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# CLAN MACPHERSON ASSOCIATION AFRICA BRANCH NOTICE # 2

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Dear Member,

## Entrée

Warm greetings to all members of the Africa Branch of CMA. As the northern hemisphere celebrate spring and the coming summer we in the south are looking forward to our winter and or cool dry season as the case may be. I have just spent seven weeks in Uppington, South Africa known to be very hot in summer and very cold in winter - I am glad to say that I have just escaped their winter, retreating home to a much warmer Malawi!

I do hope that this notice will keep you abreast of Clan Macpherson Association happenings with particular reference to the upcoming Platinum Dhubh Gathering that will take place in August and the Africa Branch's contribution to it.

## Cluny's Birthday

As conveyed in our Newsletter # 4, Cluny did receive the bottle of Bain's Cape Mountain Whisky that was sent to him by the Africa Branch for his 90th birthday on the 1st of April 2016. I have it on good authority that he thoroughly enjoyed it! The England & Wales Branch received some words from Cluny in response to the celebration that was given in his honour. I am sure neither he nor the E&W branch will mind my repeating them here:

"Just to report that the 90th birthday party was for me a great occasion----all done for me by all the family! Annie has many pics. But also to thank you and all others who sent wonderful cards and messages. So many that I simply cannot thank individually, and hope that in your next circular you could very kindly send my warmest thanks to all who sent greetings. They all much enriched the day! Most grateful thanks. With all love and salutes. Bill/Cluny."

## The Platinum Dhubh

As we are now less than two months from the starting date of the Platinum Dhubh Gathering so final arrangements are being made for this much-larger-than-normal Macpherson Rally.

Attendance from across the globe will be strong and we anticipate that it will be a magnificent series of events.

For our part, the CMA Africa Branch has contributed 350 hand carved key rings to the welcome bags which are forming a composite of information about the gathering and gifts to attending members. I have, today, been in touch with Sally Foster-Brown in Limbe, Malawi who is the person who has undertaken the production of the key rings. She informs me that good progress is being made. I will be travelling myself to Limbe over the coming weekend to see how she is getting on. I will be able to revert with a picture of a sample during the following week.

As far as I am aware the only African representation at the Platinum Dhubh will be me and my family. If anyone else has booked please let me know as it would be wonderful to make arrangements to meet in August in Badenoch.

## Other CMA Branch Newsletters

I received recently, from Bruce Macpherson, the latest newsletter (May 2016) from the England & Wales Branch. I have attached it to the bottom of this notice for your interest.

I have also saved a copy of the American Branch's Winter 2015 and Spring 2016 Journal that goes by the name of The Urlar. These are large files which I have placed in Dropbox at the following link should you be interested in reading them: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/79cu5o7kbhvo3zq/AAAAIQ8tK5S9MXPFSyhoCx4Ia?dl=0>

Both make for good reading - enjoy!

## Save the Date!

If anyone happens to be in Edinburgh on the 1st of October 2016 there will be a fund raising event for the Clan Macpherson Museum at the New Club in Edinburgh. Alexander McCall Smith will be entertaining. Please refer to the attached flyer for more information if you are interested in attending the function.

Folks that's all for now. I hope that this has served to keep you informed.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek Macpherson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Derek Macpherson

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May 2016

## CLAN MACPHERSON ASSOCIATION ENGLAND & WALES BRANCH NEWSLETTER

### **A message from Cluny –**

Just to report that the 90th birthday party was for me a great occasion----all done for me by all the family! Annie has many pics. But also to thank you and all others who sent wonderful cards and messages. So many that I simply cannot thank individually, and hope that in your next circular you could very kindly send my warmest thanks to all who sent greetings. They all much enriched the day! Most grateful thanks. With all love and salutes. Bill/Cluny.

### **Vic Macpherson Clifford**

I am sorry to report the passing of former E&W Branch Chairman, Vic Macpherson Clifford. A quiet and unassuming man, he was never prouder than when he wore his Macpherson kilt, which he did so with great style and aplomb. I have written to his sister, Linda, to offer the condolences of the Branch.

I also record the sad deaths of Simon Riley and Professor Philip Keith M'Pherson.

### **Jubilee Gathering deadline**

The deadline for this year's historic Gathering has been extended to 1<sup>st</sup> June. Full details are available via <http://ptdhubh.clan-macpherson.org> The latest to sign-up are ten of our Spanish cousins.

### **Hot off the Press: *Exploring Badenoch* by John Barton**

*Exploring Badenoch* has arrived in the Clan Museum. Written by Museum Trustee John Barton it is the first ever book published in the name of the Clan Macpherson Museum Trust. The book has its own website at [www.exploringbadenoch.co.uk](http://www.exploringbadenoch.co.uk) through which copies will be able to be purchased online in the near future for those who cannot get to the Museum.

John is well known to clan members for his hikes of the hills, glens and towns of Badenoch during the Clan Gathering. His intimate knowledge of the local area and its history is unsurpassed. This 165 page book with many coloured maps and pictures is an ideal guide for visitors and local residents. A must-have book for all clan members.

### **Macpherson Bannocks**

A further appeal for recipes from E&W members for Fiona Macpherson's Macpherson Cookery Book. Anyone who would like to submit something should send it directly to Fiona - [fionamacp@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fionamacp@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Creag Dhubh Wildcats**

This year's Macpherson Spring Ball was brilliantly organized by three of the Branch's stalwarts - Hamish, Wills and Tom Macpherson. The Ball is not their only clan endeavour this year. In August, they will be taking part in the Creag Dhubh Hill Race during the Newtonmore Highland Games.

I am writing to you and every other member of the England & Wales branch to ask them to sponsor the Hill Race team - the *Creag Dhubh Wildcats* - for just £10.

For a Museum that receives no public funding and is entirely dependent on the generosity of visitors and friends to keep its doors open, a £10 donation from each of our branch members would bring in almost £4,000.

Supporting the team, couldn't be easier. You can either send a cheque made payable to the Clan Macpherson Association (England & Wales Branch) to Wills Macpherson, Hon Treasurer, Flat 3, 367 Clapham Road, London, SW9 9BT or follow the following link <https://www.justgiving.com/clanmacpherson-museum>

### **Save-the-Date**

Please see the attached flyer regarding a major Museum initiative taking place on 1<sup>st</sup> October – something not to be missed for fans of the Museum and renowned and internationally acclaimed author, Sandy McCall-Smith.

Thank you for all your support.

Chairman, E&W Branch  
Clan Macpherson Association

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SATURDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2016**

***New Club Edinburgh 7.30pm***

***An Evening with  
Alexander McCall Smith***

***Fundraising  
for  
Clan Macpherson Museum***

***Supper and Refreshments  
Tickets £50***

***Auction & Raffle  
More Details to Follow***

**SAVE THE DATE**