



## Clan Chisholm Society NZ Newsletter # 38 March 2006



### THE CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL GATHERING 2006

Inverness, Scotland. Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July to Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>  
July 2006

This is the big event of the year. Several members of the NZ society will be there. ( John Ross, Anne O'Regan, Barry & Alastair Chisholm).

Its not too late to book, contact the editor or a member of the executive for a full schedule, or go to the Clan website and download the schedule. An abridged version of the schedule appears on page 3. It certainly looks likely to offer a most interesting and worthwhile experience.

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### Calendar of Coming Events

6th April :Tartan Day ([www.tartanday.gov.uk](http://www.tartanday.gov.uk))

21st April (Friday) Poppy Day.

22nd April: (Saturday) AGM Clan Chisholm Society (NZ).see page 12

Audrey will have with her, in Palmerston North, all the Chisholm family tree files on her laptop computer. If there are any members with both a laptop computer and a memory stick, they may be able to move their own family on to their computer.

25th April:Anzac Day.

23rd-29th July: International Clan Chisholm Gathering , Inverness.

### Acknowledgements:

Thanks to the following for contributing to this newsletter: Audrey Barney, John Ross, Clan Chisholm Canada & UK Branches, Clan Chisholm website, various websites as noted.



This edition is timed to be distributed electronically at the end of March. For postal subscribers there will unfortunately be some delay because of the time required for printing and collation. Subscribers who do not have internet access are urged to see if an "on line" family member or friend can receive the newsletter and print it out for you. This way you too can enjoy faster delivery, and more importantly, a full colour copy (especially important in this issue where the Chisholm Tartans are printed on pages 9 & 10).

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## From the President

Dear fellow clanspeople

We're hoping that plenty of you will manage to come to our annual Clan Gathering on Saturday 22 April, this year in Palmerston North. We hope to do as well in organising it as Lorna, Rhonda and others did last year. If the day is anything like decent, we aim to organise an expedition on the Saturday afternoon through the Manawatu Gorge and up the hill-road to the windfarm. Then in the evening, we will be going out for a dinner together.

Do please make an effort to bring along with you, or encourage to come along, family members or anyone else with a Chisholm interest, however remote. Even if some family members, or others, come along only for the more social parts of the programme, in the morning, they'd be most welcome.

A recent highlight for myself was attending the Turakina Highland Games, on Saturday 18 February (Turakina being southeast of Wanganui), with an opportunity to carry the clan banner in the clan march. The pipe-band championships for the North Island had earlier been held in the Square in Palmerston North, and that had certainly provided some wonderfully stirring music and displays of choreography. The Highland Games, by contrast, offered a great deal more variety, with, also, such challenges as individual piping contests, plenty of Scottish and Irish dancing, a road race, a race up a steep hillside for younger people, and field events such as tossing the caber, shot-putting with a hefty-looking stone, and (for women) tossing a sack of hay over a raised bar, with a hayfork. In the evening there would be a ceilidh, which I didn't stay around for.

The caber was a trimmed pine-tree trunk, quite tall and obviously ponderous - and the trick clearly was to `toss' it just far enough so that when one end hit the ground it would still have enough momentum to tip forwards rather than backwards. Before that, you had to get it up from the deck in such a way that it was perfectly in balance, so that it didn't topple forwards, or topple over backwards with you underneath. One could admire (from a safe distance) the hefty blokes who had a go at this.

I gather Robert Chisholm got along to the Highland Games in Auckland this year. Good for you, Robert.

A major event coming up will be the international Clan Chisholm Gathering in Inverness, Scotland, from 23 to 29 July 2006. Anne O'Regan, myself, and, we hope, several others will be there to represent the NZ Chisholms. Can you make it, maybe?

Another question. Do you know of any tunes, for bagpipes or other instruments, with Chisholm associations?

Clan Council news includes marvellous progress on the international genealogy database (trying to provide some security, vis-a-vis living members, may involve extra costs), slow but steady progress on the Chisholm Chronicles project (we still need a new project editor), and we need a volunteer to take over the Clan website webmaster role.

Closer to home, we seriously need someone (two people?) to take over from Audrey Barney the roles of Clan Historian and Clan Genealogist. Given all the groundwork that Audrey has established, neither role would be very onerous. Could you take on one of them, or suggest someone who could?

With best Chisholm wishes to everyone.

John Ross President, NZ Clan Chisholm Society.



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### Saturday 22 July: City of Inverness Highland Games

Visit the Clan Chisholm and over 30 other Clan and Highland Association's stalls in the Clan Village .See [www.invernesshighlandgames.com](http://www.invernesshighlandgames.com)

### Sunday 23 July: Chieftain Hotel, Welcome Evening

Meet & greet your fellow gathering attendees, collect your information and welcome packs and discuss the week ahead.

### Monday 24 July: Clan Lands 1

A Tour through Strathglass and Glen Affric, with picnic lunch at the Dog Falls.

Return via Clachan, Comar, Marydale, Eskadale, Kiltarlity .

### Evening: 7pm President's Reception

Hosted for our members by the Clan Chisholm Society and President Forbes Merritt Chisholm. Drink and canapés. A chance to meet Clan Chief Hamish and his family.

### 8pm History Evening

Hear from respected historians and genealogists. A chance to ask your local history and genealogy questions and share knowledge.

### Tuesday 25 July:

Kingussie Highland Folk Museum - Learn about the social history of the Highlands and look at the reconstructions of everyday life.

**Culloden** - Lunch in licensed restaurant, then take in the Visitor Centre and a tour of the Battlefield.

Evening: 7.30pm Chieftain Hotel **Ceilidh Dance** with Buffet Supper. Local Musicians and Scottish County Dancers.

### Wednesday 26 July: Golf competition at Aigas, or a day free to plan your own activity

Evening: **Civic Reception** hosted by the Provost of Inverness in the beautiful Town House in the centre of Inverness. Afterwards Musical evening - with gifted young guest musicians from Nova Scotia. Chrissy Crowley (fiddler) with Stephanie Hardy (vocalist)

### Thursday 27 July Clan Lands 2

Glen Strathfarrar and Deer Farm, Lunch at Lovat Arms Beaulieu, visit Beaulieu Priory and Beaulieu Museum and Heritage Centre, Glen Ord Distillery

Evening, Chieftain Hotel **Ceilidh Dance** and buffet supper.

### Friday 28 July: Clan Lands 3

9.30 am; Tour of Glen Cannich up to Loch Mullardoch and Chisholm Cairn. See where the chiefs of old addressed their clansmen.

### 1.30pm; Erchless Castle

Enjoy lunch on the lawns of Erchless Castle, once home of the Chisholm chiefs.

Visit the burial ground of the nineteenth century chiefs.

Walk up to see the pictish 'sacrificial stone'.

### 7.30pm; Inverness Military Tattoo

See the Pipe Bands and the Scottish Dancers as well as the displays of skill by the armed forces. Colourful and spectacular.

### Saturday 29 July

Clan Chisholm Society **Annual General Meeting**: a chance to have your say in how your society is run. Followed by Barbecue Lunch and Farewells.

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the NZ Clan Chisholm Historian

Audrey Barney 2006



As I intimated in my Annual Report last year, my "use by" date was fast approaching, and I was hopeful that someone would come forward to "learn the ropes" last year, so I could retire with a smooth transition from the scene by this year. It hasn't happened, and now with twelve years behind me, working to record the history of the Chisholms in New Zealand, I must regretfully hand in my resignation as Clan keeper of the NZ records, and move on. It's more than time for a younger face.

It has, from my point of view, been twelve very full, worthwhile years, and I feel, with the wonderful co-operation of many Chisholms, our Chisholm families, which I have been able to record and write about, will not be forgotten. It will not be an arduous job to take on - the hard and frantic years are gone, and it is my wish while things are in good shape, and I am around, that I can help a new person to move slowly into the job. They will need a computer. The rewards now are coming, from both New Zealand and international internet contacts - and mostly I am being "found" from the Clan Chisholm website, and this year, requests for information on Chisholms have come, not only from New Zealand, but from England, Scotland, Australia and Canada. I would be more than happy, for this first year, to move the computerized NZ Clan records to another's computer and keep on the work with the international database for a while. As well, the printing out of long pages of family trees will be coming to an end. This work was done on a computer and printer now more than ten years old. Not only are they no longer reliable, but, with the advent of a new Family Tree programme and a new laptop, going on using them would mean keeping every record in four places which is not practical. Family trees, though, will still be possible, but in a different format.

When I published my own Chisholms' family history last year, I had one missing grandchild of Joseph's, unable to be found anywhere after she was eight years of age. This year she found me. Similarly, another big 2005 discovery was with Ian Chisholm of Vancouver Island, working with me on a joint Canadian/New Zealand family from Aberdeenshire. And just this week, I have been found by one of the family of the Nelson Chisholms with a very interesting letter. Earlier in the year another of this family contacted me from Australia. I much appreciate the interest Jocelyn Chisholm has taken in this information, with her ongoing writing. New information, too, has come in on descendants of Robert Chisholm of Whau River, and with Margaret Whitford, much new information has been researched, written up and published about Gilbert Kennedy, a grandson of Archie Chisholm of Springhills. Thanks too, to Lorna Ryder, who manages to keep me in touch with any Chisholm doings reported in the Dunedin papers.

A surprise in the post during the year was a small pamphlet - an oral history on one of our members, Brian Chisholm; and it was from this pamphlet that Margaret Whitford and I copied his idea, to produce a small pamphlet on Gilbert Kennedy, her cousin on the Chisholm side. I understand that Robert Chisholm, our Newsletter editor, is planning a similar pamphlet on his father, Bruce Chisholm. These small cameos are an excellent way to build up our knowledge on our NZ Chisholms and I hope others will copy their ideas.

In May last year, David and I stopped off in Vancouver for a week, after a trip up to Alaska in a small ship. Vancouver Island was of course part of our itinerary, and we had a great time with the International President, who was with us in Wellington two years ago - Merritt Chisholm and his delightful wife Bennie. For dinner, one night, Bennie cooked the biggest piece of rolled Roast beef I have ever seen, to satisfy the appetites of 20 Chisholms all living on the Island. Much appreciated, as were other aspects of our Vancouver stay. And yes, there, I even managed to have an afternoon with one of my own Chisholms, Bruce Chisholm of West Vancouver, son of the late

Paul Chisholm, one of our members, and nephew of Anne O'Regan, another of our members.

However, the main thrust of the year has been the international database, which has gone forward in fits and starts. With folk working on it worldwide, cultural differences in use of English have been a problem at times, but we are slowly getting to understand each other and get the bugs out of the system. It is up and running for just each country's genealogists at the moment, till we get it running the way we want. It will always just be able to be accessed by members of the Clan Chisholm Society. It is an alphabetical index of all known Chisholms, with, when possible each person's spouse, date and place of birth, marriage and death, and whom their parents were. Privacy and security of data have been of big concern and there is no information on anyone born after 1906.

I look forward to your appointing my successor, and having the chance to help them become thoroughly familiar with this most interesting international family of Chisholms.

Audrey Barney April 2006

The obituary below honours the passing of a great pioneer of the modern Clan Chisholm Society. The Canadian Branch of Clan Chisholm has allowed us to reprint their fitting tribute to Wilfrid Medlam, based on the original tribute in the UK newsletter.

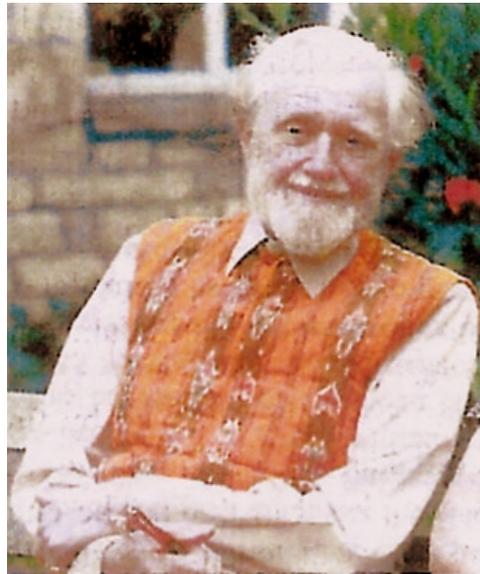
### WILFRID MEDLAM

1914 - October 2005



The Clan Chisholm Society owes Wilfrid a debt of gratitude for his great body of genealogy work.

He joined the society following the International Gathering of the Clans in 1977. Spurred on by Miss Mairi, he actively attended meetings and attempted to set up a South England branch to replace the old inactive London branch. He took over from Jean Munro as editor of the Clan Chisholm Journal in 1983 and was joint editor with Ben Chisholm-Broomfield in 1984. Wilfrid wrote many articles for the Journal and extensively researched Chisholm family trees. In 1985 he suggested updating Alexander Mackenzie's History of the Chisholms. (This was done in 2004). After stepping down from the clan council in 1989, he helped rewrite the constitution and continued his work on family trees.



He was noted for his enthusiasm for Clan and Scottish history and for his attendance at gatherings in his Chisholm 'tartan trews'. He made friends around the world and encouraged the creation of today's International Society. He handed his notebooks to the Inverness museum and donated his family tree files to the clan society. These files formed the basis for the current work of branch genealogists.

The funeral service was held at Westerleigh, near Bristol, UK. Ben and Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield attended. A card was sent to his widow, Virginia, by Forbes Merritt Chisholm on behalf of the International Society.

## Wilfred Opawa Rutherford

By Clan Historian Audrey Barney



In the last Newsletter, Robert published an edited version of a small booklet on Donald Gilbert Kennedy, a Chisholm on his maternal side. Donald was a coastwatcher in New Georgia at Segi during the crucial part of the beginning of the allied advance against the Japanese. I did not realize whilst researching Donald's activities that as the allies moved north chasing Japanese shipping along The Slot (see page 12), there was another Chisholm, serving in the RNZAF No 3 Bomber squadron flying in the air above, on a set route flying over Segi and Donald's lookout! He was Flight Lieutenant Wilfred Opawa Rutherford, son of Alice Mary Chisholm, grandson of Robert Alexander Chisholm (Timaru) and great grandson of Robert Chisholm of the Whau, Auckland. Wilfred was part of the NZ. No. 3 Bomber Squadron, based originally at Guadalcanal, and flying searches up The Slot as far as Vella Lavella and then down round New Georgia over Segi and back to base. In the late afternoon of 7<sup>th</sup> July 1943, Rutherford and his crew of five, left the Kahili airstrip, on Guadalcanal, with flares to drop on Tonolei Harbour in southern Bougainville to provide illumination for the US Avengers who were following them for a torpedo attack on the Japanese shipping in the harbour. One American pilot saw Rutherford's plane, after its completing an excellent flare dropping run near the harbour, but the second arranged drop over Vella Lavella didn't occur. The Allies did not see his plane again. It has now been established that a Japanese Nakajima Gekko night fighter shot down Rutherford's Hudson bomber, west of Shortland Island. This Japanese plane had a downward firing oblique cannon, and his success is quoted as being the only night fighter victory in history achieved through this unusually rare weapon.



The plane and its crew were never found, but their names are in a plaque on the Bourail New Zealand War Cemetery in New Caledonia. As well, Wilfred's name is reported to be on the War memorial at Titirangi, where his widowed mother was then living. Wilfred was a very seasoned pilot, having 3381 hours of flying to his credit, of which 458 were on Hudson Bombers - the plane he died in. He was not married.

\*The Opawa in Wilfred's name came from the name of the runholding the family had held for over 60 years near Albury, South Canterbury – the Opawa Station. The Opawa homestead is, today, used as the centre for ice-skating, and is considered the oldest home of that vintage in South Canterbury.

*Editors note:* No 3 Squadron was the first RNZAF Sqn to engage the Japanese in direct combat. The Hudson Bomber was a militarised version of the Lockheed Model 14 Super Electra. It was a light-weight bomber and was favoured in reconnaissance roles. Nickamed the Boomerang by its manufacturers in California, some of the pilots soon re-named it the "Hudswine." Picture above.

An extensive search through Titirangi and nearby memorials has been made, with the kind help of local RSA dynamo Mr Matt McMillan (of Clan Stewart), and Wilf Rutherford's name is not to be found. This coming Anzac Day would be a good time for Clan members to check their local memorials to see if it can be located. Albury in South Canterbury may be worth special checking, as could be Timaru.

*"We will remember him".*

## Tartan Day April 6

Numerous groups and societies throughout Canada and America have taken the anniversary of the [Declaration of Arbroath](#) (1320) as their national date to celebrate their Scottish roots. This became official in Canada in 1991, and USA in 1998, and is named Tartan Day.

Foremost among Scotland's state papers is The Declaration of Arbroath. It is the best known of Scotland's treasures and is famous the world over, and is seen as a precursor to the American Declaration of Independence. The Declaration is a letter from the earls and barons of Scotland to the Pope, asking him to recognise Scotland's independence and acknowledge Robert the Bruce as the country's lawful king.

It was written during the long war of independence with England which started with Edward I's attempt to conquer Scotland in 1296. When the deaths of Alexander III and his granddaughter Margaret, Maid of Norway, left Scotland without a monarch, Edward used the invitation to help choose a successor as an excuse to revive English claims of overlordship. When the Scots resisted, he invaded.

William Wallace's victory at Stirling Bridge in 1297 won a temporary respite, but Edward refused to relinquish his claims. In 1306 Bruce seized the throne and began a long struggle to free Scotland from the invaders. His success at Bannockburn in 1314 did not end the war, but it allowed normal government to be re-established. However the English still refused to recognise Scotland's independence or Bruce's position as king. It is about this time that the Chisholms become established in the Highlands. Perhaps in return for good service to the Bruce, Chisholm obtained the powerful position as Constable of Urquhart Castle, and this enabled his son to become a suitable, and successful, suitor to the heiress of the lands of Erchless and Strathglass.

On the European front, by 1320 Scottish relations with the Papacy were in crisis after they defied papal efforts to establish a truce with England. When the Pope excommunicated the king and three of his bishops, the Scots sent the Declaration of Arbroath as part of a diplomatic counter-offensive.

The original letter delivered to the Pope in Avignon is lost, but we know it reached him. He wrote to Edward II urging him to make peace, but it was not until 1328 that Scotland's independence was acknowledged.

You will find a full text of the Declaration of Arbroath on many websites, or phone/write/email the editor if you would like a copy. I have reprinted part of the pre-amble, a brief rendition of the pre-history of those Celtic folk the Romans named "Scoti" (In Roman times, residents of Scotia, the emerald isle to the west of Britania, now known as Ireland)

Most Holy Father and Lord, we know and from the chronicles and books of the ancients we find that among other famous nations our own, the Scots, has been graced with widespread renown. They journeyed from Greater Scythia by way of the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Pillars of Hercules, and dwelt for a long course of time in Spain among the most savage tribes, but nowhere could they be subdued by any race, however barbarous. Thence they came, twelve hundred years after the people of Israel crossed the Red Sea, to their home in the west where they still live today. The Britons they first drove out, the Picts they utterly destroyed, and, even though very often assailed by the Norwegians, the Danes and the English, they took possession of that home with many victories and untold efforts; and, as the historians of old time bear witness, they have held it free of all bondage ever since.

To commemorate [Tartan Day](#) in the Clan Chisholm newsletter I researched such things as the origins of tartans, and of kilts, and found a wealth of fascinating information, far too much to share in this newsletter. Therefore I will be leaving readers to research for themselves, using some of the websites I have listed in the Websites of the month column. For postal subscribers, if there is interest or demand, I can include some of this in future newsletters.

What is clear so far as Tartans are concerned, while tartan itself is an ancient woven fabric associated with the Gaelic peoples, the official Clan Tartans, which all people with Scottish heritage take great pride in, are by no means ancient. The cultural chaos following Culloden, and the proscription of the Tartan, severed a link with the past. (continued overpage)

In 1747, The Act for Abolition and Proscription of the Highland Dress forbade the wearing of tartan with offenders receiving a punishment of six months imprisonment or transportation.

That from and after the first day of August one thousand seven hundred and forty-seven, no man or boy within that part of Great Britain called Scotland, other than such as shall be employed as Officers and Soldiers in His Majesty's Forces, shall, on any pretext whatsoever, wear or put on the clothes commonly called Highland clothes the Plaid, Philabeg, or little Kilt, Trowse, Shoulder-belts, or any part whatsoever of what peculiarly belongs to the Highland Garb; and that no tartan or party-coloured plaid or stuff shall be used for the Great Coats or upper Coats, and if any such person shall presume after the said first day of August to wear or put on the aforesaid mentioned garments or any part of them, every such person so offending being convicted thereof by the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses before any Court of Justiciary, or any one or more Justices of the Peace for the Shire or Stewartry or Judge-ordinary of the place where such offence shall be committed, shall suffer imprisonment without bail during the space of six months and no longer, and being convicted of a second offence before the Court of Justiciary or at the circuits, shall be liable to be transported to any of His Majesty's plantations beyond the seas, there to remain for the space of seven years.

It was during the late 18th and early 19th century that attempts were made to re-establish the Clan tartans. This was done via commercial enterprises such as William Wilson who set up a lucrative weaving enterprise at Bannockburn. In 1815, the Highland Society of London urged Clan Chiefs to submit a piece of their tartan to a collection, with the view to preserve "original clan patterns" before they were completely lost. Most of the pieces sealed and deposited with the Society at that time were patterns woven and, appear in a majority of cases, to have been designed by Wilsons.

Pages 9 and 10 show seven versions of the Chisholm Tartan. The graphics and text have been taken directly from the "Scottish Tartans Society" website, and a visit there is highly recommended. [www.scottish-tartans-society.co.uk](http://www.scottish-tartans-society.co.uk)

#### Websites of the month:

Tartan Day: [www.tartanday.gov.uk](http://www.tartanday.gov.uk) This will lead you in many interesting directions.

The American perspective: [www.tartanday.com](http://www.tartanday.com)

Tartan History : [www.donaldsons-of-crieff.com/tartan/history](http://www.donaldsons-of-crieff.com/tartan/history). This site has music to put you in the right mood.

A short history of Tartan: [www.users.zetnet.co.uk/tartan](http://www.users.zetnet.co.uk/tartan)

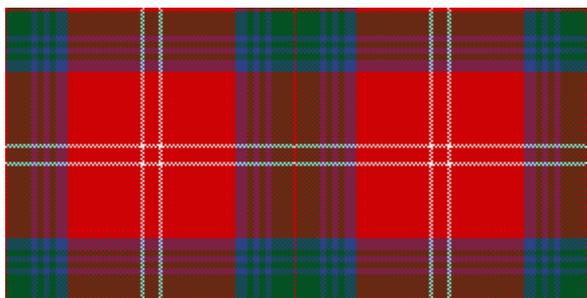
[www.scottish-tartans-society.co.uk](http://www.scottish-tartans-society.co.uk) : Comprehensive site dealing with all things tartan.

In the last Newsletter, Oct 2005, I had a small article on p9 called Website of the Month, showing the residence of William Chisholm and his descendants, in Oakville, Ontario, called Erchless. Audrey now tells me that one of William's grandsons, William King Chisholm, died in 1884 in the Kumara Hospital, after an adventurous life, living and marrying in Australia, before coming on without his family to the West Coast to mine for gold. See Chisholm Pioneers, pp.102-103.

#### How to restore those old photo's: A free and easy to use tool!

A free tool downloadable from Google is the Picasa Programme. This is for those people who find the rather professional photographic programmes too complicated and too expensive. While some skill is needed to work around the filing system, once you have it operating it becomes a really easy job to touch up all those old family photos which are crooked, overexposed, underexposed, grainy and spotty. Just scan in your old brownie pics, then let Picassa turn them into something reasonable. For the ultimate photo dummy, you can even hit a lucky dip button. <http://picasa.google.com/>

Chisholm Tartans (from Tartan Society Website)



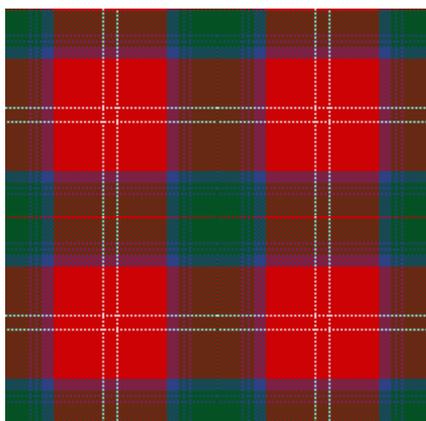
Chisholm of Strathglass (Paton's Collection)

Thread count :  
R8,G24,B6,G6,B6G6,B12,R72,W4,R14



The Chisholm  
(Anderson's sample books)

Thread count :  
R8,G42,B6,R8,B6,G6,  
B12,R74,W4,R24.



The sett as it appears in Grant's "The Tartans of the Clans of Scotland" 1886. It is similar to the sample in the collection of the Highland Society in London dating back to 1815.

Thread count : R2,G24,B2,G4,B2,G4,B12,R48,W2,R12



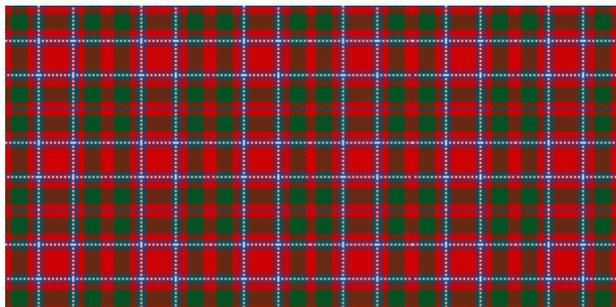
Vestiarium Scoticum

Although the Vestiarium has been discredited as an authentic source, many of the tartans appear to be based on older setts, in this case the "Black Watch". There are specimens of both Chisholm and Chisholm Hunting in the collection of the Highland Society of London, sealed and marked 'presented by Lt.Col. Chisholm-Batten, 1907'.

Thread count : R2,G24,K2,G4,K2,G4,B12,R48,W2,R12

## Chisholm Tartans (from Tartan Society Website)

### Portrait of Mary Chisholm



This is one of the oldest of the Chisholm Tartans, dating from around 1800, and which appears in a portrait of the clan heroine "Mary Chisholm". She was famous for having sided with the clansmen during the clearances. It is said to be a variation of one of the MacIntosh setts, said to have been found in a cave at Achnacarry in 1746. Thread count : R8, G24, B6, G6, B6, G6, B12, R72, W4, R14



### Chisholm Hunting:

Possibly the true source of the Vestiarium Scoticum sett, with crimson changed to red

Thread count :

C6, G32, B4, G6, B4, G6, B14, C64, W4, C14



### Chisholm Hunting (Source W & A K Johnston)

This is an example of the process that began during the late Victorian period when the new aniline dyes of the 1860's were considered too bright. Subtler forms of the tartan were produced, often replacing the red ground with green or brown.

Thread count: R2, G24, B2, G4, B2, G4, B12, T48, W2, T12

New Subscriber to Clan Chisholm NZ newsletter: The secretary of the Scottish Interest Group, NZ Society of Genealogists, has been added to the supplementary subscription list. This society is constructing a Register of Immigrants of Scottish Birth (Arrival in NZ pre 1931). If any clan member has relatives in this category and would like them included in the Register, contact the editor for details, or go to [www.scotgroup.tk](http://www.scotgroup.tk). An interesting snippet from the societies newsletter "Kiwi Kith & Kin" gives a clue as to why some of us find difficulty in genealogical penetration deep into the 18th century. "Parliament passed an Act in 1783 imposing a tax of 3d on every birth, christening, marriage & burial. Many Scots refused to pay, and so you will find fewer entries in parish registers of that era.



## Fronds of the Fern

### Daniel Boyes Chisholm (1915-2006)

Dan Chisholm, younger brother to Jessie Small and former member of the NZ Clan Chisholm, passed away after a short illness at his home in Christchurch at the beginning of March. He was in his 90th year and his family, in part, marked their love for him in their death notices, beginning by citing the full poem:-

"Oh Danny Boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling"  
...tis you, tis you, must go and I must bide"

At his funeral, the family draped his coffin with a bright yellow Scottish flag, with, on top, the Chisholm shield, pieces of both Chisholm tartans, and a huge bottle of whisky, with a Chisholm glass beside it. His family all had a dram to send him on his way. The effect was enhanced by his daughter Kaye laying a corsage of red "Danny Boy" roses, from a climbing rose she has in her garden, on the lid of the coffin. His large extended family including 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren will miss their Danny Boy and his story telling and singing. (Text by Audrey)

### Snippets from Canada:

Clan Chisholm Canada will be sending two talented musicians to perform at the International gathering in Inverness. Chrissy Crowley is the granddaughter of famous fiddler Archie Neil Chisholm of Cape Breton, and both her great uncle



Angus Chisholm and cousin Margaret Chisholm are famous Canadian fiddlers. You can see Chrissy at [www.chrissycrowley.com](http://www.chrissycrowley.com) (definitely worth a visit)

Leigh Chisholm of the Rocky Mountains Pipe Band will also be going. She is a Gold Medal Piper, although she has a day job as a Veterinary student.

Rabbie Burns: The birthday of the immortal Bard of Scotland was celebrated in the absolutely traditional manner in January at the Priddis Community Hall. The haggis was piped in by Leigh's father, Dr Rob Chisholm.

Clan Chisholm Canada will be trialling a user friendly interactive web management system. It is hoped that this will be a useful method of bridging the enormous geographical gap that the Canadians must deal with.

### Welcome to the World (2 entries this month)

Douglas Chisholm of New Plymouth, our inaugural Clan secretary, is thrilled to be able to announce the birth in Glasgow of his first great grand-daughter, **Heather Lynn Smart**, on the 3rd February this year. Heather is the daughter of Gordy Smart and his grand-daughter Katryn.



6 March 2006. Niko Anthony Tasi, (pictured left)  
Firstborn to Sarah and Papa,  
a grandson for Auckland writer Duncan Chisholm.

## Clan Chisholm Society Annual Gathering

Saturday 22 April 2005, 10am to 2pm.

Wesley-Broadway Church lounge, 264 Broadway Avenue, Palmerston North [The church is on the right-hand side of Broadway Avenue, if you're heading away from the centre of the city, north-east, towards the Manawatu Gorge; halfway between the intersections with Victoria Avenue and Albert Street. The lounge is at the rear of the church complex; come in through a drive on the city-centre side of the church, and enter through the side-door; lounge to the right. It will be sign-posted.]

10-11am: Social gathering, and morning tea.

11-12 noon: Clan Historian's talk, by Audrey Barney, and discussion. 12 noon to 1pm:

Lunch 1-about 2pm: AGM and (we hope) a talk about Scottish migration to the Manawatu and Wanganui regions.

2pm-ish-4pm: A drive to Ashhurst and up the Saddle Road to the new wind-farm on the North side of the Manawatu Gorge. Return directly, or cross over to the Woodville side of the range, and return to Palmerston North through the Manawatu Gorge.

7.30pm: Clan dinner at South Eastern Family Restaurant, 11 George Street, Palmerston North. Easy walking distance from gathering-venue and quite close to centre of town  
Time 7.00pm. Meeting somewhere beforehand for drinks, TBA.

No registration fee, but koha to help with costs welcome. RSVP to John Ross (06) 357-4614; or to Barry Chisholm (06) 355 5943; or to Marj Fox (06) 359 0947.

Palmerston North has ample motel accommodation.

Within easy walking-distance: Alpha Motor Inn, corner of Broadway & Victoria Avenues, ph. 0800 777 070, or (06) 357 1129, ; Mid-City Motel, 129 Broadway Avenue, ph (06) 357 2184.

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New Georgia Sound is the body of water that runs approximately through the middle of the Solomon Islands. The Sound is bounded by the islands of Choiseul and Santa Isabel to the north, and by Vella Lavella, Kolombangara, New Georgia, and the Russell Islands to the south. Bouganville and Guadalcanal define north western and south eastern ends of the sound, respectively.

During WWII the Sound was known as "the Slot" by Allied combatants due to the amount of warship traffic which traversed it; the Japanese naval efforts to resupply their garrison on Guadalcanal were referred to as the Tokyo Express.

The Tokyo Express was the nickname given by US sailors and marines to the Japanese attempts to reinforce and resupply their forces during the battle of Guadalcanal and subsequent operations in the Solomons . Airplanes from Henderson Field on Guadalcanal made it too dangerous for Japanese ships to approach during the day, so at night small groups of fast destroyer transports would race east through "The Slot". (from Wikipedia: the free encyclopaedia)

The Shortland Islands, near where Wilf Rutherford was shot down, are just to the south of Bouganville, at the top end of the Slot.