of the descendent lines will include Robert Trail Chisholm. Just imagine how hard it is to effect a change in that hallowed document, the Constitution of the United States of America. Alexander Chisholm of Charleston did just that by succeeding in a Supreme Court claim against the State of Georgia. An enraged congress passed 11th amendment to ensure nobody could ever again do what Alexander Chisholm did. Descendents of the Charleston Chisholms, your Clan needs your DNA.

The Chisholms of Glenmoriston, those who helped the Prince after the defeat and rout at Culloden. Your sword hangs in the town hall at Inverness. Such a famous family! We have several project members from this region of the Highlands, but none with a direct connection to this most famous family. We need you in the project.

Perth, home of the Black Watch. Does your family tree go back to Perth? Does it include any old lore that your ancestor was a founder member of Scotia's Darling Corps?

Any other Chisholm, you don't have to have one of the "famous" ancestors to join the project. Every member is important, and it's important that we keep increasing the body of data by bringing in new results. Your Y-DNA is a gift from your Chisholm ancestor, handed down generation after generation. It's now possible to unwrap this gift and see just what the gift contains in terms of ancestral knowledge. You can gift this knowledge to your family and to your future generations.

For more information just contact me, either directly via email, or via your local Clan Chisholm Branch.

Robert Chisholm
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CHISHOLM CHRONICLES PROJECT

Report at Clan Council Meeting 4th December 2010

From recent correspondence with John Ross [NZ] I am rather concerned that the Chisholm Chronicles is going to lack contributions from New Zealand. John Ross considers that the broad coverage of family history is already done for New Zealand, and in print, in the three books written by Audrey Barney. Audrey is also in the process of continuing the New Zealand story into the WWI and WWII periods. The NZ Branch newsletters have also covered other family stories. John is of the opinion that the Chronicles will primarily fulfill various functions for the USA, Canada and the UK because the Chisholm diaspora has not been so well written-up in those countries as it has been in New Zealand. He also mentioned Australia in this context with particular reference to Carolyn Chown's book.

(I have e-mailed Carolyn Chown to find out what the situation is regarding the Australian contribution). Moreover, John Ross judges that the market for the book will primarily be in the Northern hemisphere countries, where readers will not be greatly interested in Southern Hemisphere detail.

I envisaged this as a one-clan project representing the complete Chisholm diaspora irrespective of northern or southern hemispheres. In pursuit of the requirement that the Chronicles is to be a continuation of Mackenzie it was my idea to use [with family permission] the new information now coming in to the Genealogical Database and the DNA Database to trace family bloodlines from their origins [as far back as we can go], their migrations and their settlement and progress in whatever part of the globe they either chose, or were forced, to go to. The case of Prof. Don Chisholm in Australia is a splendid example of a Southern Hemisphere Chisholm migration story and of what we are now able to do with genealogical and DNA information to continue from where Mackenzie left off. I would like to request that the story of Don Chisholm's family be earmarked for first publication in the Chronicles.

I contacted Bob Chisholm [UK] and Robert Chisholm [NZ] to find out what New Zealand material is already in the Genealogy and the DNA databases the aim being to try to find something we can use that will not duplicate Audrey's work. Bob informed me that Audrey has transferred quite a lot of New Zealand genealogical information to the database, but he does not know if this is material she has already published since he has not had the opportunity to read her books. Unfortunately, neither have I. Robert informed me that, although the NZ members in the DNA project are few in number, they do represent a very good cross section of 'Chisholmdom.' Again we do not know what, if anything, Audrey has written on these individuals. Whatever Audrey has written it will have been done extremely well, but at present contacting Audrey would be placing upon her another burden that she could well do without.

Robert has informed me that at present he knows of another two good storylines linked to the DNA database coming out of the USA. - the research being done by Andrew Way in on the heir to Knockfin - and Glen Chisholm's work in Chicago into the Teawig Chisholms. There is also the possibility that the Spanish element in Clan Chisholm could yield some interesting material.

The research that is currently in progress on "The final fling of the Chisholmes of Chisholme" is another example of new research material that would make a valuable contribution to the Chronicles rather than the Clan Journal. I would like to assure Robert that I will be looking into the Nisbet Papers [the estate papers of James Chisholme of Chisholme of the Selkirk family] when the roads and transport facilities return to normal - if this snow ever stops. There are also more Stirches artefacts in Jedburgh Museum that I intend to get photographs of. I must also return to St. Andrews Nursing Home in Hawick to take a photograph of the image of the last Chisholme of Stirches.

Both the Genealogical and the DNA database are still growing and there is work to be done on details and historical background but the possibilities are there and given a little time will yield some valuable results. May I make a second request to Council to reserve for the Chronicles the Chisholm family bloodline stories emerging from the Genealogy and the DNA databases. This is our new research material and it is what is required for the Chronicles if this book is to be a continuation of Mackenzie.

Following discussions during the Clan Council meeting of 4 December 2010 I would like to express my appreciation for the support given by Clan Council on the following points:

- To my belief that the 'Chisholm Chronicles' should be international in coverage to reflect the Chisholm diaspora in both the northern and southern hemispheres.
- The approval given to my proposal to use our new source material in the Genealogy and DNA databases in combination with documentary sources to follow family bloodlines to the far-flung reaches of the globe.
- The agreement of John Ross that New Zealand material will be represented in 'The Chronicles'.
- For the storyline proposals emerging from the discussion:
 - a] Prof. Don Chisholm's family story from Australia.
 - b] New Zealand stories based , with her permission, on the research of Audrey Barney.
 - c] USA research on the Knockfin line and on the Teawig Chisholms.
 - d] the Spanish element in Clan Chisholm.
 - e] the final fling of the Chisholmes of Chisholme [Scottish Borders].
 - f] Adam Chisholme deported to Virginia in 1716.
- General approval that material we already have in past Journals and other publications can, if appropriate, be reviewed in the light of new research and techniques for inclusion in 'The Chronicles'.

Dr Margaret C Y C Collin
Chisholm Chronicles Editor

**AGM MINUTES
&
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Audited Financial Statements and Minutes of the Society's Annual General Meetings are held by our Secretary/ Treasurer Susan Chisholm. Members wishing to obtain a copy of these documents are requested to contact Susan (susanchisholm@tinyworld.co.uk)