



## CAPE TOWN CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Established 1881 NPO Reg No 036-264

### NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2007

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Dear Member

*Scotland our mither – since first we  
left your side,  
From Quilimine to Cape Town we've  
wandered far and wide;  
Yet aye from mining camp an' town,  
from koppie an' Karoo,  
Your sons richt kindly, auld wife,  
send hame their love to you.*

By Charles Murray

I found the above in *The Scots Book*,  
reprinted in **1949**. I wonder if the  
poet was a relation to **Andrew  
Murray**, founder of the Dutch  
reformed Church!

### 'UNDERCOVER' IN EDINBURGH

*Reference Scots Magazine*

In last month's issue we mentioned  
the significance of **1707**, the year of  
the **Treaty of Union** between  
Scotland and England.

History records that Scotland and  
England shared a Monarch, **James  
IV of Scotland and James I of**

**England**. In **1603** the **Union of the  
Crowns** placed a Scottish king firmly  
upon the throne of England, James  
being the legitimate heir of **Elizabeth  
I** of England, who died childless. The  
two countries went their own  
individual way and traditional  
tensions between them were not  
noticeably diminished. In **1702** when  
**Queen Anne**, daughter of **William  
of Orange**, succeeded to the throne,  
the situation altered somewhat, as  
Anne had failed to produce an heir in  
direct line to the throne.

In England it was feared that upon  
Anne's death Scotland might not  
agree to the next Protestant  
descendant of the **Stuart** line. In this  
event they feared Scotland might  
invite the Catholic son of James II to  
ascend the Scottish throne.

In **1703** the Scottish parliament  
passed the **Act of Security** which  
reserved for itself the right to choose  
Queen Anne's successor, declaring  
that a joint monarchy was only  
possible if Scotland obtained

freedom of trade with England and the colonies – an eye to the *bawbee!*

In England there was concern that a completely separate Scotland might see a return to the old tradition of war and conflict. The idea grew in London and, indeed, in some parts of Edinburgh, that the future needed to be secured by an incorporating union which secured both countries under one Government and one Parliament. There was considerable resistance to the Act in Scotland and, in order to sound out feeling up North, London employed **Daniel Defoe**, author of *Robinson Crusoe*, as an undercover agent. (To be continued)

### FROM THE CHIEF

In the interests of despatching this newsletter promptly (and the delay has been on my side, let me admit!), I am going to be short and sweet this month. I will have more to say next month, though!

Scottish man walking through a field, sees a man drinking water from a pool with his hand. The Scottish man shouts "Awa ye feel hoor thats full O coos Sharn " (Don't drink the water, it's full of cow dung.) The man shouts back "I'm English, Speak English, I don't understand you". The Scottish man shouts back "You'll get more water if you use both hands."

(Thanks to the honourable member who sent this to me!)

Yours aye,  
Peter

### FUNCTIONS

On a glorious, warm evening we gathered in the Officer's Mess in Cape Town Castle, an impressive venue steeped in military history. Through old photographs we followed the progress of our late member, **Denzil Loveland**, from a *wee sojer laddie* to the exalted position of Colonel of the Regiment. The story of whisky was most ably presented by ??? of the College of Whisky, exploring the various characteristics of several varieties of *the water of life*. All in all, a really happy, enjoyable event.

#### Kirkin' of the Chief

Our honorary Padre, **Myra Horn**, ably handled a double bill as preacher and organist – no mean feat! Having been piped into the church by **Will Carter**, our Chief, Lady President and Council committed themselves to serve the Society honourably and steadfastly. Myra's sermon laid emphasis on the importance of love in service, particularly agape, the unselfish love which is given freely and unconditionally. We thank those of you who came out in support and contributed to the delicious tea for the congregation. It was a happy morning in good company.

#### CHIEF'S AT HOME

**Date 15 September**  
**Venue Vista Nova School**  
**Time 19:00 for 19:30**  
**Tickets R55**

We are counting on you to come along to support our **Chief and Lady President, Peter and Nicky Ross**,

as we honour them in their undertaking to lead our Society through another year. They have made an excellent beginning in the year just past, as they manoeuvred us through unfamiliar territory for them. We hope this current year will produce the flowering of their ground work and that they will enjoy a fulfilling journey. There will be a programme of traditional entertainment - Highland dancers and a piping quartet – also Bruce Gardener, well known pianist and some other interesting acts in the same vein to entertain you. A light supper will be served and please bring your own drinks and glasses. To book please telephone **Margaret Currie at 021 617 3674** or **Mary Moodie at 021 762 4710** or use the enclosed booking slip.

### **October or early November Seniors Lunch**

Last year this event took the form of a wonderful luncheon party at the home of our Chief and Lady President. Details of this year's celebration are still underway and approaching finality. Personal invitations will go out – so keep your eye on the post box if you are a senior member! Don't forget to advise us if you require a lift.

**St Andrew's Nicht**  
**Date 1 December**  
**Venue Vista Nova School**

**Burns' Nicht**  
**26 January 2008**  
**Venue Kelvin Grove, Newlands**

As promised, we shall be returning to our usual venue for this function. As you know the cost will be in relation

to this – so we are giving you lots of time to plan your budget. Don't miss this prestige event!

The last events are still in the planning stages. We shall advise you of full details as soon as possible. Meanwhile, keep the dates free so that you don't miss out.

### **PINELANDS SOCIETY**

A **video** of Michael Flaherty's Celtic Tiger – **29 September; Seniors' afternoon** 20 October. For details, please telephone **Anne Miller at 021 591 1499**.

Should you require transport to any of our functions please contact our Secretary **Ian McWalter at 021 685 6000 (a/h)** and we will gladly arrange a lift for you.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

It's happy we are, indeed, to welcome **Frankie Burt** as well as **Linda and Gordon Smith** into our Society. *Bide a wee an' gie's yer crack!* We hope to become a warm and meaningful part of your lives.

### **MEMBERS NEWS**

It is with great sadness that we tell you of the loss of **Charlie Wilson** who has always just been there, at the helm. He has been synonymous with the Federation for those of us who live at a distance. Caledonianism and the Federation, it seems, have been a large part of his reason for living and he has certainly given it his all.

We were privileged to have him with us at our Congress in Cape Town in 2006, despite his ill-health. It will be very difficult to fill the space in the Society he leaves behind. We will miss him greatly. We send our deepest sympathies to his family.

Over the past several months we have noticed that Past Chief **Lance Wiseman** has been studying every spare moment he could snatch. Now the results bear witness to his hard work. He has qualified as a cat judge in certain breeds, enabling him to do his stuff at the local cat shows. Lance is a confirmed cat lover and breeder.

**Bobby Loveland** has undergone her operation and is progressing well. Keep it up, Bobby! We send our best thoughts in your direction.

**Phyllis Cruickshank** is also recovering well from dental surgery and looking forward to what she describes as a Big Christmas with a new great grandchild expected and her grandson, **Kevin**, having achieved distinction in his field.

## THIS AND THAT

### **Scotland's soor plooms and toffee doodles**

When Scots Knights who had fought in the Crusades returned home they carried with them small canvas bags among the silks and jewels they had acquired from the Turks.

The knights' squires had filled the sacks with small white granules (now known as sugar) from the stone houses of Jerusalem when the Crusaders had captured it after a 40 day siege.

Sugar was unknown in the British Isles but quickly became an addiction - much like drugs do today. Now we know who to blame!

## A SMILE

### **Scots Classroom Clangers**

My mother was not healthy and she was warned not to have children by her doctor.

Susan did not go back to school after lunch as her dad turned into a big tree on his way home.

To scotch something is to drown your sorrows in whisky.

*To the smooring of the peats,  
And to the new flame,  
From the gleads in the morning*

From your Chief, Lady President and the Council

And your scribe