

Scottish Heritage Council

The Council was formed in August 1987 with the aim to promote common heritage for all Scottish organisations represented. The Council committed to co-ordinating an annual Kirkin 'O' The Tartan Church Service in 1989, this service is still held. We meet five times a year and support the Hororata Highland Games and the Scottish Cultural Festival.

Clan MacLeod Society of Canterbury (Inc)

The Clan MacLeod Society of Canterbury is one of six Clan MacLeod groups in New Zealand, and part of a world-wide clan. We meet 3 – 4 times a year and keep in touch with newsletters and the international Clan MacLeod magazine which comes out twice a year, April and November.

Clan MacLeod Societies are found in ten countries around the world and make up the Associated Clan MacLeod Societies, ACMS, who meet every four years at Dunvegan on the Isle of Skye, for a week at 'Clan Parliament' gathering. The next one will be from 21st - 28th July 2018. The Clan MacLeod North American Gathering is held midway through the intervening years, next one will be July 2020. Other international MacLeod Gatherings are held on various occasions elsewhere in the world.

Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod had a vision in the 1970s to gather up the MacLeods from around the world, and encouraged them to form local groups of those interested in their heritage to meet socially to share Clan culture, history and music. Today this network of MacLeods is still strong, with many friendships formed that have become long lasting. Her great grandson Hugh MacLeod of MacLeod is the 30th Chief based at Dunvegan, along with Torquil Donald MacLeod of the Lewes and John MacLeod 18th Raasay who are also recognised Chiefs of the MacLeods.

Anyone bearing the name MacLeod, (*whatever the spelling*), or who is descended from a MacLeod, or all members of the Septs of the MacLeods or a strong interest in Clan MacLeod are welcome to join our Clan group.

For further information check out the website: www.clanmacleod.org and /or www.clanmacleodnz.org or on **Facebook: Clan MacLeod Society of New Zealand**

and contact: Mary Clark ph 03 351 5357 email: priscillamacster@gmail.com

Secretary of Clan MacLeod Canterbury

or Clan MacLeod NZ National Secretary Moira McLeod laurencemac@slingshot.co.nz

HOLD FAST

SHINE BRIGHT

We Shall Shine a Light



Clan Johnston/e Association New Zealand.

Motto “Nunquam non paratus” meaning “Never Unprepared” or “Aye Ready Aye”

The Annandale Johnston/e’s were at one time the most powerful of the Borders Clans.

They settled originally in Annandale, and have for over six hundred years held extensive possessions in the western marches where they kept watch against English freebooters.

Our Clan Chief – the Rt Hon Earl of Annandale and Hartfell lives near Moffat, Dumfriesshire in Scotland.

Anyone with the names Johnston or Johnstone are all related and encouraged to join the Clan.

The Clan is non-sectarian, non-political and a non-profit organisation.

The aim of Clan Johnston/e NZ is to promote and encourage folk to join and revel in their Scottish Heritage.

The Clan gives help and advice in tracing genealogy and family history, here and overseas.

With Clan membership there is the chance to be informed of formal and informal gatherings, social activities and name linked history.

Clan Grant Origins

DNA evidence established in 2007 has now conclusively vindicated the Grant Seannachies of the past who were unanimous that the original Grant Chiefs were of Viking stock. The Chiefs’ ancestral lines go back to Håkon the Mighty, protector of Norway (970-995), Grig, (“Gregory the Great”) Regent of Scotland (878-889), Heming the Great, King of Denmark (fl. 810) and Alfred the Great of Wessex! Our patriarch, Olav Hemingsson came North with Malcolm III around 1057. The Clan’s plant badge, the “Seedling Scots Pine, fruited proper”, echoes the Norse origins of the first Chiefly line. The Crowns on the Chief’s Arms represent the Spirit of Victory. In the tinctures (the colours), the vassalage to Malcolm is acknowledged.

These ancestors of the Grants were in Strathspey during the reign of Malcolm III, their main tasks being to ensure that the beacon atop Craigelachie (by Aviemore) was lit to warn the king – and the rest of Lowland Scotland – if danger threatened from the North. Our crest, the “Burning Hill proper” reflects this as does the War Cry “Craigelachie”; our Motto, “Stand Fast” reflects our attitude towards any attack coming from that direction.

These lands, together with others round Loch Freuchie near Dunkeld, were lost after 1098 when the usurping king Edgar seized the throne with Norman support and Olav (our patriarch) was executed; but 50 years later our pre-Grant ancestors were re-established on the banks of Loch Ness at Boleskine, becoming Lords of Stratherrick for some 180 years. Several heads of the family at this time served as Sheriff of Inverness in that post’s various guises.

The name Grant was adopted as surname about 1175, although it was almost certainly a by-name from 1060. Its basic meaning is “Gritty” – and the Grants have always shown “true Grit” , as do the wandering gravel-bed rivers of StrathErrick and StrathSpey , (akin to Canterbury’s braided rivers and streams).

Clan MacNicol has been an active Clan for 30 years and has currently 41 members, hailing from both the North Island and the South Island.

The current President of Clan MacNicol New Zealand is Mr Bruce Nicholson and the Secretary/Treasurer is Mrs Lyn Nicholson.

The current Chief is John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac. (John Nicholson), who lives in Ballina, NSW, Australia.

In 1987 the worldwide Clan purchased 130 acres of land near Portree on the Isle of Skye, part of the original Scorrybreac Estate.

This land is held in Trust as parklands for anyone to enjoy.

International Clan Gatherings are held every two years with every second one being on Skye.

CLAN DAVIDSON SOCIETY IN NEW ZEALAND INC

Davidsons have associations with virtually all parts of Scotland, particularly the central Highlands and the Borders. Clan Davidson has played a significant part in Scottish history and has spread all over the world. The Chiefship of the Clan is now held by a New Zealander – the only Scottish Clan Chief to live here – Grant Guthrie Davidson. Grant lives in Auckland with his wife Brenda & their two daughters.

CDSNZ was formed in Dec 1998 and welcomes all who bear the name of Davidson or its septs & associated names and to all who can trace their descent from an ancestor bearing these names. A newsletter is sent three times a year to the members & the Clan is represented at various Highland games & Scottish gatherings throughout the country where possible. A gathering of Clan members along with the AGM is held in a different part of the country each year. Members interested in tracing their family tree can have information published on the website & can be assisted with their research by our Clan Genealogist who has a database of N Z Davidsons. Annual membership is \$25 per person/household.

Secretary – Mrs Margaret Rawnsley 2/128 Bramley Drv, Pakuranga. Auck 2012 email rawnsley.family@xtra.co.nz web site. www.clandavidson.org.nz

The McLeans of Coll in the Inner Hebrides.

Our forefathers arrived in NZ in about 1830 on the privately owned ship called "The John Dunscombe" with Neil McLean skipper and his brother Hugh McLean first mate. It was a freighter which carried all manner of things including coal & wine from Sth Africa. Neil's sister, our Great greatGrandmother Annie McLean was our link to The Isle of Coll in the Inner Hebrides just west of the Isle of Mull. The McLeans were part of the original business council of Otago and the Scottish influence is still evident in the present day in Dunedin. The painting of the man with the golden staff is also apparently a direct descendent. He directed his clansmen to the "new Presbyterian" church and my Great Grandfather Neil White was the last McLean in the family to be a minister. The John Dunscombe was scuttled by a Maori tribe near Opotiki and the sailors and passengers were taken captive for 9 months before being released after word 2 warships were being sent from Auckland to free them. The ship was refloated and all the freight returned. The Chief of the village gave my family 2 of his orphaned nieces to raise as Europeans so they would get a good education. It was only a few years ago Danny Ngatai the last of our Maori family passed away although we have more distance connections still in the Waikato. Our family homestead on Coll is still standing and Mum has visited it. McLeans of Coll have their own crest which is quite different from the Duart crest. Legend has it Mull attacked Coll but were repelled in rather savage means. Beheadings and cannibalism ensued. Suffice to say Mull kept away after that.

Clan MacAulay

The Clan lay dormant for 250 years but in 1998 with the objective of uniting the different branches of MacAulays around the world and with no blood line being established the Clan Association agreed to adopt a democratic system to elect a Clan Chief. This was done in 2002 with the election of Ian MacMillan Macaulay .He died in 2003 and his son Diarmid was elected and served a term of 6 years . Since 2010 Hector MacAulay has been our chief. He has visited New Zealand from Crieff in Scotland and was Chief of the day at the Riccarton Scottish Cultural festival 4 yrs ago. Although there is not a New Zealand Society Ruth Cooper has been appointed as New Zealand Clan Commissioner and has attended many of the Scottish and Irish Gatherings overseas. There are other groups of MacAulays in New Zealand who have met for family gatherings.

The Macaulays historically come from Lewis, Uist, Ross-Shire, Ardencaple where the last Chief of the blood line died 1767 near Rhu and West Dumbartonshire.

Contact for Clan MacAulay NZ is Ruth Cooper 03 351 4478 or bandrcooper@gmail.com

Clan Donald

Clan Donald New Zealand consists of six autonomous societies located in Invercargill (Southland), Dunedin (Otago), Christchurch (Canterbury), Auckland, Wellington and Napier (Hawke's Bay). Members trace their ancestry to any of the branches of Clan Donald or the more than 120 "Septs" or affiliated families that make up the total Clan.

Clan Donald New Zealand is an affiliation by blood and kinship, and is called "Clan Donald" rather than the "MacDonald's" to recognise the diversity of names. Even the name "MacDonald" has a variety of spellings; Macdonald, MacDonald, McDonald, MacDonell, MacDonnell as well as the anglicized versions of Donald, Donaldson, Daniels and others. Add to these the names of the Sept families from north-western Scotland and north-eastern Ireland, and you can see why Clan Donald has been the largest and most famous of the clans for almost 1,000 years.

Canterbury Shetland and Orkney Society is based in Christchurch where we meet approximately six times a year. Once a year we head down south to another town for an Annual Gathering just to keep in touch those outside Christchurch. Our aim is to bring together Orcadians, Shetlanders and New Zealanders who have Island connections for social activities. We have a small library which members can borrow from.

SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY - LODGE CARGILL KILWINNING No. 632 Scottish Constitution (established 1878).

Cargill is the only Scottish masonic lodge in Canterbury; its members include avid supporters of Scottish cultural pursuits who are proud to fly their banner alongside those of the Clans.

Drop in at our tent and have a yarn or touch on Robert Burns and his involvement in Freemasonry.