



Cape Town Caledonian Society

Established 1881 Reg. No 036-264-NPO

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2008

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Scribe	Nicky Ross	021 712 2506 (H)

Dear Members,

I cannot believe that Christmas is less than two weeks away! New Years Eve or Hogmanay follows closely behind, six days later.

The Edinburgh Hogmanay is the largest New Year event in the world. The Festival is best known for it's New Year's street party which attracts up to 100,000 people every year. Throughout the festival there is a full programme of festive celebrations for the whole family. There is the Torchlight Procession as it lights a path through the city towards the midwinter fire festival on top of Carlton Hill. The high point of the evening is at midnight, when hundreds of tons of fireworks are let off into the night sky above the Castle and Edinburgh joins the rest of the world singing Auld Lang Syne.

Tickets for the 2009 Military Tattoo are available on-line from 1 December 2008 or by mail order. The website address is www.edintattoo.co.uk

Here is news about our Junior members, supplied by their very proud grandmother, Rose MacMillan. Joseph MacMillan who has just matriculated at SACS, was awarded the Desmond Tutu Honours Trophy for Fellowship and also the Music Trophy for Brass Instruments. Hannah MacMillan who is at Rustenburg High had the highest overall achievement in drama. Megan Pettie who is at Grove primary School was awarded a Merit certificate for Maths and reading. Congratulations to you all!

News was received from Maaiké Duk to say that Frank has not been well, having been in hospital 4 times since June. He is much better now and is back on the tennis court.

We hope Tony Reis, Pipe Major of the CT Caledonian Pipe Band is feeling much better after his jaw operation on the 5 December 2008.

We hear that Norma Harris has not been well, we hope you will soon be better too, and look forward to seeing you at Burn's Night.

Here's a lovely idea for a Christmas present, our member, Gabriel Athiros, has just launched a new book, which he has written with John Griffle called Tales of Shipwrecks at the Cape of Storms. It is retailing for R260-00 including vat and postage. Here are the details if you wish to order the book, please email nikolai@historicalmedia.co.za or 'phone 072 112 3024.

BIRTHDAYS – DECEMBER

Happy Birthday to the following members:

Myra Horn 2nd

Maaiké Duk 4th

Gabriel Athiros 5th

Megan Pettie 14th

Audrey Young 28th

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear, it's because I do not have your details!

Thank you to those members who attended The Kirkin' of the Chief, I am sure you will all agree that it was a very happy morning. Andrew Imrie piped the Council into the Church, our Hon. Padre David Gray blessed those taking office and his wife, Rosemary, played the organ.

St. Andrew's Night was a very successful evening at the Rondebosch Golf Club. A delicious meal was served and we were entertained by the Lynfrae Dancers as well as the CT Caledonian Pipe Band, who had to rush off to Pinelands Caledonian Society to pipe at their St. Andrew's Night!

FUTURE FUNCTIONS

Burn's Night

Come and join us as we celebrate 250 years since the birth of Robert Burn's on the 25th January 1759. Our Burn's Night will be held on the **24th January 2009, at Rondebosch Golf Club, time 19h00 for 19h30**. A delicious three-course meal with haggis served as a starter, will be served. **R120.00 per person**.

Please complete the booking form attached to the newsletter.

To confirm your attendance telephonically in the meantime please call Chieftain Narina Gilder Ph 021 5311820.

Note: Our previous newsletter stated that the venue would be at Kelvin Grove. In the interests of keeping the ticket cost as low as possible for our members in these difficult times, we have decided to rather have the function at the Rondebosch Golf Club – the same venue as St Andrew's Nicht!

VIDEO EVENING

If you are not too busy getting your tax affairs in order, do come and join us on the last day of the fiscal year, **Saturday 28 February, 2009** for a relaxing evening to watch the **2008 Edinburgh Tattoo**. Some excerpts from the recent **SA Tattoo** will be shown as the curtain raiser. The venue will be at the home of Peter and Nicky Ross, **3 Welgelee Road, Constantia Hills**. (This is off Firgrove Way which can be accessed from Ladies Mile Circle). Some tasty fish and chips will be the culinary fare for the evening. The evening will start at **18h30 and the cost will be R35.00 per person**, payable at the door. Please phone Lady President Nicky pronto on 021 712 2506 to book your place!

FUTURE FUNCTIONS:

These include our Senior's lunch in late March 2009 as well as another whisky tasting for those who enjoy the beautiful golden brown liquid which always awakens the taste buds!

BURSARY

The Society offers a limited bursary annually to assist with the tertiary education costs of the children and grandchildren of members. Those who may be interested are invited to apply in writing in a letter addressed to:

The Honorary Treasurer, CT Caledonian Society, PO Box 1433, Cape Town 8000.

Please provide the name of the student, details of the course to be attended, and which educational institution. Please submit your application to reach the Society by no later than Friday 9 January 2009.

FROM THE CHIEF

I suppose it is a little unusual for the Chief to propose the toast to St Andrew but I just could not resist the temptation when we found that we were still looking for a speaker to volunteer my services with only a few weeks to go. Like many of you, no doubt, my relaxation comes in the form of reading non-fiction – especially history! No matter whether it be South African, Scottish, biblical or whatever. I really enjoyed doing the research for my speech so I do hope that not many of you who attended were bored sitting through my delivery! For those of you who either fell asleep or did not attend, please give me a call if you would like a copy - telephone numbers appear at the top of the newsletter.

As mentioned by our scribe above, next year is a really big anniversary year for the followers of Scotland's national bard, Robert Burns, being the 250th year following the year in which he was born - 1759. Conferences to mark the occasion are being planned internationally and year-long programmes of celebratory events will be held throughout Scotland. Imagine the buzz which will take place in his home town of Ayrshire! I am sure that they are expecting all previous records of visits to be broken.

So too we here as a Society in the Southern tip of Africa should make a special effort to celebrate this milestone year by attending our own Burns Night on 24th January. Let's pull out the stops, invite your friends and family and let's make sure that we do not miss this happy and historic occasion. Please put the word out there with everyone you know or meet. What a great marketing opportunity for all of us to also make a contribution towards increasing our membership!

And now on a lighter note a story which Rabbie may have enjoyed entitled **"Marylou"**:

This man was sitting quietly reading his paper one evening, relaxing peacefully after a busy day at work, when his wife sneaks up behind him and whacks him on the back of his head with a huge frying pan.

In a shocked tone, he asks, "What was that for?"

She replies, "What was that piece of paper in your pants pocket with the name Marylou written on it?"

He says, "Oh honey, remember two weeks ago when I went to the horse races? Marylou was the name of one of the horses I bet on."

She is appeased and goes off to work around the house.

Three evenings later he is once again sitting in his chair reading his newspaper and she repeats the frying pan swatting, only much harder this time.

Bewildered, he says, "What's that for this time?"

She answers, "Your horse called to speak to you this afternoon."

From your Chief, Lady President and Council we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

And your scribe.

**BOOKING FORM FOR BURNS' NICHT
24th JANUARY 2009**

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

No of persons: @ R120 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 19 JANUARY 2009

Cheques 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 surname as reference)

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

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

ALTERNATIVELY EMAIL A SCANNED COPY TO MR LANCE WISEMAN: wiseman@ddconstruction.co.za

Or send a fax for his attention: Fax No 021 686 1957

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