



The East London Caledonian Society

Founded 1876

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SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Fellow Caledonians,

This is our first newsletter since the Chairing and I find it hard to believe that it has been a year since I was first chaired. The Kirking will be held this weekend at Cambridge Methodist Church, and I do hope to see many of you there. For those not able to attend the chairing, my the goals for the year, which I unpacked in my address to the Society, are summarised below:

- (1) Increase Membership:** *We have shown a slight decline in membership in the last year; but are still a relatively healthy Society. So I would like to issue a challenge to our members – bring a friend to our next event, invite the person who mentions their Scottish heritage or background.*
- (2) Active Participation at McClelland:** *Our annual outing for Halloween at McClelland is often sadly not well supported. The efforts are really appreciated by the residents, and lots of fun is to be had around the braai after we have finished the entertainment portion of the programme. We would love to see you all at McClelland on 3 November, dressed up, helping with the games, and enjoying the social around the braai afterwards. If you truly cannot make it – your donation will be gratefully received.*
- (3) Prepare for 2020:** *2020 is an important year for the Society - we celebrate the Centenary of the Pipe Band, we will host the Federation Congress, and we will hold the Eastern Cape Highland Gathering. The committee has begun preparations and fundraising, and we welcome input from all members. So please feel free to send us ideas for fundraising opportunities, or what you think we should incorporate into these events.*



Symbol Bearers at the Chairing

Since the last newsletter 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. In short, a very enjoyable morning event. Looking forward – in September, we have opted to support the gathering in Grahamstown as our main event. A train trip in October and Halloween in November are also highlights to look forward to.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

In milestone news, Sue Piderit is participating in her 25th Masters Hockey Tournament and she has just celebrated her 60th birthday. Meanwhile Sandra Rankin's matric class will be holding their 60th reunion this month. Caledonians out and about include Nookie Middleton, who is hiking in Tsitsikamma, John & Doreen Pearson, who are in Mossel Bay and Nadege Rankin, who is visiting Cape Town. Ken Scott has a full house with family visiting from the UK & SA; while Callum & Beryl MacIver are enjoying a visit from their daughter Fiona and her two sons. Tumi Macdonell won a trophy for the Best Junior Female Swimmer in the 800m freestyle at the Buffalo City Aquatics Annual Prizegiving. Finally some positive news is that Federation Chief Jane Dyer continues to make good progress after her stroke.

ENTERTAINMENT

Sunday 26 Aug 2018

Kirking of the Chief. Cambridge Methodist Church at 8.00am.
Bring plate of eats for tea afterwards.

Sunday 23 Sept 2018

St Andrews Gathering in Grahamstown.
Hope many East London Caledonians are able to attend?

Saturday 20 Oct 2018

Train Trip to Berlin. 14.30 – 17.15. R16 per person. Departs East London Station at 14.30hr with 20 minute turnaround in Berlin. Please RSVP to a committee member by 30 September to reserve your place on the train.

PIPE BAND

Firstly congratulations to the Knysna and Districts Pipe Band, who are Grade 4 Champions for 2018. The Band paraded at the Chairing of the Chief. Upcoming Parades: 9 September: Battle of Britain Service at East Bank Cemetery. 23 September: St Andrews Gathering in Grahamstown.

LADIES GROUP

The ladies had an enjoyable morning on 7 August. Next meeting will be on Tuesday 4 September at 9.30am at Dot Com Café. Hostess will be Elizabeth Weare.

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

HIGHLAND DANCERS

Eastern Cape Dancers did very well at the recent SA Championships and Inter Provincial Challenge in Johannesburg. Mari-Jean won the beginners' national section of the S.A. Championships. Kristen won 4th place in the S.A. Championship's championship section. The Eastern Cape Team won 3rd place (highest ever finish) in the Interprovincial Competition. They won the beginners' section and the senior intermediate section and placed 3rd for both Junior and Senior choreography.

CONGRESS

The next Congress will be from 5-7 October 2018 in Durban. East London has started planning for the 2020 Congress. The Task Team has now circulated its constitutional proposals for consideration by other societies and by Central Council in advance of Congress.

BIRTHDAYS

August 2018			September 2018		
Date	Name:	Contact:	Date	Name:	Contact:
15	Sue Piderit	082 924 1078	6	Riona MacKenzie	072 432 3174
20	Jamie Gibson	043 721 3272	21	Rose Anley	randr@hyperlink.co.za
25	Iris van der Zee	043 726 5000	23	Sheila Godfrey	082 510 3863
			30	Freddie MacFarlane	083 351 2696

COMMITTEE

Next Committee Meeting will be on Thursday 13 September 2018 at the home of Dave and Maureen Rankin, 9 Nelson Avenue, Cambridge at 7.30pm. Meeting will be preceded by a second meeting to plan the 2020 Gathering / Congress at 7pm.

Yours aye,



Roxanne Piderit (Chief)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	START	NOTES
26 Aug 2018	Kirking of Chief	Cambridge Methodist	08.00	Bring plate of eats for tea after
23 Sep 2018	St Andrews Gathering	Grahamstown	-	
20 Oct 2018	Train Trip to Berlin	EL Station	14.30	R16pp TBC
3 Nov 2018	Halloween	McClelland	TBC	
1 Dec 2018	St Andrews Dinner	Beacon Bay C Club	TBC	
26 Jan 2019	Burns Nicht	TBC	TBC	