



Print Post Approved  
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Royal Caledonian Society of South Australia Inc  
379 King William Street, Adelaide, S.A. 5000

December 1995  
Ph: (08) 231 5268

## A WORD FROM OUR WORTHY CHIEF

As 1995 is rapidly drawing to a close let us all look forward to a new year with renewed enthusiasm for our Society, such as we have recently experienced with the St Andrew's Festival, Celtic Fair, St Andrew's Day at the Bay, and sensational Adelaide International Tattoo, along with our own activities.

The Scottish Associations of S.A. Inc (of which we are members) are to be congratulated for the successful events conducted during November. President William Paterson P.C. was most appreciative of the help given by many members of the Society.

The media coverage attracted considerable community interest and put the Scottish community well to the fore (as it rightly should anyway).

The only minus point must be that it was a very demanding time, stretching our resources physically and financially and affected attendances at our own functions. The absence of our Pipe Band and John Ogg Trophy winner for Highland Dancing at our St Andrew's Dinner was commented on by a number of members.

My thanks to those who did attend the St. Andrew's Day Dinner and to the Highland Dancers from the Bairns Class who amply entertained us, along with other artists and our guest speaker Andrew MacTier of the Robert Burns Society of S.A. We are looking into the cost of improving our P.A. system following complaints that it is inadequate.

The 1996 social programme has been approved and is included in this newsletter. Surely some of the evenings will appeal and your attendance will be appreciated.

Why don't you join us for Hogmanay on Sunday 31st December at the hall to see out the old and bring in the new?

It has been a pleasure to represent you at the Scotch College Speech Day and meet up with members of the Society still actively involved with the Scotch College Community.

Likewise at the Port Adelaide Caledonian Society, Mt Barker Caledonian Society and Scottish Associations Highland Ball.

On Sunday 26th at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church North Adelaide it was a delight to be present and take a small part in the service. The warm welcome by Mr A.G. Matheson M.B.E. Worship Leader to all members was appreciated. The Guest Speaker, The Rev. Harold Weir A.M. B.A. Lth delivered a most pertinent sermon.

The response to my letter regarding the future of our hall was disappointing; nevertheless Council is working on some ideas regarding the subject which you will hear about in the near future.

To all members I extend, on behalf of Robin and myself, Seasons Greetings and may 1996 bring good health and happiness to all.

As Aye

Lennox Pawson JP  
Chief



*Wishing you  
the Joys of Christmas  
and a Happy New Year*

## HALF YEARLY MEETING

ADVANCE NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT  
A ½ YEARLY MEETING  
WILL BE HELD IN FEBRUARY 1996  
FOLLOWING REQUEST AT THE AGM  
TENTATIVE DATE IS  
FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY 1996  
BUT OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION WILL BE GIVEN



## HOGMANAY



Hogmanay is a word used in Scotland, the northern counties of England to denote the last day of the year. Hogmanay appears in early 17th century but the word is derived from the Normans. Hogmanay celebrations have their origins in Paganism.

The Vikings celebrated with a feast to herald the arrival of the God Thor, who would appear at that time to initiate a Warrior God from the Norsemen.

The Picts used a feast to bring in the New Year during which time they initiated their own Warrior God.

The Celts celebrated by visiting villages and friends AFTER midnight. It is usually a black night with very little or no moon, and anyone seen abroad or entering a village or house in the dark before midnight was killed instantly, as it was considered a time of evil, or bad luck. If one came AFTER midnight bearing gifts, one was welcomed and expected to remain until after sunrise to keep the luck in the house or village.

The Pagan ceremony is still practised today in parts of the Shetland Isles and in Burghead, Morayshire, where I visit friends every time I visit Scotland. It was there I learned first hand of these Pagan Celebrations. The people, with lighted fire torches, come in procession through the town and up a small hill just beyond the last house (by the British Museum Archaeological dig which I have seen), and there light a big bonfire atop of which is a Clavie. The Clavie is a straw model of the God of Fertility which is moulded in the shape of a woman. When the God burns his Spirit seeks out the women to attach itself to them ready for the night's Orgy. The men assume the horns and appearance of a virile animal (usually a bull) and jump through the fire to increase virility.

The fire must be totally burned out and embers extinguished before midnight when the Fertility celebrations would take place. It was known that any woman who had not produced a male child during the previous year would conceive one during the hours between midnight and sunrise, and every effort was made to ensure this.

After dawn they would go home, but must still take care. The first visitor into their homes MUST be a blackhaired male. As most people living in these areas were fair, they would often hunt, and capture a dark man, and take him back to keep as a slave to ensure their luck remained with them.

It is interesting to note that they had much faith in dark haired people, whom they considered lucky.

I have many fond memories of "First Footing" first alone, later with my "Sassenach" husband, and still later with my daughter, after my husband decided that these funny folk lost a good night's sleep! But who can sleep on such a night? My ancestors are from Dundee, in a well-defined Pictish part of Scotland, and we celebrated in a most Pictish manner, but I find the Burghead celebrations the most exciting and interesting of all.

I wish you all happy Hogmanay, celebrate it as you will.

**Director Anne Miller** (with assistance of Mr Basil Hoyle)

## NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of the Chief, Directors and Members a very warm welcome is extended to the following new members

Mr Robert Brown  
Mr David Hall  
Mrs Joan Hall  
Mr Kevin R. Page

## BAIRNS CLASS NEWS

On Friday, 2nd February Term I will commence at 7.30pm.

Mrs Lyn Hann has been appointed instructress for the year and everyone looks forward to a happy and rewarding year.

Appreciation was expressed to retiring instructress Mrs Heather Sayers for her contribution over the past 3 years.

**Bairns Directors Calver & Minney**

## RECIPE BOOK

I am wishing to collate a recipe book as a fundraiser for the Society and would like as many members as possible to send in as many favourite and tried recipes as they like. Recipes to cover : Soups, Savouries, Salads, Meat Dishes, Desserts, Cakes, Biscuits & Slices, Scones, Batters, Dough, Confectionery and Drinks, Handy Hints plus Scottish Recipes. The recipes will have your name included.

Please send to Ann Wickham, C/- Secretary's Office or give to me personally. PS: Would love recipes from our more senior members, too.

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## GOLD NAME BADGES

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By now you may have seen a few members wearing a very attractive, easy to read personal name badge.

With the identifying badge of the Society and your name engraved in bold letters (easy to read as some of us get fading eyesight!!) this badge proudly identifies you as a member of the Society and assists in getting to know the names of members.

A sample badge is on display in the foyer and if you would like to have one contact the Secretary, Barbara Medhurst or Director Lennox Pawson. Cost is \$10.00

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## BAIRNS REPORT

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Friday night classes are going very well. It is nice to see many young bairns learning Highland and Country dancing.

Bairns that compete under their own school banner are doing exceptionally well.

*Touch of Tartan* concert was held Friday 29th September at Woodville Town Hall. Because of this our last Friday Night for the term was held on 22nd September with Bairns wearing the Tartan.

Those with outstanding fees, can you please see me as soon as possible as the year is fast drawing to a close.

Applications for Bairns Instructor for 1996 are in process of being called from all registered dancing teachers in South Australia.

**Directors A. Calver and C. Minney**

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## SOCIAL NEWS

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The Society held an Australia Remembers Ball on Wednesday 30th August. This was very well attended by the Wednesday night regulars, plus some old faces from these dances and a few Society Members. Thanks go to Barbara Medhurst, Doug Williams and Bill Paterson for their efforts in decorating the hall, and to Pat Kitchen and his Band for the music for the night.

Don't forget Halloween on 27th October and St. Andrew's Dinner Dance on 25th November.

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## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

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Newsletter articles can be left in the mail slot by the front doors, or tell the Editor, Members of Council, the Secretary, Treasurer or leave on the notice board.

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## WHISKY RAFFLE RESULTS

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As our new Chief was instrumental in getting this raffle organised it was appropriate that it should be drawn at the AGM on 11th August when he was installed as Chief.

Lucky winners were:

Prize	Ticket	Name	Prize
1st	495	Grant Parkyn	4.5L Johnnie Walker Red /+cradle
2nd	845	Ann-Louise Reid	2L Johnnie Walker Red Label
3rd	688	Barbara Paterson	1125ml Johnnie Walker Red
4th	909	Bruce McDonald	700ml Johnnie Walker Black
5th	494	Rebekah Lugg	700ml Cardhu single malt
6th	903	J. Slape	700ml Johnnie Walker Red
7th	55	K. Williamson	2 miniature Johnnie Walker Red
8th	57	Barry Markwick	Johnnie Walker Tray
9th	743	D. Totino	Johnnie Walker Water Jug
10th	614	Minney	Johnnie Walker Bar Towel

Peter O'Rourke once again sold the highest number of tickets (227). Well done Peter; Lennox is really going to try next time!

Profit from raffle was \$739.31. Thank you to all who sold tickets and those who bought them.

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## FROM THE EDITOR – Roselee Kossatz

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### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Janine Powell on the arrival of her 1st grandchild - a bonny wee boy Jasper Barkly Hodgson (now back in Alice Springs with his parents Sally and Wayne Hodgson). Janine has had an extremely hectic several months with lots of visitors, a sick son-in-law, younger daughter's wedding, the baby's birth and later christening ceremony – as well as running her own very busy office and helping out with our Society day-to-day business.

We are also pleased to see Robin Pawson (wife of Chief Lennox) up and about looking fit and well again after another stint in hospital. It is also pleasing to hear Lennox sounding much better after a recent bout of 'flu. To any other sickies we say *Get Well Soon*.

### SYMPATHY

It was with great sadness that a large number of Society & Pipe Band Members farewelled former Piper Robert McGregor (Jnr.) Robert, a popular member of the Pipe Band, and of the Society, especially with the Bairns, was the son of Pipe Major Bob McGregor; and to him and his family we extend our deepest sympathies.

We also extend sympathies to Pipe Band Pipe Band Secretary, Marg Morgan and Pipe Corporal Evan Morgan on the recent loss of their Mother-in-law and Grandmother.

### DID YOU HEAR

Did you hear about our Flag Bearer being a 'tight' Scot, by sending not 1 but 3 postcards in one envelope to our Secretary?

### CHANGE OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Don't forget to tell us if you change your name and/or address so we can keep in touch.

In an effort to contain costs it has been suggested that if a household is in receipt of more than 1 copy of our newsletter (e.g. both Mr. J. and Mrs I. Bloggs receive a copy = 2 copies) that we only send 1 copy per household (i.e. Mr & Mrs J. Bloggs = 1 copy). Should all members in each household wishing to receive their own individual copy can they please notify me either via the Secretary or by phoning me on 262 4608 or by dropping me a line (with their Newsletter items, of course) in either the mail by the front door or on the notice board in the foyer, both duly marked to my attention.

It has been suggested that a Bairns Corner be included in future Newsletters. So that we can get this underway I am asking the Bairns of our Society to put their thinking caps on and come up with some suggestions on what they would like to see printed in their 'corner'. Some ideas could be favourite recipes, jokes, trivia. You can leave your ideas in the letter box by the front door addressed to 'The Editor', or send them marked to my attention C/- The Secretary. A little profile would be a good idea too, telling us about your hobbies, family, date of birth, etc.

Roselee Kossatz - Editor

### PIPE BAND NEWS

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Drum Major          | K. Atwell             |
| • Pipe Major          | R. McGregor           |
| • Drum Sergeant       | R. Boundy             |
| • Secretary           | M. Morgan             |
| • Treasurer           | R. Modra              |
| • Manager             | A. Walters            |
| • Uniform & Equipment | P. Gill               |
| • Band Rep. on Mgmt   | I. Carr               |
| • Delegates to SAPBA  | R. McGregor & I. Carr |

We make welcome Peter Gill who takes over as Uniform and Equipment Officer and wish him success. Also there are a number of other positions in the band which are not elected, but appointed. These are...

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|------------------------|-----------|
| • Assistant Drum Major | P. Gill   |
| • Pipe Sergeant        | I. Carr   |
| • Pipe Corporal        | E. Morgan |
| • Drum Corporal        | S. Small  |

We congratulate Evan Morgan on his appointment to the position of Pipe Corporal.

The second miniature band and solo contest held at Adelaide High was well supported by the band, entering one miniature band in grade three and three pipers in the solo contest. A win in grade three was supported by success in the solos. Wearing our third and latest uniform the band looked smart and felt comfortable.

Engagements wise, the remainder of the year is looking very healthy with involvement in all SAPBA events, a weekend in Burra, the Grand Prix, the International Tattoo, plus a myriad of others.

For those who may be interested, a band social group has been started. Going under the name "Friends of the Calys", the group consists of people who primarily wish

to liaise on a social level with the band. Anyone who is interested in being part of the fabric of this 101 year old pipe band is encouraged to do so. Just talk to any band member.

Drumming tutor Adrian Merchant is engaged in bringing learner drummers up to a proficient standard ready for band performance and competition. The band seeks persons interested in learning drumming and urges them to contact the band Secretary Margaret Morgan on 356 3437 for further information.

### DID YOU KNOW? - SCOTTISH TERRIER

Bred as a hunter of small animals, the Scottie boasts a well built body and rugged coat. He looks hardy and he is! He loves rough and tumble play and has the physique and spirit to give as good as he gets.

The Scottish Terrier, often comical and affectionate, is always a one man dog whose reserve and independence mark a truly Scottish disposition.

His individual personality may even go as far as to have a strong stubborn streak.

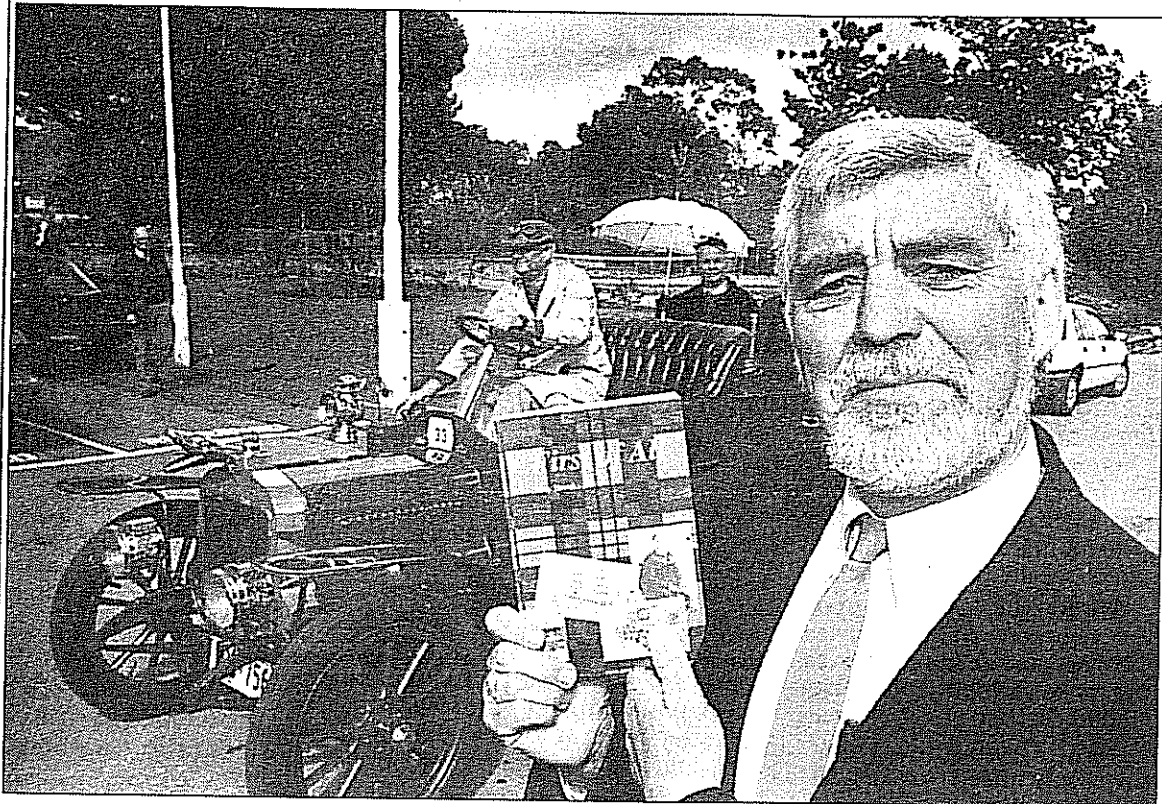
*He was a gash an "faithful" tyke  
As ever lap and sheugh of dyke  
His honest sonsie bawsiet face  
Ay gat him friends in ilka place*

Robert Burns

### DO YOU JUST BELONG - THINK IT OVER

Are you an active member  
the kind who would be missed  
or are you just content that  
your name is on the list?  
Do you attend meetings  
and mingle with the flock,  
or do you stay away  
and criticise and knock?  
Do you take an active part  
to help the work along,  
or are you satisfied to be  
the kind who just belongs?

Do you ever work on committees  
to see there is no trick  
or leave the work to just a few  
and talk about the clique?  
So come to the meetings often  
and help with hand and heart  
don't just be a member  
but take an active part.  
Think it over, members,  
you know right from wrong.  
Are you an active member,  
or do you ... just belong?



Author Tony Brooks with his book which was launched at Scotch College last week.

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## 13-year search to tell story of woman pioneer

By SCOTT COWHAM

PORT Willunga's Tony Brooks has travelled 170 years into the past to recount the life of one of SA's pioneering women Catherine Helen Spence.

The playwright had never heard of the Scottish-born woman until a script he was writing for a television mini-series on the early settlers needed a strong, female character.

"One of my characters was too wishy-washy, a woman who had sort of become a Mills and Boon character who got married and lived happily ever after," Mr Brooks said.

"A friend said to make her a strong new woman, something significant for those days, but I didn't know if there were any then.

"I went to the Women's Study Centre and asked were there any significant women in those days and they said: 'Of

course haven't you heard of Catherine Helen Spence and I said Catherine Helen who?'"

So began a 13 year trail tracing the footsteps of one of SA's leading pioneers, including trips overseas to her hometown Melrose, in Scotland, and following her tours through the United States.

"She did so much I could not believe no one had written anything big on her," said Mr Brooks of the woman who arrived in SA in 1839 and died in Queen St, Norwood in 1910.

"Besides the fact she did not marry, which was quite unusual in those days, she did all these things women just did not do like getting herself an education, becoming a journalist, preacher, public lecturer and being the first woman nominated to a political post in the whole British Empire.

"That is why I've called the book *First of All* because she was the first for women in so many fields ... she was a figure-

head for getting rid of orphanages for children and giving them to families and travelled the US lecturing on voting changes and political reforms which just was not done!"

In her own memoirs, Catherine Helen Spence said she declined propositions for marriage from two unnamed men, saying that one "proved to be unworthy".

After heavy research and taking a few hints in Spence's memoirs, Mr Brooks suggests who the mystery man could be.

"I am not going to give it away for people who read the book ... but I will say it was a Member of Parliament."

The 512-page book *First of All*, printed by Axiom Press, was launched at Scotch College last Tuesday, September 5. Only one descendant of Catherine Helen Spence is known in SA, and people with any information on others can phone Tony Brooks on 085 57 7147.

This book is in our Library.  
Contact Director Marjorie Burns on Wednesdays  
to borrow it.

# THE ROBERT BURNS SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED



11th December, 1995

Attention: The Editor

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **1796 - ROBERT BURNS BICENTENARY - 1996**

#### Text:

This bicentenary year of celebrations, performances and exhibitions will get under way at the Robert Burns Society's fourteenth annual **BURNS MEMORIAL MARCH** which will be held on **Sunday, 28th January, 1996.**

Massed pipe bands and marchers will assemble at the **Torrens Parade Ground**, Victoria Drive, Adelaide, at **10:00 a.m.** The march will set off at **10:30 a.m.** via Memorial Drive, King William Road and North Terrace to the Robert Burns Statue (opposite John Martins).

The ceremony at the statue will include performances of Burns' poetry and songs, as well as displays of piping and highland dancing – all in celebration of the poet's birthday.

The ceremony will conclude at approximately 12:00 noon.

Immediately afterwards all are invited free, as guests of the Royal Caledonian Society, to a traditional *ceilidh* (entertainment/party) at **379 King William Street**. Those attending may BYO food, but food/tea/coffee/drinks will also be on sale at the hall, and licensed bar facilities will be open.

The program will be both entertaining and a fitting celebration of the spirit and genius of Rabbe Burns!

Further information, phone 269 1856 (Secretary & March Organiser).

Submitted & authorised by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew MacTier". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Andrew MacTier  
PRESIDENT