



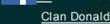
CLAN DONALD

New Zealand

"Ni h-cibheas gan Chlainn Domhnaill"
(It is no joy without Clan Donald)



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



Clan Donald NZ

Clan Donald

Auckland

[Home](#)

[Clan Septs](#)

[Membership](#)

[Events](#)

[News](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[Tartan](#)

[Links](#)

[Contacts](#)

News Archive

2013

CLAN DONALD CANTERBURY WHISKY TASTING

On Friday night 12th July, Alan MacDonald hosted a Clan Donald whisky tasting evening at his house. The whisky tasting was provided by Nick Romans of Long Cloud Wines & Spirits. On arrival attendees enjoyed a welcome wee dram of Clan Gold Original, a special blend of fine whiskies.



Early in the evening everyone is paying attention. Pictured left to right Shona Fergusson, Donald Beaton (partially obscured), Ian Bright, Yvonne Ploughman, Noel Walsh (partially obscured), Helen Ring, Jill Tomlinson, Brent Tomlinson, Sally Wihone, Philip Richards

After a general introduction to whisky and the art of tasting, it was time to start applying our new skills and we went on a tasting journey through the main whisky regions of Scotland. First up was the Dun Bheagan Lowland. A light and fresh whisky which was accompanied by walnuts on top of blue cheese and a cracker.



Pictured left to right. Ann Smith, Maggie Donald, Doreen MacDonald, Colin MacDonald, Jocelyn Richards, Nick Romans and Alan MacDonald



A fine line up of whiskies

Having started to master the art of colour, nose, taste and finish we were ready to move on to Speyside and try the Dun Bheagan Speyside with a small piece of citrus slice. Next stop was the Highlands and the smooth Glengoyne 10 yo accompanied with walnuts on top of blue cheese and cracker.



Nick Romans pours Elwyn Martin a taste of the Dun Bheagan Lowland

By this stage we were all becoming masters discovering all sorts of aromas in our whisky. The Isle of Arran 10 year old was a bit of a crowd favourite and this was accompanied by smoked salmon on a cracker with a light spread of cream cheese.

By the time we got to Islay, the lovers of a heavily peated and smoky malt were eagerly awaiting the tasting of the aptly named Smokehead (Ian MacLeod Distillers) which did not disappoint. Those who do not care so much for the Islays loved the dark chocolate and fresh dates which were served with the Smokehead.



The serious business of whisky tasting. Shona Fergusson, Donald Beaton, Maggie Donald and Ann Smith work try to locate the distilleries!

After tasting it was time for supper and for those set for a late night, we watched a recording of the Super 15 match played earlier that night – to top a great night the Crusaders won!



Nick Romans and Alan MacDonald enjoying a wee dram after the tasting. In the background are Philip Richards and Colin MacDonald.

TARTAN DAY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

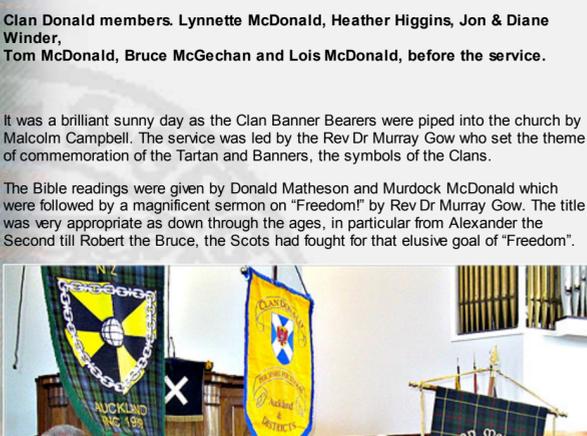
On Sunday the 30th of June eight Clans attended a Tartan Day Commemorative Service at the St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, the First Presbyterian Church of Auckland founded in 1847. The clans were Clan Campbell, Clan Davidson, Clan Donald, Clan Fergusson, Clan Gordon, Clan MacLeod, Clan Matheson and Clan Stewart.



Clan Donald members. Lynnette McDonald, Heather Higgins, Jon & Diane Winder, Tom McDonald, Bruce McGechan and Lois McDonald, before the service.

It was a brilliant sunny day as the Clan Banner Bearers were piped into the church by Malcolm Campbell. The service was led by the Rev Dr Murray Gow who set the theme of commemoration of the Tartan and Banners, the symbols of the Clans.

The Bible readings were given by Donald Matheson and Murdoch McDonald which were followed by a magnificent sermon on "Freedom" by Rev Dr Murray Gow. The title was very appropriate as down through the ages, in particular from Alexander the Second till Robert the Bruce, the Scots had fought for that elusive goal of "Freedom".



Donald McDowall of Clan Campbell, Tom McDonald of Clan Donald and Ian MacLeod of Clan MacLeod down the front of the church at the end of the service.

Following the service everyone retired to the Church Hall for some refreshment including a delicious Haggis. A fine Tartan Day Commemorative Service on a brilliant fine day.

[< Return to News Archive](#)