



Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

www.pipebandsqld.org/qhps

Newsletter - April 2008

April Meeting

on Monday 28 April

7.15pm for 7.30pm

Balmoral Bowls Club

Jean Howie Drive, Morningside

Pairs of Pipers contest with Junior and Senior divisions.

The test piece for the Junior Contest will be 3-5 minutes of music including at least 4 parts of 2/4 or 6/8 March time (remainder own choice)

The test piece for the Senior contest will be 5-7 minutes of music including at least one 4 part 2/4 March (remainder own choice)

To be eligible for the Junior Contest, both players must be graded Sub-Intermediate or below.

If either or both players are Intermediate or above they will play in the senior division.

The Junior Contest is planned to start at 7.30pm.
so please arrive in time to be ready to play.

Enter by Phone (07 3397 4512), email (qhps@optusnet.com.au) or before 7.15pm on the night (junior) or 7.45pm (senior). No entry fee

Prizes: Senior 1st \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$30

Junior 1st \$80, 2nd \$40, 3rd \$30

April has been a somewhat quieter month after all the action in March.

However, both our ordinary monthly meeting and the Piobaireachd group had meetings at which plenty of good music was played and heard. This month we have our Pairs of Pipers contest which will hopefully bring forth some good performances. Full details are above. Next month is the Patron's Trophy contest for senior players.

Alex McConnell

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PO Box 1252

COORPAROO DC 4151

Editor: A J McConnell

Phone: 07 3397 4512

qhps@optushome.com.au

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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 particular officer or member of the Society.

SOCIETY CALENDAR

April	Pairs of Pipers Contest
May	Patron's Trophy (MSR for senior players)
June	Pipers Night
July	Jimmy Durham Memorial (2/4 March for junior players)
August	Annual Meeting
September	Pipers Night
October	Pipers Night
November	Jack McCandlish Trophy (6/8s) and Christmas Supper

- ◆ After each competition, the floor is open for all as at a Pipers' Night.
- ◆ The aim is to start meetings at 7.30pm (7.15pm for a 7.30pm start) to allow an early finish/more piping/more social time at the end of the meeting. Junior competitions are to start promptly and finish by 8.30pm.

MARCH MEETING

There were about 25 in attendance at our Pipers' Night at the March meeting.

We had apologies from Iain Bruce, Malcolm McRae, Roy Gunn, Reg & Glenys O'Malley. It was good to see Maurie DeHayr making an appearance as he recovers from his medical treatment.

In the absence of the President, your scribe was roped in to do the announcing.

Vic MacKay had brought along not one but two sets of pipes, his smallpipes and a Highland Pipe and he started the evening off with a selection played on the former. His tunes included *P/M Maurie DeHayr*, *Eileen's Garden*, *Brian and Beryl Bennett* and *Kirriemuir*, all own compositions. His pipe stayed well in tune and was evenly blown. He overcame the memory lapse he had last time he played and seemed most satisfied with his performance.

Next to play was Meggie Doran - from the most senior in years to play to the most junior! As it was her first time playing at the Society she was welcomed with a round of applause. Her first tune was *Mrs MacDonald of Dunach*, a good solid start. With just a couple of minor glitches she made a good job of it and then went on to play the slow air *Loch Rannoch*. A very auspicious start. Her pipe was well pitched and tuned and generally well blown apart from a few nervous moments.

The next piper to play was big Tam McGirr - from the piper placing the least pressure on the ground to the one placing the most pressure! His pipes had a big sound with good smooth and resonant drones. He started with *My Land* and *Castle Dangerous* and then played the 6/8s *Old Adam* and *Bruce Gandy's Farewell to the Iron Horse*, going on to play *Tommy Tully's Air*, the hornpipes *P/M George Allan* and *Joe*

McGann's Fiddle, the 2/4s *Abercairney Highlanders*, *Mrs John McColl* and *John MacDonald of Glencoe*, strathspeys *Maggie Cameron* and *Caledonian Canal* and the reels *Smith of Chiliechassie*, *The Sheepwife* and *Mrs MacPheson of Inveran*. Finally he played two jigs, *Donald Willie and his Dog* and *Emancipation*. All tunes were well expressed with good melodic content.

James Doran was the next piper, with a good solid selection including the MSR *Arthur Bignold of Lochrosque*, *Caledonian Canal* and *Colonel Macleod* and the 6/8 *Miss Isabelle T MacDonald*. His pipe was well blown and full sounding.

Frank Moody was next to have a couple of tunes. He had a nice sounding pipe and some good melodies including *Peter MacKenzie Warren*, *Cullen Bay*, *Donald Ross of Vancouver*, *P/M J K Cairns*, and the 6/8 *Bengullion* and 2/4 *Caber Feidh*.

Matthew Supranowicz was the next piper. and his selection included the 6/8s *Muckin' o' Geordie's Byre*, *The Steam Boat* and *MacLeod of Mull* followed by *The Barlinnie Highlander*, *Captain Campbell of Drum a' Voisk*, *Donald MacLellan of Rothesay*, *Tam Bain's Lum*, *The Old Wife of the Mill Dust*, *The Braes of Mellinish*, *The Seagull*, *The Piper's Bonnet*, *Susan MacLeod*, *Dora MacLeod*, *Lt Col D J S Murray* and *The Sheepwife*. A fine good going performance throughout on a good going pipe. This was an exhibition of how to entertain an audience with solid music presented in a logical order. The strathspeys were a highlight.

Ross Campbell was the final piper for the night. His pipe was a bit lighter than some we had heard but it had a full sound and good resonance from the drones. He started with the 6/8s *P/M Sam Scott* and *Mrs Lily*

Christie, the MSR *Millbank Cottage*, *Lady Louden* and *Bessie McIntyre*, the air *Salute to Lord Louis Mountbatten*, hornpipe *John MacKenzie's Fancy* and jig *Joshua James*.

another round of applause for the pipers. Your scribe urged all present to promote the Pair of Pipers contest to be held at the April meeting.

Finally we had the drawing of the raffle followed by

Piobaireachd Group

Our April meeting saw a good attendance of eleven members.

Tam McGirr was the first piper with *Struan Robertson's Salute*. Before starting he commented that Willie Ross had won the Clasp playing this tune and he also asked for advice on what is different about a Piobaireachd High G. Is it sharper or flatter than the "ordinary" High G? There was some discussion, with Malcolm McRae saying that it has a different tonal quality and is possibly just a little sharper. Some modern chanters do not produce a good Piobaireachd High G. Bob Payne read the story of the tune, which he continued to do through the following performances.

Maurie DeHayr introduced Alex Reinhardt who was attending his first meeting. Alex was taught by Maurie at BBC and is getting back into piping following a break after leaving school.

The next tune we heard was *McCrimmon's Sweetheart* played by Vaughn Parker using Malcolm's bag!

Yasu Hamilton then played *The King's Taxes*.

Ross Campbell originally got his tune for the day, *Corrienessan's Salute*, from Ian McInnes in New Zealand. He plays the Taorluath "down", not "up" as written in the Kilberry Book.

Next Iain Bruce sang us through the set tune for the day, *The Glen is Mine*. Malcolm commented that the tune needs to be cut up and flow down - the flow needs to be really definite.

After a break for morning tea, the set tune was played for us by Vaughn Parker.

The day was finished off by Tam coming back to play *The Little Spree* and Yasu playing *The Earl of Seaforth's Salute*.

After the meeting we had a discussion about meeting dates. Our next normal meeting would fall on the same day as the Adelaide contest and our following one would be just after Malcom McRae departs for a visit to Scotland. It was agreed to see if the school was available on the 4th or 5th Sundays of each month with a view to changing the rest of the meetings for this year. (*Note: This has now been done and the dates for the remainder of this year are 27 April, 25 May, 29 June, 27 July, 24 August, 28 September, 26 October, 30 November*)

It had been a very good meeting with plenty of tunes.

The May Meeting of the Society

will feature the annual Patron's Trophy Contest.

The test piece will be

a March, Strathspey and Reel each of at least 4 parts. Competitors are to submit two sets of which one will be chosen for them to play.

Prizes: 1st: Patron's Trophy and \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$30

What's on.....

A	
P	27 Society Piobaireachd Group
R	28 Society Meeting - Pair of Pipers Contest
	4 R U Brown Piobaireachd Society Solo Competitions - Adelaide. Details www.rubrown.org.au
M	24 South Burnett Caledonian Pipe Band Contest - Note contest now cancelled
A	24 QIA Pipe Band Debutante Ball - Contact Rowena on 3369 4014 or Mavis on 3849 8271
Y	25 Society Piobaireachd Group
	26 Society Meeting - Patron's Trophy
J	23 Society Meeting
U	29 Society Piobaireachd Group
N	
J	6 Tartan Day at South Bank Cultural Forecourt - Brisbane
U	27 Society Piobaireachd Group
L	28 Society Meeting - Jimmy Durham Memorial Trophy
	16 World Pipe Band Championships, Glasgow
A	24 Society Piobaireachd Group
U	25 Society Annual Meeting
G	30 Ipswich Thistle Band and Solo Contest - Limestone Park
	30 Cowal Championships, Dunoon, Scotland
	27,28 Argyllshire Gathering, Oban
	4,5/9 Northern Meeting, Inverness
	2/11 Australian Pipe Band Championships at Castle Hill, NSW.

The Smallpipers Group - Contact Malcolm McLaren for meeting details -
mrmclaren@bigpond.com

The NSW Pipers' Society meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month. The venue is about to change. Contact Ron Clement – 02 9948 1914.

The NSW Solo Pipers Club. Contact 0412 602 983 or at www.blacktownpipeband.com.

Canberra Pipers Society: contact Sean Hodgman ph 6282 2795 or email u4114272@anu.edu.au
OR Jamie Forsyth 0419 631 999 or email jamesforsyth@hotmail.com

RU Brown Piobaireachd Society of South Australia: Contact Sue Kempster 08 8264 3329
skempster@adam.com.au

The WA Pipers' Society meets on the 3rd Saturday at the Autumn Centre, Inglewood.
Contact Mrs Alma Dender – 08 9448 7446

RADIO PROGRAMS

College of Piping Radio: You can tune in on the Internet on www.college-of-piping.co.uk/html/radio.htm

4EB - FM 98.1 – Thursday afternoons 2.15—4.30 pm

Radio 997 FM (Redcliffe) – Sundays 12noon to 3pm

Burnett River Radio (91.5 FM) - Thursdays 7pm to 9pm

For more details about any of the above events where a contact is not mentioned, ring or email the Society Secretary (07 3397 4512 or qhps@optushome.com.au) and we will see what we can dig up for you. If we don't know about your event (social, musical, fundraising or whatever) we can't publicise it in the Newsletter. So tell us and get free publicity

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The Scottish & Celtic Magazine of Queensland

Be fully informed and up-to-date on what is happening in the Scottish and Celtic Community, here and overseas. Progressive Calendars of Events for Pipe Bands; Highland Dancing; Scottish Country Dancing; Irish Dancing and Clans Congress are featured in each edition of “Raising the Standard”

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07 3396 9025

IPSWICH INTERNATIONAL TATTOO GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

This year's Ipswich International Tattoo, presented once again by the Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band, was once again a most entertaining production. Featuring Alasdair Hutton (the voice of the Edinburgh Tattoo) as compere, it was perhaps the best presented show in the five year history of the event, with plenty of excellent talent. The theme was "A Celtic Journey". Recent refurbishment of the Ipswich Civic Theatre, including improvements in lighting and acoustics, added to the professionalism of the production.

Both the opening and closing massed bands were well done, with St Andrew's and Queensland Irish joining Ipswich Thistle on stage.

Irish dancing was provided by the Watkins Academy and Highland Dancing by Thistle Studio. The Thistle presentation was most innovative, with every segment presented as narrative play interspersed with dance. The stories included the invention of the Reel of Tulloch in the village of Tulloch, a simulation of a dancing contest being judged for Highland Laddie, and a story featuring Craig Johnston returning from his final dancing competition. The acting and the dancing were both superbly done.

The three pipe bands present each gave a performance on their own, all of which were entertaining and well executed.

Other acts were Gaeilc Dream, Viva la Musica Orchestra, mezzo-soprano Kathleen Procter-Moore, the Cambrian Youth Choir from Ipswich, Ipswich RSL Youth Band (brass, woodwind and percussion), the Amberley cadet drill team, the new celtic folk group on the block - Murphy's Pigs, and a "choir" of smallpipers from the Qld Small Pipes Society, led by Malcolm McLaren - does anyone know the correct collective noun for a group of smallpipers? I think "choir" sounds about right.

The program was well put together and all participants gave an excellent account of themselves.

Alex McConnell

PIOBAREACHD SOCIETY ANNOUNCES

SET TUNES FOR 2009

A. SENIOR COMPETITIONS

- The Earl of Ross's March PS 10
- Lament for Donald Ban MacCrimmon PS 2, K
- The MacDonalds' Salute (*) PS 11
- Lament for the Duke of Hamilton PS 3, K
- Rory MacLoude's Lament PS 11, K
- Lament for the Children PS 3, K
- The Battle of Waternish PS 2, K
- Lament for the Harp Tree PS 12, K
- MacLeod of MacLeod's Lament PS 15, K
- John Garve MacLeod of Raasay's Lament PS 5, K
- Lament for the Earl of Antrim PS 3, K
- Mrs MacLeod of Talisker's Salute PS 11, K
- MacLeod of Colbeck's Lament PS 10
- Lament for Patrick Og MacCrimmon PS 3, K

Competitors will submit six tunes from the above list, one of which they will be required to play. (*) The version of this tune in PS 11 is considered to be deficient and a revised version will be published in the next re-print of the book. The revised score will be made available on the Society's website.

B. GOLD MEDAL COMPETITIONS

Group 1

- Lament for MacDonald's Tutor PS 3, K
- Lament for the Dead PS 11
- The MacRaes' March PS 10
- Nameless: 'Hiharin dro o dro' PS 4, K

Group 2

- Beloved Scotland PS 6, K
- The Earl of Seaforth's Salute PS 5, K
- The Battle of Auldearn No 2 PS 2, K
- Lament for the Viscount of Dundee PS 1, K

Competitors will submit two tunes from Group 1 and two tunes from Group 2. They will be required to play one tune.

C. SILVER MEDAL COMPETITIONS

- The Mackays' Banner PS 7, K
- Mackintosh's Lament PS 8, K
- Tulloch Ard PS 6, K
- The Piper's Warning to his Master PS 12, K
- The Gathering of Clan Chattan PS 2, K
- A Flame of Wrath for Patrick Caogach PS 5, K
- The Desperate Battle PS 7, K
- Lament for Captain MacDougall PS 6, K

Competitors will submit four tunes from the above list, one of which they will be required to play. PS = Piobaireachd Society Collection K = Kilberry Book of Ceol Mor

Competitors are not restricted to the settings or styles in the books mentioned above, and may play any other setting or style, provided that the judges may take into consideration the authenticity and merits of the setting or style submitted. Competitors are advised to give advance notice to the judges should they intend to play settings or styles different from sources stated above. Altogether different tunes known by the same or similar names will not be accepted as alternatives. This announcement is made by the Piobaireachd Society to ensure earliest publication. It is without prejudice to any arrangements made by either the Argyllshire Gathering or the Northern Meeting.

For the Music Committee

Alan Forbes, Honorary Secretary

Contest Results

Comunn na Piobaireachd (NZ) annual competitions - Easter Hastings Highland Games

Clasp

- 1st Brian Switalla – *The Park Piobaireachd (No 2)*
 2nd Stuart Easton – *The Battle of the Pass of Crieff*
 3rd Brendon Eade – *Scarce of Fishing*

Gold Medal

- 1st Jamie Hawke – *The Battle of Auldearn (No 2)*
 2nd Tracey Williams – *The Little Spree*
 3rd Scott Kennedy – *Beloved Scotland*
 4th Tom Glover – *Lament for the Castle of Dunyveg*

Silver Medal

- 1st Harrison Hawke – *Lament for Alasdair Dearg Macdonnell of Glengary*
 2nd Bradley Guy
 3rd Andrew Broadbent
 4th Courteney Williamson

British Columbia Pipers Associations' Annual Gathering - Vancouver – 21-22 March

This was the 76th year of the competition.

Professional Solo Piping

Piobaireachd

- 1st James P. Troy, *Hector MacLean's Warning*
 2nd Colin Lee, Surrey, *The Massacre of Glencoe*
 3rd Andrew Lee, Surrey, *MacDonald of Kinlochmoidart's Lament #1*
 4th Will Nichols, *I Am Proud to Play a Pipe*
 5th Andrew Bonar, *The MacFarlanes' Gathering*

Judge: Alastair Dunn

MSR

- 1st James P. Troy
 2nd James Beaumont
 3rd Will Nichols
 4th Jori Chisholm
 5th Colin Lee
 Judge: Margaret Dunn

Jig

- 1st James P. Troy
 2nd James Beaumont
 3rd Andrew Bonar
 4th Will Nichols
 5th Jori Chisholm
 Judge: Alastair Dunn

Overall

James P Troy

Duncan Johnstone Memorial Contest, National Piping Centre, Glasgow - 22 March

Piobaireachd

- 1st Cameron Drummond
 2nd Emma Buchan
 3rd Allen Tully

March Strathspey and Reel

- 1st John Mulhearn
 2nd Jonathan Graham
 3rd Allen Tully

Jig

- 1st Alastair Henderson
 2nd Emma Buchan
 3rd Ian Findlayson

Ringwood (Vic) Highland Games Band Contest - 30 March

Grade 1

- 1st Australia Highlanders

Grade 2

- 1st Clayton RSL
 2nd Melbourne No 1
 Drum Corps: Melbourne No 1

Grade 3

- 1st Warrnambool

- 2nd University of Ballarat
 3rd Hawthorn
 Drum Corps: University of Ballarat

Grade 4

- 1st Watsonia RSL
 2nd Haileybury College
 3rd Golden City
 Drum Corps: Golden City

Juvenile

- 1st Haileybury College

Donald MacLeod Memorial Invitational Solo Piping Competition Stornoway - 4 April

The event memorializes the great piper and composer with his music.

Overall

Willie McCallum (for the seventh time!)

Piobaireachd

- 1st Gordon Walker, *Lament for the Bobs of Balmoral*
 2nd Stuart Liddell, *Salute to the Few*
 3rd Willie McCallum, *Roderick MacDonald's Salute*
 4th Roddy MacLeod, *A Son's Salute to His Parents*

MSR

- 1st Willie McCallum, *Mrs. Duncan MacFadyen, Major Manson at Clachantrushal, Susan MacLeod, Dora MacLeod, Roddy MacDonald's Fancy, The Grey Bob*
 2nd Angus MacColl
 3rd Stuart Liddell
 4th Jack Lee
 Alasdair Gillies, Richard Hawke and Iain Speirs also competed.
 Judges: John MacDougall, Iain Macfadyen and John Wilson.

From Under the Clocktower, magazine of Scots PGC College Warwick, March 31

Award for SCOTS piper

For twelve year old Kirby Douglas winning a \$500 piping scholarship award at the 2008 Maclean Highland Gathering was the best birthday present he could receive.

A Year 7 student at The SCOTS PGC College, Kirby competed in a field of 46 competitors many of whom were adults. He came second in the Slow Air and second in the 2/4 March allowing him to win on points the Elementary Piping competition and the scholarship that is awarded to entrants who showed the most potential to become champions in their field.

Kirby started playing the chanter in 2005 and progressed to the bagpipes at the age of 10. He started lessons with past College staff members, Neil Hill and Ian Reid at the Junior School and continued under the tuition of Sandy Dalziel when he commenced as Piping

Master at the school in July 2005. "I became interested in playing the bagpipes when I became a student at SCOTS College," he said.

"My previous best results were at the Ceres Highland Games in Scotland during the UK Tour last year when I came 4th in the solo competition. I also came 4th in a junior competition at the Irish Club in Brisbane during 2007," Kirby said.

Kirby has also competed in solo competitions at Ipswich, Kingaroy, Balmoral, Brisbane, UK and has attended a bagpiping workshop conducted by the Queensland Highlands Piping Society in 2007.

Proud parents Andrew and Julie Douglas said his \$500 will be going into a savings fund and he will use it to pay for extra pipe lessons. "Kirby never misses pipe band practice and is particularly interested in learning Piobaireachd (the classical music of the bagpipe)," Mrs Douglas said.

Since the UK Tour Kirby would like to do a gap year at a school in the UK that has a pipe band. "I want to be the best piper I can and thoroughly enjoy playing in the pipe band," he said.

