



# Clan Chisholm Society NZ

Newsletter # 50 March 2011



## Editor's note:

Kia Ora Iwi,

Welcome to the Spring newsletter, finally published now that we are well into Autumn. It just shows what can happen when a small group of volunteers get stopped in their tracks. Audrey and John have been dealing with family issues, and I had one of those so called "leaky homes" cases thrust upon me. Much ado about nothing, but very worrying and above all so time consuming, and wasting so much headspace. I am afraid that I had to bring out a whole bunch of Feros Ferio, stick it onto the sharp end of a Claymore, and stand ready to give the Highland charge. That certainly did the trick, but you patient people of Clan Chisholm have paid the price by the delayed newsletter. On top of that came the South Island tragedies, allowing me to

realise how terribly inconsequential my personal issue was in comparison with Christchurch and Pike River. On top of that we have the Japanese Quake, where they will be wishing their tragedies and losses were more comparable with Christchurch, so minor in comparison. It all goes to show that within the Clan Society, we need a few more hands on the wheels, too much is left for a small group of people to be responsible for. I would like to be able to devote more time to Chisholm historical research, and to more active administration of the International DNA project, and for me to get the time I desperately need the help of somebody or somebodies in the production of the newsletter. Anything from writing to setting out. Basic computer skills only needed, templates provided, please get in touch. A good piece of practical learning for any media studies student. This is your chance to become the editor of a magazine with international distribution.

This is the 50th Edition of Clan Chisholm New Zealand newsletter. Life member and Council Rep Faye Chisholm prepared the first 33 newsletters, and I have taken over from number 34, which was published in October 04. Newsletter 35 followed in Jan 2005, and this was the first in the A4 dual email- snail mail format. I try to provide articles of general interest, but only you can provide your own family histories to share. One of our South Island families has provided just that as a feature for newsletter number 50

Thanks  
Until then, *Slán*, and happy reading.  
And never forget, Feros Ferio!

Some brand new little Chisholms, Ceud Mille Failte, Welcome to the World

Eva Alofa Tuato'o, born in Whangarei, 8 Feb 2011 daughter of Catherine Tuato'o Ross and Danny Tuato'o  
Corin John Ross-Montenegro, born in Boston, USA, 18 Feb 2011, son of Emily Jane Ross and Ravi Montenegro

Acknowledgements: Thanks to the following for contributing to this newsletter:

John Ross, Barry Chisholm, Audrey Barney, Hugh Dan MacLennan, Donald Charles Chisholm, Marcey Hunter, Bob Chisholm, Alistair Chisholm, Electric Scotland, Rev John Stirton.

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## From the President

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Dear NZ Chisholmry

Greetings, good people. Hoping that those of you who're in the Christchurch area have not been too directly affected, or at least not too badly affected, by the major earthquakes on 4 September and 22 February, and the after-shocks, still at this time on-going. Many of us living elsewhere have extended family members in the area, and will be thinking of them, especially, as we keep in our thoughts all of the people of Christchurch and Lyttelton.

We have, earlier, given our sympathy to our Australian cousins, in relation to the terrible loss of life and devastation caused by the recent floods, mainly in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales.

Up-coming is our own **Annual Gathering**, on **Saturday 21st May**, in **Palmerston North**, meeting in the Wesley-Broadway Methodist Church complex lounge, from 10 am onwards. We'll have, among other things, a talk by Audrey Barney about the Clan Chisholm of NZ archival resource, and a report by Robert Chisholm on the state of play with the DNA Project. There'll be a good chance to catch up with family history matters, other activities, and a dinner at a restaurant in the evening. We hope very much you will be able to come along and share this with us.

It is not too late, either, if you fancy a trip to the USA, to attend the Clan's International Gathering at Duluth, Minnesota, on July 28-31 2011. If you're possibly interested in getting along to that, perhaps in conjunction with other travelling-around, check the Chisholm website.

As for myself, I have a daughter and recently-born grandson in Boston, so my one trip to the States for this year will be to catch up with them, rather earlier.

Meanwhile, international Clan projects such as the Genealogy database development, and work for the Chisholm Chronicles volume roll onward. Catch up with them on the website, and ask our local secretary if you need a password to access the database.

Here's wishing you well for the year ahead, and let's hope some of you will make it to Palmerston North.

John C. Ross

President, CCS of NZ

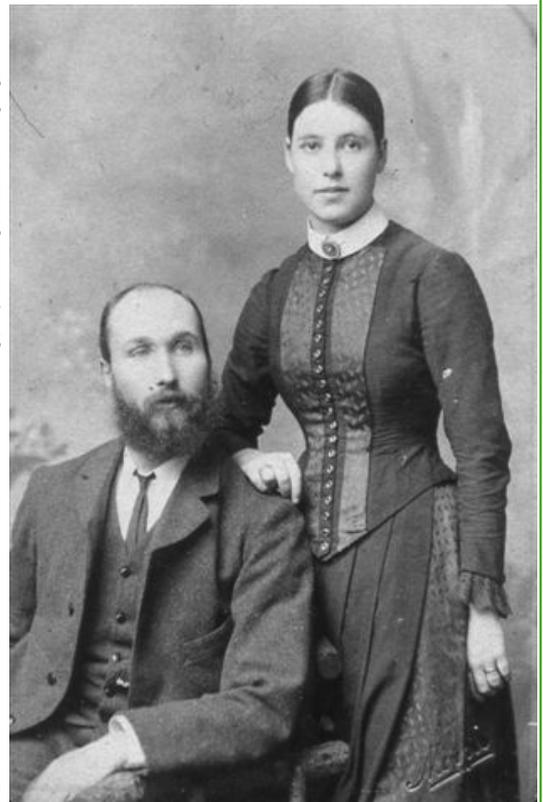
## The life of Hugh Blair Chisholm and his predecessors

By Donald Charles Chisholm, Toowoomba, Queensland.

My father, Hugh, was born 5 August 1915 at Naseby in Central Otago, the second of two sons and five daughters of Donald and Mary Ellen Chisholm (nee Templeton, born at Makarora, Lake Wanaka). Hugh's brother, Mervyn (dec. Blenheim), became well known as 'Bill' Chisholm when he was the manager of Molesworth cattle station in Marlborough from the early 1940s until the late 1970s when he retired in Blenheim with his wife, Rachel. Merv and Hugh were quite young when the family shifted 17km from Naseby to Ranfurly. In 1921 the family moved 65km from Ranfurly to Middlemarch where Donald and Mary remained for the rest of their lives. Middlemarch (pop. 200 - 300) is 80km north west of Dunedin on the Strath Taieri plain which is flanked on the western side by the Rock and Pillar Range which rises 1000m above the plain. This and other areas of Otago have similarities to the highlands and other regions of Scotland which Heather and I had the pleasure of visiting in 1981.

Upon completion of their schooling four of the sisters, Jessie (aged 93, Hamilton), Wynn (dec. Gore), Susan (Auckland) and Moya (Columbus, Ohio) moved away from their home town while the youngest, Lois (dec. Mosgiel), remained at Middlemarch. The family maintained close contact with their parents by phone, letter, visits back home and being visited by their mother and father where ever they were living in NZ. Since moving to USA in 1945 Moya has been back to NZ a few times and over the years has greatly appreciated visits by her NZ relatives.

My Scottish-born great grandfather, Hugh Chisholm, and his older brother, John, were in their early twenties when they arrived at Port Chalmers from Kirkhill (13km west of Inverness) in October 1875 on the sailing ship '*Auckland*'. In 1877 the brothers bought a Fortrose blacksmithing business for \$220. John and Hugh operated the blacksmithing, wheelwrighting, wagon building and horseshoeing business until their retirement, when it was taken over by John's son, Billy, who later passed it on to his son, Lloyd. After 81 years and three generations of Chisholm ownership the business was closed in 1958. Fortrose is 45km east of Invercargill at the mouth of the Mataura River.



Hugh & Janet Chisholm ca 1887

My great great grandfather, Donald (born at Kilmorack, 20km west of Inverness) and Ann (nee Chisholm of Kirkhill) had two daughters and three sons, including John and Hugh who came to NZ. A few years after Ann's death, Donald married Helen Robertson in 1870. After John and Hugh had become settled in NZ they encouraged their stonemason father and Helen to join them in the far away colony.

In January 1883 Donald and Helen boarded the '*Wild Deer*' on the Clyde and set sail for NZ. Just a few hours later the ship went aground near Belfast and most of their possessions were lost. Less than two weeks after being shipwrecked, Donald was called to Edinburgh where his eldest son, 34 year old William, had taken ill then died a few days later. Within six weeks of the shipwreck Donald and Helen boarded the '*Caroline*' which arrived at Port Chalmers 92 days later in May 1883. Donald and Helen lived at Fortrose until they died within three months of each other in 1891.



The Fortrose home of Hugh and Janet Chisholm, 1920's

My grandfather, Donald, was the third child and oldest son in the family of three daughters and four sons of Hugh and Janet (nee Blair) Chisholm. The three oldest brothers, Donald, Bob and Jock, learned the trade of blacksmithing in the family business but only Donald remained a blacksmith for his entire working life. Bob and Jock became farmers within 30km of Fortrose, Bob at Tokanui, and Jock at Menzies Ferry.

Most of Hugh's primary schooling was at Fortrose where he and Merv lived with their grandparents. Jessie also remembers living with their grandparents for a while when quite young. Hugh finished his primary schooling at Middlemarch, probably after his grandfather died in September 1927 at the age of 72. From 1929 Hugh attended Waitaki Boys High School at Oamaru for four years. He was a capable student, particularly with mathematics, and passed the university entrance examination, but the Depression prevented him from considering any further education at university. While at Waitaki Hugh played in the school band for a while and being a keen sportsman he played rugby, was a boxer and distinguished himself as a runner by breaking several long distance running records.

Hugh worked for a short period in Otago as a general farmhand, milked cows and learned to drive horse teams. His job of milking cows ended when he tossed a bucket of milk over a farmer who refused to give him time off to play football on Saturdays. Hugh also worked for a brief period in the Manawatu before returning to the South Island. His first job in the high country was at Mt Peel Station in South Canterbury where he was a shepherd for two years. From then until 1945 he was a musterer and shepherd on a number of well-known sheep stations, mainly in the upper reaches of the Rangitata and Rakaia rivers. The winter months were usually spent as a butcher at the freezing works in South Canterbury and Otago and as a deer shooter, mostly in the headwaters of the Rakaia River and its tributaries. During the war years Hugh participated in military training and was expecting to be despatched overseas when the war ended.

Hugh married Dorothy Margaret Edwards in August 1940 at Geraldine in South Canterbury. Dorothy's mother, Margaret (nee Kelman), was born in Aberdeen, Scotland. In the late 1890s, following the death of her father, Margaret was a teenager when she and her sisters and their mother migrated to Nambour in Queensland for a short period then settled in Sydney. Some years later Margaret sailed to NZ where she married Charles Edwards, an apiarist at Coopers Creek (near

Geraldine) and formerly of Invercargill.

In 1945 Hugh became the manager of Glen Lyon Station at the head of Lake Ohau on the Canterbury side of the provincial boundary with Otago. The station was about 40,000ha, carried around 6000 merinos, over 500 head of cattle and was well known for the annual draft of weaners which were walked 130km to Fairlie then railed 60km to the Temuka saleyards. We left Glen Lyon about August 1948 when the Preston family sold the station to the Wigleys, owners of the long-established and well known Mount Cook Tourist Company.

From 1948 to 1957 Hugh managed High Peak Station in the Canterbury foothills, about 20km north of the Rakaia Gorge and Windwhistle and 96km west of Christchurch. My parents then lived in Christchurch for two and a half years when Hugh was a pastoral lands officer in the Lands and Survey Department. He was involved with Crown lands leases on sheep and cattle grazing land extending into the high country. Hugh's territory extended from Cook Strait to the Rangitata River, but he often carried out inspections and assessments in South Canterbury and Otago.

Dorothy, Hugh and my sister shifted to the North Island in 1959 when Hugh was appointed manager of Mangaohane Station, 50km north east of Taihape. My brother remained at high school in Christchurch and I continued working near the Rakaia Gorge for another 18 months before also moving to the North Island. Mangaohane was one of five adjoining stations, each of which carried in excess of 20,000 sheep and a high ratio of cattle. In 1965 my parents were on the move again when Hugh joined the Te Kuiti office of the State Advances Corporation (later known as the Rural Bank) as a farm appraiser. At the age of 51 he began studying rural valuation by correspondence and obtained registration as a rural valuer in 1971. In 1972 Hugh and Dorothy made their final move when Hugh was appointed assistant district appraiser with the Rural Bank in Napier. They remained in Napier following Hugh's retirement in 1980.

My mother died in August 1993 and my father died in October 1994. They are buried at the Napier Cemetery.

Hugh ('Hughie' to many) had a strong determination to give nothing less than his best effort to his work



Donald & Mary Chisholm ca 1911

and expected the same of others. He was respected by his staff and others as a very firm and but fair and competent manager who applied a sound knowledge of good agricultural practices and animal husbandry. As a farm appraiser in the King Country and Hawkes Bay, his solid experience in practical management was appreciated by farmers, fruit growers and others with whom he was associated.

Dorothy made an enormous contribution to Hugh's success on the stations. Her interest in the welfare of staff, her friendly welcome extended to visitors, ordering station stores, working as station cook on

numerous occasions, my correspondence school teacher at Glen Lyon, the personal sacrifices of living in some isolated places, smoothing out the family transitions to town life, and Hugh's care following retirement and the onset of his ill health. My mother was typical of a vast number of rural women, some of whom we had the privilege of knowing, with very similar experiences.

We were a family of five. Born in June 1941, I am the oldest in our family and also the oldest of Donald and Mary Chisholm's 16 grandchildren (11 granddaughters and five grandsons). My brother, Lester, attended Victoria University in Wellington, and married Jocelyn Murray in Wellington in 1967. They lived in Napier from 1968 until Lester's appointment in 1996 as a high court judge in Christchurch. Heather, the youngest in the family, married Tony Masters in 1974 in Napier. For many years Tony operated an orchard established by his grandfather between Hastings and Havelock North. They shifted to the Rotorua region a few years ago. Lester and Jocelyn have two daughters and two sons. Heather and Tony also have two daughters and two sons. My wife, Heather (nee Chown, born in Sydney), and I met at a Scottish Country Dancing summer school in Dunedin and were married in 1977 in Mosgiel. We don't have any children.



Mosgiel marriage 1977

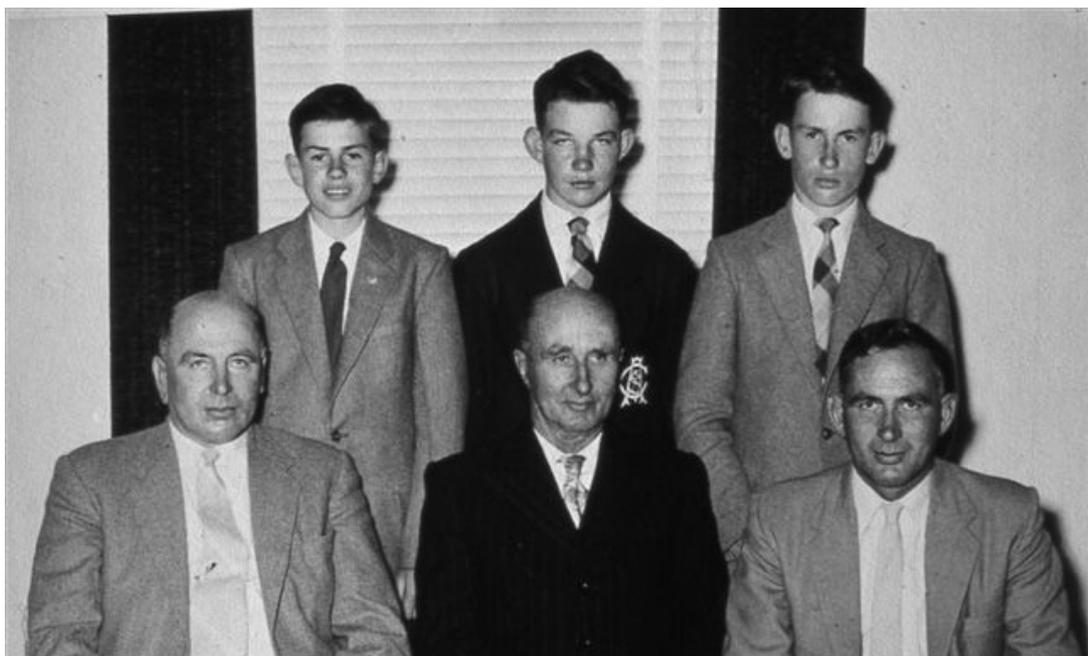
A well-attended Fortrose school centenary was held in 1976. During proceedings it became apparent there were a lot of Chisholm descendants present. A quick head count revealed 24 direct descendants of the Chisholm brothers, John and Hugh. A group photograph was taken of the 24 descendants who represented four generations, ranged from my 84 year old grandfather, Donald, down to Lloyd Chisholm's infant grandchildren. Some of us had not attended Fortrose School but I am sure we all felt a connection to the school that day. (See picture overpage)

In December 1989 John (only son of Jock Chisholm, mentioned earlier) and Edna Chisholm of Menzies Ferry (near Wyndham) published a well researched and most informative 127 page book titled, '*The Chisholm Family of Fortrose*'. The book includes photographs taken in Scotland and NZ, biographies,

maps and the family trees of John and Hugh Chisholm. At the end of December 1989 the descendants of John and Hugh organised a most memorable two-day Chisholm gathering at Fortrose. Our name tags were colour-coded blue or red to denote whether our forebear was John or Hugh Chisholm. Lots of memorabilia and photographs were on display. The staging for the informal group photographs was a restored four wheel wagon built at the Fortrose 'smithy' in 1909. Three family trees were completed shortly before the gathering; John and Isabella and their descendants, Hugh and Janet and their descendants, and the ancestors of John and Hugh Chisholm. The latter family tree had many gaps but provided a useful overview going back to John Chisholm (born 1782) and his wife, Ann Noble (born 1791).



Fortrose Chisholms, descendants of colonial settlers Hugh and John Chisholm



Middlemarch Chisholms, December 1958

## Update from Don, flooding in Toowoomba

With a population of 93,000 Toowoomba is Australia's second largest inland city after Canberra. We are 130 km west of Brisbane and situated on top of the steep eastern escarpment of the Great Dividing Range (known locally as the Toowoomba Range) which extends almost the entire length of eastern Australia. Most of the gently undulating city is within a big shallow basin which discharges all its flood water NW into one of the many tributaries of the Murray Darling river system which empties into the ocean SE of Adelaide. The four lane highway from Brisbane crests the range at an altitude of 662m (2170 ft) then descends to 560m (1836 ft) at the city centre. The two creeks were swamps when Toowoomba became a municipality in the early 1850s and the first recorded flooding of the two creeks was in 1860. Since then there appear to have been less than a dozen major floods and it seems none of them quite equalled the 2011 flood. Heather & I live in the elevated SE corner of the city near the eastern creek but like many residents we didn't know about the flood until a couple of hours later when most of the water had drained away.

Toowoomba's average rainfall for the last 130 years has been 944mm (37") and much less during the last 20 years. I recorded 1500mm (59") for 2010 and of that amount, 496mm (19.5") came in December and another 368mm (14.5") fell within the first 11 days of January, so the totally saturated ground contributed to the immense amount of run-off. While Toowoomba was being flooded the Lockyer Valley was also being inundated with much more devastating flood water from the eastern flank of the Toowoomba Range and other hills. The Lockyer Valley extends 40km towards Brisbane from the foot of the Toowoomba Range. Sadly two people in Toowoomba and 20 in the Lockyer Valley perished. To the west of Toowoomba vast areas of flat country were inundated in December and some communities were evacuated up to three times when local flood levels dropped then rose again as flood water moved slowly south from northern regions.

As president of the Australian Clan Chisholm Society, and on behalf of our Australian members, I wish to convey our sympathy to those NZ Clan Chisholm members and their families who may have been affected in any way by the devastating Christchurch earthquake.

Toowoomba  
Before the Flood



Editor's note: As well as being President of the Australian Branch of Clan Chisholm, Don is a valued member of the New Zealand Clan Chisholm Society. Don survived the Queensland flood. His brother survived the September EQ in Christchurch, and he was fortunately out of town when the deadly quake struck on February 22.

1251 EQ Chch 22-02-11

1251 EQ Chch 22-02-11



A selection of thoughts from Chisholms around the world to our Christchurch Chisholms

*My thoughts and the thoughts of the UK branch are with you all and all those who are affected by the earthquake*  
Susan Chisholm of Chisholm

*First and foremost the U.K. Branch send sympathy and thoughts to New Zealand for the latest tragedy which has hit this Country, especially to any Chisholms who may be personally involved.* Ben and Juliette.

(Editor's note: Ben and Juliette, UK Presidents, have visited Christchurch several times, Ben's brother lives there, and still lives there through all the shaking)

*I would like to add on behalf of Chisholms here in Australia, who were caught in the awful disasters in Queensland, a thank you to those who have kindly sent sympathetic thoughts. As far as we know our members, though suffering the ordeal, have come through safely. I would also like to send our thoughts and sympathy to those of our clan in the Christchurch area in New Zealand. I watched with horror the sad destruction of your lovely city and feel so sad for all the people, not only Chisholms, who are still trying to come to terms with the tragedy. We all send our warmest thoughts to you.* Caroline Chown (Aus Branch)

*To our cousins in New Zealand and Australia, please accept our most sincere hopes and prayers for your most recent tragedies. We in the US are truly with you in spirit. Please also take pride that Prime Ministers Gillard and Key have represented you with grace and dignity on the world stage during this difficult time.*

Marcey Hunter (CCS USA secretary and "Clanship" editor, Virginia)

Also messages of support from, amongst others, Ian Chisholm in Vermont, John D Chism in South Carolina, and Andrew Way in California. Andrew knows first hand what Christchurch went through, as he was trapped in 1989 in San Francisco.

*"The World Series Baseball Game was about to begin. I decided to go home early to see the game and missed the chaos in the city, the collapse of the double deck freeway and parts of the SF Bay bridge. In our case, the only blessing was it didn't happen during rush hour. The next day, as I headed for my car in the garage after work, several of us got caught during an aftershock in an elevator. It was about 1/2 way to the floor, and we managed to force the door open and climb up, then rush our cars down the ramps to get out of the building before the next tremor."*

Paste the following link into your browser to hear and see the beautiful young lady of Canterbury singing "Amazing Grace" at the Hagley Park Memorial Service.

<http://www.casttv.com/video/mbzxdxj/hayley-westenra-performs-amazing-grace-at-christchurch-memorial-service-video>

## Local News

**Audrey Barney**

Clan Historian and Genealogist



All the Chisholm archives have now moved into the care of John Ross and Barry Chisholm in Palmerston North. All NZ queries should now go to these two gentlemen. Audrey has now moved into "Settlers" -- a Retirement Village (E40, 550 Albany Highway, Auckland, 6032.) Sadly she has moved in alone, as David is now in full time care, but close enough for Audrey to be

there with him each dinnertime.

Once things settle down, she hopes to be able to do more internationally on the Chisholm family, through the Forum, and get back to writing on The Chisholms in wartime.

While Fay and Malcolm White proudly add a second grandchild to their family, Brian Chisholm adds a new great grandson to his great grand-daughter born earlier this year. Vanessa (his grand-daughter and Fay's daughter) and Jonathan Franks are the proud parents of young son, Justin, born the 19th November 2010 in Wellington.



### A tribute to Jocelyn Chisholm, by Audrey Barney

In the early days of chasing New Zealand Chisholm families, I soon found the name of Jocelyn Chisholm, as an author, in library catalogue after library catalogue, but it wasn't till I started researching the Nelson Chisholms, that I got to know Jocelyn, firstly through writing to her, before the days of email, and then personally, at Clan Chisholm Gatherings and home visits in both Auckland and Wellington.

She quickly became someone very special for me. Beyond all the usual warm, caring and welcoming aspects, - and her Dunedin background!! I cherished and respected her historical knowledge, particularly of pre-treaty Bay of Islands and the whalers and whaling industry. Her writing on her husband's maternal great grandfather's family, William Brind, a whaling captain who finally settled in the Bay of Islands, resulted in further links with the Brind family in England and a revised edition of the book, which was published a year or so before her death. She further researched early 19<sup>th</sup> century Pacific shipping, to write with Rhys Richards, a classic in NZ shipping called "Bay of Islands Shipping Arrivals and Departures, 1803-1840". Her own Thompson family was not neglected in her published work either.

I certainly appreciated her research ability with her willingness to help me out with a research request any Friday, when she regularly visited the Alexander Turnbull Library and the National Archives. Nor did she hesitate when I asked her to proofread my book on Chisholm Pioneers, though humbly expressing her inadequacy for it. She naturally did a superb job - as is the chapter she wrote on her husband's family.

A visit to Wellington always meant Eastbourne and Jocelyn and vigorous discussion on many issues, which naturally included Chisholms! I certainly won't forget our last visit together early May, just three months before her death. She willingly accepted an invitation from John Ross and self to meet for lunch at Days Bay the day after the Clan Chisholm Gathering, when John and I came off the ferry for lunch, and drove along to lunch with us, even though it was difficult for her to manage eating.

### George Whitford

"Our sympathies go to Margaret Whitford, whose husband George has passed away. Margaret is very much the Southland stalwart for Clan Chisholm. We appreciate the tremendous amount of research she has done, not only on her own family, but on other Chisholms, not only in New Zealand. The idea of small booklets on different Chisholms came from Margaret, who produced a very readable pamphlet on Bert Kennedy, whose mother was a Chisholm, and she later interviewed Adam Chisholm and wrote for him, about his exploits in World War II.



The **Clan Chisholm Society**, initially founded at the end of the 19th century by Chief James Chisholm, was revitalized in 1951 by his granddaughter Mairi and her nephew, Chief Alastair. Today, Alastair's son, Andrew Francis Hamish is the 33rd Chief, (pictured left) and Val Chisholm Perry (USA) (pictured right) is the Society President.

*The mission of the Clan Chisholm Society is to preserve the heritage of our Scottish clan and to promote links between Chisholms around the world.*

Please visit the Clan Chisholm Society website!  
[www.ClanChisholmSociety.org](http://www.ClanChisholmSociety.org)  
Webmaster Alistair Chisholm in Belgium



### Other web based resources:

Chisholm Genealogies International, a forum where you can discuss all manner of things connected to Chisholmdom. To access the forum, go here: [www.clansman.info/cgi-bin/yabb2/YaBB.pl](http://www.clansman.info/cgi-bin/yabb2/YaBB.pl) -

Administrator Alistair Chisholm, resident in Hampshire but randomly found anywhere in the world where there are boats, including Middle Earth.

**Chisholm Genealogical Database:** Online Chisholm Family Trees, continually being added to as verification and authentication take place. Database Administrator: Bob Chisholm of Sussex  
[www.clansman.info/index.php](http://www.clansman.info/index.php). Ask your CCS Secretary (Barry) for access password.

**Clan Chisholm DNA project:** Over 130 Chisholms have used this project so far to try and pep over that genealogical brick wall which starts where the paper trail ends. Many have managed to see over this wall, Linking with other Chisholm families to form distinct genetic families with thin Clan, and then beyond the Clan era, looking back at an ancestral past which may incorporate the Normans, the Vikings, the Gaels, the Britons, the Picts, or the unknown mystery, awaiting discovery. This project is operated out of Houston Texas, but is administered in little old new Zealand, contact the editor to take part, or visit the project website. <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/Chisholm/default.aspx>



### Clan Chisholm Society: Official Kiltmaker

A recent Clan Council meeting approved the appointment of **Duncan Chisholm and Sons** of Inverness as official Kiltmakers to the Society. This appointment not only recognized the excellence of Duncan's craftwork and service, but also acknowledges the contribution which Duncan's family has made to Clan Chisholm, going back generations.

Duncan operates a website, currently under reconstruction, [www.kilts.co.uk](http://www.kilts.co.uk). Keep checking to see the range of products offered at Duncan's Castle Street store, and check out the online purchase possibilities. A full advert is contained on the back cover of your 2011 Clan Journal, coming soon.

Pictured left, Ash and Lynda Chisholm of Wellington, 2008 Ash's colonial ancestor came from Culduthel, just 4km south of Castle Street.

#### *Random on-line review*

*"Duncan Chisholm's shop in Inverness is truly an experience. Here you can find all the tartans in the best qualities. Everyone in the shop is extremely knowledgeable & friendly. Men can be fitted for a custom kilt. The history of the Clan Chisholm is maintained here."*

## Doctor Stewart Chisholm, Royal Artillery, Capt Archbald Macra Chisholm, Black Watch

In newsletter 49 I mentioned a famous Chisholm family which traces back to Perth. Where the family came from prior to that is not yet established, but there have been left a few hints that they may have been part of an old chief's family. The Chisholms concerned are Doctor Stewart Chisholm of the Royal Artillery, and his son, Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm.

Doctor Stewart is known for his role in bringing the address of loyalty to the Clan Chief, made by the Canadian immigrants and new generation Chisholms in 1832. He presented this oath to the chief, along with the sword used by Hugh Chisholm at Culloden, Hugh being one of the seven men of Glenmoristen who sheltered the Prince in the immediate aftermath of the battle. The sword had been smuggled out of Scotland into Canada. After the death of Chief Duncan MacDonnell Chisholm in 1858, this sword was returned to Doctor Stewart, who handed it on to his son Archibald, who presented it to the City of Inverness, where it now hangs in their city hall. By the way, one of the signatories of the Canadian address became the new chief after the death of Duncan, without issue. The oath of loyalty was just one of several documents which were used to show the rights of James Sutherland Chisholm, Montreal, to succeed to the Chiefship of Clan Chisholm.

So Doctor Stewart, as bearer of the sword and of the oath, assumes an honoured role in Clan History, not bad for the son of a shoemaker. However, he had other history outside of Chisholmdom. He was a surgeon for the Artillery during the campaign against Napoleon, and he served at Waterloo. As part of his Waterloo prize, he had teaspoons made, and on these were imprinted the arms and motto of the Chisholm Chief. Improper use of heraldic devices would have been absolutely frowned upon in the early 1800's, so one was left wondering just what was the connection of this family to the Chisholms of Strathglass.

In the 1820's, Dr Stewart was practicing medicine in Strathglass. Perhaps due to his connections to the catholic bishops, he was introduced to Mary McRae, daughter of the Macraes of Kintail, and with a lot of Highland Blue blood from other clans including McLean. And this was a mixed marriage, where both Protestant and Catholic ministers officiated. Dr Stewart was of the same Protestant faith held by the chiefs, whereas a majority of Chisholm clansfolk retained the old religion.

Mary and Stewart were living at Teawig when their son Archibald was born in 1824. Teawig, just west of Beaully, is Fraser country, but in the late 1600's to mid 1700's, it was home to a wealthy and influential family of Chisholms, known to us today as the Teawig Chisholms. Where their wealth and influence came from is unknown, as is their connection, if any, to the chief's family. Clan Chisholm researchers are continually on the hunt for clues about this family, and are following several lines of enquiry. But that is another story, best left for another day.

A second cousin of Capt. Archibald, Rev John Stirton, has written about the family, in his book "A Day that is Dead. Here are three quotes: *"Captain Chisholm possessed a fine drinking cup of this description which originally belonged to the chiefs of the Clan Chisholm in Strathglass, Inverness-shire, from whom he is descended. The monograms of successive owners of the quaich since the above Roderick are also engraved upon it, including those of Dr. Stewart Chisholm, of the Royal Artillery and his son, Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm of the Black Watch"*.

*" Dr Chisholm received a large sum of Prize Money in recognition of his services at the battle of Waterloo [1815] With this money he purchased articles of silver upon each of which he caused to be stamped the Chisholm crest with his cypher - SC - and the words "Waterloo Prize Money." These articles are greatly prized by his descendants and relatives"*

*"Dr Stewart Chisholm was a descendant of the ancient house of Chisholm in two lines of ancestry - through the main line of Chisholms of Strathglass and also through one of the cadet lines, the Chisholms of Cromlix. Dr Chisholm's grandfather was Roderick Chisholm, who was an officer in the Black Watch shortly after that gallant regiment was first raised at Aberfeldy Bridge in 1729."*

Clan researchers are still in the trying to ascertain the accuracy of the information provided by Rev John

Stirton with respect to the genealogy. The records of the Black Watch have not revealed any Roderick Chisholm. Stirton has got his date wrong by 10 years, the Black Watch mustered 1739-40.

Just what was this muster composed of? It was the bringing together of the independent loyalist companies, set up after 1729, to keep watch over the Highlanders with their Jacobite tendencies for seeking restoration of the Stuarts. Uprisings occurred in 1689, 1715, 1719, and Lord Forbes of Culloden suggested a gendarmerie of loyalists to police their own territories. Their task, in conjunction with the darker hues of their tartans, earned them their name "*Am Freiceadan Dubh*". What type of person joined these companies? This from Electric Scotland:

*As the services of these companies were not required beyond their own territory, and as the intrants were not subjected to the humiliating provisions of the disarming act, no difficulty was found in forming them; and when completed, they presented the singular spectacle of a number of young men of respectable families serving as privates in the ranks. "Many of the men who composed these companies were of a higher station in society than that from which soldiers in general are raised; cadets of gentlemen's families, sons of gentlemen farmers, and tacksmen, either immediately or distantly descended from gentlemen's families, - men who felt themselves responsible for their conduct to high-minded and honorable families, as well as to a country for which they cherished a devoted affection. In addition to the advantages*

*derived from their superior rank in life, they possessed, in an eminent degree, that of a commanding external deportment, special care being taken in selecting men of full height, well proportioned, and of handsome appearance. (Electric Scotland)*

The Company which policed Invernesshire was commanded by Simon Fraser, Lord Lovatt. If any Chisholm was in one of the Independent Companies, it would mostly likely be in Fraser's Company. Of any known Roderick Chisholm who might well fit the description given above; there was a son of Alexander Chisholm of Teawig named Roderick, who would be of a suitable age. The Teawigs were known to be close friends to the Frasers, and in fact their Teawig Farm is just across the river from Lovatt's home. Roderick would have been 13 years in 1708, coming into manhood, a nice age at which to present a silver Quaich. This Quaich is a missing artifact for Clan Chisholm. If it still exists, it would be extremely valuable as an antique. Engraved on the Quaich however may be invaluable information which could help in solving some of the historical and genealogical riddles which confront us.

Just who this Roderick was, if he ex-



Late Captain ARCHIBALD MACRA CHISHOLM of Glassburn, First Chief of Association, 1893—1897.

isted at all, if he was the grandfather or great grandfather of Doctor Stewart, remains unknown. What is known is that Doctor Stewart's father was a shoemaker in Perth named John, who married into a Stewart family. There must have been sufficient wealth to afford a medical training at Edinburgh. At a young age Dr Stewart Chisholm became a medical officer with the Perth Artillery, and then with the Royal Artillery, where he served at Waterloo. His son Archibald was ensigned into the Black Watch in 1841 and standing 6 feet 2 inches he was the tallest officer in the regiment, as well as the only Roman Catholic among the officers.

Archibald's marriage to Maria Frances Lynch is quite famous in Chisholm folk lore. Maria's family was very wealthy and well connected, one branch owning Balmoral before selling it to Queen Victoria. Maria's brother in a pique of jealousy, fomented trouble and the consent of her father was withdrawn. Not to be thwarted, one night a midnight marriage was carried out by a priest in the kitchen. The next morning, Archibald returned, informed his bride's father of what had occurred, and drove her away for a church wedding in Glasgow. Any attempt at pursuit was quickly abandoned; imagine that, Archibald's fellow officers in the Black Watch had deployed themselves along the escape path to ensure a happy outcome. And it was a happy outcome, a long and loving life together, blessed by the arrival of a daughter. The lack of a son makes it harder however to track down descendants so that family heirlooms might be examined. Archibald and Maria retired to live in Strathglass, where they took up residence at Glassburn House, and Archibald became known as *Captain Glassburn*. A very popular and well known figure, stalwart of Strathglass Shinty, and as a great piper, he was often in demand on social occasions. He was a judge in the various pipe competitions.



MARIA FRANCES CHISHOLM.



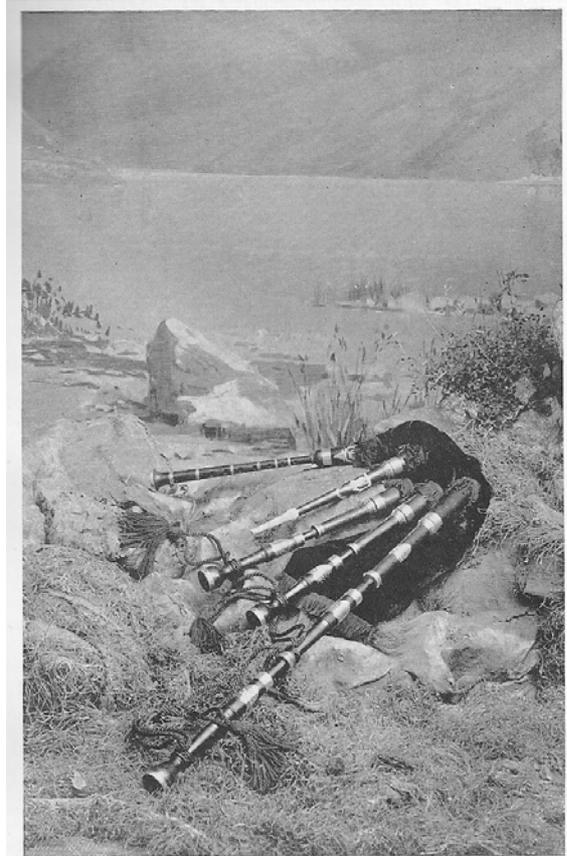
GLASSBURN HOUSE.

For many years, he played the Black Chanter of Kintail, the famous pipes of the Earl of Seaforth.

Lt Colin William Macrae, Lt Black Watch, was the next possessor of the " feadan dubh" or Black Chanter of Kintail. This chanter, which was one of the heirlooms of the "High Chiefs" of Kintail, was given by the last Earl of Seaforth to the late Colonel Sir John Macra of Ardintoul. By him it was given to his nephew, Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm of Glassburn, late of the Forty-Second Royal Highlanders, The Black Watch, who, in 1895, gave it to Lieutenant Colin.

The chanter is considered to be much older than the drones, and the note holes are very much worn. It was badly broken at some time or another, and is now held together by no less than seven silver rings. The two top rings have engraved on them the words, "A smeorach aigharach" (the merry thrush). The other rings have "ScurOrain," the slogan of the Macraes; "Caisteal Donain," " Cinntaille," " Loch-Duich," and on the bottom ring " Tulloch Aird," the slogan of the Mackenzies. On the chanter stock is fixed a stag's head and horns in silver, the Mackenzie crest, surmounted by a baron's coronet, and underneath it the inscription, "Lord Seaforth, Baron Mackenzie, High Chief of Kintail, 1797," and below this inscription the words, "Tulloch Aird."

The stock of the blowpipe has the following inscription:— " This silver-mounted black ebony set of bagpipes with the Feadan Dubh Chintaille, was the property of Lord Seaforth, Baron Mackenzie, High Chief of Kintail, 1797," and on the blowpipe itself is the figure of a Highlander, in silver, in full costume, with drawn claymore, surmounted by the motto, "O Thir nam Beam)" (from the land of the mountains).



FEADAN DUBH CHINTAILLE  
OF BLACK CHANTER OF KINTAIL.

For several generations the heirloom of the Mackenzies of Kintail. Belonged to Lord Seaforth, High Chief of Kintail. Presented by him to Sir John Macra of Ardintoul. The latter presented it to his nephew, Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm, Glassburn, Strathglass. Keith Stewart Mackenzie offered to purchase it from Captain Chisholm at a high price. The offer was declined.

And as for the Black Watch, after the muster at Aberfeldy, near Perth, they became a line regiment of the British Army, and their watch over the Highlands ceased. Just five years later, the unwatched Highlanders rallied to the Stuart banner and civil war ensued. Ironically, one of those involved in the rebellion, Simon Fraser Lord Lovatt, was one of the original "watchers".



*Am Freiceadan Dubh*

Here is a Kiwiana Trivial Pursuits question: Which Captain of the Black Watch has a son who is a Maori Chief. Big clue, this officer was Governor General of New Zealand. His Black Watch comrades in the 51<sup>st</sup> Division lined up right beside the NZ Div in the advance and breakthrough at El Alamein in 1942. His father and both of his grandfathers were also GG's of NZ, and he has a Kura Kaupapa Maori named after him, in Tainui territory, although his son the chief is Ngati Raukawa (who used to live in Tainui territory).

Elevated to the peerage as Lord Ballantrae, the supporters of his arms are: dexter, a soldier of the 42<sup>nd</sup> (Black Watch), in full dress including sporran and feature bonnet. Sinister, a tattooed Maori Chief, with korowai, huia feathers, and taiaha. And as a complete coincidence, the first quarter of his arms has three boars' heads, coupéd. The answer in small print:

Sir Bernard Fergusson