



Cape Town Caledonian Society

Established 1881 Reg. No 036-264-NPO

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2008

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Dear Members,

For the best part of August, Scotland's capital is completely transformed by the **Edinburgh Festival**, the world's largest celebration of the arts.

The **Edinburgh Festival** is actually an umbrella term which encompasses different festivals taking place at the same time around the city. The main events are the **Edinburgh International Festival** and the much larger **Edinburgh Festival Fringe**. There is also the Film, Book, Jazz and Blues and Television festivals, and of course the **Military Tattoo**. Then there is also the **Edinburgh Mela**, an Asian festival held late in August/early September.

On Saturday the 25th and Sunday the 26th July 2009, Edinburgh will witness one of the **largest clan gatherings** in history! **Holyrood Park** will host **Highland Games** over two days. On the Saturday evening, clan members will parade up the **Royal Mile** and take their seats on the castle esplanade for a spectacular **Clan Pageant**. It sounds wonderful!

If you are planning a trip to Scotland next year and have a computer, the website for the festival is www.edinburghfestivals.co.uk which has links to the

home pages of most of the festivals, and if you require more information about the clan gathering, go to www.clangathering.org

Your Society is updating its membership records. May we please have the date of your birthday, and anniversary if applicable. Please telephone or email Nicky with your details. Those members who would like to receive your newsletter by email, thus saving your society photocopying and postal costs, please send your email address to Nicky at pross@iafrica.com

FROM THE CHIEF

Your **newly appointed Council** are now in place and will be meeting for the second time this week. Amongst the new councilors there are some new faces and others who are “old hands” – a combination of zest and experience!

The **whisky tasting** on 4th September was a joint venture function with **Kelvin Grove**. The response was really good and after accumulating a large number of names on the waiting list a decision was made to have a repeat tasting – scheduled for 2nd October – see details below. Whisky master **Jack Hetherington** of **Glenmorangie** was in fine form and for those who missed the first tasting we still have a few seats left for the second. Do not delay with your bookings! The feedback from Kelvin and our own members has been wonderful so tastings will remain firmly entrenched in our future calendars!

It is with **great sadness** that I inform you of **the sad passing away** of the Lady President of the Pinelands Caledonian Society, **Anne Miller**, last week. It was during the run-up to last year’s Western Cape Highland Gathering, that I came to know Anne a bit better as we were on the organizing committee. She was a very kind and considerate person who was always very willing to make to her contribution. Our thoughts and prayers are especially with her daughter **Shirley, Chief of their Society**, who has stood firmly at her mother’s side during her long illness. We also think of their Society as Anne had a long history with them.

The **2008 Caledonian Congress** rapidly approaches. This will be hosted by the **Bloemfontein Caledonian Society** this year over the weekend **10 to 12 October, 2008**. The venue will be **The Protea Hotel, Black Mountain**, in what is known as “**Big Sky Country**” about 80 kilometers from Bloemfontein. The weekend package including two nights accommodation costs R1350 per

person sharing and R1690 single. If that sounds enticing to you as it does to me please obtain further details from Nicky or myself – see contact details above.

We are still trying to fill **two important honorary positions** in the Society – Padre and Piper respectively. We are working on finalizing these two positions and will inform you further in the next newsletter. While we were planning to have the important Kirkin of the Chief later this month, this may need to be deferred until finality has been reached regarding the aforementioned roleplayers.

Yours aye,
PETER

PINELANDS SOCIETY

Shirley Miller has been voted in as Chief for another year and to her and their new Committee, we hope you have a very successful year and that you can overcome the sadness of the passing away of Anne. Our Lady President, Nicky, attended their Chief's at Home, which was a lovely evening with pipers and dancers.

FUNCTIONS

WHISKY TASTING

Date Thursday 2 October 2008

Venue Palmyra Room, Kelvin Grove, Newlands

Time 18h30 for 19h00

Cost R40 per person for the tasting

The Chief has reported on the great success of the first whisky tasting on the 4th September above. For those who missed the first please do join us for the second which is being held due to popular demand! Very limited space available. **Jack Hetherington**, Brand Ambassador for **Glenmorangie**, will once again be our host as we explore the history of the range of malts born in the **Glen of Tranquility**. The skirl of pipes will add to the atmosphere and sushi platters will be served. A meal at your own cost will be available at the Barn when the whisky has given out. **Please call Peter at work on 021 689 9450 or on his cellphone (083 302 3791) or alternatively Nicky on (021) 712 2506.**

FUTURE FUNCTIONS

Kirkin' of the Chief – Will be held early to mid October, date to be agreed with new Honorary Padre

Chief's at Home – 26 October – High Tea at Peter and Nicky's house

St. Andrew's Nicht – 29 November

Burn's Supper – 24 January 2009 – Kelvin Grove Grill Room

Pensioner's Lunch – date to be advised

MEMBERS NEWS

Sheila Chisholm and **Mieke Gordon** have not been well, we hope you both will soon be feeling better.

If you have any news, please advise your Scribe so it can be included in the newsletter!

Here are a few **new or reprinted books** on Scotland and the Scottish supplied by Mieke Gordon:

- o **Capital of the Mind: How Edinburgh Changed the World** by James Buchan.
- o **Complete Fairy Tales by George MacDonald.**

Contact your Secretary if interested.

A Smile -

Sir Walter Scott and his wife were walking through a field full of sheep and pretty little lambs. "How lovely they are" exclaimed Walter Scott. "Yes" said his wife, "they are delicious, especially with mint sauce"!

BIRTHDAYS SEPTEMBER –

Phyllis Cruickshank – we are thinking of you especially with the approach of your 90th. Normally age is not mentioned but with a milestone like this who should be shy!

From your Chief, Lady President and Council we say –

Keep warm and dry
And lang may yer lum reek

And your incoming scribe!