

Canterbury Scottish Cultural Festival



This picture was taken on Sunday 28th February 2016 at the Canterbury Scottish Cultural Festival and the launching of my MacAulay Banner that IRuth Cooper made. The festival is held at Riccarton House and gardens a great place with trees to shelter and everyone sitting around



and picnicking as they watch the highland dancing or pipe band competitions. There were several clans on display at the Scottish Heritage tent .

Peter Linn MacAulay pictured with Ruth, came to New Zealand from Glasgow area many years ago and worked as a fellmonger at the freezing works. Another person originally from Glasgow John Duff was a great friend here of Jock MacAulay who lived in Rangiora area here (the brother of our clans Honorary President Donald MacAulay) That was a thrill as unfortunately Ruth had never met Jock before he died. He said he was a very good Scottish Country dancer as is Donald!

Timaru fishermen praised after handing in NZ\$5k cash found floating on roadside



Three Timaru fishermen have been praised by police after handing in NZ\$5000 found scattered near Lake Pukaki. Three Timaru fishermen who handed in NZ\$5000 worth of foreign currency floating around their vehicle on a Lake Pukaki road say they were simply doing what all Kiwis would. Murray Macaulay, Steve Begg and Fletcher Begg, 11, were travelling past Lake Pukaki on an angling trip to the Twizel canals on Monday when they spotted something dark lying in the middle of State Highway 8. "Just as I saw it a car drove over it and the whole thing just exploded, and we were just like, holy s..., that's money," Steve Begg said.

The three fishermen gathered up fistfuls of US dollars lying on State Highway 8. Begg said they did a quick u-turn, parked their Toyota Hilux ute and started picking up "fistfuls of money" as well as an oversized wallet, cards and an Argentinian passport belonging to Tomas Arce. "There were cars going past so we were ducking in and out of the traffic when we could. "Once we could link a face to the money we're just thinking, this poor bastard, imagine what he's going through if he's lost all of this." Fletcher Begg, 11, left, Steve Begg and Murray Macaulay have been thanked by an Argentinian tourist after handing his \$5000NZD worth of foreign money dropped on near Lake Pukaki. Begg said they loaded the money, a combination of US dollars and Argentinian pesos, which was spread out over an 80 metre area of the road, into the footwell of their ute.

As they sat there wondering where to take it Begg spotted red and blue flashing lights from a police-organised driver reviver at the Pukaki information centre carpark about 200m down the road. The three fishermen pulled up slightly sheepishly, money up to their ankles, explaining what had happened.

"It took the police there a while to figure out what to do with it," Begg said. "The whole time we were just thinking man, imagine if we were in a foreign country and that had happened to us.

"We just did what we had to do and hopefully it makes New Zealand look like the good place that it is."

Constable Ben Grant, of Timaru, said police had made contact with the son of Arce, who was on a family holiday through New Zealand, late on Tuesday afternoon. He was on the Interislander ferry to Wellington at the time of the call, Grant said.

The Arces were now driving to Auckland to collect their valuables, which were couriered up by Timaru police on Tuesday night. It was thought Arce had left the wallet on the roof of the car he was travelling in when it stopped at a Lake Pukaki viewing point. Macaulay said he had flicked through Facebook and found the man's son, also called Tomas.

He messaged him and Arce's son responded, after he had talked to police, thanking them profusely and suggesting they meet for a celebratory barbecue.

"They are over the moon, they can't believe that someone would just hand the money in," Macaulay said. "He said in Argentina this just does not happen.

"They're a bit far away for a barbecue now but that's ok." Via Facebook, Arce's son said his father was going to send a letter of thanks and a "big present" to the men who had handed in his valuables.

"In my country is not usual to find people like this. We are very thankful," he said.

Macaulay Gathering Lake Tekapo New Zealand 2010

Submitted by Theo on Fri, 12/11/2010 - 22:19

Bruce and Ruth emailed on the 04/03/2010 with an invite to view the photos taken at the New Zealand MacAulay Gathering. Here's their message: *"This shows you the Macaulay in Australia gathering which we hosted at Lake tekapo New Zealand 26-28Feb 2010. 9 came from Australia; The Svensens 4, Martins 2, Geoff Derrick the treasurer and Lyn Worsnop his partner, Rob Macaulay a past President, and the Hilliers were inlaws of the Martins from England. Otherwise all others were NZ macaulays. I (Ruth) have been made President for the next 2 yrs. The Secretary and her husband were unable to come. We had AGM, Farm visit and lunch at Glenmore Station owned by the Murrays."* [Click here to view the photo album](#)

Clan MacAulay New Zealand Commissioners Report 2015

I have been delighted reports of events in New Zealand have been published promptly on the website, along with photos. Thank you.

I congratulate the other Commissioners who have also sent reports of events as this is the best way to feel part of the Worldwide Clan.

The Canterbury Scottish Heritage Council, of which I am a member, continues to organise events. Bruce and I attended the Ceilidh Dance both this year and last and the Kirkin o the Tartan Services at one of our older wooden Churches still standing, St Andrews at Rangi Ruru.

The Hororata Highland Games held each November in the heart of the Canterbury farming community, gives us an opportunity to showcase the different Clans by organising best dressed competitions and face painting to draw in the children. A

Genealogist is on hand to answer questions,

all this held in the Clan Alley. Meanwhile all the usual competitions are proceeding in the arena. Oceania Heavyweight Championship draws participants from Australia and beyond.

One of this year's highlights would be representing Macaulay Clan at the Inauguration Ceremony for Grant Guthrie Davidson 3rd of Davidson, Chief of Clan Davidson in Christchurch NZ 9th May. The report of this and pictures are on the Macaulay and Davidson websites.

One of our Heritage Council members Ross Fraser as Chieftain of the Scottish

Society of New Zealand, organised a moving service here in Christchurch to commemorate World War I 1914-18.

Official dignitaries included MPs, City Councillors, Colonel Chris Faulls Director NZ Army, Chaplain Rob Thomson RN3NVR and others.

As names were read from the Roll of Honour a child would pin

a poppy beside each name. The Solo Cornet and Bugler player and Scottish Society

Pipe Band and soloist Elizabeth Alberts created the atmosphere.

One a personal level I continue researching my family around the world and look forward to the Oban Gathering of all the Clan members as well as meeting my Paisley and American relatives also

attending this year. We have arranged with the Archivist of Strathclyde University to see the original Silk diploma designed by my great grandfather James Macaulay the first Instructor of Weaving at the Glasgow Technical College 1878-1883.

"The design required about 2,600,000 careful touches of the designers pencil to mark the points at

which the warp and weft threads intercept each other in its weave. It embodied words, figures and emblems of the arts

connected with cloth manufacture and engineering, as well as views of the Clyde and females hand winding and spinning. It was given to students who arrived at excellence after two sessions attendance. It measured only 15 by 8 inches "

Ruth Cooper

Ceremony for the Chief of Davidson in New Zealand

On Friday 9th May 2015, Bruce and I attended the inauguration ceremony for Grant Guthrie Davidson, 3rd of Davidson, Chief of Clan Davidson in Christchurch NZ.



This is the first time a world wide Chief has been sworn in, in New Zealand. His Father Alister Guthrie Davidson died in 2014.

Grant has been involved with International Yachting and the Americas Cup since 1980 and lives in Auckland. Dr Frank Davidson of Australia presented the chief with his Cromach and Nick Hide of the Clan Davidson Association UK, presented the Chief with his Bonnet and Alex Davidson Clan Davidson NZ presented a ceremonial Quach.

The pictures show the various Clans present for the occasion and Grant and his wife Brenda and also the one of myself with Chief Grant prior to the ceremony.



The one at the dinner shows the Kilmarnock Singers whose CD I have sent to Hector.

I plan to bring some of these over in August for the raffle.

Nick Hide was the guest speaker at the dinner afterwards and he was amazing with wonderful pictures of so many Davidson families around the world. He is a genealogist and they are so lucky to have been given so much over the years in heraldry, medals, paintings, jewellery, and an annual journal which has been going 24 years, and 3 newsletters a year mostly by email.

Of course they have been an active clan for many years but it was most impressive.

Also today Bruce and I attended an excellent Service organised by Ross Fraser of The Scottish Society of NZ to Commemorate World War I.

Children placed poppies on the names on the honours board of those who died from Christchurch Scottish families. Pipes, solos, and addresses were all part of the service followed by tea, coffee and of course home made Anzac biscuits!

[More pictures can be seen here.](#)

Ruth Cooper, Commissioner for New Zealand

Hororata Highland Games 2014



On the 8th November 2014, the 4th Hororata Highland Games were



held which was started to help rebuild the community after the 2010 September earthquake.

Over 8000 flocked to it this year to enjoy the dancing, bands, drummers, Oceania Heavyweight Competition, Tug O'War, Archery demonstrations and "have a go", Sheepshearing/spinning demonstrations to name a few of the activities provided.

From 9.00am till March Past and prize giving at 4pm it was action packed with 300 competitors. This year the Clan Ally was well attended by children enjoying face painting, and enrollments for the best dressed Lad and Lassie under and over 16 years, were taken at Clan MacAulay table by Ruth Cooper NZ Clan Commissioner. This was the first year the Scottish Heritage Council had offered this, and the Chieftan for the day's wife Lady Parker, asked each of the competitors about their tartan and their history which made it interesting. One man had come from Scotland this year to work on the rebuild of Christchurch. Other Clans of the Scottish Heritage Council had excellent displays and they also organised a genealogist to be on hand to help answer any questions. I was delighted two MacAulay young women gave me their names and shared their family background and asked for information about the Clan.

A lineup of some of the southern hemisphere's best heavy athletes took part. Australia's Scott Martin won with Kiwi Jono McFarlane second and Morgan Westmorland and Jeremy Hogg, both of Australia, tied for third. Watching them lift the stones onto barrels is always inspiring as is the Kilted Mile race and the Hororata Pie Eating Competition.

The children love the Tug O' War, pony rides, Ice cream race and the highland dancing Competition. Many Food stalls and craft displays kept people happy.

All this is made possible through the efforts of hundreds of volunteers and sponsors. We were also blessed with a beautiful day.

Ruth Cooper, NZ Clan Commissioner

Hororata Highland Games New Zealand

Submitted by Walter on Mon, 19/11/2012 - 20:20



Ruth Cooper, Clan Commissioner for New Zealand, set up a Clan MacAulay tent at the 2013 Hororata Highland Games in November. She also carried the MacAulay banner in the Clan Parade which ensured Clan MacAulay was yet again prominent at a major Scottish Gathering.

The event was opened by the Governor General of New Zealand The Right Honourable Sir Jerry Mateparae. The games which were very well attended



involved all the usual events, including for the first time a 'Taste of Scotland' section promoting good Scottish cooking and products. Clan Chief Hector MacAulay said " I congratulate Ruth Cooper for her hard work in making sure that our Clan was represented at this event. It is not just an opportunity to put Clan MacAulay centre stage but also contributes to the promotion of Scotland and what it has to offer."

Eileen MacAulay



I visited the wife of the grandson of my Grandfathers brother, (my second cousin) Eileen Macaulay, in Helensburgh on 23 June this year 5 days before she turned 100yrs. She is a remarkable woman still so alert and interested in family. Her husband John died 2 years ago at 98 He was a Veterinary Surgeon. His grandfather John a mechanical draftsman and artist was the one family member to stay in Scotland when his 3 brothers and married sister came out to New Zealand from 1877 onwards. Their Father had been the first Instructor of weaving at the Technical College of weaving in Glasgow 1877-82 (now part of Strathclyde University) He designed a beautiful Diploma in silk to be presented to successful pupils. His sons and daughter-a school teacher-all took up farming when they came to New Zealand I am very proud of my Macaulay heritage and my wonderful Macaulay Mother. *Ruth Cooper, 12/11/11*

Hororata Highland Games raised money for quake victims

Submitted by admin on Sun, 13/11/2011 - 08:15

Recently Hororata, an area outside of Christchurch, held an Highland Games to boost their spirits and help raise money for the quake-hit community. It was a great success. Unfortunately I had visitors from Toronto so could not attend this event. *Ruth Cooper, 12/11/11*

[See the article and pictures on press.co.nz](http://press.co.nz) More here: hororata.org.nz ..and on Flickr



MacAulay Family Reunion in Katikati, New Zealand 2012

Submitted by admin on Tue, 06/03/2012 - 10:23

Debbie McCauley 01/03/2012

Descendants of the pioneering McCauley family of Katikati recently held a family reunion in Katikati that drew members from all over New Zealand and as far away as England. Family patriarch, John McCauley (Snr) (1826-1900), arrived with his family on board the Jessie Osborne in 1876 between the No. 1 & 2 parties. John (Snr) was the father of fifteen children and his great-great-great granddaughter, Tauranga Librarian Debbie McCauley, organised the reunion after asking attendees what they would like to do during their visit. Debbie and her children Sophie (aged 13) and Maia (aged 10) also scrubbed all the family graves in preparation for the reunion tour.

On Friday 10 February the family gathered at the graveside of John (Snr) at the Te Puke Cemetery for the start of the reunion. Although a Katikati pioneer, John (Snr) died in Te Puke at the home of his daughter, Elizabeth (Eliza) Jane Geraghty (née

McCauley/Ronald) (1871-1937). In 2011 family members contributed funds for a new headstone to mark John (Snr)'s gravesite. The headstone was installed in time for the reunion by Ray McKenzie of Bay of Plenty Memorials.

Eliza Geraghty is also buried in Te Puke Cemetery as is her brother Thomas McCauley whose grave has been newly marked with a white cross. On the way through Te Puke the family noted the location of the Capitol Theatre which was constructed over the Alliance Hall. "The Alliance Hall was built by the Geraghtys in 1917 but later damaged during a fire" said Debbie.

"It was wonderful to meet Eliza's grandson James William Geraghty at the Te Puke Cemetery," said Debbie, "he was able to show us the house built in Collins Lane for Eliza Geraghty in 1910, the location of which I had been unable to find."

Travelling on to Tauranga the family stopped at the Tauranga Anglican Cemetery on the corner of 17th Avenue and Grace Road. There they visited the grave of Sarah McCauley, wife of World Champion Axeman, George Thomas McCauley (1884-1938). "George was a champion axeman between 1902 and 1927," said Debbie, "he was born and raised in Katikati and won the World's Championship Chop in 1911. In 1938 he was burnt to death during a fire in Inglewood". There were many fires and accidental deaths that affected the McCauley family. The fires have meant that there are no surviving photographs of the early McCauley pioneers.

The family then visited the Tauranga Presbyterian Cemetery in 18th Avenue and the grave of John Ronald (1900-1965), son of Eliza Geraghty. From there they went to the Tauranga Methodist and Children's Cemetery and placed flowers on the graves of Jane Simpson (née McCauley) (1870-1942) and her children John Francis Simpson (1901-1928) and Jeffrey Simpson (1892-1893). "John Francis died in a shooting accident at the Wairoa hydro-electric station and, according to a Bay of Plenty Times report, Jeffrey died from the combined effects of teething and whooping cough," explained Debbie.

On the way to Katikati the family paused at the Apata Station Road to look at the old Katikati Highway and the site of the Katikati railway station. They then visited the Waitekohe No. 3 School building on the corner of State Highway 2 and Walker Road East which opened in 1880. "Current owner Judy Junger was kind enough to give us a tour and impromptu talk about the building which many of the McCauleys attended," said Debbie, "I was most interested to see the remains of the forge where they handmade all the nails for the school building".

Dinner was held at the Forta Leza Country Restaurant, housed in the historic 1901 Katikati Dairy Co-op Building. "It was wonderful to go to a place where our ancestors would have delivered their produce," said Debbie, "it was a fantastic setting and great atmosphere for our first meal together".

On Saturday 11 February the family spent over an hour at the Katikati Cemetery. "The restoration was a marvellous effort and many of our family graves have been restored as well as newly marked" said Debbie. "My Aunt, Zordia Mackie, was overcome when she saw the cross marking the grave of her younger brother Graham McCauley (1941-1941). He died at 7 months of age and she has never found the site of his grave before; it was very special." After placing flowers on the graves and taking photographs the family stopped at the site of the old Junction Hotel on Hot Springs Road, noting another part of the former Katikati Highway and the old Tuahu Track which runs across the range to Te Aroha.

Moving on to Rea Road, Debbie was able to show the family the site of the land allocated to the McCauleys in the 1878 land ballot. John (Snr) was granted 20 acres and John (Jnr) 30 acres in adjoining properties on the south side of Rea Road past Killen Road. "The allocation was lot number 76," said Debbie, "it was great to locate and physically walk over the actual land that our ancestors came to". A family photograph was taken at the site. On the way into Katikati the family slowed by number 122 Main Road which was the former home of George (Peg-leg) and Rachel McCauley (nee Hamilton). "Unfortunately the home of Muriel (Girlie) and Reg Bellamy next door has been removed," said Debbie, "I have fond memories of visiting there as a child".

The family lunched at Twickenham (c.1896) which was built as a retirement home for Mary Gledstane (née Stewart), sister of Katikati founder George Vesey Stewart. Adela Stewart died there in 1910 when she returned to New Zealand with her son Mervyn to publicise her book *My Simple Life in New Zealand*. "We were able to look over the fence and see the site where the railway line used to run," said Debbie, "the three young Elworthy boys at the reunion were fascinated with that".

After lunch the family travelled to Athenree Homestead which was built in 1879 for George Vesey Stewart's brother Hugh and his wife Adela. "We received a fantastic talk by Tee Carroll" said Debbie, "the family really enjoyed their time there and purchased many copies of *An Ulster Plantation* and *My Simple Life in New Zealand*, as well as jam made from Adela's 135 year old fruit trees. It was wonderful to see the restoration that has been done, the result of all the hard work by so many dedicated and talented volunteers".

Driving back to Katikati, the family stopped at St Peter's Anglican Church for a tour by Rev. Brendan Gibbs. "I was pleased to see the stained glass window that the McCauley family contributed to in 1902," said Debbie, "many of our family christenings, weddings and funerals took place within St Peter's. In fact my great grandmother Rachel Hamilton was presented with an Ostrich feather from the Katterns' Ostrich farm on her marriage to George (Peg-leg) McCauley in 1902".

After a demanding day many family members passed on the mural tour as they took a much needed rest. Others visited the Waitekohe School Mural during the arranged tour where they were surprised to see what was written on the attached plaque. "My

grandfather Lennard McCauley has been renamed Annie MaCauley", said Debbie, "both the first and second names are incorrect and he is listed in the wrong place". Lennard McCauley is the boy in the navy blue top standing nearest to the teacher, Mr J. S. Leech. "I'm hoping we can have it fixed," said Debbie, "currently the names read from the right to the left which is confusing for everyone. The names need correcting and then relisting so they read from the left to the right which is standard practice. For such a beautifully done mural to have these details incorrect was very disconcerting for the family and upsetting for some members". Another relative, Ivy Lecky, is seated at Lennard's feet.

Dinner was held at the historic Talisman Pub. "Again, it was wonderful to break bread with family in a place that has such historical significance for the McCauleys," said Debbie, "there is plenty of evidence that our ancestors spent quite some time in the Talisman Pub!"

After two exhausting days the family gathered on Sunday 12 February at the Katikati RSA. The day was tinged with sadness as Debbie learnt about the death of James William Geraghty's wife the morning before. "James had said at the Te Puke Cemetery that his wife was on life support" said Debbie "and it was very sad to hear of her passing. I'm so very glad that James was able to share some of his time with us. We all signed a sympathy card for him which I delivered with flowers later in the day".

At the RSA they watched a clip of World Champion Axeman George Thomas McCauley at the Eltham Axemen's Carnival in 1911. The footage was brought over from England by George's grandson Robert Anderson. "Most of the family had never seen the footage before" said Debbie, "so it was very special watching 100 year old film of a family member". Robert's sister, Patricia, had also brought an axe and silver cup belonging to George Thomas McCauley. Among other family treasures and memorabilia that family members brought to share were oil paintings by Lennard McCauley and a proliferation of family photographs and documents.

The family also watched footage of the 2010 Katikati Cemetery Restoration programme featuring the legion of Frontiersmen J Troop. The programme featured on TVNZ's "Volunteer Power" and included interviews with Debbie and her children Sophie and Maia McCauley. "The children were a bit shy at seeing themselves up on the big screen" said Debbie, "but it was great to be able to show everyone what a fantastic job has been done at the Cemetery. The family expressed how appreciative they were for the restoration work."

Family member Pamela White showed a PowerPoint presentation of her trip to Clogher, Ireland, in 2005. Whilst there, Pamela uncovered much information on the McCauley family including several christening records. Photographs of these feature in the book that Debbie has written over the past three months for the reunion entitled The McCauley Family of Katikati, New Zealand: 1876-2012. The cover was designed by family member and book designer Sarah Elworthy and copies are available for \$40. "It was a labour of love" said Debbie "the book and the reunion are a gift to the McCauley family and future generations. It was lovely to meet all these wonderful people and I hope that we have the opportunity in the future to do it all again".

After lunch the reunion closed with the cutting of a large chocolate cake provided by the RSA. "It was hilarious" said Debbie. "Bob Anderson decided to cut the reunion cake with the axe owned by George Thomas McCauley, then he and one of our family historians, Joan Simpson from Hamilton, licked the icing off the axe – typical Irish behaviour and a great way to end the reunion!"

New Zealand's Tessa Macaulay received Young Historian Award

Submitted by admin on Sun, 13/11/2011 - 08:08

Otago Girls' High School has a new historian in its midst. Year 13 pupil Tessa Macaulay received the New Zealand History Teachers Association Young Historian Award on Monday. The New Zealand History Teachers Association and the New Zealand Historical Association gave the award to Tessa based on her research on the 19th-century founder of the New Zealand union for tailoresses, Harriet Morison.

Read the full story in the **Otago Daily Times Online**