



Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

www.qhps.org

Newsletter - March 2009

March Meeting

on Monday 23 March
7.30pm

Balmoral Bowls Club
Jean Howie Drive, Morningside

The meeting will feature a

Hornpipe & Jig Contest (Jig only for Juniors)

Junior: One minimum 2 parted Jig: Prizes: 1st \$40, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$15

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

Senior: Minimum 4 parted tunes. Two sets of tunes to be provided of
which the judge will choose one: Prizes 1st \$50, 2nd \$25, 3rd \$20

Enter by Phone (07 3397 4512), email (qhps@qhps.org) or before 7.15pm on the night. No fee

It seems we are already well and truly into 2009. The Maclean Gathering happens in only a few weeks and then there are contests until September on the local scene. All of those contests will include solos apart from the one on the Sunshine Coast, so there should be plenty of opportunity for solo pipers to show their merits - and where better to practice playing in front of an audience than at the Pipers' Society?

The Scots PGC College are going to try a bit of an experiment at their contest by having age-based competitions, so it will be interesting to see if that can encourage more participations, especially by younger players. This used to happen in the past (I can well remember playing in such competitions myself) and is of course a normal part of the scene in Scotland but has not been seen much of in Australia apart from the Sliver Tassie contests over the last few years.

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 particular officer or member of the Society.

2009 SOCIETY CALENDAR

MONTHLY MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 23 RD	PIPERS' NIGHT
MARCH 23 RD	HORNPIPE & JIG CONTEST FOR SENIORS, 2 PARTED JIG FOR JUNIORS
APRIL	PIPERS' NIGHT
MAY	PATRON'S TROPHY CONTEST (MSR FOR SENIOR PLAYERS)
JUNE	PIPERS' NIGHT
JULY	JIMMY DURHAM MEMORIAL CONTEST (2/4 MARCH FOR JUNIOR PLAYERS)
AUGUST	ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER	SEPTEMBER (PAIRS OF PIPERS)
OCTOBER	PIPERS' NIGHT
NOVEMBER	JACK McCANDLISH TROPHY (6/8 MARCHES)

- ◆ 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.

PIOBAIREACHD GROUP

1 st February	3 rd May	2 nd August	1 st November
8 th March	31 st May	6 th September	6 th December
29 th March	5 th July	4 th October	

MAJOR SOLO CONTEST

10th or 17th October

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February meeting started out as a bit of a disaster when we learned at about 11am in the morning of the meeting that the Balmoral Bowls Club would not be available. After much ringing around we managed to secure the Scout Hut on the other side of the carpark. Although the conditions were a lot more basic than we are used to, it served quite well and we had a good night of piping. A modest crowd of about 30 turned up. An email had been sent out to notify the change of venue and perhaps that dissuaded a few from attending.

Matthew welcomed all in attendance and apologised for the basic nature of the venue. He then played for us, with his selection including *Lochanside*, P/M *Angus MacDonald*, the hornpipe *Lucy Cassidy*, jigs *The Seagull* and *The Braes of Mellinish*, 2/4 march *The Clan McRae Society*, strathspeys *Dora MacLeod* and *Susan MacLeod*, reels *Lt Col D J S Murray*, *The Sheepwife*, and 6/8s *MacLeod of Mull* and *Mrs Lily*

Christie

David Greenhalgh was the next to play and he started out with some 2 parted 6/8s taught to him by Donald Bain of New Zealand, for which he did not have names, followed by others including *Beth Lyall*, *Delaware Connection* and *Doug Boyd's Favourite*. He then took a break to return later.

This left the floor open for Tam McGirr who had just returned that day from New Zealand. He was in good form, despite being a bit tired from the journey and started off with the 3/4s *Green Hills* and *The Battle is O'er* to settle the pipe, followed by the 6/8s *The Braemar Gathering*, *Dr Ross* and *Jim Johnstone 4EB Scottish* (by John Wilson).. Still not satisfied with the pipe, he moved on to some 4/4s including *The Intercontinental Gathering*, *The Wee Highland Laddie*, *The Auld Hoose* and *Rose of Allendale*. He finished up with a set of tunes by living composers

(including Roddy MacLeod, Terry Tully, Davy Barnes and Ian Robertson) which was most musical and entertaining.

Matt commented that most people in the room were pipers but only three had brought their pipes - it's hoped this year that many more will have a tune on pipers nights - there is no compulsion to fill in half an hour but just a few tunes from more people would be good. Your scribe also announced the incorporation of

the society had now occurred.

David then had a few more tunes including *Jordie, Findlay and the Chipmunk, Nimble Digits, Nancy Lee, The Flying Haggis* and *The Masons's Apron*.

Matt then brought the piping to a close with a few more tunes and got Harry MacKenzie to draw the raffle which was won by Vik Supranowicz

All then retired to the downstairs room for supper.

Piobaireachd Group

The March meeting of the Piobaireachd group was also held in a different venue from usual - we were moved to the Communication Block as the Performing Arts Centre at Rochedale High School where we usually meet was in use for a school musical rehearsal. Despite apologies from Malcolm McRae, Roy Gunn, Tam McGirr, Matt Supranowicz and Yasu Hamilton we still had seven in attendance and the time was well filled with music.

The first piper to play was Ross Campbell with *Old Men of the Shells* with your scribe reading the story of the tune which he proceeded to do throughout the meeting.

Next we heard from Iain Bruce who played *Grain in Hides and Corn in Sacks* according to the Campbell Canntaireachd setting.

Peter Burrows was next with *Lament for the Old Sword*. He discussed the merits of playing Cs rather than Bs in parts of the tune and said he had found justification for this in *Glens Music* published about 1930.

Ross Campbell had volunteered to provide the set tune for the day and he had chosen *Lament for Mary MacLeod*. As in the past, not only did Ross provide an interesting talk but we also got a CD and printed notes. The tune was presented the way it was played by Bob Brown and the CD includes both a tape from a session in Adelaide addressed by Bob Brown and a performance by him on BBC radio. Ross had provided a copy of the music altered to represent the way it was taught by Bob Brown, who considered it one of the most difficult Piobaireachd to play in competition, to the extent that he only played it once in competition himself, the year before he retired.

We sang through the tune and then had morning tea, followed by Ross playing the tune for us on the pipe.

We then had two more tunes, *The Battle of Auldearn* from Maurie DeHayr and *The Boat Tune* from Iain Bruce. Iain had just recently learnt this tune from Malcolm McRae.

Incorporation of the Society

The Society was romaly incorporated on Friday 13th February. We will now have to work through a few peocedures to get ourselves completely set up, but we are on the way!

“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”

Annual Subscription - \$28 (including postage)

Write to: ALBA Publications, PO Box 8024, Wynnum North, Qld 4178

07 3396 9025

What's on.....

M	23 Society Meeting - Jig & Hornpipe Contest
A	29 Society Piobaireachd Group
R	29 Scots School Bathurst Highland Gathering
	4 Bundanoon Highland Gathering (NSW Southern Highlands) - Contact 1300 657 559
A	5 Ringwood (Victoria) Highland Gathering - Jubilee Park
P	10-11 Maclean Highland Gathering - Contact 02 6645 2887
R	18-19 Ipswich International Tattoo - Bookings 07 3810 6100 - Information 0414 776 361.
	30-3/5 Glen Innes Standing Stones Celtic Festival - Contact 02 6730 2400
	1-3 South West Coast Piper Drummer Workshops, Warrnambool. For more details phone (03) 5565 1374 or visit www.wadpadi.org.au
	3 Society Piobaireachd Group
M	9-10 R.U. Brown Piobaireachd Society of South Australia, Gold, Silver & Bronze Medal Competition & Recital, Scotch College, Adelaide - Contact 08 8581 1627
A	16 Sunshine Coast Band Contest (no solos) - Yandina Football Club - Contact 07 5442 8632
Y	29-31 Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival (NSW mid north coast) Contact 02 6553 2582
	31 Society Piobaireachd Group
	6 Queensland Pipe Band Championships - Ipswich - Contact 0414 776 361
J	7 Queensland Solo Piping and Drumming Championships - Ipswich 0414 776 361. Details elsewhere in this newsletter.
U	27 PBA Band and Solo Contest - Carrara - Gold Coast (Bands & Solos) - Contact 07 3257 4527
N	4 Aberdeen (NSW) Highland Gathering - Contact 02 6543 8457
	5 Society Piobaireachd Group
J	5 Tartan Day Celebration - Australian Scottish Community (Qld) - South Bank Cultural Forecourt, Brisbane. 9am-4.30pm - Contact 07 3359 8195(a/h)
U	18 Scots PGC Highland Gathering (Bands & Solos) - Warwick - Contact 07 3257 4527

VISIT THE COMING EVENTS PAGE AT www.pipebandsqld.org FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE ABOVE, INCLUDING WEB LINKS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

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

The NSW Pipers' Society meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Contact Ron Clement - 02 9948 1914.

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@qhps.org) 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

Contest Results

Metro Cup Invitational Solo Piping Competition - Newark, New Jersey – 21 February

Overall

Willie McCallum

Piobaireachd

- 1st Gordon Walker, *Scarce of Fishing*
- 2nd Roddy MacLeod, *Lament for Donald Duaghal MacKay*
- 3rd Willie McCallum, *Lament for the Children*
- 4th Alasdair Gillies, *The Vaunting*
- 5th Glenn Brown, *Beloved Scotland*
- 6th Alastair Dunn, *Isabel MacKay*
- 7th Jori Chisholm, *Lament for the Dead*

Medley

- 1st Alasdair Gillies; *John Rankin, When the Night is Falling, South River Ball, Donald Ruadh, South Uist Golf Club, Red Rory's Wife's, Piper and the Dairymaid, Capecaval, Kail & Puddings, Lament for Iain Breac MacLeod, Islay's Charms, Norman MacLean*
- 2nd Willie McCallum
- 3rd Glenn Brown
- 4th John Patrick
- 5th Roddy MacLeod
- Judges: Jimmy McIntosh, Mike Rogers and John Wilson.
- Other competitors: Duncan Bell, John Bradley,

Margaret Dunn, Brian Meagher, Ken McKeveny, Derek Midgely and Jesse Ofgang.

New Zealand Pipe Band Championships - Christchurch, 6-7 March

Grade 1

- 1st Auckland & District
- 2nd Manawatu Scottish Society
- 3rd Canterbury Caledonian Society
- 4th New Zealand Police
- 5th Hamilton Caledonian Society
- 6th City of Dunedin
- Drumming: Auckland & District
- Judges: MSR – Brian Switalla, Philip Mair (piping); Alistair Aitken (ensemble); R. Smith (drumming)
- Medley: Richard Parkes, Barry Brougham (piping); C. Meinsmith (ensemble); J. Hilliard (drumming)

Grade 2

- 1st St Andrew's College A
- 2nd Temuka
- Drumming: St Andrew's College

Grade 3

- 1st City of Invercargill
- 2nd University of Ballarat
- 3rd Manawatu Development Band
- 4th LCC Southern Cross Pipe Band (Sydney)
- 5th Canterbury Caledonian Royal Stewart

Drumming: University of Ballarat

Grade 4

1st Golden City
 2nd City of Nelson
 3rd Hokonui Highlanders
 4th University of Ballarat No 2
 5th City of Invercargill
 Drumming: Golden City

Grade 4 Plate

1st Balclutha
 2nd McAlpines North Canterbury
 3rd Marton & Districts
 4th Scots PGC College Warwick
 5th Red Hackle Pipe Band

Uist & Barra solo piping competitions - Glasgow – 14 March

Overall

Gordon Walker

Piobaireachd

1st Chris Armstrong, *Lament for the Children*
 2nd Gordon Walker, *Lament for the Earl of Antrim*
 3rd Finlay Johnston, *The King's Taxes*
 4th Calum Beaumont, *MacKintosh's Lament*
 5th Stuart Shedden, *Lady Margaret MacDonald's Salute*
 Judges: Willie Morrison, Andrew Wright, Colin MacLellan

March, Strathspey & Reel

1st Gordon Walker; *The Pap of Glencoe, The Piper's Bonnet, John Morrison of Assynt House*
 2nd James Murray; *The Rossshire Volunteers, Lady Loudon, The Rejected Suitor*
 3rd Allan Russell; *Angus Campbell's Farewell to Stirling, The Islay Ball, The Man from Glengarry*
 4th Stuart Liddell; *The Abercairney Highlanders, John Roy Stuart, John MacKechnie*
 5th Angus MacColl; *The Argyllshire Gathering, The Shepherd's Crook, The Sheepwife*
 Judges: Willie Morrison, Colin MacLellan, Barry Donaldson

Jigs

1st Gordon Walker; *Kenny Gillies of Portnalong, John Paterson's Mare*
 2nd Stuart Liddell; *The Judge's Dilemma, The Old Woman's Dance*
 3rd Angus MacColl; *Donella Beaton, Cutting Bracken*
 4th Niall Stewart; *The Thief of Lochaber, The Old Wife of the Milldust*
 5th Calum Beaumont; *Turf Lodge, The Braes of Mellinish*
 Judges: Willie Morrison, Colin MacLellan, Barry Donaldson
 Other competitors: Iain Speirs, Niall Mathieson, Donald MacPhee, Douglas Murray and Gavin Walker.

Sunshine Coast Pipe Band Contest

on Saturday, 16th May 2009

at the Nambour Yandina United Football Club

North Street, Yandina
 (10 minutes north of Nambour)

Mini Bands (gr. 4 only), Full Bands - All Grades
 Drum Majors Contest
 Sat. Morning Markets, Scottish Stalls, Food and Bar
 facilities

Enquiries to:
 Robyn at 07 5442 8632
 or Email: br.allen@bigpond.com


QUEENSLAND PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS AND QUEENSLAND SOLO PIPING & DRUMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS
6 & 7 JUNE 2009

 Hosted by Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band Inc.
 Lion Street, Limestone Park, Ipswich QLD

SOLO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entry fee \$6 per element. Entries must be received by 15 May 2009, no late entries will be accepted. The promoter is not liable for entries that are: illegible, not received, incorrect, not paid.

E-mail entries can be made by scanning the entry form and e-mailing to secretary@ipswichthistle.com. Entries are not accepted unless payment has also been made. Notification of acceptance will be emailed to the contact listed on entry form.

Entry fees can be made by postal order, bank cheque, personal cheque or direct deposit. The promoter takes no responsibility for lost mail / email including payments.

Direct Deposits can be made to:

Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band
 BSB 633 000
 Account 114195951
 (Bendigo Bank)

Payment advice must be e-mailed to the secretary, advising payment: date, amount, reference (please use soloist's name as reference).

Soloist's are only permitted to compete in registered grade. Events offered may change at promoter's discretion & is subject to entries received. All competitors must wear highland dress. Championships will be conducted in accordance with PBA rules, therefore soloist's are to be registered with a state branch of PBA.

Cheques payable to: IPSWICH THISTLE PIPE BAND. Mail Entries: Secretary PO Box 689 BOOVAL QLD 4304

SOLO PIPING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Learner Chanter (March)

EVENT 1 * Restricted * to learners who have been learning for not more than 12 months and not playing the pipes. Competitor may read from a score and play on a practice chanter a march of 2 parts played once through, any time signature.

Elementary Piping

EVENT 2 2 / 4 March – Tune of 4 parts minimum
EVENT 3 Slow air - 2 parts played once through

Sub-intermediate Piping

EVENT 4 2 / 4 March, Strathspey & Reel - March of 4 parts, Strathspey & Reel of 2 parts minimum
EVENT 5 Jig - 2 parts minimum

Intermediate Piping

EVENT 6 2 / 4 March, Strathspey & Reel - each tune of 4 parts minimum
EVENT 7 Hornpipe / Jig - tunes each of 4 parts minimum

Open Piping

EVENT 8 2 / 4 March, Strathspey & Reel - each tune of 4 parts minimum
2009 open piping (MSR) entrants will be competing for prize money of 1st: \$250, 2nd: \$150, 3rd: \$50.
EVENT 9 Hornpipe / Jig - tunes each of 4 parts minimum

Piobaireachd

EVENT 10 **PIOBAIREACHD "A"** Three tunes to be submitted. Competitors in this competition must be graded OPEN or be specifically graded as an OPEN Piobaireachd player.
1st: \$80, 2nd: \$40, 3rd: \$30.

EVENT 11 **PIOBAIREACHD "B"**– One tune to be submitted. This contest is open to all contestants who do not hold OPEN status in either Light Music or Piobaireachd

EVENT 12 (previous winners of this event are not permitted to enter)
 Roddy MacSween Memorial. Score to be played is "Roddy MacSween" Slow air, 2 parts played twice each part (music attached)



QUEENSLAND PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS AND QUEENSLAND SOLO PIPING & DRUMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS
6 & 7 JUNE 2009

Hosted by Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band Inc.
Lion Street, Limestone Park, Ipswich QLD

RODDY MACSWEEN MEMORIAL

This "Special Piping Event" within the Solo Piping competition is open to all grades, excluding pipers who have won this event in previous years. The tune "Roddy MacSween" was composed by Tom Watson and music is available to enable Solo Pipers who wish to enter into this special piping event the opportunity to practice prior to competing. The winner will be invited to play the lament "Roddy MacSween" during the presentation of solo prizes, which will take place on the conclusion of the Solo Piping & Drumming Championships on the Sunday.

Roddy MacSween was the Patron of the Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band for many years, devoting over 40 years to the Pipe Band Movement in Queensland, until his death on 19th April 1999. Roddy was awarded Life Membership of the Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band & the Queensland Pipe Band Association for his outstanding services to both organisations. We include this special piping event "Roddy MacSween Memorial" as a tribute to Roddy, whose fond memories we hold forever in our hearts.

SOLO ENTRY FORM

Soloist: _____ **Grading:** _____

Band: _____

Event #: _____ **Event:** _____

Address:

Phone:

e-mail:

Pipers: Will you be accompanying solo drummers? **Yes** **No**

If so, Drummer/s: _____
