



✠Cape Town Caledonian Society✠

Established 1881

Reg. No 036-264-NPO

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SEPT./OCT. 2011 NEWSLETTER

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Dear Members

Oh, to be in South Africa, now that spring is here! (With apologies to Robert Browning). It is great to be back to see the vygies, daisies and proteas blooming in my garden – and Kirstenbosch. If you have not yet seen the spring flowers bursting with colour in Kirstenbosch, I suggest you get there as soon as possible.

During our holiday in the U.K. we stayed with our son, Michael, and his family for most of the time. However, we did make our customary journey to Colleen's Aunt in Ballymoney, Northern Ireland, for a few days. While there we found out that one of Colleen's cousins, Gary, was running the Ballymoney branch of the Ulster – Scots. We visited the branch just off the main street of Ballymoney and were impressed by the number of pamphlets and books and DVD's they had detailing the links between Ulster and Scotland. Colleen's cousin and his girlfriend even ran their own local radio station two mornings a week, and were hoping to soon broadcast weekly. Their programs consisted of a mixture of local news items, interviews, and music relating to the Ulster Scots and also the advertising of various fund-raising activities for local charities. I have studied the history of the Scottish connections with Ulster and thought I would share this with you in this newsletter and forthcoming ones.

Ulster is separated from Scotland by the narrow North Channel, which is at one point only 20 km wide. Historically, this channel has been a link and has witnessed many people coming and going. In the Middle Ages, mercenary soldiers, known as *galloglagh*, from the Highlands and Islands of Scotland arrived in Ireland to fight for the Gaelic chieftains. In the sixteenth century, there were further arrivals of mercenaries from Scotland, known as *Redshanks*. Obviously, their descendants stayed on to inhabit parts of Ulster. In the early seventeenth century Lowland Scots began to arrive in counties Antrim and Down. The largest land grant made in Ulster in the early seventeenth century was an area of well over 300,000 acres in county Antrim, to Randal MacDonnell in 1603. In our next newsletter I will explore the "Plantation" of Scots in Ulster.

NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

CELEBRATIONS ON THE FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL

The largest flotilla of boats of all shapes and sizes, in recent memory, gathered on the Forth and Clyde Canal in the centre of Glasgow, last weekend. Around 80 vessels sailed from Speirs Wharf to the Falkirk Wheel, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the reopening of the 200-year-old waterway. The flotilla featured boats from many of the canal societies, charities and social enterprises which work to promote the waterway. These boats varied from traditional barges, mini steam boats and a mini replica puffer, through to motorboats and vessels which were a combination of a caravan and a boat. The oldest boats were a large Dutch barge which was more than 100 years old and the Ratho Princess, which was built in 1923. Spectators were also treated to sounds of a group of talented Scottish music students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and the drumming of SheBoom.

The Forth and Clyde canal was the world's first man-made sea to sea ship canal and remains one of the most enduring industrial works of its time. The aim of the canal was to increase trade by joining the Firth of Clyde on the West coast to the Firth of Forth on the east. Building this canal through the narrowest part of Scotland meant sea-going vessels could travel across country without risking a passage through the Pentland Firth. Construction began in 1768 and the final connections through to Port Dundas and Bowling were completed by 1791. The total cost of the project, at the time, was £8500. In the early 19th century, passenger boats started to appear among the heavy industrial traffic on the 60 km - long canal. The canal was closed on Hogmanay 1962, but by the end of the decade, voluntary groups started to campaign for its reopening. *(Courtesy of the Evening Times)*

This must have been a great sight, and makes me want to take a ride along the canal on my next visit to Scotland.

TIME FOR A LAUGH

"Are you washed yet?" said the mother to her young son, after he had been in the bath for an hour.

"Oh, Ma, there's no soap."

"Haven't you got a tongue in your head?"

"Yes, but it can't reach the back of my neck."

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Not everyone in Kittybrewster was pleased when the bus fares into central Aberdeen went down:

"Now I need to walk into town twice instead of only once to save a pound," mourned an active elderly resident.

(Courtesy of Scottish Jokes edited by Chris Findlater, Lomond)

MEMBERS' NEWS

Congratulations to Bob Ritchie who turned 90 on 6th September! Well done, Bob, we hope that you enjoyed the day and that you will be blessed in the years ahead. Thank you for your loyal support of the Society for so many years.

Congratulations to Catherine De Vries who turns 21 on 23rd October! We wish you all the best for your great day and hope that you will enjoy the celebrations!

Craig, son of **Peter and Nicky Ross**, and his colleagues, received a **Bronze and Silver medal** at the **Loerie Awards' Ceremony**. Congratulations Craig, and his proud parents, **Peter and Nicky!**

A Ladies' Social Group has been started by **Jacinta**. The ladies meet once a month for an informal time of chat and craft (or whatever they choose to do or wherever they choose to go), over coffee/tea and yummy treats. All ladies of our Caledonian Society are invited to join by contacting **Jacinta** for more information via e-mail or phone (see details on letterhead).

We congratulate **Kajun, the son of Colin and Pam Wing**, on being chosen as an exchange student to visit the U.K. for a few weeks. We wish him all the best for this wonderful opportunity, and hope that he has an enjoyable time, and we look forward to hearing from him on his return and seeing his photographs.

Audrey Smith's grand-daughter, Emma-Jean Clark, is currently teaching English in Korea. We hope that she has a most rewarding and enjoyable year as she experiences the Korean culture.

We welcome back our **Honorary Padré, David Gray and his wife, Rosemary** from their U.K. holiday. We look forward to hearing snippets of news from them, regarding their visit to Scotland.

As I said before, **Colleen and I** also recently returned from the U.K., where we had a lovely time experiencing the fun and joy of living, with our two lovely grand-children, and their parents. I thank our Chief, Stuart Munro for writing the last, bumper newsletter in my absence.

MEMBERS' SMALLS

Are you interested in purchasing **beautiful gift hampers for Christmas, or hand-made designer cards**, all at excellent prices? If so, contact **Jacinta Munro** (details on letterhead). A percentage of the sales will be donated to the Society's funds.

If you are interested in submitting items to be advertised, please send them to me (see letterhead for contact details).

BIRTHDAYS

We hope that those who have already celebrated their birthdays had an enjoyable time on their birthdays, and we wish the others many happy returns on theirs!

Sept.

5th Lance Wiseman
6th Bob Ritchie
9th Jane Stark
Richard Young
14th Ina Steyn
17th Paddy Leonard
18th Pamela Wing

Oct.

10th Graeme Henry
11th Helen Botes
Bradán Wing
14th Nicky Ross
15th Claire Alexander
16th Judy Lucas
23rd Catherine de Vries
24th Edith McNab
30th Peter Ross

THE CAPE TOWN CALEDONIAN SOCIETY RECIPE BOOK

All members have recently received a flyer in connection with our 130th Anniversary project. **Please submit your favourite recipe, as directed on the flyer, by 7 October.** We are sure that each member must be able to submit at least one recipe! Please, also don't forget to ask your local business to sponsor a page or advertise in the recipe book.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Will those members who have not yet paid this year's subscription, please do so as soon as possible so that it doesn't slip your mind for another month. I remind you that cheques are to be made payable to: **Cape Town Caledonian Society**. Direct online payments or telegraphic transfers can be made to: Cape Town Caledonian Society, FNB Rondebosch, Branch Code: 201509, Current Account: 55161140154 (Please use your surname as a reference otherwise we will not know to whom we should allocate the payment).

FUTURE EVENTS

KIRKIN OF THE CHIEF:

Sunday, 16th October at 09:00, in the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 22 Newton Drive, Meadowridge. The service will be conducted by our Honorary Padré, Rev David Gray. Members who attend, are asked to bring a plate of "eats" to provide for a scrumptious tea afterwards. We encourage you to come along and support the Kirkin of your Chief and Lady President.

CHIEF'S AT HOME:

Saturday, 12th November, at Mossop Hall, on the corner of Cheltenham and Roseberry Roads in Little Mowbray, 11h45 for 12noon. The cost will be just R25 to enjoy a good lunch and a chance to interact with one another, besides having a "guid" time. You can expect a surprise or two as well. For catering purposes please let Jacinta know you're coming—see booking form.

ST ANDREW'S NIGHT & CELEBRATION OF OUR 130th ANNIVERSARY:

This will take place on 3rd December. Full details will be in our next newsletter. Please reserve this date and book as soon as tickets are available. This will be a celebration not to be missed and seating will be limited so tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

The past month or so, since the AGM on Saturday 27th August, has been hectically busy for both me and Jacinta. Me because it's getting close to Christmas (would you believe?) and new gifting products have been produced for the season, meaning that my customers must now start stocking up before the rush begins, and competition is fierce. Jacinta has had a number of deadlines to meet, not least of which is that one of the research projects she is involved with is coming to a close. She's still awaiting data from the "front line" to come in to finalise the reports.

Both of us, in our different spheres and in aspects of the work we do, have to rely on others to reach a satisfactory conclusion. As your Chief and Lady President it is no different and we are privileged to be working with a proactive Council. The other Members of your Council that were elected by you at the AGM are as follows, in alphabetical order:

Andrew Hodgson	Councillor
Heather Hodgson	Councillor
Myra Horn	Past Honorary Padre and Chieftain
Peter McLeod	Past Federation Chief and Councillor
Trish Meyer	Membership Secretary and Councillor
Colleen Rennie	Immediate Past Lady President and Chieftain
Stuart Rennie	Immediate Past Chief, Scribe and Chieftain
Peter Ross	Past Chief, Honorary Accounting Officer and Chieftain

I will continue to act as Treasurer with assistance from Peter Ross and Jacinta will continue to act as Secretary with the assistance of Trish Meyer. At the first Council Meeting after the AGM it was a great pleasure to welcome Peter McLeod and Andrew & Heather Hodgson as new Members and, together with all the other Members, they contributed much to the discussions held during the meeting.

Just a word about the recipe book that's being put together. Stuart, our scribe, has mentioned this already but I feel that I must add my piece as well. Peter Ross and his team have put in a lot of time and effort on this project for your Society and they continue to need your serious support. Time is very short now and they still need your recipe's. Some folk have sent in their recipe's and they're really mouth-watering but the team still need many more if the book is to be the success we want it to be. Please, PLEASE support YOUR Society with this project as just one way to celebrate the 130th Anniversary. Your active participation is essential.



How about the Scots team in the 2011 Rugby World Cup? So disappointing to lose at the last minute in both the games against firstly Argentina and then England – especially England!!! I heard one commentator say that they ‘relaxed’ after the first half – I don’t think so – both games were VERY physical and I think that their training just wasn’t sufficient enough to give them the stamina they needed and they simply became too tired to stop those last minute tries! I’m very proud of them for the way they played – watch out world in four years, the Scots are coming again and this time...!!! Here are some of the highlights of the Scotland v England game on Saturday 1st October 2011:



Jacinta and I, with a friend, at the Spur. The chance of a breakfast special while watching the game was just too good to miss!



All for one! The Scots get pumped up before the match against the Auld enemy.



Left: The Battle upfront: The England v Scotland match was dominated by the physical battle, with Scotland often getting the better of their arch rivals and, Right: England’s Jonny Wilkinson keeps the ball close to his chest as he tries to negotiate two Scottish defenders



Left: Jonny Wilkinson is given some close attention by his Scottish opponents on Saturday and, Right: a tearful end as Ruaridh Jackson is replaced by Dan Parks after suffering a hamstring injury after just four minutes into the match.





Left: Beating England at their own game, Scotland's Dan Parks slots a drop goal despite the flying charge-down effort of an England player. Right: The same Dan Parks screams in frustration and anguish after Scotland blow an opportunity to score a try.



After the final whistle an emotional Nathan Hines is escorted off the pitch following Scotland's narrow loss to England.

Jacinta and I are really looking forward to St Andrew's Night on December 3rd when we will all be celebrating the 130th Anniversary of the Society. The planning for the evening is exciting and we know that it will prove to be a very special event not to be forgotten. We hope that you will be joining us for the Society's most spectacular event of the year.

Until the next time. *Slainte Stuart*

THE FEDERATION CONGRESS 2011

This will be held early in October at Welkom. We wish **Peter and Anne McLeod and Vicky Mackenzie**, well, as they journey to Welkom and hope that they have an enjoyable time meeting "old" friends.

WHISKY AND WHISKEY

In Scotland it is called "**whisky**" or **uisge beatha** (the water of life), while in Ireland it is known as "**whiskey**" or **uisce beatha**.

In Ireland it is usually distilled three times and stored for a minimum of five years in barrels. In Scotland, it is distilled twice and is stored for a minimum of three years in barrels. Therefore, Irish whiskey is considered to have a smoother texture and to be more potent than Scotch whisky. However, the Irish generally blend their whiskey, while the Scots continue their tradition of making single malts.

A legacy of the settlement of Scots in Ulster is the manufacture of Bushmills whiskey. I have passed the factory in the town of Bushmills in Antrim, but did not have time to stop and visit it. Bushmills was evidently granted the first licence to distil whiskey in the British Isles, by King James 1, in 1608.

So, whichever side of the North Channel you are on, by sharing a glass of whisky/whiskey, you are enjoying the shared heritage of Scotland and Ireland.

THE MOST EXPENSIVE WHISKY EVER SOLD

It was reported on IOL, a few days ago that a Chinese businessman had put down a deposit for a rare bottle of whisky costing \$250 000 (US\$199 400), at a duty-free shop in Singapore's Changi airport.

The 62-year-old bottle of Dalmore single malt is one of only 12 bottles in the world. The bottle was part of a special promotion called "Master of Spirits", aimed at connoisseurs, and it remained on display in a glass case, pending full payment by the buyer.

According to the Edinburgh-based Scotch Whisky Association, Singapore unseated Spain to become the third-largest importer of whisky worldwide, after the United States and France in the first half of this year. Much of Singapore's "scotch" imports eventually go to other Asian markets, thanks to its strong trade and tourism links with the rest of the region.

ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES

Pinelands Caledonian Society will be having **Tea/Coffee at Kirstenbosch Gardens at 10:00 on Tuesday 25th Oct..** Tea and scones will be R25:00, including the tip. Their members and friends are invited - to book, 'phone Anne at 021 5540302.

KINDRED SOCIETY NEWS

THE CAPE WELSH SOCIETY: They are holding a Charity Golf Day in November.

CAPE WELSH SOCIETY : CHARITY GOLF DAY

SUPPORT THE CAPE WELSH SOCIETY
CHARITY GOLF DAY AT THE MILNERTON
GOLF CLUB
SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
TEE OFF 11H30 ONWARDS
4 BALL STABLEFORD ALLIANCE
TOURNAMENT : R 1200/4 BALL

FAMILY AFTERNOON FROM 15H00
ENTERTAINMENT BY THE WELSH RAREBITS,
SNACKS FOR PLAYERS AFTER THE COMPETITION,
AUCTION, RAFFLES

CONTACT KURT DABSON CELL 0832598956
TO SECURE YOUR 4 BALL, WITH PAYMENT
HELP US SUPPORT THE HOME OF HOPE &
CAPE WELSH SOCIETY 130 YEARS CELEBRATIONS

Home of Hope
Where hope begins

Cape Welsh Society

**Here's to the heroes that Scotland can boast,
May their names never dee –
That's the Heilan' Man's toast!**

**Tir nam beann, nan gleann, nan gaisach!
(i.e. To the land of the bens, the glens and the heroes!)**

**Yours Aye
Your Scribe**

**BOOKING FORM FOR CHIEF'S AT HOME
SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2011**

NAME(S): _____ CONTACT NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

No. of Adults: @ R25 each = R..... [] Please tick here if paying by CHEQUE on arrival.
(If possible, please avoid paying by cash but don't let that stop you from coming!!!!!!)

Cheques to be made payable to: Cape Town Caledonian Society, and crossed: /Not Transferable/
Direct internet payments (EFT) can be made to: Cape Town Caledonian Society, First National Bank, Rondebosch, Branch code: 201509, Current a/c No.: 55161140154 (Reference: Your Surname + Chief at H 2011)

PLEASE FORWARD THE COMPLETED FORM TOGETHER WITH YOUR REMITTANCE (OR PROOF THEREOF) TO:
THE SECRETARY, CAPE TOWN CALEDONIAN SOCIETY, PO BOX 442, CAPE TOWN 8000

OR E-MAIL HER A SCANNED COPY TO: jacinta.munro@uct.ac.za
OR SEND HER A FAX TO: 021 761 0568

THANK YOU FOR COMING – WE KNOW YOU WILL ENJOY THE DAY