



# Cape Town Caledonian Society

Established 1881      Reg. No 036-264-NPO

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

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Dear Members,

With Christmas around the corner there are some great ideas for gifts for the special person in your life to be found at Will Carter's busy store, Staghorn Scottish Outfitting & Hire, in Plumstead.

Recently returned from an extended trip to Scotland and Ireland, Will now has a lovely new stock of most unusual Celtic silver jewellery and some fascinating new styles of well-priced skean dubhs and Celtic design quaichs, amongst other things.

You'll also find a small treasure trove of piping and pipe band CD's, ties, lambs wool and Celtic print scarves as well as sterling silver rings for men and women, a host of made-to-order belts and buckles, an intriguing range of polished pewter Celtic and clan jewellery and of course all the latest outfitting stuff, from hand crafted kilts and tailormade jackets in various styles, braces, kilt hose, ghillie brogues and so on, to Staghorn's trendy ghillie and Jacobite shirts.

Without doubt one of the most popular gifts for men will be Will's ever-changing selection of unique sporrans in a variety of Celtic knotwork styles, silverwork and skins. These are currently being exported worldwide.

So visit Will's shop soon!

The South African Tattoo which was held at Montecasino, Johannesburg, during September will be screened on SABC 2 on Sunday 13th December at 8 p.m. This is an outstanding event and will be worth watching. Suggest that you diarise this now!

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## PAST EVENTS

### Federated Caledonian Society Congress:

*(Text courtesy of Sandra Rankin East London Caledonian Society)*

Congress was a happy affair. Carnival City is aptly named and made an excellent and unusual venue. The business session on Saturday morning included reports from the outgoing Federation Chief and Provincial Chieftains, standard Annual General Meeting items and the installation of the new Federation officials.

Past Fed Chief and Lady President Andrew and Dawn Sked were honoured with Hon. Life Membership.

East London's proposal for guidelines for Federation Chiefs and Provincial Chieftains was unanimously accepted for immediate implementation. Both the Ken Johnstone trophy for highest percentage increase in membership and the Harare trophy for greatest net increase in members during the year, were won by St Andrews Caledonian Society.

To those who took tickets in the raffle – it was won by the new consort to the Federation Chief, Andrew Kelly of Johannesburg.

The next Caledonian Congress will be held at Port Elizabeth from 8-10 October 2010.

Past Chief Peter Ross and Vicki Mackenzie attended Congress on behalf of the Cape Town Caledonian Society

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### Kindred Society Evening

The evening was a great success with the 6 societies coming together under one roof! The Cape Town Caledonian Society were the instigators of this happy evening and Past Chief Peter Ross was the Chairperson of the convening committee. The planning meetings were all very well attended possibly because of the bottle of Old Brown sherry which was always the last item tabled for discussion at each meeting. Tom Purcell was an excellent MC. It was agreed by all that this event be held at least annually in the future. A much bigger venue will be required in the future though.

### Kirkin' of the Chief

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November, we gathered at the Trinity Presbyterian Church in Meadowridge to attend the service at 09:00. Caledonian members, who attended, were piped into the front pews and then we were privileged in having the Cape Town Caledonian Pipe Band lead us in the singing of Amazing Grace. Later in the service the band played Highland Cathedral and then entertained the congregants, outside, at the end. I thank the whole band for supporting us in such a magnificent way. I also thank The Rev David Gray, our Honorary Padre, who led the service with his unique style, emphasising his Scottish heritage, and gave us a thought-provoking sermon on not being a person who complains about things. During the service, Colleen and I made our pledges to the Caledonian Society for our forthcoming year in office.

### Chief's at Home

This occurred on the same day as the Kirkin and took the form of a luncheon at Stuart and Colleen's home. The twenty members who attended, enjoyed a home-cooked meal of tangy chicken, roast potatoes and butternut, together with other seasonal vegetables, followed by a lovely peppermint tart and tea and coffee. The members witnessed the "badging" of the Chief and Lady

President, and the various office-bearers and council members, and by the sounds of the constant conversations, they seemed to have had a most enjoyable time. Thank you, Colleen, for a lovely meal, and thank you Trish, Jacinta and Nicky for your kind assistance at crucial times.

## FUTURE EVENTS & FUNCTIONS

### St. Andrew's Night:

Date: Saturday 28 November, 2009

Time: 19:00 for 19:30

Venue: Rondebosch Golf Club

Tickets: R95 per person

An important event in our calendar in celebration of the life of our Patron Saint, St Andrew. A two course meal will be served and a cash bar will be available. The Tribute to St Andrew will be given by our Honorary Padre, the Rev David Gray. To book, please telephone Jacinta or Stuart Munro on 021 7610568 or Colleen or Stuart Rennie on 021 7623253.

Kindly also complete the enclosed booking form.

### Burns Supper

Yes the functions for the next few months continue unabated. Burns Supper is scheduled to be held on Saturday 23 January, 2010, two day before the Bard's birthday on 25 January. More details will follow.

FROM YOUR CHIEF Colleen and I are looking forward to an exciting year as your Lady President and Chief, respectively. Thank you, Peter and Nicky, for your excellent leadership and enthusiasm which you demonstrated in leading our Society for the past three years. Fortunately, your skills and expertise will not be lost, as you remain on Council with us. You have truly been a dedicated pair and have brought many good things to our Society.

As many members were unable to attend the Kirkin of the Chief and Lady President, I thought it would be good for you to read what pledge we gave. It was as follows:

1. We take on our responsibility in the Cape Town Caledonian Society, acknowledging our need for God's strength and guidance.
2. We promise to carry out these responsibilities faithfully and diligently.
3. We will seek to keep a balance between participation in the Society, our daily life and the fellowship of the Church.

We will both seek to live up to these ideals.

It is of great concern to us, as well as the Council, how many members do not attend functions. I therefore, urge you to make the attendance of functions a priority for this year. Should you find our programme boring, or find functions are at the wrong time, or have further suggestions, please don't hesitate to e-mail or 'phone me. We are looking forward to a good St Andrew's Night at Rondebosch Golf Club and I look forward to seeing you there.

Myra Horn, our Chieftain, will be celebrating her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 2 December. Congratulations Myra! This is indeed a landmark birthday, and we wish you good health and happiness for the day, and in the years ahead.

We were sorry and shocked to hear of the attack on Rose and Duncan in their home, but are pleased that they did not suffer even more serious injury. Rose and Duncan, we hope and pray that this type of thing does not reoccur.

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and, before we realise it, we will be in the midst of the end of the year fever of activity! Colleen and I wish that you all have a peaceful and blessed Christmas and that your loved ones will be able to be with you as you share the true meaning of Christmas.

Kind Regards to each one of you.

Stuart

#### NEWS FROM MEMBERS:

Early in July, Duncan and Rose MacMillan had a traumatic experience when they were attacked in their home. Duncan was hit on the head and taken to hospital. Fortunately the perpetrators are behind bars at Pollsmoor Prison. This was the second time that this couple had managed to get into the house.

Ishbel Mulvey has been reminiscing about Oban after the last newsletter. Her grandfather was born in Easdale on Seil and her mother on the island of Luing, where Ishbel started school.

When the roof on Iona Abbey was being restored, it was discovered that the slate came from Luing and there was still someone on the island who could cut the slates. When they were delivered the slater was asked if they will last another 1000 years to which he replied 'if they don't, you can bring them back'!

In the mid-sixties Ishbel was in a grocery shop in Oban with her mother, when the grocer said to her mother, "It's a while since you have been in Mrs McDougall" to which her mother replied, "Yes 14 years"!

#### BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS!!

##### NOVEMBER

1<sup>st</sup> Maureen Fernandes

7<sup>th</sup> Beth Hewitt-Coleman

10<sup>th</sup> Louise Athiros

23<sup>rd</sup> Gordon Foulis

24<sup>th</sup> Keith Griffiths

28<sup>th</sup> Norma Harris

29<sup>th</sup> Ruth McGregor-Clark

##### DECEMBER

2<sup>nd</sup> Myra Horn

4<sup>th</sup> Maaiké Duk

5<sup>th</sup> Gabriel Athiros

14<sup>th</sup> Megan Lettie

17<sup>th</sup> Janet Waters

28<sup>th</sup> Audrey Young

From your Chief, Lady President and Council

And your scribe.

**BOOKING FORM FOR St ANDREW'S NICT  
28 NOVEMBER 2009**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

No of persons: ..... @ R95 each =R.....

If you have a specific seating requirement, please state it:  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you require vegetarian food please indicate Yes No

**KINDLY ARRANGE BY PAYMENT BY 25 NOVEMBER 2009**

Cheques to be made payable to: Cape Town Caledonian Society

Direct transfers to: Cape Town Caledonian Society, FNB Rondebosch, Branch code : 201509, Current account : 55161140154 (Use surname as reference)

**PLEASE FORWARD THE COMPLETED FORM(S) TOGETHER WITH YOUR REMITTANCE OR PROOF THEREOF TO:**

**THE SECRETARY, CAPE TOWN CALEDONIAN SOCIETY, PO BOX 1433, CAPE TOWN 8000**

ALTERNATIVELY EMAIL TO MR STUART MUNRO: [samunro@iafrica.com](mailto:samunro@iafrica.com)

**Or a fax for his attention: Fax No 021 761 0568**