



The East London Caledonian Society

Founded 1876

(All Correspondence to be Addressed to the Secretary)

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FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

Dear Fellow Caledonians,

The Committee and I wish you all a happy, fulfilling and prosperous New Year ! 2016 will be an exciting year for the Society, given that we will be hosting the Eastern Cape Gathering in September. Dave Rankin is our Gathering Convenor and I urge you all to support him with your time, talents and (not least) your 'hard earned' cash! Our first fundraiser of the year is the popular 'Hits from Broadway' Show at the Arts Theatre Club on 17 February. It promises to be a great evening; so book a table for family and friends and join us for a great night out.

I am also looking forward to seeing you all at Burns Nicht this Saturday. Ralph Weyer, Des Haschick and Andrew MacIntyre will be entertaining us at a function that is always one of the most popular on the Caledonian calendar.

And so, friends, let us start our new Caledonian year with a bang and 'lang' may it continue !

Photo Gallery: *Pipers* **and Dancers**



Dave at Hogmanay a visitor from Gaborone and Tanya and Emily dancing outside City Hall for St Andrews Day

NEWS OF MEMBERS Firstly this year – many congratulations to Sue Piderit's son, Jarrod, and Sandra Rankin's grandson, Damian de Lange, who recently got engaged ... *though not to each other, I hasten to add !* John and Evelyn Stoddard are in Pretoria; while John Forbes has also been away visiting family. Dave Rankin is now teaching English to Grade 6 & 7 students at the 'Advance for Life' Christian Academy and has also registered for an MBA. Iris van der Zee is currently unwell and recently had pneumonia. The Macdonell family will be taking a two night "cruise to nowhere" out of Durban to celebrate Andrew's 50th Birthday. Finally your Chief is leaving shortly for Morocco, where she plans to conquer Mount Toubkal and ride a camel off into the Sahara Desert ... *it takes all sorts?*

ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday 23 January Burns Nicht. Parklands. 6.30 pm for 7pm. R120 pp, R80 U12.
Tickets going fast - so contact Committee a.s.a.p. Bring your own bar.

Weds 17 February Gathering Fundraiser Performance: *"Hits from Broadway"* at the Arts Theatre Club. Society has a block booking – so please support us by joining us with as many of your friends as possible. R100 pp – bring your own snacks and drinks.

PIPE BAND Band has now restarted practicing after the holiday recess. The Band will be at Burns Nicht and competing in Knysna. The band recently hosted an informal *"International Gathering"* - following the arrival in town of pipers and drummers from Gaborone in Botswana (see photo).

LADIES GROUP Ladies' Christmas meeting in December at John & Lorna Thompson's home was enjoyed by all. First meeting of 2016 will be at 9.30am on Tuesday 2 February 2016 at Sandra Rankin's flat, 102 Parklands.

S.C.D.C Country Dancing resumes at the Hams Club from 4pm - 5.30pm on Tuesday 2 February. Country dancers have confirmed they will be dancing at the Gathering in September.

HIGHLAND AND IRISH DANCERS Highland Dancers will be at our Burns Nicht and also at the Port Alfred Burns Nicht.

HIGHLAND GATHERING Gathering Venue has been confirmed as Cambridge High School and the date – Saturday 3 September 2016. Next meeting of Gathering Committee will be at 9 Nelson Ave, Cambridge at 7.00pm on Thursday 21 January 2016. All welcome.

BIRTHDAYS

January 2016			February 2016		
Date	Name:	Contact:	Date	Name:	Contact:
25	Elizabeth Weare	043 721 1533	12	John Fyfe	datnis@border.co.za
28	Andrew Macdonell	082 701 8868	20	Kim Mathieson	083 373 5864
			25	Peter McCausland	082 649 5528
			29 *	Maureen Illingworth	043 721 1727

* Maureen will actually get a birthday this year!

COMMITTEE Next meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday 11 February 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Macdonell Residence, 17 Fitzmaurice Road, Baysville.

Yours aye,



Maureena 'Nookie' Middleton (Chief)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	START	NOTES
23 Jan 2016	Burns Nicht	Oak Room. Parklands	6.30 pm	R120 pp, R80 U12
17 Feb 2016	Hits from Broadway	Arts Theatre Club		R100 pp
Mar 2016	Bridge Morning	TBC	TBC	Date / Venue TBC
9 April 2016	Tartan Day Breakfast	Pine Creek	TBC	