



Otago Scottish Heritage Council Inc  
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## July 2017 Newsletter

Winter greetings.

Since the beginning of 2017 the membership of the Otago Scottish Heritage Council has increased significantly.

The following clans and groups are currently members of the OSHC:

**Burns Scottish Country Dancing**  
**Caledonian Society**  
**Ceilidh Club**  
**City of Dunedin Pipe Band**  
**Clan Donald**  
**Clan Elliott**  
**Clan Gunn**  
**Clan Johnston/e**  
**Clan MacKenzie**  
**Clan McLean Otago**  
**Clan MacLeod**  
**Clan Macnicol**  
**Clan Murray**  
**Dunedin Burns Club**  
**Dunedin-Edinburgh Sister City Society**  
**Gaelic Club of Otago**  
**Pipes and Drums of Dunedin**  
**Piping and Dancing of Dunedin**  
**Royal Scottish Country Dance Society**  
**Scottish Scarves**  
**Sister Cities – Tartan Ties Project**  
**Southern Heritage Trust**  
**Taieri Scottish Society**

All members of the OSHC are encouraged to invite any groups interested in Scottish cultural or heritage to the monthly meetings. All are welcome.

There has been a policy of inviting a guest speaker to the monthly meetings on the first Tuesday at 7.00pm at the Athenaeum Library. This year speakers have included:

- April 2017 meeting – Marilyn Anderson, DCC Funding, and Will Anglin on establishing a website for OSHC.
- May 2017 meeting – Jeff Harford, Access Radio
- June 2017 meeting – Susan Sweigmann, President, Otago Settlers' Association

The speaker for the August meeting is the Mayor of Dunedin, Dave Cull, and for the September meeting, Dr Donald Kerr from Special Collections, University of Otago.

Meeting at the Athenaeum Library at 7.00pm on the first Tuesday in the month has worked well. Having a regular meeting venue has been an advantage and the Council wishes to thank the Athenaeum for allowing it to use its premises. Pursuant to the constitution there is no meeting in July and January of each year. The annual accounts are being prepared this month.

The OSHC is endeavouring to promote Scottish heritage and cultural events and to support members in undertaking these. The Dunedin Heritage Festival will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October (Labour Weekend). Members of the Council are encouraged to become actively involved in this Festival. There is an opportunity to promote your organisation and establish stalls on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October at Port Chalmers. Annexed to this newsletter is the programme. Please contact Ann Barsby at [barsby@xtra.co.nz](mailto:barsby@xtra.co.nz) if you can help in any way with the Festival and/or would like to involve your organisation in it.

The Caledonian Society will hold a dinner on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at the Edgar Centre from 11.00am, with a full range of Scottish entertainment. Tickets are available from John Stinson and the Scottish Shop. On the 30<sup>th</sup> July there will be a Scottish dancing exhibition at the Dunedin Art Gallery at 2.00pm.

The OSHC is supporting the St Andrews Day celebrations on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November 2017. There will be activities in the Octagon organised by the Edinburgh Sister City Society, the Burns lecture organised by the Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies at the University of Otago supported by the Dunedin Burns Club, and the Kirkin o the Tartan at Knox Church. Further information will be given to members about this as the planning progresses. Those who want to be involved in the St Andrews Day celebrations please contact Lyn Nicholson at [lynanicholson@gmail.com](mailto:lynanicholson@gmail.com) or Daphne McLeod at [daphne.macleod@xtra.co.nz](mailto:daphne.macleod@xtra.co.nz)

Organisations are encouraged to provide the OSHC with a list of their future events so that throughout the year they can be included under Scottish events by the OSHC in community newspapers and in the DCC publicity. Please contact Charmaine Mundy (Clan Gunn) at [miss\\_pu@live.com](mailto:miss_pu@live.com) so that the OSHC can work with your organisation.

Recently the combined clans had a very successful winter ceilidh organised by Clan Gunn.

At its monthly meetings the OSHC has been endeavouring to provide information to help groups with funding applications to the DCC and to promote their activities through Access Radio.

The Queen o the Heather competition is to be re-formatted and the OSHC is seeking any suggestions for ways in which that should be done. A working party will be established to look at different approaches including providing for some form of scholarship for a young person involved in the promotion of Scottish culture over a year. If you have any suggestions please forward them to Royden Somerville at [rjsomerville@barristerschambers.co.nz](mailto:rjsomerville@barristerschambers.co.nz)

The history of the OSHC is being undertaken by John Stinson and he is currently collecting material from the time the Council was established in 1925. If you have any records of the Council's activities which may assist John can you please contact him at [stinson@kinect.co.nz](mailto:stinson@kinect.co.nz)

During the year a website has been established and OSHC members and any organisations involved with Scottish heritage in Otago wishing to promote their activities should contact Will Anglin ([Will@barristerschambers.co.nz](mailto:Will@barristerschambers.co.nz)) with any information.

If you wish to learn Gaelic and know more about the Gaelic language contact Alison Thornton at [alison Thornton@gmail.com](mailto:alison Thornton@gmail.com)

If you wish to take advantage of Access Radio to promote and talk about your organisation, please contact Jeff Harford at [community@oar.org.nz](mailto:community@oar.org.nz)

If you wish to seek community funding from the DCC please contact, in the first instance, Marilyn Anderson at [Marilyn.Anderson@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:Marilyn.Anderson@dcc.govt.nz)

Those who wish to know more about the Burns' Poetry competition, please contact Kay Mercer at the Dunedin Public Library ( [kay.mercer@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:kay.mercer@dcc.govt.nz) ).

Those who wish to know more about Robbie Rocks Competition and the Burns Supper, please contact Sean Brosnahan at Toitu ( [sean.brosnahan@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:sean.brosnahan@dcc.govt.nz) ).

Those who wish to know more about the Burns lecture, please contact Liam McIlvanney at [liam.mcilvanney@otago.ac.nz](mailto:liam.mcilvanney@otago.ac.nz)

Those who wish to know more about joining a pipe band, please contact Brian Coutts at [brian.coutts@otago.ac.nz](mailto:brian.coutts@otago.ac.nz)

Professor Angela McCarthy, secretary of the OSHC is overseas and Dene Mackenzie (Clan McKenzie) is acting secretary.

For any person wishing to join any of the member organisations, please contact the acting secretary Dene MacKenzie (Clan MacKenzie) at [dene.mackenzie@odt.co.nz](mailto:dene.mackenzie@odt.co.nz)

For those wishing to make an enquiry about membership or obtain funding, please contact Graeme Duthie (treasurer) at [graemeduthie@xtra.co.nz](mailto:graemeduthie@xtra.co.nz)