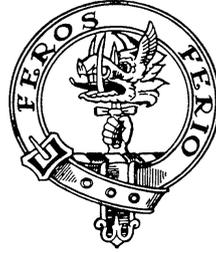
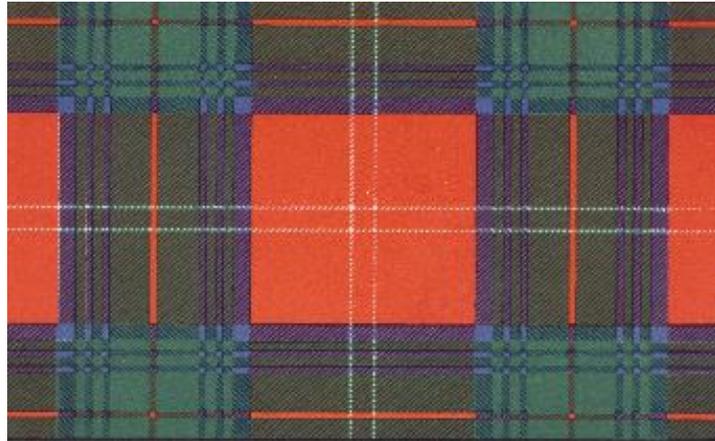


**CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY
UK BRANCH**



An Cirean
Cean Cinnidh



Welcome to Issue No 67 -UK Branch Newsletter

Dear UK Branch members.

Firstly a thank you to all those who sent Christmas messages and cards - it is really appreciated. Also thanks to all those who have renewed their subscriptions and a special thank you to members who add a donation to our funds.

We are now well into 2022 and thankfully, pretty well all the restrictions within the UK in respect of Covid-19 have been removed.

Around the world however certain restrictions remain and a lot of people are delaying travel and holiday plans until things become clearer. This means that we will not be hosting an International Gathering this year and I have cancelled my booking for Erchless Castle in July. I will of course visit the Highlands as often as I can and hope to meet friends, family and clansfolk when I do.

Let us hope we can make firmer plans for next year and encourage Chisholm's from around to world to visit Scotland and the UK.

Despite not being able to meet in person the Clan Chisholm Society remains active. The International Society holds meetings of Clan Council over the year. These meetings involve members from all branches and all those who look after our various projects and initiatives. The Annual Report of the Society for 2021 is published on our website and will be circulated to our members. It includes messages and reports from each branch as well as updates on our projects and you will see the amazing efforts made by folk around the world to further the aims of our Society.

*The **Annual General Meeting of the Society** will again be held electronically this year. If you have any messages or questions to raise at the AGM please let me know. Ben will hold proxy votes for our branch members and it is important that we are able to express the views of all.*

The electronic meeting will be held on Saturday 23rd April 2022.

A copy of the Agenda is shown below.

NB. Our UK Branch AGM will be later in the year at a date to be agreed.

Yours in clanship, Susan

THE CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY

71st Annual General Meeting to be held 10:00 GMT Saturday, April 23rd 2022

11,Croyard Drive, Beaulieu, Inverness, IV4 7EE Scotland by *Electronic means*

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM – 27th March 2021
2. President's Annual Report 2021
3. Approval of Treasurer's Report for year ending 31st December 2021
4. Approval - Election of Officers

Nominations are: -

President – Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield

Vice President – Robert Chisholm

Vice President – David Holmes

Secretary/Treasurer - Susan Chisholm

NB. Immediate Past President is Val Chisholm Perry

5. Honorary Appointments:

Standing Appointments.

- (a) Webmaster - Alastair Chisholm (Belgium)
- (b) Editor of The Clan Chisholm Journal - Martin Chisholm (UK)
- (c) Genealogy Co-ordinator - Alastair Chisholm (Hampshire, UK)
- (d) Honorary Counsel - Marc Chisholm (Canada)
- (e) Clan Historian - Dr Jean Munro (UK)
- (f) Co-opted member of clan council – Duncan Chisholm (UK)
- (g) Honorary Auditor – Michael Sayers (UK)

Clan Council Projects

- (h) New History/Chisholm Researches, Dr Margaret Collin (UK)
- (i) Artefacts Register – Chairman, Fay Chisholm (NZ)
- (j) Clan Chisholm DNA project Chairman – Robert Chisholm (NZ)
- (k) WWI Centenary Memorial Project – Robert Chisholm (NZ)
- (l) Database Admin/CGI Forum admin – Alastair Chisholm (UK)

6. New Business –

NEWSCUTTINGS

from *The Inverness Courier* 4th February 2022

Scout leader and former Highland councillor **Duncan Chisholm** has been recognised for his years of service in the community.

Mr Chisholm (80) was a Wolf Cub member of the 21st Inverness Lochardil Scout Group in 1949 and has been the group Scout leader for the last forty years.

As well as his involvement with the Scouts, Mr Chisholm was also Chieftain of the Caledonian Water Rally for several years, a town councillor, Justice of the Peace and leading light in the well-known Inverness kiltmaking firm.

He was also a trainee reporter for the Inverness Courier's sister title the Highland News in the 1950s.

Alasdair Maclean, assistant Scout leader, described just how valuable Mr Chisholm has been to the group over the years.

"Duncan has been a great ambassador for Scouting as well as running the family kilt business," he said. "In all of his community roles he would promote and incorporate Scouting. Our Scout group owes Duncan a huge debt of gratitude and our presentation is just a small token of this."



Duncan centre holding the bottle of whisky.

The group had been trying to make its presentation to Mr Chisholm for the past two years, but faced delays due to Covid.

They finally presented him with a certificate to mark 60 years service along with a bottle of whisky.

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Duncan of course is well known to us in the Clan Chisholm Society as a past President and Vice President who still sits on clan council.

For many years thanks to Duncan our Annual General Meeting would be held in the Lochardil Scout hut, Inverness with a barbeque held afterwards. Duncan also helped provide a large tent from the scouts for one of our tea parties at Erchless Castle.



In our summer 2003 newsletter we reported that Duncan had gone to Windsor Castle in April that year to be awarded the Silver Acorn. This award is worn on an orange ribbon around the neck and is awarded for specially distinguished service to the Scouting movement for a period of not less than twenty years.

## STRATHERRICK WAR MEMORIAL

**Alister Chisholm** of Telford Road, Inverness has created a volume entitled 'Lest You Forget Stratherrick'. This labour of love tells the stories behind the names on the war memorial in his native Stratherrick on Loch Ness's south-east flank.

The fallen of Stratherrick, which embraces Foyers, Whitebridge, Errogie, Gorthleck and Aberchalder, now lie in countries as diverse as Iceland, Tunisia, Egypt, Belgium, Greece, France and Kenya.

## CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY – WW1 CENTENARY MEMORIAL

**Robert Chisholm** of New Zealand has completed all five booklets in this commemorative series. All are available on our website.

For those without access I am happy to print off copies and post them.

*Susan.*

## HIGHLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The recent journal of the HFHS includes an article by Clan Chisholm Society UK Branch member Gerald Chisholm-Mackintosh.

Gerald joined the Clan Chisholm Society in 2004 and attended gatherings with his late wife Sheila. He has always wondered how Chisholm became part of his family's name.

The article in the HFHS Journal looks at Gerald's family history which as he points out was made fairly easy to track as for hundreds of years nobody had moved many miles from Inverness. Gerald's great grandfather Donald Mackintosh was able to attend Inverness Academy and gain an education due to a legacy and subsequently became a teacher. A year or so after his marriage he moved to Mauld school in Strathglass. Donald's fourth son was given the name James Chisholm and it is suggested that the chief of clan at the time James Sutherland Chisholm may have shown a benevolent interest in the school. James died in July 1890 and Gerald's father born three months later was given the names Donald James Chisholm Mackintosh. As both Gerald's father and grandfather were Donald his father became generally known as 'Chisholm' and Gerald himself now carries the name Chisholm Mackintosh.

Mauld is in Struy very close to Erchless Castle. At the crossroad where the road from Struy joins the Eskadale road at Mauld Bridge is the standing stone with famous inscription of 'Mo Run Geal Og' My fair young beloved, the lament for William Chisholm by his wife Christina Ferguson after he did not return from Culloden.

## URCHANY – NOSAS SURVEY

Christina and Norman Chisholm sent links to an extensive survey by the North of Scotland Archaeological Society on The Lands of Urchany – a multi-period settlement on the Braes West of Beaully.

Covering settlements from the late Neolithic, through Bronze Age and Iron Age, Pictish to the 1860's. Urchany has Fraser and Chisholm connections and many references are found in the work by Kilmorack Heritage now held by the Inverness Archive. See <https://her.highland.gov.uk/Monument/MHG62209> for the full 120 page survey. See also [www.nosas.co.uk](http://www.nosas.co.uk)

## INVERNESS – TOWN HOUSE

Following a £4.2 million refurbishment Inverness Town House has reopened. The Grade A listed building has been the subject of extensive renovation works over the past two years. Almost £4million has been spent on both the west wing and the front, with the exterior under wraps for much of the time.

Inverness Provost Helen Carmichael noted that the interior has been brought back to the colours it would have had in 1882 when it was first built. This required expert work by Historical Scotland and their architectural archivist.

The project has been funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund and Historic Environment Scotland. The stained-glass windows have been restored, chandeliers cleaned, stonework repaired or replaced, mortar repointed and the roof repaired.

Sculptures of two dogs which were part of the original building have been discovered after 50 years and reinstated.



*The 1882 Town House*



*The Cabinet Room*



*The Old Inverness Town House*

Before the Victorian Town House was built in 1882 a three storey building had sat on the site. It was originally the town house of Lord Lovat used for business and social purposes by the clan chief and built beside the Exchange the burgh's meeting point. During the late 1600's the Lovat Fraser finances were in a poor state and in 1709 the Lovat residence was sold to the council to help ease debts. It would be seven years before the building was used. Gradually it was expanded into a three-storey building. The top floor was given over to use by the Trades Guilds after they significantly donated to the cost. An arcade of seven arches fronted the ground floor which housed a public reading room. The council chamber itself and the Provost's room were on the first floor.

Captain Edmund Burt in his 1754 'Letters from a Gentleman in the North of Scotland' called the town house "a plain building of rubble". He said "there is but one room in it where the Magistrates meet upon Town Business which would be tolerably handsome but the walls are rough, not plastered." He added, the only furniture was a table "and some bad chairs" and the room was "altogether immoderately dirty."

Local MP and historian Charles Fraser-Mackintosh commented in 1854 the "the Town Hall, though a handsome and roomy building, is not strong." He suggested its demolition "to permit the erection of such extensive and elegant buildings as the convenience of the site, importance of the town and growing requirements of the trade do certainly demand."

The council held its last meeting there in 1878.

As we can see four years later the ornate Victorian Gothic building of today was completed. The new Town House was opened by Queen Victoria's third son Prince Alfred Ernest Albert on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1882.

## Fort George Closure Threat

*Inverness Courier of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021*

Fears are growing that the historic Fort George Army base near Inverness could close sooner than planned as part of UK defence cuts. Up to 1700 soldiers could be axed across Scotland as the Ministry of Defence looks to reduce spending and create a leaner Army to meet modern demands, it has been reported. Fort George would be one of three of Scotland's seven garrisons facing closure in a spending review to be finalised by the end of the year. Home to the Black Watch regiment, five years ago Fort George was earmarked for closure by 2032, along with Glencorse and Redford Barracks in Edinburgh. In March, a Westminster defence review committed to trimming the size of the army from 77,820 soldiers to 72,500. The move would be likely to stir cross-party opposition in Holyrood. A Mod spokesman said: "The plans for structural reform are not yet finalised so speculation at this stage is unhelpful and misleading." Fort George was built to control the Highlands after the Jacobite rising of 1745.

### FORT GEORGE & THE BLACK WATCH

*From Inverness Courier*

An Inverness law firm's act of kindness to Highland-based soldiers serving in Afghanistan has been recognised with its own unique military decoration.

Earlier this year Munro and Noble sent in excess of 250 Treats for Troops boxes to members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> battalion of the Royal Regiment of Scotland – the Black Watch – based at Fort George, while they were on their final tour of Afghanistan. The boxes contained basic, but hard to source, items to remind the Scottish soldiers of home, including sweets, snacks, puzzle books, magazines and games. Particularly welcome were donations of toiletries. "Toiletries were in very short supply – a lot of stores had already shut down," explained Munro and Noble partner Laura McCarthy, whose husband James is a sergeant with 3 Scots. As a thank you to the firm for its support, Mrs McCarthy and fellow Munro and Noble partner Alida Bryce, whose husband is a senior RAF officer, along with group sales and marketing manager **Duncan Chisholm**, were invited to Fort George where commanding officer Lieutenant Colonel Matty Hayton and Regimental Sergeant Major Marty Gray presented them with a specially embroidered banner featuring the 3 Scots crest on one side and Munro and Noble logo on the other.



*(l to r) Duncan Chisholm, Lieutenant-Colonel Matty Hayton, Alida Bryce  
Laura McCarthy, and Regimental Sergeant Major Marty Gray.*

The firm also received the Armed Forces Covenant Bronze Award, recognising employers which have signed the Armed Forces Covenant pledge to support the armed forces, including existing or prospective employees, and are open to employing reservists, armed forces veterans, cadet instructors and military spouses/partners.

## THE CHISHOLM TRAIL – CAMBRIDGE UK

Most Chisholm's will be familiar with the cattle droving Chisholm Trail which goes from Texas to Kansas in the USA and is named for Jesse Chisholm who helped create the route. However at the end of December my sister Claire mentioned a friend Gavin Monk who had recently enjoyed a walk with the Cambridge Rambling Club along a new **Chisholm Trail**.

Gavin dropped me a line or two about the walk held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The 12 mile walk was lead by Jill Tuffnell who said this about it “ We were celebrating the formal opening of the first purpose-built section of the Chisholm trail, which will eventually provide a safe cycling route between Cambridge North and Cambridge main railway stations - with a southern cycle link through to Trumpington Park & Ride site and the Addenbrookes bio-campus which is already open. It is great that the new section of path and bridge adds around 0.5 miles of off-road public path to the map. Cambridge is very lucky to have an extensive network of Commons, parks and secluded footpaths, many following clear chalk streams which flow through the City. Walks of various lengths can be created - and I've put together a 12 mile circuit which tries to visit as many green spaces as possible.”

The trail is named after local resident and Campaigner **Jim Chisholm** who first suggested a walking and cycling route through Cambridge 23 years ago. The veteran Campaigner cut the ribbon on the cycle route on December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021 now that the first section, the new Abbey-Chesterton pedestrian and cycling bridge across the River Cam is open.



*l – r. View through the bridge – taken by Gavin & Evening view - Wikipedia*

Besides the new bridge connecting East Chesterton to Barnwell, the route also includes an underpass crossing beneath Newmarket Road, and new paths have also been built connecting Cambridge North station with Coldham's Lane.

Roxanne De Beaux, executive director of Camcycle, the cycling campaign group for Cambridge and the wider region, said: “This is a fantastic Christmas present for local communities who have waited so long for this route to be finished. It will be the perfect place for children who have received a cycle from Santa to test out their new wheels and a vital new link from residential areas to local schools, shops, jobs and activities. Thousands more people now have new options for their everyday journeys that involve cycling or walking away from busy roads.”

Chisholm said: “My professional background in transport modelling helped me realise that providing high-quality active travel routes in and around Cambridge would enable many more people to leave their car at home.” It's predicted that around four thousand walking and cycling trips will be made on this new route each day, bringing health and wellbeing benefits to individuals and reducing congestion and air pollution for everyone in the city.

“I have always envisaged this route as a ‘linear park’, suitable for everyone, and look forward to seeing a wide range of people walking, cycling and wheeling along the route in the coming months,” he added.



*Jim Chisholm and his wife Jane on the new path*

## CAPERCAILLIE

Several newspapers ran articles on the report by a sub group of Nature Scot Scientific Advisory Committee which warned that the ‘iconic’ Capercaillie is likely to become extinct again in the UK within two to three decades.

Measures to halt the decline in population include controlling predators such as crows, foxes and pine martens and diversionary feeding of predators which would involve offering them alternative food during the breeding season of the capercaillie.

The capercaillie, a large grouse is the largest member of the ‘game bird’ family. It was fairly widespread in Scotland and Ireland in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century but had been virtually exterminated by the 1750’s. This was the result of the wholesale clearance of the pine forest where it lived and excessive shooting with the last individuals being shot in Aberdeenshire in 1785.

In the late 1830’s a collection of 55 birds was brought from Sweden to the Marquis of Breadalbane’s estate in Perthshire and the bird quickly re-established. Efforts to re-establish in other parts of the UK and Ireland have not been successful and it is found throughout the eastern Highlands and central Scotland.

The name meaning ‘horse of the wood’ is thought to come from Gaelic capall for horse (latin caballus) and coille for forest (probably Old Irish caill).



## 2022 NEW YEARS HONOURS

The OBE was awarded to **Jaine Louise Chisholm Caunt**.

Jaine born June 1970 is Director General of the Grain and Feed Trade Association and was awarded the medal for Services to the Promotion of International Free Trade.

The MBE was awarded to **Christine Rutherford Chisholm**.

Christine a former nursing sister from Romsey, Hampshire born September 1948 is a Founder Trustee of the New Jumbulance Travel Trust and was awarded the medal for Services to Philanthropy and Charitable Causes. The Jumbulance Trust makes accessible travel for adults and children with disabilities or complex health conditions. They organise holidays, short breaks and day trips.

## RUGBY PLAYING CHISHOLMS

*From Daily Telegraph Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2022.*

**Dane Chisholm** the 31 year old France International was cleared recently of using discriminatory language during a game. He had been issued with an eight match ban but was able to overturn the original decision on appeal. Dane was born in Australia, his father Rick played in the 1980's and his uncle Wayne also played for South Sydney. Dane through links on his mothers and grandparents side is able to play for France.

Previously featured in a newsletter is **James Chisholm** born 1995 in Haywards Heath who plays for Harlequins. He is the youngest of three brothers, Ali and Ross who is also a professional rugby player. They are the sons of Peter and Sue Chisholm.

## BOOKS

I have been sent the following on books with a Chisholm connection.

Karine Keibel, 'Glen Affric'. Thriller by French author. In French.

'Slaves and Highlanders' by David Alston. Edinburgh University Press.

Explores the prominent role of Highland Scots in the exploitation of enslaved Africans and their descendants in the cotton, sugar and coffee plantations of the 18th and 19th centuries.

There is mention of Dr Colin Chisholm.

## OBITUARY NOTICES – INVERNESS COURIER

CHISHOLM - Peacefully, in Chester, on 7th February, 2022,  
**Alfred Chisholm**, aged 88 years. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy, dear dad of Alan and Graeme, a much loved father-in-law and grandad. Graveside service on Monday, 21st February, at 10.30am, in Tomnahurich Cemetery, Inverness.

CHISHOLM - Peacefully, in the care of the Highland Hospice, Inverness, on 5th January, 2022,  
**Alexander D. M. Chisholm (Alick)**, aged 73 years, Rowan Road, Inverness. A much loved dad of Caroline, John, Pamela, Lynn and Scott, a loving granda to his 11 grandchildren, also a dear brother, brother-in-law, uncle, father-in-law and good friend to many. Funeral ceremony on Wednesday, 19th January, 2022, at 10am, in Inverness Crematorium. Donations, if desired, in memory of Alick towards Macmillan Cancer Support and the Highland Hospice.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Payment by cheque (or PO) to:- 'Clan Chisholm Society - UK Branch'
and sent to Hon Secretary/Treasurer, Susan Chisholm

Or a bank transfer may be made to our bank - Natwest, Bury St Edmunds –
sort code 60-04-16, a/c 30250633. (IBAN GB55 NWBK 6004 1630 2506 33)

If you elect to pay by bank transfer please let me (Susan) know.

For **Life Members** who wish to continue to receive the Annual Clan Chisholm Journal - a payment of **£5.00** per annum is requested to help cover costs.

There is no charge for branch newsletters which are produced 3 - 4 times a year.

Subscription rates are shown below:-

Annual membership - £12.00

Annual over 60 - £9.00

10 year membership - £65.00

10 year Family membership - £74.00

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Genealogist – Position vacant – Alastair Chisholm, Minstead is acting in this role until we find a permanent qualified volunteer.

CGI Forum & Genealogy Database administrator
Alastair J Chisholm, Minstead, Hampshire. email ajchis@gmail.com

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Visit the clan society website at www.ClanChisholmSociety.org