

## Clan Cameron Notes

Clan Cameron members celebrate the heritage of Scotland's renowned and glorious Clan Cameron of old. Though many Camerons and septs of Clan Cameron remain in Scotland today, most are scattered throughout the world. Following the Battle of Culloden and the Clearances, many Highlanders were exported by force or by agreement. The highest concentrations of expatriates are in the U.S., Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Clan Cameron's Gaelic name is Camshron, and their modern motto is Aonaibh ri cheile (Unite!). Their battle cry is "Sons of hounds, come hither and get flesh!"

Central to the Cameron badge are the five arrows, referring to the five branches of Clan Cameron, united with a gules ribbon or band. The plant leaf badge worn by Clan Cameron men heading to battle has been the oak, "the king of the wood." The crowberry is also identified with the clan.

Clan Cameron has a number of tartans attributed to it, but the most commonly worn is the "modern." It consists primarily of bright red and green, enclosed by yellow borders. The Cameron of Erracht tartan combines Cameron and MacDonald of Keppoch colors, essentially dark blue and green, with deep red and a fine gold line. This tartan was designed to be used by the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and has been chosen by a selection of pipe bands today.

The Cameron pipe tune is "The March of the Cameron Men."

*For information about your local Clan Cameron Association, please contact the following:*



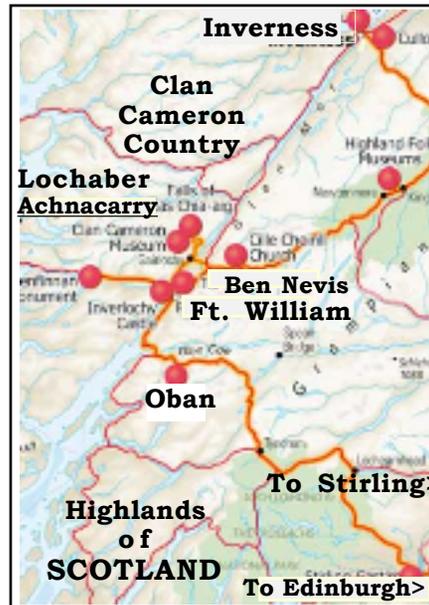
## Clan Cameron Heritage

Toward the end of the 14th century, Donald Dubh Cameron, a man of notable importance and skill, became the first official chief of Clan Cameron. As original captain of this confederation of tribes, his surname was used to identify the clan. In 1472, the Cameron Clan was first recognized in a Scottish charter. The most common theory as to the origin of the name's meaning is the Gaelic "Camshron" or "crooked nose."

The Camerons, though a small tribe, were powerful, fighting against aggressive neighbors, such as the Earls of Argyll and Huntly. Ewen, a devoted follower of the Stuart kings, and Donald "the Gentle Lochiel," a staunch Jacobite and renowned leader at the Battle of Culloden, were just two of many illustrious Cameron chiefs.

Camerons have been described as "fiercer than fierceness itself."

Today, director James Cameron is but one example of a well-recognized North American "Cameron."



**Clan Cameron's 27th Hereditary Chief, Donald Cameron of Lochiel**

*The history of Cameron chiefs can be traced to 14th century Scotland.*

## Clan Cameron Septs

Septs are families, related or not, who supported and lived near a particular chief. The chief could rally his Clan within minutes if their lives, land or homes were being threatened by outsiders.

Clan Cameron septs include Chalmers, Chambers, Clark, Clarkson, Clery, Clerk, Gibson, Kennedy, MacCleary, MacGillonie, MacKail, MacLeary, MacMartin, MacPhail, MacSorley, MacUlric, Martin, Paul, and Taylor, to mention a few of the 50 or so total.

## Clan Cameron Online

<http://www.clan-cameron.org/>

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*See insert for officers & membership information.*