



MID-SUSSEX CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Web site

<https://midsussexcaledoniansociety.org.uk>

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2026

INVITATION TO OUR WINE and CHEESE SOCIAL EVENT and AGM

Message from the President

Dear MSCS Member(s),

Reaching the 100-year milestone is a tremendous achievement for a society such as ours and we look forward to a wonderful celebration on the 15th August. We now face the problem – What next?

Survival depends on the ability to adapt to the changing environment, and this is what we must do.

The limitations of social media are becoming more apparent and the need for face-to-face social contact identified as essential for mental health, so would you like the society to continue, and if so, what form should it take?

I first accepted the Presidency in 2015 and after the centenary event it will be time to retire and bring in new leadership to steer the society into the future.

We have one or two current members of the committee who are willing to stay on but more are needed to make it a going concern so they will need help.

This year's AGM is thus crucial if you wish the society to continue.

What form should it take?

Do we just have our annual Burns night and St Andrew's Ceilidh or should we arrange other activities and if so, what should they be, and more importantly, are you willing to help?

So, all of you (especially newer members), please join us on the 26th June for a free wine and cheese party with pleasant company and tell us what you would like. This is your opportunity to help create a society that is both fit for the future and its changing membership”

I look forward to seeing you all then.

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MSCS Members' Annual Social Event and AGM

All members are cordially invited to our summer social event, our annual wine and cheese party together with the AGM, which will once again be held at the Bramble Hall in Balcombe. This event is FREE TO MEMBERS

DETAILS

Date: Friday 26th June 2026

Time: Doors open at 7.00pm The meeting will start at 7.30pm

Place: Bramble Hall, Bramble Hill,
Balcombe RH17 6HR

PLEASE NOTE The Hall does not have a car park but one can park in Bramble Hill and Stockcroft Road.

After the official business of the AGM, we will have the opportunity to relax and socialize with a glass of wine and nibbles. Fruit juice, soft drinks, tea and coffee will also be available. It will be an ideal opportunity to catch up with longstanding friends and to meet and welcome newer ones. So please reserve the date, **Friday 26th June 2026** in your diary.

Copies of the agenda, the accounts and the minutes of the 2025 AGM will be sent out nearer the time. We try not to generate too much paper to help the environment, so if you need it, please print your personal copies at home and bring them to the meeting.

PS In order to plan the catering it would be helpful if you could send an e-mail reply to me millar.marilyn@yahoo.com to indicate that you hope to come.
Thank you.



Most Recent Event

Talk and Social Evening

In a well-researched talk, Marie took us through several centuries of Scottish music and song, highlighting its diversity. Much of it reflected historic events, such as the haunting *Skye Boat Song*, commemorating the escape of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the stirring sounds of *Scotland the Brave*, which led the Scottish troops into battle. Marie provided us with the lyrics of the songs and so it wasn't long before we were tapping our toes and singing along.

Over the years many of Robert Burns' poems have been set to music and taken by the Scottish diaspora to far flung places, along with folk music and Scottish Country Dance

tunes – indeed, *Auld Lang Syne* has been adopted all over the world. Many in the room had fond memories of listening to Jimmy Shand and the White Heather Club as well as Robin Hall and Jimmy McGregor on the BBC – in England as well as Scotland! In more recent times popular singer-songwriters such as Annie Lennox and The Proclaimers have featured regularly in the charts and we are seeing many more new songs written and performed in Scots-Gaelic.

It was quite a nostalgic evening for many and the audience's applause reflected their appreciation. Thank you, Marie, for a most enjoyable talk.

Looking forward to seeing you at the AGM and of course at the Centenary Celebrations.

Don't delay, book your places now to avoid disappointment!