



The East London Caledonian Society

Founded 1876

CHIEF: Roxanne Piderit 082 455 8661
E-mail: roxannepiderit@gmail.com
SECRETARY: Andrew Macdonell 082 701 8868
E-mail: macdonel@iafrica.com

P O Box 19570
TECOMA
EAST LONDON
5214

**LOCKDOWN
ISSUE No 2**

JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear Fellow Caledonians,

I am quite sad to be writing another newsletter in lockdown. We had all hoped the return to normal would happen a lot quicker and we would be able to continue with our usual schedule of events. Sadly this is not the case, and instead I have to inform you of the following postponements:

- Our AGM (normally in June) has been postponed indefinitely; and will only be scheduled once lockdown regulations allow. For information of members, the Minutes of Last Year's AGM are attached to this newsletter. Individual Annual Reports from the sections of the Society will be circulated with the July newsletter. The Committee will remain as is until we can meet to elect new officials.
- The Federated Caledonian Society of South Africa's Congress for 2020 has been postponed to October 2021. We will continue to work toward hosting this in East London in 2021.
- Sadly, the much-anticipated Centenary Concert for the ELCS Pipe Band will also be postponed to October 2021. We are confident this will be worth the wait.
- Answers to last month's 'Loch' Down Quiz are attached. Thanks again to Dave Rankin for setting another challenging task for us.

Our Whisky Tasting may have been postponed due to the lockdown; but East London Caledonians are not easily put off and did celebrate World Whisky Day on Saturday 16 May with a favourite tot or two..



Sláinte ..



NEWS OF MEMBERS

As last month, there is not much news again this month due to the national lockdown. If there is any news, please send to a committee member for inclusion in the next newsletter. Sandra Rankin's move from Parklands to "The Valley" has been made possible by the slight easing of lockdown regulations. Swimming SA rankings for 2020 have come out – congratulations to Tumi Macdonell, who was ranked 7th/311 in SA in the 50m freestyle and 10th/323 in the 100m freestyle for U15 girls. Andrew Weymouth is believed to be in the UK at the moment; while Callum & Beryl MacIver's grandson was part of VE Day celebrations in the UK.

ENTERTAINMENT

No Society Activities or Entertainment scheduled due to lockdown.

PIPE BAND

No formal activities to report. Members have been practicing on their own during lock down.

LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group is in recess due to the lockdown.

S.C.D.C

No country dancing during lockdown.

HIGHLAND DANCERS

No face-to-face dancing; but the PhD Dancing Studio has continued with online classes during lockdown.

CONGRESS

Decision has been taken to postpone this year's Congress – it will now be in October 2021 in East London.

BIRTHDAYS

May 2020 (Second half)			June 2020		
Date	Name:	Contact:	Date	Name:	Contact:
20	Beryl MacIver	043 722 0875	11	Jean Sansom	
22	Tanya Macdonell	074 446 0480	23	Ralph Anley	082 469 9424
26	Ken Scott	083 274 3349			

COMMITTEE

Committee held another "virtual" Meeting – this time on Whats App on 14 May 2020

Next Virtual Committee Meeting will take place at 19.00 on Thursday 11 June 2020 (whats app or skype TBC)

Finally membership subscriptions for 2020 / 2021 are now due. The Committee has decided to keep the subscription rates unchanged for the coming year, namely: Full Members: R100, Country Members: R75; Junior Members: R35. Reminders will be sent shortly.

Yours aye,



Roxanne Piderit (Chief)

“Loch” Down Quiz *Answers*

SCOTTIES

- 1) On his death, this 19th Century doctor was discovered to be a woman. By what name was s/he known? *Dr James Barry*
- 2) Which Scottish soldier was the first Warden of Kruger National Park? *Colonel James Stevenson-Hamilton* What name was he given by the Tsonga? *Skukuza*. What does it mean? *He who sweeps clean*
- 3) Where in Scotland was Pontius Pilate born? *In Fortingall near Dunkeld*
- 4) Who wrote the poem “The Tay Bridge Disaster”? *William McGonagall*
- 5) Which 20th Century politician claimed to be the last king of Scotland? *Idi Amin*
- 6) The Ancient Greeks are alleged to have invented which Scottish dish? *Haggis*
- 7) Officially named the New Caledonian Gold Fields in 1873, by what name did the town become known? *MacMac*
- 8) Pilgrim’s Rest stands where one of the nomadic prospectors found a strike and shouted “The pilgrim is at rest”. Who was he? *Alec “Wheelbarrow” Paterson*
- 9) Montgomery Scott is Chief Engineer on the Starship Enterprise. When will he be born? *3 March 2222*
- 10) Which F1 racing driver was known as the Flying Scot? *David Coulthard*

WHO SAID

- 1) Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened. *Winston Churchill*
- 2) Brevity is the soul of lingerie. *Dorothy Parker*
- 3) Every great man nowadays has his disciples, and it is always Judas who writes the biography. *Oscar Wilde*
- 4) The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated *Mark Twain*
- 5) I don't even know what street Canada is on. *Al Capone*
- 6) I liked your opera. I think I will set it to music. *Ludwig van Beethoven*
- 7) We have nothing to fear but fear itself. *Franklin D. Roosevelt*
- 8) We have nothing to fear but the sky falling on our heads. *Vitalstatistix – tribal chief in the Asterix comics. (Chicken-Licken will be accepted).*
- 9) To die will be an awfully big adventure. *Peter Pan*
- 10) Candy is dandy, but liquor is quicker. *Ogden Nash*

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

- 1) The first TV programme in South Africa was broadcast on 5 Jan 1976. What was it called?
..... *Wielie Walie (Afrikaans children's programme)*
- 2) On what date were the Rosenkowitz sextuplets born? **..... *11 Jan 1974***
- 3) The new "Great North Road" between EL and King William's Town was opened to traffic on 1 Feb 1858. By what name is the first part of this road now known? **... *Oxford Street***
- 4) Which Caledonian Society started South Africa's first golf club on 2 Feb 1884?
..... *Durban Caledonian Society*
- 5) On 13 Feb 1937 this was the first passenger ship to enter the new harbour at East London.
..... *The Balmoral Castle*
- 6) In 1893, where was the first public swimming pool in EL constructed? **..... *First Pool below the Beach Hotel (now the Kennaway) 1893. It was a tidal pool 45 by 30 feet.***
- 7) What are the current names of Panmure Beach & Sandy Beach? ***Eastern & Orient Beaches***
- 8) Which East London pop group took its name from the hotel where they performed? **.... *Dealians (Deals Hotel)***
- 9) Which East London building now stands at Waterloo Square? **..... *City Hall***
- 10) On 3 March 1988 Ladysmith Black Mambazo, became first SA artists to win a Grammy for a soundtrack. For which TV epic? **..... *Shaka Zulu***
- 11) 5 March 1972 John Ball of EL set off from Los Angeles to run across USA.
How long did it take him to reach New York? **... *53 days 23 hours 12 ½ minutes***
How far did he run? **..... *4628 km. Average 85.76 km per day.***
- 12) How long is South Africa's coastline? **.... *Over 2500 km***
- 13) Where is the highest bungee jump in the world? **.. *Bloukrans Bridge*** How high is it? **..*216m***
- 14) Which mammal cannot jump? **...*Elephant***
- 15) Most famous Mexican beer? **..... *Corona***
- 16) What is a banana called in Malaysia? **... *Pisang***
- 17) In which English city did Adolf Hitler study art? **...*Liverpool***
- 18) Year Google launched on the web? **... *1998***
- 19) What number is a googol? **.... *10¹⁰⁰***
- 20) What animal has 3 hearts? **.... *Octopus***
- 21) Which birds have scales on their wings?
..... *Penguins*
- 22) Which shark has its eyes located 2m apart?
..... *Hammerhead*
- 23) What is both a French wine region and a luxury American automobile? **.... *Cadillac***
- 24) What is the national sport of Japan?
... *Sumo Wrestling*
- 25) How many players has a hockey team got on the ice? **... *6 players***
- 26) What was the Olympic city of 1992?
..... *Barcelona*
- 27) In which city was the Titanic built?
..... *Belfast*
- 28) What was the former name of New York? **.... *New Amsterdam***
- 29) In the "The Great Escape" of World War 2, what were the names of the 3 tunnels? **... *Tom, Dick & Harry***
- 30) After whom are US States N & South Carolina named? **.... *Charles I***



The East London Caledonian Society
(All Correspondence to be addressed to the Secretary)

P O Box 19570
Tecoma 5214

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT 19:00 ON JUNE 19th 2019
BORDER HOCKEY CLUB, BUNKERS HILL, EAST LONDON

PRESENT: Chief Roxanne Piderit presiding.
18 Members signed the register.

NOTICE OF MEETING: Notice of meeting was read by Secretary, David Rankin

WELCOME: The Chief welcomed all who attended.

OPENING:

OBITUARY: The Chief asked all to observe a moments silence to remember Margaret Murray, Norma Riddell and Laurence MacGillivray who had passed during the past year.

APOLOGIES: 20 Apologies were recorded.

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 13th JUNE 2018: The minutes of the last AGM were available for all members to read and were taken as read. Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Susan Piderit and seconded by Sandra Rankin.

MATTERS ARISING: Nil.

REPORTS:

SOCIETY'S REPORT:

Fellow Caledonians,

It gives me great pleasure to present my report to you this evening. Another year has flown by – and it has been a jam-packed year.

As I outlined in the last newsletter, I had set 3 goals for this past year. We had varied success in this.

1. Increase Membership: We have had a slight decline in membership over the last year, and so have not seen the growth in membership we envisaged. We definitely have room for improvement on this goal. We have had decent support from non-members at our functions, but this has not translated into new members. Any ideas are welcome. While this does seem to be a negative, it is worth noting that we are still the largest society in the Federation, representing about a third of the membership. But we cannot rest on our laurels.
2. Active Participation at McClelland: I was pleased to see a number of members participate in our annual Halloween event, and we even had some donations from those who could not attend. I hope to see this continue to grow as it is our main charitable initiative. The Ladies Group have also actively supported Breath of Life over the past year. So we are doing well on the charitable front, but we can always do more.
3. Prepare for 2020: 2020 is an important year for the Society - we celebrate the Centenary of the Pipe Band and we will host the Federation Congress. We have done some fundraising toward this event, and are well on our way to finalising the plans.

We continue to be at the forefront of the movement to modernise the Federation and make changes that will keep the Federation and Caledonian Societies relevant to modern society. It was clear at last year's congress that most are not comfortable with change, and it was quite a feat to get the changes to the constitution passed. These changes meant that Nookie Middleton and Rose Thompson served as the last Provincial Chieftain and lady President of the Cape Province. The changes to the constitution take effect at this next Congress, and will see our Society nominating the first National Chieftain who will then ascend to Federation Chief at the East London Congress in 2020. With the number of societies dropping, and membership low, it is no longer viable to have 4 Provincial Chieftains (particularly in the Cape where we are the only Society). The task team is working on additional proposals to put forward for this year's congress.

While our membership may be small, I truly believe that the spirit of our society proves that alone we can do so little, together we can do so much. Looking back on the activities of the society over the last year, we have certainly accomplished a lot.

The Chairing was held in July at Old Selbornian Club, and the Kirking a while later at Cambridge Methodist. We also enjoyed a fantastic (or is that frustrating?) treasure hunt at the museum. Dave and Maureen Rankin again tested our knowledge, observation skills and patience. Some members spent the Heritage Day long weekend in Grahamstown at the St Andrews Highland Gathering.

With some scheduled maintenance delaying our original date for the train trip, we returned to Putt Putt to see if we could improve on our previous attempts.

We had a lovely evening with the residents of McClelland for our annual Halloween outing. We had increased participation by members at the McClelland event and we surpassed the amount raised in 2017. Thank you to all our members who joined us or contributed to the donation.

On 11 November some members joined the Pipe Band at the Cenotaph at 6 am as they joined pipe bands around the world in tribute to the 2000 pipers who lost their lives during World War 1.

Our final events for 2018 were held in celebration of the patron saint of Scotland – breaking from tradition we held the St Andrews service before the dinner as Amalinda Baptist Church could not accommodate us the next weekend. The flag was raised at City Hall on Friday 30 November as has become customary and we enjoyed a fabulous St Andrews Dinner at Beacon Bay Country Club with headmaster of Selborne College, Andrew Dewar as guest speaker.

We had a very busy start to 2019, with two well-supported functions. Burns Night in January had an exceptional number of members and guests attend. This also marked the official visit of the Federation Chief, Charles Carr – who joined the band in playing a few tunes on the night, and also badged the Provincial Chieftain and Lady President, Nookie Middleton and Rose Thompson.

Our February function was a Valentine's Tea in aid of the Pipe Band's efforts to raise funds towards their centenary in 2020. Again we had a fantastic turnout, and made a considerable dent in the fundraising goals.

In March our quiz master, Dave, had us reaching for the stars in a space-themed quiz at Dot Com Café.

Our Tartan Day Train Trip was a huge success and, by all accounts, thoroughly enjoyed by members and guests. An impromptu Ceilidh was held on the platform in Fort Jackson, with pipes, ceilidh dancing and even a Highland Dance from yours truly. It is quite clear that we will need to make this train trip an annual event! Our 'guests' included the Provincial Chieftain and Lady President- This marked their official visit to the Society – and as I mentioned before the last Provincial Chieftain visit as the Federation undergoes restructuring at the next Congress.

In May the Edinburgh Tattoo was screened at the Moth Hall to round off a busy year.

While our calendar was packed, I have noted a few opportunities we could consider taking advantage of (and there may be more) – International bagpipe day, world whisky day to name a few.

One thing has becoming apparent – we are lacking news from the members. We really do want to hear your news, and get your input on events and ideas for events. So please make contact with the committee

While each of the sections of the society have their own reports, please allow me a few moments for my own comments and notes (and this may be a little repetitive of last year's thanks – but needs to be mentioned):

The Pipe Band has had a very busy year and they continue to be the flag ship of our society. My grateful thanks to Honorary Piper Robert Rankin and the members of the ELCS Pipe Band for their willingness to play at all Caledonian events. We look forward to celebrating the band centenary next year.

Likewise the dancers have had a very busy and successful year (although I must be careful not to show my clear bias). They have entertained at the various society functions and accompanied the band to many of the displays. A big thank you to the teachers, dancers and parents who give up their time for these events.

The Ladies Group remains active – and I would like to thank Sandra for again taking the lead. My thanks to the Ladies group for their contributions to the various events this year, particularly the visits of the provincial and federation chiefs

Our Country Dancers continue to thrive – and despite their own objections, do reflect well on the active nature of our society, and we are grateful for their additions to the entertainment programmes of our events.

Again, I do need to thank those who I have worked closely with over the last year (in no particular order).

My Lady President – thank you for the hours you have put in.

To my Chief of Protocol, Sandra – thank you for the endless hours you have put in, for all the advice and encouragement you have given me, and for passing on your invaluable knowledge. I honestly could not have survived the year without you.

To our Honorary Secretary, Dave Rankin – the efficiency with which you perform tasks is appreciated.

Our Honorary Treasurer, Sheila Godfrey for handling our finances so well. Likewise to our Honorary Auditor John Stoddard for his work.

The Chieftains and Committee – for their hard work and support over the last year

Our Honorary Chaplain Cheryl Adams and stand in Honorary Chaplain Paul Taylor who have served us well in the past year.

It is very difficult to capture the spirit of this society in a few words – but in summary, thank you for the privilege to serve the Society as Chief in the past year. Thank you for your support and encouragement – we have indeed had a very productive year.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Roxanne Piderit and seconded by Sheila Godfrey

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Hon Treasurer presented the report.

The key features were:

Cash in bank: R29 406-27

Cash on hand: R477-70

Benevolent Fund: R5 791-32

Net deficit for the year: R1 610-28

Discussing the deficit, members' tickets at dinners have been sponsored. The Society hosted 2 official Federation Chief visits during the year and was not required to host an official Provincial Chieftain visit during the previous year.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Sheila Godfrey and seconded by Kim Mathieson.

PIPE BAND REPORT:

Our pipe band is about to celebrate its centenary which is fantastic milestone and we can all take pride in having played some role in having reached this point. Unfortunately even as we look back our past with all the noteworthy achievements our future is not looking very secure at all. There are many reasons for this sad state of affairs and I will try to cover some of the main issues:

The first problem is too many people seem to believe that the band has been around for longer than any of us can remember and just continue to be there. This will not happen without a lot of work from everyone.

The next problem is a matter of isolation. We are geographically disadvantaged and by staying in isolation and not going out to see and hear what the rest of the country is doing and more importantly how they are doing we fall into bad habits and then pass them on to others as correct. This can only ever result in a downhill spiral.

One of the big issues that has been worrying me is that we have members that appear to believe they can sort out their musical issues without help from anyone. You can't! Right now I am the strongest piper in the band the only member of this band that takes advice and criticism from outside of our small circle. Offers to assist other pipers outside of our regular practice times has had no takers as has my suggestion that we bring in a drumming tutor from time to time. My suggestion that we take a group to an event such as the South Coast Gathering to create an opportunity to interact with other pipers and drummers has also been ignored

I could go on but the main point here is we need to change our outlook and behaviour if we want to see this band survive and prosper. It would be a very sad day if celebrating our centenary was the last notable thing this band ever did. Each one of us needs to choose whether we are going to be part of the problem or part of the solution

There is no middle ground

Let's make our band great again

The adoption of the report was proposed by Robert Rankin and seconded by Leanne Harbottle

Caledonian Ladies' Group:

ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2018 – MAY 2019

This enthusiastic group of ladies continues to meet regularly to discuss Caledonian matter and enjoy social fellowship over a cup of tea.

While we usually meet on the first Tuesday of the month, this may vary from time to time to suit specific occasions and circumstances.

During the past year, five get-togethers have been held at members' homes, four at restaurants One at Breath of Life and our Christmas lunch was held at the home of our dear friends John and Lorna Thompson. A very warm vote of thanks is due to all our generous hosts during this time.

It has been a special pleasure to have the Chief and Lady President join us on a number of occasions, whenever they were able to squeeze a break from their busy schedules.

Our chosen charity for the year was BREATH OF LIFE and we were pleased to receive donations of baby clothes as well as R775 in cash at the screening of 'Hogmanay at Blair Castle' in the Oak Room on 30th March 2019. This was followed by the sale of stickers for the 'Tekkie-Tax' fund-raiser at the end of May, which brought in a further R170 for their cause. Thank you to all who supported these endeavours.

We were also able to spread a little Christmas cheer by calling on some of our elderly Caledonian members during December.

Nor have we neglected those who are no longer able to attend our regular functions:

It has been our great joy and privilege to visit MARGARET MURRAY on a number of occasions, including her 103rd birthday almost a year ago, and it was with sadness that we learned of her passing earlier this year. Our oldest and longest-standing member is fondly remembered by us all.

MAUREEN ILLINGWORTH numbers among our most enthusiastic followers and a few of our ladies were able to celebrate with her over a cup of tea on the eve of her 95th birthday (29 February).

Erstwhile member JEAN SANSOM is now living in Knysna with her daughter where she is very happy and just a phone call away! (At our meeting last week we were able to get her on her cellphone and collectively sang 'Happy Birthday' on her 88th birthday – 11th June.)

Though still an active member, I must include ELIZABETH WEARE and congratulate her on celebrating her 90th birthday earlier this year. We wish her good health and many more happy years in our circle.

We look forward eagerly to many more fulfilling times of friendship and service in the future.

Thank you.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Sandra Rankin and seconded by Rose Thompson

ECHG Report:

Madam Chief. Ladies & Gentlemen.

As reported at the 2018 AGM, East London Band's centenary in 2020 is the focal point of the next Gathering in East London. The weekend of 10 October 2020 is the working date and will coincide with the 2020 Federation Congress – to be held in East London.

The Centenary Concert will form the highlight of the weekend and promised support in East London and further afield indicates an event to remember!

The preparations for the weekend mean 2020 will be a busy year, but one that will make the Society, the Band and the Dancers very visible. If we use the time wisely, we will have more Society members, Band members and Dancers to join the celebrations.

East London Caledonian Society has a reputation for punching above its weight ... and winning. On behalf of all involved with the ECHG, please don't stop now. The fun is just beginning.

Thank you

Proposed: David Rankin. Seconded: Roxanne Piderit

SCDC Report:

David Rankin presented the report on behalf of the Chairman

CHAIRLADY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2019

It is with great pleasure that I, once again, present my Annual Report as Chairlady of the Scottish Country Dancing Club, although it seems unbelievable that a whole year has passed since I last penned this Report.

Looking back over the past twelve months it is gratifying to note that, although two of our members, Val and Estelle battled with ill health for most of the year, the remaining ten members attended quite regularly every Tuesday afternoon. We all share a love of dancing, so what we lack in ability due to advanced age, we more than make up for in enthusiasm!

During the past year we were again requested to dance at fund-raising and other events in and around East London:

On 16 June 2018 we were invited to dance at a St George's Presbyterian Church's Fund-raising Concert. Seven members were able to attend and the audience was very appreciative of our performance.

On 21 September 2018 the Grahamstown Scottish Country Dancing Club invited us to attend and dance at their 40th Anniversary Celebrations. They sent us a number of new dances to practice for the occasion. Five of our members accepted the invitation and had a most enjoyable weekend.

On 6 October 2018 we were again asked to dance at the annual Komga Agricultural Society Show. Nine of our members danced and, as usual, were well received.

On 10 November 2018, we were requested by the organiser to dance at a Craft Market held at the Stutterheim Country Club. Ten of our members travelled to Stutterheim and enjoyed the outing, despite the heat and rather rough terrain we had to dance on!

A lot of practice and preparation precedes these demonstrations and our very capable dancing instructress, Merylees Burgess, is to be commended for her great enthusiasm and endless patience, not only whilst preparing us for these demonstrations, but also throughout the entire year! Thank you Merylees!

Our very grateful thanks, too, go to Sheila Godfrey, who holds two positions in our Club, that of Secretary and Treasurer, and very capably performs all duties related thereto.

Thanks are also due to John Stoddard our Auditor for checking all Sheila's records. John also had a "health hiccup" this year but, John being John, did not let this halt him in any way and was up and about again before many people even noticed he was missing.

Thank you to my two sisters Val Stark and Sharon Nortje for serving with me on the committee. Val, unfortunately, has been absent for most of the year due to two long spells in hospital, but is now slowly regaining her strength.

Last, but by no means least, a very BIG Thank You to all our dancers for their regular attendance and for all the laughs we share on Tuesdays. May God Bless us with good health to continue dancing for many years to come!

SHIRLEY HASTINGS-WOOD

The adoption of the report was proposed by Sheila Godfrey and seconded by John Stoddard.

TASK TEAM

The Chief presented the Task Team report:

The resolutions presented at the 2018 Federation Congress by East London Caledonian Society were carried and the Federation Constitution has been amended accordingly. The following resolutions will be proposed at the 2019 Federation Congress:

- 1) Constitution to be amended so that, at Congress, each Society's vote is weighted according to the number of members in good standing and not according to the number of delegates.

Motivation: Whether a Society has one, two or three delegates at Congress, it is the same Society that is being represented. While all delegates have a voice and may (should) participate in discussions pertaining to the business of Congress, delegates represent their Societies and not themselves. Each Society's vote should, therefore, be weighted according to the number of members in good standing regardless of the number of delegates attending Congress.

- 2) The Federation website be closed in favour of the Facebook group. The website is costing money without a concomitant return to Federation.

Motivation: The website is an expense to Federation and has served no observable benefit in growing the number of Societies, the membership of existing Societies nor non-member participation in the activities of the Societies. The Facebook group is free, interactive and accessible even to people who may not specifically be looking for information pertaining to the Federation.

- 3) All eligible persons are able to participate in Central Council meetings through Skype and thus make positive input during Central Council discussions.

Motivation: The decreased number of people willing and able to physically attend Central Council meetings places an unfair burden on the people who are willing and able. Skype meetings accommodates people who are willing but who are unable to participate in the running of Federation due to distance or other valid restrictions. This accommodation encourages participation and shares the duties of Central Council more equitably.

- 4) The annual increase in capitation to be changed. The continuous increase without observable benefit is a factor in Societies leaving Federation.

Motivation: The current practice was proposed by East London Caledonian Society and adopted by Federation in the context of the membership and requirements of the time. Society subscriptions are not increasing at the same rate as capitation, so that capitation is becoming an ever larger percentage of each Society's subscriptions. This is not sustainable. A moratorium should be placed on capitation increases until such time as the member Societies have had opportunity to consider *inter alia* the benefits of membership of Federation, the means of the Societies, the needs of Federation. Capitation should be reassessed after this has been done. It is recommended that Societies have completed their considerations and be ready to reassess capitation at Congress 2020.

- 5) Article 16 be clarified as to the rotation of Societies.

Congress discussion point:

Guidelines for Federation Chiefs and their home societies to be appended to the Constitution.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Roxanne Piderit and seconded by Andrew Macdonell.

RESOLUTIONS

- 1) The committee proposed raising the annual subscriptions as follows: Full members R100. Country members R75. *Bona fide* social pensioners to be considered on application. Junior members R35.

Motivation: While subscriptions have not been raised every year, inflation has seen a steady rise in costs of running the Society and of organising functions.

Unanimous.

- 2) The committee proposed Article 11 be amended so that a Chief may serve a maximum of 3 consecutive 1 year terms. A past Chief will be eligible for re-election after one or more subsequent Chiefs have held office.

Motivation: The committee has noted Societies which return the Chief to office *ad infinitum* become stagnant and deteriorate. A mandatory change of Chief encourages fresh ideas and an active Society.

Unanimous

- 3) The committee proposed Article 11 be amended to reduce the number of executive committee members from 6 to 4.

Motivation: In adjusting to changing circumstances, a smaller committee can respond better to the needs of the Society.

Accepted by majority vote. There were 3 abstentions and no votes against.

Article 11 will now read:
The affairs of the Society shall be managed by an Executive Committee consisting of a Chief, three Chieftains (one of whom shall be elected Senior Chieftain at the AGM); Honorary Secretary; Honorary Treasurer (which two offices may be held jointly) and *four* Ordinary or Associate members of the Society. The office of Chief, Chieftains, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall be elected for a period of ONE year. *No person may hold the office of Chief for more than three consecutive years.* The *four* Executive members shall be elected for a period of TWO years, TWO of whom will fall to retire at the end of each year. All retiring office-bearers shall be eligible for re-election. *A person who has held the office of Chief for three consecutive years will only be eligible for re-election as Chief after one or more persons have held that office.* The immediate Past Chief shall, ipso facto, be a member of the Executive Committee for ONE year, with power to vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICER BEARERS:

Chief: Past Federation Chief Sandra Rankin took the chair and called for nominations. Roxanne Piderit was proposed unanimously.

Roxanne Piderit took the chair and called for nominations for the incoming committee.

Senior Chieftain: David Rankin. Proposed: Susan Piderit. Seconded: Roxanne Piderit Andrew Macdonell. Proposed: David Rankin. Seconded Susan Piderit. Declined nomination.

Chieftains: Andrew Macdonell. Proposed: Susan Piderit. Seconded: Unanimous.

Sandra Rankin. Proposed: Susan Piderit. Seconded: Unanimous

Hon. Secretary: Andrew Macdonell. Proposed: Maureen Rankin. Seconded: Unanimous

Hon. Treasurer: Sheila Godfrey. Proposed: Rose Thompson Seconded: Unanimous.

Committee Members: Robert Rankin, Maureena Middleton and Maureen Rankin are about to begin their second of 2 years. Maureena Middleton has communicated her desire to step down and this was accepted by the meeting. Leanne Harbottle (Proposed Sheila Godfrey) and Dean Klopper (Proposed Robert Rankin) were unanimously elected for a two year term.

The following appointments were approved by the meeting:

Hon. Chaplain: Rev. Paul Taylor. Unanimous.

Hon. Piper: Robert Rankin. Unanimous.

Hon. Auditor: John Stoddard. Unanimous.

Representative on Central Council: Duncan MacDonald. Unanimous. Awaiting reply from Jean Kelly as nominee for alternate representative.

GENERAL:

- 1) Andrew Macdonell has ELCS license disc stickers for sale towards Band centenary funds.
- 2) The Ladies Group will be showing the 2018 Edinburgh Tattoo in the Oak Room on Tuesday 2 July 2019 at 0930. R20 pp towards Band centenary funds. Ladies are requested to arrive at 0830 to prepare the Oak Room and to bring a packet of biscuits for tea.
- 3) The dates for the Chairing and Kirking to be confirmed.
- 4) The next committee meeting will be on Thursday 11 July at 13 Tapson Street Cambridge.

Meeting closed at 19:55