



CLAN MATHESON SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER 2016





Those of you who have looked forward every January-February to receiving Margaret William's superbly edited Clan Newsletter, will instead be disappointed to hear she has resigned as Editor. Over the years she has served the Clan well and improved the quality and layout beyond all recognition, attractive colourful back ground, lots of well produced photographs and expert coverage of the Clan's activities, over preceding years. Those of us who delayed sending in contributions to the last minute she handled in good humour and somehow got editions out on time. I know that her husband Peter Williams was a great support to her; on behalf of the Clan I thank them both for looking after our interests so well. Her place has been taken by Don Matheson known to many of you for his skills as Editor of the New Zealand newsletter for the past several years. We are grateful to him for taking on such a big task and wish him well. You will note

in the Genealogist report John Faid has found it necessary to reduce the time he devotes to Clan matters, partially disengaging from the Clan Society but fortunately continuing "at a steadier pace". It is worth recalling at this stage the tremendous contribution John has made since he joined the Clan Society in 1993. I did not realise at the time the large store of Clan history he would bring with him. He was clearly cut out for the role of Clan Genealogist and soon took on the herculean task. He assisted establishing branch genealogists where necessary to concentrate on recording the dates and lives of immigrants from the time of their arrival in their new countries. He had many contacts among the Highland Clans and Societies and I have been particularly grateful to him for finding the time to represent the Clan at various meetings in and around Edinburgh. I wish him well in his semi retirement and am glad to know he is still there when the calls for help go out

Fergus Matheson of Matheson, January 2016



Alexander son of the Chief sent us these lovely photos taken during the ceremony of the marriage of his son Andrew to Alexandra on 22 August 2015



L to R, Louisa (daughter) Alexander, Alexandra (daughter-in-law)
Andrew (my elder son), Katharine (my wife), Archie (younger son)

Andrew and Alexandra
22nd August 2015

OUR SOCIETIES CONGRATULATIONS

Our Society would like to congratulate Alexander Matheson, Lord Lieutenant of the Western Isles since 2001, who was recognised in the recent New Years Honours by being appointed Commander of the Royal Victorian Order for his services as the Lord Lieutenant. This is a personal award from Her Majesty the Queen. He lives in Stornoway, on the Isle of Lewis.

Chief of the Clan: Major Sir Fergus Matheson of Matheson, Bt.

fergusmatheson1@gmail.com

Convenor of the Clan Society: Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Matheson of Matheson, yr. LVO

afmatheson@gmail.com

Genealogist: Mr John Faid

john1faid@hotmail.co.uk

Editor of the Clan Society newsletter: Mr Donald Matheson

donaldrm@slingshot.co.nz

Webmaster: Mr Rod Urquhart

webmaster@clanmatheson.org

GENEALOGIST CORNER

It has been a great privilege and pleasure over the last two decades working as Branch and then Clan Genealogist with Society members and colleagues here and overseas, as well as working on the UK Clan Committee. Sadly increasing and acute personal demands, especially family and grandchildren have meant that I am unable to put the necessary time into all of this, so at our AGM last year I stood down from our Committee. I also expressed the hope that we would find some fresh blood – another and younger Genealogist to assist me, and who might later wish to take over. Until that time I propose to continue with the Genealogy function, albeit at a steadier pace and to deal with genealogical and historical enquiries.

In earlier episodes of Genealogy Corner I have neglected the Military role of the Mathesons. As with other Clans this role was built on naval traditions and practices going back to Celtic and Viking times. [it is a matter of pride that MS evidence attests the existence of a Dalriadic Navy with liabilities for call out, in the 7th century, two centuries before the founding of the English Navy by King Alfred the Great].

Later, a thriving naval capability in the Highlands is attested in the record of the man-of-war built in Inverness in 1248 for the Count of St Pol, a great Crusader and follower of St Louis, King of France. Many years ago, the Rev William Matheson identified echoes of these historical circumstances in an ancient Matheson and McKenzie tradition of a Matheson Chief's son taking ship from the Highlands to serve the King of France, and (inter alia) returning home as a man of standing.

Building on the Reverend William's work, Andrew and Kevin McKenzie have recently identified heraldic evidence that an historical Matheson may have embarked on a Crusade. Early Matheson heraldry is notoriously elusive but the McKenzies have (inter alia) identified two medieval examples of, the cumin leaf, borne as a personal heraldic charge, which point that way. The first lies above the 16th century tomb in Beaulieu Abbey of Dugald Roryson or Matheson, prior of Beaulieu (died 1516). The second appears on a seal on the 1296 (i.e. second) Ragman Roll of Scottish nobles submitting to Edward 1 and belonged to "S'John Gilmotam" which Graeme McKenzie has translated as "John MacGhille Mahan" i.e. in practice John son of the son of Mahan, or John son of Kenneth MacMahan, our first Chief.

Cumin was a flower and spice reportedly found first in the Middle East including Acre in Palestine, one of a number of spices brought back to Europe by the crusaders, so these two motifs' symbolism do suggests strongly that an early Matheson, possibly John himself, had been a crusader to the Holy Land.

As before, Society members are encouraged to discuss their family history findings with Clan genealogists which hold succinct reports of registration and census data, as well as old parish records & wills, www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk www.findmypast.co.uk www.ancestry.com www.ancestry.co.uk & www.familysearch.com the last free site. And those interested in DNA testing should contact the Clan Matheson DNA project <https://www.familytreedna.com/public/Matheson/>

John Faid Clan Genealogist.

Chief's Lieutenant U.S.A

Malcolm Matheson III
The Tannery P.O. Box 307
The Plains, Virginia 20198
Tel (540) 687-6836
E-mail: clanmathsn@aol.com

Deputy Chief's Lieutenant East Coast

John T. G. Aakesson.
7312, Leesville Blvd.
Springfield, Virginia 22151
Tel (703) 256-4746
E-mail: Aakeson.John@gmail.com

Deputy Chief's Lieutenant West Coast

Roger Barry Mathison
2880 West 15th Street
Los Angeles, California, 90006
Tel. (323) 732-4737
E-mail: roger.mathison@sbcglobal.net

Commissioner Intermountain West

Shawn Wesley Matheson
3910 Leicester Bay
South Jordan, Utah 84096
Tel. (801) 856-8155
E-mail: clanmathesonintermountain@yahoo.com

Genealogist

Alice M. Fairhurst
313 E Hurst Street
Covina, California 91723
Tel. (626) 331-4791

Piper

Lt.Col. Leslie P. Matheson USAF (ret.)

To kick off this year's (2016) Newsletter let me wish all members and their families a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year! & I sincerely hope your past Christmas Holiday Season was a joyous occasion.

Clan Society life in 2015 was not nearly as active as it was in 2014 with the Clan Gathering in Scotland, but none the less we were able to break out the kilts and toast our heritage on a number of occasions. As usual on the East Coast, Deputy Chief's Lieutenant John Aakesson set up our tent at the Virginia Scottish Games in the Plains, VA on September 5th and 6th and was joined by his brother Alexander with wife, Ashley, and daughter Elizabeth; and friends Marion McRae and Georgia Lawson. My son Malcolm IV; and I also attended. John also attended a Kirkin O' the Tartan on the 30th of November and the annual Christmas Walk on the 5th of December-both events taking place in Alexandria, Virginia.

Deputy Chief's Lieutenant West Coast Roger B Mathison reported travel to several Scottish events but most importantly managed to recruit 15 new members for our Clan Society's shrinking roster, all of whom he will list in his column recounted later in this Newsletter. Roger deserves our utmost gratitude for this herculean recruitment effort which was of prime necessity at this time. My sole addition to our membership roster in 2015 was Jennie Fae McMaken from Albuquerque NM, who was actually referred to me by Chief Fergus.

A hearty congratulation to Life Member Nell P. Wilkerson of Livingston, Texas on celebrating her 100th Birthday on the 26th of January 2016, and also our heartfelt thanks for her high level of support and extremely generous contributions she has made over her many years of membership. We toast your amazing 100 years.

Our sincerest condolences go out to the family of Earnest M. Matheson who passed away peacefully at home on February 28, 2015 at the age of 80. We especially extend our sympathies to his wife of 56 years, Lois Adams Matheson, his two sons and two daughters and seven grandchildren and particularly to son,

Lois Adams Matheson, Kurt Matheson, who is a long time Clan Member and correspondent and who actually brought his father into the Society membership.

We also extend our sincere condolences to the family of Douglas P Murtland who died July 2015 at the age of 61. Our special sympathies to his wife, Shiela Murtland, to whom I was able to personally extend our condolences and for whom I was able to arrange a piper for Doug's funeral. Doug had been a Clan Society member for 27 years.

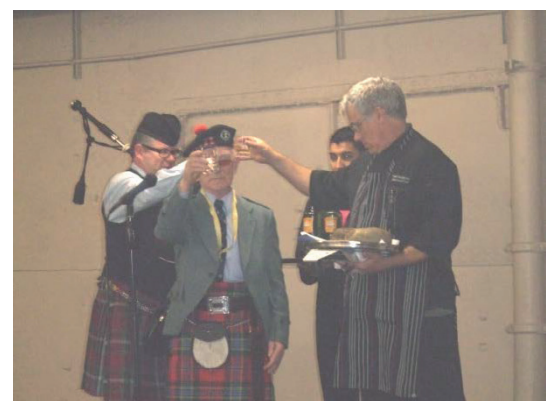
I am also distressed to report that during the past year only 91 members paid their dues. And considering that 15 of those were "new members" it means that only 76 of the 2014 roster (out of 250) paid their dues which is a deplorable return and one that would not allow us to get out the Newsletter had it not been for the 10 or so loyal Members who make those \$50 - \$100 contributions each year. Those members to whom we are extremely grateful are.,

Charles E. Matheson Sr.,	Colvin T. Matheson,	Nell P. Wilkerson,	Dr John D. Matheson,
Charles T. Matheson,	Dr Ian M. Ballard,	Marlyn R. Lewis,	Thomas K. Andison,
Ruth Peebles,	Torrey M. Cooke,	Harold M. Matheson.	

Yours in the Clan
Malcolm Matheson III
Chief's Lieutenant- USA



Top left photo is of Malcolm & Gail
Top right from left to right is; Malcolm Matheson III (Chief's Lt USA), Marion McRae, Georgia Lawson, Malcolm Matheson IV, ,Ashley + Elizabeth + Alexander Aakesson, John Aakesson (Deputy Chief's Lieut East Coast)
Bottom Left is Malcolm III & his son, Malcolm IV
Bottom Right; Deputy Lieut Roger Mathison USA (second from left) toasting the Haggis on board the 'Queen Mary'



Roger B Mathison
Deputy Chief's Lieutenant
Clan Matheson Society West USA

The consensus reached at the Clan Matheson Society Parliament Inverness-shire Scotland in July 2014, to aggressively recruit new members to the Clan was well heeded by members of Clan Matheson USA West in 2015. The recruitment drive for new members kicked off at the Long Beach, California 22nd Annual Scots festival Highland Games aboard the Queen Mary ocean liner in February. A two day event that attracts thousands of visitors from the neighbouring counties of Los Angeles,, Orange, Riverside and the San Diego counties. The first Mathesons to arrive at the Matheson "tent" on E deck of the grand old lady were Angus (what a mellifluous sounding name that resonates even more so in the Scottish Gaelic) and Susan Matheson from Fullerton in Orange County. This was the second appearance for Angus and his family at the Queen Mary Games, but on this occasion Angus approached the Matheson display table with the express purpose of joining his ancestral family. We extend a hearty welcome to you both and look forward to meeting you at other Southern California Scottish games. Another visitor to the Clan Matheson display also from Orange County, was Randy Mathis from Trabuco Canyon. Randy mentioned that he had taken up Scottish piping. Now a year later, he must be no mean piper! With much enthusiasm Randy paid his dues for 2014.

So, with two fully paid up members in its sporran, the Clan pitched two tents at the Caledonian Society of Arizona Scottish Gathering and Highland Games. In Phoenix, Arizona, in March. Roland Matteson with his son Michael and Michael's son David erected the tents and set out the displays of books, photographs and other miscellaneous items of Scottish interest. Four other members of Roland's family visited the tents; his wife Barbara, Jan Luckey, his sister from Apache Junction Arizona, Jessica his grand-daughter, Alicia his daughter-in-law, and Brent his 13 month old grandson. Three new members of Clan Matheson USA were enrolled in Phoenix as paid up members for 2015, actually two new recruits, since one in absentia member was enrolled twice by a relative. The second enrollee was Dan Gilbank of Escondido, California, who visited the Matheson tents with his daughter Caysie Price of Phoenix. A third visitor was Alan Higgins Burney Comyn Hernandez of Gilbert, Arizona: Alan provided some information on his Scottish ancestry and maintained that there is a possibility he has a smidgen of Matheson dna in his genetic make up and therefore decided to join the Clan. Alan tells me that his father, William Glenndining Higgins, was born in Fraserburgh, Scotland, and his mother, Johan Burney, was from Aberdeen. The Phoenix Games has been a successful gathering for Clan Matheson Society West USA for a number of years due in no small part to the enthusiasm and dedication of Roland and Barbara Matteson of Phoenix and their family.

With a bulging sporran of five newly enrolled Clan Matheson Members, Roland and Roger represented the Clan at the Las Vegas Celtic Gathering and Highland Games in April at Floyd Lamb Park, Tule Springs, in Las Vegas, Nevada. It was not expected that the Clan would unearth a treasure trove of new recruits here but two new members enrolled and paid their annual dues. We welcome Crystale Renee and Lawrence Sullivan to our ancient Clan. The Matheson connection on Crystale's side of the family; both her mother, Kathryn Elizabeth, and her father, Ronald Eugene Mathewson were born in Pennsylvania. Another new member of the Matheson Clan, Kyle Mathison, father of new member Kyle. A telephone call from Kyle's mother to her son was sufficient to rouse him from bed and encourage him to come over to the Matheson tent, and pay his \$20 annual dues. Alicia was able to provide further information on other Matheson family members: Kyle's brother Sean Mathison, his paternal uncle Michael Mathison, his aunt Kathy Mathison, and his paternal grandfather Robert Lawrence Mathison.

With seven new Clan Matheson members in its sporran, the Clan made the annual Memorial Day Weekend trek down the 405 San Diego Freeway to the Orange County Fair & Event Center at Costa Mesa in Orange County, California, for the two day United Scottish Society's 83rd Annual Highland Gathering Festival, Scottish Fest USA. Despite the absence of Matheson visitors at this event, the presentation of the Clans and salute to veterans both living and fallen by Chris Lamberton, Chairman of the Clans at the games, made an indelible impression on all in attendance. Celtic entertainment was provided by Bad Haggis, Highland Way, The Wicked Tinkers, Sligo Rags and the scintillating 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Band.

The Costa Mesa Games marked the inaugural pitching of a Clan Matheson tent, donated by an anonymous admirer and member of Clan Matheson. It performed flawlessly, replacing two other Easyup canopies that had seen better days and were hopelessly compromised.

Moving further south down the San Diego Freeway to Bregle Park in the city of Vista, San Diego County, Clan Matheson West pitched its tent at the San Diego Scottish Highland Games and Gathering of the Clans in June. Disappointingly no new members were signed up but long time members Justin and Laura Mathieson and the child twins Morgan and Finn of San Clemente dropped in to say hello. The Kirkin of the Tartan was held on the main stage at the Games and Clan Matheson, in full Scottish regalia, received the Blessing of the Chaplain with other assembled Clans. At the march past and salute to the Clans the introduction of Clan Matheson was changed this year to honour a great British patriot of Scottish origin; professor Alan Mathison Turing, arguably the most influential scientist of the twentieth century, In 2009, fifty five years after his tragic death, Prime minister Gordon Brown offered a heartfelt apology on behalf of a grateful nation for the abominable treatment Alan Mathison Turing received at the hands of the British establishment for his alternative lifestyle.

In travelling around the different games venues, Clan Matheson representatives are invariably drawn into a conversation on the declining membership & lack of interest from young people in their Scottish heritage. Heretofore this has been the case with Clan Matheson where members become disabled, pass away or just lose interest. It would be safe to assume that this problem existed across the entire spectrum of Scottish Clans; but there is Utah!

In July three Clan Matheson members went to the Payson Scottish Festival in Payson, Utah County, Utah. Roland Matteson and his son Michael, and Roger Mathison, Deputy Chief's Lieutenant Of Clan Matheson West USA flying in from Los Angeles. The Clan participated in the salute to the Clans parade through Payson Memorial Park. Approximately half way through the march holding the flagpole as high as possible in the air, I was met by an ecstatic welcome from a group of young Mathesons in the crowd lining the route. Clan Matheson had discovered the mother lode! The majority joined in the march behind Roger, who led them to the Matheson tent where they eagerly signed up for membership in the Society and promptly paid their dues. The new enrollees include Randy Foulger from Harriman, Salt Lake County Utah, McKay Matheson from Orem, Utah County, Utah; Emily Marble of Saratoga Springs, Utah County, Utah; Betsy Matheson from Midvale, Salt Lake County, Utah; Luke Matheson of Ogden, Weber County Utah, Utah; and Ben Matheson of Eagle Mountain, Utah County, Utah; and a good-standing paid up member of the Clan, Martin Matheson of Orem introduced himself to Clan Matheson representatives and other assembled new enrollees. We are delighted to have you all as members in your ancestral family. From conversation with these new recruits, it would appear that the Clan has scarcely mined the upper layer of this rich vein of Utah Mathesons. In the absence of Shawn Matheson, it was tentatively agreed that Ben Matheson would assist in manning the Matheson tent and securing a canopy for the Clan. We are indebted to Shawn and Angie Matheson for storing the Matheson gear and offering it to Roger for use at Payson. Michael Matteson of Phoenix participated in the heavy athletics completion; he admits that with a little more training and preparation, he might have placed. Attired in his utilikilt, donated by Mary Ann and Paul of Kerr Imports, good friends of Clan Matheson, Michael looked the epitome of a poster child for the Clan of the Bear; Clan Matheson. It was in Utah that Michael officially joined the Clan and paid his dues. In passing through Salt Lake City, Roland and Roger took the opportunity to conduct family research at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Genealogical Library in downtown Salt Lake City and were greatly assisted in this magnificent library by the volunteer Mormons. Should Clan Matheson ever decide to hold its quinquennial gathering in the United States, what more ideal a location could there be than Salt Lake City, Utah?

With its sporran bulging with the names of fifteen new recruits, Clan Matheson moved to Estes Park, Colorado, for the 39th Annual Longs Peak Scottish Irish Highland Festival in September. The decision to fly to Colorado to represent Clan Matheson was precipitated by Colorado Springs native William Mathis' intention to attend the event. He was subsequently enrolled in the Clan Matheson Society at the Festival and paid his dues.

Now totalling sixteen new members, and most of these twenty or thirty something's this was a bright year for the fortunes of Clan Matheson West and bodes well for its success in 2016 and beyond.

Roger B Mathison, Deputy Chief's Lieutenant, Clan Matheson Society West U.S.A.

Chief's Lieutenant: Al Matheson
88 Beaumont Drive Sackville N.S.
al@familymatheson.com

Vice President Nova Scotia Branch & Genealogist.
Glen Matheson.
gmmatheson@gmail.com

Nova Scotia Branch Secretary Dyan Matheson
Dyan9797@gmail.com

Treasurer Nova Scotia Branch Patricia Matheson.

Greetings to all Clan Matheson's members. The Nova Scotia Branch was inactive this year due to my family situation. I was not as active as I would have liked to have been. I did attend a few functions over the year. The Robert Burns Dinner in January was a great event. This being The International Gathering of the Clans Year, held in Nova Scotia, this Branch helped sponsor the IGC reception held at Halifax City Hall. I had a stroke in October & I hope my health will allow me to attend more functions/events in 2016.

On behalf of the Clan I send my condolences to the families of Donald Matheson of West Lake Ainslie NS, Laurie Matheson (founding member of NS Branch), Errol Matheson, Eric Matheson, Jane Clark, Mary Matheson & Verna Matheson. Verna was a founding member of the Nova Scotia Branch and the first meeting was held in her home. Gus Matheson also passed away this year, Gus was a founding member of the Cape Breton Branch back in the 1980's and i have many pictures of his involvement in their activities. These fine individuals will be greatly missed

I welcome the following new members to our Branch; Betty Manning, Drunheller, Alberta, Kim Martin, Dorval, Quebec, Sylvia Matheson, P.E.I., Sean Daley, Saint John & Arlene Dench, Shawnigan Lake BC. In Honouring those brave Mathesons who served in WW1. From Perth Ontario brothers Hugh and David Matheson are both registered in the National War Memorial, Edinburgh Castle. John Matheson was a Sapper in the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1915-1919. John's brother from Montreal was a Private in the CEF, he was captured and was a POW for the entire war. William Matheson was badly wounded Sep.23 1916 in Courcellette. Erroll (Earl) son of William served 1915-1918. William Jr also served, Wilson, brother of William Jr also served & James Matheson served as a member of the Gordon Highlanders and was the grandfather of our Clan Member, Judy Chamberlain.

Taking an idea from our New Zealand cousins on places here in Canada named Matheson I have been given the following; Matheson ON. A village in Cape Breton, Matheson Brookj. NS. Streets in Westville, Truro NS, also Miramichi, NB, John Ross Matheson Way, Brockville ON, Matheson Gate one of the entrances to the Royal Military College, Kingston ON. In Victoria B.C. there is a Matheson Regional Park. Within the Park is Matheson Lake and Mt. Matheson.

Congratulations to Heather (Matheson) Kelly on being chosen Volunteer of the year for Bedford, NS and to her Daughter Kirsten for receiving scholarships to attend ART University in Baltimore, she has won numerous art awards in the U.S.A. Congratulations also to Elidh Matheson. Daughter of Laurinda and Trueman on Graduating at the Community College. Trueman has informed me that he has published his 20th Gaelic book "Winter Nights in the Highlands" www.gaelicbooks.com

I extend my best wishes to all members & may you have good health & happiness in the New Year. 2016

Al Matheson. Chief's Lieutenant, Canada

NEW ZEALAND

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Chief's Lieutenant
Douglas Matheson
No 7 Centre Court
Sunnyhills, Manukau
Auckland 2010
Ph 09 5761 183
E-mail djmath@xtra.co.nz

Chief's Deputy Lieut
Graeme Matheson
16 Gordon Avenue
Christchurch 8014
Ph 03 3554 391
E-mail ellenandgraeme
-m@clear.net.nz

Chief's Deputy Lieut
Blair Matheson
P.O.Box 1272
Taupo 3330
Ph 07 3780 470
E-mail blair@
hukahoneyhive.com

Chairman and
Newsletter Editor
Secretary

Donald Matheson
E-mail donaldm@slingshot.co.nz

Ph 09 4839 147

Keith Matheson
PH 09 2925 896
E-mail keith.shirley.matheson@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer

Chris Binns
Ph 09 5797 878
E-mail chris@value.net.nz

Webmaster &
Genealogist

Andrew Matheson
Ph 04 9717 979
E-mail Andrew.matheson.nz@gmail.com

Committee Members

Andrew Matheson 04 9717 979	Blair Matheson 07 3780 470	Chris Binns 09 5797 878
Douglas Matheson 09 5761 183	Graeme Matheson 03 3554 391	Joan Harbour 09 4795 227
Keith Matheson 09 2925 896	Lois Ahlquist 09 6200 349	Shirley Matheson 09 2925 896
Wayne Matheson 03 4413 970	Doug Hayr 09 5752 398	Sandy Hayr 09 5752 398

We send greetings from all Clan Matheson members in New Zealand to our Chief, Sir Fergus Matheson of Matheson, to the members of his family, his committee and officers also members of Clan Matheson in the UK and in other countries in the world where there are Clan Matheson Societies, also to Norway.

As this is being written we are enjoying a good summer in New Zealand but hear in our news of harsh weather conditions in some of the Northern hemisphere from where our Scottish ancestors came so many years ago. They must have been very pleased to have arrived here. Our hearts go out to those in America suffering from the worst snowstorm on record. We sent, on our Branch behalf, an E-mail to Malcolm and Gail Matheson enquiring how they were affected over there and wishing them well and coping with the difficulties. We had a reply to the effect; it was one massive snow storm and although snowbound they were ok. We are thankful and hopeful that conditions improve rapidly.

This year, 2015 has seen our usual Clan Events, beginning with our popular Clan picnic in Auckland's Cornwall Park. We had a good turnout and all had a good social time getting together, meeting up with old and new friends, a good lunch together and the always good games of Petangue to follow.. The Park is an excellent large public space with grass and large overhanging pohutukawa trees, a native that flowers in December with masses of red blooms. Several members attended the Kirkin O' the Tartan church service and our banner was on display as usual. All Clans were invited to attend the Scottish Clans Association 10th Annual Dinner. This year's dinner was held in honour of the inauguration of the new Davidson Chief Grant Guthrie Davidson. Grant had the distinct honour of being the first Clan Chief to be inaugurated in New Zealand. Douglas and 16 other members attended what turned out to be a most enjoyable occasion. Our Chairman Donald was invited to say grace and he duly recited the Selkirk Grace.. & later he was called upon to propose a toast to Scotland. The Scottish Clans Association of which our Clan is a member, works hard to enable smaller Clans with few members to join together. We're indebted to the Association & its committee of which Donald is a member representing our Clan branch. /Our AGM

Our AGM was held in July at the Auckland Botanical Gardens. Manurewa. A beautiful spot. Reports were received from Chief's Lieut Douglas Matheson, Chairman Donald Matheson, Treasurer Chris Binns, ex Genealogist Margaret Faid and the Webmaster Andrew Matheson. All existing Officers showed a willingness to serve on and were duly elected again for 2016. A vote of thanks for their willingness was proposed. and passed. Members discussed the possibility of assisting a young Matheson to attend a course in piping at the NZ School of Piping Summer School. As we found that no Matheson was desirous of attending this year we agreed to donate \$500 to the School to assist in the administration in the hope that this action may lead to interest in Clan Matheson in the future.

On a personal note we record; sad news, the death of Graeme Matheson of Ararimu, who was an excellent Treasurer for the Clan over the years 2008 to 2013. He was related to many others in the Clan, whose ancestors had come to NZ in the early 1800s and a cousin by DNA to Donald and Keith Matheson.

Also the passing of Len Wyatt, at the age of 95, a long time member and loyal supporter, who was connected to the Matheson Bay families in Northland, also sadly the passing of Colin Matheson brother of Douglas our Chief's Lieutenant.. Our sympathies go to their families & thanks for their Clan contributions. Good news; Congratulations on Golden wedding celebrations for Shona (nee Matheson) and David Paterson, also Eileen and Rae Rankin, loyal supporters of the Clan, Eileen was a Clan Committee Officer.

Douglas Matheson, Chief's Lieutenant
New Zealand Branch..



17 Clan Members assemble for a photograph after enjoying an evening at the Scottish Clans Association 10th Annual Dinner. held in Auckland



One of the three Petangue teams of Clan Members enjoying the picnic and Petangue, in Auckland's Cornwall park



Clan Members visiting the famous Lake Matheson. Often the lake area is covered in mist for photos. This couple of Clan Members chose a good day.



A rare good photograph of Lake Matheson. NZ's famous Lake named after Murdoch Matheson who discovered it in early 1870s

We do not have any Clan Society in Norway because we are all related to each other in a big family. (And I guess that the interest of family-relation is not that big yet). The first Matheson we know of is Colonel Jacob Matheson and here is the “chain” of the Norwegian Mathesons.

1. Jacob (Fredrik) Matheson (ca. 1639=17.07.24)).

He had a long & successful career in the military in Norway, & became in his old days Colonel/Brigadier at Kingsvinger fort on the border of Sweden. Jacob had 9 children and his son Jacob is number 7. (we don't know where he was born or came from).

2. Jacob Matheson (ca. 1682/83 – 11.03.1749

Halso had a long military career both in Norway and Denmark (which ruled Norway at that time) He became Colonel in Chief of the National Northern Dragon Regiment He had 5 children & Statius is No 3.

3. Statius Jacob Matheson (ca. 26.03.1718 = 26.10.1770)

He was born in Hamburg and started already at an age of 13 his military career.

Statius had 8 children and Jacob Bolcke was number 5.

4. Jacob Bolcke Matheson (10.07.1761 – 1857).

He had also a military career, and he started early, at age 14.

Jacob Bolcke had 14 children and number 2 was Ove Christian.

5. Ove Christian Matheson (19.12.1794 – 18.11.1857).

(He did not have a military career) He was a successful merchant in the Trondheim- district in the middle of Norway. He trekked the coast north with many boats and Jacob Paul was his first born.

6. Jacob Paul Seierskjold Matheson (21.11.1826 – 10.03.1897).

Jacob Paul started together with his two years younger brother Christian in 1852 a special store for ready-made clothes in Trondheim (with the help from both his brothers and sisters). He built a large store-building, known as the Matheson-house in Trondheim. This building is still there with its characteristic dome and is a landmark in the city.

Jacob Paul had 11 children in two marriages & Bernard, my grandfather, is number 5 .

7. Bernard Ditlef Matheson (15.10.1869 – 24.09.1921).

He was a doctor of medicine both in Ringeby (in the valley of Gudbrandsdalen), and in Trondheim. He died young, and Fredrik my father was only 13 years old when he passed away. Fredrik was No 3 of 6.

8. Fredrik Collin Elster Bodtker Matheson (26.03.1908 – 01.12. 1999).

He was an artist & a professor at the National Artist School in Oslo. His speciality was book illustrations.

Fredrik had 3 Children and I, Einar am number 2.

9, Einar Christian Matheson (25.04.1944 -)

Einar has two sons and Christian is number 1.

10. Christian Matheson (28.05.1973 -)

Christian has one daughter

11. Nora Matheson (03.06/2005 -)

We are still working with “How we came to Norway”

Einar Christian Matheson, Norway.



Family Members. Norway

From left to right;
Jacob Matheson No 2
Statius Jacob Matheson No 3
& 3 generations of Mathesons
Einar, Christian, & Nora



A number of Australian members have shared their DNA information among themselves and with the Matheson Project within Family Tree DNA(familytreedna.com). This is helping us to find out who we really are as a Clan and where we might have originated. We have been able to work out where they fitted with respect to the origins of the Clan The origins of we Australian members reflect the origins of the Clan as a whole rather well. In fact, we also reflect the origins of the people of Scotland itself. Some of us are Scots (originally from Ireland and who entered the mainland to form the Kingdom of Dalrida across Northern Ireland as well as part of Scotland). Some of us are Celtic Picts and derive from the part of the Clan who lived in Sutherland and Easter Ross. Others are derived from the Norse peoples (Vikings) who lived in parts of northern and western Scotland as well as Orkney and Shetland. Some members also have DNA profiles that are difficult to interpret because sample sizes for these groups are still small. Some of us are related to the Utah Mathesons and we are endeavouring to find exactly where their records fit in with ours. They published a large book in 1974 ('The Alexander Matheson Family of Canada and the United States' by Veldron Matheson and Leslie R Matheson) but we have had great difficulty accessing it, either via inter-library or otherwise. Our Genealogist is still working with members to sort out their own records, particularly within Australia.

This year is the 199th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings in which Australians played an important part. Of course, we, (the ANZACS, Australia & New Zealand Army Corps) were not the only participants – the British 29th Division (including the 29th Trenchard's) and the French Orient Expeditionary Force landed at Cape Helles. The ANZACS landed at what is now Gallipoli Cove Cape Helles. Although a few Australian Federal troops fought in South Africa early in the 20th century, just after our colonies federated into one country in 1901, this was the first major conflict in which Australian troops represented their country rather than their original colony (Victoria, New South Wales etc.) It is perhaps for this reason that Australia makes such a lot of the Gallipoli campaign even though we were not the major players. We (and the New Zealanders) lost far more soldiers on the battlefields of France than we did at Gallipoli, but Gallipoli came first. A number of our members published the stories of their relatives who served with the ANZACS in our May newsletter, but there must be many more stories remaining to be told from among members. We have located the stories the war records of 180 Mathesons, 66 Mathiesons, 13 Mathisons and 15 Mathewsons who served during the First World War in Australian Forces. The records of service at Gallipoli are sketchy at best, but many trained in Egypt in 1915 and so presumably served there, but may have served elsewhere in the Middle East. We shall list these Mathesons (and Mathiesons, Mathisons and Mathewsons etc) in later Newsletters. In the May Newsletter we published the strange case of a Lt Col Alexander Matheson (not our Chief's son Alexander), whose effects including medals were found in a suitcase beneath a derelict house in the 1970s. The finders of the suitcase made it public only in 2015 when trying to find a family to whom to return it. The original owner had served at both Cape Helles as well as ANZAC Cove and in WW2. As the family members located did not want it, the suitcase has been given to the Returned and Services League for archiving.

We had several meetings during the year, in Melbourne, at the Flagstaff Gardens in February where we had our traditional Clan Picnic. Our Clan Piper Warren, entertained us with some fine piping. In May we held a 'May Muster' at the Radisson Hotel also close to the Flagstaff Gardens over a very pleasant lunch, and another meeting in August at the RACV Club, again with discussions over a very pleasant lunch. At these meetings, which were open to the committee as well as members, we discuss (among other things) the new Website (www.clanmatheson.org.au) and our Facebook page, accessible via the website as well as Facebook itself. (www.facebook.com/ClanMathesonSocietyAustralia). The Facebook page carries photos of our recent activities as well as other items of interest. We thank Brad Matheson for getting these new electronic communications up and running. He has also been very energetic, sending monthly e-mail updates to keep us all up-to-date. Jeff Freeman also very ably represented the Clan at the Central Coast Gathering of the Clans at Norah Head (NSW).

Until now, Colin Matheson has served as both President and Chief's Lieutenant for Australia. He was first elected in 2002 after the untimely death of our founding President, Ron Matheson. He stepped down as President at the Annual General Meeting in November 2015 although he remains as Chief's Lieutenant for Australia continuing to represent the Chief of the Clan in Australia. In his place, Brad Matheson was elected as national President. Also elected were Robert Mathieson (National Vice President), Roma Jorgensen (Membership co-ordinator), Noeline Jones (Treasurer), Helen Mathieson (National Secretary, Facebook & Merchandise Coordinator), Warren Matheson (Clan Piper), Alison Matheson (Newsletter Editor), & Abigail Butler, Mary Molan, Margaret Fleming, Janet Blainey, Gordon Marshall, & Carol Abuid were elected to the Committee.

Colin Matheson



Len Langford and Peg Mathison



On Saturday 30th May 2015, the usual suspects were in Peterborough for the UK Branch AGM. A splinter group comprising Mathiesons and Mathesons had arrived earlier in the day, a few miles due west of Peterborough to take a trip on the Nene valley Railway. It is an old line independent of the modern rail system and runs old steam engines and stock. As you would expect it was running late and made up little time arriving in Peterborough even later. The noise and smell of burning coal coming from the steam engine was reassuring, but the ride was very bouncy and very loose. It seemed there was more suspension in our seats than from the old leaf springs below. Anyway we had a pleasant trip in our own 6-seater compartment made of old wood and furniture which had been lovingly restored by the enthusiasts who run the line. The late arrival meant we had to walk sharply to the AGM, whereupon we were met by the Clan Chief and others at the meeting. The meeting went well, and the plan was to get the train back, but it had left early stranding us in Peterborough – and I am reminded this is just like the British Rail of old! A taxi ride later to pick up the car to get to the Haycock Inn at Wansford took a bit longer than expected. We met up with the others and had a very pleasant lunch. It was a great day out and I didn't get a complementary smut in the eye!

This year the membership has been reasonably stable, we lost a few members and gained more than we had lost. We give a warm welcome to Kieran Matheson, Archie Matheson, Andrew & Lesley Matheson, Andrew and Alexandra Matheson and belatedly Paul Bakken from Norway.

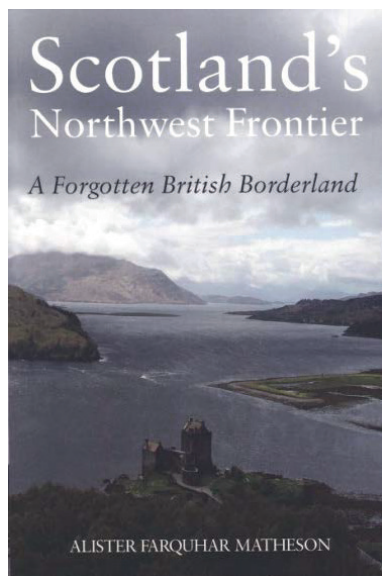
The treasurer is still in the process of auditing the UK membership, if you are still to get round to filling in the request made by me last year, I would still appreciate a reply.

Scotland's North West Frontier. Alister Farquhar Matheson has, at considerable expense, got his book published. We congratulate him on his submission and a few of us might really appreciate how difficult it is to do these days. We could not secure a worthwhile deal for the Society, but you are still encouraged to buy the book through on-line book stalls at a very reasonable price. In the index Matheson entries run to almost a page in two columns, a scanned copy of which is available from the UK Treasurer. Please see the accompanying front and back covers.

David Mathieson UK Branch.

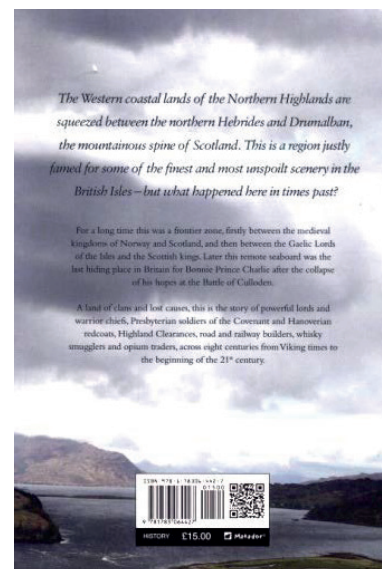
The writing on the back page is very hard to read unless a much larger page is displayed, so here's what's written

'The Western coastal lands of the Northern Highlands are squeezed between the northern Hebrides & Drumalban mountainous spine of Scotland. This is a region justly famed for some of the finest and most unspoilt scenery in the British Isles - but what happened here in times past?



'For a long time this was a frontier zone, firstly between the medieval kingdoms of Norway and Scotland, and then between the Gaelic Lords of the Isles and the Scottish kings. Later this remote seaboard was the last hiding place in Britain for Bonnie Prince Charlie after the collapse of his hopes at the Battle of Culloden.

A land of clans and lost causes, this is the story of powerful lords and warrior chiefs, Presbyterian soldiers of the Covenant and Hanoverian redcoats, Highland Clearances, road and railway builders, whisky smugglers and opium traders, across eight centuries from Viking times to the beginning of the 21st century.





Early in the Last century, Sir James Matheson of Achany and Lewis made a vast fortune as a trader in the Far East. When he returned to Scotland, he bought the largest island in the Outer Hebrides, the Island of Lewis. There in the town of Stornoway, he built a fine castle, and all around it he planted trees. Elsewhere on the windswept island, trees are almost unknown---but the trees planted at Stornoway by Sir James still flourish to the present day.

DNA NEWS

Clan Matheson DNA Project Administrator Alice Fairhurst Receives DNA Awards
Alice Fairhurst was surprised with two Plaques at the 11th International Conference on Genetic Genealogy in Texas.



The first plaque was presented by Katherine Borges, director of The International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). It reads, "Honouring Alice M Fairhurst for her founding, dedication and exemplary work on the ISOGG YSNP tree. It is with deep appreciation the International Society of Genetic Genealogy recognises your vision, leadership and dedication in the field of Genetic Genealogy." The second plaque was presented by Bennett Greenspan and Max Blankfield of Family Tree DNA. It reads "In Appreciation for your contributions to the field of genetic genealogy and unwavering support of Family Tree DNA." To Alice Fairhurst.

The picture shows Alice celebrating with her McRae cousin, Margaret Bardin.

THE SPIRIT OF SCOTLAND

The photograph below was taken at the Waipu Highland Games in Auckland New Zealand
By the Editor of the Cameron Newsletter Neil Cameron.

Waipu is a small town known as Bream Bay, in the Northland region of New Zealand., with a Scottish heritage. It was the centre of a significant Presbyterian settlement led by Rev, Norman McLeod, a Presbyterian Minister who led his people from the Highlands of Scotland to New Zealand via Picton St Anne's in Nova Scotia & Australia. 5 shiploads containing over 800 settlers arrived at Waipu in the 1850s

The display of the various tartans is indicative of the spirit of Scots around the world, never more than at the Annual Highland Games at Waipu which attracts Scots of all clans.



THE TARTAN

HERE'S TO IT, THE FIGHTING SHEEN OF IT,
THE YELLOW, THE GREEN OF IT, THE WHITE,
THE BLUE OF IT, THE SWING, THE HUE OF IT,
THE DARK, THE RED OF IT. EVERY THREAD OF IT,
THE FAIR HAVE SIGHED FOR IT.
THE BRAVE HAVE DIED FOR IT,
FOEMEN SOUGHT FOR IT,
HEROES FOUGHT FOR IT,
HONOUR THE NAME OF IT,
DRINK FOR THE FAME OF IT.
THE TARTAN



CLAN MATHESON SOCIETY



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