

Royal Caledonian Society of South Australia

(INCORPORATED)

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



Secretary - Reg Verrall, Ph 51 5268 (Mon.-Fri.)
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A.H. 79 4673

CHIEF - Ron Layton Ph 217 0461 or 46 6561
A.H. 339 1916

EDITOR - Kym Atwell Ph 45 0121 A.H. 298 3142

NEWSLETTER

FREE TO MEMBERS

Registered for posting as a Periodical Category "B"

NOVEMBER, 1981

SCOTS WHA HAE

This is our last newsletter for 1981 and our Centenary Year. In most respects it has been a very successful year, bringing the Society from a situation of financial difficulties to a position somewhat more positive.

Kindred and affiliated organizations have rallied to maintain the premises within the Scottish community, but the saga is far from over - we need a resurgence to last for decades. A traveller will note that there is a tremendous revival in Scottish activities throughout the world. In S.A. I am sad to say, we are a long way behind. Despite the efforts of bodies like the Scottish Associations of S.A., we find our community still divisive and parochial. Whilst other ethnic groups are enjoying unprecedented popularity, the Scots are struggling to hold onto their few remaining assets, together with traditions, customs and language.

A few months ago we were offered an opportunity to hold the International Gathering of the Clans in S.A., an event which brought millions of dollars into Canada in 1979. We will have to forget about such events until we get our own house in order. Well, just how are we going to do this?

It will require a concerted and cooperative effort by ALL Scottish organizations, including the Pipe Bands, Highland Games Committees, Educational and Medical institutions. It will require us all to increase the involvement of Scots descendants in activities and make the general public aware of the history of our community in South Australia.

More immediately we need to save the Scots Memorial Hall, before we are relegated to an ethnic community which has earned a reputation of having destroyed itself. The Centenary Year has been a magnificent foundation stone on which to build, where are the brick layers?

RON LAYTON, CHIEF

THE COUNCIL

Your Society is now a complex organization requiring much work to allow it to meet its objectives and prosper. The Council is attempting to improve its methods of operation. To do this the two Chieftains are now responsible for two distinct and broad areas, with Directors forming loose teams of business affairs on the one hand and social/membership and cultural on the other. Chieftain Kym Atwell will be responsible for the first area and our first female Chieftain, Ena Richards the second.

THE COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

Areas of responsibility etc. are as follows:-

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Ron Layton | Chief, Band Management, Joint Commonwealth Societies Council, Kindred Societies Liaison, Scotch College Board, Scottish Associations of S.A., General Management (Tel. 339 1916). |
| Kym Atwell | Senior Chieftain, Business Affairs Coordination, Publicity, Public Relations, Newsletter (Tel. 298 3142). |
| Ena Richards | Junior Chieftain, Social and Membership Affairs Coordinator, Membership, Hall Rental (Tel. 271 7354). |
| Jack Moffatt | Bairns, Highland Dancing Association (Tel. 272 2518). |
| Ian Hay | Fund Raising (Tel. 298 2294). |
| Ann Marshall | Fund Raising, Catering (Tel. 79 5993). |
| George Kelly | Property, Props, Band Management (Tel. 272 8952). |
| Ian Fleetwood | Finance, Scottish Associations of S.A. (Tel. 298 2253). |
| Chris Cockerill | Finance, Catering (Tel. 276 5348). |
| Charles Gardiner | Club Manager (Tel. 264 4777). |
| George Alexander | Cultural Affairs (Tel. 264 0599). |
| Stan Cameron-Fox | Cultural Affairs, Library, Multi-Cultural Council (Tel. 269 4662). |
| Ian Harrison | Club Night Coordination, Function Coordination, Calendar (Tel. 277 7427). |
| Reg Verrall | Secretary, Public Officer, General Information (Tel. 51 5268). |

ST. ANDREWS DAY

The Scottish Associations of S.A. are making a concerted effort to have national music played on the ABC on November 30th. All members are encouraged to write to the ABC in particular or any other radio station, in an effort to obtain better coverage.

Letters should be addressed to:

Chief Manager of S.A.,
Australian Broadcasting Commission,
G.P.O. Box 1419,
ADELAIDE. S.A. 5001

THE BUILDING APPEAL

Further donations have been received and to these people we are particularly grateful. It is particularly pleasing to see responses from our kindred organizations who are expressing concern for the general well-being of this focal point for the Scottish Community.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Previously acknowledged | \$1,276 |
| Royal Scottish Country Dance Society | 38 |
| J.L. & R.K. Pawson | 25 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,339 |

NEW MEMBERS

The Chief and Council extend a warm welcome to the following new members. Please seek them out and ensure that they enjoy our full hospitality.

CORPORATE

Mr. T.A. Hunter
Mrs. L. Lindblom
Mrs. J.C. Cook
Mrs. C.F. Monck
Mr. G.W. Holden
Mrs. A.M. Spedding
Dr. D.C. McKinnon
Rory McKinnon
R.M. Wight
Mrs. N.B. Wight

SOCIAL/ASSOCIATE

Mrs. D.L. Forsyth
Mr. D.F. Lindblom
Mr. G. Morrison
Dr. S.J. Spedding

SOCIETY BADGES

Woven Society Badges (suitable for sewing onto tracksuits, caps, etc.) are now available from the Secretary at a cost of \$1.75 each.

Orders for T-Shirts or Club Shirts, with the Society Badge printed on the front may be placed with Chris Cockerill by phoning 276 5348.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

22nd November, 1981 The Scottish Associations of S.A. are having a B.Y.O. picnic at the Glenside Hospital Oval at 11.00 a.m. This is an opportunity for members of the various societies to mix (with their children), and every encouragement is given for members to attend.

The following activities will be held in our hall at King William Street, Adelaide.

Friday, October 30th - Bairns Centenary Year Hallowe'en
Friday, November 6th - Centenary Year Hallowe'en Ball
Friday, November 20th - Centenary Year St. Andrews Dinner

floor plan and bookings for both functions on November 6th and 20th are available with the secretary, Reg Verrall, and it is suggested that you make a firm booking as soon as possible to avoid any sorrow. Remember there are only limited numbers of tickets available.

Other functions which are still on the drawing board but a short phone call to the secretary nearer to the dates and he will be able to give more details.

31st December 1981 - Hogmanay
January 1982 - Meeting of the Scots at the Robert Burns Statue, North Terrace.
- Burns Night.
February 1982 - Family Day at an outside venue.

In view of our bad financial plight it is important that all members endeavour to support the functions that are being arranged by your Council. There would not be a Scot in S.A. who would want to see our H.Q. gone. Let us all get behind our Council and be rid of our debts. Arrange a party, bring your friends and ensure the future of YOUR Society.

CENTENARY YEAR HOGMANAY

Your Society has been fortunate in being offered the opportunity to hold a Hogmanay of a standard expected for a Centenary.

It is hoped that a display of highland dancing and pipe bands will be held in Victoria Square, Adelaide, and then if numbers permit a special tram service will transport those attending to the venue at the new Morphettville Function Centre (at the Morphettville Racecourse) for a grand Buffet Dinner and Dance until 1.30 a.m.

The discounted price to members and friends is \$20 per head which will provide a most sumptuous 4 course meal (including Haggis) and ALL drinks, ranging from soft through to beer, wine and spirits.

It is intended to provide a creche for children depending on numbers requiring this service. (A cover charge would be necessary.)

This is an opportunity which may not come again and is one whereby new members may be attracted and an opportunity for us to improve our financial position and gain much needed publicity.

To make this evening worthwhile, 500 people are required to attend and an indication of numbers is required NOW - PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY FOR YOUR BOOKINGS AND DEPOSIT ARRANGEMENTS.

If sufficient numbers are not forthcoming, this evening will have to be forfeited, along with the many benefits which are associated with such an event.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE - WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT NOW.

THE CHIEF

Over the past year I have been asked on many occasions questions such as; "What is a Chief", "What does a Chief do?", and sometimes the indirect comment, "We didn't see you at the last Club Night". I have been encouraged to give an explanation.

Caledonian societies throughout the world have assumed many of the ancient clan and Scottish customs and developed them in a manner applicable to their country. This makes such a society more than a club which holds dinners or balls. It is the embodiment of a family (clan) of Scots and supporters in a particular geographical area. Your society is therefore the embodiment of the Scots of South Australia.

The Chief was the principle person or head of the Clan. Their designation is quite complex and bound up in a complicated set of laws which operate to this day in a form unique to Scotland. In general terms a chief is defined as -

- the living individual who represents the founder of the group
- the head of a kinship or geographically based group
- the leader of a small group of people related by race
- the "father" or "mother" of a large extended family.

Today chiefship within a clan is largely a matter of succession and inauguration, usually from father to son. This has not always been the case and there have been many instances where a clan chief has been elected or simply emerged.

In countries like Australia where the vastness made it impossible for sub sets of clans to establish, caledonian societies emerged where clan Scots and those from the cities joined forces on new bases. Following the Scottish romanticism of the late 19th Century they modelled themselves on the clan (or in the case of Cronies Club - on Lowland villages). Traditions and customs were revived. I am pleased to see, that despite shaky periods, some societies in S.A. have maintained these at a good standard, but unfortunately well behind those in countries like Canada.

THE CHIEF (CONTINUED)

One of the outward signs of a Caledonian Society is the continuance of the position of chief. Well what is one in this context? In line with the Society being more than a club the chief is seen in the majority of societies as more than a President. He is elected upon qualification by eligible members, inaugurated in solemn ceremony according to custom and is accorded homage and service.

- He may preside over meetings and is responsible for the good management of the society.
- He marshalls and is the marshall of the Society.
- He is responsible to ensure that strategies are taken to ensure the practice of traditions and customs of Scotland and other appropriate objectives. This to be in harmony and to the benefit of the country of residence.
- He is nominal head of the community of Scots for which the respective society is established.
- He is expected to receive and extend hospitality according to custom, other chiefs, leaders of the Scottish community, newcomers and members.

Chief of the Royal Caledonian Society in the State is accorded additional status and responsibility. He has precedence over all other chiefs, being the Chief of the parent organization. All others follow in order of the establishment of their societies. In more recent decades this has been expanded to include certain other Scottish organizations.

He also represents the Scottish community at a wide variety of functions and in a few instances included in the constitution and therefore the functioning of other organizations.

Having written all this it has been suggested that I should keep the members informed on a regular basis of what I do, particularly outside the society. Obviously I can only do this in summary form. Let me give you a few examples of events and attendances over the last 4 months -

- Port Adelaide Caledonian Society - Social
- Broken Hill Highland Ball - received debutantes, meeting
- Scotch College - Board of Governors, several functions
- Several dinners, receptions for visitors and members of Scottish Community
- Salisbury Caledonian Society - Burns Evening - proposed toast
- Port Lincoln Caledonian Society - Dinner, speech and tour
- Whyalla Caledonian Society - 40th Anniversary Ball
- Scottish Associations of S.A. - meeting
- Council of Joint Commonwealth Societies - several meetings
- Naval, Military & Air Force Club - Burns Evening
- Mount Gambier Caledonian Society - Installed Chief, picnic, meeting
- South East - several functions
- Several speaking engagements
- Meetings - Commissioner of Ethnic Affairs, Director of Department of Tourism, various leaders of other ethnic groups.

In addition to this comes a mound of correspondence including regular contact with the Standing Council of Chiefs, Scottish Tourist Board, Government Bodies and simply people seeking information. This all in addition to the business of running the Society.

Said the Englishman to the Boastful Scot:
 "Take away your mountains, glens and lochs, and what have you got?"
 "England" replied the Scot.

That's Mactavish all over ... he found a box of corn cures and went out and bought himself a pair of tight shoes.

Jock is at the first tee "Are you any good at finding Golf Balls?" he asks the caddy.
 "Aye" came the dour reply.
 "Well", says Jock, "away and find one and we'll get started ..."

TREASURER'S REPORT

As all members know mortgage and other interest rates have increased sharply in the last few months and the Society is unfortunately now liable for additional loan repayments of approximately \$1600 per annum. As Treasurer I am most concerned as this now places the Society in a more precarious position than previously. A budget was prepared at the beginning of the year which has been closely reviewed each month by Council and until recently, we were ahead of budget. It is very evident from the review of the budget that many members have not paid their subs which were due at 1st of July 1981.

PLEASE POST YOUR CHEQUE TO THE SECRETARY NOW.

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| SUBSCRIPTIONS | CORPORATE MEMBERS | \$15.00 |
| | PENSIONER ETC. RATE | \$5.00 |
| | SOCIAL MEMBERS | \$10.00 |

Your Council is making every effort to overcome the problems confronting us but cannot do it by itself and any suggestions concerning fund raising would be most welcome. Members can discuss this with the directors in charge of fund raising, the Chief, myself or any member of Council.

Due to the resignation of a number of bar staff we need more members to help out behind the bar. No experience is needed. If you would like to help out contact myself or Past-Chief Gardiner.

IAN FLEETWOOD (Treasurer)

REPORT OF THE GRAND CENTENARY BALL

It will be a hundred years from now and the next Centenary Ball will be held, but the one that has just past was worth all the effort and this was mainly due to those persons who gave so much time in making it such a success. One of the most interesting highlights was that His Excellency, Sir Keith Seaman, broke tradition and stayed for nearly an hour and a half later than his scheduled departure time.

Another incident to note was Captain John Hall ADC having a crash course of Scottish Country Dancing in the foyer just after supper.

It is hard to name everybody, but a special thanks must be made to the following who gave their help and time - Debra Stuckey, Ian Marshall, Chris Cockerill, Irvine Nicholson, Lennox Pawson, Greg Gordon, Lorna Marshall, John Fleetwood and Reg Verrall.

To all who gave raffle prizes and to those who helped decorate the hall, and a very special thanks to those who gave time and participation with floor shows.

HIGHLAND DANCING COMPETITIONS - 10TH OCTOBER 1981 - RESULTS

Harry Garth Memorial Trophy --- Helen Boyd; John Ogg Trophy --- Leonie Garrick.
Aggregate: Advanced Intermediate (under 12) Donald Evans, (over 12) Ann Marie Anderson.
Open (under 12) Sarah Royce; (12-14 years) Helen Boyd; (14-16 years) Leslie Cockram;
(16 years & over) Agnes Steele.

FETE REPORT

Our Centenary Year Scottish Fair held on 17th October again proved to be a success with approximately \$3000 being raised. This would not have been possible without the marvellous efforts of Raelene Welsh in her capacity as fete co-ordinator and all those people who helped in so many ways.

Thank you all and please continue to support your society.

CENTENARY PORT

Additional quantities of the specially bottled Richard Hamilton Vintage Port are now available and may be obtained from the Secretary at the very reasonable cost of \$4.50 per bottle.

FOR SALE

The Council wish to advise members that Scottish Accessories may be obtained from "Highland Laddie".

Hand Made Scottish Dress Accessories

Skene Dhus Brass or Stainless Steel

'Forbes Thistle' - Handle has one thistle surmounted by stone.

'Prince Charles' - Plain with studs set in handle.

Dirks - Brass or Stainless Steel

P/M & D/M complete with knife and fork - \$260

Standard Pipers and Drummers - \$200

Basket Hilt Dancing Swords, having velvet enclosed basket hilt, and carved wooden handle - \$150

Skene Dhus prices vary, a nice one being \$55. Will make up articles to order, put real sword blades
required (P.O.A.).

Do repairs or make silver mounts.

Available from 'Highland Laddie', 7 Harper St., Broadview, S.A. 5083, Phone Adelaide 261 1292.

THE "WHATSOME" REEL

Many of our members will recall having danced the eightsome reel in our youth, and some of us who are so inspired do it from time to time today.

Most will recall it takes some considerable time to complete, with energy levels a lot less at the end than the beginning. Some ex-servicemen may also recall Scottish soldiers who were not only trained to fight but also to dance the war dances of their homeland. And what more exciting, perhaps after the sword dance, than the Eightsome reel.

But even the Eightsome reel can become a little boring and so the enterprising ones amongst them tried a 16-some and then the 32-some and finally the 64-some reel. There are some amongst us who have tried the 16-some, but has anyone attempted the 8x8 = 64-some? This is the theme in a magnificently funny but oh-so-true novel by George MacDonald Fraser - "The General Danced at Dawn" - Pan publications. Recommended reading for all.

GOSSIP COLUMN

Pipe Sergeant Greg Gordon recently celebrated his 40th(?) birthday "at home" - congratulations Greg.

Who said Burns is dead. Ask Chieftain Richards or Suzanne Layton for an explanation.

Sen Cameron-Fox has taken to writing ditties about various Council members. He has also suggested each Council member will have to contribute an item at the next ceilidh - this will be worth waiting for.

With the Secretary a one eyed Norwood supporter and the Chief likewise about Glenelg, the air has been a little thick at recent meetings.

It is heartening to see drum major "Mac" Hatty up and about again after being out of circulation for some time - keep it up Mac!

THE CONSTITUTION

A constitution is a vital part of any organization and it is important that the members make themselves aware of its contents. We must remember that the constitution is made up of rules and guidelines intended to steer the Society along a path which will benefit all members. It must be remembered however, that what was appropriate ten years ago may not necessarily be appropriate today - therefore it is necessary to review, but this must be done by the correct procedure. It should be noted that any member can have the rules changed but must gain the support of two thirds of the corporate members present at a meeting convened to discuss the proposed change. With this in mind, you should be familiar with the constitution and should you feel that there is need for change please contact the Secretary or any member of Council and together we can help to improve the constitution for our mutual well-being.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

.....19.....

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)
 Social/Associate Member (\$10 or \$5 pensioner/dependent student)

PROPOSED: SECONDED:

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.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Please find herewith \$....., being my subscription for the year 1981/82.
Fees fall due on 1st July, 1981.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

Membership cards and receipts will be posted.