



The East London Caledonian Society

Founded 1876

(All Correspondence to be Addressed to the Secretary)

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AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER

Dear Fellow Caledonians,

My first event as your Chief-elect was a delightful breakfast at Dot Com Café. It was a very enjoyable morning and well supported by our members. Robert and Dave kept us entertained and willingly complied with requests for tunes. Thank you to Cameron Middleton for his generosity and hospitality.

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, the Task Team investigating the future of the Caledonian Federation has started work.

A necessary first step is to gather opinions from members on the role, strengths and weaknesses of the Federation and Caledonian movement. Please take the time to complete the attached questionnaire and return to Andrew Macdonell (082 701 8868) at macdonel@iafrica.com



Thanks.

'Selfie' time at the Breakfast ...

Our next event is the Chairing and Kirking this weekend. Due to a last minute change of venue, snacks will be provided instead of the usual bring and share. It is not often we get a 'free' function, so I hope to see you all at the Buffs Club on Saturday!

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Quite a few Callies have been 'stateside' recently Duane Sweeney & Liezel Cilliers have just returned from the US; as now have Claude, Tumi and Tanya Macdonell who were in California for a family wedding (Andrew stayed home to study for his project management professional exam). In other travel news - Des and Fran Plint are currently visiting family in Australia; while Sandra Rankin and Robert Rankin recently visited past Pipe Major Bill Hartley.

On the sports field, Sue Piderit has been appointed manager of the Border U/21 hockey team; while Britney and Emily Middleton are captain and vice-captain of their Border hockey team. Rose Thompson, Sheila Sanderson and Sandra Rankin attended the Grahamstown National Arts Festival. Callum MacIver is making a good recovery after his operation and has just celebrated his 80th birthday (*Apologies he was left off the newsletter birthday list last month. Ed*). Finally Agnes Cowie has not been well recently and we hope she gets better soon.

ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday 5 August Chairing of the Chief - 18.30 for 19.00 at President's Suite, Buffs Club
Snacks Provided. Cash Bar

Sunday 6 August Kirking of the Chief – 08.00 at Cambridge Methodist Church
Please bring biscuits/eats for tea afterwards.

Saturday 2 September Visit of the Provincial Chief.
“Travelling Lunch” starting at 9 Nelson Avenue at 11.30

PIPE BAND The '*previously advertised*' BVR Drill Hall Re-opening Parade won't now be happening; but the band played at the recent East London Harbour Festival. Upcoming parades include the Chairing of the Chief on 5 August, the Battle of Britain Parade in September (TBC) and the Komga Show in October. Looking further into the future - November parades include Remembrance Day (TBC) and St Andrews' Dinner.

LADIES GROUP July meeting hosted by Ruth Strong went well. August meeting will be on Tuesday 1 August 2017 at 09.30 at the Coelacanth Café (hosted by Sheila Godfrey).

S.C.D.C Weekly meetings continue on Tuesdays at the Hams Club from 4pm - 5.30pm on Tuesdays.


HIGHLAND DANCERS The SA Highland Dancing Championships took place on Saturday 29 July 2017 in Gauteng. Well done to all our dancers – results in next newsletter. Highland Dancing Exams are scheduled for Monday 31 July & Tuesday 1 August.

BIRTHDAYS

July 2017 (Remainder)			August 2017		
Date	Name:	Contact:	Date	Name:	Contact:
16	Callum Maclver	043 722 0875	15	Sue Piderit	082 924 1078
21	Dave Rankin	082 900 0948	20	Jamie Gibson	043 721 3272
24	Elliot Murray	043 722 4106	25	Iris v d Zee	043 726 5000

COMMITTEE Next meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday 10th August 2017 at 7.30 pm at Dave and Maureen Rankin's house, 9 Nelson Avenue, Cambridge

Yours aye,



Roxanne Piderit (Chief-Elect)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	START	NOTES
5 August	Chairing of Chief	President's Suite, Buffs Club	18.30	Snacks Provided
6 August	Kirking of Chief	Cambridge Methodist Church	08.00	
2 September	Prov Chief Visit	Starting at 9 Nelson Ave	11.30	Travelling Lunch
28 October	Halloween Braai	MOTH Hall	TBC	
4 November	Halloween	McClelland Home	TBC	
25 November	St Andrews	TBC	TBC	

“Future of the Caledonian Federation” Questionnaire

1. Why did you join your Caledonian Society?

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2. What Caledonian activities do you enjoy the most and what do you get out of being a Caledonian?

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3. What do you think your Society could do to attract new members?

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4. Does your Society have a Succession Plan to encourage, potential future Chiefs? Explain?

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5. How long do you think the term of a Chief should be? years

6. Is your Society More active / Less active / About the same as 5 years ago? Explain:

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7. Financing large events such as Gatherings and Congresses is an ongoing challenge. Have you any ideas how Caledonian Societies can improve their fund-raising efforts?

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8. What are the benefits to your Society from belonging to the Federation?

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9. What do you think your Society could do to improve its support for the Federation and improve its relations with other Societies?

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10. What do you think should be the role of the Federation and the Central Council?

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11. How could the Central Council of the Federation improve the way that they perform their duties?

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12. What do you think the Central Council of Federation could do to improve its relationship with the constituent Societies?

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13. Any other Comments or Suggestions for improving the health of your Society and/or the Federation?

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YOUR CALEDONIAN SOCIETY	
<p>STRENGTHS</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>	<p>WEAKNESSES</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>	<p>THREATS</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>

FEDERATION	
<p>STRENGTHS</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>	<p>WEAKNESSES</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>
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Please complete and return to: Andrew Macdonell Email: macdonel@iafrica.com ASAP