



CLAN CAMERON

The *Rocky Mountain Piper*

"May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire, so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it."

Rocky Mountain Branch Newsletter

AZ, CO, NM, MT, UT, WY

Oct.-Dec, 2012

Why Visit Scotland? *Why Not?* (*Tips on traveling within budget*)

Yes, money is usually a factor in our decisions, but why shouldn't we indulge in one of the most marvelous experiences of a lifetime? The first time my husband and I decided to travel to Scotland, we thought we were way over the edge in making this decision because on teacher's salaries, one public and one private school, we knew our resources were closer to traveling in-state with an occasional trip to California or Florida (to visit family). This trip was clearly out of our league! But...we took the chance and have returned seven times to take the chance again... With the pound valued at WELL over a dollar and some costs clearly higher, one just has to plan accordingly. Research and find all the ways that you might save. Rather than paying \$1500 round trip from, say, Denver to Edinburgh, could you fly to Dublin for \$700 and then catch RyanAir for an extra \$60, roundtrip? Check every possibility and continue checking....until you believe you may have the best deal. It may be a one day pocket, so don't delay. This is true for renting an auto, as well. Your VISA card may cover car insurance, but you might desire additional insurance for travel.

Just as you researched flights, do the same with hostels, bed & breakfasts, or hotels...depending on what fits your comfort zone. Hostels are not just for college students, and some are quite nice with private rooms for couples or families...and certainly affordable. Others are dorm-style and may not be right for you. Bed and breakfasts are 90-95% consistently accommodating, clean and comfortable. The breakfast is "full" and delicious. You may only need one other meal during the day. We keep our food costs at a minimum so that we can enjoy as many castles, museums, and special events as possible. Others prefer the culinary delights and would rather focus on the food. You have to decide your priorities and your budget. Meat pies from bakeries, the corner "chippies," and soup and homemade bread from a museum cafe are inexpensive alternatives to the 3-course meal. Local pubs often offer more affordable meals, as well. Maybe plan to eat a truly fabulous meal out just 2-3 times weekly, if overall cost is an issue. Some bed and breakfasts also offer dinner for an extra fee. These same hosts may even do your laundry for a small price.

Speaking of laundry, DO pack the least you can get by with and, if possible, lightweight, easy-to-wash items. Coordinate colors/styles so that you can mix and match easily. Consider a small laundry kit (plastic clothespins, line, and 3 travel pks. of laundry soap) and handwash 2-3 items each evening (keep bulky items for your 1-2 trips to the laundromat). We believe in more fun and less work (or time in a laundromat) while on the road.

Some people prefer to have the trip well-planned out, whereas others prefer spontaneity. We've tried both, and see the advantages in each. For less stress, however, planning may be better. Staying at a base for 3 days or more, with side trips (any direction), can simplify locating b & b's. (And you might get a price break). However you do it...Do it. It will be so well worth the investment of time and money to you. Not only will this be an adventure in history, but a connection to your ancestry to pass along to your children.

Clan Cameron

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The Clan Cameron Association is strictly non-political and non-profit and shall not take part in any political activity involving the internal affairs of Scotland or the United Kingdom. Members shall not use the Association with such political activities.

WEBSITES

www.clan-cameron.org
www.clancameron-rmb.org



Long's Peak Games "The March of the Camerons"

The Long's Peak Games in Estes Park, CO, brings together a good number of Clan Cameron members from the Rocky Mt. Region each year. The annual meeting held here established the same slate of officers as 2012, with a push for new activities for each of the local areas of the Branch. If you would like to host a local event, please contact your convenor or an officer.

The camaraderie at the Long's Peak 4-day Games, the one-mile march Saturday morning with cheering bystanders, Jim Cameron from Grand Junction playing his pipes (and competing), Ron Taylor sharing his finest single malt, Brenda Everett serving her apple crisp, John and Judy Clarke visiting from AZ, Cameron Hall from UT receiving his gift of a personalized targe from Regional President Bob Cameron, babies / growing children/ and adults galore warming the booth....this is what we look forward to. The variety of events of the Festival are outstanding, but the meeting of friends at this well-attended event is the greatest pleasure.

Branch President Sandi Cameron thanks each member of the Clan who makes the annual trek to Estes and our Front Range officers who work diligently so they can heartily welcome members to the Long's Peak Games.

Utah's Summer Highland Games Always an Adventure

Weather is unpredictable, and although the Clan tent was crushed by the storm's fury at Thanksgiving Point, the spirits of our members always remain high. The Utah Scots know how to put on quality Games and have a joviality unsurpassed. Bob & Sandi Cameron, plus Brent & Jessica Pulver (photo at left is their daughter Heather) convened and greeted fellow clansmen at the Utah Games.



Burn Away Last Year's "Bad"

An old Scottish custom is the ceremonial burning of Old Winter. A piece of wood was roughly carved to represent the face of an old woman, then named as the Spirit of Winter, *the Cailleach*. This was placed onto a hot fire to burn away, and all the family gathered had to watch to the end. The burning symbolized the end of all the bad luck and enmities of the old year, with a fresh start of hope, good health, and good luck. May you begin the New Year with the same!



ELECTRONIC CONNECTION
RMBC www.clan-cameron-rmb.org
INTERNATIONAL CLAN CAMERON www.clan-cameron.org
FACEBOOK *Two options you may enjoy...*



- a) Tom Cameron's Clan Cameron International **Theclan Cameron** www.facebook.com/clan-cameron
- b) Colo. monitor Scott Cameron's *Rocky Mountain Region Facebook page* **Rocky Mountain Branch Clan Cameron**

Cape Breton Gaels



The story of Cape Breton's Gaels goes back at least as far as the fifth century A.D. when a colony of Gaels known as the Dàl Riada expanded their kingdom to present-day Argyllshire on the west coast of Scotland. Gaelic culture eventually spread throughout Scotland, particularly to the Highlands and Islands.

In the late 1700s, thousands of Gaels left western Scotland and came to Nova Scotia due to political, economic, religious and cultural pressures. More than 25,000 came to Cape Breton Island where the culture and language thrived. For the vast majority, Gaelic was their only language. At the turn of the 20th century, there were at least 75,000 Gaelic speakers in Cape Breton. Thus it is considered to be a true Gàidhealtachd or Gaelic-speaking area in its own right. The culture retained the old songs, stories, tunes and dances but the Nova Scotian environment inspired new compositions and innovations.

The foundations of Gaelic social expression continue through oral transmission. An important vehicle of this has been the céilidh, the “drop-in visit.” The number of céilidh participants ranged from individuals to large numbers of neighbors. General conversation was the basis of interchange although *seanachas* played a prominent role as a source of entertainment and informal education.

Seanachas, which is oral tradition, is the ground floor for the Gaels' intellectual life. Going beyond light conversation, seanachas topics included tales, legends, fairy-lore, genealogies, proverbs, local history, and songs.

Occasionally, music and dance would round out the visit. Today, regarding instrumental music and dance, the Gaels of Cape Breton have preserved older cultural forms that have been lost in Scotland. In recent years, Cape Bretoners have been reintroducing these to the Scottish Gàidhealtachd.

-www.museevirtuelvirtualmuseum.ca

Brave



In the film *Brave*, set in the Highlands of Scotland, a skilled archer named Merida defies an age-old custom, causing chaos in her kingdom. *Brave* premiered on June 10, 2012.

King Fergus presents his young daughter Merida with a bow for her birthday. After practicing, Merida escapes a giant demon bear, along with her mother Queen Elinor, while Fergus fights off the bear at the cost of his left leg. As a teenager, Merida's mother informs her that she is betrothed to one in her father's allied clans, but against her wishes. The clans arrive with their first-born sons to compete in Highland Games for Merida's hand. Merida declares she is eligible to compete for her own hand as the first-born of Clan DunBroch.

Of course, there are many more characters in this plot, including a witch. The Highland setting and success of the movie has brought renewed interest in Scotland.

Historic Scotland says, “To celebrate the release of Disney•Pixar's *Brave*, Historic Scotland invites you to discover the beauty and heritage of Scotland through six remarkable themes. Be inspired by tales of historical royalty including Scotland's real red headed queen, Mary, Queen of Scots. Find out about elaborate celebrations, brave knights and medieval games.” Check out their site at www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/places/brave.htm for more information and interesting activities for kids.

Nollaig chridheil huibh



May peace and plenty be the first to lift the latch on your door, and happiness be guided to your home by the candle of Christmas.

Blarmacfoldach



Blarmacfoldach (or Blàr mac Faoilteach) is a small crofting settlement in Scotland, in the Mamore Hills between Ft. William and Kinlochleven. In past centuries, Blarmacfoldach was **mainly a Clan Cameron settlement**.

Historically, the area spoke Lochaber Gaelic, which had a number of distinctive features.

In the 1800s, Blarmacfoldach had a population of over 800. Reflecting the tragedy that gradually befell the Highlands as a whole, the population has gradually fallen to around 50, the last native dying in 2000. This was exacerbated by the cholera epidemic of the 1800s, when a ship in Loch Linnhe brought contaminated linen.

The Gaelic etymology of the name is not clear. Blàr typically refers to a field, often a battlefield, whereas the faoilteach are the cold early months of the year, corresponding to January (Faoilleach) in modern Gaelic.

Blàr mac Faoilteach is one of the 'four blars' in the area, i.e., nan Druineach means the field of the wise men.

The river Ciochnis (Cioch Innis) which originates from Lochan Lùnn dà Bhrà and passes through Blàr Mac Faoilteach, was the source of hydroelectric power for the first electric street lighting in Scotland, in nearby Fort William's High Street.

Blar Mac Faoilteach was known locally as one of the last places to celebrate the old Highland New Year on January 12th.

An old Scots belief is that early on Christmas morning all bees will leave their hives, swarm, and then return.

One explanation is that as people were often up and about on Christmas night observing various traditions, or just returning from the night worship services, the bees would sense the disturbance and come out to see what was going on.



Mealtime

Foods in the 1700s

A Swedish tourist stated in 1748, "The English are good at cooking big pieces of meat, but do not seem to have talent in any other arenas of cooking."

Meats were popular among those who could afford them. Venison was considered a premium meat as those who ate it generally owned vast tracts of land.

Cold meats were common at supper time, along with fruit, wine, and sweets. Hot dishes might be served when company visited.

For highlanders who lived in Black Houses, gruel or porridge was kept hot in a kettle over an open fire. Potatoes were introduced in the 1700s, but turnips (neeps) remained popular root vegetables. Oat or barley cakes, cheese, dairy, and eggs might be added, along with some meat.

In much of the U.K., meats were often heavily spiced, including many of the same spices used in curry today.

When so many relocated to the cities, they discovered food was not as fresh. Transportation was slow and less care was given to the quality of the meat.

Most British cookbooks were written by women, with practical advice in how to manage a family's kitchen.

In a 1788 cookbook, *The Honours of the Table*, the author (a doctor) warned that one should keep his or her nose away from the odor of meat while eating it.

Many people were concerned that eating uncooked fruit would give them indigestion or even be the cause of a major disease, such as the Black Death. Vegetables were often prepared in a butter/ flour mixture.

Preserving techniques included freezing (snow/ice), drying, smoking and brining.

City folk might choose a street stall for a bread and butter breakfast, with a mug of hot milk and gin. Vendors also sold perrywinkles, oysters, and savory pies...for the low price of one pence.

The poorest class typically had bread or porridge, peas or beans, cabbage, turnip or onions, and occasionally some meat or fish added to a stew. They might have cheese or whey, as well.



Scottish Meat Pies

These are commonly sold in local bakeries for lunch.

2 lb. minced beef or chicken
1 medium onion, chopped fine
1 c. flour 5 c. water
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 1/2 tsp. salt 1 1/2 tsp. pepper
1/4 tsp. oregano 1/4 tsp. thyme
1 T beef or chicken flavoring
pie crust

Directions:

Filling - Cook meat, onion, flour, water and spices slowly, for at least 1 1/2 hours or until meat is very tender.

Refrigerate mixture and remove fat.

Roll pie crusts and cut into 6 1/2" rounds (tuna can size).

Press one crust gently; fill with meat. Cover with top crust and crimp edges to seal. Cut several vent holes in top.

For a glossy top, brush top of pies with an egg white beaten with 1 tbsp. water.

Bake in a preheated 375°F until crust is golden brown (25-35 minutes).



For the Blessings of Harvest.

O LORD God Almighty, who hast promised that while the earth remaineth seedtime and harvest shall not cease: We give thee hearty thanks for the blessings of the harvest which of thy bounty we have received, and for these and all other thy mercies we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, .be all honour and glory, now and for evermore. Amen.

- Scottish Book of Common Prayer 1929

ADVERTISEMENT EDINBURGH NEWSPAPER 1823

An 1823 Christmas food advertisement in an Edinburgh newspaper shows the wealth of food that the burgeoning Scottish economy was starting to draw in (at least for some).

LISEZ! ESSAYEZ!! ET JUGEZ!!!
THE ITALIAN WAREHOUSE is at present stored with a matchless Collec-tion of LUXURIES of all kinds, impor-ted from France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, and Holland, warranted to please the most fastidious BON VIVANT and GOURMAND. Many of the Articles are far fetched, dear bought, and ill to be had.

-Muscatel Raisins in Bunches, for desserts, in small boxes of only 6 lb. and upwards.

-Spanish Green Grapes, in bunches and jars.

-Pistatio [sic] Nuts and Pomegranates.

-Oranges, and other Green Fruits.

-FRENCH DRIED APPLES, with a printed direction for preparing them, when they make a choice and most beautiful preserve.

-French Plums, in the highest state of perfection, and of the most exquisite flavour.

-Imperial Plums, in beautiful small square baskets.

-West India, French, and Italian Preserves.

-Dried Cherries, Apricots, Peaches, Pears, and Cherries in Brandy.

-A great variety of Dried Vegetables, from Monsieur Malliez (Verdurier du Roi.)

-Beautiful young preserved West India Ginger, in bottles and jars of all sizes.

-West India Green Limes.

-Bon Bons -- Beautiful specimens of French Confectionary -- Sugar Figures and Mottoes of all kinds, from Paris.

-Chocolate de Santé, and other kinds: et Baton Royal, from Monsieur Dumont.

-a large quantity of excellent DUTCH BUTTER of a fine straw colour, the produce of the most esteemed Dairies in Holland, and of so exquisite a flavour as cannot fail to gratify the most delicate taste. The butter being put up in small packages (from 12 lb. to 28 lb. and upwards)

-- The Edinburgh Advertiser.

Edinburgh, Scotland.

Friday, December 26, 1823.



Scots in Italy

The Scottish community in Rome by 1592 was big enough to merit the building of Sant'Andrea degli Scozzesi. It was constructed for the Scottish expatriate community in Rome especially for those intended for priesthood. The adjoining hospice was a shelter for Catholic Scots who fled their country because of religious persecution. The Scots College (or The Pontifical Scots College) in Rome was established by Clement VIII on Dec. 5, 1600. In 1615 Pope Paul V gave the hospice and the nearby Scottish Seminar to the Jesuits. It was rebuilt in 1645. Prince Charles "Bonnie Prince Charlie" was born in the Palazzo Muti, Rome, on Dec. 31, 1720, where his father James Francis Edward Stuart had been given a residence by Pope Clement XI in 1717. Mary of Modena was his mother.

Paul MacPherson, a Scot, served as Rector from 1800-1838. St. Andrew of the Scots Church was deconsecrated in 1962 and incorporated into a bank (Cassa di Risparmio delle Province Lombarde). The Scottish Seminar then relocated. Many Italians join the Scots in celebrating the Feast of St Andrew on Nov. 30.

Gurro in Italy is said to be populated by the descendants of Scottish soldiers. According to local legend, Scottish soldiers fleeing the Battle of Pavia were stopped by severe blizzards that forced many, if not all, to give up their travels and settle in the town. To this day, the town of Gurro is still proud of its Scottish links. Many of the residents claim that their surnames are Italian translations of Scottish surnames. The town also has a Scottish museum.

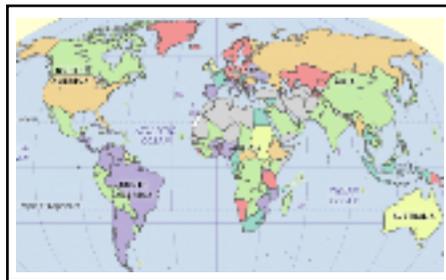
University of Edinburgh Global Programs

The University of Edinburgh, ranked 6th in Europe, has a global program that develops innovative solutions for the world's most challenging problems, increasingly complex and international in nature. They coordinate among 25 disciplines to build multi-disciplinary responses to complex global issues and to improve the quality of life for people across the world. One way is offering international, interdisciplinary post-graduate degrees that equip future leaders to combat global challenges. Another way is encouraging cultural exchange programs with other universities.

At the 6th annual Global Confucius Institute Conference in Beijing, Prof. Sir Timothy O'Shea was awarded a special gold medal for contributions of the Confucius Inst. for Scotland, developing cultural, educational and business links between Scotland and China.

Edinburgh and Yale work together in translating research in the care of patients and medical education. The program work with a third partner, the Natl. University of Rwanda, to support Rwandan health care. These are just two examples of their international program.

The Edinburgh Global website (www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-global) addresses their outreach activities. Check it out!



You're Invited (Denver area)

Regional Events

I'm hosting another "kilt night out" for Clan Cameron **Nov. 3rd at Henry's Pub**, downtown Loveland, CO, at 5 pm. - CJ Jackson
Scottish Am. Military Soc
Post 100



2012 Race Up Ben Nevis



The Ben Nevis Race each September attracts around 500 competitors and is one of Lochaber's oldest outdoor activity events.

The race is from the Town park to the summit of Ben Nevis (4406ft) and all the way back again. This race brings in funds for the Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team. The fastest male this year ran the race in 1hr 29min 56sec.

1st (Ladies)

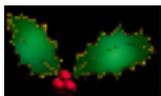
Sharon Taylor
1hr 59min 23sec

Ardnamurchan



West of Fort William is one of the most remote parts of the Highlands, stretching south from Loch Ailort to the Morvern Peninsula, and west to the wild and beautiful Ardnamurchan Peninsula. This lonely, southwestern corner features a dramatic landscape of rugged mountains, desolate moorland and near-deserted glens, fringed by a coastline of sparkling white beaches and clear turquoise seas with wonderful views across to the isles of Mull and Skye. This is one of the least-populated areas in Britain, mainly due to the legacy of the Highland Clearances in the mid-19th century, when whole communities were evicted by landlords in favor of more profitable sheep.

With so few people around, this is an area noted for its wildlife, with a huge variety of birds and animals, such as deer, pine martens, wildcats and eagles. Take your walking stick as it's worth exploring on foot. There's a series of footpaths throughout the area, particularly around Ardnamurchan.



*May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.*

Old Inverlochy Castle



Inverlochy Castle, possibly the oldest castle in Scotland, has a more recent structure built in 1280. It is still a fine sight despite witnessing numerous scenes of both splendor and carnage. It was probably built by the Comyn family at the command of Longshanks (Edward I), favoring the strategic site at the head of Loch Linnhe beside the River Lochy.

A settlement existed here in pre-Christian times. Inverlochy was the site of the signing of a treaty in 790 between the ambassadors of Charlemagne, the French King and Achaius, King of the Picts. The Vikings likely attacked the original Pictish fortification in later years.

A popular port of merchants from Spain and France to buy salmon and herring, it was also the site of major battles. In 1431 during the desperate struggle between the Lords of the Isles and the Royalists, Donald Balloch, 18 year old cousin of the then imprisoned Lord of the Isles led 600 clansmen up Loch Linnhe to attack the Royalists in the Castle. Simultaneously his uncle from Torcastle attacked from the North. 1000 men lay dead and the battle was commemorated in a famous pipe tune, the Pibroch of Donald Dubh.

In 1645 in Covenanting times, James Graham, Earl of Montrose, was on the Royalist side in the Civil Wars. With only 1500 men, after a long forced march through the winter hills of Lochaber, he attacked the Duke of Argyll's men in front of the Castle at dawn. Argyll had retreated across the loch to Camasnagaul Bay and witnessed, from a distance, the defeat and slaughter of 1500 of his men. Those who fled were killed by Montrose's men; a number of cairns were raised.

Today the crumbling walls have been repaired by Scotland's Ancient Monuments Commission – though “renovations” started about 1894 when Lord Abinger, then owner of the Castle, had some battlements built atop the wall facing the West Highland Railway (to impress Queen Victoria as she sped past in a train to Banavie).

Fortingall

According to legend, Fortingall (near Aberfeldy) was the birthplace of Pontius Pilate. Roman troops were occupying parts of Britain, but the timing may not coincide with this theory. A possibly more realistic claim is that the oldest tree in Europe, the Yew tree, is still thriving in the local churchyard.

One of our members, Cameron Hall, claims Fortingall, a beautiful highland village, as one of his ancestral homes. Fortingall is in the glen of the River Lyon.

The parish church is on an early Christian site, dedicated to Coeddi, bishop of Iona (d. 712), probably founded about 700 AD as a daughter monastery. Crop-marks of surrounding ditched enclosures have been identified from the air, and the church's unusual dedication and fragments of several finely carved cross-slabs preserved in the church all point to an early origin as a major church site. The church has an early hand-bell in Celtic style (iron with bronze coating), which is one of a few to have survived.



Note from RMBCC Member
Diane Cameron Franson

“My great-grandmother Bessie McDonald Cameron married a coachman, John Cameron in Kinloch Rannoch. They had 8 children and immigrated to Colorado where both were eventually buried.

“While in Scotland, I visited the Cameron cemetery on the south side of Kinloch Rannoch, which has at least 20 “Cameron” gravestones (many Duncans and Johns). My father was Duncan John Cameron, my grandfather was John Stuart Cameron, and my brother was Duncan William Cameron.”

You know, if you really want to fiddle the old-time way, you've got to learn the dance.



The Ceilidh

Originally, a ceilidh was a social gathering of any sort, and did not always involve dancing. The 'ceilidh' is a literary entertainment where stories and tales, poems and ballads, are rehearsed and recited, and songs are sung, conundrums are put, proverbs are quoted, and many other literary matters are related and discussed - Alexander Carmichael 1900



Céilidhs facilitated courting and prospects of marriage for young people, as well as a time to maintain familial ties, passing along stories of one's heritage. This was, and still is in some rural areas of Scotland, a celebration of victories and remembrance of sad times in the family's past. It was a time to remember heroes who performed miracles.

Céilidh music was provided by a few important instruments: fiddle, flute, tin whistle, accordion and bodhrán. Nowadays, one is most likely to attend a ceilidh as part of a Scottish wedding.

A few modern Ceilidh dances which have become popular are the following:

Dashing White Sergeant, Domino Five, Galloping Carousel, Gay Gordon, Gypsy Girl's Headscarf, Haymakers, Nice To See You, Postie's Jig, St Bernard's Waltz, Strip The Willow, Terrace Loggers' Jig, Veleta...and others.

Notes from Lochaber Posted on Facebook



Lochiel and HRH Princess Anne talking to the events visitors and officials

Lochiel Hosts HRH Princess Anne

HRH Princess Anne visited Newtonmore Riding Center to open a new *Riding for the Disabled* group in September. Donald Cameron of Lochiel, Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire was there to welcome and accompany her on the visit. The riding and trekking center, located in Cairngorn National Park, celebrates its 60th anniversary this year.



Sìth, fois, tàmh

Reconciliation / Peace

HISTORY 1665

Camerons and Macintoshes Resolve Their Differences

The 16th of September, 1665 -- a most monumental date and perhaps turning point in Clan Cameron history. Combined forces approaching 2500 clansmen stood off against one another at the Ford of Arkaig. Leading his Lochaber clansmen along the south bank, defending his beloved homeland, was the canny Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, opposing Lachlan Mackintosh, chief of the Clan Chattan Confederation. The tale is vague but the results from a few days later stand as triumphant. After 360 years of feuding, raiding and bloody battle, both clans resolved their conflict and the expansive "Disputed Lands" of Arkaig and Loy remained in Clan Cameron hands -- where they "belonged."

Donald Cameron 24th Lochiel

Donald Cameron of Lochiel (Apr 5, 1835 – Nov. 30, 1905) was a Scottish Conservative politician who sat in the House of Commons from 1868 to 1885. He was the 24th chief, Lochiel, of Clan Cameron.

Cameron was the eldest son of Donald Cameron, 23rd Lochiel, and succeeded his father in 1858. He was employed in the diplomatic service and was first attache for the Earl of Elgin's special embassy to China. He was then at the British Embassy in Berlin. He was a Justice of the Peace for Buckinghamshire and a Deputy Lieutenant for Inverness.

At the 1868 general election Cameron was elected Member of Parliament for Inverness-shire. He held the seat until 1885. He was groom-in-waiting to Queen Victoria from 1874 to 1880. From 1887 he was the Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire.

Cameron married Margaret Montagu-Douglas-Scott, daughter of Walter Montagu-Douglas-Scott, 5th Duke of Buccleuch in 1875. They had four sons, including Donald Cameron, 25th Lochiel. -www.wikipedia.com



St. Kilda Childhood Mary Cameron's Account

In *St. Kilda Portraits*, Mary Cameron shares memories of 7 years of childhood in St. Kilda. (They left in 1926, with only 46 remaining inhabitants on the island.) Her father Donald pastored the Presbyterian community. "The church was connected with the schoolroom by a door,



and sometimes my father took a class by themselves in the church. When we arrived, part of it was in ruins as a result of bombardment by a German submarine shortly before the end of the Great War. The church was a very simple place, rather austere, which matched the simple, robust faith of the folk who filled it each Sunday. There was no heating, but I don't remember that we complained of the cold. The St. Kilda folk were grand churchgoers; nobody stayed away unless they were ill. When the service was over, the men remained seated until the women and girls had left the church.

In the winter, each family was lighted to church by a hurricane lantern, or a ship's lantern; and these were carefully placed on the floor, with the flame turned down, until the service was over, when they were turned up for the homeward journey. There was something very comforting about the string of twinkling lights which pierced the darkness as the congregation walked home.

"We were sometimes taken of an evening, with our parents when they went visiting in the village. There were no electric torches, so we took a paraffin lantern, which cast the most exciting shadows as we walked along. The dogs at each house hailed us with loud barking, and when we were ushered inside, there would be quite a scene of industry round the fire. There would be the purr of the spinning wheel, operated by the woman of the house. The men and boys might be teasing the wool (cìreadh)."

Mary taught piano lessons and her sister Christina taught elementary school, living out their days in Kyle of Lochalsh. Neither married, but remained devoted to the church.

- borrowed in part from Australia's CC newsletter

November 30: St. Andrew's Day

On November 30, Scots around the world fly the Saltire and celebrate St Andrew's Day.

King James IV (1473-1513) held a holiday in honor of St Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland.

'And ilk year for his patron's saik,
Ane banquet royall wald he maik,
With wylde fowle, venisoun and wyne,
With tairt and flam and fruitage fyne'

Away from the nobles' feasts of wild fowl and venison, people went 'Sanct Andra-ing' to catch squirrels and rabbits for the pot.

At Edinburgh Castle, on St Andrew's Day 1996, the Stone of Scone was returned to Scotland. On St Andrew's Day 1999 the Queen officially opened the restored Great Hall of Stirling Castle. In 2006, more than 60 nations around the world held events celebrating Scotland's patron saint.

Schools across Scotland hold special St Andrew's Day events and activities each November.



Ideas to Decorate for the Holidays in Scottish Style

First of all, if you enjoy crafting or sewing, you can use tartan (Cameron plaid is perfect!) to decorate almost anything! Consider making slip covers for pillows, creating clothing for a purchased ceramic or stuffed Santa, making table runners and/or placemats, bows, or backgrounds for wall hangings.

Candles with imbedded Celtic designs are beautiful. In fact, Celtic designs can be etched into glasses, painted on ceramic tiles, burned into leather for candle-holders, and used for making jewelry gifts (background for large, flat glass beads).

Christmas ornaments can be painted to resemble Scottish flags, tartan-patterned circles, or Scottish dancers. Traditional or modern Scottish symbols can easily transform the Christmas tree into a heritage tree. Consider laminating copies of photos of ancestors or historic figures of Scottish heroes and using them in ornaments. These are great reminders and educational tools to share with our children and grandchildren.

What are your skills? If woodworking, consider a carved crest for a gift. If knitting, consider a Cameron tartan laprobe. If painting, consider a Celtic background clock. If photography, create a heritage book.

Purchase a wooden bowl and add a painted, tartan ribbon design. Or, if you have no time for making gifts, check with any number of gift stores with Scottish items. All price ranges exist for anything from Scottie notecards to a tartan tie to a personally engraved quach. An Aran cardigan, a dressy ruana, or a love-knot ring are all lovely gifts for the wife. A tooled leather sporran, a clan crest belt buckle for a kilt, or a Celtic knot bottle opener are possibilities for the husband. Stuffed Scottie dogs with a Cameron ribbon, a toy sword and shield, or a Lego castle might be good choices for children.



Kid's Corner

Reindeer and Sleddogs in Scotland



The Cairngorm reindeer herd, the only free-ranging herd in Britain, were first reintroduced to Scotland in 1952 by a Swedish herder. They roam on 6,000 acres of hillside in the Cairngorm Mountains and on the Glenlivet Estate, 30 miles away. Around 40 of the 130 in the herd are trained to pull sleighs, and will be making their way to help Santa and his helpers all over Britain in December.

The Cairngorm Sleddog Center in Aviemore offers activities for the whole family from Kennel & Museum Tours to Sleddog Trips. It's the only daily working sleddog center in the UK and one of only 5 in Europe.



Christmas Song

Three Kings Cam Frae Their Native Lan (in old Scots)

Three kings cam frae their native lan
Ower ocean, desert, steen an san
Rare gifts tae bring on Xmas day
Tae Jesus happit in the strae

Chorus: A starnie lets its licht doonfaa
Stood gaird abeen yon stirkie's staa
Sae sogjer, fairmer, aa micht ken
That God's ain bairn wis born tae men.

Three shepherds tae the byre stepped in
Tae boo afore the Haly Littlin
As breets an birdies gaithered roon
An by yon roch cradle cooried doon.

Chorus: A starnie etc

Noo ilkie year at Xmas time
We jyne oor hauns tae pray an myne
On Jesus born sae pure, sae smaa
Cam doon tae save an lue us aa.

Chorus: A starnie

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Nollaig chridheil huibh
Guid Yule
Happy Hogmanay