

Royal Caledonian Society of S. A. Inc.

379 King William Street ADELAIDE S A 5000

Secretary Ph 51 5268 (Tues. to Friday) 10 am to Noon

A.H.

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NEWSLETTER

FREE TO MEMBERS

Registered for posting as a Periodical Category "B"

AUGUST 1977.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Will be held in the Caledonian Hall on

FRIDAY 19th August 1977 at 8pm.

(Please note alteration of date from 26th)

ANNUAL REPORTS.

BALANCE SHEETS.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

ENTERTAINMENT.

SUPPER (Bring a plate)

THE COUNCIL.

The Members of the Council have met eleven times during the year, (Being in recess in December) and attendances were:-

The Chief, Charles Gardiner 11 - Chieftain Fleetwood 11 -
Chieftain Layton (Leave of absence) 5 - Directors D. J. Bramley
11 - C. V. Mitchell 11 - A. MacDonald 9 - J. R. Teusner 8 -
K. A. McEwin 6 - G. F. Chatfield 3 - W. McBey 10 - J. C.
Moffatt 9.

Past Chief Sir Lyell McEwin 5 - Treasurer R. K. Murdock 3.

Secretary A. C. Bonney 11.

ELECTIONS.

The Chief Charles Gardiner, being the only nomination for that office will duly be appointed as Chief of the Royal Caledonian Society at the AGM for 1977/78 for the seventh consecutive year, equalling the record of Past Chief, Sir Lyell McEwin 1959-66. Our Treasurer, Keith Murdoch, after 20 years of valuable service in that capacity has not re-nominated for office. Mr. Ian R. Fleetwood being the only nomination for this office will be duly elected at the AGM.

Miss A. MacDonald who has retired through effluxion of time has also not re-nominated.

Chieftain J.R. Fleetwood, and Directors W. McBey, J.R. Teusner, and J.C. Moffatt, also retiring through effluxion of time has submitted nominations, as have Messrs G. Small, R. Saint and R. H. Dennis.

There being seven nominations for the five vacancies on the Council, an election by ballot will be necessary at the AGM. At the Council meeting held on 15th July, positions on the Ballot Papers were drawn, resulting in the following order.

1. FLEETWOOD J.R.
2. SMALL G.
3. TEUSNER J.R.
4. DENNIS R.H.
5. McBEY W.M.
6. MOFFATT J.C.
7. SAINT R.

Directors K.A. McEwin was appointed as Returning Officer, with Directors MacDonald and Bramley as Scrutineers. Entitled to vote are, Life Members, Honorary Life Members and all Corporate Members financial as at 30 June, also any Corporate Members approved for new Membership at the Council meetings on 15th July and 12th August.

Voting will be conducted between 7pm and 8pm. Any member, entitled to vote, and not able to attend the AGM, may exercise that right by applying for a Postal Vote, (Forms obtainable from the Secretary), these votes must be in the hands of the Returning Officer by 8 pm on the night of the AGM, 19th August 77.

Secretary will accept voting papers to pass on to the Officer.

MEMBERSHIP.

Membership of the Society now stands at 225, an improvement on last year, in fact for a few years now, but still not particularly high for a Royal Scottish Society, and it is hoped that a concerted effort by our Members this year, will show a decided increase, particularly with the Centenary looming in the near future.

43 New Members have been admitted for the year, but unfortunately we had 15 resignations, and 2 deaths, also the Council reluctantly deleted from the records the names of 17 other Members under Rule 9, those from whom nothing had been heard for over 2 years, it is hoped, however, that some of these may be enticed to re-consider.

Three or four Members of the Council have done a splendid job in getting new Members this year, and we trust everyone will make a special effort from now on.

ANNUAL DINNER,

This will be held at the Sturt Club on Saturday December 3rd, with 180 tickets available, bookings will be accepted at any time, these will be tentative until a firm booking with the required fees is made later in the year. The cost is not available yet as the menu, which will be up-graded to incorporate a variety in the main course, is still in preparation, however full details will be in the November Newsletter.

If any Member has any suggestions in improving the Menu with traditional Scottish foods, or is prepared to help in this respect in preparing something, contact with the Chief would be appreciated.

CABARET.

The first of the Cabarets for this financial year will be held in the Hall on Friday 29th July, with music by "The Clansmen", and entertainment by the Caledonian Band and Dancers, bring your own supper, and a liquor bar will be available. Admission will be \$2.00 each person except that financial Members may bring a partner or friend free of charge, this is a gesture to Members by the Council, as part of their policy.

THE BAIRNS.

57 Bairns have joined this year so far, and attendance is very good, and plans for the future are now being prepared. Halloween Bairns night will be held on Friday 28th October at 7.30pm. and all Members, Friends, and Children are cordially invited to this end of the year function. Traditional dancing will be performed until 9pm, with supper and party games to follow. Children attending, not being Members of the Bairns group, are invited to join in the supper and games. Parents are requested to notify the Secretary or Chieftain Fleetwood of their intention to attend. Cool drinks and sweets will be supplied, but parents are requested to supply party Cakes and other eats.

Saturday 8th October, commencing at 9am, the Annual Dancing competitions will be held, full details will be ready shortly.

Senior Dancers will be competing for the John Ogg Trophy, and Dancers 12 to 14 years for the Harry Garth Trophy.

This is a big day for the dancing fraternity, to which all Members are welcomed, the Committee would appreciate assistance in the Kitchen and the hall during the day.

The Internal Dancing Competition for the Bairns who have attended regularly on Friday evenings, will be held on Saturday 5th November commencing at 1.30pm. this also is an important day particularly for the younger Members.

We tender, once again, our appreciation to Miss L Marshall for her efforts during the year and for the work put in with the Bairns at the Folkloric Concert, held at the Festival Theatre during June. It was unfortunate that the lighting techniques let the Group down, as the Kilt is shown to advantage under bright Lights.

J.R. Fleetwood - Chieftain.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE.

We would like to express our appreciation of all who have helped during the year with our social functions, your assistance has been very valuable, sterling service has been rendered by the Pipe Band and the Dancers, at all Functions particularly the Ball.

SCOTLAND VISITED (By Chieftain Ron Layton)

This quarter I shall not be writing "From Our Past", as Suzanne, Lachlan, Katryn, and I have just returned from a trip around the world, where one of our major stops was Scotland, it is of this I am writing, and will continue in subsequent editions.

Our crossing of the North Sea in the Norwegian ship "Eoloro" was unforgettable, a glassy sea, magnificent cuisine, and that attention for which the Scandinavians are so famous. There was not a cloud in the sky as the ship glided into Newcastle Harbour, and almost without exception this weather was to follow us for the three weeks we were in Scotland.

Rothbury in the Northumberland National Park, was the scene of our first night on British soil, and to celebrate we stopped in a great pub and had an excellent meal - roast beef included, would you believe. Next morning we crossed into Scotland at Carter Bar, 1370 ft up in the Cheviot Hills. Here I thought of my Mother, who several years before was tempted to take off her shoes and kiss the soil - it was much too cold for that this day. As the name suggests, this high point forms a natural barrier between the two countries, and has also been the scene of many border battles, the last of which was Redswire in 1575.

From here the road took us down into those gentle valleys which make the Borders so inviting. We saw our first British Castle at Ferniehirst, now a Youth Hostel, this was once a seat of the Kerr family, and like so much in this area, was the subject of continual border skirmishes.

And so on to Jedburgh where the grandeur and history of the country was to continually impress and capture us, and really noted for the first time. Coming into the town the ruins of the once magnificent Abbey struck us, and for then an hour or so, guide book in hand, we wandered through the well kept grounds trying to conjure up impressions of the 14th century living in its precincts. Europe had whetted Lachlan's appetite for antiquities, and by the time we had reached Scotland he was craving for information and explanations this interest never ceased to amaze us, and he kept it up, and in fact determined much of what we visited;

Having bought our seasons tickets to National Ancient Monuments we continued down the pleasantly wooded valleys, past numerous stately homes, and into Melrose, where we again paused to explore the town and Abbey. The children were "bribed" with buns, and then we set off into the heart of the Borders, along the River Tweed, and through the weaving towns of Galashiels, and Peebles. By this time we had decided that our flexible itinerary would have to accommodate and extended stay in these lush green fields, and with the people who were obviously so absorbed in the beauty about them. And so we spent 9 days here. 5 of which we were at Moffat, on our way back to England. :(Here, through lack of time and space, we must leave this interesting report on the tour of Scotland by the Layton family, it will be continued in the next Newsletter, which will be increased in size, to accommodate what must be of great interest to those of Scottish descent.) (The Secretary).

THE BAND.

The Band has had a very busy year, representing the Society on many occasions. We were fortunate to gain second place at the Adelaide Highland Games in March, participated at the Cornish Festival at Moonta in May, with the request that we return in two years time, and a couple of weeks ago we played at the Festival Theatre with our Bairns Group. With a busy social scene coming up, we are learning a number of new tunes, and, in general improving our standard. If you know of anyone interested in learning to play the Pipes or Drums, the Band practices every Thursday night in the Caledonian Hall, and the Secretary would be pleased to hear from them, he can be reached through the Society.

G. F. Chatfield. Director & Band Secretary.

NEXT CABARET WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 30th SEPTEMBER.

BAIRNS GROUP.

It appears that some Parents and Teachers of Highland Dancing, are uncertain or unaware of the aims of the Bairns Committee, in regard to the Friday night Dancing Classes. To Clarify the position Chieftain Fleetwood has submitted, on behalf of the Committee, the following statement:-

The Bairns Group is established for the purpose of meeting the objects of the Royal Caledonian Society, with respect to music, dancing, folklore, and tradition. The Bairns Group, hence, shall be primarily a social function.

We tend to forget that many Bairns begin Highland Dancing with this Group before seeking further individual tuition - where as a matter of choice - steps, other than Birns class steps are learned.

Because we are a Social Group and a part of the Society, we are given the opportunity for our Dancers to present to the public traditional Highland Dancing, usually in conjunction with our Band.

It is, therefore, on these occasions that it is essential that all of our Dancers do the same steps at the same time, otherwise any public performance does not look polished, or worthy of our Society.

We must remember that basic steps are the ones used by the Bairns Group, and that the Group does not comment on, or alter other steps learned, neither is it in competition with any other Group or individual.

PICNIC.

In an endeavour to improve the Annual Picnic, the Committee responsible for it's organisation seeks the views of Members. Should we have a Picnic?, is it worth while? at what time of the year should it be held?, where should it be held?, your suggestions will be very welcome, put them in writing and submit to the Secretary or Chieftain Fleetwood.

Those Members who attended the Folkloric Festival this year were impressed with the younger generation taking part from other Ethnic Groups, and it is felt that we are not concentrating enough on our Younger section. Give it some thought.

ROYAL CALEDONIAN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

OUR NEW MEMBERS.

We are pleased to welcome to the Society the following Members for 1976/77, and trust they will join in the various activities, and benefit by doing so.

Mrs. G. C. Bagust,	Mr. J. A. Henderson Sen.	Mrs. J. L. McKenzie.
Mrs. S. I. Eonney.	Mr. J. A. Henderson Jnr.	Mr. H. B. McPhie.
Mrs. J. E. Penda.	Mr. R. Hissey.	Miss M. McKenzie.
Dr. F. M. Cox.	Mr. R. L. Jones.	Mr. M. McDonald.
Mr. R. G. Currie.	Mr. R. W. Kiely.	Miss J. J. Noble.
Mr. T. Currie.	Mrs. J. King.	Mr. P. O'Hara.
Mr. R. H. Dennis.	Miss R. M. Law.	Mr. D. R. Phillips.
Mr. J. A. Dunning.	Miss L. E. Leaver.	Mrs. D. N. Richards.
Mr. J. Dick.	Mrs. J. Mason.	Mr. A. L. R. Rae.
Mr. A. J. Forbes.	Mr. D. L. May.	Mr. F. H. Stretton.
Mrs. P. J. Garth.	Mr. I. R. Mortimer.	Mr. G. Tuit.
Mr. K. S. Garrick.	Mrs. D. W. Manning.	Mr. B. Talbot.
Mr. E. J. Hill.	Mr. R. S. McGregor.	Mr. J. Wilkinson.
Mr. R. J. Hinks.	Miss J. M. McLean.	Mrs. M. Wilkinson.
		Mrs. H. Way.

A welcome also to the Husbands and Wives of these Members who are welcome at all times to the various functions.

Periodically during the year, the Council holds an informal evening to enable these Members to meet it's Members on a personal basis, to those who have not been able to attend, a cordial invitation is extended to attend the next one on MONDAY 19th SEPTEMBER in the Caledonian Hall at 8 p.m. Those intending to come along please advise the Secretary at least three days before.

MEMBERSHIP FEES.

Fees for 1977/78 are now due, and it would be appreciated if these could be paid, without sending out notices, due to the high cost of postage.

CORPORATE MEMBERS \$5.00.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. \$3.00.

Office Hours - Tues, Wed, & Friday 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.