

# Royal Caledonian Society of South Australia

(INCORPORATED)

379 King William Street, ADELAIDE, S.A. 5000

Secretary Ph 51 5268 (Monday to Friday)

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A.H. 79 4673

CHIEF - Ron Layton Ph. 217 0461 or 085 32 3055

A.H. 339 1916

PIPE BAND - Secretary Ph. 337 2122



NEWSLETTER

FREE TO MEMBERS

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Registered for posting as a Periodical Category "B"

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OCTOBER, 1980

## CHIEF'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

I found it heartening to have seen some 90 people at the Society's A. G. M., and wish to thank all for their expressions of congratulations.

The next 12 months is going to be one of the most difficult in the Society's existence - we are spending more than we are earning and reserves are rapidly running out. Our membership is increasing but there are fewer people attending functions; we have also lost some hall tenants whom we have not been able to replace.

Your new Council is facing these difficult times with considerable energy, and we hope that you, the members, and indeed the Scots of S.A. will respond likewise. Unless this is achieved quickly we will have no alternative but to sell our building in a climate which will not produce a good buying price - a building which is the result of the work of Scots throughout S.A. for over a century.

Whatever we do, it must be with the objectives of the Society in mind. What can we do? -

- 1) Foster an interest in things Scottish.
- 2) Promote our Society (and indeed other Scottish activities).
- 3) Seek regular Hall, Clubroom bookings - three bookings per week are adequate to provide for the majority of our financial needs.
- 4) Encourage new members - an application form is printed at the end of the Newsletter, for this purpose.
- 5) Pay your subscriptions as they fall due - 1st July, 1980.
- 6) Participate in and encourage others to participate in functions.
- 7) Seek donations to the Building Appeal.
- 8) Make every function a good function, through co-operative effort and good fun.

What am I doing?

My main efforts are directed at public awareness outside the Society, as well as working with that small but increasing number of enthusiastic members. S.A. has one of the world's greatest concentrations of Scots descendants and we need to enthuse them about their background. Without that, all the work which has been put into this Society over the years will be lost. I am also seeking to work co-operatively with other Scottish groups, most of which were branches of or affiliated with this Society.

It will take a long while to restore awareness in this State, and in the meantime I am taking up some offers of the Scottish international community for assistance in our plight, which I am sure is only temporary.

I am working hard; your new Council is working hard; won't you remember your heritage and help to meet our objectives?

With my best wishes  
RON LAYTON - Chief

## SPECIAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF A SPECIAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE SOCIETY HALL, KING WILLIAM STREET, ADELAIDE, ON MONDAY, 20th OCTOBER, 1980, AT 7.30 p.m.

### AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF THE 1970-1980 YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT.  
DISCUSSION ON THE PRECARIOUS FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE SOCIETY.

## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended by the Chief and Members of Council to the following new members who have been accepted since our last Newsletter.

Mr. I.M. Hay	Mrs. J.E. Hameister	Mrs. V.J. Hills
Mr. P. Broadmead	Mrs. R.D. Boyd	Mrs. A.E. Brock
Mr. E. Pizzey	Mrs. C.R. Baxter	Mr. J.W. Venus
Mrs. G. Crawford	Mrs. K.S. Easton	Mrs. E.E. Mullins
Mr. C.C. Baxter	Mr. R.G. Modra	Mr. R.J. McDougall
Mr. H.A. Hart	Mrs. M. Davenport	

## YOUR NEW COUNCIL

By the time you will have received this Newsletter your new Council will have had 3 meetings and a series of sub committee meetings, all aimed at developing an exciting and viable society. Each Director will have one or more prime responsibilities, and should you have any queries or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact -

RON LAYTON (Chief): Telephone (H) 339 1916; (W) 217 0461 or 085 32 3055 - Marshall, Chairman of Council and Executive Committee, Band Management, Building Appeal, Kindred Societies, Scotch College Board.

CHARLES GARDINER: (H) 264 4777; (W) 332 5833 - Past Chief, Property and Club Manager.

JOHN FLEETWOOD: (H) 293 6390 - Senior Chieftain, Bairns, Commonwealth Societies, Executive.

KYM ATWELL: (H) 298 3142; (W) 45 0121 - Junior Chieftain, Publicity and Public Relations, Newsletter, Executive.

IAN FLEETWOOD: (H) 298 2253; (W) 47 2315 - Treasurer, Finances, Bar Committee, Kindred Societies.

DOUG BRAMLEY: (H) 261 7265; (W) 51 0331 - Bar Committee.

CHRIS COCKERILL: (H) 276 5348 - Catering, Social Functions.

DAVID FENWICK: (H) 264 8629; (W) 337 6488 - Hall Rental.

STAN FOX: (W) 223 3866; (H) 269 4662 - Cultural Activities.

IAN HARRISON: (H) 277 7427, Message 356 0988 - Social Functions, Festive Occasions.

ENA RICHARDS: (H) 71 7354 - Social Functions, Festive Occasions.

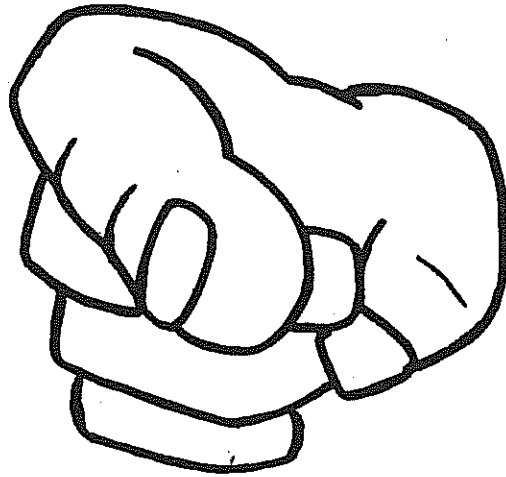
GEORGE KELLY: (W) 79 7223 - Band Management.

JACK MOFFAT: (H) 272 2518 - Highland Dancing rep.

Members of Council can not do the job alone. When they call upon you I ask that you give them your utmost support.

RON LAYTON.

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU !



CAN YOU HELP ?

- ARE YOU FINANCIAL
- ATTEND SOCIETY FUNCTIONS - BRING FRIENDS
- KNOW YOUR COUNCIL - GIVE US YOUR IDEAS
- ASSIST ON COMMITTEES - HELP AT FUNCTIONS
- HELP US PROMOTE YOU

## BUILDING APPEAL

Donations have thus far been received from 30 individuals and organizations. The appeal has now been sent internationally, and the "Scottish Field" is giving us some publicity in their August publication.

A tear off sheet is to be found at the end of this Newsletter for anyone wishing to donate. Your assistance is most urgent.

Previously acknowledged donations	\$672
Mr. J.L.C. Stone	10
I. & A. Fleetwood	50
S.A. Federation of Scottish Societies	100
E.E. Layton	<u>50</u>
	<u>\$882</u>

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

There are currently well over 400 members on our books, but 3 months into the year only 80 are financial. There is considerable cost incurred in sending out notices, a cost we can ill afford. The tear-off back page can be used to accompany your subscription - remember the new rates:

Corporate Member	\$15
Associate Member	\$10
Pensioner Member (either category)	\$5

Please help your Society by paying Subs promptly.

## SCOTTISH SHOP

Readers are reminded that a new Scottish Shop has opened in Twin Street, Adelaide, just behind Malltown.

Items for sale include novelties, music, a limited range of apparel and gifts. Arrangements can also be made through the shop for items to be imported.

The Scottish Shop, 22-24 Twin Street, Adelaide, is well worth a visit.

## FAMILY TEA

Mesdames Bramley, Staples and Mitchell would like to say "Thank you" to all members and friends who attended the Sunday Tea on August 31st, for donations of food, the music and to everyone who helped with serving, clearing and washing up. A profit of \$216.90 to help Society Funds was realized.

## COMING EVENTS

### SCOTTISH FAIR

Saturday 25th October from 9.00 a.m. in the South Parklands, Glen Osmond Road, between South Terrace and Hutt Road.

This promises to be a most enjoyable day with many stalls to interest you, lunch (B.B.Q. stall) and afternoon tea to sustain you, and the band, dancers and dog obedience displays to entertain you.

Please support your Society by attending and don't forget to bring your friends.

Stalls include - Work stall; plant stall; second hand books and records; second hand clothes; cake stall; white elephant stall; sweets stall; lucky dip; bottle stall; fruit and vegetable stall.

### HELP IS REQUIRED

Donations for any of these stalls would be greatly appreciated, and can be left with the Secretary, Mr. Reg Verrall, between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. any week day, or arrangements can be made to have larger items collected by contacting Reg at telephone 51 5268 between these hours.

If you are able to assist on the day in any way, please contact either:-

Mrs. Eileen Gardiner at 332 5833 - 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. or 264 4777 after hours;  
or our Secretary

Mr. Reg Verrall at 51 5268 between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.

Eggs for cakes will be available free from the Secretary's Office 14/10/80 and 21/10/80 - suitable for cakes which will keep or can be frozen.

### LAIRNS HALLOWE'EN

In the Society Hall on Friday, 31st October. Theme to be decorated broomsticks.

### HALLOWE'EN MASKED BALL

8.00 p.m. - 1.00 a.m., FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER. 4 piece band, the "MacSheehans"; Pipes and Drums; Highland and Country dancing; Vocalist. Catered supper - Ladies of the Society; 160 tickets at \$7.00 per head - these will need to be purchased to confirm the booking - available from the Secretary.

The Band was a great success at the last Mount Barker Society Ball - won't you make up a party and join them!

### ST. ANDREW'S DAY DINNER

Friday, 28th November, 7.30 p.m. at Florence's Restaurant, City Cross Arcade, Adelaide. A superb quality menu has been negotiated for \$15.00 per head (plus drinks).

SOUP: Cockaleekie; ENTREE: Haggis with neeps and tatties; MAIN COURSE: Lock Leven Trout, Hielan' Steak, Fillet Steak; DESSERT: Cranachan, Fruit Salad; COFFEE.

Speaker is to be finalized. Only 120 tickets this year - please purchase yours early from the Secretary.

Remember late night shopping to allow for parking.

HOGMANAY - Has been cancelled due to Hall booking commitment.

### **CENTENARY YEAR - 1981**

Our Society will be celebrating its Centenary Year in 1981 - plans are well under way to make this an enormous success. Ian Harrison will be joining the Chief to plan events which are hoped to include:-

Grand Centenary Ball in September, hopefully involving a Scottish dignitary, and debutantes, or Miss S.A. - Scotland Quest.

Historical Exhibition, including photographs, books and delivered papers.

Festival of Scottish Culture - dancing, music, theatre.

Back to Edinburgh, Dundee . . . . ., etc. evenings.

A mini gathering of the Clans.

The organization for 1981 will be a big task, and although plans are well under way for some events, we would still welcome ideas and most of all willing helpers.



# HIGHLAND GAMES

OLYMPIC SPORTS FIELD  
Kensington Park



14th MARCH, 1981

## HOW THE THISTLE BECAME THE EMBLEM OF SCOTLAND

During a surprise night attack by Vikings in the 11th century, a Scots army under King Malcolm II were suddenly awakened by cries of pain. Their would be attackers had stumbled across a field of thistles. Scotland was saved from a further invasion and from that day the thistle became the national emblem.

When used as the emblem it is often accompanied by the Latin inscription, "Nemo me impune lacessit"- "No one attacks me with freedom from punishment".

## INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF SCOTS - 1981

With the tremendous success of the Canadian Government sponsored International Gathering of the Clans in 1979, an event of this nature looks as though it is going to be a regular event. Unlike the 6 week event in Nova Scotia, the 1981 Gathering will continue with special events commencing with an International Burns Supper in Glasgow on 24th January and culminating in a St. Andrew's Day Dinner in St. Andrews on November 30th.

Further details are outlined in the June edition of the "Scottish Field" in the Secretary's office.

## SCOTLAND VISITED CONT.

At Broadford we stayed with another quiet, but very pleasant Gaelic family. The night was warm, the children relaxed in an atmosphere of contentment, and Sue and I still absorbed by the rugged beauty of this well known but yet still remote island. The following day was yet another highlight of our Scottish holiday, for it was on this day that we explored the 'boot' of Skye, or Sleat, and across to Morar on the mainland, and heart of my clan land. Sleat proved even more remote than the rest of Skye, and on the extreme south coast we were soon in a lush coastal strip, with forest, farmland and beautiful rocky beaches. Central to this country is Armadale, the huge but ruinous centre of the MacDonalDs, the largest of all the Scottish clans. Whilst Sue and the children roamed around the inviting and spacious gardens, I talked with the Secretary to the High Chief about their plans for restoration, and the reformation of the clan along lines which are more in keeping with today's society. It was a proud moment for me that day when I was invited to become a member of the MacDonalD Land Trust, the body which has responsibility for this task.

From Armadale, another ancient ferry transported us across the Sound of Sleat to Mallaig. This was a considerable trip, having become stuck in the car lift, and in distinct comparison with the beautiful, modern and cheap ferries of Norway. However there were compensations, for we were able to obtain clear views of the islands of Rhum and Eigg, which normally hide their mountains and cliffs behind a veil of fog.

Mallaig is nestled around a protected bay on an otherwise inhospitable coastline - a road map alone will give one an impression of how isolated this country would be. The town appeared quite important as a vital link between the islands and mainland - it was neat, attractive and clean, with evidence of new housing and reconstruction. Because it is a focal point for sea travel it is also a small centre for tourism.

South of Mallaig lay our clan country, Moidart. It was this country I had been conjuring up images for many a year, chiefly from reading (fact and fiction) and a lot of talking. I was not disappointed! Beyond the (only) main road, the country had not changed for centuries. The high and rugged mountains were a patchwork of colours, crowning the miriads of sea and inland lochs. The narrow road followed an equally narrow strip of coastal forest, occasionally rising to cross a barren spur. Seaward, the beaches were wide, white and sandy, most unlike the majority we were to see throughout Britain.

It did not take us long to start dreaming that we could stay here for the rest of our days. But, the back seat of the Renault was not a comfortable place for the night, and so we found ourselves at Strontian, on Loch Sunart for yet another most enjoyable night.

This refreshing village nestles beneath Ben Resipol, up which we climbed during the evening, gaining awe inspiring views over the regions of Sunart, Ardnamurchan, Morven, and to the north Moidart. The landscape was barren and rocky with an interesting mixture of green and purple hues. Walking proved easy, although one had to be very careful not to sink into the small peat bogs, present even on the slopes. The evening was spent in the company of a young widow and her children, who like so many others we met, treated us to incredible hospitality. They were also keen to engage us in conversation about Australia, and in their modest way talk about their experiences in this part of the Highlands.

The next morning we retraced our footsteps through the forest on the northern shores of Loch Sunart, attempting to find the former mainland castle of Clan Ranald, Tiornan. As it was not marked on maps, we had to obtain careful directions, before heading out into the wilds of Moidart. Our instructions proved clear enough to find it without any real problems. Castle Tiornan stands on a rock outcrop on an islet in the sea Loch Moidart. It is accessible only at low tide, and it was from this striking position Clan Ranald commanded the seas and controlled this part of the coast. We explored this castle, last inhabited in the 18th century, for some hours, attempting to recapture the atmosphere which must have existed at that time. We marvelled at how it stood the test of time, as despite being burnt over 200 year ago to prevent it falling into the hands of the English, its shell was complete, right up to its lofty towers.

Whilst we watched the children play amongst the rocks, we noticed how the loch reflected the mountains in its waters, how a sea fog rolled in and swamped us, swirling up into the mountains, and disappeared as quickly as it came.

I felt this country was an artist's dream. It was so full of visual experiences. The forest near the loch was a patchwork quilt of different greens. As the forest gave way to rock outcrop, so the colours changed to yellows and purples. And, in between were the blues and greens of the sea lochs. The grey starkness of the castle was in complete contrast.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

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To the Secretary,  
Royal Caledonian Society of S.A. Inc.,  
379 King William Street,  
ADELAIDE. S.A. 5000

I apply to be nominated as a member, and agree if elected to be bound and abide by the rules of the Society.

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

PHONE NO: .....

SIGNATURE: .....

Membership Category applied for - Life Member (\$200 or \$100)  
Corporate Member (\$15 or \$5 pensioner)  
Associate Member (\$10 or \$5 pensioner)

PROPOSED: ..... SECONDED: .....

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## BUILDING APPEAL

Please find herewith \$....., being my donation to the Society Building Appeal.

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

Please indicate if receipt is required .....

All donations will be acknowledged in the Newsletter and Clubrooms.

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## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Please find herewith \$....., being my subscription for the year 1980/81.  
Fees fall due on 1st July, 1980.

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

Membership cards and receipts will be posted.