



# The East London Caledonian Society

Founded 1876

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## NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear Fellow Caledonians,

I had to stop myself from typing this up in the form of a teenage Instagram influencer..

*"Hi Caledonians! And in today's newsletter we will cover..".* By way of explanation, I am currently recording several hours of lectures for my students as we will not be having face to face lectures for the foreseeable future. I fear I am beginning to sound like one of these teenage influencers.

Fear not.. we have our St Andrews Picnic next weekend to steer me back to normality (if only briefly).

Since our last newsletter, we had a very enjoyable Virtual Ceilidh. The true value of this event was connecting with past members from across the pond and seeing a few members who we have not been able to connect with since the lockdown began in March.

*'We will remember them...'*



*Society wreath being laid by the Chief on Remembrance Day*

Thank you to all who contributed to the entertainment programme, including: The East London Caledonian Society Pipe Band, Dancers from the Piderit Highland Dance Studio and Past Federation Chief Sandra Rankin, who put us through our paces with some socially distanced ceilidh dancing. The most memorable item on the programme (which continues to get rave reviews) is the Band Tribute prepared by Graham Cowley to mark the Band's Centenary. Thank you Graham for your efforts in preparing the tribute. (The videos are still available on Facebook and Youtube if you wish to watch it)

This weekend we will hold our St Andrews event – but this time in the form of a picnic at the Valley. As the picnic takes place during the National Period of Mourning announced by our President, members are asked to dress accordingly. We will have black ribbons available at the gate. Please remember to bring your own food, drink and something to sit on.

Looking ahead – our first function for 2021 will be Burns Nicht. At this stage we advise you to 'save the date' (23 January 2021) and we will advise you of details at a later time. The committee have a few plans in progress – which one we will follow will depend on the lockdown restrictions at the time. As this is our last newsletter for 2020, I would like to wish you all a Blessed Festive Season. Please stay safe and enjoy time spent with family and friends.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

Birthday best wishes go out to Geoff Liddle, who recently celebrated his 70th Birthday. And congratulations also to Tanya Macdonell and Mari-Juan Machin, who have been made Prefects at Stirling High School for 2021. Claude Macdonell is now back home after attending her mother's funeral in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Kim Mathieson was due to participate in a 'Showstoppers' show at the Alexander Playhouse – unfortunately the show has now been postponed until March 2021 due to the COVID outbreak. Beryl MacIver is recovering well after her recent fall; although Agnes Cowie has not been well recently and has been in hospital. Lastly in sports news, Sue Piderit played in the African Cup for SA Masters Hockey; while Tumi Macdonell was selected for the SA Youth Water Polo Training Squad and swam in the Buffalo City Aquatics Short Course Championships recently.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### **Saturday 28 November St Andrews Function**

This year, we will celebrate our patron saint with an outdoor 'picnic-type' function at lunchtime. The venue is the gardens at 'The Valley' at 12:00. Bring your own food and drink (COVID-19 regulations mean we cannot provide catering). A picnic blanket and/or chair will make the afternoon more comfortable. There will be a R20 'charge', which will go towards the 2021 Congress Funds.

### **Monday 30 November St Andrews Flag above City Hall**

Look out for the Saltire flying over City Hall. Dancing and piping will precede the hoisting.

### **Saturday 23 January 2021 Burns Function**

Exact details will be confirmed nearer the time – but please 'save the date' !

## PIPE BAND

Pipe Band had not one but two successful Remembrance Day Parades this year. The first on Sunday 8 November in King Williams Town and the second on Sunday 15 November at the War Memorial in East London (see photos). Band will perform at St Andrews Day and at the McClelland Home on Sat 28 November and 'limited edition' Pipe Band face masks are being produced.

## LADIES GROUP

Ladies had an enjoyable tea at the Dot Com Café on Tuesday 3 November at the Dot Com Café. The next meeting of the Ladies Group will be a 'Bring and Share' lunch at the Atrium, The Valley at 11.45 for 12.00 on Tuesday 8 December.

**S.C.D.C** No country dancing during lockdown.

## HIGHLAND DANCERS

PhD Dancers have been continuing with online classes and also with limited face-to-face classes. Dancers will perform at St Andrews and McClelland on Saturday 28 November.

## BIRTHDAYS

November 2020			December 2020		
Date	Name:	Contact:	Date	Name:	Contact:
1	Maureen Rankin	082 405 9730	25	Britney Middleton	
12	Geoff Liddle	082 455 3010	25	Emily Middleton	
26	Sue Gibson	043 721 3272	30	Emily Frauenstein	<a href="mailto:thefrauensteins@telkomsa.net">thefrauensteins@telkomsa.net</a>
28	Jessica Simons	<a href="mailto:itsjsimons@gmail.com">itsjsimons@gmail.com</a>			

## COMMITTEE

Next Committee Meeting will take place at 19.00 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at Sandra Rankin's new apartment, 102 The Valley. (Note: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of January 2021)

Yours aye,



Roxanne Piderit (Chief)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
28 Nov (12.00)	St Andrews Function	The Valley Gardens
23 Jan 2021	Burns Function	TBC – Save the date