

PRIME MINISTER

SCOTTISH CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST ASSOCIATION
CENTENARY YEAR 1982

1. The attached letter from Graham Macmillan and Derek's note to me are self-explanatory. I assume you will be happy to attend the Conference in Perth, and also a large fete in the North East which can be incorporated into the Balmoral visit.

Agree?

2. I am not so happy about the St. Andrew's Night Dinner in Glasgow at the end of November. Not only does it follow fairly soon after the Lord Mayor's Banquet (on the 15th), but we have especially asked for the CTU Conference date to be changed - it was to have been on the 13th - and it is now probably going to be on 4 December. I do not think we can ask for another deferment, particularly as you are not attending this year. If you go ahead with this visit to Scotland in November, it will give you three major speeches one after the other.

Derek has recommended acceptance of all three occasions.

Can I have your views please?

Es.

*We shall have
to give great
attention to
Scotland next
year - so I had
better go.*

11 March 1981

CAROLINE STEPHENS

SCOTTISH CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST ASSOCIATION

CENTENARY YEAR 1982

Attached is a copy of a letter from Graham Macmillan.

Would you be good enough to arrange for this to be considered at an early date as a great deal of planning is involved.

You will see that the proposal is for the Prime Minister to visit Scotland three times in Centenary year.

1. Scottish Conference, Perth - Friday 14th May 1982

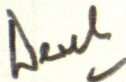
An evening rally followed by a big Ceilidh. This fits in nicely with the Prime Minister's intention to speak at the Franco-British Council(?) on the following day in Scotland.

2. A large Fete in the North East of Scotland in early September in the week in which the Prime Minister will be visiting Balmoral.

3. A St Andrew's Night Dinner in Glasgow-Tuesday 30th November

While St Andrew's Night falls on a Tuesday in 1982, the SCUA are most anxious to obtain the Prime Minister as Principal Guest and so would be more than happy to arrange for it to be held on the preceding Friday 26th, Saturday 27th or Monday 29th November.

All three seem to be very appropriate and worthwhile occasions.



Derek Howe

9th March 1981

TOWNS



10 DOWNING STREET

9th March 1981

Dear Graham,

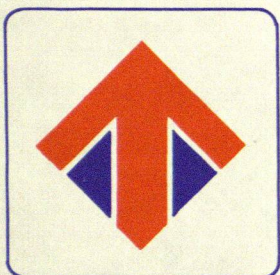
Thank you for your letter of 5th March regarding the SCUA Centenary Year 1982, which followed our telephone conversation.

I will put your proposals to the Prime Minister as soon as possible and I will be in touch with you shortly thereafter.

*Yours
Derek*

Derek Howe
Political Office

Graham Macmillan Esq



Chairman: Michael Ancram MA LL.B MP

Director: Graham Macmillan

Scottish Conservative Party

Headquarters: 11 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 8HG. Telephone: 031-229 1342

CONFIDENTIAL

5th March 1981

Derek Howe, Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1.

Dear Derek,

SCUA CENTENARY YEAR - 1982

The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association celebrates its centenary next year and, as I told you on the phone, a Committee has been formed, under the Chairmanship of Mr David Mitchell, the President elect, to consider a programme of activities. A copy of Bulletin No. 1 is attached for your information.

You are aware of the criticism and disappointment over the decision to hold the Prime Minister's Scottish Conference Rally on the Friday evening and not a Saturday afternoon last year and again in May of this year. Although the Committee's proposition for Centenary Year was for a Saturday afternoon, I am pleased to say that their recommendation is now in support of Friday evening and that it should be followed by a big Ceilidh rather than the President's Dinner and the Agents Ball, provided the Prime Minister will attend. This is a real step forward and since I believe the Ceilidh is an imaginative idea, I hope the idea will be supported.

The Committee also request and hope for two other visits from the Prime Minister during the year. It is their intention to hold a St Andrews Night Dinner in Glasgow - hopefully attended by 500/600 supporters. Unfortunately St Andrews Night (30th November) in 1982 falls on a Tuesday which would not be suitable to the Prime Minister. Since they are most anxious that Mrs Thatcher should be the principal guest, I am sure they would change it to the preceding Friday, Saturday or Monday but an early decision would be required since the number of venues capable of catering for that number are very limited and quickly become booked.

The third function they have in mind is for a large Fete in the North East of Scotland in early September in the week Mrs Thatcher will be going to Balmoral.

As you will see the intention is to have major functions in different centres in Scotland with the Prime Minister in Perth, Glasgow and the North East. Lord Home is probably being invited to be the principal guest at the Burns Supper in January and the further suggestion is that Mr Harold Macmillan and Mr Edward Heath are also invited to additional functions in Scotland during the year. I hope I have scotched the suggestion that the three former Conservative Prime Ministers and Mrs Thatcher are present at the same function.

I would welcome your observations and, of course, early confirmation that at least two and hopefully all three of these invitations are acceptable to Mrs Thatcher.

*Yours
Graham*