



THE CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT

2019

THE CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE

President:	Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield
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Immediate Past President:	Val Chisholm Perry
	Email: jperry6@ne.rr.com
Vice President:	Ian Chisholm
	Email: ichisholm@shaw.ca
Vice President:	Robert Chisholm
	Email: nikaudesignstudio@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Susan Chisholm of Chisholm
	Email: susanchisholm@tinyworld.co.uk

CLAN COUNCIL

Chairman	Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield
Secretary/Treasurer	Susan Chisholm of Chisholm
Immediate Past President	Val Chisholm Perry
Vice President	Ian Chisholm
Vice President	Robert Chisholm
Australia Branch	Kerry Chisholm
Canada Branch	David Holmes
New Zealand Branch	Fay Chisholm
United Kingdom Branch	Ben Chisholm-Broomfield
United States Branch	Joyel Chisholm Morris
Webmaster	Alastair Chisholm (Lasne, Belgium)
Editor, <i>Clan Chisholm Journal</i>	Martin Chisholm
Genealogy Co-ordinator	Ian Chisholm
Honorary Counsel	Marc Chisholm
Clan Historian	Dr Jean Munro
Co-opted Member	Duncan Chisholm
Editor, <i>'Chisholm Chronicles'</i>/Historian	Dr Margaret Collin
DNA Project co-ordinator	Robert Chisholm
Artefacts Register	Fay Chisholm
Genealogy Database & Forum admin	Alastair J Chisholm (Minstead, UK)
Auditor	Michael Sayers, Thetford, Norfolk UK

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019

This report is put together on December 31st, the last day of 2019.

As we all know through the media coverage parts of Australia are experiencing devastating wild fires. Our thoughts are with all the Chisholm's and families affected by this disaster. I am grateful to know that the Australian Branch Secretary Kim Polley has kept in touch via email with as many of the branch members she can.

We like to welcome Chisholm's coming back to their roots in the Highlands. Duncan Chisholm, Inverness kindly hosted two visitors from Canada, Louise and Wyne Forgas, daughter of the late Elizabeth Miller. Ben and I visited Elizabeth in 2008, when we attended the International Clan Gathering held in Canada.

Over the past two years David Chisholm Higgins (past chairman of US branch), from Colorado has been in touch with Ben and I in planning his 'trip of a life-time' with his family.

The day had come, and in November Duncan Chisholm kindly met David and his sister Eulalie, at the start of the week. I met Eulalie and David at the end of the week. The weather had been extraordinarily kind and all David's party had a lovely memorable time, staying the full week at Erchless Castle. We first met David at Glasgow Airport many years ago. Yes!, we both recognised each other.

During the month of July, The City of Inverness Highland Games is held and The Clan Chisholm has two tables in the Marquee "Clan Village". The Clan Village is organised by the Association of Highland Clans and Societies (AHCS) of which the Clan Chisholm Society is a member. My thanks to the UK Branch Committee who host these tables, and who welcome Chisholms from near and far. It is always a pleasure to greet a new face and we hope these new faces will join our Society. In 2019 the Clan Village saw visiting Chisholm's from Ireland, the USA and within the UK from as far away as the north of Scotland down to the Isle of Wight.

We are grateful to Martin Chisholm who produced an excellent Clan Chisholm Journal. Always interesting to read, the Journal is distributed to our members around the world. Martin is keen to include articles from around the world and with items of interest to all members. In 2019 he certainly achieved that with many famous and not so famous Chisholm's featured from history and to the present day.

Martin is always looking for material from all our branches to include or expand on so please remember to send him your ideas.

Via the technology of email it was lovely to hear from The Reverend Doctor Francis Peter Chisholm, who kindly makes many visits to long standing member Roderick Chisholm in Canada. Sadly Roderick's wife Ruth passed away in 2014. We met Ruth and Roderick at The International Gathering in Inverness in 2001.

Mairi-Angela Foster, great niece of the late Miss Mairi Chisholm of Chisholm, organised the International Clan Gathering in Ypres from 8th to 11th September 2019. The gathering was to commemorate those who fell in WWI including many Chisholm's listed in our WWI commemorative volumes created by Robert Chisholm, New Zealand. Those attending the small Gathering experienced a wonderful memorable and well managed occasion, visiting the Cemeteries, looking for the Chisholm Soldiers graves and paying respects.

Living in Inverness-shire I am lucky to hear about new publications, presentations and historical works of interest to Chisholm's.

The Inverness Field Club in October had a presentation evening by Michael Cope on the book, now available ; " The Photographs of Archie Chisholm – Life and Landscapes in the Outer Hebrides 1881-1913". Alexander Chisholm moved to Inverness in 1913 and was Sherriff Clerk there until his death in 1933. He was also President of The Inverness Field Club.

We were given information via Mike Orchard, grandson of the late Sgt. William Thomas Chisholm of the Northumberland Fusiliers of an account of his time in a German Prisoner of War Camp from 1918 to 1919. These memories Mike Orchard has shared and they are published in a book, via Amazon and Kindle.

On our website we often mention such publications of interest to Chisholm's around the world. The website, ably managed by our Webmaster Alastair Chisholm also has links to information on related events and organisations.

It is always very sad to have to record in my report the passing of members.

In 2019 the US branch had the loss of two stalwart branch committee members. We were all shocked to read that Kathryn Chisholm the Genealogist for the U.S.A. Branch had passed away, very suddenly. Also later in the year Raymond Chisholm Jones, Treasurer and Membership Secretary died. Raymond was brother to then Branch Chairman Gene Chisholm Jones. Over the following sad months Gene pulled the Committee together and announced a new Chairwoman Joyel Chisholm Morris, niece of Val Perry who is currently Immediate Past President of the Society.

Lastly we were sad to hear that a stalwart Committee Member from the New Zealand Branch Anne O' Regan had passed away. Ben and I had met Anne twice at our Inverness International Gatherings. These three clansfolk are remembered for their great contribution to their branches and to our Society and will be sorely missed.

My report cannot be concluded without the word of THANKS.

To all Office Bearers and Project Specialists across all branches - It is your help and enthusiasm given voluntarily which is the foundation of our Society and enables us to keep and grow our membership and achieve the aims of The Clan Chisholm Society.

Finally, but by no means least I personally would like to thank Susan our Society Secretary and Treasurer for all the time and effort put into the Society; for keeping us informed and writing up and circulating minutes of our meetings during the year.

I send you all every good wish for 2020.

Juliette M.H.Chisholm-Broomfield.

President - Clan Chisholm Society, Beauly, by Inverness. Scotland

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## **BRANCH REPORTS – for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

### **AUSTRALIA BRANCH**

Chairman: **Tony Morrison**

Branch Secretary: **Kim Polley**

Branch Representative on Council: **Kerry Chisholm**

Greetings to all members of the Clan,

Our Annual General Meeting gathering was held in Adelaide, South Australia in 2019. We saw some changes to our executive with our long-serving president Donald Chisholm and treasurer Penny Miguel retiring. We are very grateful to Tony Morrison and Valerie Chisholm who stepped up to fill these positions at the AGM.

We decided to offer free membership to children up to the age of 18 years in the hope that it would foster interest in our Clan.

Our time spent together in Adelaide was most enjoyable, exploring the city with its lovely architecture, art galleries and museums. We also spent a day travelling to the beautiful Barossa Valley to visit the Lavender Farm and several wineries.

It was a wonderful opportunity to connect with the South Australian Chisholms and we were grateful for their hospitality.

We decided to hold our 2020 AGM Gathering at Ballarat in Victoria from Friday, March 6 to Wednesday, March 11. Our secretary Kim Polley has prepared an interesting program of activities for us to explore this lovely area and we look forward to another enjoyable time of fellowship together.

Kerry Chisholm

On behalf of the Australian Branch

## NEW ZEALAND BRANCH

Chairman:

**John C Ross**

8 York Place, Palmerston North, NZ, 4412

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

We had our annual gathering once again at the Miramar Uniting Church hall in Wellington, on Saturday 18 May 2019, once again ably organised by our Secretary/Treasurer, Ashley Chisholm, with the catering managed by Anne O'Regan's daughters Nikki and Sharon. Existing officers were re-elected. Otherwise 2019 has been a fairly quiet year.

My wife Doreen D'Cruz and I represented the Clan at the Turakina Highland Games on Saturday 26 January, and as mentioned in the 2018 report our gazebo tent, while being taken down, instead got picked up by a gust of wind and flung up into the nearest tree. Five or six of its aluminium poles got bent, but fortunately they could be unbent, and strengthened by strapping up, and we were able to use the tent again at Turakina on 25 January 2020, in a less-wind-exposed position. One feature of this year's Clan March was the presence of an army contingent, preceding a LAV-3 Armoured Personnel Carrier.

Another worthy annual event I attended was the Kirkin' of the Tartan service at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Turakina, on 13 October 2019.

A sad event on that same day was the death of Anne O'Regan, née Chisholm, in Wellington, with her funeral a few days later in Johnsonville, which was very well attended by extended-family members and friends. Anne had been a member of the Branch since 1994 (a year after its founding), and more recently had admirably organised the catering whenever we had annual gatherings in Wellington. She was a bright spirit, and will be much missed.

Another Highland Games the Clan has been represented at in past years, in Upper Hutt north of Wellington, on the first Saturday in November, did not happen in 2019, evidently due to the ill-health of the prime organiser.

We had only one NZ Clan Newsletter this past year, with our usual editor and compiler, Robert Chisholm, actively preoccupied with completing the series of booklets about Chisholms of all nationalities who lost their lives in the various war-zones during the First World War. He is also the Convenor of the DNA Project. Other members have declared a willingness to help with the Newsletters, but in practice the key role has remained with Robert. One Newsletter is in preparation, but one dares to hope we will be able to bring out two or three in 2020. We certainly need to take some initiatives to recruit new members, and retain existing members.

Dr John C. Ross, 11 February 2020

## CANADA BRANCH

### **The Clan Chisholm Society, Canada Branch. Annual Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2019**

The Canada Branch of the Clan Chisholm Society has now completed its twenty-second year as a separate entity. We now have 59 paid members (in increase of a few new members since last year) with 10 members from whom we are waiting their 2020 annual dues. Those ten have been sent an initial invoice and a reminder. A third reminder will be sent to them shortly. We hope that once all the outstanding dues are paid, we should have a much more solid, albeit smaller, membership upon which we can build. We are also discussing holding an AGM in the near future. It has been a number of years since we have had one due to a number of reasons, the lack of computer access to many of our members being one as the only practical way of holding a meeting is electronically. We are going to put in a concerted effort to fill the executive positions that have been vacant for a number of years, with the hope that the new blood will generate a renewed interest in the Society. It is also hoped interest will be shown in the upcoming Clan Gathering in Inverness emphasis of which will be put in any upcoming correspondence to our membership.

#### BRANCH EXECUTIVE:

The Executive and Board of Directors for 2020 will continue to be:-

President: David Holmes, Calgary, Alberta

Vice-President: George Pyron, Toronto, Ontario

Treasurer: Vacant (acting) - David Holmes, Calgary, Alberta

Secretary: Vacant

Membership Secretary: Vacant (acting) - David Holmes, Calgary, Alberta

Clansman Editor: F Derek Chisholm, Toronto, Ontario

Web Master: Vacant

Branch Genealogist: Vacant

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

#### CLANSMAN NEWSLETTER:

Derek Chisholm of Toronto has been in the Editor's chair of the Clansman newsletter for the past four years and has issued one Clan newsletter. Submissions for a future edition have been forthcoming but when a sufficient number have been gathered, a new issue will be prepared. Copies will be sent to the International Representatives at that time.

#### WEBSITE:

This portfolio remains dormant as we are unable to find anyone in the membership to assume its responsibilities.

#### GENEALOGY:

Ian Chisholm, Ian Chisholm, the International Society Genealogist, continues to play a very important role in our Society by maintaining and updating the Canadian Genealogical Data Base. His assistance in helping members navigate their way around the data base has been critical to its success, and for that I thank Ian for his continued support. The information is available to any paid-up member that may wish to access it.

#### 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.

#### BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION:

Branch President: David Holmes, 2635 – 30<sup>th</sup> Street S.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3E 2M3

Phone: 403-686-6048

Email: [bandit77@shaw.ca](mailto:bandit77@shaw.ca)

Respectfully submitted,

David F. Holmes, Chairman, Clan Chisholm Society, Canada Branch. February 9, 2020

## UNITED KINGDOM BRANCH

Submitted by Chairman - **Ben Chisholm-Broomfield**, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020

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

UK Branch Committee:- Secretary/Treasurer –Susan Chisholm of Chisholm. Genealogist – Vacant.  
Vice Chairman 1 – Duncan Chisholm. Vice Chairman 2 – Norman Chisholm. Historian – Dr Margaret Collin.  
Clans Liaison – Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield. Co-opted members – Mairi-Angela Foster, Martin Chisholm,  
Alastair J Chisholm.

The U.K. Branch has remained active due to Susan kindly issuing our Newsletters.

These Newsletters allow our members who are unable to travel any more to be kept in touch with the branch news and with the activities of The Society. Producing a branch newsletter is a good way for us all to remain connected even if we cannot get together physically. Juliette and I and our secretary Susan are always pleased to receive news-cuttings and items of interest from members.

In July the U.K. Branch met for the Branch's A.G.M. at the Lovat Arms in Beaulieu. The meeting prompted much discussion on the agenda items which included the usual formalities such as the financial accounts but also we remembered friends whom we have lost over the last few months. Some time was spent discussing future plans including the Ypres gathering as well as historical research being carried out by Dr Margaret Collin and a possible display at the Highland Archive Centre. At present following the retirement of Bob Chisholm the branch is still looking for a Genealogist. Following the AGM we enjoyed a High Tea at The Priory Hotel in Beaulieu. Once again Members were able to chat with each other and catch up on their news. Frances Chisholm from Uckfield popped in briefly after a family party being held at Erchless Castle. Alastair Chisholm our genealogy database and forum administrator who is Frances' nephew by marriage had taken the Castle for a few days with his family to celebrate his birthday.

The next day, Saturday the U.K. Branch Committee manned a table at The City of Inverness Highland Games, where we met a few Chisholm's from across the UK and the world. It is hoped they will become Members.

Due to the fact I have been unavailable at times during 2019 (having had two hip replacements) I am very grateful to Duncan Chisholm and the Committee for taking on most of my duties in the past year.

Duncan kindly met up with Louise and Wyne Forgue from Canada. Louise is the Daughter of the late Elizabeth Miller who attended the International Gatherings, also meeting up with David Higgins from the U.S.A., at The Priory Hotel for Sunday lunch.

It was a pleasure to meet up with Lucy and Bobby from Ireland, (Lucy being Susan's sister) with Susan, at The Priory Hotel for a meal on their "flying tour" of the Highland's in October.

I would like to thank personally Mairi-Angela Foster for organising the International Clan Gathering at Ypres, Belgium. I was sad I was unable to attend.

The members and friends who did attend thoroughly enjoyed the few days with the Guide, Stefaan Vandenbussche and Robert Chisholm from New Zealand, who had done a lot of research for this Gathering. Sincerely we hope Robert has made a complete recovery since the gathering, where he was not very well.

Before finishing my report I must mention that the U.K. Branch is thinking of the Australian members, with all the devastation as the fires rage at present.

Sending all Chisholm's every good wish for 2020.

Yours Aye *Ben*

Ben Chisholm-Broomfield. Chairman UK branch Clan Chisholm Society.

## UNITED STATES BRANCH

United States Branch  
2019 Annual Report  
Submitted by Joyel Chisholm Morris

**President/Chairwoman – Joyel Chisholm Morris**

17 Eldorado Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824 USA  
E-Mail: [uschisholm@yahoo.com](mailto:uschisholm@yahoo.com)

|                                                      |                         |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Vice President, Chaiman- John “Jack” Chisholm</b> | Minneapolis, Minnesota  |
| <b>Treasurer/Membership – Gene Chisholm Jones</b>    | Acushnet, Massachusetts |
| <b>Secretary – Open</b>                              |                         |
| <b>Newsletter – Gene Chisholm Jones</b>              | Acushnet, Massachusetts |
| <b>Genealogy – Open</b>                              |                         |

I am very thankful to all our membership for the support and patience this past year, in light of all the changes in leadership and organization. We solicited nominations for Branch Officers and held an election with the following results: Joyel Chisholm Morris, President; John “Jack” Chisholm, Vice President and Gene Chisholm Jones, Treasurer/Membership Coordinator. As the newly elected executive committee, we seem to be settling in quite nicely and I am enjoying “getting my feet wet” with the operations of our Clan Branch. I look forward to our continued successes and hopefully meeting many of you at Scottish events throughout my tenure as your President.

I am also pleased to announce that membership numbers continue to rise. As of December 31, 2019, regular membership stood at 163.

I believe this is due to the positive and dedicated contributions by our Ambassadors, our families and ourselves that keeps the recruitment on an upward swing. We can’t do it alone; it takes a “Clan” to be successful. Thank you all for being part of our Clan.

This year also sounded another sad note for our Society in the passing of Raymond Chisholm Jones, our Treasurer and Membership Coordinator. Many of you, if not all of you have emailed, talked with or phoned Raymond at some time or another. He was always there if you had a question, or if you wanted a novelty. He loved to chat with fellow Chisholm’s. He will surely be missed!

Our thoughts and prayers are with Chisholm family members serving with our Armed Forces both here and abroad for a safe and speedy home coming.

Respectfully submitted the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

Joyel Chisholm Morris

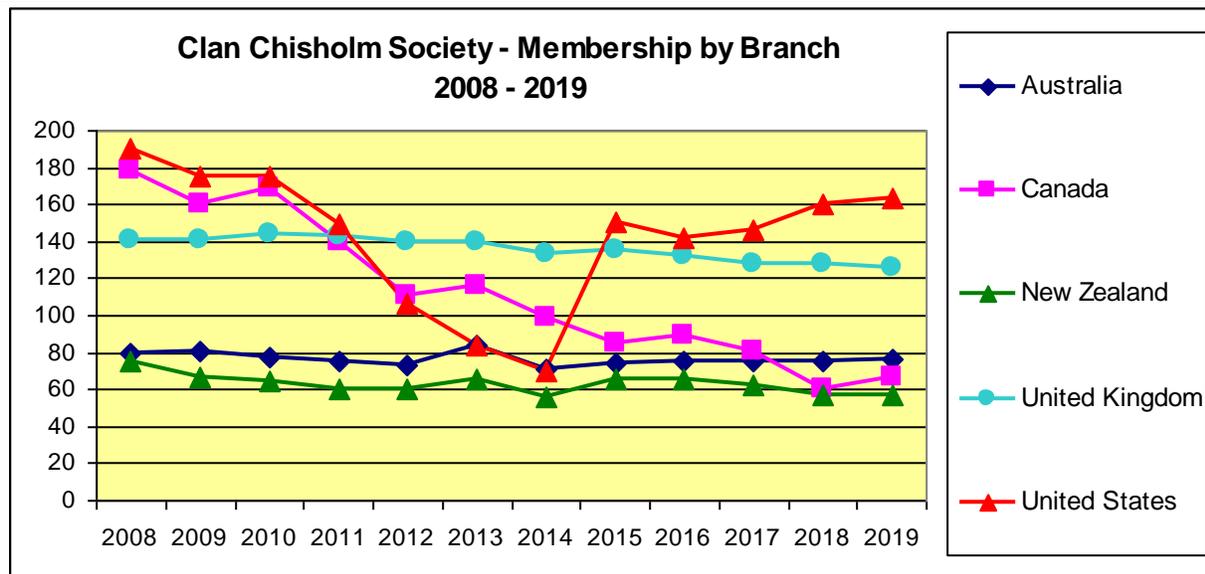
## GENERAL REPORTS

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT - compiled 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Membership of the Society in 2019 shows a slight increase from 480 to 489 households. Australia, NZ and the UK remain steady. The US branch continues to retain and gain members and Canada branch is showing a gain of 7 paid up members over 2018.

*The following tables show membership numbers by branch for the past ten years (at year end)*

| Branch       | 2010       | 2011       | 2012       | 2013       | 2014       | 2015       | 2016       | 2017       | 2018       | 2019       |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Australia    | 77         | 75         | 73         | 84         | 71         | 74         | 75         | 75         | 75         | 76         |
| Canada       | 169        | 140        | 111        | 116        | 99         | 85         | 89         | 81         | 60         | 67         |
| NZ           | 64         | 60         | 60         | 66         | 56         | 66         | 66         | 62         | 57         | 57         |
| UK           | 144        | 143        | 140        | 140        | 133        | 136        | 132        | 128        | 128        | 126        |
| US           | 175        | 150        | 106        | 84         | 70         | 151        | 142        | 146        | 160        | 163        |
| <b>total</b> | <b>629</b> | <b>568</b> | <b>490</b> | <b>490</b> | <b>429</b> | <b>512</b> | <b>504</b> | <b>492</b> | <b>480</b> | <b>489</b> |



### CLAN CHISHOLM JOURNAL

In 2019 Martin Chisholm produced his third edition of the Journal. 550 copies were printed at 56 pages plus quality cover of 4 pages at a cost of £1,274. Distribution to branches came to £568.39. The price per copy to branches is currently set at £3.50 to cover all costs.

See accounts pages of this Annual report. *Susan Chisholm – Hon Secretary.*

#### Journal Update for Clan Council Meeting 7th December 2019

The feedback on the three Journals that I have edited has been positive, which is pleasing thank you. The 2020 edition, Number 63, is at the early planning stage and targeted as usual for publication in March 2020. So far, I have received a couple of ideas from Members and have received a call from Mairi-Angela who has agreed to collate and submit an article on the Ypres visit.

I encourage all Branch contacts to submit regional content or stories that the wider Clan readership would find interesting. The earlier the better please, though letting me know a potential with the article mid-late January would work.

My aim remains to provide a balance of Regions, Gender and general interest and normally prioritise submitted material over research I carry out.

Emigration being a key subject for the globalisation of the Clan, I have an idea to include a story on the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower. ( 6 September 1619).

As ever, I look forward to receiving input.

*Martin Chisholm. Clan Chisholm Journal Editor.*

## CLAN CHISHOLM WEBSITE

**Report for 2019** - Submitted by Alastair Chisholm - Webmaster.

The annual subscription to WWW.ONE.COM was renewed as usual in mid-year.  
Access statistics continue to show daily robot access to the main page – so no significant details available.  
Access to the content pages is slightly down on previous years, with less interest in DNA testing and Erchless Castle.

### **Updates to website in 2019**

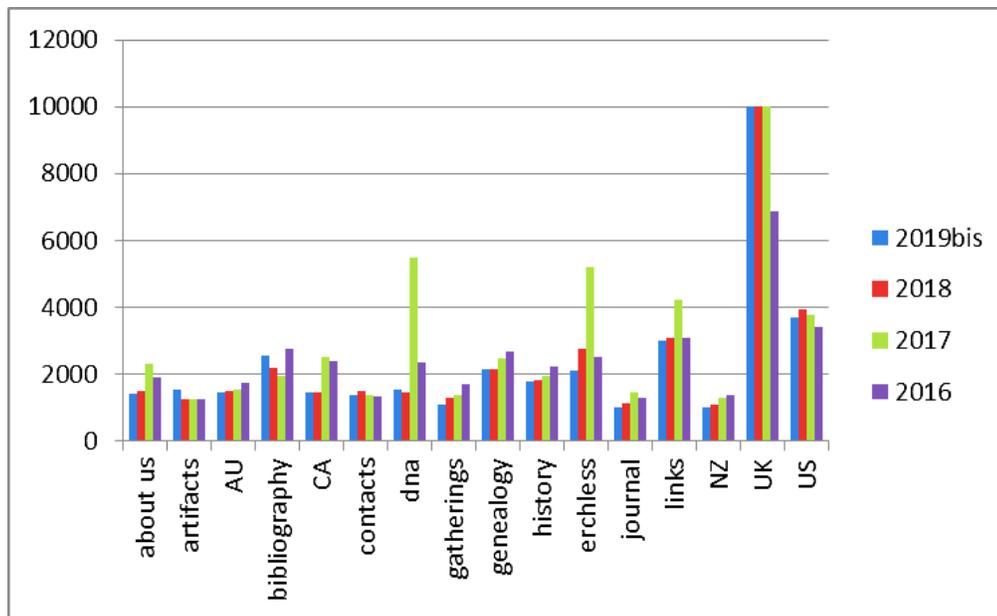
A few small articles were updated:

- Promotion of Strathglass Heritage Association initiative on The Clearances.
- News from the Association of Highland Clans.
- Update to 25 reports of artifact information received.
- Promotion of the planning for the International Gathering in Ypres in September; (and summary report pending)
- Updates to the bibliography section.
- Addition of hobbies section to one of the member profiles.
- Updates to the Australia home page, with newsletter publication.
- (Request to upgrade site from http to https pending).

### **Facebook**

The number of friends has gone up from 233 to 281 with several requests for genealogical information.

### **Statistics**



**Distribution of interest in pages over the last few years**

## [GENEALOGY DATABASE & CGI Forum](#)

Provided for - Clan Council Meeting December 7, 2019

### **Background**

The Genealogy Initiative consists of three separate but related streams, i.e., The Chisholm Genealogies Website (the Genealogy Database), the Chisholm Genealogies International (CGI aka The Forum), and the DNA Project. This report deals solely with the Chisholm Genealogies Database and The Forum. The DNA Project is mentioned only in the overall context of the Genealogy Initiative. A separate DNA report is filed on DNA progress by Robert Chisholm, DNA Coordinator.

Summary of the capabilities of the Chisholm Genealogies Website and The Forum:

- The Chisholm Genealogies Database contains a searchable database of our inter-related families. It is a priceless asset to CCS members. Its value can only increase over time as additional members submit their family trees.
- The Forum provides a terrific capability for the general public, as well as CCS members, to discuss, research and formulate opinions on “things Chisholm”. It is already a goldmine of information if one learns to navigate it properly. Easily accessible instructions for performing searches are provided on the Forum.

### **Chisholm Genealogies (Clan Chisholm Society Genealogy Database)**

<http://chisholmgenealogy.com/DB/index.php>

### **Background**

The purpose of the Chisholm Genealogies Website initiative is to preserve the heritage of our Scottish clan through the creation and implementation of a worldwide database of Clan Chisholm genealogy records. As part of an ongoing process, the Branch Genealogists are collecting family tree data that can be merged into an international database in an effort to facilitate genealogical research by making these records accessible to our members. The website, known as “Chisholm Genealogies”, has been available to our general membership since March 2009.

The 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.

Family tree data and other documentation, e.g., photos, can be transferred onto the database subject to verification. Submitted data needs to be supported by documentation- (birth/death/marriage certificates, census data or other reliable sources) before it will be included on the main database. ***Note that it is not a requirement to submit actual documents with your family tree. All that is required is a reference to the documentation that you have taken your information from and where that documentation can be found.***

### **Activities/accomplishments for 2019**

Here are some statistics for 2019 with previous year’s numbers in brackets. There are currently 16,909, (16,850) individuals listed on the database, grouped within 5,471 (5,452) families and 81 (80) family trees. Most of these family trees were previously researched by Bob Chisholm and others. The changes noted above for both individuals and families can be attributed to ongoing research by Core Group and individual Forum members. The largest family tree on the database is NZ – Culduthel with 2,280 individuals and 729 families recorded. The next largest is Knockfin with 1,175 individuals and 404 families. At the other end of the scale are two family trees each with 13 individuals: one with 5 and one with 6 families.

There is a small sub-group of members (the Verification Group) dedicated to verifying family trees submitted for inclusion in the database. One family tree was submitted for inclusion into the database by the Verification Group in 2019. This particular family tree was an excellent example of the value of the verification process.

The 'Henry Co., KY' tree, documents the descendants of John Chisholm, born "about 1801", who came to Henry County, Kentucky, USA from Scotland and married Cinderella Parr. The family tree was added to the database because there was sufficient source documentation to verify the marriage of John and Cinderella and details on their descendants. As a result 15 families consisting of 54 individuals were added to the database. However, there were issues concerning the stated links back to a family in Scotland with origins in Melrose, Roxburghshire. Our review team (mainly Alastair and Robert) have put in a lot of time and effort to validate the work of the submitter but questions remain on this point. As a result, more information has been requested from this individual.

In 2018 Alastair J. Chisholm UK assumed responsibility for the Database as Database Administrator. He replaced Bob Chisholm UK who had stepped down due to health issues. Alastair continued in this role throughout 2019 with implementation of a number of improvements and upgrades. A big thank you to Alastair for his ongoing efforts in managing this important part of our shared heritage.

## **Chisholm Genealogies International (The Forum)**

[www.chisholmgenealogy.com/cgi-bin/yabb2/YaBB.pl](http://www.chisholmgenealogy.com/cgi-bin/yabb2/YaBB.pl)

This bulletin board style web site continues to be a very useful vehicle for the exchange of information on 'things Chisholm'. New members are warmly welcomed and, best of all, it's free. They 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 9,148 (8,779) unique postings on 1,133 (1,102) topics. Bracketed numbers indicate activity from one year ago. There are currently 316 registered members, up from 293 at this time last year.

### **Noteworthy Additions to the Forum:**

In 2014 the Chisholms at War board was established by Alastair Chisholm with a view to recording details of Chisholm soldiers throughout history. The intention was not just to produce a record of World War casualties but also any military records of interest. We have come across Chisholms involved in both sides of the Jacobite risings, a host of clansmen serving in the Royal African Corps and in other regiments throughout the British Empire. Further, there are American Civil War and American Revolution soldiers worthy of note.

Due to the centenary of WW1 in 2014 the initial focus became the establishment of a WWI Roll of Honour. Robert Chisholm took on a project which, when completed will see the publication of 5 booklets on WW1 Chisholm casualties in the various theatres of war. Volume 1 – Flanders: was published in 2017. Last year he published 2 more booklets: Volume 2 – Middle East and Volume 3 – France, part 1. The original goal for 2019 was the completion of the remaining 2 booklets: Volume 4 – France, part 2 and Volume 5 – Home Records. However, as Robert said recently, life got in the way and prevented him from achieving these milestones. The revised plan is to publish Volume 4 – France, part 2 in early 2020 and then focus on Volume 5 – Home Records later in the year. To date he has done a fantastic job of collating and publishing these important records of casualties in the Great War!

The Forum served as a focal point on gathering information for each of the individuals identified as casualties during WW1. Forum members provided additional information to Robert based on their personal knowledge and subsequent research. As Robert states, in his own words "even if I was sometimes talking to myself I used it as a repository".

To understand how the Forum works the following information on Forum structure may prove helpful. Individual topics are grouped with like-minded material using the following structure:

**Categories** - The first major subject grouping in the Forum. Categories are a collection of Boards that represents a grouping of similar ideas or subjects.

**Boards** - The second major subject grouping in the Forum, a division of Categories. Boards are a collection of Topics where users discuss specific subjects.

**Topics** - This contains all the posts in a particular topic of discussion. The subject of the topic is determined by the subject chosen in the first post in a topic. The collection of first post and all replies to it are sometimes called a "Thread."

## **Planned Activities**

The following ongoing activities hopefully will make the Forum site more accessible and user friendly to the general membership.

### ***Member Communication***

From the statistics described earlier in this report it is obvious that this year there has been a considerable drop off in both Forum activity and additions to the Database. Have we reached a saturation point in reaching out to the Chisholm community or?

At this juncture we have no answers to this question. As one of our Core Group expressed it "People ask, people pop in, so many don't take the next step of either joining the Forum or making a subsequent reply to their first post. It's really down to these individuals. We can't do everything for them as we do enough as it is. There are plenty of resources and assistance available to those willing to help themselves. There are often similar responses (non responses) to queries made on the much easier public platform of Facebook, where Alastair or Robert may provide a clue or two and a pointer where appropriate to the Forum, but some of them can't even be bothered following up on Facebook. It may not be exactly saturation point, but it's getting close. So existing means of communication can be maintained but I can't see much hope for new efforts."

The release of additional booklets covering more theatres of the WWI project will provide a reason to communicate with the wider Chisholm world. Robert will complete his project in 2020. All 5 booklets will be available on the main Clan Chisholm website. Hopefully this will help to stimulate interest in the Forum and related functions.

### ***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.

## **Administration**

### ***Genealogy Database***

Alastair J. Chisholm, Hampshire, UK, continues as the Master Database Administrator.

### ***Forum***

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

Once again, a huge **Thank You** to Alastair for taking on these important roles.

### ***Research expenditures***

Our Treasurer, Susan Chisholm, reports the following expenditure for the year:

- Web Hosting Service for the Database & the Forum will be covered by the budgeted amount of £120.00.

## **Core Group**

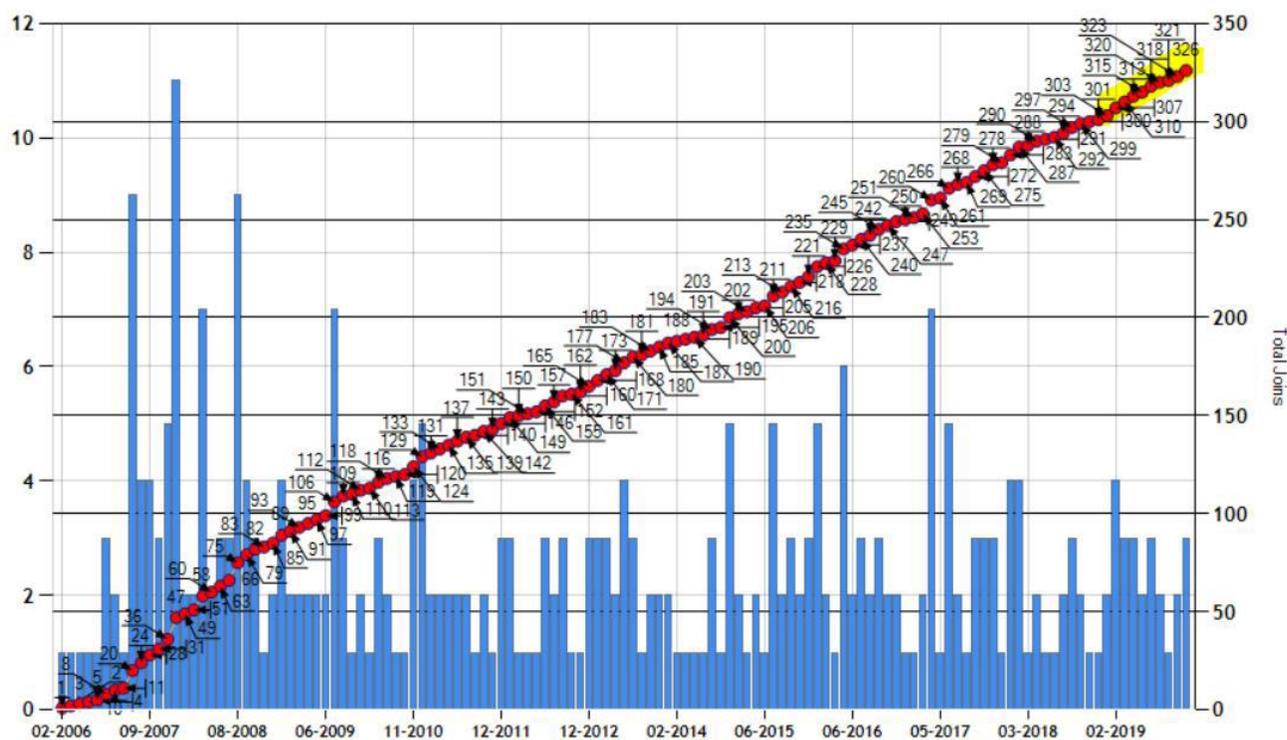
- Alastair J. Chisholm, Hampshire, UK, Master Database Administrator and CGI Forum Administrator
- Anna Chisholm-Dickinson, Spokane, Washington State, USA
- Robert Chisholm, NZ (Project Lead for WW1 Centenary and DNA Projects)
- Elizabeth Chisholm, Lincolnshire, UK
- Susan Chisholm of Chisholm, Suffolk, UK, Treasurer
- Audrey Barney, NZ Branch Genealogist (retired)

Ian Chisholm  
Project Liaison,  
Genealogy Initiative

## DNA PROJECT REPORT

### Clan Chisholm DNA Project: Report to Clan Council December 2019

Project joins continue upward on the same trajectory since 2008. Of the current 326 total of project members, 255 of these have done Y chromosome tests of some description, the balance being mitochondrial and autosomal tests. Speaking of autosomal tests, I am extremely happy to announce that Kim Polley has assented to becoming a project co-administrator, and she has a special interest in this type of testing.



In the Y-DNA project, there have been 5 new members with Chisholm surnames in 2019. 2 of these results are pending, while 3 have been returned.

Of the returned results, JLC is part of the I-M253 (formerly I1A) founder group, and close matching 67/67 indicates and ancestral family connection with Alexander Ruadh who came to Malignant Cove in the very early days. I just checked up and found he was the brother of one of the people in that subset, more on this in final paragraph

MCC, also I-M253 founder group, and again indicative of ancestral connections with Nova Scotian immigrants or clearance victims.

CC, from Southern USA has the ubiquitous R-M269 type (formerly R1b) but with no Chisholm surname matches currently in the project.

Of the project members with results or testing pending, for one of them I have currently no information, for the other one, DC from Western USA, he has provided background info which is always useful to know. In this case I checked his information on the database but did not find a connection. (Gr GF is John Chisholm b 1855 Rheindown, Urray). His membership to the project has an interesting backstory. He did one of the popular Ancestry.com 23 and me tests, and was matched with Alice Fairhurst, Founder of the Clan Chisholm DNA Project. The matching was via a common McRae ancestor, and as we all know, McRae's were part and parcel of the olde Strathglass scenery. Alice of course pointed him to the Y-DNA project.

Research by interested parties has led to the DNA project results providing some revelations regarding Virginian genealogies. What looks like being revealed is that a Virginian immigrant is the progenitor of a very large subset within the project, incorporating the surnames Chisolm and Chism. The revelations may be challenging for at least 2 established family groups who have fixed ideas on their Chisholm ancestry, though without any reasonable evidence to support their ideas. The research will also challenge several claims made

in the work “Historical Southern Families” by Mrs. Boddie, and this will bring yet a third US group into the discussion, as it will put a firecracker under one of their foundational claims. Statements made in such work *as Historical Southern Families* seems to be simply accepted as fact, when some of the things written would not have passed a sniff test even in the time when written back in the mid-20th century. The scientific confirmation of the Norman origin theory was the first major finding of the DNA project. This Virginian subgroup of the I-M253 founder type will also represent a major finding of the project, and it may be a finding not well received by some of the descendants. It’s going to be a long task getting this ready for public consumption. I can’t recall if I mentioned a particular result at a previous meeting, illustrating a success of the DNA project. This concerned the DNA result of the Joseph Wilson Chisholm descendant family, widely dispersed in NZ and represented by President John Ross, Historian Audrey Barney, and committee member the late Anne O’Regan, and co-founder of the NZ branch, Douglas Chisholm. Audrey had for a long time been stumped by this family, she could not get the genealogy out of South Yorkshire, she knew that the earliest known immigrant Daniel Chisholm came in late 1700’s from somewhere, but where was that? The DNA result was a bit perplexing, clearly the I-M253 founder type, but with such results as it looked like it could fit to the Borders (Berwickshire) type, or possibly an olde Strathglass type. The CCS WW1 commemoration tour stopped at the gravesite of Private Douglas Wilson Chisholm at Poelcapelle, and noted the inscription on the grave “True to his Clan”, indicative that his family 100 years ago held some knowledge of their origin. Results recently came from DGC in Sydney NSW, and cousin PC in Boston, and they had the identical peculiarity. However these two members have a clear line of descent to the Highlands via Gaelic speaking Alexander Ruadh who came to Malignant Cove Nova Scotia in later 1700’s or early 1800’s. The early generation of this family also had a son named Daniel, which although is not an unusual name, neither is it a common name amongst Chisholms of that era. So although we cannot provide an exact ancestral address for this family, the DNA project can say with certainty that the address lies in the Highlands. It’s certain that the immigrant ancestor to South Yorkshire, and the immigrant ancestor to Malignant Cove, were from the same family, though the relationship could have been anything from brother to a distant cousin.

Robert Chisholm, Admin for Clan Chisholm DNA Project.  
Co-admins: Alice Fairhurst (USA), Kim Polley (Aus)

### [CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY – WWI CENTENARY MEMORIAL PROJECT](#)

Robert Chisholm, New Zealand has completed the first three Volumes of his planned five: Flanders, Middle East, France part 1 are all available as eBooks from our website at [clanchisholmsociety.org](http://clanchisholmsociety.org)  
Robert hopes to complete work on Volume 4 (France part 2) in 2020 and then begin on Volume 5 (Home records) after that.

### [CHISHOLM HISTORICAL RESEARCH / \(Chisholm Chronicles Project\)](#)

In recent months I have been consolidating the research I have done on the Chisholme families of the Borders. There are many documents to deal with and they are revealing facts that contradict some of the information written in Mackenzie's book about the early Chisholmes who arrived in England in the wake of the Norman Conquest and those who made their way into the Scottish Borders at the invitation of David I.

I have been impressed with the work done by Robert Chisholm in the DNA Project and would like to consult with him regarding the linking of DNA evidence to my historic research.

My research has also brought to light Chisholme artefacts that will need to be recorded in the register that Fay Chisholm is administering. I am holding back from sending this information to Fay because I would like the first images of these artefacts to appear in the book on the Borders Chisholmes that we hope to publish.

*Dr Margaret Collin, Chisholm Chronicles/Chisholm Historical Research. 09/12/2019*

## [ARTEFACTS REGISTER](#)

Members are encouraged to contact Fay Chisholm in New Zealand [mj.fd.chisholm@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mj.fd.chisholm@xtra.co.nz) and / or their branch Chairman regarding items of Chisholm interest which could be added to the register. The items may not be in the possession of the Clan Chisholm Society but are of interest to Chisholm's. To read about and view some of the items in the register follow the links on the Clan Chisholm Society website from the clan history tab. Fay reported on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019 that there were 27 artefacts recorded.

- 1 Military Bugle = NZ
- 2 Oak box with inscription from ship Clan Chisholm = England
- 3 Sherriffmuir Claymore Sword owned by Colin Chisholm and used at Culloden = Canada
- 4 Decanter owned by Archibald Chisholm with inscription = USA
- 5 Old Plaque from Culloden = Scotland
- 6 Watercolour painting by John Williamson = Scotland
- 7 Mullardoch Stone New plaque at Culloden for Chisholm = Scotland
- 8 Erchless Castle fire place =
- 9 Swords of Inverness Town Hall = Scotland
- 10 Letters about Chisholm estates mainly to the chief = Scotland
- 11 Chisholm Armorial bookplates = England (Stirches)
- 12 Tartan cloak = Scotland
- 13 Oak box = Scotland
- 14 Tablecloth and Napkins with inscription = USA
- 15 Cupboard door = Scotland
- 16 Stirches silver shield plate = England
- 17 Highland Flintlock dress Pistols = England
- 18 The Junius letters =Canada
- 19 Gun flints = England
- 20 John James Scott Chisholm manuscript = Scotland
- 21 Waterloo Spoons = Scotland
- 22 Medlam files = NZ
- 23 Armorial Bookplates (Roderick Donald Matheson Chisholm) = Canada
- 24 Statue William Chisholm Bishop of Dunblane = France
- 25 Dirk Blades =Scotland
- 26 Sporting Gun Roderick D.M. Chisholm = England
- 27 The 1st Edition 1913 of "The Day is dead" & 2nd edition 1939 By Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm of the 42nd Black Watch Regiment. = England

## MINUTES OF 68th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 23rd March 2019

10:00 GMT. 11 Croyard Drive, Beaulieu, Inverness, Inverness, Scotland IV4 7EE - by Electronic means

The president opened the meeting at 10:00 and looked forward to receiving comments from all.

Juliette sent deepest sympathy to New Zealand on the recent shocking killings at Mosques in Christchurch. Members from all branches also sent their condolences to the people of New Zealand.

The agenda, financial reports and minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated on 17<sup>th</sup> March.

The meeting was held open until Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March. A quorum was achieved on 24<sup>th</sup> March and votes and comments invited.

Those present: -

Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield (President), Susan Chisholm (Secretary/Treasurer), Val Chisholm Perry (Immediate past president), Fay Chisholm (New Zealand branch representative), Kerry Chisholm (Australia branch representative), Ben Chisholm-Broomfield (UK branch representative), David Holmes (Canada branch representative), Martin Chisholm (Clan Chisholm Journal Editor), Gene Chisholm Jones (US branch representative), Alastair Chisholm (Webmaster and UK branch member), Margaret Collin (Historian & UK branch member), Duncan Chisholm (clan council, UK branch member and a past president), Ian Chisholm (Vice president, Genealogy Liaison and Canada branch member), Robert Chisholm (Vice president, DNA project and NZ branch member), Alastair Chisholm (Genealogy database/Forum & UK branch member), John Ross (NZ branch chairman), Kim Polley (Australia branch secretary), George Pyron & Shirley Sutherland (Canada branch).

### AGENDA ITEM 1

- Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting, being the 67th held electronically 21th April 2018. 11, Croyard Drive, Beaulieu, by Inverness, IV4 7EE. Scotland.

The minutes were accepted as read -

Unanimously Approved

### AGENDA ITEM 2

- Presidents Report

The president's report for 2018 had previously been circulated and presented at clan council meeting.

NB. The Annual Report contains the president's report, branch reports, membership report and project reports for the preceding year.

There were no comments and the report was accepted unanimously.

### AGENDA ITEM 3

- Treasurers Report

The Financial Statement for Year 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 as prepared by the Treasurer (SCC) and Audited (Mr Michael Sayers) on January 31st 2019.

The treasurer's report including profit & loss statement and the balance sheet had been circulated to clan council and approved at Clan Council Meeting held on 23rd February 2019. These statements had also been circulated to UK branch members. There were no questions relating to the financial reports.

The accounts were accepted -

Unanimously Approved

### AGENDA ITEM 4

- Election of Officers

President – Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield (UK)      Secretary / Treasurer – Susan Chisholm (UK)

Vice President – Ian Chisholm (Canada)      Vice President – Robert Chisholm (NZ)

All current Officers agreed to stand for a further year.

Approval was sought to elect en bloc the officers as above –

The nominations for officers as proposed were accepted -

Unanimously Approved

## AGENDA ITEM 5

### - Appointments

- (a) Auditor – Michael Sayers (UK)
- (b) Honorary Counsel – Marc Chisholm (Nova Scotia)
- (c) Webmaster – Alastair Chisholm (Belgium)
- (d) Clan Historian – Dr Jean Munro (Edinburgh)
- (e) Editor *Clan Chisholm journal* – Martin Chisholm (Darlington, UK)
- (f) Genealogy Project Co-ordinator – Ian Chisholm (Canada)
- (g) Co-opted member of Clan Council – Duncan Chisholm (Inverness, Scotland)

### - Clan Society Projects

- (h) New History/Chisholm Researches – Dr Margaret Collin (Scotland)
- (i) Artefacts Register Chairman – Fay Chisholm (New Zealand)
- (j) Clan Chisholm DNA project Chairman – Robert Chisholm (New Zealand)
- (k) WW1 Centenary Memorial Project – Robert Chisholm (New Zealand)
- (l) Genealogy Database Administrator & (m) CGI Forum Administrator - Alastair Chisholm (UK)

Approval of all Appointments and Project leaders as listed was sought –

Unanimously Approved

Fay asked whether the book recently acquired by Alastair (Database/Forum) should be added to the artefact register. Alastair responded that he had passed the book 'A Day that is Dead' to Susan Chisholm for the archive. It is in large part an account of the lives of Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm and his wife Maria Frances Lynch who in the latter part of their lives occupied the house at Glassburn in Strathglass.

AMC was a captain in the 42nd Regiment, the Black Watch, and a distinguished soldier, sportsman, piper and some would say a model of a Highland Gentleman.

The book also contains descriptions of various interesting artefacts which were in the possession of the couple in their lifetime including one of the famous swords now hanging in the Town House at Inverness. It is a first edition (1913) author's copy and as such contains significantly less material than his later second edition (1939). Alastair had now managed to purchase a copy of the *second* edition and was in the process of scanning it to make a digital copy for the Clan.

Duncan was interested to read Alastair's comments on Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm of Glassburn House. The sword was removed from the Town House while the building was being renovated and Duncan is pleased to say that it is now back in place along with the other Chisholm broadsword from Culloden. Duncan attached a picture of Archibald Macra Chisholm which is now in the possession of Ben & Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield.

Duncan had enjoyed reading the interesting articles in Clan Chisholm Journal number 62 and congratulated Martin on the issue. He believed that Shirley Chisholm's portrait had been included on dollar bills and was interested to read about Sheila Mackellar Chisholm. He also enjoyed reading the article about Chisholm lumbar. He had met Shirley Chisholm Sutherland a few times. It was fitting to include the article and photograph of the late Rob Chisholm; Duncan remembered him piping at the International Gathering in Inverness. Duncan also was used to seeing a framed picture of Archie Chisholm, Procurator Fiscal in the court rooms at Inverness Castle. Duncan was now retired from the bench after 22 years of service and was not sure if the portrait was still on view.

Robert thanked Duncan for noting the interesting articles in this year's Journal. The NZ branch would receive their copies very soon. He knew the history of the sword presented by Captain Macra Chisholm but would like to know more of the other sword. He asked if they were both listed in the artefacts register.

Fay confirmed the two swords were listed together with photographs and a short write up. She would be pleased to receive further information to expand on what she has already which was sent by Duncan in 2009 and was taken from a history book exhibited in the Town House, Inverness.

Robert asked about an image of the procurator fiscal to add to the database. Mr Chisholm would feature in the next volume of WW1 losses as his son was a lieutenant in the Cameron's and was killed at Arras in 1917. Kim confirmed the photograph supplied was Archie Chisholm and there were many of the family in the recently published book *The Photographs of Archie Chisholm* by Michael Cope.

Juliette had just received the latest Clan Chisholm Journal and congratulated Martin on an excellent edition. She and Ben are aware of the amount of work that goes into a good quality journal. A member had commented on the international content which was pleasing as we are an international society. Martin thanked Juliette for her kind words. Kerry looked forward to seeing the latest clan Journal.

#### AGENDA ITEM 6 - New Business

##### 6a – WW1 Centenary Memorial and Society visit to Ypres 8th to 11th September 2019.

Susan had previously circulated the draft schedule for the Ypres gathering. Following discussion at a clan council meeting the statue of the 'Brooding Soldier' at St Julien would be included. Susan asked Alastair to post the draft schedule on our website. Places were filling up although mainly from the UK branch which does include members in France and Belgium. Mairi-Angela Foster the organiser is keen that it is an International event.

Ben asked whether the full cost for the visit had been determined and when deposits would be required.

Ian thought the event in Ypres a very meaningful endeavour and would follow with interest although due to family commitments was unable to attend.

Robert was working on plans to attend and also asked about when attendance would need to be confirmed.

Susan apologised for the delay in responding as her internet had been down for a few days. Mairi-Angela was working on the costings for the Ypres trip. Susan could give a rough outline. The hotel would be around £300 and dinner about 30 euro's each night. The coach for the four days would be less than 90 Euros per person and depended on numbers attending. Some museums will have an entrance fee but many of the destinations it was planned to visit would have no cost. A few Euro's would be required for lunches. Susan would follow up with Mairi-Angela regarding firmer costs per person. She added that travel to the venue would be the responsibility of those attending and she suggested going on line to check flights, Eurostar etc. The hotel has reserved a number of rooms for clan Chisholm which they will hold until August. Stefaan has included interest for many nationalities in the visits; American, Australian, Belgian, Canadian, English, Flemish, French, German, New Zealand, Scottish, South African.

Kerry thanked Susan for the information which would be circulated to Australia branch members. She and her husband would not be able to attend but she hoped that there would be attendance from Australia.

Ben thought the itinerary very interesting and looked forward to attending.

##### 6b – Website content

Ben raised a topic he had mentioned at a previous clan council meeting; an idea for clansfolk to have a place on our website to share information on their hobbies and interests. Eg. Arts, crafts, woodworking, climbing etc.

David thought this was a great idea, anything that generated interest in the Society was worthwhile.

Kerry agreed that this addition to the website was a good idea and was another way to be of more interest to our members.

Kim also thought Bens idea for a section on hobbies and interests a good one.

Alastair noted that there was a way for council and committee members to add information to their profiles on the contacts page. The same system could be offered to members but would mean maintaining lists on the different home pages.

##### 6c – UK branch gathering

Juliette noted that the UK Branch would hold its AGM on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at the Lovat Arms, Hotel in Beaulieu, Inverness-shire. This would be followed the next day by the City of Inverness Highland Games where the Chisholm clan will have a table as usual in the Clan Village. She looked forward to greeting many Chisholms.

There being no further business the President of the Clan Chisholm Society Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield officially closed the meeting on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 at 10am.

Juliette thanked all for participating and recorded her thanks to all the office bearers of the society for their work, it was much appreciated. The minutes would follow at Susan's convenience.