



Clan Matheson Society

NEWSLETTER No. 57 Autumn 2002

Chief of the Clan:
Major Sir Fergus Matheson of Matheson,
Baronet of Lochalsh

Convenor: Major General John Matheson, O.B.E., T.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.
Hon. Treasurer: Miss Mary Mathieson, 5 Bridstow Place, London. W2 5AE
Genealogist: Athol Donald Scott, E-mail : donaldscott@xtra.co.nz
Internet Adviser: Miss Patricia Mathieson, E-mail : patricia@mathieson.co.uk
Editor (temp.): The Chief of the Clan

THE CHIEF'S MESSAGE

In the 2001 newsletter I spoke of the then recent tragedy in the United States. As I write this, the terrorists have struck again, though not so horrendous our sympathy goes out to the many families and friends, mostly Australians but many New Zealanders too and some British and others who have suffered. Although I don't know of any Mathesons in Zimbabwe but if there are, they and their families too deserve our thoughts and sympathy if they have been subjected to barbaric treatment.

Mention was made in the last number of our planned family visit to the Great War battlefields around Ypres. Those who have visited there will recall that the town was flattened in those war years to the extent one end could be seen from the other. In the years that followed, using old plans, it was rebuilt to resemble its former glory. The Cemeteries, tended by the Commonwealth Graves Commission are wonderful and very moving. Well worth a visit if and when visiting Europe.

Later in the year Jean and I went as guests to the families of brothers Malcolm and Charles Matheson of The Plains, Virginia, U.S.A. On Thanksgiving Day we

were entertained by their parents Mr and Mrs Malcolm Matheson, Jr. at their delightful home on the edge of the Potomac River, South of Washington. We felt most honoured to sit down to lunch at such a large family gathering and enjoyed our visit enormously. The morning, equally enjoyable, we spent at the meet of the Orange County Hunt, famous for its American red ring-necked hounds. Originally in Orange County, New York since 1900, it was moved to Virginia in 1902-03. The morning was particularly enjoyed by Jean who, brought up in the East Riding of Yorkshire, regularly hunted with the Middleton Hunt of which her father was the Master.

The Clan Society continues to flourish and I am glad to read so many entertainments have continued as before. All made possible by the tireless enthusiasm of a few in each of the member countries who so generously give of their time and expertise for which we are all so grateful and I say a big thank you to them on behalf of us all.

If you read this before the festive season, very happy Christmas and New year to you all.

Fergus Matheson of Matheson

GENEOLOGY CORNER

A very warm greeting to all members. Apart from installing in my computer database several family trees sent to me from members in various parts of the world, within the past year I have begun gradually building up my database of Matheson family trees by the incorporation of a massive collection put together by the late Clan Genealogist, Charlie Otstot. Charlie's database includes a large amount of genealogy from within the United States and Canada, mine includes a similarly large amount from Scotland and, to a lesser degree, the rest of the UK, Australia and New Zealand. The object is to make one Matheson database from the two.

It is very satisfying to extract from Charlie's database a

US family tree, which records mainly data from within that country, with just a bare showing of a Scottish connection, and marry it up with a family tree from my own database which contains a far more comprehensive amount of Scottish data. A similar situation is happening with Canadian families too, with some also showing their migrations into the US.

It is slow progress but very interesting. Don't forget though, I still have plenty of time left to accept copies of your own family trees and record them in the database too. I am always pleased to record members' family trees for posterity so please do not hesitate to use either the post or e-mail; both addresses are displayed in this newsletter.

Don Scott

CLAN WEB SITE

It is not operating at present but will start again in the new year. It is hoped all Branches will wish to merge into the one site, each operating their own page to keep

members world wide informed of their achievements and activities. This cannot happen over night but it is the long term aim.

INTERNATIONAL CLAN CATHERING 2004

Plans are in hand for a Gathering of the Clan in Scotland 22nd - 29th June 2004. Briefly...

22 June. Gather at Prestonfield Hotel, Edinburgh. Visits, Clan Dinner in the evening.

24 June. Gather at Ardross Castle, Easter Ross. Visits, Picnic in the Grounds, Evening Reception and possibly dancing in the Great Hall.

26 - 29 June. Gather at Balmacara, Easter Ross. Visits, Picnic, Church Service, Clan Parliament, Farewell Lunch. More detail will appear on the Clan web site later.

If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with your Hon. Secretary. If you would like to help in the organisation, particularly if you live in Scotland, please get in touch with the Clan Chief, tel: 01508 482 218

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

UNITED KINGDOM

Genealogist: John Faid, 153 Shooters Hill Road, London, SE3 8KQ
Internet Adviser: Miss Jennie Matheson E-mail : jenniem@globalnet.co.uk

ENGLAND

Convenor: Lt. Colonel Alexander Matheson yr. of Matheson

Hon. Secretary: Ron Lowry, Brae Cottage, Colchester Road, Coggeshall, Essex, CO6 1RP
Tel. 01376 561 662 e-mail ron@rlowry.snet.co.uk

Hon. Treasurer: Leslie. K. Matheson, 1 Cotswold Green, Enfield, Middx. EM2 7HE Tel: 0181 363 313

Committee: Mr John Faid, Miss Jennie Matheson, Miss Mary Mathieson, Miss Christine Matheson

Although the membership of the England Branch remains static at 52, which also includes family members the Committee is seeking to increase the numbers by means of a programme to entice others to join in our activities.

The major event of the past year has been the retirement of the Hon Secretary, Mrs Margaret Williams, after many years of service to the Society. She is a very hard act to follow and the new Secretary is relying on the good will of committee and members alike while he finds his feet. The Annual Dinner was not held this year as not enough members were able to attend and the Committee is discussing the format for next year. The Annual General Meeting was again held in the Court Room of the Royal Scottish Corporation in Covent Garden and the usual buffet and wine were enjoyed before the business of the meeting took place. We were pleased to welcome the Chief to our deliberations on that occasion. A social event was held shortly after the AGM when several members with their family visited the Headquarters of the RSPB at Sandy in Bedfordshire. After a picnic lunch and the obligatory photographs we enjoyed a tour around the site. The weather was kind and afterwards we refreshed ourselves with tea and

ices, before buying bags of birdseed for the winter! The committee had planned another social event in September to meet for a pub lunch in Oxfordshire but this due to several reasons had to be postponed. However it is our intention to hold two social and two business meetings every year in an attempt to strengthen the Society and to encourage new members to join us. Members should note the following dates for next year's events: -

Monday February 10th Annual Dinner.

Friday April 11th London Eye trip followed by supper.

Wednesday May 14th Annual General Meeting.

Early planning is already in hand for an exciting visit from October 10th to 12th. 2003 to the battlefields of Normandy led by Major General Graham Hollands a member of the Clan Society. Members will be given details in the Spring of 2003 to plan that weekend.

Notification from the Chief of the International Gathering in 2004 has provoked great interest and that will be something to look forward to with the opportunity to meet old and new friends world-wide.

Ron Lowry

A VISIT TO CANADA

by Ron & Kate Lowry

When we learned at the Lochalsh Gathering that the next one was to be in Prince Edward Island Canada we thought "what a good place to visit" and we were right !! We had met some Canadian cousins at Lochalsh but of course we knew that there were many more so we planned our total trip around Canada with the view of seeing as many relations and friends as possible. With the help of our son-in-law Al we

roughed out a route and filled in the details of where to stay, shop, see and eat with the invaluable assistance of the "Lonely Planet" book on Canada. The International Gathering in Charlottetown being the highlight of our month away.

The first week of the holiday passed very quickly with friends in Port Angeles USA, then over by ferry to Victoria

on Vancouver Island to see the delights of that very "British" area. Of course we had to go on a whale watch cruise and yes we saw lots of killer whales, as well as many other sea creatures and birds. On to Vancouver city very interesting and busy and then the train through the Rockies to Jasper — memorable!! A weekend in the calm of Jasper — eight ospreys in one sitting! but not a bear in sight. And now the family bit.

By bus down to Calgary via Lake Louise, to be met by cousins Sam and Marg Matheson who were our very attentive hosts for the next week. Sam's father, another Sam, left Thurso in Caithness in 1912 and lived in Alberta for the rest of his life. He had five children and we were

fortunate to be able to meet at least ten of his descendants of three generations while we stayed in Lethbridge. Two cousins were farmers and we of course visited their farms and saw where the family had lived for years and where they had been born. Another cousin Bill Matheson had made his name as weather forecaster in Edmonton Alberta and had so become a very recognisable figure even in retirement. We were with him in Calgary airport when total strangers came to wish him well! That was a truly memorable week and one we shall always treasure. And so on to PEI, then home via Halifax duly celebrating our 41st wedding anniversary in style!!

AUSTRALIA

Chief's Lieutenant & President	Dr. A. Colin Matheson	20 Nymagee Place, Fisher. ACT 2611
Vice President:	Brett Mathieson,	e-mail: Colin.Matheson@csiro.au Tel: (02) 6288 1001. 67 Thomas Street, Hampton, Victoria. 3188
Hon. Secretary:	May Matheson,	e-mail: mitchellmeade@yahoo.com 38 Hourigan Road, Morwell, Victoria. 3840
Hon. Treasurer:	Lois Langford	e-mail : maam@netspace.net.au 36 Valley Parade, Glen Iris, Victoria. 3146
Genealogist & Internet Adviser	Craige Proctor	e-mail : glangfor@alphalink.com.au 774, Bellarine Highway, Leopold, Victoria 3224
Research Officer:	Diane Matheson,	e-mail : craige@iprimus.com.au Tel: (03) 5250 2045. P.O. Box 85, Trafalgar, Victoria. 3824
Committee:	Robert Mathieson Roma Jorganson Merle Matheson Len Langford Alan Matheson, Colin Lewis Lance Matheson Ella Matheson Gwen Matheson-Smith Daphne Eggleton	Tel: (03) 56 331976.

Dear Kinsfolk

This year has been a rather difficult one for the Australian Society. The sudden and tragic death of our President Ron Matheson has left a void that will be difficult to fill. He was an enthusiastic and loyal member of the Branch whose support and leadership is sadly missed. Ron was co-founder of the Australian Branch and extremely valued as foundation President. Born in 1927 in the Victorian country town of Stawell, he went to school at Ballarat College. He joined the Australian Air Training Corps towards the end of the Second World War. His working life was spent in business in Melbourne, including a bank, and in an electrical store, a draper's (which he later took over) and a major department store, and in 1977 he was made President of the Heidelberg (a major Melbourne suburb) Chamber of Commerce. Ron had a long and happy association with St Andrew's Church at Reservoir (another Melbourne suburb) of which he was treasurer for many years. He was a warm and genial man with integrity, tact, compassion and humility and we miss him.

We also mourned the passing of our Honorary Patron Sir Louis Matheson who had, one month before his death, celebrated his 90th birthday. It is somewhat ironic that Ron and Sir Louis died within one day of each other and had their funerals on the same day. Sir Louis was born in Huddersfield, UK, in 1912 and spent some of his early years with relatives in Aberdeen. Later he went to school at Bootham, York and then to the University of Manchester where he took Bachelor's and Master's degrees in engineering. After a short period in industry working on elevator cables, in a drawing office and on engineering construction in Warwickshire, he joined the staff of the University of Manchester as an assistant lecturer, later moving to the University of Birmingham as a lecturer. He was a member of the Home Guard during the Second World War, earning a Military MBE for his services. After the War he came to Australia to take a Chair in Civil Engineering at the University of Melbourne but returned to UK in 1951 to take the Byer Chair of Engineering at the University of Manchester. In 1960 he left again to become the foundation Vice Chancellor of Monash University in Melbourne and retired from that post in 1976. He was awarded the CMG in 1972 and knighted (KBE) in 1976 for his services to education. His later career was described in the last Australian newsletter.

Following these two sad events, our Vice President, Ray Cox, was forced to withdraw a few months later because of poor health.

On a brighter note we enjoyed the Clan Matheson Annual Picnic which was held as usual at Flagstaff Gardens, Melbourne. We had the pleasure of two Matheson pipers from Bendigo who entertained us at a BYO Picnic Lunch. The day was enjoyed by quite a few members and I am sure the skirl of the pipes could be heard for miles around. The Geelong Highland Games was another very pleasant event with the weather being kind to us. We had an information tent erected but unfortunately didn't enrol any new members - apart from that the day was enjoyed by the gathering of the Clans. The Ringwood Highland Games were another highlight which quite a few members attended. Once again an information tent was in full view sporting our banner. This was probably the last event our President attended and on the day he was in good health and declared he had never felt better. It came as a great shock when he died a few days later. The Kirkin O' The Tartan was held on the first Sunday of July at Scots Church Melbourne. The Gaelic Choir and the Waverley Highland Dancers entertained the Clans at a BYO lunch in the Church Hall after the Service. Four Committee members attended the Skye Ball, a very enjoyable evening with lots of entertainment.

Throughout the year one of our continuing problems has been with the public liability insurance. Over the last 12 months premiums have increased, sometimes tenfold if available at all. Throughout Australia, small community groups like ours have been confronted with the same problem, one which we share with doctors, surf lifesaving associations as well as other Clans. We have solved the problem for the time being but our subscriptions must increase a little to cover the additional cost.

We have been conducting a mail-out which has been a mammoth task and have added quite a few new members to our list, particularly from New South Wales. The group of Mathesons in Queensland is now meeting regularly, enjoying each other's company and keeping the Clan's traditions going there. Gwen Matheson-Smith was influential in getting the group going, its Hon Secretary is Jeff Matheson. Colin Matheson visited New Zealand in February and enjoyed some fine hospitality from Mathesons there, including Doug & Anne, Donald in Auckland and Gordon & Ailsa in Hamilton. We continue to appreciate support from Sir Fergus, Mathesons in New Zealand and Canada who have helped us during the year. We would like to take this opportunity of wishing all Mathesons throughout the World a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Colin Matheson and May Matheson

CANADA

Chief's Lieutenant : Joel R. Matheson, Q.C.

Genealogist and Glen Matheson.
Internet Adviser

Unit 406-2 Lake Drive, Bedford, Nova Scotia, B4A 4H7.

jrmatheson@accesswave.ca

RR #1 Debert, N.S. B0M 1G0

e-mail: jag.matheson@ns.sympatico.ca

The past year has been one of change for our Canada society. We discontinued our Life Membership structure and established an annual dues system. Existing Life Memberships will remain as such in our records. Only those Life Members of less than 10 years will be exempt from the dues, until they reach the 10 year level. This change was necessary due to the cost of the annual Newsletter, and general expenses, quickly using up the original payment. I am pleased to report that the response from our members has been most positive.

In addition, our Branches have agreed to share in various responsibilities on a rotation basis. This will include the Newsletter and dues collection and banking. Our N.S. Mainland Branch has agreed to be the first to take on the new

duties. Their assistance to our Canada Society, including financial support, is much appreciated.

Our membership level has remained steady the past year. Hopefully, next year will show improvement as our new Branches get established and increase their membership. Also, as can be seen in the N.S. Branch report, Clan Matheson has been well represented at many Scottish events. Their many social gatherings were well attended and fully enjoyed by all.

We look forward to 2004 and the planned Gathering in Scotland! This presents us with a great challenge in 2003 to promote Canada Clan attendance. To all I extend best wishes for the holiday season and 2003!

Joel Matheson

MAINLAND NOVA SCOTIA

Chairman: Albert Matheson 88 Beaumont Drive, Lower Sackville, NS, B4C 1V6
e-mail: al@familymatheson.com
Hon. Secretary: Ena Matheson PO Box 1017, Windsor, NS, B0N 2T0
Hon. Treasurer: Patricia Matheson RR 1 Hopewell, NS, B0K 1C0
Piper: Ms Kelly Putnam
Genealogist: Glen Matheson, RR# 1, Debert, Nova Scotia, B0M 1G0
Chaplain: The Reverend Doctor Glen Matheson

The Clan had a busy and fun year once again, meeting old friends and making new ones. We started our year's activities on Tartan Day (6 April) by having a Clan table and display at the Highland Square Mall in New Glasgow. The first meeting of the year was held on 20 April at the Sugar Moon Farm and Restaurant, a log constructed building with a huge fireplace, nestled in the woods of Earltown. The farm produces maple syrup products and serves pancake and sausage meals. This was a great way to start the season of Clan activities. All 36 members in attendance ate their fill of pancakes while being entertained by the Putnam family. It was at this meeting that the Clan's bursary for furtherance of the Gaelic culture in Nova Scotia was awarded to Alycia Putnam of Brookfield. In May our Clan hosted a successful pancake breakfast in New Glasgow.

Our tent was set up with clan members on hand to meet and greet all visitors at the Halifax Highland Games, New Glasgow's Festival of The Tartans, The Pipers Picnic held on the Matheson farm in Earltown and the New Scotland Days in Pictou. We had 380 people from across Canada, USA, Europe, Australia and New Zealand visit our tent at these

gatherings.

Our annual picnic and auction was hosted by Donna and Vaughn Matheson in Brookfield and once again Al conducted a most successful auction of donated items that raised over \$300.00. Our major fund raiser this year was selling tickets on a large oil painting of the "Launching of the Ship Hector" which was donated to us by Keith and Anne Matheson. This was a very successful event which raised close to \$700.00.

Our year of clan activities closed with a gathering in Falmouth, N.S., hosted by Doug and Ena Matheson. Plans for the year 2003 were formulated, followed by a surf and turf BBQ which was enjoyed by all.

Our sincere appreciation to all members who gave faithfully of their time and talents, thus making our clan activities a success.

As the year 2002 comes to an end the members of this branch wish all Mathesons around the world a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MAY THE YEAR 2003 BE YOUR BEST YEAR EVER.

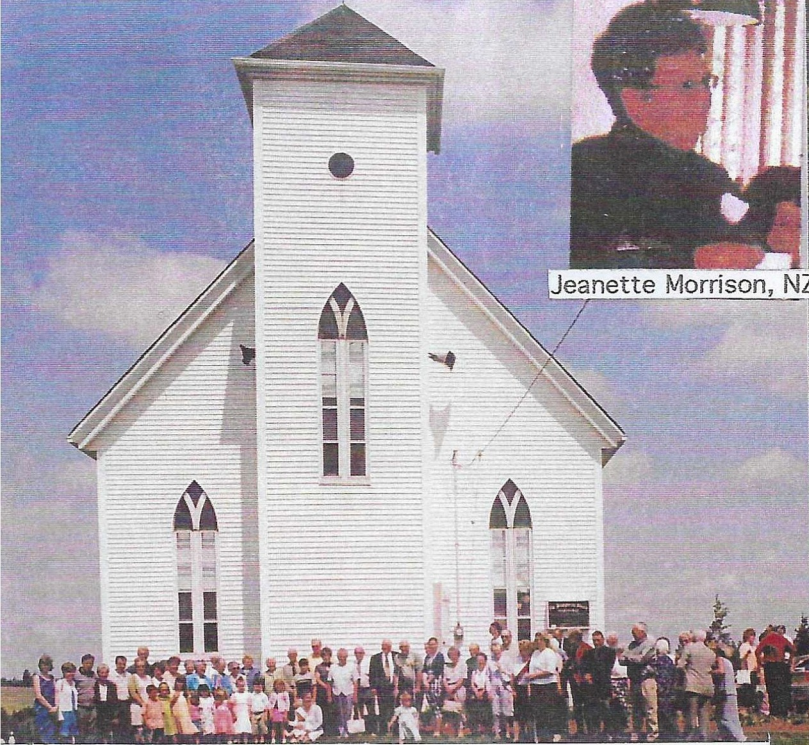
Al Matheson

CAPE BRETON

President: Mae Buchanan RR No 2, Baddeck, Nova Scotia, B0E 1B0
Hon. Secretary: Jesse Ross, Baddeck, Nova Scotia, B0E 1B0
Hon. Treasurer: George Matheson 60 Murphy Lane, Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, B1A 1X1

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Chairman: Myron Matheson General Delivery, Breadalbane, P.E.I. C0A 1E0
E-mail: mmatheson@pei.sympatico.ca
Vice Chairman: The Reverend Gordon Matheson PO Box 103, Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 7K2
Hon. Secretary: Gladys MacMillan 48 Cedar Avenue, Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 6K4.
Hon. Treasurer: J. Claude Matheson R.R. No. 3 St. Peter's Bay, PEI, C0A 2A0.
Genealogist: Linda Harding 264 Mount Edward Road, Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 5T7



Jeanette Morrison, NZ.

Descendants of Donald Matheson b.in Skye, d. July 1902 at their 5th re-union organised by Myron. Nearly 500 members of the family attended. Can.



England Clan Picnic, Sandy, Bedfordshire Fergus, Alexander, Peter Williams, Ron Lowry, Malcolm, Leah, Hazel, Kate Lowry, Hamish, Jean, Iain, Margaret Williams



Anne & Keith at New Scotland Days Can.



Anne with Eria & Al at Pictou drawing the winning ticket, Can.



Lloyd Matheson, NZ



Ypres in Belgium. A First World War Commonwealth War Graves Commission memorial for the fallen with no known graves.



The late Ian Matheson, NZ



Ben McKenzie, NZ.



Margaret Watt, NZ.

MATHESON, Private, ANGUS, 44132, 1st Bn. Canterbury Regiment, N.Z.E.F., Killed in action 12th October 1917. Age 31. Son of the late John and Anne Matheson, of Blairford, Avoch, Ross-shire, Scotland. 3.

MATHESON, Private, GILBERT, S 18051, 8th Bn. Seaforth Highlanders, 22nd August 1917. Age 19. Son of John and Isabella Matheson, of Mason's Buildings, Castletown, Thurso. Panel 132 to 135 and 162A

MATHESON, Private, JOHN, 36733, 12th Bn. Royal Scots, 26th April 1918. Age 40. Son of the late John Matheson, Panel 11 to 14 and 162

MATHESON, Rifleman, JAMES WEIR, 36874, 2nd Bn. 3rd. N.Z. Rifle Brigade. Killed in action (2th O. 1917. Age 25. Son of John and Margaret Nicholson Matheson, of S. Princes St. Invercargill. Nat. Kensington, Southland, Invercargill. 8.

MATHESON, Private, ROBERT, 41315, 1st Bn. Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), 29th March 1918. Panel 108 to 109 and 162 and 162A



John & Susan Matheson, NZ.



Norman Watt Donald Matheson, NZ.



All NZ Mathesons L to R, Doug, Ena, George, Eileen, Bertha, Beverly, Al, Gordon.



Tim with Kim Orr on their marriage, 15th June 2002, and his parents, Joel & Ruth. Can



Family reunion of the descendants of John Matheson and Elsie Nicholson Lebanon, Oregon, USA.



Reawyn & Alex, NZ.



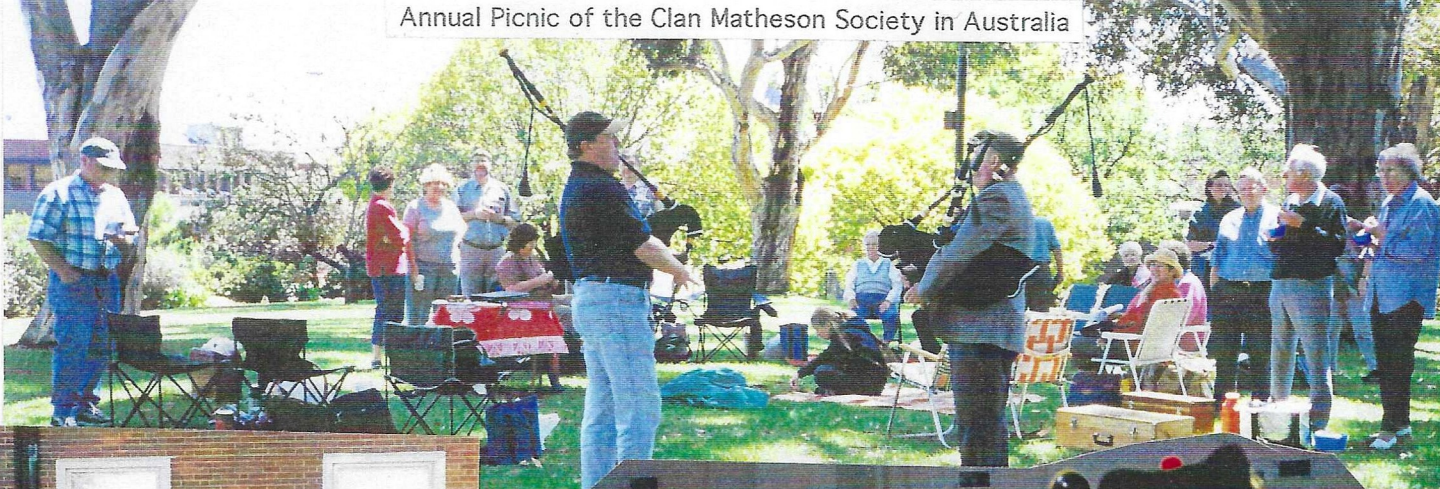
Family reunion of the descendants of Archie Matheson and Lysle Gates. Lebanon, Oregon, USA.
Front row, L to R Marjorie, Gordon & Edith, Matheson and Lauren, Rick & Carolyn Loeffler.
Back row, Paula Matheson, David Grimsrud, Nancy Matheson



Malcolm III & Gail & their family with



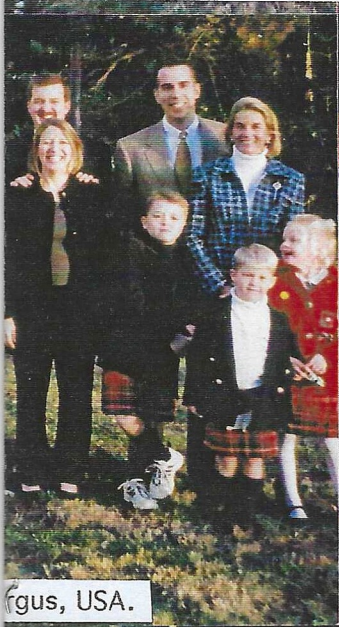
Mr & Mrs Malcolm Matheson Jr. with their family and Jean & Fergus Thanksgiving Day, 2002 at Ferry Point, Mt. Vernon, Virginia, USA.



s and Jean with Emma and Malcolm Matheson Jr.
Point, Mt. Vernon, Virginia.



Gerald with his son Warren, Pipe Major
of the Fortuna Pipes and Drum Band, Aus.



fgus, USA.



Pauline Roberts
and
Dulcie, NZ.



L to R Merle, Alan, Ron (late President),
May (Hon. Sect.), Lois & Len Langford, Aus.



Gerald, Ron, Colin (Chief's Lieutenant)
holding banner, Warren



New Zealand Mathesons at the Taranaki Gathering.
Gary, Donald, Ailsa, Pearl, Gordon, Connie.



Bob Matheson with
Sister Jenny Morton, NZ.



Mary Webb, NZ.

Flora Matheson, Ph.D., daughter of Miles Matheson, Can.



Doreen Schular
with Anne Matheson, NZ.



Charlie
Schular, NZ.



L to R George & Marion Matheson, Gail & Malcolm III, Jean Marie,
Donald M, Bunny & Kenneth, Elaine & David Green, USA.



Ailsa Bond, Ailsa Matheson, Ailsa Wilton.
All Mathesons, NZ.



Dan, son of Joel & Ruth,
with Michelle Barton on
their wedding day, Can.



Al presenting the N.S. Clan Bursary to Alycia Putnam
L to R Al, Alycia, Janelle, Kelly (Matheson), Robert Putnam. Can.

MATHESON PLACE NAMES IN CANADA

Bays and Mountains by Glen Matheson.

We certainly get around. A recent survey of a Canadian Government Gazetteer indicates that 48 geographic features bear our clan name. They are dispersed from coast to coast among six provinces and three northern territories. Unfortunately we do not have complete information as to how they were named. The Nova Scotia places clearly follow the areas of major Matheson settlement. The northern and western locations are not so clear. Here is a breakdown:

1 Village	Ontario	4 Bays	Ontario (2), Manitoba (1) Saskatchewan (1)
6 Brooks	Nova Scotia (6)	6 Creeks	Ontario (1) British Columbia (5)
1 Cove	Nova Scotia	1 Inlet	British Columbia
2 Shoals	Ontario (1) Nova Scotia (1)	1 Lookout	Nova Scotia
1 Slough	Manitoba	2 Ponds	Nova Scotia (1) Prince Edward Island (1)
1 Rock	Nova Scotia	2 Points	Nunavut (1) Manitoba (1)
1 Cape	Manitoba	2 Rivers	Saskatchewan (1) Nunavut (1)
6 Islands	Saskatchewan (2) Northwest Territories (1) Manitoba (1) NS (1)		
8 Lakes	Nova Scotia (3) B.C. (1) Saskatchewan (3) Manitoba (1)		
3 Mountains	British Columbia (1) Yukon (1) Nunavut (1)		

A lack of names in a particular province does not mean we were not there. Mathesons have lived in New Brunswick since 1803, Quebec since the late 1820's and were probably in Alberta prior to 1900.

NEW ZEALAND

Chief's Lieutenant: Douglas Matheson	33 Mellons Bay Road, Howick 1705, Auckland Tel: 09 5349 477 E-mail: djmaclan@lycosmail.com
Chairman: Donald Matheson,	23 Sunnyside Avenue, Beachhaven, Auckland. Tel: 09 4839 147 Fax 09 4839142 e-mail: donald@5star.net.nz
Hon. Secretary Mrs Ailsa Matheson	138a Pembroke St, Hamilton Tel: 07 8340 918 Fax: 07 8340 913
Hon. Treasurer Gordon Matheson	138a Pembroke St, Hamilton
Genealogist Don Scott,	11 Tiri Road, Whangaparaoa, Auckland Tel: & Fax: 09 424 1461 E-mail: donaldscott@xtra.co.nz
Internet Adviser Wayne Matheson	P.O.Box 745 Invercargill E-mail: w.matheson@clear.net.nz
Piper Norman Matheson	
Committee Lois Ahlquist, Anne Matheson, Keith Matheson, Joy Weeds, Fay Whittle, Elaine Rankin	

At the Annual General Meeting in June Chairman Donald Matheson was elected to a further year in office and members expressed their appreciation of his leadership. The remainder of the office bearers were re-elected although we did accept the resignation of Don Scott, who decided to put his energies and time into Clan research. Don continues to be our branch officer in respect of Genealogy.

New Zealand News letters have continued to feature Matheson/Mathieson families of today, as well as from earlier times. We have noted stories of Catherine and John, Alexander and Sarah Mathieson of Tomahawk, Dunedin, also Matheson/Finlayson families from Plockton. We wrote about Major Dugald Matheson in charge of Soames Island (Matiu) Internment Camp during the first World War, also Matheson/Mathiesons connected with New Zealand coastal shipping and Lt Commander CC Matheson 1914-18 War C ship, to name but a few. In fact we endeavour to make mention of any New Zealand Matheson/Mathieson people who come to our notice. Although our membership is spread over the whole country, we endeavour to keep the publication and interest evenly covered. Sadly we have lost a few members during the year, but happily new members have joined and we warmly welcome them. In turn, hope they too will encourage others.

In March 2002 a special ceremony was held at Massey University honouring Ian Matheson and to present him with the Massey Medal - the highest honour the University can bestow on any person for services to students and the wider community. For Clan members Rod and Marge Matheson this presentation to their son was a very proud day. Sadly, Ian passed away in July but New Zealand members place on record their tribute to Ian for his outstanding historical

contribution to the people of the Manawatu.

January 2003 will mark the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Highland settlers to Waipu and surrounding areas. The pioneers came from Nova Scotia on 6 ships, "SPRAY", "ELLEN LEWIS", "BREADALBANE", "RICHARD LASS", "MARGARET", and "GERTRUDE", under the guidance of the Rev Norman McLeod. The immigrants included many families whose descendants of today are valued Clan members. Celebrations continue over early January centering on the recently extended and upgraded House of Memories at Waipu.

Clan Genealogist Don Scott has carried out sterling world wide research of old records, continually seeking out new information and helping Clan members everywhere to trace their ancestors. A recent Australian correspondent wrote saying Don had "shown interest and assistance above the call of duty" and how grateful they were. We all echo these sentiments.

A most successful Taranaki members day was held in June at the home of Gary and Connie Matheson. It was the first opportunity for Chairman Donald to meet all the members who came and made it such a lovely family day. Donald said he was overwhelmed by the wonderful friendship and generous hospitality of all present.

The book "BY CHANCE" To Victoria" written by Mary Webb of Balclutha was launched in November 2001. This family history of profiles, photographs, maps and family trees follows the families of John and Elizabeth Matheson, Christopher and Ann McCrae from Ardelve Dornie in the Highlands of Scotland on the ship "CHANCE" to Victoria in Australia. Congratulations to Mary on an excellent publication. It is a real inspiration to anyone wishing to

record their own family history.

In so many ways members have been generous with subscriptions, donations, hospitality and use of their talents. All of this assistance is warmly appreciated. Members are now meeting one another world wide and thus the family bonds are strengthened. Already about 15 members are making preliminary travel plans for the 2004 Clan Gathering. Those who went to Lochalsh and Nova Scotia want to renew Clan friendships also to meet others for the first time.

Our thanks to Chief's Lieutenant for New Zealand Douglas Matheson for his enthusiasm and encouragement so happily given. We were pleased earlier this year to welcome the Chief's Lieutenant from Australia Colin Matheson who

was able to meet up with a few Clan members during his short stay in New Zealand.

In all our activities we are appreciative of the vital interest shown by our Chief, Sir Fergus Matheson of Matheson. We are especially mindful of the many personal contacts he makes. Chairman Donald and members are very impressed with the proposed itinerary for the 2004 Gathering. The programme has particularly got Donald seriously thinking of attending as his ancestors are from the Dingwall area. We are acutely aware of the tremendous task being undertaken by the Chief and wish to thank him for his efforts on our behalf. From New Zealand members we say thank you.

Ailsa Matheson

UNITED STATES

Chief's Lieutenant: Malcolm Matheson III,

The Tannery, P.O. Box 307, The Plains, Virginia, 20198

E-mail: Home : Mmatheson3@aol.com

Office: clanmathsn@aol.com

Genealogist: Charles Edward Matheson, Sr.,

126 Gruetzner Lane, Elgin, Texas 78621

e-mail: Matheson@Texas.net

Internet Adviser: J. Kurt Matheson

E-mail: kurtm2362@aol.com

Pipers: Farquhar James Matheson

3941 Lomi Lomi Drive, Holiday, Florida 34691

Lt. Col. Leslie P. Matheson USAF(ret) 1 Caswell Circle, Mary Ester, FL. 32569

Greetings U.S. Members.

Are you ready for another Clan Gathering in Scotland? Save your money now. The Chief is planning a gathering for the end of June 2004 which will start in Edinburgh and end up in Lochalsh! Though there was no general Clan Gathering this past year our Chief Sir Fergus and Lady Jean did come to the United States for a short visit in November 2001 around Thanksgiving time. My family had extended an invitation to them to visit while we were all at the Clan Gathering in P.E.I. and they graciously accepted. My brother, Charles T. Matheson, and his wife, Bonnie very kindly had them to stay at their house in The Plains, VA for the days preceding Thanksgiving and Charley's and my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Matheson, Jr., had asked them to join our annual Thanksgiving Day Family Gathering at Ferry Point, Mt. Vernon, VA where they were heartily welcomed by 65 of our direct family members. It was an outstanding gathering which included Piping by Greg O'Brian, Pipe Major for the St. Andrew's Society of Washington D.C. Pipe Band.

On the weekend after Thanksgiving, my wife, Gail, and I had a party in honor of our daughter Heather and her new husband, denny Ryus, and, as it turned out, also in honor of the Chief and Lady Jean. In between these parties Sir Fergus, who had bravely rented an automobile upon his arrival at Dulles Airport, toured much of Virginia countryside and Washington, D.C. The Chief's driving and navigation skills are assuredly keen as touring in the northern Virginia and D.C. area can be most overwhelming. Each excursion ended with him and Lady Jean

"home" safely! My entire family was quite honoured by this visit and I am only sorry that they could not have stayed long enough for us to have arranged a function to include all our Clan Society members.

My only other quasi Clan activity to report was an interesting trip Gail and I took at the end of August to Elkhorn, Wisconsin where the U.S. roots of my family originated when my triple great grandmother, Jessie MacRea Matheson, arrived there from Scotland in 1841 with 4 of her sons. A 5th son (my great-great grandfather) arrived in 1848. My great grandfather had been born in Elkhorn and I felt I should see it. Several distant cousins lived there, all Clan Society members who I had either talked to or corresponded with and I felt an urge to meet them. My 3rd cousin Jean Marie Matheson met us on arrival and toured us around towns, cemeteries and the Matheson Memorial Library. Then we met her 1st cousins, brothers Donald M. and Kenneth D. Matheson and Ken's wife Bunny. Also Don and Ken's sister Marion Matheson Kerrihard, her husband George and David L. Green a 4th cousin with wife Elaine.

Our thanks to 36 Life members for making donations to the Society this past year, in particular those who donated \$25.00 or more. Their generosity helped to plug the gap because others had forgotten to pay their dues.

As in past years Alec & Ashley Aakeson and his brother John, Gt. Gt. grandsons of Sir Alexander Matheson, 1st Baronet of Lochalsh, are to be commended for their unflagging energy in keeping the Clan tent open at the Potomac Celtic Festival in Leesburg, VA

Fortunately the Society welcomed in 18 new members since October 2001. They are:-

John Martin Matheson Priest & 2 daughters (Anderson, IN)

Cheryle Anne Priest Latour (Pendleton, IN)

Carolyn Matheson Stafford (Orlando, FL)

Catherine A. Worley (Seattle, WA)

Heather Ingreola (San Antonio, TX)

Mary Jo Wiseman Alcorn (Lincoln, NE)

William J. Robinson-Matheson (New Berlin, WI)

Elizabeth R. Matheson Kirk (Pemberville, OH)

Donald Walter Matheson and daughter, (Seattle, WA)

The Society extends its sincerest condolences to the United States families of those who have passed away :-

Janet Matheson Dorn, past Clan Genealogist;

Hugh Matheson, Jr. of Vero Beach, FL;

William Clifton Matheson of Millbrae, CA.;

Roderick Joseph Matheson of Columbus, OH.,

Virita Irene Priest Bodey (Anderson, IN)

Douglas Alexander Lock (Manhattan, Beach, CA)

Catherine Matheson Gilbert Worley (Mt. Vernon, WA)

Willie Ruth Matheson (Newton, NC)

Mabel D. Matheson (Orlando, FL)

Dr. George William Matheson (Port Orchard, WA)

Charles Leonard Matheson (Cookeville, TN)

LaLani Jae Matheson (Aurora, CO)

Toni Matheson Kuresman (Bremerton, WA)

Charles Mathieson Otstot, Branch & Clan Genealogist;

Loretta Merkes Matheson of Mesa, AZ.;

Donald Roy Matheson of Mobile, AL;

Malcolm Matheson, III

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE

By Bob Matheson

Director of Programming American Forces Radio and Television Service

Today's military forces of the United Kingdom, United States and Canada are continuously deployed overseas for a variety of missions such as NATO peace-keeping activities, guarding their own countries foreign embassies, interdicting drug traffickers, and so on. That means living weeks and months in a strange land, away from family and friends and their familiar national culture.

To bring their military forces "home" while serving overseas, the UK, US and Canada provide their troops with news and entertainment from military-provided radio and television stations. The British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS), the American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS), and the Canadian Forces Network (CFN) deliver radio and television services by satellite, 24 hours a day, to their country's forces stationed around the world.

The smallest operation is CFN, which provides a radio broadcast to Canadian NATO forces stationed in Germany. BFBS serves 100,000 British forces in 25 countries and aboard 22 ships of the Royal Navy with multiple channels of radio and television. AFRTS serves US troops in 181 countries and on US Navy ships at sea with up to six channels of television and 11 channels of radio services. These services are known world-wide as AFN, the

American Forces Network.

Each of these broadcasting organisations had their roots in the early days of World War II when it was realised the fighting forces needed to be entertained and informed. The mission of the military broadcaster is to replicate their country's domestic broadcasting industry. Radio and television reflects our society's dynamic culture, and bringing a "touch of home" to those stationed away from home contributes greatly to the military's moral and readiness.

To best serve those who serve, programmers in BFBS, AFRTS and CFN rely on domestic audience reach to see what their troops would be watching or listening to if they were still home. Program ratings are sorted into demographic groups, so program popularity can be determined by the age and gender of the audience. By knowing the demographics in the military audience, the very best programming is selected for rebroadcast to the troops overseas.

Thanks to military broadcasting, British, Canadian and American troops overseas are the best informed, best entertained, and have the best morale of any generation to ever serve their country away from home.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

UNITED KINGDOM

- * Siana, daughter of Matilda and Martin Thompson (Chief's grand-daughter), awarded a Gold Medal for winning the UK Preparatory Schools Discus Throwing and for representing England in the under 13 Rounders and Norfolk at Hockey.
- * Dr. Ann Matheson, Lochalsh, who has been appointed Secretary of the General Council of the University of Edinburgh

° AUSTRALIA

- * Margaret Fleming, one of our members, who flew home from the United Arab Emirates for the birth of her first grandchild a son born on 18th August 2001 to Natalie and Cam Walker.

NEW ZEALAND

- * Ian, late son of Rod & Marjorie Matheson of Palmerston North, awarded the Queen's Service Medal in recognition of his outstanding historical contribution to the people of the Manawatu.
- * Iris (Matheson) & Merv Chitty on the occasion of their 55th Wedding Anniversary
- * Cushla & Lex Matheson on the birth of Finn Walker Saoirse in Auckland on 22 August
- * Douglas Matheson of Masterton who in the Queen's Birthday Honours list was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Douglas has served the community in many public spheres
- * Iris (nee Matheson) and Merv Chitty on the occasion of their 55th Wedding Anniversary.

CANADA

- * Flora, daughter of Miles Matheson, P.E.I., on completing her Ph.D. and the award of a post-doctorate fellowship at the Inner City Health Research Unit at St. Michael's Hospital Toronto, Ontario. She will continue her career as a Medical Sociologist and Criminologist.
- * Tim, son of Joel & Ruth Matheson on his marriage to Kim Orr in Bedford, Nova Scotia on 15th June 2002
- * Dan, son of Joel & Ruth Matheson on his marriage to Michelle Barton in Edmonton, Alberta on 31st August 2002.

UNITED STATES

- * Charles Edward Matheson, Sr. of Elgin Texas on his appointment as U.S. Branch Genealogist who will take over the job which Charles Otstot so courageously performed until his death last Christmas Day.
- * Jennifer Ballard Koch and husband, Henry, on adoption of their 2nd daughter from China, Madeline Louise.
- * Mr & Mrs. Edward B. Matheson, Jr. on the marriage of their daughter, Sally Louise Matheson, to Mr. Robert Blake Stowers on the 18th of May 2001. It was a Celtic affair with groom and groomsmen in Kilts!
- * Mary Ellen and Colvin T. Matheson on the birth of their twin girls, Emma Tompkins and Marguerite Chandler, born April 9, 2002 (Gail and Malcolm Matheson III's 9th and 10th grandchildren and Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Matheson, Jr.'s 27th and 28th great grandchildren.)
- * Heather Matheson and M. Denslow Ryus on the birth of their daughter, Gaylan Matheson, born May 5, 2002 (Gail and Malcolm Matheson III's 11th grandchild and Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Matheson, Jr.'s 29th great-grandchild)
- * Rachel Cooke and Christopher Mills on the birth of their daughter, Hannah Sophia, on July 9, 2002. (Torrey Matheson and John P. Cooke's 4th grandchild and Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Matheson, Jr.'s 30th great-grandchild).
- * Lilla Matheson and Christopher F. Ohrstrom on the birth of their daughter, Georgina Clementine, July 20th 2002 (Bonnie B. and Charles T. Matheson's 11th grandchild and Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Matheson, Jr.'s 31st great-grandchild).

PRINTED PAPER RATE

IF UNDELIVERED

PLEASE RETURN TO THE APPROPRIATE ADDRESS BELOW

United Kingdom	The Old Rectory, Hedenham, Norfolk, NR35 2LD
Australia.	38 Hourigan Road, Morwell, 3840, Victoria
Canada.	2 Lake Drive, Unit 406, Bedford, Nova Scotia, B4A 4HL.
New Zealand.	138a Pembroke Street, Hamilton
U.S.A.	The Tannery, PO Box 307, The Plains, Virginia, 20198