



The Caledonian Society of Oman

Newsletter November 2007 - Issue No 1.

A Note from the Publicity Officer - Muriel Manners

Now that everyone has settled back to life in Muscat after the summer holidays, I thought it was about time a Newsletter was produced to keep our members up to date with what is going on, and more importantly, what is coming up in our very busy social calendar.

After the bitter disappointment of 7 June when the Ceilidh had to be cancelled due to a CYCLONE!!! I couldn't believe it, all that hard work, the band was here and keen to play, and then it all had to cancel at the very last moment. But as you know, the Scots don't stay down for long! We all went away, thought about it a bit and came back with a flourish to do it all again.... On Thursday 30 August!!

Gary and I had an excellent first function, being the (Post) Summer Ceilidh. It was a fantastic evening with brilliant music supplied by Laverock. We've had so many compliments about this band that we have invited them to the next Ceilidh, so keep your ears open for that one! The food was delicious; the kitchen couldn't keep up with the demands for the steak pie and the apple crumble and custard, what more can I say.

We had lots of sponsorship from various companies which resulted in some fantastic raffle prizes.

In the aftermath of Cyclone Gonu, and the devastation which we all witnessed, The Caledonian Society of Oman decided to forward a much needed cheque to Dar al Atta (The House of Giving) for 1,000 RO. A presentation was due to be made at the Ceilidh scheduled in June and we felt it was prudent to offer the funds in the circumstances.

We also donated 1,000 RO to Alzheimer's Scotland. Many of us working aboard have retired family members at home and all of us have seen the effects of Alzheimer's and Dementia and what it can do to a person and their families. Let's face it, we may need this service ourselves when the time comes.

Another 1,000 RO was donated to the Paediatric Department of the Royal Hospital in Ghala. With these funds, the volunteers completely transformed the play room for the children with an "Underwater" theme. The walls were re-painted in bright blue with fish and coral and a carpenter made a huge wooden boat for the kids to play in.

The next event on the agenda was the ever-popular Car Treasure Hunt which was again organised by Mrs Maureen Coyle and Mrs Jane Coogan. We started at the Dolphin Village (previously known as Costains) in Bowsher at 2.00 pm on Friday 9th November. Around 35 families took part in the fun which ended back at the Dolphin for a BBQ at the poolside. Well done to Jane and Maureen and Tony, the Pizza Man, who have promised to do it all again next year.

The St Andrew's Ball will be held on Thursday 29 November, again at the Intercontinental Hotel. Tickets have been going like hotcakes. So if you haven't yet got your seats booked, I urge you now to be very quick about it, or you may be disappointed.

This will be a black tie event as usual. I hope to see as many of you there as possible, even though the Dubai Rugby 7's are on the same weekend!!! I have it on good authority that last year it was possible to do both. Having danced till dawn at the Ball then leaving for the rugby the next day.....

We are lining up some brilliant food, great entertainment and have some fantastic raffle prizes for this event.

Please note that all Caledonian functions from now on will be non-smoking events although there will be provisions made for all the die-hards amongst you...!

We are really pleased to announce our inaugural Family Ceilidh. The plan, in future, will be to hold a Family Ceilidh the day after each big event before the band fly back. Unfortunately it is not possible to have the band play at this first function but we've decided it is such a good idea, to go ahead anyway with some CD's.

So on Friday 30th November in the Mandaloon Ballroom of the Crown Plaza Hotel from 2.00 – 4.00 pm the fiddles will play and the participants will paddy-barre with the best of them. Numbers will be limited, so tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis. The cost is 2 RO per head and includes tea, coffee and biscuits for the adults and drinks and snacks for the kids. Tickets will go on sale on Thursday 22 November at Second Cup in Shatti Al Qurum between 2.00 – 3.30 pm.

The Annual Caledonian Golfing Competition is also being discussed at the moment but no date has been finalised as yet.

If, there is anyone out there, who has been blessed with any special skills or talents i.e., highland dancing, caber tossing, bagpipe playing or possibly even tablet making.... Anything remotely Scottish in origin, I would be delighted to hear from you.... Call Muriel 99324258

Sandra Durning, our membership secretary can be contacted on 95909782, or email address calsocoman@yahoo.com.

It has come to our attention that some members seem to be having trouble receiving information from the society; we are trying to rectify this situation as quickly as we can. I would ask that if you know of any members that are not receiving mail from us, can you ask them to send an email to the above email address, to enable us to reply to them. We apologise for this and hope the situation is corrected soon.

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The Caledonian Society of Oman

2007 – 2008 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

The Society organises social events to promote the Spirit of Scotland to its patrons in the Sultanate of Oman

NAME:

SPOUSE/PARTNER'S NAME:

COMPANY NAME:

POSTAL ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE (HOME): (OFFICE):

(GSM): EMAIL ADDRESS:

Full membership is open to you only if you are Scottish, or have Scottish parents or grandparents. Only full members may hold office in the Society. Other Nationalities may also join.

Please indicate as appropriate:

Full/Family membership	5 RO	
Single membership	3 RO	

New Member		
Renewal membership		

Note: Cheques should be made payable to The Caledonian Society of Oman. Please return this completed form, along with payment (cash or cheque) to: Sandra Durning, PO Box 558, PC 116 or to The Family Bookshop, MQ, where a Membership Box is situated.

What are your/your spouse's/partner's interests?

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Would you be interested in serving on the committee? Yes / No

Would you be willing to help organise any events? Yes / No

I/We hereby apply for membership in The Caledonian Society of Oman as indicated above. Fee for the year/period ending 31st March 2008 is enclosed.

Signature: Date:

Membership Secretary: Sandra Durning Tel: 95909782 or Email: calsocoman@yahoo.com