

## Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

www.pipebandsqld.org/qhps

### Newsletter - March 2008

### **March Meeting**

on Monday 31 March
7.15pm for 7.30pm
Balmoral Bowls Club
Jean Howie Drive, Morningside

The meeting will be a

### Pipers Night, so we need lots of people to bring their pipes and PLAY

Just home from yet another successful Maclean Gathering. Congratulations to Bob MacPherson and his team. Bob has been honoured by being admitted to the MacPherson Men of the 21st Century for his 40 years on the organising committee and 32 years running the Gathering. We are forever in his debt.

The Gathering this year saw 24 Bands and about 150 solo competitors vying for honours. The full results are inside but congratulations in particular to some of the young pipers who have played at Society meetings.

Vaughn Parker was the winner of the open Piobaireachd. Yasu Hamilton was the Champion Intermediate Piper. Kirby Douglas was the Champion Elementary Piper and won the \$500 Piping Scholarship award. Also, society member Alastair McInnes was the Champion Open Piper. Apologies for anyone not mentioned but many of you are mentioned on the results pages.

Continued on Page 5

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member of the Society.

### SOCIETY CALENDAR

March 31 Pipers' Night

April 28 Pairs of Pipers Contest

We're still finalising the rest of the program for the year. However, it is likely that most of our "permanent fixtures" will stay as usual. These include:

May Patron's Trophy (MSR for Junior players)

July Jimmy Durham Memorial (2/4 March for Junior players)

August Annual Meeting

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.

### FEBRUARY MEETING

There were about 30 in attendance for our February meeting. President Reg O'Malley introduced the evening and gave a progress report on Maurie DeHayr who is now out of hospital and doing well. Vic McKay spoke and proposed a vote of commendation to Jordan Whicker for the article he had written in the newsletter about his experiences at the New Zealand Summer School as a scholarship winner from the Pipe Band Association. Seconded by Rog Grogan and carried with acclamation.

Our judge for the Hornpipe and Jig contest was Iain Bruce. The first competitor in the junior section was Kirby Douglas and his tunes were *The Walrus* and *Under Pressure*. Next was Rylie Douglas and her tunes were the same

In the senior section we had three competitors. First to play was Wayne Kennedy and his tunes were *Donald MacLeod* and *Barbara's Jig*. Tom McGirr played next and his tunes were *The Tourist* and *Emancipation*. Our final competitor was Ross Campbell and he was to play *Tam Bain's Lum* and *Troy's Wedding* but unfortunately set out on his other hornpipe, *Train Journey North*, and stopped at the end of it when he realised what he had done. A pity, because he was going well!

After Iain Bruce had finished his deliberations, the results were as follows.

Junior 1st Rylie Douglas

2nd Kirby Douglas

Senior 1s Tom McGirr

2nd Wayne Kennedy

Iain Bruce made some comments on the playing and on hornpipes and jigs generally. Following the announcement of the results, we had an early supper so that the Junior competitors could get away to Warwick.

Following supper we had some more piping. First, Tam McGirr, along with Kirby and Rylie Douglas, played us a selection including *Scotland the Brave*, *Marie's Wedding, Green Hills, When the Battle's O'er, High Road to Gairloch* and *Brown Haired Maiden*.

Malcolm MacRae was the next piper and his selection included the slow air *The Cairn on the Hill*, 6/8 *P/M Sam Scott*, 2/4 *The Atholl Highlanders March to Loch Katrine*, strathspey *The Caledonian Canal*, reel *Alick Cameron*, slow air *The Herding Song* and jig *Lord Dunmore*.

Wayne Kennedy was next to play and couldn't remember the names of some of his tunes but his selection did include *The Big Birl*, *The Bulgarian Bandit* and *Gravel Walk*.

Iain Bruce povided as usual an interesting selection including the air Is It Lonely You are?, the 6/8 Lady Diana Spencer's Welcome to Deeside, 2/4s The Captain's March and Bob Browns's Farewell to the Ballochbuie Forest, strathspey Lady Louden and reel The Grey Bob.

The final piper for the night was Ross Campbell, and his tunes included the slow air *Ross & Robyn*Campbell, jig Brownie's Blue Brozzie, 2/4 march

Major Manson at Clachantrushal and the MSR set

Hugh Kennedy, Piper's Bonnet and Thomson's Dirk.

All in all, a quite satisfying night of piping.

### Piobaireachd Group

We started with a very small group of six at the March meeting. Perhaps preparations for the New Zealand Pipe Band Championships the following weekend or Maclean at Easter were keeping people away. We had apologies from Ian Davidson, Yasu Hamilton and Roy Gunn.

Maocolm McRae was the first to get his pipes out and after warming up with some light music he played *The Pretty Dirk*.

Ross Campbell was next with Clan Chattan's Gathering following some warm up tunes.

At this point Vaughn Parker arrived to make up seven.

Your scribe then read the stories of *Clan Chattan* and *Clan Ranalds Salute*, which was the tune played by our next piper, Iain Bruce.

Vaughn Parker was the next player but I don't have a note of what his tune was.

We then went through the set tune for the day, *Catherine's Lament*. Malcolm said the way it is represented in the MacArthur/MacGregor manuscript is very similar to how it is played today. It needs to be learned as a song so is good for beginners.

After a break for morning tea, Malcolm played the tune on the pipe.

Ross was next to be persuaded to play and he started out on his tune but reverted to *Catherine's Lament*, no doubt because of recently hearing and singing it.

Vaughn then played *Glengarry's March*. Malcolm read the story of the tune.

Finally Iain Bruce played a nameless tune from the Campbell Cantaireachd.

#### The

April Meeting of the Society

will feature a "Pairs of Pipers" contest with Junior and Senior divisions.

The test piece for the Junior Contest will 3-5 mintes 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 parted 2/4 March (remainder own choice)

Final details in next month's newsletter.

Find someone to play with and start practicing now!

### LEGENDARY AND HISTORICAL NOTES ON CEOL MOR "INTRODUCE YOUR TUNE"

A handy, small reference book giving the stories on most of the tunes listed and indexed similar to the Piobaireachd Society Collection. A must for every serious player of the great music to carry in the pipe case and a superb teaching aid.

Compiled by Roy Gunn. \$20 plus airmail postage and handling \$1.

Contact Roy Gunn, 31 Mariner Quays, 3 Lee Road, Runaway Bay, Qld, 4216.

Phone 07 5529 2852

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- Α 30 Ringwood (Vic) - Victorian Pipe Band Championships
- R 31 Society Meeting
  - 5 Bundanoon Highland Gathering, NSW Southern Highlands Contact 1300 657 559 www.highlandsnsw.com.au/brigadoon/
- Α 6 Society Piobaireachd Group Р
- R 19 & 20 Ipswich International Tattoo Bookings 07 3810 6100 Information: Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band 0414 776 361
  - 28 Society Meeting
    - 4 Society Piobaireachd Group
  - 4 R U Brown Piobaireachd Society Solo Competitions Adelaide. Details later in this newsletter. www.rubrown.org.au
- Α 24 South Burnett Caledonian Pipe Band Contest - Kingaroy - more details soon.
  - 24 QIA Pipe Band Debutante Ball Contact Rowena on 3369 4014 or Mavis on 3849 8271
    - 26 Society Meeting
- J 2 Society Piobaireachd Group
- U 24 Society Meeting N
  - 6/7 Tartan Day at South Bank Cultural Forecourt Brisbane
  - 16/8 World Pipe Band Championships, Glasgow
  - 30/8 Ipswich Thistle Band and Solo Contest Limestone Park
  - 30/8 Cowal Championships, Dunoon, Scotland
  - 27,28/8 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 jamesrforsyth@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

Continued from front page......

Both days of the Gathering were mostly fine and events generally ran very well to time. As usual many old acquaintances were renewed and new ones formed.

I was able to listen to most of the band contest and the standard at the top of Grade 4 was quite good. Also it was good to see Sandy Dalziel leading the Band from Scots PGC at Warwick back into the contest field. I think hardy anyone presently in the Band had ever played in a Band contest but they generally produced a good sound, played at a sensible tempo and played tunes within their capabilities to come in the middle of the field. It just shows what can be done with a group of young learning players with the right guidance.

Grade 3 was also generally quite good and the winning performance by Queensland Highlanders No 1 in Grade 1 was, apart from a couple of technical glitches, of a high tonal and musical standard.

In the solos, I only got to listen to the Open Piobaireachd on Friday night. There were a number of unfinished tunes but the more disappointing aspect was that there were a number of bagpipes that were quite harsh in sound. This certainly takes away from the "big music". The hall in which the contest is held is not ideal for a big-sounding pipe but even so the essential resonant sound of the bagpipe needs to show through to make a performance likely to place in the prize list.

Alex McConnell

#### **Piping in North Queensland**

Following a converstion on the field at Maclean Karl Ashman has provided some information on pipng activity in North Queensland. If anyone is travelling north, please get in touch with the Secretary and we will give you contact details for local pipers.

On a nice sunny Saturday in Ingham, pipers from North Queensland gathered for an entertaining afternoon of piping, education and socialising. This was the third time pipers from the region have gotten together to play for each other in a welcoming environment where participation is the key, rather than competition. All ages were represented, from 8 years to those who have retired, so there was a wide range of skill displayed.

Assessment was available for those who desired it, and for those who didn't, the assessor gladly to the chance to relax and have a refreshing ale. Later in the evening it was socialising over dinner and a few drinks to finish. The event achieved its aims of getting people together to enjoy their hobby, teaching those who wished for a few tips and seeing old friends again.

Events are currently planned to happen every 3 to 4 months. The next solo piping afternoon is currently being planned for May/June in Ayr at the Caledonian Hall. Further details of where and when will be made closer to the event. If you happen to be around, feel free to come along, sit and listen or get up and play. It doesn't matter as long as you enjoy yourselves!



# Contest Results

## New Zealand Pipe Band Championships - Papakura 7.8 March

#### **Grade 1 Overall**

1st Manawatu Scottish Society
2nd Dalewool Auckland &
District
3rd New Zealand Police
4th Canterbury Caledonian
Society
5th The Band Club
6th= City of Wellington
6th= Hamilton Caledonian
Society
Drumming: Dalewool
Auckland & District
Bass section: Dalewool
Auckland & District

#### **MSR**

(1st piping, 1st piping, 1st ensemble, 4th drumming) 2nd Dalewool Auckland & District (4, 2, 2, 2)3rd Canterbury Caledonian Society (5, 3, 4, 1)4th New Zealand Police (3, 5, 3, 3)5th The Band Club (2, 4, 6, 5) 6th City of Wellington (7, 6, 5, 7th Hamilton Caledonian Society (1, 6, 7, 7)Drumming: Dalewool Auckland & District Judges: Piping: R. Ferguson, R. Irvine; Ensemble: Chris Stevens; Drumming: Reid Maxwell

1st Manawatu Scottish Society

#### Medley

1st Dalewool Auckland & District (2, 2, 1, 1) (ensemble preference)
2nd Manawatu Scottish
Society (1, 1, 2, 3)
3rd New Zealand Police (3, 4, 3, 2)

4th Canterbury Caledonian Society (4, 3, 4, 4) 5th The Band Club (5, 5, 6, 5) 6th Hamilton Caledonian Society (6, 7, 5, 7) 7th City of Wellington (7, 6, 7, 6) Drumming: Dalewool Auckland & District Judges: Piping: Brian Niven, Philip Mair; Ensemble: A. Cameron; Drumming: W. Hobbs

### <u>Victorian Pipe Band</u> <u>Championship - Geelong - 16 March</u>

#### Grade 1

1st Australia Highlanders 2nd Band Club Sydney

#### Medley

Nat Russell (piping) 1st Band Club Ross Bates (piping) 1st Australia Highlanders Yvonne Coustley (drumming) 1st Australia Highlanders

#### **MSR**

John Wilson (piping) 1st Australia Highlanders Brian Niven (piping) 1st Australia Highlanders Bill Russell (drumming) 1st Band Club

#### **Grade 2**

1st Clayton RSL 2nd Canberra Burns Club 3rd Melbourne

#### Grade 3

1st University of Ballarat 2nd Warrnambool 3rd Hawthorn

#### Grade 4

1st Watsonia RSL 2nd Haileybury College

#### **Juvenile**

1st Haileybury College 2nd Scotch College 3rd PLC Ladies College

## Maclean Highland Gathering- 21, 22 March 2008

#### **SOLOS**

### Open Piobaireachd (J.K. McKinnon Memorial)

1st Vaughn Parker - Black
Donald's March
2nd Alastair McInnes Lament for the Union
3rd Matthew Supranowicz Lament for the Viscount of
Dundee

### Open MSR (Norman Finlayson MacSwan Trophy)

1st Matthew Supranowicz2nd Tom McGirr3rd Alastair McInnes

#### Open Hornpipe/Jig (Ruby Davis - Nee McLeay Trophy)

1st Alastair McInnes2nd Matthew Supranowicz3rd Tom McGirr

### Open Air (Ewen McInnes Memorial)

1st Ross Campbell2nd Vaughn Parker3rd Alastair McInnes

#### Maclean Champion Gold Medal Open Piper(James MacSwan Memorial)

Alastair McInnes

### Restricted Piobaireachd (Dr. H.W.Charlton Memorial)

1st Meg Drinan 2nd Joe Chalker 3rd Philip Ragno

### Donald MacSwan Memorial (Tune Mrs. MacSwan)

1st Fraser Bolton

2nd Alastair McInnes3rd Yasuchiyo Hamilton

#### Lachlan McCabe Memorial (Age Restricted - Ground of a Piobaireachd – 6/8 March & Jig)

Yasuchiyo Hamilton

### Intermediate MSR (Charlie McKinnon Memorial)

1st Yasuchiyo Hamilton2nd Iain Dunnett3rd Christopher McLeish

#### Intermediate Hornpipe – Jig (John & Maggie Wallace Memorial)

1st Yasuchiyo Hamilton 2nd Christopher McLeish 3rd Iain Dunnett

#### Maclean Champion Intermediate Piper (Alastair MacSween Memorial)

Yasuchiyo Hamilton

### Sub-Intermediate MSR (Alex & Mary Wallace Memorial)

1st Jordan Gooch2nd James Doran3rd Brandon Reick

#### Sub-Intermediate Jig (Lady Patron Mary McPherson Trophy)

1st Michael Paton 2nd Brandon Reick 3rd Jordan Gooch

#### Maclean Champion Sub-Intermediate Piper (Mary Catherine MacKenzie-MacPherson Memorial)

Jordan Gooch

### Elementary March 2/4 (Patron Jim Thompson Memorial)

#### Heat 1

1st Michael Murray 2nd Craig Potts 3rd Tom Schultz

#### Heat 2

1st Amos Fox 2nd Edward Jensen 3rd Joel Dennis

#### Heat 3

1st Kirby Douglas

2nd Ben Tomkins 3rd Bruce Fraser

#### **Final**

1st Amos Fox2nd Kirby Douglas3rd Bruce Fraser

### Elementary Slow Air (Maud Douglas Memorial)

### Heat 1 ( Dylan Paul O'Halloran Encouragement Award)

1st Bill Johnson 2nd Mark Simpson 3rd Andrew Dow

### Heat 2 (Dylan Paul O'Halloran Encouragement Award)

1st Sam Hemer 2nd Kirby Douglas 3rd Ben Tomkins

### Heat 3 (Dylan Paul O'Halloran Encouragement Award)

1st Rodney Purvis 2nd Ben Hunt 3rd Jacob Bigby

#### **Final**

1st Jacob Bigby 2nd Kirby Douglas 3rd Sam Memer

#### 2006 Maclean Champion Elementary Piper (Fred Douglas Memorial)

Kirby Douglas

### **Chanter Learner (Peter Mathieson Memorial)**

1st Nicholas Johns2nd Zachary Murphy3rd Lachlan Goudie

#### **BANDS**

### **GRADE 4 - Clan McLennan Memorial**

1st Bellinger River
2nd Qld Police Juvenile
3rd Sunshine Coast
4th Qld Highlanders No 2
Dress: 1st Gold Coast Tweed,
=2nd BBC Old Collegians,
Tamworth
Drum Corps - Hugh Donald
Anderson Memorial: 1st Qld
Police Juvenile, 2nd Clan
Stuart, =3rd Qld Highlanders

No 2, Gold Coast Tweed

### **GRADE 3 - Janet Susan McLeay Memorial**

1st City of Brisbane
2nd Maclean and District
3rd Blacktown No 2
Ensemble - Dave Williamson
Memorial - Sponsored by
Bellinger River District Pipe
Band
1st City of Brisbane
Dress: 1st Ipswich Thistle, =
2nd Maclean, Blacktown No 2
Drum Corps: 1st Ipswich
Thistle, 2nd City of Brisbane,

#### GRADE 1 - Norman MacSwan Memorial

1st Qld Highlanders No 1 2nd Blacktown No 1 Dress: 1st Qld Highlanders No1, 2nd Blacktown No 1 Drum Corps: Qld Highlanders No1, 2nd Blacktown No 1

#### STREET MARCH

3rd Qld Irish

1st Armidale 2nd Tamworth 3rd Scots PGC Warwick

#### DRUM MAJOR SOLO CONTEST - Colin Gregor Memorial

Tom Coates

#### **Scholarship Awards**

Piping \$500.00 - Kirby Douglas Drumming \$500.00 - Simon Want

#### R.U.BROWN PIOBAIREACHD SOCIETY of S.A.

PRESIDENT Craig Masson

23 Arcowie Road Dernancourt SA 5075 Telephone: (08) 8261 1119 E-mail: president@rubrown.org.au

SECRETARY Sue Kempster

E-mail: secretary@rubrown.org.au



Principal Judge – Malcolm McRae

SUNDAY 4 MAY 2008 - 10:30 am start Scotch College – Curruth Road, Torrens Park

Closing date for entries: Friday 11 April 2008

#### Piobaireachd: Open: - R.U. Brown Gold Medal

Each competitor to submit 4 tunes of own choice

All tunes must have a crunluath variation

Prize Monies: \$1000; \$600; \$300; \$150; \$75

No entry fee applicable.

#### Intermediate: - R.U Brown Silver Medal

Each competitor must submit 2 tunes of own choice.

All tunes must have a crunluath variation.

Prize Monies: \$300; \$150; \$75

No entry fee applicable.

#### <u>Elementary:</u> <u>- R.U.Brown Bronze Medal</u>

Each competitor must submit 1 tune of own choice.

Tune must have a crunluath variation.

Prize Monies: \$100; \$50; \$25

No entry fee applicable

#### Novice: - Mervyn Hall Medal

Ground and First Variation to be played.

Prize Monies: \$50; \$20 \$10

No entry fee applicable

#### Closing date for entries - Friday 11 April 2008

Tunes must be submitted with entry form for all piobaireachd events

Travelling Expenses for Gold Medal and Silver Medal competitors:

- will be paid after the conclusion of the respective event.

Victoria - \$100; New South Wales - \$150; Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania - \$200;

New Zealand and all other Overseas - \$300.

Previous winners for the Intermediate, Elementary and Novice events are not permitted to compete in the respective events again.

#### Ceol Beag Ope

March, Strathspey & Reel (minimum 4 parts each) Hamish Mackenzie Perpetual Trophy

Prize Monies: \$400; \$200; \$100

Entry fee: \$5:00

Hornpipe into Jig (minimum of 4 parts each): Victorian Pipers Society Perpetual Trophy

Prize Monies: \$400; \$200; \$100.

Entry fee: \$5:00

<u>Intermediate:</u> <u>Ewen Masson Perpetual Trophy</u>

March, Strathspey & Reel (minimum of 4 parts each)

Prize Monies: \$200; \$80; \$40

Entry fee: \$5:00

**Sub Intermediate: Jim Smith Perpetual Trophy** 

2 x 6/8 Marches (minimum of 4 parts each) Prize Monies: \$100; \$40; \$20

Entry Fee: \$5:00

Elementary: Mervyn Hall Perpetual Trophy

2 x Marches: (2/4; 3/4, 4/4; or 6/8 tunes: must have 2 parts each)

Prize Monies: \$50; \$20; \$10

Entry Fee: \$5:00

#### Closing date for entries - Friday 11 April 2008

All competitors must wear highland dress, including a Glengarry or Balmoral.

All tunes must be played in their entirety per published music.

Competitors must play per their respective Pipe Band Association grading.

Competitors must enter in their principal grade.

If time and the number of entries permit, competitors may be allowed to play up into the next higher grade event with at least one **different** tune being submitted. The same tune will not be allowed to be played in both events.

Where ever possible the lower grade competition will be played first. This will be at the discretion of the organising committee.

Ladies are permitted to wear traditional ladies dress

For further details, please contact the President - Craig Masson or the Secretary- Sue Kempster.

### Scots PGC Piper to play at Kokoda

Pipe Major of the Scots PGC College, Warwick, Ben Tomkins, has been given the privilege of playing at the ANZAC memorial servivce this year at Kokoda.

It is to commemorate the 65th anniversary.

The flag to be raised at the service is the original Australain flag rasied when the Australians defeated the Japanese.

#### "Raising the Standard"

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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