

Royal Caledonian Society of South Australia (inc.) Newsletter

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 - D.N. Richards Ph. 271 7354

PIPE BAND - Secretary Michael Mulvihill, A.H. 263 1545

EDITOR - June Laws Ph. 336 2226 A.H. FREE TO MEMBERS

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AUGUST, 1985

A WORD FROM THE CHIEF

Dear members, this will be the last time I shall write to you as Chief.

The last two years have certainly been eventful with a large share of disappointments which I know you have shared with me and I thank you for your support.

Our Society fulfils an important role in the Scottish community and has done so for over a 100 years. It can only continue to do so from a sound financial basis. I have always believed that the characteristics of a true Scot are Grit, Guts and Gumption. I urge all members to prove it.

A new Chief will be installed at the A. G. M. and from my discussions with him I am convinced of his sincerity and enthusiasm. He has some fine ideas which I am sure will come to fruition. The new Council has a fine array of minds.

I hope you will all attend the A. G. M. on the 30th August and make the new Chief welcome. It will also be an opportunity for you to express your views regarding the future of our Society.

My thanks to all members and friends who have given so much of themselves in time and energy for the last two years.

Best wishes to the Bairns' Class and the Pipes and Drums.

A thought to ponder -

Have we kept pace with the times?

D.N. RICHARDS
Chief

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Caledonian Society of S.A. Inc. will be held in the Caledonian Memorial Hall, 379 King William Street, Adelaide, on Friday, 30th August 1985, at 7.30 p.m.

AGENDA

WELCOME.
APOLOGIES.
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (A. G. M. 1984 AND HALF YEARLY FEBRUARY 1985).
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES.
NOTICE OF MOTION.
DECLARATION OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS.
ANNUAL REPORTS.
FINANCIAL REPORT.
AUDITOR'S REPORT.
GENERAL BUSINESS.
SUPPER (Please bring a plate).

NOTICE OF MOTION (Director Grant Andrews)

"THAT THE FUTURE OF THE SOCIETY'S FINANCES WHICH ARE IN DIRE STRAITS AT THE PRESENT TIME, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING TO SELL THE HALL IN KING WILLIAM STREET, BE THE MAIN GENERAL BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE 1985 A. G. M. "

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ELECTIONS

In accordance with the Constitution the following positions fall vacant:-

Chief, Treasurer, 5 Directors.

CHIEF - There being only one nomination, Dr. Gordon C. Greig will be elected at the A.G.M.

TREASURER - No nominations have been received.

DIRECTORS - Five Directors are required to be elected for a period of 2 years. As nominations for these positions have been received there will be no ballot.

* * * * *

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

CHIEF - Dr. Gordon Greig graduated in medicine from Edinburgh in 1956. He did military service in Malaya, then settled in Fife as a G.P. Gordon came to S.A. in 1975 with his wife and two children, and he became Senior Medical Officer at Lyell McEwin Hospital till entering full time private practice of Hypnotherapy. A strong interest in Scottish matters led to Gordon being involved in founding the Robert Burns Society of S.A.

DIRECTOR - Mr. Bill Cox, who is retired, is a life member. He has served on council for two years and was appointed chieftain some time ago. Bill is dedicated to the Society, and has taken over the chief's role, during our chief's recent illness. As well as this Bill has served on the Band Management Committee.

TRACTION.

Reg Laught

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE (continued)

DIRECTOR - Mr. John Fleetwood, retired, has served the society for two years as Director. He is a life member, works regularly on bar duty, and has devoted a lot of time helping at the Society's many functions. John's piping on different occasions has given much pleasure to members.

DIRECTOR - Mrs. Marion Johnson, is a retired school teacher, who has been a member for many years. She is active in many areas of public life, including guides and local government. Marion is a Scot from Dunoon, and is enthusiastic about the cultural life of Scots in S.A.

DIRECTOR - Mr. Reg Laught, a retired bank manager, has been Director for a year and has special responsibility for the Bairns' Class. Reg has worked hard to build up interest and enthusiasm for the Bairns, and some of the success of his efforts may be seen in rising numbers in the class. Reg is also interested in the finances of the society, and in increasing membership.

DIRECTOR - Mrs. Mary Nesbitt is a retired school teacher, who has a long association with the Society. Mary is well known to members, and is an enthusiastic loyal member who is involved in fund raising activities.

ONLY FINANCIAL CORPORATE MEMBERS MAY VOTE.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME (Director Andrews)

HIGHLAND BALL

The 1985 Highland Ball will once again be organised by the Royal Caledonian Society at Scotch College on Friday, August 23rd.

Social Director, Grant Andrews, believes it will be one of the best ever, with indicated sales of tickets being something of a record for the venue.

As the Barr Smith Hall is limited to some extent, those wishing to purchase tickets should do so as soon as possible. They are selling for \$20 per person, with supper provided.

The Royal Caledonian Pipe Band and Highland dancing will be a feature, with roaring open hearth log fires thoughtfully provided to warm any draughty kilt!

Be at the College, off Carruth Road, Torrens Park, by 8.00 p.m. on Friday, August 23rd - "But first get your tickets", Mr. Andrews urges.

FAMILY TEA in hall on Sunday, 29th September. This is a real family event - come along with all the family. Further details later.

HALLOWE'EN FANCY DRESS SOCIAL for Bairns and adults in hall on 25th October from 8-11 p.m.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY DINNER in hall on 23rd November, 7 for 7.30 p.m. Tickets for this high spot of the Scottish year are in great demand. Get yours early.

BAR STAFF

Due to holidays, interstate transfers and resignations for other reasons, the number of persons who work voluntarily behind the bar on weeknights and at social functions has declined to a point where additional help would be greatly appreciated.

Any member who feels that they may be able to assist in any way should contact the Bar Manager, Ian Fleetwood, phone 47 2333 or A/H 298 2253.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the forthcoming twelve months became due for payment on the 1st July 1985. As you are no doubt aware, the Society has a shortage of funds at present, and one way of overcoming some of this shortage is for all members to renew their subscriptions immediately. As soon as you have finished reading this newsletter, write out the cheque, fill in the envelope and post it off to our Secretary.

The subscriptions are unchanged from last year and are:-

\$25.00 Corporate Membership; \$15.00 Associate, Pensioner and Student Membership; and \$300.00 Life Membership (or \$150.00 if you have been a member for 10 years or more).

ILLNESS

Our chief, Mrs. Ena Richards, is making a good recovery after her illness, and we would like to wish you well Ena. Keep up the good work.

TRAVEL

Piper Brett Tidswell and Mrs. Jean Lumsden recently took off for Scotland, where, no doubt they are thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Mr. & Mrs. John Fleetwood leave on the 27th July for the "Land of cakes and ale", and June & Arthur Laws will be flying into Glasgow airport around the 5th October.

VALE

It is with regret that we heard of the death of Mrs. Ann Macaulay, sister-in-law to Mrs. Marion Johnson. Our sincere condolences to the family.

NOMINAL ROLL

A valuable piece of "real estate" in the form of the original nominal roll (with signatures) of the Founders of the Royal Caledonian Society in August 1881 has been "borrowed", and although this is an irreplaceable possession of the Society, it would be of little value to the "borrower".

It is known that the "borrower" has key access to the Society office, and it would be appreciated if the Nominal Roll (a small black covered book with inscription) is returned to the Society's office.

RED CROSS THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

A Red Cross Thanksgiving Celebration will be held in the Town Hall on the 18th August at 3 p.m. People are requested to be seated by 2.50 p.m.

The Rev. Alan C. Stubs from the Presbyterian Church will give the Homily. Two of our young pipers will pipe in the flag bearers. Musical items will be given by representatives of different countries.

This occasion has all the ingredients for a very pleasant Sunday afternoon.

It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend. There is no admission charge.

D. N. Richards

NEW MEMBERS

CORPORATE

Mr. S. L. MacUais-MacEvoy
Mr. G. W. L. Kerr
Mrs. J. L. Kerr
Mrs. B. L. Barber
Mrs. I. A. Thomson
Mr. W. H. Paterson

ASSOCIATE

Mr. J. A. Barber

FUND RAISING

SCOTTISH FAIR REPORT

Report of 1985 Scottish Fair Committee - June 16th.

Mrs. Elizabeth Easton - Convenor, reports that plans and arrangements for the 1985 Fair are well in hand, and progressing satisfactorily.

The committee meets every other month.

To open the Fair, Sir Lyell McEwen has been approached.

20 stalls have been arranged so far, and letters are still coming in from outside clubs - these will be studied at next meeting.

Mr. Lennox Pawson has agreed to take care of P.A. system for the day.

Permission has been received from City Council for use of Rymill Park on November 17th.

Raffles have been organised and tickets will be along fairly soon. Good prizes will be offered. We are still seeking sponsors for at least one of them, namely a weekend trip for two to Kangaroo Island. Prizes have been obtained from the following:- Pizza Hut - 4 tickets; Hoyts Theatres - 1 double pass.

The committee would be grateful for any donations that members may care to make.

Mr. & Mrs. Easton have donated a framed oil original painting valued at \$350.00. This will be on display very soon in the Clubroom.

Stall-holders are working well on their respective tasks, but are looking forward to hearing from other members with offers of goods.

List of stalls will be posted in hall on the bulletin board with names of stall-holders and phone numbers for contact.

Please assist where you can. The Committee would be happy to hear from anyone with any ideas - new or old - all welcome.

The Pipe Band has agreed to do its usual stint, but we have yet to meet to make final arrangements for the day.

ART COMPETITION - Please don't forget we need your entries for the Fair Posters. Last date for entries - 23rd August. Prizes for boys, girls and adults.

Fair date - Sunday, 17th November, 1985.

FASHION PARADE - Thanks to all who helped with the Fashion Parade. We had 25 in the Children's Parade and 6 in the Ladies. We raised \$239 for the night.

Eileen Gardiner

FUND RAISING (continued)

TRADING TABLE

Would anyone with a few hours to spare on a Thursday or Friday, who would be willing to assist on a Trading Table outside the R. C. S. Hall, please contact Mrs. Mary Nesbitt - 293 6862 or Mrs. Marion Bested - 298 4138.

It is intended (weather permitting) to have a trading table every Thursday for fundraising purposes. If we have enough volunteers, we may extend to Thursday and Friday.

Any donations of jams, preserves etc. would be appreciated and can be left at the office with Mr. Verrall between 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

A word to our "crafty" members. We would love to sell your goods on a consignment basis. A small percentage will be added to your asking price and this will benefit the Society when the goods are sold. All handcraft items will be considered.

So - please help us to help you earn a bit of pocket money while helping the Society. Further details from Mrs. Nesbitt or Mrs. Bested.

TEASPOONS

Many thanks to the people who placed an order for spoons at our Burns Evening. We will notify you when they are ready for collection, which should be late August.

For other interested members the spoons are silver-plated and bear the Royal Caledonian Society Crest. Each spoon comes individually boxed. There are 2 designs to choose from at a cost of \$3 each.

We hope you will support this fundraising effort by ordering one for your collection, or as a small gift.

To order, please ring Mr. Verrall at the office on 51 5268 - office hours 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BAND REPORT

The Pipes and Drums Band is still making excellent progress. The visit to Kadina and Wallaroo Kernewek Lowender proved a great success. Those who made the trip had a most enjoyable time.

It was also financially successful and together with the recent Band Ceilidh effort, will greatly help to keep the Band equipment up-to-date.

The Band is carrying out engagements at supermarkets for three weeks in July.

The Band will give a demonstration at the Royal Caledonian Ball at Scotch College on August 23rd. Book now.

Bill Cox

BAIRNS' CLASS

It is pleasing to note that numbers at the Friday night class are slowly increasing. However, we need many more to join.

Mothers, aunties, grandmothers - bring along the children aged 5 or upwards from 7.30-9.30 p.m. each Friday. Don't let the opportunity be lost to our young ones to learn this graceful Scottish tradition.

Reg Laught

JUBILEE YEAR

The programme has been finalised and is in the hands of the Jubilee 1986 Committee. It contains a number of innovative and interesting items, and I ask your support for these. The full programme will be in the November newsletter.

June Laws

SCOTTISH HOUR RADIO

This broadcasts twice a month on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 12.30-1 p.m.

It contains news of local and Scottish events and music, stories, and talks on Scottish matters. As well as this Gaelic is featured.

The programme is broadcast on 92.9 F.M. radio.

June Laws

ST. ANDREWS DAY CHURCH SERVICE

Last November several members attended 11 a.m. Service at the Adelaide Presbyterian Church in Archer Street, North Adelaide.

Chief Ena Richards read the lesson and Piper Brian Erskine piped "Amazing Grace".

Again on Sunday, 24th November this year, another Service will be held at the Archer Street Church, and it is hoped a good muster of members will be there.

Please put the date in your diary.

WANTED URGENTLY

A piano for clubrooms - reasonable condition. Please contact Secretary.

SCOTTISH POPULATION

The 1985 edition of population trends in Britain shows that 10 out of the 12 Scottish regions have experienced a population increase over the years 1978-1983. Of these the Grampian, Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles regions head the list with population expansions of over 5%. The Highland, Dumfries and Galloway regions show a healthy increase. The two regions to experience losses are Strathclyde and Tayside.

Much of the increase is due to North Sea oil and the lifestyle which the remote areas can offer.

AUSTRALIA TARTAN

For those members wishing to view the new Australia tartan, it is on show at Fletcher Jones in Hindley Street. Based on the Lachlan MacQuarrie tartan, it is predominantly tan, with blue, black and white striping. The mixture of colours gives the tartan a slight mauve appearance.

The tartan is proving quite popular and there has already been one complete mill run during its six months of availability.

CLAN CHIEFS VISITING AUSTRALIA

The following clan/family chiefs/heads are known to be visiting Australia later in the year. All are arranging gatherings :- Colonel Sir William Jardine (Clan Jardine); Alasdair Forsyth of that Ilk; Dr. John Henderson and Ranald MacDonald of Clan Ranald. The seven Chiefs and Chieftains resident in Australia will be meeting with them. To date none will be visiting South Australia.

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS

The first of these gatherings was held in Scotland in 1977. It was such a successful event, or series of events, that further ones were immediately planned. In Scotland the events are conducted throughout the year with the whole country participating in what has become the single greatest tourist boon for that country. They are truly international events. A gathering is now planned for every year. Each fourth year they are held in Scotland. In between time they are held overseas, principally in Canada (Nova Scotia) or the U. S. A. Nova Scotia is to hold gatherings in 1987 and 1991. U. S. A. is to host the events in 1986 (Texas), 1990 (California) and 1992 (Chicago). The 1988 events are to occur in Australia to coincide with the Bi-Centennial celebrations.

CHAIR OF CELTIC STUDIES

In less than a year over \$80,000 has been raised towards the establishment of a Chair at an Australian university.

BIG BROTHER MOVEMENT

This movement is currently offering scholarships of \$3,000 each for young Australians to study in the U. K. They include specifically Celtic subjects - music (pipes, drums, fiddle, harp); dancing (country or highland); and language (Gaelic, dialect).

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