

CLAN CAMERON ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND



Aonaibh ri Lochiall NEWSLETTER

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

GATHERING AT ACHNACARRY 30th July - 2nd Aug

<p>Thursday, 30th July: (Walks) 11.00am - 5.00pm Walks on the estate: Beech Avenue (Easy) Glen Mallie (Average/Difficult) L Arkaig to Glenfinnan(Hard) Clan Cameron Museum open</p> <p>Informal Clan Get-together Moorings Hotel, Banavie 6.30 (food available)</p>	<p>Friday, 31st July (Talks) 11.00am - 5.00pm Talks in the marquee including: Famous Camerons Genealogy: Gaelic landscape: the estate: the Cameron family: Clan Museum open Clan Cameron Ass. Scotland Reception at Nevis Centre. 6.30 (Music, wine, canapés) (Free but Tickets Required)</p>
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Saturday, 1st August (10.00am-5.00pm) (ENTRY - £11.00)
International Gathering of Clan Cameron (Achnacarry)
 Meet the Chief: Falconry Display: Quack Commandos: Highland
 Dancing: Tug of War: Kiddies Corner: Craft Stalls: Genealogist:
 Showcase of Lochaber Larder
 and lots more !
12.00 noon - Dedication of Cameron Clanspeople's Oak Grove
7.30 pm Clan Cameron Ceilidh
(Tickets - £5.00)

Sunday, 2nd August
11.00 am:
 Church Service (non-denominational) - St Ciaran's Church
 (B8005 - about 200 metres past the main gate to Achnacarry)
Afternoon
 Survivor's BBQ & Clan Cameron vs. Clan Fraser Shinty Match



The picture shows Donald Andrew and the Deputy Mayor of Bergues unveiling the plaque to the Gentle Lochiel. The standard draped over the plaque is a reproduction of the Standard carried by the Regiment d'Albanie and was specially commissioned for the occasion by Julian Hutchings of the Alliance France-Ecosse. The entire ceremony was most moving and recalled for us all the passionate causes pursued by the Jacobites in the 18th C. (See pages 8 and 9 for a report on this event).

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CLAN COUNCIL 2008-09

EDITORIAL

This is going to be an extremely important year and a very exciting one for the Clan and for the Clan Association. Officially called the "Year of the Homecoming", 2009 should see many of our clanspeople returning to Scotland or coming for the first time and I know that they are looking forward to the Clan events which have been planned. First of all, there will be a CCAS reception in the New Club, Edinburgh for visiting Camerons on Friday, 24th July at 6.30. This will be our first opportunity to welcome our overseas visitors.



The following days, Saturday and Sunday 25th & 26th July are devoted to Highland Games in the Holyrood Park and all of the Cameron Associations will share a marquee there over the two days. Please make an effort to come and visit us in the Clan Village. On the Saturday evening there will be a spectacular procession up the Royal Mile from Holyrood to the Castle Esplanade where there will be a pageant.

The following week-end, ie Thursday 30th July until Sunday 2nd August we will have our own Clan Gathering or Rally at Achnacarry. This is sure to be a great occasion so make the effort and bring your family along. Again we will have a Reception which will be held in the Nevis Centre, Fort William and we look forward to welcoming Camerons from near and far.

This year presents a great opportunity for us to increase the Association membership. I am enclosing a membership Form with each Newsletter and hope that each of us will make the effort this year to recruit at least one new member. The future of the Association depends on a strong membership base. Particularly we would like to welcome young people into the Association

As part of its deliberations, the Association has been looking at benchmarking itself against other clan associations. It would be extremely useful to us if you were to indicate what things we did well and what things we did less well or what things we should do but have not done so till now.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet with you all during this exciting year.

Alan

Hereditary Clan Chief Donald Angus Cameron of Lochiel,
Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire, Achnacarry Castle, Spean Bridge Inverness-shire

President

Alan Iain Cameron
5 Fechil Brae, Ellon
Aberdeenshire AB41 8NS
Tel: 01358-720130

VP East & Central Scotland

Dr Roderick Cameron
Kirkhowe of Ruthven,
By Blairgowrie PH12 8RQ
Tel: 01828 633 722

VP North England & IoM

Raymond McK Cameron
"Camranach Lochaber",
59 Ridgeway, Darlington
Co. Durham DL3 0SF
Tel: 01325 358 686

Joint Membership Secretary

Angus Cameron
139 Rannoch Drive, Bearsden
East Dumbartonshire
G61 2BQ
Tel: 0141 586 5797

Reg Cllr Lochaber & 1st Light Exchange Rep

Astie Cameron
The Old Kennels, Bunarkaig,
Achnacarry Spean Bridge
PH34 4EJ Tel: 01397 712 187

Joint VP Highland & NE

William A Cameron (Bill)
12 Lochy Road, Inverlochy
Fort William PH33 6NJ
Tel: 01397 704 548

Vice-President Overseas

Colin Cameron
1 Hill Street, Irvine KA12 0DE
Tel: 01294 279670

HonTreasurer

Mrs Shona Galbraith
12 Dunvegan Place
Ellon AB41 9TF
Tel: ex Directory

Joint VP NE & Highland VP Man & Org

Duncan A G Cameron
Hillockhead Fortrie, Turriff,
Aberdeenshire ABS3 4JA
Tel: 01466 730733

Joint VP S. England & Wales

Capt. John Cameron-Nixon
13 Inkerman Road,
London NW5 3BT
Tel: 020 7485 8813

Reg Cllr Glasgow & Joint Membership Secy

Christopher Doak
5 Shaftesbury Street,
Anderston, Glasgow G3 8UN
Tel: 014 1 248 4263

Association Fund Raiser

Mrs Rosemary Cameron
10 Redford Walk,
Edinburgh. ER13 0AG
Tel: 0131 441 2325

Association Sept Rep

James McK Taylor
17/3 Hyvot Court
Edinburgh EH17 8QZ
Tel: 0131 258 2566

Honorary Secretary

Mrs Elizabeth Cameron
5 Fechil Brae Ellon
Aberdeenshire AB41 8NS
Tel: 01358-720130

VP West Scotland & NI

Neil W Cameron
12 Dunglass View,
Strathblane,
Glasgow O63 9BQ
Tel: 01360 770292

Joint VP England South

Barry Chalmers-Stevens
17 Oak Drive, Broadway Park,
The Causeway, Petersfield,
Hants GU13 4LX
Tel: 01730 268679

Regional Councillor SW Eng.

Bill McCabe
4 Momington Close, Andover
Hants SP10 2AW
Tel: 01264 324 834

Assoc Sales/Marketing Co-ord/Reg Cllr Lothian

David R S Cameron
4 Dovecot Road, Corstorphine,
Edinburgh EH12 7LE
Tel: 0131 539 2745

Associates' Rep. Scotland

Forbes R S Marr
16 Craiglockart Road,
Edinburgh EH11 1HL
Tel: 0131443 1499

Official Posts not on Council

Auditor: Elizabeth Tawse **Clan Piper:** Astie Cameron
Association Historian: Raymond Cameron
Standard Bearers: Brian Cameron, Martin Cameron
& Bruce Telford.

most obligingly did my bidding. I then gave them a quick 'run-down' on the situation and, noting their address, thanked them warmly and promised to send them full details. This I did a week or so later and then sat back and waited and waited.

Some six months later I had ruefully concluded that my letter must have miscarried, and mourned the loss of the record of this historic occasion, now never to be repeated as David Lumsden had died suddenly in August. Then, on the 29th November, a small packet arrived, enclosing ten photographs - and I was over the moon! They came accompanied by a lovely Australian Christmas card and greetings, and the explanation that somehow the film had been difficult to extract from the camera - phew!

So it is to these two delightful people that we owe the preservation of this historic moment, and I hope that you will take as much pleasure from this as I do.

The President's Badge

Some time ago it was decided by the Council that we should commission a President's Badge. After a great deal of deliberation and consultation, it was decided to ask a young silversmith in Edinburgh - Caroline Temple - to do the work. This was in particular because of the special skills which she had in enamelling. The badge is almost ready and will be worn for the first time at the Culloden Memorial Service, this year. The badge which comprises the Association Shield will have red and yellow enamelled bars on a Britannia silver backing. The targe will be highly polished silver with a rivet effect punched on to the surface and the Lochaber axes will be hand-fretted. The overall size of the badge will be 2½ in by 2 in and will be suspended by a red and gold ribbon. A big thank you to all members who contributed to the cost of production of this very special project which will be worn with pride by CCAS Presidents.



cameron TOURS

OF SCOTLAND: PERSONALISED TRAVEL

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HOME COMING 2009

if you plan to visit scotland in 2009 please get in touch with us and let us travel through history together. see our website for more information.

CLAN ASSOCIATION RECEPTIONS

The Council of the Clan Cameron Association Scotland has agreed to hold two receptions for Camerons and, of course, Cameron sept members coming to Scotland this year. The first will be held in Edinburgh in the prestigious New Club on Princes Street. This will take place on Friday, 24th July immediately prior to the Homecoming celebrations in Edinburgh. This reception will take the form of a wine reception with crisps and nuts. The facility has a balcony looking on to Edinburgh Castle. You can view the facilities on the New Club website - www.newclub.co.uk

The second reception will be in the Nevis Centre in Fort William on Friday 31st July at 6.30 and will involve a glass of wine, and canapes and a welcome from Lochiel. Throughout the evening there will be music provided by young local musicians. There will be a "chill out" facility for young people who might find the reception unsuitable.

If you plan to be at either reception, please let me know. The numbers will be limited at Edinburgh to about 70 but we hope to accommodate everybody at the reception in Fort William.

Please contact me at clangathering09@yahoo.co.uk

FUNDING

Both receptions will be free to both members and guests. Financial support would be greatly welcome and if you wish to contribute, you should send your donation marked "**Reception**" to myself with cheques payable to "Clan Cameron Association Scotland".

I hope that you will consider a donation as we want to ensure that our fellow Camerons from around the world are given the best possible welcome.

David Croall Cameron

David and his wife, Maureen, have for a long number of years supported a young person in Malawi through the charity World Vision. This year, having collected £2200 through fundraising and gifts, they have decided to take these out themselves in May of this year. The money could be used to provide a well or a classroom or for health care within the community. We wish them every success and thank them for their long dedication to people less well off than themselves. I am hoping for an article and photographs for the Autumn edition. David and his wife run Cameron tours which is featured on page 3.

An Historic Encounter

contributed by Sonia Cameron Jacks

The date was the 19th April 2008, the place, Drummoisie Moor, and this was the first time the three gentlemen in the photograph had met. In the centre The Right Reverend Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray Ross and Caithness, is proud to represent



the Episcopalian Church on the battlefield, where a good proportion of the Jacobite army was of the same faith, and where, 262 years before, a member of his clan fought in Elcho and Balmerino's Lifeguards. Robert Strange was an artist, and went on to become one of the foremost engravers of the age. To the Bishop's right is David Lumsden of Cushnie, whose family also bears the name of Strange. Andrew Lumisden was Assistant Private Secretary to Prince Charles Edward and he later married Isabella, sister of Robert Strange. Finally, to the right of the picture, is Count Peter Pininski, whose book 'The Stuart's Last Secret', published in Britain in 2002, revealed that he is directly descended, by blood, from the Prince.

Peter had been staying with me in order to attend the Culloden ceremony, and later to give his Cameron cousins an absorbing account of how, on his Mother's side, and directly through the female line,

he is descended from John Cameron of Fassifern, the Gentle Lochiel's younger brother. We had met when he came to the National Trust Centre in 2002 for a 'book signing'.

It had been a beautiful morning. The Ceremony had gone well, and I was surrounded by Clanspeople and acquaintances who all seemed to have cameras, but a few moments later, when I saw my friends deep in conversation and realized the significance of the occasion, there was not a camera to be seen! Most people had departed for the clan markers for their individual remembrances and only holiday-makers remained nearby. I looked around frantically and saw, about twenty metres away, two people using their cameras with enthusiasm, and in desperation I raced over to them and virtually hi'jacked them, breathlessly exhorting them to come over and photograph my group. It transpired they were Graham and Vicki Harris from Toongabbie in New South Wales, on their first visit to Scotland, and they

Culloden 09

The annual Culloden Memorial service which is organised by the Gaelic Society of Inverness is always a most moving event. The Clan Cameron has been attending the service for many years now and I have always a mixture of emotions - sadness at the loss of life and futility of the battle; pride in the loyalty of our forebears: wonder at the solemnity of the occasion.

The service will take place at 11.00 on Saturday, 18th April and you are advised to be there and ready to proceed to the Cairn at 10.45 As has been the custom we will be led as a Clan by our piper - Astie Cameron. Following the laying of the wreaths, those who wish may march out behind Astie to the Cameron marker stone to place a simple floral tribute and then back to the Cameron grave to place a bunch of flowers at the Cameron gravestone.

After the formal part of the memorial service, the clan has, in the past few years, gone to a local restaurant for lunch and after-lunch entertainment. This year we are going back to the Cawdor Tavern, in Cawdor. The arrangements for the lunch and booking is being undertaken this year by Duncan Cameron. Duncan's contact details are:

**Duncan Cameron, Hillockhead,
Fortrie, Turriff, Aberdeenshire AB53 4JA
Telephone: 01466 730733
e-mail: duncan-cameron1@btconnect.com**

The lunch has been arranged for 1.00 pm and the cost for a main course, sweet and coffee will be £16.00. Cheques, accompanying your order, should be made payable to "Clan Cameron Association Scotland".

This year a group of musicians has been engaged to present a tribute to the Clan Cameron in song.



OAK TREES

In the past, clansmen coming to a Gathering at Achnacarry have brought gifts for the Clan Chief. Lochiel has very much appreciated those but feels that we should on this occasion contribute to a Clansman's Oak plantation at Achnacarry. A spot close to the gate has been identified and by now some oak trees have been planted. An oak tree with all the guards and maintenance costs £100.00. A facility has been set up on the website to purchase a tree or to contribute to the cost of a tree in £5.00 amounts. A book will be kept in the Museum with a reference to each Oak Tree and the name and dedication from the contributor.

If you wish to buy a tree or contribute but do not wish to use the online facility then send a cheque to myself: Alan Cameron, 5 Fechil Brae, Ellon, Aberdeenshire, AB41 8NS making the cheque payable to: "Clangathering09"

If you wish to dedicate the tree, please forward the dedication along with the payment. Alternatively you may wish to make your purchase online through the Ticketmaster facility where you can pay by credit card. Go to the Clan website - www.clancameron.org.uk and then click on the oak tree link.

TICKETS FOR SATURDAY 1st AUGUST

Tickets for the events at the Gathering may be purchased in advance through the internet or may be obtained at the Clan Cameron Association Scotland stall on the day of the events. To purchase tickets for the main events at Achnacarry as detailed on the advertising material, you can go to the Ticketmaster site www.ticketweb.co.uk or you can access this through the Clan website www.clancameron.org.uk or you can phone Ticketmaster at 08444 77 1000. The nominal costs of the tickets are as follows:

Composite Ticket (covers all events including Ceilidh) - £15.00
Achnacarry Entry only (ie not the Ceilidh) - £11.00
Ceilidh only - £5.00

Ticketmaster will add a small administration charge for processing and a charge for postage. As an option, you can pick up your ticket at the CCAS stall from Thursday 30th July until Saturday 1st August.

The number of tickets for the Ceilidh is limited by the capacity of the venue.

NORTH EAST ACTIVITIES

ST NICHOLAS KIRK

The North-East Region of the CCAS has had two interesting meetings recently. In October, there was a most interesting visit to St Nicholas Kirk in Aberdeen where the minister is Rev Stephen Taylor - a member of the Association. As well as the fascinating archaeological dig which is revealing layers of Christian use of the site, there is the beautiful Chapel created after the Piper Alpha disaster and for those with a head for heights - the bell tower. After this fascinating visit we had an excellent lunch in Poldino's Italian Restaurant.

BURNS SUPPER

In January, several North East members joined with the Ellon Burns Club to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the bard's birth. After a traditional meal, the members were entertained by high quality speeches and singing.

FOR YOUR DIARY	CLAN ACTIVITIES 2009	CONTACT
Culloden Memorial Service & Lunch	Sat 18th, April	Duncan
Inverness Highland Games	Sat, 18th July	Duncan
International Clan Gathering Edinburgh	25th-26th July	Alan
Clan Cameron Gathering Achnacarry	July 30th-Aug 2nd	Alan
Arisaig Highland Games	Wed.29th July	Barry
Lochaber Highland Games	Sat 25th July	Barry
Glenfinnan Highland Games	Sat, 15th August	Rosemary
Braemar Gathering	Sat, 5th Sept	Duncan
Council & AGM, Aberdeen Townhouse	Sat 24th Oct.	Alan
CONTACT DETAILS		
Duncan Cameron	01466 730 733 duncan-cameron1@btconnect.com	
Alan Cameron	01358-720130 alan.ccas@btinternet.com	
Barry Chalmers-Stevens	01730 268 679 honeylea@tiscali.co.uk	
Rosemary Cameron	0131 441 2325	

CAMERONS IN THE NEWS

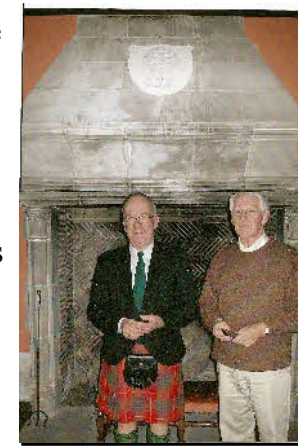
Rev Stephen Taylor is a lifelong enthusiast for Scotland and things Scottish although he was born and brought up in Texas. He joined the Stone Mountain Branch of the Clan Association in the late 70s. He moved



from London to Aberdeen 3 years ago as Minister of the Kirk of St Nicholas (The Mither Kirk). He is very active in both Church and civic life within Aberdeen. He is city minister and was made a Burgess of the Guild of the City on 12th November 2008. He is also a learner of Gaelic and a strong supporter of the language in his adopted city.

Rt Rev Douglas Cameron

Recently Douglas and Pat visited Delaware - a diocese which has a link with Argyll and the Isles. There they met a Cameron family at a dinner party and subsequently visited them in their "castle". This 1929 castle was built by the inventor of the screw-top who lost all his money in the 1930 financial crisis. The present owner, Donald Cameron, bought the castle a few years ago and has beautifully restored it with the help of his wife Mary-Ann. The picture shows Douglas with Donald Chisholm Cameron in front of the fireplace with the Cameron crest which Donald made himself.



Elizabeth Cameron

It is with sadness we note the passing away of Elizabeth Cameron on December 10th, 2008 at the age of 93. She was a very talented artist particularly of wild flowers, vegetables and fruits. One of her pictures *Humanity Rose*, she donated to the Red

Cross on its 125th anniversary and this potent symbol has become a central part of several Red Cross Appeals. Along with her husband, Major Allan Cameron, they farmed Allangrange in the Black Isle. They started a frozen food business and sourced their supplies locally. She is survived by her husband, who is a brother of the late Donald Hamish Cameron of Lochiel and their two sons and daughters. We extend our sympathies to them.

The Gathering 09

Plans are well advanced for the Homecoming Gathering which will take place at Achnacarry from Thursday, 30th July 09 until Sunday, 2nd August 09.

Thursday 30th is “The Walks Day” and it is intended to provide walks in the castle grounds and the estate to suit all ages and abilities. There is no pre-booking, just turn up at the CCAS tent (which will be on the field) at 11.00 and join in with the appropriate group.

In the evening it is suggested that clanspeople meet at “The Moorings” Banavie for an informal get-together. Food could be provided but pre-booking is advisable.

Friday, 31st is the “The Talks Day” and all the talks will be held in the marquee. Each talk will start on the hour and last for about ½hour leaving time between the talks for a cup of tea/coffee and a lunch break between 1.00 and 2.00. The talks will focus on the Camerons and Highland life. They are:

TIME	TITLE OF TALK	SPEAKER
11.00	Famous Camerons	Ronald Cameron
12.00	The Gaelic Landscape	Alan Cameron
14.00	The Lochiel Family	Donald Andrew
15.00	Genealogy	Graeme McKenzie
16.00	Life on a Highland Estate	Finlay Clark (Bidwells)

On Friday evening 31st the Clan Cameron Association Scotland is hosting a **Welcome Reception at the Nevis Centre at 6.30**. This is free to all who wish to attend but it would help for catering and name badges if you would e-mail your intention to be there to : clangathering09@yahoo.co.uk
or phone Elizabeth at 01358-720130
or write: Elizabeth Cameron, 5 Fechil Brae, Ellon, Aberdeenshire AB41 8NS

Saturday 1st August is the main day. For details see page 7.

Sun. 2nd August, there is a **Church Service at St Kieran’s Chapel** at 11.00

This will be followed by a **Barbeque** and **Shinty Match** between the Camerons and the Frasers.

The Gathering - Saturday 1st August

Saturday is the main day of activity at the Gathering. Lochiel requested that instead of gifts, clanspeople might wish to contribute to **an Oak Woodland** at Achnacarry. The woodland will be dedicated on Saturday 1st August at 12.00. (If you wish to contribute to the woodland, see separate article on page 5)

The occasion will also be used to launch the **Cameron Heritage Trail Project** which highlights important sites in the history of the Clan Cameron.

The entertainment will contain the **quack commandos** where a sheepdog will put ducks through their paces. A **falconry display** in which different birds of prey are on show and demonstrate their skills. There will be a chain-saw sculptor, a demonstration of weapons such as swords and the famous Lochaber axe. There is a demonstration of the early kilt. There will also be Treasure hunts for adults and young people. The highlight will be the **March Past of the Clan** bearing their standards accompanied by the pipe bands. There will be an opportunity to “meet the chief” and have your photograph taken with him.



There will be stalls reflecting the best of **Highland craft work**. It is anticipated that there will be a chainsaw sculptor, and a wood turner. There will also be stalls representing the genealogy strand of Homecoming such as a genealogist, Am Baile the Highland Region photographic Database, and Lochaber Archives and the best of Lochaber foods.

In the evening there will be a **Grand Ceilidh** featuring the best of local talent particularly some of the young people who are participating in the Feisean trail. There is a real buzz about Celtic music in Lochaber. The ceilidh will probably be in the Nevis Centre starting at 7.30.

BERGUES - OCTOBER 24th-26th 08

Report by Alan Cameron

In late October, Elizabeth and I were joined by Roddy, Barry and Janet and Michael Dey - a CCAS member who lives in France at a wonderful event in the town of Bergues in Northern France. This is the town where the Gentle Lochiel died in 1748 as a result of contracting malaria which developed into meningitis. Lochiel, who had been Prince Charles Edward's staunchest ally and most ardent supporter had fled Scotland along with Prince after the debacle that was Culloden. There Lochiel had taken the role of Colonel in Chief of the Regiment d'Albanie and was at the time of his death stationed in Bergues. He died in the hospital there and being a non-Catholic was buried outside the town walls. Incidentally the building which had been the hospital was latterly the Offices of the Electricity Company and was most recently the Post Office in a very popular film, the English sub-title of which is "Welcome to the Sticks". This building has a plaque to the Gentle Lochiel which was put up 10 years ago and as the building is now a mecca for film buffs, Lochiel's plaque is much visited and remarked upon.

Some years after he was buried outside the town walls, the body was exhumed and re-buried within the cemetery. There was however, no marker to indicate where he was. Julian Hutchings from Alliance France Ecosse (and also a CCAS



Honorary Member) has been most conscientious in researching the background to Lochiel in Bergues. The result is that he, along with members of the 1745 Association - particularly John Graham arranged to have a fitting memorial placed in the cemetery and it was to the unveiling of this that we made our way across (or strictly under) the Channel in October. To add to the occasion, we were delighted to welcome Donald Andrew Cameron, Younger of Lochiel to represent his father at this historic occasion. Also present were members of the Clan Graham Association and the Royal Stewart Society.

What pleased the group greatly was the way in which the town of Bergues joined with us to make this a real occasion. The local

mayor and depute Mayor and members of the Council turned out along with the town Band. Julian had also enlisted a piper from the neighbouring town of Albert, in full Highland dress who played "The March of the Cameron Men".

The festivities started with a Carillon from the Town Bell Tower and to our surprise and pleasure, they were playing "The March of the Cameron Men". Some of our party ventured to the top of the tower - a mere 192 steps.



After lunch, we assembled in the cemetery and bearing the Lochiel standard we proceeded to the site of the plaque. After an excellent speech in English AND French by Donald Andrew, the plaque was unveiled it having been covered by a replica of Lochiel's Regiment d'Albanie standard which had been commissioned especially by Julian. (This was later presented to Donald Andrew and is now in the Achnacarry Museum.) Wreaths were laid on behalf of all of the groups and we then marched through the town - stopping to lay a wreath at the town War Memorial. There followed a reception in the Town Hall.

In the evening we dined in The Breughel Restaurant - a traditional regional restaurant where the more adventurous of us tasted the speciality dish. At the restaurant we shared the meal with the town officials and various presentations were made. Donald Andrew received the standard. He and I received books of the town and I presented a print of the Cameron Clan Lands. On the following day, the Sunday, the 1745 Association laid a wreath at the plaque- this being the exact anniversary of the Gentle Lochiel's death 260 years before.

