

# Royal Caledonian Society of S. A. Inc.

379 King William Street ADELAIDE S A 5000



Secretary Ph 51 5268 Tues., Wed. & Fri.  
10 am to 12.30 pm

CHIEF - Charles Gardiner Ph 43 4230  
Ah. 352 2595

PIPE BAND - G F Chatfield Ph 223 4500  
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NEWSLETTER

FREE TO MEMBERS

Registered for posting as a Periodical Category "B"

SECRETARY After Hours 3569293 May 1978

## CHIEF'S MESSAGE.

Our Past Secretary, Mr Albert Bonney, has had to relinquish that position due to the continued ill-health of his wife. We are sorry to lose Alby and hope that Mrs. Bonney recovers her health and strength very quickly. We thank Alby for a job well done.

I would like to welcome Mrs Dawn Hatty who has been appointed Secretary of the Society since our last Quarterly meeting. Dawn has had a very long association with the Society, and her husband Malcolm, who is an Honorary Life Member, has been Drum Major of our Pipe Band for over 25 years. We all wish her well in this position and have already had the opportunity of appreciating her efficiency.

We look forward to having a very large meeting of all Members of the Society at the Quarterly Meeting on 26th May. There are several items of importance to you all, particularly regarding the proposed alterations to the Hall, which will be discussed.

A plan of the proposed alterations will be on view and I will briefly outline the main works considered necessary to provide you with a really up to date Hall and licensed Club Rooms.

(2).

Of course, these works which will amount to approximately \$100,000 have to be financed. A full Council Meeting will discuss this aspect on Wednesday 17th May to bring their recommendations to you at the Quarterly Meeting. However, in the meantime, here are a few points we feel you should consider:

- (a) Commencing a Building Fund, to which as many Members, Business Organisations and interested people as possible will be asked to subscribe.
- (b) Raising a Debenture issue, in units of \$100 at a stated rate of interest and redeemable at a specific period (or Before) Members would be invited to subscribe and the security of course, would be a blanket cover over the assets.
- (c) The difference between money raised in the above manner and that required to complete the balance of commitment could be raised by Bank or other finance, which will be decided by the Finance Committee.

We would appreciate hearing from Members their reaction to the above proposals, if possible before the Quarterly Meeting, and this can be done by contacting our Secretary, Mrs. Dawn Hatty, or me at any time.

The Cronies Club of Australia Inc., convened a meeting of all Scottish Associations at Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Hall on April 23rd last. The object of this meeting, chaired by the Laird of the Cronies (Scott Mathieson) was to pave the way for a Council of all Scottish bodies, representing all aspects of our culture, to be formed and present a united front. Each Society or body would be represented equally on such a Council, and of course would retain their own separate entities. However, such a Council would discuss common problems, try and eliminate as far as possible the clashing of dates for important functions, leave a way open for better communication between the member bodies and provide better information for visitors to the State about Scottish activities. On your behalf I have offered the use of our Hall for the next meeting which will ratify these proposals.

(3).

The above meeting was well attended - seventeen bodies out of twentyone invited were represented - add the enthusiasm exhibited could mean that all concered would benefit.

The River Murray Caledonian Society are holding their Annual General Meeting at Barmera on Adelaide Cup weekend and most of the Societies will be going including several of our members. On past experience this will be a memorable weekend for those attending.

At our Quarterly Meeting, we have a night of entertainment which we are sure you will enjoy. We look forward to meeting you all on Friday 26th.

LANG MAY YOUR LUM REEK.

Charles Gardiner.

### ELECTIONS.

In conformity with Rule 17 of the Constitution, the Chief, five Directors, and the Reasurer, will retire ffrom office at the Annual General Meeting on Friday 25th August, but are elegible for re-election.

Applications are therefore called to fill these seven positions.

Should there be more than the required number nominated, a ballot will be held at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for office bearers must be lodged in writing on the prescribed form, obtainable from the Secretary, and be in her hands no later than 30th June, such nominations shall be signed by a Proposer and Seconder, both of whom shall be Corporate Members and Financial, and also signed by the Nominee, signifying his or her willingness to act.

Those retiring by effluxion of time are:-

The Chief. Charles Gardiner.

Treasurer. I. Fleetwood.

Directors. R. Layton. C. Mitchell, D. Bramley.  
K.A. McEwin, G. Chatfield.

### FROM OUR PAST.

The Register, the forerunner of the current Advartiser,

sported a three column article covering the "NATIONAL GAMES OF SCOTLAND", held on Easter Monday, April, 1882. This function was organised by the Caledonian Society of S.A. and over 13,000 people attended the function at the Adelaide Oval, the largest held since the colony was established 46 years before.

As with today the Games had a significant sporting emphasis with piping and dancing lower on the list. There were no bands in existence at that time and hence judging was based on solo performances. First and Third prizes were taken out by Victorian Scots who had travelled overland to attend. The third prize winner was a Mr. A. Finlayson was aged 78 years.

In the journalistic style of that era the Games were given a magnificent write-up. It reports that the March to the Oval was conducted in clansmen style with a huge procession of kilted folk from the Caledonian Hall to the Oval preceded by the South Australian Military band. - "Scotias' sons clad in their native tartan and kilts, were to be seen walking with the pride of race that is only equalled if it is equalled at all, by the sons of Wales". The author who could not have been a Scot however, for he mentioned that the Tartan clad folk had shown impatience and even daring to hold conversation during dancing and piping performances.

A Ball was held that evening which was also reported as one of the best this colony had held.

### MULL OF KINTYRE,

You will have probably noticed that Paul McCartney's "Mull of Kintyre", had slipped after 14 weeks at the top of the Hit Charts. This record which features "Wings" and the Cambelltown Pipe Band, has come only a few years after another piping and drumming hit tune "Amazing Grace" which did even better. Both are haunting tunes and reditons which have done much to put Scotland and Things Scottish "on the map" in recent years.

The Mull of Kintyre, is the nearest point on the Scottish Mainland to Ireland. The Mull is a wild headland, features a lighthouse remodelled by Robert Stevenson, magnificent views over the Atlantic, and incredibly rugged and beautiful mountain scenery. Kintyre is a long narrow peninsula, which together with the Island

of Arran, protects the Firth of Clyde, from the fury of the Atlantic Ocean.

### BITS AND PIECES.

#### International Gathering of the Clans 1979.

Nova Scotia, a Canadian province, with a population smaller than South Australia, announced in the October 1977 edition of the Scottish Field that they will be hosting an international Gathering of the Clans in 1979. Members will be even more interested to note that the Canadian Government has provided a preliminary grant of \$100,000 to carry this out. Nova Scotia has good claim to this gathering as at one stage the province was a Scottish colony, and the majority of people living there now are descendants of Scots.

### SCOTTISH ANTIQUES.

Readers of the November edition of Scottish Field will have noticed an article dealing with the recently revived craft of Targe (Scottish Shield). Raymond Morn's of Fife, a master craftsman is responding to an ever increasing market for ancient Scottish weaponry including dirks, claymores, and shields. He has recently written to Sue Layton, who is currently producing individually designed sporrans and Targes, as part of a three year study programme in Art and Craft at Mount Barker. Sue has a wealth of information in this area if any member is interested.

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Following a very successful evening during which papers were delivered on communities of Cornish People in South Australia, the above Society has set aside Friday August 4th, for a similar evening on Scots. Members of our Society, Professor Eric Richards and Chieftain Ron Layton have been asked to present papers. They would love to see other members of the Society present - details will be provided later.

19th ADELAIDE HIGHLAND GAMES. March 11th 1978.

Although there were fewer bands competing this year and red dust and thunderstorms interrupted proceedings, the day proved highly successful. True highland flavour was given by the backdrop of the Adelaide Hills, large trees on the grounds, and the Society and the Society and Clan tents pitched around the oval perimeter.

BAND RESULTS. Included.

Grade 2. Quickstep, selection and, Medley.

1. Adelaide University Regiment Pipes and Drums.
2. 3rd. Bata. Royal South Australian Regiment.
3. Mount Laura, Whyalla Band.

Grade 3. Quickstep and Selection.

1. Heather Girls Highland.
2. Millicent Caledonian Society.
3. Royal Caledonian Society.

Grade 3. Medley.

1. Royal Caledonian Society of S.A.
2. Millicent Caledonian Society.
3. Adelaide Highland Pipe Band.

Commonwealth Day Celebrations. 13th March 1978.

Representing the Society at Fernilee Lodge, Burnside were:-  
Chief Charles Gardiner and Mrs. Gardiner, Past Chief Sir Lyell McEwin and Lady MCEwin, Chieftain Ron Layton and Mrs. Layton, Chieftain John Fleetwood and Mrs. Fleetwood.

THE BAIRNS.

We have now been going since Friday 31st. March and we had 44 bairns on the floor this is a good start for the season, but I would like to see over 70 enrolled this year so please get your relatives and friends to come along for these bairns social evenings.

It is with regret that I have to report Miss L Marshall has

tendered her resignation to the Council as dancing instructress. The Council has accepted her resignation and we now have Mrs. Margaret McCoy the late (Past Chief Clarrie Martins daughter) as instructress with the help of Mrs. Bev. Hawthorne, I look forward to a good liason from parents of Bairns and Band Members to our new instructress.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Marshall for all her good efforts and time she has spent with this Society over a good number of years and I wish her good health in retirement.

The Bairns attended numerous functions during our seasons break attending the Folklore Group at Rymill Park on February 25th, Henley Beach Rotafest on February 26th, Good Neighbour "Family Picnic" Bonython Park March 12 and the 1st. Episode of "Specco" on Channel 7 this year. This is a family involvement and good experience for the bairns so other parents get involved.

Thank you.

Chieftain John Fleetwood.

#### SCOTLAND VISITED Cont.

Like most of our travelling we were never sure just where we were going to spend the night and this night was no exception. The back road to Pitlochry looked attractive on the map and so through Dumblane, Crieff, (with a detour to Loch Earn), the beautiful Sma' Glen, and finally along a General Wade road, we arrived at Aberfeldy tired at 5.30pm. Nesside Hotel served us very well that night. It afforded an excellent meal and beautiful grounds leading down to a shaded rocky burn which was flanked by trees of that subtle green that only Britain can provide.

Next morning we wandered up the glen trying to recapture some of the beauty that once had caught Burns. That day also saw only 150 kilometres covered, in reasonable hot weather. The first stop occurred only a few kilometres down the road at Pitlochry, unfortunately there were far too many tourists for us and so the River Fummel, Loch Faskally, and the power station proved far more attractive. Lachlan was particularly fascinated with the salmon ladder now built into all dams to allow the fish to swim upstream

to their natural spawning grounds, if only we had a fishing rod".

From this town we felt we were really in the Highlands. With the rugged and uninhabited Cairngorm and Grampian mountains, between us and Inverness, the road we chose wound around through Braemar, Balmoral and onto Tomintoul. Braemar left us flat (too many tourists) but not so Royal Deeside and Balmoral. The Queen had only left a few days previous and that was enough to convince Lachlan that we needed to spend a few hours, here and at the neighbouring Crathie Village.

I have forgotten to tell you about Lachlan's new found toy - by now he had licence to push Katrya around for as many miles as he could walk, in his newly aquired MacLaren Baby Buggy. In this way we covered much of the estate walked by Royalty but in a much more sedate fashion.

Having absorbed the atmosphere with only the flora and fauna about us, we could really understand why this was the Queen's main retreat, be it Queen Victoria or Elizabeth.

Armed with map in hand we wandered in the deep fir forest, along the Deeside and up to vantage points overlooking the quiet and dull grey castle. At Crathie it was my turn to sit in the Car with Katrya, who always became a little stroppy at that hour of the day, whilst Sue and Lachlan visited the lovely little church. At the best of times our son absorbs all, and today was no exception. He managed to get the Church-warden to give him a personally escorted tour, he remembered enough not to miss a point, as shown when 10 minutes later he convinced me to see the place with him as the valued guide. With a little prompting from the warden he was able to tell all that was important about the little place of worship so dear in the hearts of the Royal family.

The Road north from Balmoral took us over a further desolate area frequented mainly by the huge red deer (of which we saw plenty), and those funny Scottish blackfaced sheep. This was also another of the network of military roads, built in the later half of the 18th century to bring the Highlands into law and order. Inclines reached 1 in 5 and with the car already heavily laden,



we were glad to reach our night's accommodation - Argyll Lodge, Tomintoul.

The following day rewarded us again with warm sunshine as we headed north towards Nairn. With the exception of a few steep hills which required bottom gear, the lonely road took us over gentle undulations until we eventually reached Drum Mossie Moor, where keeping to the back roads, our first port of call was Cawdor Castle. Linked with Shakespeares' MacBeth, this place is the seat of the Campbells of Cawdor. Although expensive to visit this later was given our ward for the best castle visited in Britain. It was tastefully decorated, obviously lived in, and without many of the tourist gimmicks which ruin so many other places. The well kept gardens were also well worth an extended visit, before heading down the Moray Firth towards Culloden and Inverness.

To me Culloden, scene of Bonnie Prince Charlies defeat at the hands of the English was a place of pilgrimage. Nearly three hours was spent wandering about the battlefield and the Clan Graves. Here thousands of Jacobite troops were buried after the 1745 day long bloody massacre. Today the scene is peaceful and it is difficult to imagine such events took place at such a delightful spot. In many ways it reminded me of some of the mixed pine plantation - farming areas on the Millieent to Mount Gambier road. Culloden today, is marked by a large cairn, commemorating the battle, a museum in the style of an old croft, and a more modern National Trust memorial building. Dotted about the fields and pine forest are the old mass grave burial mounds, with the original marker stones still visible. Elsewhere the graves are being marked by more modern head-stones. Walking through the sponge carpeted forest I could not but feel a sense of the super-natural. All was very quiet except for the whispering pine trees, the forest itself was quite dark with the white path in distinct contrast.

Our walk took us in a rough triangle, stopping at each head-stone, but I was continually pondering the seeming futility of the battle fought over 230 years ago. Prince Charlie, himself really

a foreigner in the land where he oped to gain the Stuart throne again, never really stood a chance. he took his faithful Highlanders into virtual suicide, and up to 1,200 were estimated to have died in only a few hours. There were so few clansmen left, and the action of the Hanoverians so strong that the dead could only be buried in mass graves. These graves are marked by such names as Cameron, MacKintosh, Forbes, MacKenzie, MacLachlan, MacDonald and Grant. Distinctly separate were those of the Campbells, Highlanders who joined the Hanoverian cause, but yet not buried with the English.

Bonnie Prince Charlie never gained the throne of England, and died in exile in Italy. He has been forgiven for what he did to the simple but proud Highlanders, and is instead revered as a national hero, and one who did much to bring the previously waring clans together. Much romance has been built up around him, and there is still much talk that,

"...we can still rise now  
And be a nation again. "

Well so much for Culloden. We rolled down off the moor and into Inverness, bathed in brilliant sunshine for our visit. As it was getting late, and all were tired we only had time for a quick walk along the River Ness, before heading down the northside of the river to Invermoriston. Loch Ness did not disappoint us either - the water was distinctly blue, the hillsides a bright contrasting green, and views clear for miles. There appeared to be no sense of eerieness usually associated with these parts - the Loch itself. Glenurguhart, or Castle Urquhart.

At Invermoriston we stayed in a lovely little house, overlooking the Loch, and had for company four other Australians and two South Africans. Behind us rose steep richly forested hills, and in the distance and across the loch we could see the equally steep but desolate and treeless heights of the Monadliath Mountains.

To Be continued next time.

THE ALEXANDER BROTHERS.

Bill Marshall Artists proudly present them direct from the Whitehall Theatre Dundee.

These great stars will be appearing at the Festival Theatre on Wednesday the 31st. May for one performance only. Tickets \$7.90, \$6.90 Party concession bookings. Phone Judy Thyer 51 4498 One Complimentary Ticket for party of 20 or more.

The Alexander Brothers appeared on Scottish Televisions "Hogmanay Show" on New Year's Eve, and then they went on tour of their native Scotland which took them from Dumfries in the South to Thurso in the North and from Islay in the West to Musselburgh on the East Coast. They have also toured both North and South Ireland.

On their return from Australia they will be starting in their own Summer Show at the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, where they are always firm Favourites, later on in the year they will be touring the United States and Canada, they will be doing Concerts, Cabarets, and Television.

They are involved in rehearsals for a new presentation of Scottish Television's very popular show "Thingummygig" and have just cut a new L.P. entitled Tom & Jack for Pye Records.

Book Now for their only show in Adelaide. 8 p.m. Wednesday / May 31st.

Re Clansmen's Ball.

Further to the article on the last page of this Newsletter we should like to inform you that only 440 people can be allowed into the hall that we have booked, so be early with your bookings when they open with the Secretary. Please do not hesitate to contact either the Secretary or any Director for full details.

ROYAL CALEDONIAN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

BAND REPORT - Quarterly Newsletter.

March saw the Band participating in the Annual Adelaide Highland Games.

The result in the Grade 3 competition saw us miss out by  $\frac{1}{2}$  a point, and we are even more determined to reverse that result next year.

This year the Highland Games included a Medley competition (whereby each Band plays their own selection of tunes) for each Grade and we were very pleased to see that our selection won the Grade 3 competition.

April has seen us participating in the Annual Anzac Service at the Brighton and Marion RSL's.

Next month (May) the Band has been engaged to play at the Festival Theatre in the Alexander Bros. Concert. The event has not been finalised as yet, and when further details are available, these will appear on the notice board.

We as a Band are aware of the necessity to raise additional funds on top of those that we raise through engagements, and our Fund Raising Committee is at present organising a social program for the year, and when details are available they will appear on the notice board.

If these activities suit your taste in entertainment, then when the details are available please contact the Band Secretary. We will appreciate your support very much.

G. F. CHATFIELD.

DIRECTOR/BAND SECRETARY.

CLANSMEN'S BALL.

There has been many requests for another ball, in particular, one to be held in the winter season. We can now oblige and hereby give you plenty of notice that the Society will be conducting another ball on SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9th 1978 at 8 pm. at this stage details regarding a band and admission costs are not available but will be advised shortly. We have been fortunate in obtaining a top line venue at the

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ITALIAN ASSOCIATION HALL.

Carrington Street Adelaide.