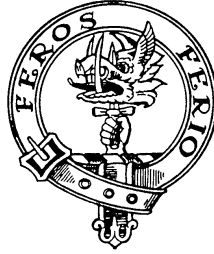
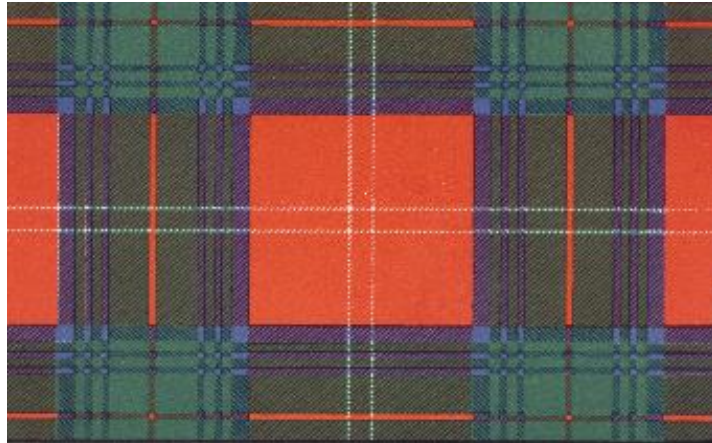


**CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY
UK BRANCH**



An Cirean
Cean Cinnidh



Welcome to Issue No 72 -UK Branch Newsletter

Dear UK Branch members.

After last years glitches with the post office I hope everyone received their copy of this years Clan Chisholm Journal safely. The Journal continues to be a quality printed volume and Martin our Editor has done another great job putting together stories and information from across the world. The print costs remain fairly stable with just a small increase this year but the postal charges are significantly more than they have been in previous years. Your clan council (and UK branch committee) wishes to continue with the print version and each branch sets their subscription rates to cover the costs. There is a project to digitise past volumes so that research is made easier, however the most recent journals will not be made publicly available for a time as our membership has funded them.

The International Society held the 2023 Annual General Meeting on 25th March electronically. Ben as our branch chairman held proxy votes and put forward any branch concerns. The meeting was brief and the minutes are included in this newsletter.

Our own UK Branch AGM will be held in the Garden Room of the Lovat Arms, Beaulieu at 4:30pm on Friday 14th July 2023.

Please let me know if you are able to attend and if not whether you have any items to raise. The draft agenda is included in this newsletter as are the audited financial statements – Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss.

Immediately following the meeting (5:30/6pm) your branch will host High Tea at the Priory Hotel, Market Square, Beaulieu.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be joining us in Beaulieu for the AGM and for the meal afterwards. I will send those planning to be there the menu so that we can help the Priory Hotel by ordering in advance. I look forward to a well supported meeting.

On Saturday 15th July we will be joining the Association of Highland Clans and Societies at the City of Inverness Highland Games. We will have our usual two Chisholm tables within the Clan Village marquee. The Games will be followed by the AGM of the AHCS – this organisation has not held an AGM for a few years and we are hoping it will be reinvigorated in July!

Our Society likes to hold an International event every 3 to 5 years and due to various reasons not least the Covid pandemic we have not been able to progress such plans. The last International Gathering in Inverness was hosted by the UK branch in 2014 and the previous gathering was hosted by the US branch in Duluth, Minnesota in 2011, with Canada hosting gatherings before that. In 2019 the UK Branch led by Mairi-Angela Foster organised an Internationally attended gathering in Belgium where our Society founder Miss Mairi Chisholm of Chisholm worked at the front during World War I.

We expect the gathering to take place over four days next July and end with a tea on the lawns at Erchless Castle – always a highlight for visitors. Other ideas being discussed are visits to Fort George, Culloden, The Highland Folk Museum, the Highland Archive Centre and Glens Affric and Cannich. It is also hoped to have an evening Ceilidh with musicians and dancing. As the organising of a gathering falls to a few (and we are not getting any younger as they say!) we expect to limit numbers – in 2003 we had 253 attend which was amazing but very difficult to manage.

On April 17th I was able to attend a lecture at Strathglass Heritage Association held at Marydale Church hall in Cannich. The talk on the Loch Ness Monster was given by Adrian Shine the well known leader of many expeditions who is based at Drumnadrochit. His talk covered myths and legends but mostly kept to scientific research in the Loch which he has been involved in since 1973.

I hope to be able to attend further talks at the SHA this year. See www.strathglass-heritage.co.uk for more information.

Our next newsletter will be in August – please do send me any items of interest for inclusion.

Yours in clanship,
Susan

CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY - UK BRANCH

Annual General Meeting

to be held 16:30 BST Friday, 14th July 2023

Garden Room, Lovat Arms, Beaulieu, Inverness IV4 7EE

AGENDA

Welcome – Ben Chisholm-Broomfield (Chairman)

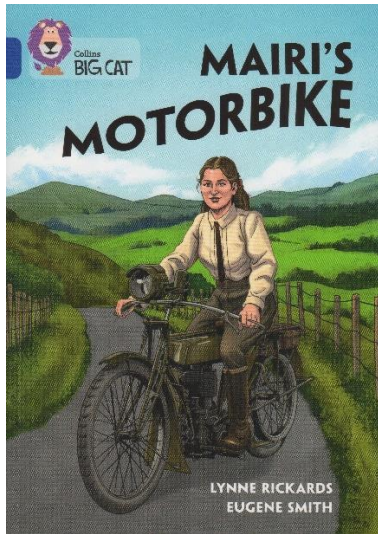
Apologies and Greetings – Susan Chisholm of Chisholm (Secretary)

1. Approval of the Minutes of previous AGM – 24th September 2022 (held electronically)
2. Approval of Audited Financial Report for the year ending 31st December 2022
3. Membership Report
4. Election of Officers
The following will stand for re-election: -
Chairman – Ben Chisholm-Broomfield (Beaulieu)
Vice Chairman – Duncan Chisholm (Inverness)
Vice Chairman – Norman Chisholm (Kindeace, Ross-shire)
Hon Secretary/Treasurer - Susan Chisholm (Undley, Suffolk)
5. Confirmation of Appointments.
Honorary Genealogist – Alastair Chisholm (Minstead, Hampshire)
Honorary Historian – Dr Jean Munro (Nethy Bridge, Moray)
Honorary Historian – Dr Margaret Collin (Melrose, Roxburghshire)
Honorary Auditor – Mr Michael Sayers (Thetford, Norfolk)
Hon Committee Members :-
Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield (Beaulieu, Inverness-shire)
Mairi-Angela Foster – Edinburgh.
6. New Business –
2024 International Gathering
– provisional dates - 4 days within 13th to 20th July 2024.

CHILDRENS BOOK

My niece Danu Stratton-Kent drew my attention to this Collins Big Cat children's book based on the story of my great aunt Miss Mairi Chisholm of Chisholm during WWI.

I have copied the text below from the Amazon site where the book may be purchased. I have purchased a copy for the Society archives.



Collins Big Cat supports every primary child on their reading journey from phonics to fluency. Top authors and illustrators have created fiction and non-fiction books that children love to read. Levelled for guided and independent reading, each book includes ideas to support reading. Teaching and assessment support and eBooks are also available. Sapphire/Band 16 books offer longer reads to develop children's sustained engagement with texts and are more complex syntactically.

Mairi Chisholm was a Scottish motorbike rider who volunteered for the Women's Emergency Corps during the First World War. Discover how she became one of the famous "Angels of Pervyse".

Lynne Rickards was fascinated by the story of Mairi Chisholm, a teenage motorcycle enthusiast who was only 18 when war was declared in 1914. Instead of retreating to the safety of her privileged life as a wealthy debutante, Mairi and her best friend Elsie Knocker rode their motorbikes to London and volunteered as Women's Auxiliary dispatch drivers. Soon spotted as a fearless and skilful driver, Mairi was recruited to join Dr Hector Munro's Flying Ambulance Corps, and she and Elsie spent most of the war on the Western Front retrieving wounded soldiers from the battlefields and patching them up, saving over 1,000 lives. Lynne couldn't help but be inspired by this amazing young woman, and was thrilled to have a chance to share her story in Mairi's Motorbike.

Some adult reading – The Cellar House of Pervyse, A Tale of Uncommon Things from the Journals and Letters of The Baroness T'Serclaes and Mairi Chisholm.

Elsie and Mairi Go To War, Two Extraordinary Women on the Western Front, Diane Atkinson.

BEAVERS ARE BACK?

Press cutting from the Inverness Courier – sent by Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield

Beavers could finally return to a famous Highland glen 400 years after being driven to extinction. Rewilding charity Trees for Life is to apply for a government licence to reintroduce the creatures to Glen Affric following an extensive community consultation.

The charity is working on behalf of a partnership that includes government agency Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) and four private landowners.

The application will be developed over the coming months and submitted to NatureScot for approval.

If approved it could see reintroductions take place in Loch Beinn a' Mheadhoin as early as autumn this year.

The Affric Lodge and 10,000 acres is currently owned by Mr David Matthews who is the father-in-law to the Princess of Wales sister Pippa. He purchased the estate in 2008 and hosts parties as well as renting the property for several thousand pounds per night!

THE EUROPEAN LYNX

From The Inverness Courier

Highlands and Islands MSP, Edward Mountain has called out rewilding charities for their ongoing campaign to reintroduce the Eurasian Lynx to the Highlands, saying “the last thing the Highlands needs is the Lynx effect.”

Mr Mountain has claimed that any reintroduction could undermine efforts to save threatened species such as Capercaillie and provide unhelpful competition to conservation efforts to save the Wildcat. It comes after MSPs heard proposals to bring lynx back to Scotland as part of a ‘wildlife comeback’ at an event in the Scottish Parliament hosted by GreensHighlands and Islands MSP Ariane Burgess. She went on to claim that “an in-depth survey of communities in Argyll and Cairngorms National Park” revealed a wide range of views “with 79 per cent not opposed to lynx reintroduction.”

SCOTLANDS OLDEST SURVIVING TARTAN

Several members sent me links to articles about this piece of tartan discovered in Glen Affric some years ago. The following is from The Scotsman of 26th March.

Groundbreaking new research has revealed that a piece of woollen textile found in a Highland peat bog nearly 40 years ago is the earliest-known surviving piece of authentic tartan in Scotland.

Scotland's oldest surviving tartan was found in Highland peatbog, new research reveals.

The fragment of material discovered during forestry work in **Glen Affric**, which experts say has shed new light on the “origin story” of tartan, could be more than 500 years old.

Historians believe it is the oldest surviving “true tartan” – patterned cloth featuring dye of different colours and stripes of different sizes.

They have hailed the “remarkable discovery” of the only surviving piece of tartan from this period of Scottish history, which is thought to have survived for so long because it was buried in peat.

The “Glen Affric tartan” will be going on public display for the first time on 1 April as part of a major exhibition at V&A Dundee exploring the history and evolution of Scotland’s national cloth.

Dye analysis and radiocarbon testing were carried out on the fragile piece of tartan, which measures around 55cm by 43cm, and had traces of the colours green, brown, red and yellow.



The results of the work, which also involved the “washing out” of peat staining, are said to have dated the age of the material to between 1500 and 1600 AD, during the reign of King James V, Mary Queen of Scots or King James VI/I.

There is a written record of tartan being bought for King James III in 1471, while the wearing of a tartan kilt is believed to date back to the late 16th century.

Although **Glen Affric** was a key territory for the **Clan Chisholm**, Scotland’s foremost tartan historian believes the piece of green, brown, red and yellow-coloured material was part of a home-made “working garment” rather than a piece of clothing worn by someone of high status. The Glen Affric tartan had been held in storage for decades in the archives of the Perthshire-based Scottish Tartans Authority, which promotes, protects and preserves the origins, history and development of tartans and Highland dress.

The research project was instigated by the STA after curators working on the V&A Dundee exhibition approached the charity. V&A Dundee curator James Wylie said: “This really all came about during the development of the exhibition. We wanted to get a really old example of a woven checked textile to put on display. We were looking into whether there were any ‘proto-tartans’ – dating back before our modern understanding of tartan in the 18th century – which were either held in collections around Scotland or the Scottish Tartans Authority’s own archive, and were really looking for any textiles. The word tartan only really came into the lexicon in Scotland in the 1500s. This was a time of the Renaissance, when there were a lot of connections between Scotland and France. The word tartan actually derives from a French word which means to weave together two different types of cloth or yarn.”

This particular fragment was handed in to the Scottish Tartans Authority by people who found it when they were peat cutting. It was a really tatty piece of textile which had pretty much been packed away since the 1980s. The thread was quite irregular and you could tell it was home-spun.



NEWSCUTTINGS

Sir Andy Murray the well known tennis player and two times Wimbledon Champion is facing a fight with wildlife campaigners over plans to build luxury woodland cabins (nine chalets) in the grounds of his hotel at **Cromlix**.

The Scottish Wildlife Trust is opposing planning application amid fear over the impact it will have on breeding birds, frogs and toads in the area. They state “ This particular pond is important for breeding birds, amphibians (frogs and toads), odonatan (damselfly and dragonflies)” A decision will be made on the application by the local authority by May.

The below taken from wikipedia.

Cromlix House is a Victorian mansion. A house was built on the site in 1874 as a family residence in the time of Captain Arthur Drummond Hay, but was destroyed by fire in 1878. It was replaced in 1880 by the house which forms the nucleus of the present building, and was subsequently operated as a hotel. The hotel closed in 2011 and in early 2013 it was bought by tennis player Andy Murray. The hotel re-opened in April 2014 under the name Cromlix, managed by Inverloch Castle Management International.

There are records of Cromlix from the 1500s when the Bishop of Dunblane sold the lands of Cromlix to his brother, Robert Chisholm. *

The present house was built for Arthur Hay-Drummond, son of the Earl of Kinnoul. King Edward VII visited in September 1908. The house remained a family home for the Hay-Drummonds until the death of Evelyn Hay-Drummond in 1971, who had married Terence Eden (8th Lord Auckland).

Cromlix House was converted in May 1981 from what was the Eden family home, and retained much of the original furniture designed for the house as well as the family portraits. It also contains Cromlix Chapel, a consecrated Episcopalian Church in the diocese of Dunblane dating from 1874. It contains some notable features.

The house sits in 2,000 acres and occupies approximately 34 acres of parkland, forestry and four fishing lochs, as well as two celebrated mineral springs.

In 2006 Cromlix House – including the game larder, ancillary building, gatepiers and garden boundary walls – was designated as a Category C listed building. An obelisk sundial in the garden is Category A listed.

As of 16th February 2012, Cromlix House Hotel ceased trading. In February 2013, it was confirmed that Andy Murray had bought the property for £1.8 million. It opened as a 15-room five-star hotel in April 2014.

* The Chisholm Bishops of Dunblane and Vaison in France have been written about many times in our newsletters and Journals. The Cromlix family is covered in a chapter in Alexander MacKenzie's 1891 'History of Chisholms'.

OBITUARY NOTICES

Member Laura Dowling of Banstead in Surrey informs us of the death of her aunt Miss **Mary Ann Brown** MA of Fort Augustus.

Mary was sister to the late Jim who attended gatherings with his wife Jennifer. Jim died in June 2020.

Mary Ann was born in Kirkwall, Orkney on 30th August 1925.

Her mother Margaret nee Chisholm was from Cruanassie, Breakachy and her father's mother was Catherine Chisholm from Kiltarlity, Laura believes Aigas.

Miss Brown joined the Society in 2017.

The entry below was in the local press.

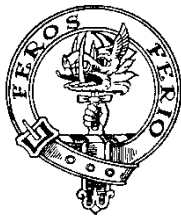
BROWN (Inverness) Peacefully in the care of the Telford Centre, Fort Augustus on October 19, 2022, Mary Ann Brown, aged 97 years (retired primary school teacher). Following a private cremation, a Memorial Mass will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 12 noon in St Peter & St Benedict's Roman Catholic Church, Fort Augustus. All welcome to attend. Arrangements by D. Chisholm & Sons.



From the Inverness Courier

CHISHOLM - Suddenly but peacefully, passed away in Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, on 18th April, 2023, Anne MacKenzie Chisholm (nee Wright), aged 67 years, Pict Avenue, Inverness. Beloved wife of George, much loved mum of Scott and Sarah, wonderful granny to Anna, Jack, Ben, Lily and Beth, dearly loved sister of Alison and good friend to many. Funeral service on Tuesday, 16th May, 2023, at 12.30pm, in the Trinity Church, Huntly Place, Inverness; thereafter to Kilvean Cemetery.

CHISHOLM - Peacefully, at home, on 15th April, 2023, Anne Chisholm (nee MacDonald), aged 86 years, Drumoak, Old Drumossie Brae, Inverness, formerly of The Albert Hotel, Eastgate, Inverness. Dearly loved wife of Dick, much loved mam of Richard and John, also a loving sister, mother-in-law and aunt. Funeral service on Wednesday, 26th April, at 12.15pm, in the funeral home of John Fraser & Son, Chapel Street, Inverness; thereafter to Daviot Cemetery.



Chisholm

THE CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 72ND ANNUAL REPORT

Saturday 25 March 2023

10.00 am NZT, West Auckland, New Zealand – by electronic means

The President, Robert Chisholm, opened the meeting at 10.00 a.m. and advised it would remain open for one week.

Present at the Annual General Meeting:

Robert Chisholm - NZ (President, Clan Chisholm DNA Project, WW1 Centenary Memorial Project)

Susan Chisholm – UK (Secretary/Treasurer)

Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield – UK (Immediate Past President)

David Holmes – CA (Vice President and CA Branch representative)

Kim Polley – AU (Secretary Australia Branch, AU Branch representative, CC Council Minute Secretary)

Ben Chisholm-Broomfield – UK (Chairman UK Branch and UK Branch representative)

Joyel Chisholm Morris – US (Chairwoman US Branch and US Branch representative)

Fay Chisholm – NZ (New Zealand Branch representative)

Duncan F Chisholm – UK (Clan Council, UK Branch member and past CCS President)

Martin Chisholm – UK (Clan Chisholm Journal Editor and UK Branch representative)

Alastair Chisholm – BE (Webmaster and UK Branch member)

Alastair Chisholm – UK (Database Administrator/CGI Forum administrator and UK branch member)

Margaret Collin – UK (Historian and UK Branch member)

Gene Chisholm Jones – US (Branch Treasurer/Secretary)

George Pyron - CA (Vice President and holder of proxy vote representing David Holmes)

Many greetings were received from around the world and best wishes for a speedy recovery were sent to Vice President David Holmes.

President Robert Chisholm chaired the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 1

- Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held electronically 23rd April 2022, 11, Croyard Drive, Beaulieu, IV4 7EE, United Kingdom.

The minutes were accepted as read.

Unanimously approved.

AGENDA ITEM 2

- President's Report

The Presidents Report for 2022 had previously been circulated and presented at the Clan Council Meeting. The Annual Report contains the President's report, branch reports, membership report and project reports as well as financial accounts for the preceding year.

There were no comments, and the report was accepted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 3

- Treasurer's Report

The Financial Statement for Year 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 was prepared by the Treasurer and audited by Mr Michael Sayers, Clan Chisholm Society Honorary Auditor. The Treasurer's report including profit and loss statement and the balance sheet had been circulated to the Clan Council and approved. There were no questions relating to the financial reports.

The accounts were accepted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4

- Election of Officers outlined on the agenda

President	Robert Chisholm
Vice President	David Holmes
Vice President	Kim Polley
Secretary/Treasurer	Susan Chisholm

Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield is the Immediate Past President and remains on Clan Council.

The nominations for officers as proposed were accepted.

Approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5

- Honorary appointments:
Standing appointments
 - a. Webmaster - Alastair Chisholm (BE)
 - b. Editor of Clan Chisholm Journal - Martin Chisholm (UK)
 - c. Genealogy Co-ordinator - Alastair Chisholm (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 Research - Dr Margaret Collin (UK)
- i. Artefacts Register - Chairman, Fay Chisholm (NZ)
- j. Clan Chisholm DNA Project Chairman - Robert Chisholm (NZ)
- k. WW1 Centenary Memorial Project - Robert Chisholm (NZ)
- l. Database Administrator/CGI Forum admin - Alastair Chisholm (UK)

Discussion:

Members were thanked for their dedication and generous contributions to the Clan Council.

Approval of all Appointments and Project Leaders as listed was sought.

Carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6

6a. 2024 International Gathering

Susan Chisholm noted that the provisional dates for the International Gathering were 13-20 July 2024. Erchless Castle has been booked which will enable an event to be held in the Castle grounds. At this stage, the UK Branch is planning more events and trips. They do not expect the full schedule to be confirmed before early 2024. UK President Ben Chisholm Broomfield stated that costs had to be taken into consideration.

President Robert Chisholm conveyed his thanks to all participants, including George Pyron who had stepped in for David Holmes on this occasion. Robert is hopeful that the next AGM can be held in conjunction with the International Gathering in Inverness in 2024.

The President closed the 72nd Annual General Meeting on 1 April at 10.30 am NZT.

MONSTROSITY POWER PLAN – IS A SHOCKER

From The Inverness Courier

Furious residents have accused energy bosses and the government of trying to "industrialise the Highlands" after they gathered to protest against controversial plans for major new power lines and substations.

Dozens of concerned residents packed into Kiltarlity Community Hall, or joined in on Zoom, to protest against proposals by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SEN) for a new 400kV power line between Beaully and Caithness, which would include new High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) converter stations at both Beaully and Spittal in Caithness which it says it wants to co-locate with new substations.

A new substation is also earmarked for Loch Buidhe in Sutherland, as well as subsea cables from Caithness to Aberdeenshire, and an overland power line from Beaully to Peterhead. A future power line connection from Beaully to the Outer Hebrides is also in its early stages.

Critics have warned that the new site near Beaully would cover an area of 56 acres – somewhere between 30 and 35 football pitches.

The meeting's organisers, Communities B4 Power Companies (CB4PC), claim more than 150 people attended the event, either in person or online, to express anger over the plans, which campaigners say have left people "in tears" and generated so much negative feedback online that SEN's consultation officers have been struggling "to deal with the traffic".

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### UK Branch Subscription rates.

Annual - £12.00, Annual over 60 - £9.00,

10 year - £65.00, 10 year family - £74.00. send payment by cheque to secretary or bank transfer to GB55 NWBK 6004 1630 2506 33

## STRATHGLASS HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

### Appeal for Highland Clearances stories

The Strathglass Heritage Association have planned a series of talks across the year. They also plan to hold an exhibition in August featuring the Highland Clearances. We know something of Highland families being cleared from Strathglass from various sources – including Alexander Mackenzie's History of Chisholm's and his History of Fraser's of Lovat.

The Association is hoping to obtain stories from people today who trace their ancestry back to cleared lands in Inverness-shire. They are very interested in hearing from families with connections to places in Glen Cannich – Liatric, Muckerach, Craskie as well as the Glen Affric and Knockfin areas.

If any member has information or connections to families overseas with these historical connections I would be happy to pass it on – alternatively email to [info@strathglass-heritage.co.uk](mailto:info@strathglass-heritage.co.uk)

### NEWSCUTTING

Ian McCorquodale – son of the writer of romantic novels Dame Barbara Cartland. Born October 11, 1937 – died February 10, 2023.

First Wife ANNA CHISHOLM, by whom two daughters Tara and Iona McCorquodale. They divorced and he married former ballerina Bryony Brind.

Anna Chisholm born in 1941 was the only child of Squadron Leader John Harry McKellar Chisholm who died in action in 1944.

### BABY NEWS

Jenni Atkinson O'Sullivan who sent news of her new grandson Arthur for our last newsletter has supplied an update – the baby's full name is Arthur **Chisholm** Sherwood so honouring his Chisholm heritage from his great grandmother Liliat Atkinson nee Chisholm.

Our best wishes to the young family who have now settled in Connecticut.



## CONTACTS - UK BRANCH

Chairman - Ben Chisholm-Broomfield  
11 Croyard Drive, Beauly, by Inverness  
Scotland IV4 7EE 01463 782566  
e-mail chisholmbroomfield@btinternet.com

Secretary/Treasurer - Susan Chisholm of Chisholm  
127 Undley Hall, Lakenheath, Brandon Suffolk IP27 9BY  
e-mail susanchisholm@tinyworld.co.uk  
or susanchisholmofchisholm@gmail.com

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

Vice Chairman - Duncan F Chisholm  
Craggie, 34 Grigor Drive, Inverness IV2 4LS

Vice Chairman & walks advisor - Norman Chisholm  
The Glen, Kindeace, by Invergordon, Ross-shire IV18 0LL

Historian - Dr Margaret Collin  
39 Eildon View, Melrose, Roxburghshire TD6 9RH

Hon Historian - Dr Jean Munro, Nethy Bridge.

Clans Liaison (AHCS) - Juliette Chisholm-Broomfield  
*See Ben Chisholm-Broomfield above*

Mairi-Angela Foster  
6A Glencairn Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 5BS Scotland

Martin Chisholm – Clan Chisholm Journal Editor  
25, Whitemeadows, Darlington DL3 8SR  
email - mchisholm1@sky.com

Hon Auditor – Mr Michael Sayers, Thetford, Norfolk

Visit the clan society website at [www.ClanChisholmSociety.org](http://www.ClanChisholmSociety.org)