

Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

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August Meeting Monday 25th Balmoral Bowls Club, Jean Howie Drive, Morningside at 7.45 pm

The meeting will start with the Annual Meeting, followed by a Pipers' Night. For those who are apprehensive about Annual Meetings, be assured that the Society has pretty painless ones, so come along, hear the reports and then enjoy the piping!

From the Editor:

The Jimmy Durham trophy contest at the July meeting was one of the most contested for several years, with a total of eight competitors. There was an excellent standard of playing, which bodes well for the future of piping.

The newsletter this month features lots of results from the contest season in Scotland, as well as a report on a new association, somewhat parallel to our own, which has been formed in Victoria. Perhaps the model they have developed could be of some use in Queensland at some time in the future.

There is also an early notice that we will once again be "sharing" our October meeting with the Celtic Celebration Committee to conduct the Queensland final for the Macallan contest in Lorient in 2004.

Alex McConnell

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All comments made in this newsletter reflect the views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of the Queensland Highland Pipers' Society or of any officer or member of the Society.

JULY 2003 MEETING

Around 40 competitors, members and supporters turned up for the annual Jimmy Durham Memorial contest at our July meeting.

After the usual informative chat from Doug Thoresen (including our apologies for the night – Maurie DeHayr and Alan and Jane Hancox), we settled down for the competition.

Roddy MacDonald had agreed to be our judge for the evening and we had a good lineup of eight competitors.

We heard a variety of instruments and tunes and the solid applause after each competitor was most encouraging.

After the competitors had all played we broke for supper while the judge made his decisions. When we resumed, the results were announced by Roddy. He also gave a brief explanation of the reasons for his decisions and congratulated all the players on an excellent competition.

The placings were:

1st Christopher MacLeish

2nd Jordan Whicker

3rd Vaughn Parker

4th Michelle Hodder

The other competitors were Luke Mann, Joseph Donaldson, Angus Connor and Eric Tavanner.

The winners were presented with the impressive medals once again kindly donated by Jimmy's brother, Bill Durham, as well as

their prize cheques.

Unfortunately we did not have the perpetual trophy to present to Christopher but this will be arranged at a later date.

Christopher McLeish then played us a few more tunes including *Highland Laddie*, *Flett from Flotta*, *Lady Carmichael*, *Big Billy in the Bog* and *Peter O'Neill's Birthday*.

Going in order of the contest prize winners, Jordan was the next to entertain us, with a varied list of tunes including *The Banks of Lochiel, The Carnival Reel, The Radar Racqueteer, New Year in Noosa, Spill the Beer* and *Rakish Paddy*.

Vaughn was next. Unfortunately he suffered a couple of times from the dreaded pipers block and eventually decided that discretion was the better part of valour and left the boards.

Finally Michelle played us a selection including For Ireland I'll Not Tell Her Name, Lark in the Morning, Jig in the Middle, Jig O'Slurs, Man from Skye and The Pumpkin's Fancy.

Our judge, Roddy MacDonald, had also agreed to play (without much arm-twisting from Doug!) and showed us more of his fine capabilities. His tunes included *Abercrombie Place, Stephen Cooper, Edinburgh City Police Pipe Band, Highland Harry, Flight of the Eaglets* and *The King Danced at Dover*.

So ended an excellent evening of piping

Celtic Celebration Committee - Queensland Selection Competition

The competition for Open standard pipers, to find out who will be Queensland's representatives at next year's Australasian Piping Final (and hopefully win a trip to Lorient), will be held at the Balmoral Bowls Club on Monday, 27th October 2003 in conjunction with the QHPS October meeting. The meeting will start at 7.15 pm (early!) and the competition at about 7.30 pm.

The competition will comprise two elements (the same as last year):

- . March, Strathspey and Reel, and
- . Air and Jig.

There is no entry fee for the competition, but an admission fee of \$2 to the QHPS will be charged to all except competitors .

Entry forms are being circulated to as many known interested players as possible, but can also be obtained from Alan Hancox by phoning 3396 9091 or via email to janeandalan@optusnet.com.au.

Entries close on 21 September 2003.

Society members are asked to bring a plate for to help cater for the enlarged supper

Support our meeting hosts at the Balmoral Bowls Club by turning up for their

Barefoot Bowls

3rd Sunday of the month at 9.30 / 10 am \$7 includes Social Membership, Sausage Sizzle, Green fees and Bowls Hire Ring 3395 6033 to make your booking

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A U G	25	Society Meeting – Annual Meeting
	30	Cowal Championships – Dunoon
	30	Queensland Pipe Band Championships – see separate notice in this newsletter
S E P T	5-7	Lockyer Valley Celtic Pipe Band retreat for regional pipers and drummers. Camp Duckadang at Linville. Contact Lorraine Hing 07 5465 6251 or mobile 0438 646 251
	13	European Pipe Band Championships – Alden Biesen, Belgium
	22	Society Meeting
	27	NSW Pipers Society Silver Chalice Piobaireachd. Contact Ron Clement 02 9948 1914
O C T	12	NSW PBA Solos – Birrong Public School
	27	Society Meeting – Celtic Celebration Committee contest – see separate notice
X 0 X	1&2	Britfest Solo Piping and Band Contests – Blacktown Showgound, Sydney. Contact Barry Gray PO Box 629 Blacktown NSW 2148
	24	Final Society Meeting for the year
LAT	6 Dec	Victorian Pipe Band Championships, Daylesford. Enquiries Margaret Johnstone 03 9889 8666
	1 Jan	Fred Logan New Year's Day Scottish Gathering: 10 am to 4 pm, Petrie Park Nambour. More
		details in next newsletter.
T E R	21 Mar	

The NSW Pipers' Society meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6 Holterman Street, Crows Nest. Contact Ron Clement – 02 9948 1914.

The WA Pipers' Society meets on the 3rd Saturday at the Autumn Centre, Inglewood. Contact John McMurchie – 08 9401 9587

If you need more details about any of the above events and a contact is not mentioned, ring the Society Secretary (3397 4512 after hours) and we will see what we can dig up for you.

Scottish Radio	SBS Radio – Brisbane FM 93.3 – Thursday nights 10-11 pm
Programs	4EB - FM 98.1 – Thursday afternoons 2.15—4.30 pm
	2RDJ - FM 88.1 - Wednesday morning 6 am - 9 am

CONTEST RESULTS

Inverness Highland Games, Saturday, 19 July March, Strathspey & Reel

Piobaireachd

1st Brendon Eade 2nd Colin MacLellan 3rd Euan MacCrimmom 4th Niall Stewart

Judges: Finlay MacRae, Angus MacPhee,

1st Niall Stewart
2nd Brendon Eade
3rd Leslie Hutt
3rd Euan MacCrimmon

Judges: Finlay MacRae; Angus MacPhee; Andrew

Venters, Ronald MacLean

Roseneath and Clynder Highland Games, 20 July

Piobaireachd

1st Colin MacLellan 2nd Jonathon Greenlees 3rd Jenny Hazzard 4th Robert Watt Judge: James Young

Competing Pipers Association B & C Grade **Piobaireachd**

1st Finlay Johnston 2nd Alistair Dunn 3rd Margaret Houlihan 4th Darrach Urquhart 5th Douglas Campbell

Judges: William Morrison, John Wilson

Inverary Games, 22 July

Piobaireachd

1st Angus MacColl 2nd Colin MacLellan 3rd Donald MacKay 4th Gordon Walker

Judges: Ronald Lawrie, John D. Burgess, John Wilson

March

1st Chris Armstrong 2nd Allan Russell 3rd Angus MacColl 4th Gordon McCready

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, John Wilson, Allan Forbes

Strathspey & Reel

1st Robert Watt 2nd Angus MacColl 3rd Chris Armstrong 4th Gordon Walker

Competing Pipers Association Piobaireachd for B & C Grade Pipers

1st Margaret Houlihan 2nd Gordon McCready 3rd Anne Spalding 4th James Thompson

5th equal Finlay Johnston, Calum Beaumont Judges: Tom Speirs, George Lumsden, Allan Forbes

Arisaig Games, Wednesday, 23 July

Piobaireachd

1st Fred Morrison 2nd Colin MacLellan 3rd Fiona MacKay 4th John Don MacKenzie

March

1st Colin MacLellan 2nd Fred Morrison 3rd Steven Watterson 4th John Don MacKenzie

Strathspey & Reel

1st Fred Morrison 2nd Steven Watterson 3rd Colin MacLellan 4th Fiona MacKay

Jig

1st Fred Morrison 2nd Fiona MacKay 3rd Colin MacLellan 4th Steven Watterson

Judges: Ronald Lawrie, Joe Henderson

Tobermory Games. 24 July

Piobaireachd

1st Colin MacLellan 2nd Angus MacColl 3rd Fred Morrison

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Ronald Lawrie

March

1st Fred Morrison 2nd Finlay Johnston 3rd Angus MacColl

Strathspey & Reel

1st Angus MacColl 2nd Finlay Johnston 3rd Fred Morrison

Judges: Ian Duncan, Ronald Cark

Taynuilt Games, 26 July

Piobaireachd

1st Colin MacLellan 2nd Fred Morrison 3rd Robert Watt 4th Angus MacColl

Judges: Ronald Clark; Dr. Leslie Craig

1st Angus MacColl 2nd Robert Watt 3rd Fred Morrison 4th Clive McFarland

Strathspey & Reel

1st Robert Watt 2nd Angus MacColl 3rd Clive McFarland 4th Ryan McFarland

Jig

1st Angus MacColl 2nd Robert Watt 3rd Fred Morrison 4th Ryan McFarland

Judges: Iain MacLellan, Robert Stewart

Lochearnhead Games, 27 July

Piobaireachd

1st Chris Armstrong, Bathgate 2nd Robert Wallace 3rd Gordon Walker 4th Roderick Weir

March

1st Gordon Walker 2nd Chris Armstrong 3rd Steven Waterston 4th Peter Hunt

Strathspey & Reel

1st Gordon Walker 2nd Chris Armstrong 3rd Roderick Weir 4th Steven Waterston

South Uist Games, 23 July

Piobaireachd

1st John Angus Smith Battle of the Pass of Crieff 2nd Jenny Hazzard 3rd Robert Watt 4th James MacPhee 5th Duncan Grant Judges: James Young, Walter Drysdale

March

1st John Angus Smith

Judges: James Young, Walter Drysdale

Strathspey & Reel

1st Robert Watt

Judges: James Young, Walter Drysdale

1st Donald MacLeod, Edinburgh Judge: Neill Mulvie

Benbecula - Young Piper of the Year, 24 July

Piobaireachd

1st Robert Watt, Battle of Auldearn 2nd Jenny Hazzard 3rd James MacPhee 4th Ryan McFarland

March

1st Robert Watt 2nd Donald MacLeod 3rd James MacPhee 4th B McKenzie

Strathspey & Reel

1st Robert Watt 2nd James MacPhee 3rd Jenny Hazzard 4th Donald MacLeod

Hornpipe & Jig

1st Robert Watt 2nd Donald MacLeod 3rd Colin Gordon 4th Darach Urguhuart Judges: James Young, Walter Drysdale.

North Uist Games, 25 July

Piobaireachd

1st John Angus Smith, Lament for Ronald MacDonald of Morar 2nd Jenny Hazzard 3rd Duncan Grant 4th James MacPhee

March

1st Robert Watt 2nd John Angus Smith 3rd James MacPhee 4th Jenny Hazzard

Strathspey & Reel

1st Robert Watt 2nd B. McKenzie 3rd John Angus Smith 4th James MacPhee

Jig

1st Robert Watt 2nd Colin Gordon 3rd Jenny Hazzard 4th Ryan McFarland Judges: Iain Morrison, Eddie Clark.

Aboyne Games, 2 August

Piobaireachd

1st Donald MacPhee, Battle of Auldearn #1 2nd Craig Sked, South Africa 3rd Andrew Hall 4th Colin MacLellan 5th Jenny Hazzard Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Malcolm McRae, Norman Matheson

March

1st Alan Russell 2nd Jenny Hazzard 3rd Donald MacPhee 4th James Stewart

Strathspey & Reel

1st Alan Russell 2nd Jenny Hazzard 3rd Simon McKerrell 4th James Stewart

Hornpipe & Jig

1st Alan Russell 2nd Simon McKerrell 3rd Andrew Hall 4th Clive McFarland

North American Championships, Maxville, Ontario, 1-2 August

Bands

Grade 1 Aggregate

1st 78th Highlanders (Halifax) 2nd 78th Fraser Highlanders 3rd Toronto Police 4th Peel Regional Police 5th City of Washington Drumming: Toronto Police

Grade 1 MSR

1st 78th Highlanders (Halifax)
2nd 78th Fraser Highlanders
3rd Toronto Police
4th City of Washington
5th Peel Regional Police
Judges: Gail Brown, Jim McGillivray (piping); Ed
Neigh (ensemble); Bert Barr (drumming)

Grade 1 Medley

1st 78th Highlanders (Halifax)
2nd 78th Fraser Highlanders
3rd Peel Regional Police
4th Toronto Police
5th City of Washington
Drumming: 78th Highlanders (Halifax)
Judges: Andrew Berthoff, Geoff Neigh (piping);
Willie Connell (ensemble); Larry Willis (drumming)

Grade 2 Aggregate

1st Windsor Police 2nd North Coast 3rd Niagara Police 4th St. Andrew's Society of Fredericton 5th Maple Ridge 6th Oran Mor Drumming: Tulach Ard

Grade 2 MSR

1st St. Andrew's Society of Fredericton 2nd Niagara Police 3rd North Coast

Grade 2 Medley

1st Windsor Police 2nd Oran Mor 3rd Maple Ridge

Professional Solo Piping

Piobaireachd

1st Glenn Brown, *Battle of Auldearn #2*2nd Michael Grey
3rd Bruce Gandy
4th Andrew Hayes
5th Colin Clansey
Judge: Iain Macey

March

1st Andrew Rogers 2nd Andrew Berthoff 3rd Ian K. MacDonald 4th Bruce Gandy 5th Colin Clansey Judge: Jim McGillivray

Strathspey & Reel

1st Bruce Gandy 2nd Ian K. MacDonald 3rd Andrew Rogers 4th Glenn Brown 5th Colin Clansey Judge: Willie Connell

Jig

1st Ian K. MacDonald 2nd Bruce Gandy 3rd Andrew Hayes 4th Andrew Rogers 5th Robert Crabtree Judge: Ed Neigh

Gold Medal

1st Andrew Hayes *The Blue Ribbon* 2nd Roderick MacLean 3rd Rob Crabtree Judge: Willie Connell

Bar for former winners of the Gold Medal

1st Iain Macey 2nd Andrew Hayes 3rd James MacHattie Judge: Willie Connell

Former Winners MSR

1st Andrew Hayes

2nd Robert Crabtree 3rd James MacHattie Judge: Jake Watson

Open MSR

1st Lionel Tupman Judge: Jake Watson

Killin Games, 30 July

Piobaireachd

1st Gordon McCready 2nd Donald Mackay 3rd Anne Spalding 4th Neil Smith

March

1st Gordon McCready 2nd Donald Mackay 3rd Neil Smith 4th Anne Spalding

Strathspey & Reel

1st Gordon McCready 2nd Donald Mackay 3rd Neil Smith 4th Willie McIntyre

Jig

1st Gordon McCready 2nd Donald Mackay 3rd Neil Smith 4th Anne Spalding

Judges: Donald Macpherson, Walter Drysdale

Mallaig and Morar Games, 4 August

Piobaireachd

1st Colin MacLellan 2nd Chris Armstrong 3rd Craig Sked, South Africa 4th Brendon Eade

March

1st Chris Armstrong 2nd Colin MacLellan 3rd Brendon Eade 4th Simon McKerrall

Strathspey & Reel

1st Chris Armstrong 2nd Lyric Todkill, USA 3rd Colin MacLellan 4th Jenny Hazzard

Jig

1st Chris Armstrong 2nd James Stewart, Peterborough 3rd Brendon Eade 4th (equal) Duncan Grant, Simon McKerrall Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Ronald Lawrie.

Skye Gathering, Portree, Isle of Skye – 5-6 August

Dunvegan Medal

1st Stuart Shedden 2nd Bruce Gandy 3rd John Angus Smith 4th Brendan Eade 5th Finlay Johnston

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Iain Morrison, Malcolm McRae

Colonel Jock Clasp

1st Gordon Walker
2nd Willie McCallum
3rd Dr. Angus MacDonald
4th (equal) Iain Speirs, Edinburgh, Euan
MacCrimmon, Edinburgh

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Iain Morrison, Malcolm McRae

2/4 March (Kemble Star)

1st Bruce Gandy 2nd Willie McCallum 3rd Niall Stewart 4th Dr. Angus MacDonald 5th Gordon Walker

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Iain Morrison, Malcolm McRae

Strathspey & Reel (Peter MacFarquhar Star)

1st Chris Armstrong 2nd Willie McCallum 3rd Innis Smith 4th Gordon Walker 5th Bruce Gandy Judges: Iain MacFady

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Iain Morrison, Malcolm McRae

6/8 Marches (Alan Torrance Associates Cup)

1st Gordon Walker 2nd Bruce Gandy 3rd Robert Wallace 4th Roderick Weir 5th Jenny Hazzard

Judges: Walter Drysdale, Joe Henderson

Jig (Macbeath Parr Associates Cup)

1st Gordon Walker 2nd Bruce Gandy 3rd Chris Armstrong 4th Simon McKerrell 5th P-M Michael Gray Judges: Walter Drysdale

Silver Chanter, Dunvegan, Isle of Skye, 6 August 6,

Winner: Iain Speirs *I Got A Kiss of the King's Hand*. Also played: Bruce Gandy, Dr. Angus MacDonald, Willie McCallum, and Gordon Walker

Atholl & Breadalbane Gathering, Aberfeldy, 9 August

Piobaireachd

1st Robert Wallace 2nd Colin MacLellan 3rd Innes Smith 4th Jenny Hazzard Judge: Ronald Clark

March

1st Allan Russell 2nd John Angus Smith 3rd Iain MacDonald, Regina, Canada 4th Robert Wallace

Strathspey & Reel

1st Colin MacLellan 2nd Robert Wallace 3rd John Angus Smith 4th Allan Russell

Slow Air & Jig

1st John Angus Smith 2nd Colin MacLellan 3rd Allan Russell 4th Robert Wallace Judge: Duncan McDiarmid.

North Berwick Highland Games, 9 August 9

Grade 1

1st Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia 2nd Western Australia Police (Australia) 3rd Strathclyde Police 4th Los Angeles Scots (USA) Drumming: Boghall

Grade 2

1st 1st Battalion The Highlanders 2nd Drambuie Kirkliston 3rd Polkemmet 4th Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Drumming: 1st Battalion The Highlanders

Grade 3

1st Prince Charles (USA) 2nd City of Newcastle (England) 3rd Milgavie 4th Lanarkshire Drumming: Lanarkshire

Juvenile

1st Sir James MacDonald (USA) 2nd George Watson's College 3rd Craigmount High School 4th George Watson's N/J Drumming: George Watson's College

Perth Highland Games, 10 August

BANDS

Grade 1

1st Strathclyde Police 2nd David Urqhart Travel 3rd Western Australia Police 4th Vale of Atholl

Grade 2

1st Dumbarton & District 2 Prince Charles (USA) (playing up from Grade 3) 3rd 1st Battalion Scots Guards 4th City of Dunedin (USA)

Grade 3

1st Fort Collins (USA) 2nd Prince Charles (USA) 3rd Strathclyde Fire Brigade 4th Sir James Macdonald (USA)

Solo Piping

Open Piobaireachd

1st John Angus Smith 2nd Niall Mathieson 3rd Innes Smith 4th Douglas Murray 5th Fiona Manson, New Zealand

Judges: Donald Macpherson, Joe Henderson

CPA Piobaireachd

1st Darrach Urquhart 2nd Fiona MacKay 3rd Anne Spalding 4th Callum Beaumont 5th Gordon McCready Judges: Gavin Stoddart, James Banks

March

1st Niall Mathieson 2nd P/M Michael Gray 3rd John Angus Smith 4th Gordon MacLean, Stirling 5th Gordon McCready

Strathspey & Reel

1st Niall Mathieson 2nd Douglas Murray 3rd Simon Marshall 4th Gordon McCready 5th Gordon McLean

Jig

1st Douglas Murray 2nd Gordon McCready 3rd Niall Mathieson 4th Brian MacKenzie

5th John Angus Smith

Judges: Walter Cowan, Walter Drysdale.

4th annual Kintyre Piping Society Springbank Invitational, Campbelltown, 9 August

Piobaireachd

1st Angus MacColl, *The MacFarlanes' Gathering* 2nd Roddy MacLeod 3rd Willie McCallum 4th Iain Speirs

March, Strathspey & Reel

1st Roddy MacLeod 2nd Angus MacColl 3rd Willie McCallum 4th Gordon Walker

Hornpipe & Jig

1st Roddy MacLeod 2nd Willie McCallum 3rd Angus MacColl 4th Iain Speirs

Overall Champion

Angus MacColl

Judges: John Burgess, Norman Gillies, John McDougall.

World Pipe Band Championships, Glasgow Green, 16 August

Grade 1

1st House of Edgar-Shotts & Dykehead

2nd Field Marshal Montgomery (MSR preference)

3rd Simon Fraser University

4th Strathclyde Police

5th 78th Fraser Highlanders (MSR preference)

6th Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia

Drumming: HOE-Shotts (MSR preference); 2nd

SFU

Medley judges: Piping: Iain Roddick, J. Campbell; Drumming: W. Goodall; Ensemble: Allan

Ronaldson

MSR judges: Piping: Dixie Ingram, George

Shepherd; Drumming: Jim Hutton; Ensemble:

Jim Baxter

Shotts placed first in the Medley event while FMM won the MSR.

Bands which advanced from the qualifying round (MSR).

Note none of these appeared in the final prize list

Ballycoan

David Urquhart Travel Dysart & Dundonald

Manawatu Scottish

St. Laurence O'Toole

St. Laurence O 10

Toronto Police

Judges: Piping: Nat Russell (Australia), David Clark; Drumming: W. Dunlop; Ensemble: C.

Mordaunt

Grade 2

1st Clan Gregor (ensemble preference)

2nd Bleary

3rd Windsor Police (Canada)

4th ASCO Buchan

5th Ballinderry Bridge

6th Niagara Police (Canada)

Drumming: Clan Gregor

Judges: Piping: Ed Neigh (Canada), John Wilson;

Drumming: J. Geddis; Ensemble: Bob

Shepherd

Grade 3A

1st Killadeas (Ulster)

2nd Syerla (Ulster)

3rd Lanarkshire

4th Lochgelly High School

5th Finvoy (Ulster)

6th Holbaek (Denmark)

Drumming: Killadeas

Judges: Piping: Bob Worrall (Canada), Denver Cardwell; Drumming: Iain Mathieson;

Ensemble: John Kennedy

Grade 3B

1st Prince Charles (USA)

2nd Bready (Ulster)

3rd Quinn Memorial (Ulster)

4th Black Raven (Ulster)

5th Fort Collins (USA)

6th Altnaveigh Memorial

Drumming: Prince Charles

Judges: Piping: Matt McConnell, Harry McNulty;

Drumming: Joe Noble ; Ensemble: Wilson

Young

Juvenile

1st Robert Malcolm Memorial (Canada)

2nd George Watson's College

3rd Sir James MacDonald (USA)

4th Dunoon Grammar School

5th Craigmount High School

Drumming: Robert Malcolm

Judges: as for Grade 1 qualifier

Grade 4A

1st Williamwood 2nd 7 Towers (Ulster) 3rd Marlacoo (Ulster) 4th Auchintober

5th Bo'ness Royal British Legion 6th Saint Patrick's Bandon (Eire)

Drumming: Castlerock

Judges: Piping: Malcolm MacKenzie , Iain Wood ; Drumming: Alistair Dowling ; Ensemble: J.

MacInnes

Grade 4B

1st Old Meldrum Royal British Legion 2nd Queen Elizabeth

3rd Kilsyth

4th 8 Wing (Canada)

5th Newmains

6th Cullybackey (Ulster)

Drumming: 8 Wing

Judges: Piping: Harry Stevenson, Trevor Dear; Drumming: Gordon Reid; Ensemble: Alistair

Aitken

Ipswich 2003



Gathering of the Clans

Queensland Pipe Band Championships & Queensland Solo Piping & Drumming Championships Proudly hosted by

Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band Inc. Saturday 30th August 2003

Limestone Park, Lion Street, Ipswich

The Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band are hosting the Ipswich 2003 Gathering of the Clans Queensland Pipe Band Championships & Queensland Solo Piping & Drumming Championships, on Saturday 30th August 2003, Limestone Park, off Lion Street, Ipswich.

Free Admission

Bring the family along and join with us for a relaxing afternoon. Bring a rug or a chair, bring an umbrella for shade and witness the spectacle of tartans on parade and listen to the bagpipes and drums as the bands compete for the title of 2003 Queensland Champions. The Queensland Solo Piping & Drumming Championships will be conducted in the morning from 8.00am with the Queensland Pipe Band Championships commencing just prior to lunchtime. Plenty of Stalls on site with Scottish fare, food and refreshments, Scottish Craft, Souvenirs and a variety of other items for sale.

- Please join us, we welcome your support *
- Enquiries to Secretary Liz McGhee 0414 776 361

NEWS

New Pipers Association in Victoria

A new association has been formed to promote solo piping in Victoria, called, appropriately, the Victorian Pipers Association Inc. Its focus so far appears to be on competitions, including the regulation of solo competition in the state. The following information comes from its website which is at www.vicpipers.org. I had a little trouble accessing this but after a Google search I found that http://members.optusnet.com.au/bjniven/admin.html seemed to work better

How and Why the VPA started.

The general feeling from pipers around the State, particularly those actively competing, is that solo competitions require a more adequate system of scheduling, rewards, grading and overall logistical efficiency. It has thus become apparent, that a new system must be created to better accommodate the piping fraternity. The propose therefore was to form an independent, non-profit organization that is a centre point for administrating solo piping events in Victoria.

Our aim is to "promote and develop the playing of the Great Highland Bagpipe at solo level to the highest possible standard."

Through the Victorian Pipers Association (VPA), we aim to implement several changes to solo piping in Victoria.

- 1. Solo piping competitions in Victoria would be offered by the VPA. This does not preclude solo piping competitions from being held outside of the VPA's concerns although such events would not accrue championship (aggregate) points.
- 2. The administration and minimum requirements of solo competitions would be laid out in a clear and concise document to guide promoters. This allows players, judges and the audience to look forward to a well-run competition.
- 3. A provisional contest schedule/season would be constructed consisting of several events during the year. At least 6 contests would be held between April and October. The purpose of a season, is giving members convenient notice regarding dates and venues. These would be posted at the commencement of each year. The VPA would also promote other organizations running more competitions and/or events external of the VPA. The proposed competition guide would perhaps make such events more achievable.
- 4. One competition, during the middle of the 'season' would be the VPA Victorian solo piping championships. It would attract more prizes and a title in addition to regular aggregate points (including Silver and Gold medals).
- 5. The number of competition elements per grade would be increased. This would allow players to compete more than once in a day as well as aid players in working towards a higher level of performance.
- 6. Grading would be applied on a performance base. Annual re-evaluation and continuous monitoring would be the responsibility of the VPA committee of which, competing pipers would have the majority vote. An internationally recognized grading system would be adopted.
- 7. Prize money or prizes, would be introduced for all competitions as set out in the VPA's competition guide.
- 8. At the conclusion of the competition season the aggregate winner of each grade would we awarded 'piper of the year'. In addition, an invitation event based on the 'championship points' accumulated during the contest season would be conducted with increased prize money.
- 9. The VPA would also endeavor to hold recitals and workshops that would be run during the year, boasting the abilities of both international and local players.

Like many pipers across Victoria, founding members of the VPA enjoy Bagpipe music especially performed well. The VPA endeavors to foster new talent, expose youth to the worlds best pipers and create a positive environment for Bagpipe music to be enjoyed. By these implementing these initiates, our local pipers can aspire to new heights.

So far they have held competitions in May, June and July and their program for the rest of the year is as follows:

August	VPA Gold and Silver Medal & Victorian Solo Piping Championships Terang 24th August Terang Civic Centre, High Street Terang Directions Cash Prizes along with Trophies and Medals
September	Contest to be confirmed
October	Victorian Macallan Qualifier - 12th October Open grade competition for all pipers wishing to represent Victoria in the Interceltique Australasian Final contested in Brisbane 2004. Winners will playoff to represent Australasia at the McCallum Competition, Lorient France. VPA Quaich - 25th October 6 Leading Players in each Grade will be eligible to compete for the VPA Quaich (for that grade) Venue: TBA The presentation of 'Piper of the Year' will also be awarded at this event for the player accumulating the most aggregate points over the VPA competition season.

HOW TO GET TO THE BALMORAL BOWLS CLUB

For those who like to work out their own directions the UBD Reference is Map 160, Reference Q12.

From the Gateway Arterial—turn north at the Lytton Road intersection (just south of the bridge), travel along Route 24 and the Route 23 (Wynnum Road) till you see the Morningside RSL on your left. Turn in as if going to the RSL but go right through their carpark and continue along Jean Howie Drive for about 350 metres. Turn left into the Bowls Club car park.

<u>From the City—go</u> across the Story Bridge, left into Shafston Avenue, then into Lytton Road and Wynnum Road (Route 23). Go along Wynnum Road until you see the Colmslie RSL on your right. Turn in as if going to the RSL but go right through their carpark and continue along Jean Howie Drive for about 350 metres. Turn left into the Bowls Club car park.

<u>From the west (old Cleveland Road</u>—Turn into Bennetts Road. Continue along Bennetts Road, across the railway line and a park will appear on your right. Jean Howie Drive goes through the park (the entrance to the drive is near the boundary of the Bulimba Cemetery). Go about 350 metres along the Drive and turn right into the Bowls Club car park.