

# 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 - Dr. Gordon C. Greig Ph. 255 2500

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

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

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MARCH 1986

## A WORD FROM THE CHIEF

Congratulations are due for the auspicious start to the Bairns Class and the growing success of Scottish Nights on alternate Saturdays; the Pipes and Drums deserve to shine in the Australian National Championships on the Easter Weekend.

The finance committee recommendation was overwhelmingly supported at the half-yearly meeting and there are firm grounds for optimism on the future solvency of the Society.

There is therefore every reason for a Membership Drive and demonstrable support by members. Bring your friends to functions; encourage them to make the investment of membership, now! Your help is needed to continue the upgrading of facilities and service by the Society. There's room for your broom as we groom and bloom!

GORDON C. GREIG  
Chief

## BAIRNS CLASS

This years Bairns Class got off to a flying start with 30 children attending. We are hoping to increase this number as the year progresses.

Perhaps members with children could assist by giving the following particulars of our Bairns Dancing Class to the Secretary of their School/College for inclusion in their Newsletter.

"The Royal Caledonian Society invites children from 5 years upwards to join their "Bairns" Dancing Class on a Friday evening from 7.30-9.30 p.m. in the Caledonian Hall, 379 King William Street, Adelaide.

The children will be taught traditional Highland and Country Dancing by our Instructress Mrs. Bev. Hawthorn. As the Society wishes to encourage children to participate, the fee for the year will only be \$20 (with a reduction in the fee if more than one child attending). The class operates from February to November."

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY SCOTTISH AMICABLE INVESTMENTS

## SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

For the last two years, country dancing for parents as well as bairns has become part of the bairns' classes once a month. Owing to other functions taking place on some Friday nights, it has been difficult to set a regular night in the month for this activity. In 1986, therefore, the following nights have been selected to provide some new country dances and some old favourites for bairns and parents: 11/4, 16/5, 20/6, 18/7, 22/8, 19/9 and 17/10. On these nights, the bairns' classes will be held as normal with two or three special country dances being taught to parents and bairns after supper.

Last year some members of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society began assisting on these nights and it is hoped that this assistance will continue in 1986 to broaden members' awareness of this fine part of our Scottish heritage.

## SOCIAL REPORT

A big thank you to June Laws and her helpers for the beautiful St. Andrews Cross and colourful window boxes - well done!

Our Saturday evening Scottish Entertainment and Dance are proving very successful. The numbers attending keep increasing. 'Well done' Tom Woods and the members who contribute by various means to the success of the evening's entertainment.

It is heartening to realise that our funds are increasing due to the increasing number of people who are attending.

Thanks are due to Mary Nesbitt who organises our raffle and often supplies it too. We do appreciate the effort put into this fund raiser.

The Gallery Display put on by Mr. & Mrs. Easton at their home in North Adelaide was very much appreciated.

The video of our Highland Ball held at Scotch College was shown in the Caledonian Hall after a tea consisting of Scots fare and was much enjoyed by the people who attended.

Remember to come along to a Grand Scots Ceilidh to be held in our hall on Saturday, 29th March. A good evening's entertainment is promised. The charge will be Adults \$5 and Children \$1. Supper provided.

Of course you are all preparing for our Highland Ball to be held on 18th April at the Caledonian Hall this year. This will be a grand event. Get your tickets early. Jimmy Nesbitt and his band will set your feet a dancing until you sit down to enjoy supper. The tickets will cost \$15 each or \$30 a double.

We are endeavouring to change our social events to Saturday evenings where possible so that the childrens' dancing classes will be minimally disrupted.

## BAND REPORT

The Royal Caledonian Grade 2 Band left by coach on Friday, 14th March, to compete at Geelong on that weekend. They were under the direction of Drum Major Kym Atwell.

Band members had put in much time and work both at night practice and in the field on Sunday afternoons.

The Geelong events will, no doubt, help the Band for a great showing at the Australian Pipe Band Championships at Thebarton Oval S.A. on March 29th (Saturday) and March 30th (Sunday).

This will be of great P.R. importance to Scots and every member of the Society should support it by their presence on one or both days. (Tickets at gate or from Band Sec.)

Chieftain Bill Cox

## SCOTTISH FAIR 1986

The first meeting of the committee to organise the 1986 Scottish Fair will be held in the Clubroom at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 4th April. A full attendance will put us on the road to arranging a Fair which will be an outstanding success - the best ever.

ELIZABETH EASTON  
Convenor

## VIDEO TAPES OF HIGHLAND BALL

Video tapes of the Highland Ball held at Scotch College have been sold. If there are any other friends who would like to have one the cost is \$25.

Another batch can be run off before the master tape is destroyed. The minimum is 30 tapes.

Any one interested please contact D.N. Richards on 271 7354.

## ARE YOU FINANCIAL?

Rule 9 of the Constitution states -

"IF ANY MEMBER'S SUBSCRIPTION BE IN ARREARS FOR 2 YEARS HE SHALL CEASE TO BE A MEMBER IF THE COUNCIL SO DIRECTS." Also they will cease to receive newsletters.

## MAGIC MOUNTAIN DAY - SUNDAY, 25TH MAY, 1986

It has been arranged for Society Members and their children/grandchildren to visit "Magic Mountain" at Glenelg on the above day. The offer applies for the entire day - no set time to attend.

Members can take advantage of the following group offer:-

Normal price for 50 tokens	-	\$10.
Member's price for 50 tokens	-	\$5.

Members will only pay \$5 on production of their Royal Caledonian Society Membership Card OR Bairns' Dancing Class Membership Card.

We hope you will take advantage of this offer and you and the children have an enjoyable day.

Please ring Mr. Verral to notify if you will be attending as Magic Mountain wish to know how many people will be participating.

## COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE

Although this dance is not being held until 23rd May, it would be appreciated if members could ring and reserve their tickets well in advance. Tickets are \$6 each, which includes tea/coffee and cake. (Nuts and chips will also be provided.)

The bar will be in operation, and we will be organising a raffle. There will be a prize for the best dressed cowboy/cowgirl. B. Y. O. SUPPER.

MAKE UP A PARTY OF YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. THIS SHOULD BE A FUN EVENING, AND PROCEEDS WILL ASSIST THIS YEAR'S SCOTTISH FAIR.

## "BROONS" and "OOR WULLIE" BOOKS

Marion Bested is taking orders for the above books. Unfortunately they will not become available until around August. The recommended retail price is \$9.95 each.

If you would like to order a copy, please ring Marion on 298 4138 between 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on a Monday or Friday.

## WORKING BEE

Help is needed for the above. If you can spare even an hour or two, please let our secretary know.

## NEW MEMBERS

### CORPORATE

Mr. C. B. Smith  
Mr. Malcolm McDonald  
Mr. A. L. Pawson  
Mrs. Ann Davis  
Mrs. Joan Fisher

### ASSOCIATE

Mrs. Beth McDonald  
Mr. Kevin Davis

We welcome these new members, and would inform them that people who join the Society up to the end of April are eligible to be financial till the end of June '87.

## CLEANER

We are interested in finding any member(s) who would like the job of paid hall cleaner(s). If you are interested please contact the Secretary.

## ADELAIDE FOLKLORIC SOCIETY

The Royal Caledonian Dancers combined with the Garrick Stewart School of Highland Dancing will be performing at the Festival Theatre on Friday, 4th April, 1986, in conjunction with the Festival of Arts. Apparently our item will be after the interval.

## RED CROSS GARDEN PARTY

It was pleasing to see the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Caledonian Society and the Highland Dancers being so well received at the Red Cross Garden Party at Government House. The large audience present was delighted with their performance and the Red Cross Society thrilled. It is hoped that next year the Highland Dancers and Pipes and Drums will accept the invitation again to the Twilight Garden Party.

## LITTLE ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

On 26th April 1986 the Little Athletics Association has invited Highland Dancers (under 15 years) from the Bairns' class to participate at the opening ceremony at the Kensington Oval in the presence of the Governor of South Australia.

Congratulations Pipes and Drums and Highland Dancers and a special thank you to Beverley Hawthorn, the Bairns' class instructress.

Immediate Past Chief Richards

## PROPOSED ROYAL CALEDONIAN SOCIETY CHOIR

Following a considerable amount of interest in the formation of a choir, a meeting will be held for the purpose of discussion of meeting nights and times for the coming year.

Guidelines for the choir will be presented, and a date set for the first rehearsal. It is hoped that we will make our debut on July 25th at the Burns Night, so we will commence practice with a definite goal in mind.

Already 20 people have submitted their names to show their interest, so why not join them? We expect to find much pleasure and fellowship in singing together, and would like to see you there too.

Will all who have signified their intention of joining, and all others who are interested, please attend the meeting to be held in the clubrooms on Sunday, 20th April, at 6.00 p.m. I may be contacted at 79 2515.

ANNE MILLER  
Choir Conductor

## 1986 AUSTRALIAN PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

T-Shirts are available for the above if an order is placed and money accompanies it.

Prices are as follows:-  
Adults, 22, 20, 18, 16, 14 - \$9 each  
Childrens, 12, 10, 8 - \$7 each

## PAINTINGS

We are grateful to the Misses Ann and Trish McDonald for the gift of 5 very attractive watercolours. These will be displayed in the most suitable area of the premises.

## DRUM MAJOR

Congratulations to Kym Atwell who will assume the position of Drum Major for the Grade 2 as well as for the Grade 4 band.

## JUBILEE YEAR

### Historical Fashion Show and Supper

Don't forget the date of this - Friday, 13th June, at 7.30 p.m. in the hall. We will be having the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society dancing at the interval, and they will be dressed in period costume. At present I have the promise of 23 wedding dresses dating from the turn of the century, and some period costumes also. As well as this I am collecting memorabilia, so if you can help with this or the wedding dresses or period costumes, please contact me at 336 2226. There will be supper at this function and tickets will be \$5 adults and \$2 children.

Other Jubilee Year items before the next newsletter comes out include the Scots Cronies' Club's Scottish and Empire Ball on Saturday, 24th May, at 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. This will be held at Enfield Civic Centre and tickets are available by phoning 475 1723.

Keep in mind too that on Saturday, 28th June, there is to be a display of dancing throughout the ages by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society at the hall. Time is 8-10 p.m. Contact number is 262 3641.

Also on 28th June at Naracoorte there is to be a Highland Gathering (cabaret). This will be held at the Naracoorte Town Hall. Contact number is 087 62 1377.

# GARRICK STEWART SCHOOL OF SCOTTISH HIGHLAND DANCING

PROGRESSIVE DINNER - SUNDAY, 20th APRIL, 1986

Commencing at 5.30 p.m - Drinks/Hors D'oeuvre - 6 Sherwood Avenue, Salisbury East.  
Entree - 14 Bristol Way, Salisbury East.  
Main Course - 57 Fairfield Road, Elizabeth Grove.  
Sweets - 63 Fairfield Road, Elizabeth Grove.  
Coffee etc. - 67 Fairfield Road, Elizabeth Grove.

COST - \$10 single.

## BOOK REVIEW - "The Hays of Mount Breckan" by Anthony Laube

Many readers will be aware that Alexander Hay, M.L.C., was the first Chief of our society in 1881. He was amongst many influential Scots in South Australia at the time. He lived on an estate where the suburb of Linden Park now stands and had a summer residence at Mount Breckan, Victor Harbor.

The book, printed by Gillingham Printers in 1982, was written by a person who was working at Mount Breckan in recent times and was surprised to know that his great-grandfather had worked there. It focuses on the period 1879-1909 during the hey day of the family and ends with the tragic death of Alexander's second wife who was lost at sea with all other passengers on board the "Waratah".

The short book makes very interesting reading and includes a section on society gatherings at Linden Park.

It is difficult to find in shops, but is available in some libraries and when last I checked Gillingham Printers still had a few copies.

RON LAYTON