



# The East London Caledonian Society

Founded 1876

(All Correspondence to be Addressed to the Secretary)

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## SEPTEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Dear Fellow Caledonians,

Thank you for the honour of electing me to be your Chief for another year and thank you to all who came to support myself and Rose Thompson, our Lady President, at the Chairing.

Your support is greatly appreciated and we pledge ourselves to serve the East London Caledonian Society to the best of our ability. Your new committee were listed in the last newsletter – but I should also mention our other honorary positions:

- Hon. Chaplain: Rev Des Plint
- Hon. Piper: Robert Rankin
- Hon. Auditor: John Stoddard
- Representative on Central Council: Duncan Macdonald

Our first duty (and indeed the duty of every East London Caledonian) will be to support the East London Highland Gathering at Cambridge High School on Saturday 3 September.

Dave Rankin (Gathering Convenor) and his Committee have put on a programme to be proud of but YOUR HELP IS NEEDED !. He has had an A3 Poster printed and if you are able to assist with the distribution of the poster, or sell tickets to the Gathering, or assist with the repair of the dancing platforms, or with the Friday night concert, or with the manning of the gates, or setting up on the Friday or, or.... please contact Dave, Andrew or Sandra ASAP.

*'Min dae' now folk, so don't hesitate.*

### **NEWS OF MEMBERS**

*(Remember - please send us your news for the next Newsletter !)*

Callum Hitchcock (Callum & Beryl Maclver's grandson) is now a sports reporter for Madibaz Radio, the student radio station at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Meanwhile Fiona Clark (their daughter) and her two sons have arrived from U.K. for a visit. Claude Macdonell will be travelling shortly to attend a family wedding in Belgium. Sue and Roxanne Piderit will be travelling to Portugal on 4 September. Their teams did well in the recent international masters' hockey tournament. Sue's team only lost one match and Roxanne's team won a silver medal in the A section. Ralph & Rose Anley and Sheila Godfrey have returned from visiting the U.K. Sheila brought greetings to all from Alan and Ann Woodhurst.

*One 'newly-chaired' Chief*



## **ENTERTAINMENT**

20 Aug 2016 Garden Party at Parklands to celebrate Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday at 10.30 am  
R50 per person (R40 per member).  
*'Join us for cucumber sandwiches, english tea ... and entertainment!'*

3 Sept 2016 Eastern Cape Highland Gathering – from 9am at Cambridge High School

**PIPE BAND** The Band played at the Charing, the Jikeleza Festival at Inkwenkwezi and the SPCA Bikers Breakfast. The Band will be on duty from 10am on 11 September 2016 at the Battle of Britain Parade. Finally congratulations to Dave Rankin (Bill Campbell Trophy) & Stephen Goold (Mark Volker Trophy) - Band Trophy Winners for 2016.

**LADIES GROUP** Ladies' Aug meeting, hosted by Ruth Strong went well. Next meeting will be hosted by Sheila Sanderson at 9.30am on Tuesday 6 September 2016 at Rose Thompson's home, Cottage E7, Fairlands.

**S.C.D.C** The Country dancers are practising hard for the Gathering and also put on a demonstration recently at the U3A AGM. Country Dancing continues at the Hams Club from 4pm - 5.30pm every Tuesday.

**HIGHLAND DANCERS** Well done to the five dancers from East London, who competed at the South African Championships in Johannesburg. Kristen was runner-up in both the Highland and the National Intermediate Sections; while Tanya won a bronze medal in the Novice section and Jada a Gold medal in the Beginners section. Dancers also performed at the Koi Show, the Jikeleza Festival and the SPCA Bikers Breakfast. Next major event: Gathering Competition.

**HIGHLAND GATHERING** The big day – Saturday 3 September – is approaching fast! Last meeting of Gathering Committee will be at 9 Nelson Ave, Cambridge at 7.00pm on Thursday 18 August 2016. Please offer your services – all help will be needed to make this a success! *For those who missed it - see the attached article that appeared in the 'Daily Dispatch'.*

## **BIRTHDAYS**

August 2016			September 2016		
Date	Name:	Contact:	Date	Name:	Contact:
14	Sue Piderit	082 924 1078	6	Riona MacKenzie	072 432 3174
20	Jamie Gibson	043 721 3272	21	Rose Anley	<a href="mailto:randr@hyperlink.co.za">randr@hyperlink.co.za</a>
25	Iris van der Zee	043 726 5000	23	Sheila Godfrey	082 510 3863
			30	Freddie MacFarlane	083 351 2696

**CONGRESS** 92<sup>nd</sup> Congress of the 'Federated Caledonian Society of Southern Africa' will be hosted at Cedar Woods in Sandton, Johannesburg from 7 to 9 October 2016.

**COMMITTEE** Next meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday 8 September 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Rose Thompson's home, Cottage E7 Fairlands.

Yours aye,



Maureena 'Nookie' Middleton (Chief)

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS:**

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	START	NOTES
20 Aug 2016	Garden Party	Parklands	10.30am	QE2 Birthday Celeb. R40pp
2 Sept 2016	Concert	Cambridge High School	6.30pm	Open air concert. R50pp
3 Sept 2016	Gathering	Cambridge High School	8.30 am	Please offer your help!

## Cambridge to host EC celebration of Highland Gathering

By MIKE LOEWE

SCOTTISH ancestors will be celebrated by men and girls in tartan skirts, bagpipes and quick steps and jumps, at Cambridge High next month.

The Eastern Cape Highland Gathering on September 3 from 8.30am to 5pm is expected to attract 1 000 South Africans with Scottish ancestry from around the country, said convener Dave Rankin.

Because the event takes place during heritage month, the hosts, the East London Caledonian Society, has invited anyone to join in.

"Although the main events are the Highland dancing and pipe band competitions, the gathering is also a wonderful opportunity for others to publicise their activities," Rankin said.

"Already, ninjas living in Cambridge West, who follow a strand of Japanese martial arts, will be attending."

Rankin said as many as 100 bagpipe players and dancers will perform.

Asked how many people with Scottish ancestry lived in the province he said: "Well, for starters anyone with 'Mac' in their



**HERITAGE:** The 67th Eastern Cape Highland Gathering is at Cambridge High on September 3

Picture: SUPPLIED

surname – but it runs to more than 20 000."

He said the 20 Caledonian societies in SA had, since being established in 1886, "never lost contact with Scotland", through

cultural links such as the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association.

The gathering committee invites anyone to erect a stall at a cost of R50. —  
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