



The Caledonian Society of Oman

Newsletter March 2008 - Issue No 3.

A Note from the Publicity Officer - Muriel Manners

The end of this month heralds the end of the first year of our committee's term in office. This committee is made up of the following hard-working and insightful people:

Mr Gary Manners, Chieftain;
Mr Bill Henry, the Vice-Chieftain;
Mr Kenneth McFarlane, Treasurer;
Mr Keith Hollis, Hotel Liaison;
Mrs Karen McFarlane, Secretary;
Mrs Marjory Gardyne, Membership Secretary;
Mrs Lorrie Morrison, Membership Secretary;
Mrs Muriel Manners, Publicity Secretary;
Mrs Ali Smith, Ticket Sales;
Mrs Ali Todd, General Member;
Mr David Todd, General Member;
Mrs Rosie Griffiths, General Member;
Mr Rich McMahon, General Member

Unfortunately, we lost Mr Tommy and Mrs Sandra Durning during the course of the year, who resigned from the committee because of work commitments. Both Tommy and Sandra were active members of the Caledonian Society committee for a fair few years and we thank them both for their time and efforts over this time.

It may well only be March, but we have had another four very successful events. **The Burns' Supper** was the first function of 2008, being held on Thursday 24th January. This was another very colourful event with many people turning up in their tartan regalia, again managing to fill the Intercontinental Jabrin Ballroom to capacity. The evening was set in motion by Mr Bill Henry's "Address to a Haggis" and with a flourish of the dagger, the meal was served.

The other speakers for the evening included: Mr John Hall, who flew in from Scotland especially, and delivered a rather funny and insightful "Immortal Memory"; Mr Andy Wood (who unfortunately for him, is English) gave us his impression of all the Scottish lassies he has known and loved; Ms Hannah Loudon who "Replied on Behalf of the Lassies" and despite being single, managed to nail the foibles of the male gender to a tee!! Or perhaps that is why she is still single having chosen to opt out!!

Mr Bill Henry illuminated us with his shortened version of "Tam O'Shanter" with the aid of his wife Margaret, and a PowerPoint presentation. This pictorial preview went down well with the non-Scottish-speaking in the crowd.

The band "Skalder" came back to enthrall us with their music and lots of dancing ensued.

Mrs Karen McFarlane donated a very large camel which Mrs Karen Carpenter (a local artist of note) painted for the occasion, this was auctioned on the evening raising quite a bit of interest and eventually being sold to Mr Mike Hansen for 500 RO. This was a wonderful and surprising end to a rather wonderful evening, adding to the total which the society donated to charity.

The Family Ceilidh was held on 25th January at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. We managed to involve "Skalder", for this event which is gaining popularity with the general community, not just the Scottish amongst us. Kids and adults alike were doing the Gay Gordon and having a ball.

Mr Tony Coyle organised and ran the annual **WATG/CalSoc Golf Tournament** held on Thursday 14th February at Ghallah Wentworth Golf Club. Over 40 of Muscat's keenest desert golfers enrolled to participate in the 2007 Championship which was held over into this year due to inclement weather and clashes with other items on the Society's busy calendar.

The nine-hole Individual Stableford (full handicap) format attracted entries from throughout the golfing community with our own contingent of CalSoc players adding another dimension to the competition.

The enthusiastic groups set off (shot-gun) at 3.15 pm using both front and back nines, and with play moving smoothly throughout the afternoon all were ensconced at the bar quenching their thirst by 6.00 pm.

The scores were quickly collated with the help of the club captain, Mr Ron Johnson and the results were as follows:

WATG/CalSoc Open Championship

1st Place	Abdullah Mohammed	(20 pts)
2nd Place	Parish (count-back)	(19 pts)

WATC/CalSoc Members Championship

1st Place	Corin Lewsey	(11 pts)
2 nd Place	Kevin Petrie	(7 pts)

Nearest the Pin

Front Nine	Mohammad Kawwar
Back Nine	Krish Menon

Most Golf

Men	Andy Ingles
Ladies	Jackie Mubarak

Two Clubs (generously donated by the sponsor)

48 balls	Mohammad Kawwar
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Mr Colin Wild (WATG) and Mr Bill Henry presented the prizes to the winners on the day. The Caledonian Society would like to thank M/s Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo for their generous sponsorship and ongoing support of this event.

The next golf tournament, will take place in September 2008 giving everyone time to brush up on their golf skills to challenge Mohammad and Corin for their championship titles.

The inaugural **Scottish Food Night** was held on Thursday 13th March in the Jabrin Ballroom of the Intercontinental Hotel. A variety of Scottish cuisine was available to sample including: Cock-a-leekie soup; Haggis and Clapshot with whisky gravy; Forfar bridies; Stovies; Mince n' Tatties; Rumbledethump; Steak pie; Battered Fried Fish; Macaroni Cheese; Ecclefechan tart; Cranachan; tablet and shortbread just to name my favourites.... This was all washed down with the Irn Bru cocktails which were available from the bar.

Everyone was stuffed afterwards and to give that lot time to settle, we had a Scottish quiz. Thirteen tables battled it out, pitting their knowledge against each other, and most were surprised at how little of Scotland they actually knew!! Well done to the teams who came first and last (!) and managed to win themselves a slab or two of Irn Bru as well as the other marvellous gifts.... Andy Piza then led the throng in the dancing till the early hours. A very good night was had by all.

Thanks also go to our sponsors for the evening **Irn Bru**, which everyone will be very happy to hear, are re-launching sales of this refreshing and invigorating tonic (and well known hang-over cure!) at a price of 6.500 RO per case, available at Al Fair.

Please note that the **Annual General Meeting** of the Caledonian Society will be held in the Intercontinental Hotel from 8.00pm to 9.00pm on the evening of Sunday 30th March and we welcome all members to attend.

Membership Renewals – Current membership expires at the end of March, and we would ask all members to renew their membership as this will not be done automatically. We will require a new application form to be completed and this can be done in two ways. Either during the evening of the Sunday 30th March (prior to the AGM) or download the application form from our website at www.caledoniansocietyofoman.com and post into the box at the Family Bookshop at Madinat Al Sultan Qaboos with the relevant fee (full/family membership is 5 RO and single or single parent membership is 3 RO) in an envelope. We hope you can come along to renew your membership on the 30th as we can give you the new membership card on the evening.

The **Summer Ceilidh** will be held this year on Thursday 24th April, and tickets for this event will be on sale on the evening of the AGM at the Intercontinental (downstairs lobby) from 6.30pm to 8.00pm (prior to the AGM meeting). The Ceildh tickets will be on sale again on the morning of the Monday 31st March (again in the downstairs lobby at the Intercontinental) from 8.00am to 10.00am. ***Ticket prices will be 34 RO for members and 38 RO for non-members.*** Laverock, the Celtic Rock band, will be in attendance for this gig. These guys played for the last Ceilidh in August and were a huge hit.

The **Kid's Ceilidh** will be held on Friday 25th April at the Crowne Plaza in the Sinbad Ballroom between 2.00 – 4.00 pm. The cost will be **1 RO per child** with a non-paying accompanying adult. Refreshments will be provided.

FORTHCOMING EVENT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2008

30 th March	Membership Renewal and Ceilidh (x2) Ticket sales Lower lobby, Intercontinental Hotel 6.30 pm – 8.00 pm Annual General Meeting Intercontinental Hotel 8.00 – 9.00 pm
31 st March	Membership Renewal and Ceilidh (x2) Ticket sales Lower lobby, Intercontinental Hotel 8.00 am – 10.00 am
24 th April	Summer Ceilidh Jabrin Ballroom, Intercontinental Hotel 7.30 pm – late
25 th April	Kid's Ceilidh Mandaloon Ballroom, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
September	2008 WATG/CalSoc Golf Tournament Details yet to be confirmed.

Global Scuba is offering members of the Caledonian Society discounts. Just mention us and you can SAVE.
marketing@global-scuba.com
Sophiya 99826725

Nomad Tours are offering our members 10% discount on game fishing, luxury yacht charters as well as Muscat sea adventures through 2008

Jawahir Oman (Opposite CCC, Qurum) is proud to celebrate 40years with Zubair Corporation. For all Caledonian Society members we are offering up to 40% off TIFFANY & CO for two weeks only. Saturday to Thursday. Starting 22nd March – 3rd April. Please bring your membership cards for discount.