



CLAN DONALD

New Zealand

"Ni h-cibhneas gan Chlaimh Domhnaill"
(It is no joy without Clan Donald)



MACDONALD. MACDONALD OF SLEAT. MACDONALD OF CLANRANALD. MACDONELL OF GLENGARRY. THE EARL OF ANTRIM.

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2011

A REVIEW OF CLAN DONALD HAWKES BAY

Clan Donald Hawke's Bay is the newest Clan Donald Society to be established. In a little over twelve months it has had fantastic growth and now has around thirty members.

David McDonald, the President, believes that the success is down to a very keen "core" group and that many people in Hawke's Bay have Scottish ancestry. This coupled with several strong Scots Societies and Clan Societies plus several pipe bands helps maintain a high interest in Scottish events, around which Clan Donald has been able to centre a lot of its activities.

Over the twelve months Hawke's Bay has had a range of activities. Having a tent and pipers at the Lion's Book Fair.



Kerry Marshall, Musical Director of the Drones & Sticks Pipe Band, and 9 year old Angus Wilton at the Clan Donald tent at the Lions Book Fair

Clan Donald has established a very good relationship with the Drones & Sticks Pipe Band.

The Drones & Sticks Pipe Band does a lot of work teaching piping and drumming to young people in Hawke's Bay. The Band concentrates on community piping, helping at charity events, instead of championships.

As well as being Musical Director of the Drones & Sticks, Kerry Marshall is responsible for the annual Pipe Band Championships run by the Royal New Zealand Pipe Band Association.

Kerry was also awarded the Queens Service Medal in the New Years Honours List.

Clan Donald had their tent at the Hastings Highland Games at Easter, followed by a dinner with Scottish entertainment.

A Kirking of the Tartan at St Columba's Presbyterian Church in Havelock North which is to be an annual event.



The "core" group of Clan Donald Members at the Kirking of the Tartan. From the left, Jill McDonald, Roger Gillies, Glennis MacDonald, Karl (grandson of Jill Macdonald), Sally Russell, David McDonald, Jill Macdonald, Ian MacDonald, Bob Sanderson and David Smith

At the St Andrews Day/Xmas Dinner on November the 30th., Hawke's Bay presented a sponsorship cheque, from Clan Donald New Zealand, to Lara Hornby, a very competent Highland Dancer. Lara is going to spend her gap year in the UK and aims to compete on the Scottish Highland Dancing circuit. Her ambition is to perform before the Royal Family at Braemar.



David McDonald presenting the sponsorship cheque to Lara Hornby. The piper is Maurice Chisnall, the Clan Donald Hawke's Bay Clan Piper

Hawke's Bay are very fortunate to have Maurice Chisnall as the Clan Piper. Maurice has MacDonald ancestry and is an active member and pipes at many Clan Donald Hawke's Bay events. He is an outstanding piper and is Pipe Major of the City of Hastings Pipe Band.



Maurice Chisnall piping at the Kirking of the Tartan at St Columba's Presbyterian Church

At a recent Social and fund raiser night for the Drones & Sticks, Clan Donald presented a sponsorship cheque for their leading side drummer, Rhyann Bourhill-Jane so that he could attend the annual drumming course at the Pipe Band Summer School in Christchurch.



The Drones & Sticks Pipe Band performing during their social and fund raising night. Rhyann Bourhill-Jane is the third drummer from the left

And last but not least, Clan Donald, along with many other Scottish Societies attended the Hastings & District Scots Society Burns Night in late January.

In summing up, David McDonald believes that the most important thing is to have fun, and to have regular worthwhile social activities.

David also stated that the backing of Clan Donald New Zealand and particularly the Auckland Society has been a vital component in their getting up and running.

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