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ROYAL CALEDONIAN SOCIETY OF  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SRG 279  
Series list

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Following an informal meeting of Scotsmen at the Red Lion Hotel to discuss the formation of a Caledonian Society, a formal meeting was held in the Adelaide Town Hall on 11 August 1881, with Dr Allan Campbell as Chairman. The South Australian Caledonian Society was then formed, and Alexander Hay elected first Chief. A Council was appointed and rules drawn up.

In February 1882, the Society moved into premises in Rundle Street, and in November 1886, to larger premises situated in Victoria Square. In 1922 a new site was purchased in King William Street for the building of a memorial hall. The Chief, Andrew Young, laid the foundation stone in 1925, and the hall was opened in 1926.

The Society became incorporated in 1911, and in 1947 became the Royal Caledonian Society of South Australia.

A Pipe Band was formed in 1894, becoming the Royal Caledonian Society Pipe Band (S.A.) in 1953. In 1899 a Bairns' (children's) Class was begun. About 1962 Highland Dancing Classes formed as an off-shoot of this. In 1937 a Ladies Indoor Bowls Group was established.

Other activities of the Society included the erection of the Robert Burns statue on North Terrace in 1894, and sponsoring of the John McDouall Stuart statue in Victoria Square in 1902. The Muirden College Scholarship was founded in 1902, and the Presbyterian Girls' College Scholarship in 1928.

Many of the Society's activities from its inception centred around traditional Scottish celebrations including Hallowe'en, and St Andrews Day celebrations, the Adelaide Festival Highland Games and Queen competition, Hogmanay, and the Highland Debutante Ball.

From 1963 to 1973 the 'Royal Caledonian Quarterly' news bulletin was published by the Society.

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- Minute books of Society and committees 1  
 1882 – 2011. 91 cm  
*Volumes 1-7 comprise minutes of Council meetings (originally 'Executive Committee):*  
 Volume 1: 1882 - 1894 (contains 'Sports Committee' 1884 - 1890).  
 Volume 2: 1894 - 1902 (contains printed list of members, 1897).  
 Volume 3: 1902 - 1922 (not 1923 as on Spine).  
 Volume 4: 1922 - 1937 (contains typed list of 'Caledonian Societies').  
 Volume 5: 1937 - 1951  
 Volume 6: 1951 - 1957  
 Volume 7: 1957 – 1964  
*Volumes 8-10 comprise minute books of general meetings:*  
 Volume 8: 1881 - 1929  
 Volume 9: 1889 - 1905 (+ Literary & Entertainment Committee)  
 Volume 10: 1905 - 1929  
 Volume 11: 1922 – 1953 Rough minute book (committees)  
 Volume 12: 1957 – 1963 Minute book of Social Committee  
 Volume 13: 1896 – 1901 Minute book of Stuart Monument Fund  
 Volume 14 :1964 – 1978 *Comprises minutes of Council meetings*  
 Loose 1988-1996, 2000-2011
- Financial records 2  
 1881-1965. 49 cm  
 Volume 1: cash book 1881-1893  
 Volume 2: cash book 1893-1902  
 Volume 3: cash book 1902-1918 (+ Scholarship Fund).  
 Volume 4: cash book 1918-1927 (+ Memorial Hall Fund).  
 Volume 5: cash book 1927-1935 (+ Hall Receipts 1934).  
 Volume 6: cash book 1935-1943  
 Volume 7: cash book 1943-1951  
 Volume 8: cash book 1956-1965  
 Volume 9: ledger 1925-1937. Contains variety of accounts including:  
 donations, postage, tax, interest paid, hall expenses, etc.
- Roll Books (Subscriptions) 3  
 1881-1937. 14 cm  
 Volume 1: 1881-1882  
 Volume 2: 1884-1886  
 Volume 3: 1902-1923  
 Volume 4: 1924-1937

Letter Books	<u>4</u>
1890-1940. 30 cm	
Indexed for 1905-1919; 1935-1937.	
Volume 1: 1890	
Volume 2: 1905-1914 (Index)	
Volume 3: 1914-1919 (Indexed)	
Volume 4: 1926-1927	
Volume 5: 1928-1932	
Volume 6: 1935-1937 (Indexed)	
Volume 7: 1937-1940	
Scrapbooks	<u>5</u>
1892-1896. 8.5 cm	
Contain collection of invitations and other printed material.	
Volume 1: 1892-1893	
Volume 2: 1894-1896	
See also Box 1 for an 1882 volume	
Large book: "Dundee; its quaint and historic buildings". no.282 of a limited edition.	<u>6</u>
1895. 8 cm OUTSIZE 3	
Bound copies of broadsheet newspaper: "The Weekly Scotsman & Caledonian Mercury". Edinburgh	<u>7</u>
1868-1871. 8 cm (2 volumes) OUTSIZE 3	
Quarterly meeting minute books	<u>8</u>
1930-1967, 1979-1988. 18.5 cm (2 volumes)	
Bairns' class membership roll	<u>9</u>
1968-1989. 3 cm	
First few pages loose and in fragile condition.	
Annual General meetings incorporating Quarterly meetings	<u>10</u>
1884-2010 60 cm	
Posters	<u>11</u>
1975-1980. 1 cm	
Ten posters, three relating to the declaration of Scottish Independence in 1320, one advertising the Seventh Highland Games on Adelaide Oval 12 March 1966 and six children's drawings publicizing the Royal Caledonian Society fete, 25/10/1980	
Tartan Day papers	<u>12</u>
2006-2008. 2 cm	
Highland Games Banner and two wooden poles	<u>13</u>

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FOR OTHER MATERIAL IN THIS GROUP SEE BOX LIST