



Cape Town Caledonian Society

Established 1881

Reg. No 036-264-NPO

www.capetowncaledoniansociety.org.za

Secretary: Mrs Jacinta Munro Tel/Fax: 021 761 0568 Mobile: 072 602 6144

Post: P O Box 442 Cape Town 8000 Email: jacinta.munro@uct.ac.za

Chief: Stuart Munro Tel/Fax 021 761 0568 Mobile 084 028 2402

Email: samunro@iafrica.com

Lady President: Jacinta Munro Tel/Fax 021 761 0568 Mobile 072 602 6144

Email: jacinta.munro@uct.ac.za

May/June 2012 NEWSLETTER

Scribe: Stuart Rennie Tel/Fax 021 762 3253 Mobile 079 534 8389

Email: scrennie@telkomsa.net

Dear Members

Well, now, who was complaining of all the hot days we were having?

The weather has really turned cold, now, although the full onslaught of winter has not hit us yet. It usually starts with a storm in the first or second week in May, but the cold has preceded it, this year. At least we can now look forward to lovely plates or mugs of hot soup in front of a roaring fire, while the rain lashes down outside. At least we don't have the extreme cold and snow experienced in Scottish winters!



NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

The Herald on Wednesday 25th April, published the following article:

Donald Trump tells MSPs; Chinese-made wind farms will destroy Scottish tourism

In this article, Donald Trump, an outspoken critic of wind farms, bitterly opposed an offshore turbine development near the site of his golf course in Aberdeenshire. He said that he believed it was one of the most serious problems facing Scotland. He told MSPs that he had spent a tremendous amount of money, which was debt-free, to spend on what many people considered to be the greatest golf course anywhere in the world. He then complained that monstrosities were being built, literally one mile away and would loom over the golf course. He stated that wind power developments were enormous and that wind farms were unattractive, noisy, ugly and dangerous to birds and wildlife. Furthermore he said that it was a very inefficient form of energy, as when you needed it most, the wind might not be blowing. He ended by saying that Scotland would lose its tourism industry to Ireland, and many other places, that were laughing at what Scotland proposed to do.

Scotland's First Minister wrote a letter to Donald Trump, stating that he believed that Scotland's great cities and ports were ideally placed to become a key hub for the rapidly growing multibillion-pound offshore renewables industry. A survey for the tourism body, **Visit Scotland**,

published the previous day, found that four out of five people said wind farms did not affect their decisions over where to holiday in the U.K.

-----00000-----

The following article appeared in the Herald on Monday 23rd April 2012:

Salmon exports to North America leap into top spot:

North America has become the biggest international consumer of Scottish salmon for the first time and has helped to boost exports to a record level for the second consecutive year, new figures show. Seven of the top ten markets have grown in volume and fresh Scottish salmon now reaches 64 countries worldwide (including South Africa).

Some 44,454 tons of salmon crossed the Atlantic last year, a 35% rise on the previous year, and has overtaken Europe for the first time. Demand for Scottish salmon in the “high end sushi and sashimi markets” has seen exports to the Far East increase almost ten-fold, from 682 tons to 6,779 tons. Overall, throughout the world, salmon exports increased by 22%, rising to 95,638 tons in 2011 from 78,611 tons the previous year.

One hopes that Scottish salmon does not get wiped out by all these exports!

-----00000-----

On Thursday 19th April, “Allmedia Scotland” released the following news:

Scotsman Named Newspaper of the Year at Scottish Press Awards

The newspaper that last week saw its editor effectively dismissed has been named Newspaper of the Year at the Scottish Press Awards. The Newspaper of the Year title is among the top two prizes given out at the awards, which are in their 33rd year. The judges felt, the Scotsman had “spades of debate and introduced many different voices”. The panel was particularly impressed by its coverage of the election and its international section which showed real strength, covering world-wide stories with an eye to Scotland”.

Well done, to the fans of this particular newspaper!



TIME FOR A LAUGH



Why are Scotsmen so good at golf?

They realize that the fewer times they hit the ball, the longer it will last!

-----00000-----

McTavish was short of cash so he phoned up his friend, McNab, and asked for the loan of ten pounds.

“Sorry,” said McNab, **“you’ll have to speak up, I can’t hear a word you’re saying.”**

“Can you lend me ten pounds?” screamed McTavish into the ‘phone.

“Look,” said McNab, **“the line is terrible, I can’t make out what you’re saying.”**

At this stage the operator chipped in and said, **“There’s nothing wrong with the line, I can hear the caller distinctly.”**

“In that case, why don’t you lend him the ten pounds?” retorted McNab.

-----00000-----

Angus McGregor was taking a taxi to the railway station.

“How much will it cost?” he asked the driver.

“Three pounds,” said the driver.

“How much for the suitcase?” asked Angus.

“That goes absolutely free, sir,” said the driver.

“Here, take my case. I’ll walk to the station,” said Angus.

-----00000-----

A Scotsman, who was an expert dram drinker, was asked what he thought of Irish whiskey.

“It’s useful stuff” he replied, **“if you run short of water for diluting a Scotch whisky.”**

-----00000-----

A teacher asked Wee Jock, **“if you had a pound in your right-hand trouser pocket, and three pounds in your left-hand trouser pocket, what would you have?”**

Wee Jock replied, **“Somebody else’s trousers!”**

The last four jokes were taken from **“The World’s Best Scottish Jokes”** by Des MacHale



MEMBERS’ NEWS

1. Special Congratulations to **Pamela Sandenbergh** who celebrates a **‘big “0”** ’ birthday on 14th May. We hope that you will have a lovely day, Pamela, and pray that the Lord will bless you in the years ahead.
2. The Wing family, Pam, Colin, Kajun and Bradan, recently spent nearly two weeks in Johannesburg with family and to support Kajun and Bradan who played in teams from Western Province in the Annual Chinese National Basketball Championships. They both won medals.

3. Welcome back to Heather Hodgson who has recently spent a 'work-week' in the USA.
4. We wish Daniel Offret a Fantastic Retirement and hope that you're able to do all those things that you've always wanted to but just haven't been able to get round to. It's your Birthday this month as well – we hope it was a great time of celebration and fun. Now, of course, the family fun really begins. Three big things this month includes:



5. The big move of you and Tommi to Somerset West. See the left-hand drive! Good luck and happy packing and unpacking!!!



BIRTHDAYS

We hope that those who have already celebrated their birthdays had an enjoyable time, and we wish you all many happy returns!

May

12th Daniel Offret
 13th Hannah Bell
 14th Pamela Sandenbergh
 26th Joseph Macmillan

June

7th Andrew Hodgson
 9th Brogan Reis
 12th Anne McLeod
 18th Laura Henry
 21st Colin Wing
 25th Jane Mitchell
 26th Stuart Rennie
 27th Louise Offret
 28th Heather Hodgson
 29th Keith MacFarlane
 Hannah MacMillan
 30th Kajun Wing

**CONGRATULATIONS
 TO YOU ALL.
 BIRTHDAYS ARE ALWAYS
 VERY SPECIAL**



PAST EVENTS

The Fundraising Event at Tai Ping: A lovely, informal evening was enjoyed by about forty people. There was much fun and laughter and our usual raffle was different in that the tickets were split into two groups to ensure that winners would come from more areas of the room. This worked well, and hopefully we will try this method again. Those who were not there missed a great evening. We thank Jacinta and Stuart for organizing and running the function.

The Cape Town Caledonian Pipe Band Fundraising Evening: A very special evening spent outside, under the stars, with a drink and hot-dogs watching DVD's, on a big screen, of "An Instrument of War", the story of the bagpipes in war and peace, and the "2011 Basle Tattoo" in which Pipe Major Tony Reis was invited to play with the South African Irish Pipe Band.



FUTURE EVENTS

A CHICKEN SCHNITZEL EVENING will be held on **Tuesday 29th May**, at **19:00 for 19:15**, at the **Cattle Baron, Shop 101, Block A, Tokai Village, on cnr Vans & Tokai Road**. The chicken schnitzel special costs R29:99. A sauce of your choice from the menu, or extra bacon, avocado, or fried egg can all be added for R3:00 per item. Desserts, for those who want them, vary from R16:00 to R35:00. Come and join us for a lovely evening of camaraderie and laughter. Please, though, inform Stuart Rennie at 021 7623253 or 079 5348389, by Sunday 24th May if you wish to attend, so that tables can be booked. Come along and enjoy great company and good food at a fantastic price – **don't forget, Tuesday 29th May!!!**

A DVD EVENING WITH "SOUP 'N PUD." will be held at the home of Stuart and Colleen Rennie, at **84 Lympleigh Road, Plumstead, at 18:00 for 18:15, on Saturday 23rd June**. The DVD's we will be seeing, include Rikki Fulton in **"Scotch and Wry"**, excerpts from André Rieu's **"I lost my Heart in Heidelberg"** and a **"Great Scottish Sing-Along!"** where we tour the magnificent country and sing along if we wish to. The cost will be R20:00, which can be paid on the evening. Please bring along your own liquid refreshments and glasses. People, wishing to attend, are asked to 'phone Stuart and Colleen at 021 7623253 or 079 5348389 by **Wednesday 20th June** for catering purposes.

A CEILIDH: Come join us at the Ceilidh and have great fun on **14th July**. Details will be given in the next newsletter.

VISIT OF THE FEDERATION CHIEF AND THE PROVINCIAL CHIEFTAIN: The Federation Chief and Lady President, Dave and Sandy Brown, and the Chieftain and Lady President of the Cape Province, Elliot and Cynthia Murray, will be visiting us over the weekend of **4th and 5th August**. This is a special annual event in the life of the Society and we hope you will all take the opportunity to give a big Cape Town Callies welcome these honoured guests who will be travelling from Kimberley and East London to be with us. Details of the venue will be circulated well before the visit.

Our AGM will be held on **25th August**. An Official Notice will be circulated before the time.

THE 88th ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED CALEDONIAN SOCIETIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA will be held at the **Cedar Park Hotel & Conference Centre, Woodmead, Sandton, from Friday 12th October 2012 to Sunday 14th October 2012**. This is an ideal opportunity to meet and greet old and new friends from around Southern Africa and be able to promote and enjoy the camaraderie of the Caledonian movement. A Booking Form and payment details are printed at the end of the Newsletter for your convenience.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Our scribe has been able to share so much this time that I feel that I must keep my time with you shorter than usual.

As I'm writing, the weather forecast is of a maximum daytime temperature of 14 Celsius with wind and rain (80% for a time) and even snow on the mountains. I agree with you, Stuart, winter is definitely just around the corner! The duvet's already on our bed!!

Thank you so much to all those many folk that sent messages on my Birthday and on our Wedding Anniversary five days before. It was quite overwhelming. On my Birthday I was very spoilt and spent most of the day with fellow Callies and other friends together with family. Jacinta and I left home at 9 am to share breakfast with friends and we returned home only after 9pm having rounded up a busy day with supper with family and more friends. Thank goodness the next day was a public holiday! We spent quite some time with Bill and Ursula Heeps, members of Pinelands Caledonian Society. It was nearly two years ago that we discovered that Bill and I were born on the same day in the same year, and since then we've celebrated our Birthday together. I'm the oldest though. Bill was born at 9 o'clock in the morning and I was born at 1 o'clock in the morning. So watch it Bill, I'm your elder! Seriously, though, what a coincidence, and we had to be in Cape Town, about 6000 miles away from our birthplaces some 70 years later, to find out. I wonder how many other members know if they have a "twin" and the time they were born.

We're already setting our eyes on the **2013 Western Cape Highland Gathering** and making plans. It's hoped that there will be exciting events and exhibitions to compliment the main events – the various competitions between Pipe Bands as well as the Dancers. Maybe there will be some Highland Games (with an African flavour) which we haven't had in a long time, if ever. Keep the date of Saturday 23rd March 2013 open and diarise it in BIG letters. Once the main criteria are in place we'll be sharing more with you. If you have any ideas that you feel we may be able to incorporate in the Gathering please pass them on to Jacinta (Secretary of the Steering Committee) and we can discuss them in our meetings. I assure you that all ideas will be discussed – whether they're good, bad or indifferent (and, maybe, even a little crazy) – you never know, you might come up with just that special something that we haven't thought of to make this the best Gathering yet.



Don't forget Congress this year. Jacinta and I will be attending and it would be really great to have members of the Society come and be there with us and "Fly the Flag", and have some fun. Please take some time to seriously consider attending and check the dates and costs at the end of this newsletter and book NOW.

Until the next time. Glainte Stuart



TRAVELLING IN SCOTLAND?

The following excerpts are taken from an article which appeared in the Travel, Life & Style section of the Belfast Telegraph on 25/04/2012;

The Borders: Scotland's best-kept secret

They don't know what they are missing out on, by hurtling through the delightful Borders. There's a soft kind of beauty, with rolling moorlands alternating secret, lushly wooded valleys. The towns and villages reek of history, with solid, centuries-old stone buildings.

There's variety too, from the rich farmlands of the Mull of Galloway Peninsula and the vast forest park that stretches eastwards for seemingly endless miles along the enticing A712 to the spectacular mountain road from Moffat up and over the 500ft (150m) bowl of the Devil's Beef Tub, a natural hollow formed by four mighty and brooding hills.

Instead of carrying on straight to Edinburgh, follow the delightful road that shadows the salmon-laden River Tweed from the gentle hills of Upper Tweeddale eastwards towards Berwick – a much fought over frontier town that changed hands 13 times and is now in England but plays football in the Scottish league – and you'll transport yourself to a barely trafficked pastoral paradise.

There's a powerful magnet to draw you across Lowland Scotland's far from low-slung backbone, and that's the prospect of spending your first night in a wonderful country house hotel, sampling the delights of how the other half live.

The Duke of Roxburghe presides over one of the largest private estates in these islands – some 50,000 acres of farmland and shooting moors. His Grace's home is Floors Castle, which is Scotland's largest private house and one of the region's prime, visitor attractions. The Roxburghe Hotel; & Golf Course is just a couple of miles west of the bustling market town of Kelso.

At the heart of a 500 acre estate on the banks of the pretty River Teviot, this welcoming property is grand enough to register as a minor stately home in most guest's eyes but was actually created by the Duke's predecessors as a hunting lodge.

..... (to be continued in the next newsletter.)



ASSOCIATED and KINDRED SOCIETIES

Pinelands Caledonian Society will not be having a function in May, and in June there will be the traditional Ladies' Lunch (for husbands as well). For further details, please 'phone Mary Wallace at 021 5314441, later in the month of May.

Cape Welsh Society: We hope that the **Golf Day on 11th May** at **Parow Golf Course** was a great success and that all those who attended had a most successful game on the course – well as at the 19th hole. It must be remembered that the income from this annual golf day goes to Charity and this year it was the turn of “**Home of Hope**” to benefit from the generosity of the players, guests and sponsors. We look forward to next time.

Irish South African Association: No events had been planned since the St Patrick's Day celebration. However, they did arrange to watch the All Irish Final: “**The Heineken Cup**” Leinster vs. Ulster at Mitchell's Brewery on Saturday 19th May. May the best team win and all have fun watching.

The brother of the Chairperson of the Association, Mrs Maureen Sharpe, was visiting her recently from overseas. Unfortunately, he suffered a heart attack 31st March and was rushed to hospital. We're pleased to announce that he made a good recovery and was able to return home on 1st May to continue his convalescence with his family. Maureen, we all wish and pray that he has a full recovery at home and will visit you again in the near future, literally ‘**Hale and Hearty**’.

Cape Town Caledonian Pipe Band: At the recent South Coast Highland Gathering (the first National Championship gathering and the largest in the country) three Cape Town pipe Bands travelled to Amamzimtoti to compete:

Cape Town Caledonian Pipe Band; Cape Town Highlanders and Bishops College (they combined with the new Knysna Juvenile Pipe Band and the Knysna Pipe Band {which includes many Cape Town players} for the competition).

Pipe Major Tony Reis reported: *“The South Coast Gathering went off exceptionally well, although the final result will show us coming 4th out of 8 Pipe Bands. This was a very tough competition, with some really good bands competing, such as Sandton Scots and KZN. Sandton Scots won the Grade, and can you believe it, three bands tied for 2nd place. When this happens, the judges then look at ensemble, and unfortunately we didn't do well in that department (our tenor drumming). Also, our selection of marches could have been better - this was due to us focusing more on our MSR* preparations.”*

*MSR: March, Strathspey & Reel

The overall results were:

1st - Sandton Scots

2nd - Cape Town Highlanders

3rd – KZN

4th - Cape Town Caledonian Pipe Band

5th - Lyttleton Manor

6th - Knysna

7th - Transvaal Scottish B

8th - 1 Medical Battalion B

Results in the Solo's:

Open Drumming: Eugene Trofimczyk came 4th (amazing when you consider he wrote the score the week before), and

Piobaireachd: John Decker came 2nd (remember – he played on Burns Night)

Emlyn Madziwa (open piping) and **Tatenda Phiri** (tenor drum) competed for the first time.

Tony further reported: “It was awesome to have 4 CTCPB members competing in the solo's!!! Although we (the band) arrived on Friday evening (the other bands arrived on Thursday) and our only preparation time was on the day of the competition, I think we were exceptional on the day!”

Well done to all the bands from Cape Town. But particularly to our own Cape Town Caledonian Pipe Band – we're very proud of you.



Lang may your lam reek

Yours Aye



Your Scribe

Combined Caledonian Societies of the Highland Province

88TH Annual Congress of the Federated Caledonian Societies of Southern Africa,

Cedar Park Hotel & Conference Centre, Woodmead, Sandton

Friday 12th October 2012 to Sunday 14th October 2012:

Booking Form

TITLE
FIRST NAME
SURNAME
POSTAL ADDRESS

POST CODE
EMAIL ADDRESS
CONTACT No.

CAPACITY Delegate/ Official/ Observer (Please circle one)

SOCIETY

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED: Double / Single (Please circle one)

IF DOUBLE - NAME OF PERSON SHARING:.....

BOOKING OPTIONS (From 14h00 Friday 12th October to 10h00 Sunday 14th October)

| | | No of persons | Amount |
|---|---------|---------------|---------|
| <u>FULL CONGRESS PACKAGE</u> (PER PERSON SHARING) | R 1 750 | | R |
| <u>FULL CONGRESS PACKAGE</u> (SINGLE ACCOMMODATION) | R 2 500 | | R |
| <u>CEILIDH, CONFERENCE AND BALL ONLY</u> (per person not staying in the Hotel) | R 600 | | R |
| <u>ATTEND CEILIDH ONLY</u> (per person not staying in the Hotel) | R 220 | | R..... |
| <u>ATTEND BALL ONLY</u> (per person not staying in the Hotel) | R 330 | | R..... |

Hair appointment to be made: Yes / No

I wish to attend Congress 2012, and choose to pay over 8 months. Deposit R 500 per person, payable by the end of December 2011, and balance at R 156.25 per person per month by end August 2012.

If paying for the single accommodation the deposit will be R 500 per person and R 250.00 per person per month by the end of August 2012.

BANKING DETAILS:-

ACCOUNT – Federated Caledonian Society of Southern Africa
Standard Bank of Southern Africa
Braamfontein Branch
Bank Account Number 00 241 165 2
Branch Code 4805

Please fax / email deposit slip to: 011 465 1979, or email to fredb@telkomsa.net