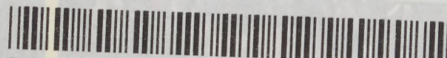


Piping Times

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Vol. 70 No. 8
May 2018

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Vol. 70 No. 8
ISSN 1468-9634

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VAT Reg. No. 316 2007 06



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Cover: The May issue traditionally sees the publication of our annual Guide to the Games and this issue is no exception. The four pipers pictured will all be aiming to feature in the prizelists this summer. They are clockwise from top left: Callum Wynd, Allan Russell, Jonathan Greenlees and Craig Sutherland. See page 30.

The *Piping Times* is published monthly by the College of Piping.

Editor: Stuart Letford. All correspondence to:

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For EDITORIAL and ADVERTISING phone and voice mail call:

+44(0) 141 334 3587 or e-mail: pipingtimeseditor@collegeofpiping.org

Fax all departments: +44 (0) 141 342 5256

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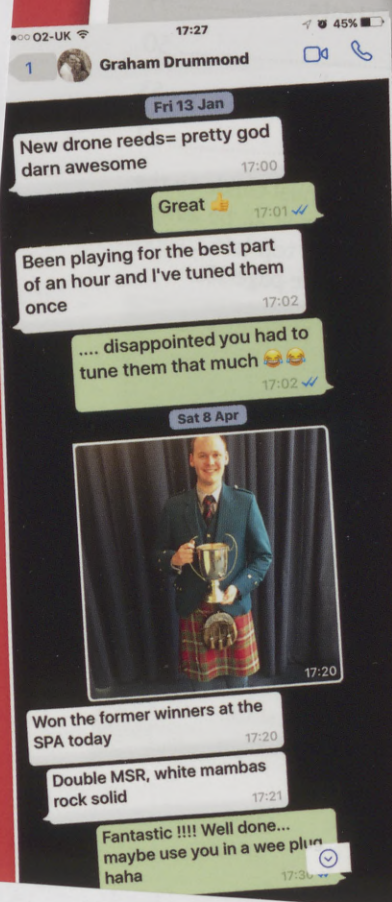
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Piping Times

est. 1948

The news that the Silver Chanter has been rescued by the National Piping Centre (NPC) has been greeted favourably by most. Readers of the *PT* will certainly be aware of how this event, the very first Invitational solo piping competition, came about. Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod and the College's Seumas MacNeill and John MacFadyen established it in the late 1960s in order to encourage the best pipers to return once again to Skye to compete at the Skye Games.

In those days Dame Flora did not charge the College for the use of Dunvegan Castle. Nor did she charge us when we held our annual summer schools there.

Those altruistic days are long gone. Years ago, the splendid Skye Piping Society took over the running of the competition from the John MacFadyen Trust and did a very good job amidst rising costs and falling audience numbers. Financial support came from Wm. Grant & Son but last year, the event unfortunately made a loss. Through no fault of theirs, the Skye Piping Society simply could not continue to run what has become a financially unsustainable event.

Skye may have lost a prestigious piping event – although the island still has the excellent Donald MacDonald Quaich in June which we would encourage more to attend – but it is worthwhile bearing in mind that the Silver Chanter's objectives were achieved within a few years. The numbers of pipers competing at the Skye Games these days is so large organisers have to cap the number of entrants.

As to the future, the Silver Chanter will now continue in Glasgow at the National Piping Centre. The William Grant Foundation has simply transferred the funding it had already pledged for this year's event to allow the NPC to organise it and is committed to three years initially. It will take place on August 4 but from 2019 it will be part of Piping Live! ... which should ensure the largest ever audience for the Silver Chanter.

It was truly wonderful to see so many students of all ages take part in our recent Easter School. After all, they – and the parents of the younger students – gave up a week of their holiday to sign up for an intensive week of piping. We admire their enthusiasm and wish them well in what we hope will become a lifelong passion.

Stuart Letford.

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Ceilidh and Prize-giving at the Dark Island Hotel.

**N.B. the South Uist Games are on Wednesday, July 18
and the North Uist Games on Friday, July 20.**



CORRESPONDENCE

Do you have a point of view or some interesting information you would like to share with the rest of the piping world? Contact the *Piping Times* on its email address: pipingtimeseditor@collegeofpiping.org or write or fax. Full contact details on page 1.

An index would be handy

Sir,

At times in my life I have done technical writing and editing, so I know full well how easy it is for a misprint or omission to occur. Over the years I have seen several humorous typos in various places. Years ago an article in the *PT* listed tunes an old-timer recalled hearing at a games many years previously. Among them was *The Jig of Sluts*. Then-editor, Seumas MacNeill, was seriously lacking in a sense of humour when I pointed this out by wondering what the composer had in mind.

Here in Alaska we are in the hinterlands of the piping world. There are several bands grouped around the Grade 4 level. At least three bands have been in existence for 30 or more years. We have one annual highland games. A few of the lads who started out here have gone on to bigger and better things. Will Nichols began here as a kid and went on to play with Simon Fraser University Pipe Band. Teddy Krogh still lives here. He won his piobaireachd at Maxville a few years ago and more recently came third in Canada's Gold Medal (see *PT* September 2017).

Our isolation and the cost of airfare make it very difficult to travel to outside games. ("Outside" means outside of Alaska.) My band, Crow Creek P&D, played at Santa Rosa [California] once and several times at Enumclaw [WA] and Whitehorse [Yukon]. In 2001 we travelled to Scotland and played in Grade 3B at Inverkeithing, Bridge of Allan and the Worlds. We are not that strong now.

In my early years of piping I was privileged to attend a summer school in Colorado taught by Tommy Pearston.

I am teaching piobaireachd to some of my bandsmen and am always interested in the story behind the tune. Over the years I have



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seen *PT* articles by Jeannie Campbell. Is there any sort of index or publication anywhere that could help me find these? It would be time-consuming to flip pages issue by issue. *Donald MacDonald Vol. 2* gives some history, but there must be much more out there somewhere.

The photograph, left, shows Jenni Stewart who underwent shoulder surgery recently and cannot hold a chanter high enough to blow properly, so we used some ingenuity. The taps in the background contain pain medication in the form of home-brew beer. It makes piobaireachd class more enjoyable.

Slainte,

Mark Ryan, Anchorage, Alaska.

• *Great to hear from you, Mark. Is Jenni playing The Men Went to Drink, I wonder? The PT Index hasn't been updated since Jeannie retired but we hope to rectify this shortly. In the meantime, we would recommend The History and Structure of Ceol Mor by Alec Haddow which we have for sale in the College Shop. – Editor.*

Memories of Eddie McLellan

Sir,

I got a surprise when I opened up my *PT* today! Generally, I hate photos of myself and don't think I photograph well – my wife takes lousy photos of me when I'm playing. I didn't even notice my hackle was hanging off my feather bonnet at a gig recently,

Anyway, that is great photo of me in the Hirsute Hall of Infamy

item in the April magazine, so thanks for that ... I'm getting closer to the front cover!

I also liked the photo of Eddie McLellan *et al* on page 11. I knew Eddie very well. I was a founder member of the Glasgow Skye and was about to be rejected – I was only 14 – when Eddie stepped in and gave me a proper audition on the practice chanter. Eddie was Pipe Sergeant at the time. I played *Brigadier Cheape* as I recall. And that was that, although I didn't get to play in contests for a while.

Eddie was a slater and plasterer to trade and worked with me for a time. He was a great guy. I remember his quip about the old College: "The only thing holding this place together is gravity"! Of course, he also taught Hughie McInnes who was in the Skye and we also became great friends.

Eddie lived in Islay for a while and was great friends with Neil McEachern who said to me that Eddie was the finest march player he had ever heard, which really said something about his ability.

Tom Johnstone, Glasgow, Scotland.

Scott Skinner's 'The Cameron Highlanders'

Sir,

Referring to Mr. Gavin Young's letter and your comments on Scott Skinner's, *The Cameron Highlanders*, contained in Vol. 70 No. 7, the April 2018 edition of the *Piping Times*, this is given in the Queen's Own Highlanders Manual as *Cameron's Quickstep* or *Henderson's March* which is, indeed, in 2/4 time. Although not having to hand the recording by Pipe Major Angus MacDonald referred to, there is a distinct probability that this is the tune played.

Whilst as a young piper with RAF Kinloss Pipes and Drums in



the early 1960s, the pipe tutor to the band was Pipe Major Donald (Dan) MacDonald of Inverness, formerly of the 4/5th Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, who gave a virtuoso performance of the tune in question: one has never heard it bettered on the bagpipe as he was able to replicate the performance of the violin bow – a very difficult thing to do. Completely unexpectedly, when up at Fort George in September of last year, one encountered a WWII veteran of the Camerons who had known Pipe Major MacDonald well and it was a delight to talk to him about our former pipe tutor.

As an aside, there is a very good book of J. Scott Skinner tunes, compiled by Harry Gray & George Greig, published by the Lowland & Border Pipers' Society (ISBN 978-0-9522711-7-8) in March 2017, which contains *The Cameron Highlanders* in 2/4 time but without gracings.

Graham Phillips, Pembroke, West Wales, United Kingdom.

I read the news today, oh boy

Sir,

It is with great sadness that I read the news of the College's incorporation into the National Piping Centre. For me this means the end of a 50+ years of association. The new name should be COP & NPC to give some recognition to the College for its 70+ years of promotion of Scottish culture and bagpiping to the international piping community.

Harry Gralton, Flushing, NY, USA.

• *Harry, thanks for you comments. We hope you will continue to support us in the new incorporated body, which after all was what was intended in the 1990s when the National Piping Centre was to be a new home for the College. We will run an article very soon on this very subject. – Editor.*



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Video search

Sir,

I was looking through back issues of the *Piping Times* and specifically an article in Vol. 60, No. 1, called 'Piper's Palsy 7: Loosen Up and Strengthen Your Hands and Fingers With These Simple Exercises' (pp. 27-29). At the end of this article it says that video files of these exercises are available on the PT Extra page on the College website.

Clearly, this article is years old now, and the videos are no longer on this page. I was just wondering if you know whether they still appear somewhere, available to view? Perhaps on an archived page or a YouTube channel or something like that?

Colin Gordon, Inverness, Inverness-shire.

• *Colin, our IT staff have looked into this and believe the videos were actually externally hosted on YouTube but so far we can't locate them. We will keep searching and let you know how we get on. – Editor.*



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The advertisement features a central image of a small, scruffy dog sitting on a pile of various issues of the Piping Times magazine. To the right of the dog is a tall, blue binder with the 'Piping Times' logo in gold lettering and two small white rectangular boxes near the bottom. The background is dark with a starry pattern.

THE PIOBAIREACHD SOCIETY SET TUNES FOR 2019

The Piobaireachd Society recommends the following lists of tunes for competitions in 2018:

A. SENIOR COMPETITIONS

The Finger Lock	PS 1, K
The Bells of Perth	PS 2, K
Donald Gruamach's March	PS 2, K
Scarce of Fishing	PS 3, K
The Daughter's Lament	PS 6, K
Lament for the Union	PS 6, K
Lament for John MacDonald, Inverness	PS 20th Century Ceol Mor
The Edinburgh Piobaireachd	Complete Compositions of Ceol Mor

Competitors will submit four of the above tunes, one of which they will be required to play.

B. GOLD MEDAL COMPETITIONS

The End of the Great Bridge	PS 2, K
The Blind Piper's Obstinacy	PS 3, K
The Earl of Scaforth's Salute	PS 5, K
The Old Men of the Shells *	PS 7, K
The Rout of Glenfruin	PS 8, K
Lachlan MacNeill Campbell of Kintarbert's Fancy	PS 8, K
The Battle of Bealach nam Brog	PS 9
MacLeod of MacLeod's Lament	PS 15, K

Competitors will submit four of the above tunes, one of which they will be required to play.

* There are two settings of this tune in PS Book 7 and a third in Kilberry. Competitors should make it clear to judges which setting they are to play.

C. SILVER MEDAL COMPETITIONS

The Bicker	PS 4, K
The Battle of Strome	PS 5
The Massacre of Glencoe (#)	PS 6, K
Tulloch Ard	PS 6, K
The MacKays' Banner (#)	PS 7, K
Salute to Donald	PS 8, K
Marquis of Argyll's Salute	PS 10
The MacGregor's Salute (#)	PS 10

Competitors will submit four of the above tunes, one of which they will be required to play.

For the purposes of the Silver Medal competitions, tunes marked (#) require crunluaths a mach.

PS = Piobaireachd Society Collection K = Kilberry Book of Ceol Mor

Competitors are not restricted to settings in the Piobaireachd Society Collection and Kilberry Book. Those who wish to play alternative settings should submit legible scores, indicating the origins of the settings, to competition organisers along with their tune selections. Altogether different tunes known by the same or similar names will not be accepted as alternatives. This announcement is without prejudice to any arrangements made by the Argyllshire Gathering or the Northern Meeting.

For the Music Committee: Ronald McShannon, 2 Ascot Avenue, Glasgow, G12 0AX.

Great article at hand

Sir,

Further to Dr. Peter McCallister's article in last month's *PT* on Dupuytren's contracture, Seumas MacNeill wrote an article many years ago [Vol 38 No. 7, April 1986] on this subject when he had surgery for it. I remember at the time he said after the operation he had to wear a wooden splint in bed to keep his hand straight and that his wife complained he kept hitting her with it. Bob Hardie, who also suffered from it, abandoned the splint after a few nights and his hand curled up again. Angus MacDonald had acupuncture for his.

Jeannie Campbell, Glasgow, Scotland.

• *Thank you, Jeannie. I have just read the article and will reproduce it soon as it will certainly be of interest to the readers of today. – Editor.*

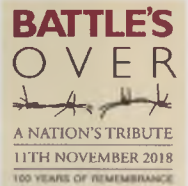
'Battle's Over' correspondence

Sir,

The following will play their tribute in front of the Southwest Florida Vietnam Memorial wall in Punta Gorda, Florida; this beautiful area serves as an all-wars memorial site.

- * The Lee County Pipes and Drums,
 - * Pipe Major George Cook;
 - * Senior Pipe Major William Ferrigno.
 - * The Sarasota Highlanders, Pipe Major John Joslin.
- Thank you for organising this affair.

William L. Ferrigno, SPM, Florida, USA.



Senior Pipe Major William Ferrigno at the Southwest Florida Vietnam Memorial wall. The photo on the right shows the sheer size of this memorial.



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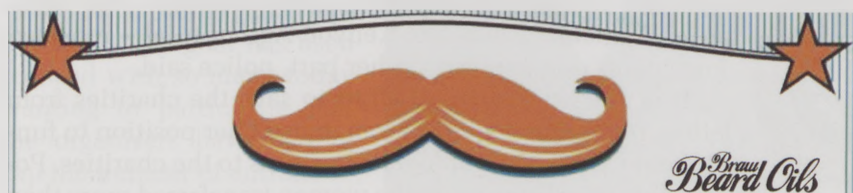
Sir,

I am writing to let you know that I plan to perform my tribute at the Doughboy Memorial in my home town of Elkton, Maryland. This memorial is located in front of our town armoury. As a member of our local historical society, I performed on April 7, 2017 in recognition of the US entry into the conflict.

Please let me know if by 'local' time you mean UK time, as here we run five hours behind you.

Brian McCandless, Elkton, MD, USA.

• *Brian, the time is to be your time, not UK time. – Editor.*



The Hirsute Hall of Infamy

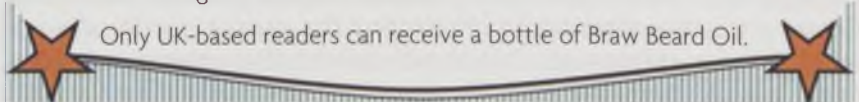
We have two nominations this month. Both gentlemen are ex-Black Watch soldiers who now play with Perth & District Pipe Band (the 'P&D'). Alasdair 'Tosh' MacIntosh and Lee 'Fitzy' Fitzpatrick have been nominated by Ian Sinclair of Bankfoot, Perthshire. Lee is the Leading Drummer of the P&D but, says Ian, this should not preclude his nomination.



"Surely it's the quality of the soup strainer that counts?" says Ian. "Tosh has a superb chin curtain but look at Fitzy's carefully cultivated hipster 'tache! It deserves a place."

We agree wholeheartedly, Ian. In they go!

Send your nominations to: pipingtimeseditor@collegeofpiping.org or post them to the College at the usual address.



Maxville's former treasurer arrested on fraud charges

An unidentified former committee member of Ontario's Glengarry Highland Games has been arrested on fraud charges.

Local police say the woman was in charge of her employer's finances for the past several years. During this time she also sat on the board of two Maxville charities as secretary and treasurer.

While she was in the role, both of the charities – the Glengarry Highland Games and Kenyon Agricultural – incurred huge debts due to errors on her part, police said.

It is alleged that in an effort to save the charities from falling into more debt, the woman used her position to funnel money from her employer's business to the charities. Police say that over three years the woman transferred more than \$600,000 (£335,000/€382,000) to the charities' bank accounts from the business.

Police first learned of the alleged fraud last December. The woman was arrested in mid-April at her home in Maxville. This year's Glengarry Highland Games will take place on August 3-4. The Pipers & Pipe Band Society of Ontario (PPBSO) runs the piping and pipe band competitions.



National Piping Centre is new home for the Silver Chanter

The prestigious invitational solo piping competition, the Silver Chanter, has a new home in Glasgow. The competition will move to The National Piping Centre from this August.

Cailean MacLean, Chairman of The Isle of Skye Piping Society said: "While the Skye Piping Society is disappointed that due to rising costs and diminishing income we have had to sever our connection with the Silver Chanter Competition, we are delighted that through the support of the William Grant Foundation and The National Piping Centre a way has been found of ensuring the event's continuation at least for the next few years. It is wonderful that this prestigious piping event has not been lost and we wish every success to The National

Piping Centre in its stewardship of the Silver Chanter competition.

“While it is to be regretted that Skye is losing a prestigious piping event it worthwhile bearing in mind that the Silver Chanter was established over 50 years ago with the express objective of helping boost number taking part in the Skye Games’ competitions and that goal has been realised with so many today wanting to participate that the organisers have had to cap the number of entrants.”

Roddy MacLeod, the Principal of The National Piping Centre added: “The National Piping Centre is pleased to take on the running of this landmark event in the piping calendar which has been a high point in the solo piping season for the last 50 years. Through the generosity of the William Grant Foundation and with the support of The Isle of Skye Piping Society we aim to preserve the traditions of the event, which celebrates the music of the Mac-Crimmon composers.

“In 2018, the event will be held on the 4th of August at The National Piping Centre and from 2019 the event will be brought into the Piping Live! festival’s portfolio of events.

Nick Addington Chief Executive – William Grant Foundation commented: “At the request of both organisations, we are pleased to transfer the funding we had already pledged for this year’s Silver Chanter to allow the National Piping Centre to organise a successor competition in Glasgow on the traditional date. We have pledged funding for three years, subject to a review after year two.”

The Silver Chanter competition was founded in 1967 by Seumas MacNeill, John MacFadyen and Dame Flora MacLeod and had been contested at Dunvegan Castle in Skye since that time. The original purpose of the event was to bring the top pipers of the day to Portree to compete at the Skye Gathering. It quickly achieved this purpose. The Silver Chanter was the first Invitational competition.



Cameron Drummond, winner of the 2017 Silver Chanter. Photo: Derek Maxwell.

Memorial planned for Eilidh on Barra

The family of Eilidh MacLeod, who was among the 23 people killed during the terrorist attack in Manchester last May, are raising funds for a memorial to the young the young piper from Barra. Many members of the family are taking part in the Manchester Run on May 20 to help raise funds.

Photo: Claire Watson Photography



The massed pipe band gathering that took place last year in the city is to be repeated on this day also. In addition, members of folk band, Skipinnish are running the Edinburgh Half Marathon on May 27 to contribute funds for the memorial. Almost £11,000 has been raised so far.



Perthshire's Vale of Atholl Pipe Band expressed its gratitude to its long-serving secretary, Gillie McNab last month as it marked her 50 years with the Pitlochry-based organisation. A fundraising ceilidh held at the Tulloch Institute in Perth was interrupted by a surprise tribute that included a panegyric by Drum Major Kenny Forbes. Gillie was the first female to join the Vale and became its secretary in 1968. The photo shows Drum Major Kenny Forbes, Gillie and her daughter, Irralee.

James Jackson, 1942-2018

The funeral of James Jackson took place on April 9 at Rosskeen Free Church, Alness, Ross and Cromarty. The well-known solo piping adjudicator died at home after a long illness, aged 76.



James was born in Dumbarton to James Ross Jackson, Pipe Major of Bonhill Parish Pipe Band, and a son of Pipe Major James Jackson of the Argylls. Jimmy received instruction from William Gray.

He played with Bonhill Parish Pipe Band until 1960 then joined Pipe Major Donald Shaw Ramsay's Invergordon Distillery Pipe Band until 1969 when he was appointed the first Pipe Major of Dumbarton & District Pipe Band.

He later took over at the Dingwall British Legion Pipe Band.

Pipe Major Gordon Webster, 1959-2018

Pipe Major Gordon Webster died last month aged 59 after a brave struggle with cancer. The service took place at St. Paul's Church, Concord, New Hampshire. The service began with the New Hampshire Pipes & Drums playing *Highland Cathedral*. Son, Campbell, was in the ranks.



Born in Bathgate in 1959, Gordon joined Torphichan and Bathgate Pipe Band where he quickly became a proficient piper. He was 15 when he joined the British Army and served 24 years of distinguished military service that saw him become Pipe Major of the 1st and 2nd Battalions Scots Guards and appointed in 1995 to the position of Sovereign's Piper. Gordon was the ninth piper to hold the position.

When he retired in 1998 he and wife Lezlie emigrated to the city of Concord in New Hampshire, USA where they founded

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the New Hampshire School of Scottish Arts and also the New Hampshire Pipe Band. He was also an Instructor for the Boston Police Gaelic Column.

Capt. David Rennie, ex-Scots Guards, said: “Gordon’s style of leadership was second to none. He got the best from those pipers and drummers. He was an exemplary example of a leader, and I believe he became a mentor to everyone.”

Gordon and Lezlie had two children, Marielle and Campbell, who maintain the family’s interest in Scottish culture.

Gordon died at the Pleasant View Center in Concord. His wife and children, and his sisters Ina MacIntyre and Mary Easson, and brother David survive him.



This photograph shows the staff and students on the second week of the College’s highly successful Easter School which ran over April 2-6 and April 9-13. These proved to be the College’s best-ever attended schools. Future schools will be run under the combined body, The National Piping Centre Incorporating The College of Piping.

We wish to thank all the students, their parents and the instructors: Donald McPhee, Glenn Brown, Andrew Wallace, Sandy Cameron, Jamie Curran and Daniel McDermott.

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COLLEGE NOTES

'Battle's Over' – the latest pipers to register

Registrations continue to come in for 'Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute'. Among the latest pipers to register are:

www.collegeofpiping.org/join-battles-oer/

Remember, the time to play on November 11, 2018 is 06:00 your time.

Janet Johnston, Chelmsford, Essex, England.

Lorna Johnston, Chelmsford, Essex, England.

Iain Geddes, Chelmsford, Essex, England.

Victoria Geddes Chelmsford, Essex, England.

James Geddes, Chelmsford, Essex, England.

Joanne Johnston, Chelmsford,

Essex, England.

Pat Tugwell, Ranville, Normandy, France.

Lachlan Law, Kirkton of Auchterhouse, Angus, Scotland.

John Brown, Skipton, North Yorkshire, England.

Jim Motch, San Francisco, California, USA.

Andrew Kerr Nimmons, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, England.

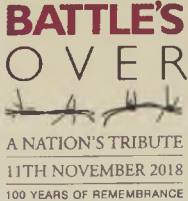
Andy Walker, Warwick, Warwickshire, England.

John Balderson, Bradford, West Yorkshire, England.

Craig Lang, Lochgilphead,

To register simply complete the form, below, and post it to: When the Battle's O'er, College of Piping, 16-24 Otago Street, Glasgow G12 8JH, Scotland, UK. Alternatively, fill in the online form at:

www.collegeofpiping.org/join-battles-oer/

	Name of Piper	
	Telephone:	
	Email:	
Address/Location of where piper will undertake playing <i>When the Battle's O'er</i> at 06:00 LOCAL TIME on November 11, 2018:		
County:	Country:	

FAMOUS PIPERS

Pipe Major Andrew A. Venters



Pipe Major Andy Venters was born in Granton near Edinburgh. His father was a box player and all the family loved music. Andy joined the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in 1953 and served for three years, serving in Austria, Germany and Korea. He re-enlisted



The Cameron pipers formed up and ready for inspection. Cameron Barracks, 1955.

in 1960 and served in Edinburgh and Liverpool. He then returned to Edinburgh to attend the Pipe Major's course at Edinburgh Castle and on completion returned to the amalgamated battalion, the Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons).



An undated photo of Andy carrying the regimental pipes.

The regiment was stationed initially in Singapore before it returned to Edinburgh. Andy was posted to Harrogate Army Apprentice's College as Pipe Major. The students there were studying to become the future Senior ranks of the Royal Signals and learning to play the Great Highland Bagpipe was one of the activities they could take part in. After a year, Andy returned to the regiment where he became the Pipe Major of the Queen's Own Highlanders.

The regiment was then posted to Sharhja in the Persian Gulf for nine months in the desert. It wasn't a very pleasant place, Andy tells me but the Pipes and Drums were very fortunate to have a short tour of Tehran and Tokyo. The regiment was then posted to Germany and eventually Andy was posted back to Cameron Barracks, where he completed his time with

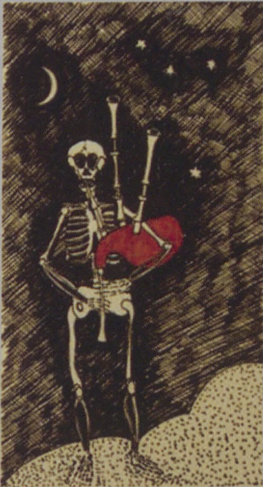
the regiment. He was asked to stay on for another three years to recruit good, young pipers to the regiment, such as Alasdair Gillies and Callum McKenzie.

Most pipers know that Andy is a fine composer and that he has composed many tunes. His own favourite is the 6/8 march *General Hunt's Welcome to the Queen's Own Highlanders*, a tune I remember hearing Strathclyde Police playing. During his



Having a tune at the entrance to the Pipers' Cave at Cameron Barracks, Inverness, 2015. See page 27.

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Pipers:

**Iain Speirs, Callum Beaumont,
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A finger buffet will be served after the competition.

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The Black Isle Junior Pipe Band, c2014.

time teaching in the schools Andy was in an ideal position to spot talented youngsters and his Black Isle Junior Pipe Band was admired greatly. He is a great teacher and a piping judge of the highest standard of integrity and fairness. His dignified bearing and discipline has been an invaluable influence on his many pupils.

Andy is now in his 80s. He and wife Sheila recently returned to Edinburgh to live.

Tabby Angier.

- *See Choice Tune on page 43 – Editor.*

The Pipers' Cave

The original Pipers' Practice Room was situated at the top end of Cameron Barracks near the Sergeant's Mess. When Cameron Barracks closed after the amalgamation in 1961, some of the buildings fell into disrepair and were demolished, one of them the Pipers' Cave. However, the wooden panels, with the names of the Pipe Majors who had served with various battalions of the regiment were saved and stored in the Regimental Museum at Fort George.

During this time Andy needed somewhere to practice and teach Cadet Pipers. Colonel Angus Fairrie acquired the present room. It used to be a cookhouse and marks can still be seen on the walls out-

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Andy inside the Pipers' Cave, Cameron Barracks, Inverness, a treasure trove of regimental piping history. June 2015.

side where the cooks sharpened their knives. The panelling from the museum was then put back up on the wall and it became the new Pipers' Cave and practice room of the Queen's Own Highlanders Regimental Association Pipes and Drums.

There are many interesting photos and pictures therein. The big table came from the Officer's Mess. The chairs have the letters M.C.W.C. carved onto them ... they came from a maternity hospital.

The well-known 2/4 march, *The Pipers' Cave* was made by Pipe Major James Sutherland 1865-1946 and named after the Pipers' Room in the barracks in Cairo. The officers did not like the title and persuaded Sutherland to rename it *The 3rd Seaforth's Farewell to Cairo*. However, when he finally published it in the Seaforth's book he changed it back to the original title.

- *On an interesting historical note, there were two tragedies involving caves during the First World War. Captain Allan Cameron, and 28 men of the Q.O.C.H. were buried alive in a cave near Bourg et Comin on September 25, 1914. Shortly before this, 600 men were killed when a shell hit the frontline headquarters, which were in a cave.*

T. A.

Guide to the Games

With the highland games season kicking off in earnest this month, we present our annual authoritative compilation of where and when to enjoy quaily solo piping this season



Silver Medallist Sandy Cameron on the boards last year at a sweltering Pitlochry Games.

May

Sun 20 – Gordon Castle Highland Games and Country Fair. Contact Ros Lewis events@gordoncastle.co.uk

Sun 27 – Atholl Gathering www.blair-castle.co.uk/events. Contact Angus Clarke at atholl.gathering.piping@gmail.com

June

Sat 2 – Helensburgh and Lomond Highland Games. Email: sutherlanddance@btinternet.com

Sun 3 – Markinch Highland Games. Email Shane Fenton at fenton.shane@rocketmail.com

Sat 9 – Corgarff Highland Games. Contact Jock Edwards on 01975 651474.

Sun 17 – Cupar Highland Games – www.cuparhighlandgames.org – contact gcbett@yahoo.co.uk

Sun 10 – Ardrossan Highland Games – www.ardrossanhighland-games.org.uk. Email: ahg@secretary.net

Sun 10 – Strathmore Highland Games. Email Molly Maclean at: tommaclean8@talktalk.net

Sun 17 – Aberdeen Highland Games. Email Kenny Luke at: kennyl@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Sat 23 – Lesmahagow Highland Games – www.lesmahagowhighland-games.com. Contact Lynn Callan on lynncallan@talktalk.net

Sat 23 – Drumtochty Highland Games – www.drumtochtyhighland-games.com. Telephone Evelyn Coates on 01561 378469

Sat 30 – Ceres – www.ceresgames.co.uk. Email Gordon McBrearty at: secretary@ceresgames.co.uk

July

Sat 7 – Luss Highland Gathering: www.lusshighlandgames.co.uk

Sat 7 – Thornton Highland Gathering. Contact June Innes at:



Graham Drummond playing in the March at the 2017 Argyllshire Gathering.



Euan Clarke at the Atholl Gathering, 2017.

jinnes@blueyonder.co.uk

Wed 4 – Kenmore Highland Games (starts 5.30pm). Telephone Gordon Clark on 01887 840268

Sat 7 – Forres Highland Games: – www.forreshighlandgames.com. Email: Mike Scott michaelwscott@lineone.net

Sat 14 – Braemar Junior Highland Games. Email: info@braemarjuniorgames.com

Sun 8 – Harpenden Highland Games. Contact Jackie Roberts at jackiespsl@aol.com or telephone 01252 794287

Sat 14 – Loch Lomond Highland Games (Balloch) – www.loch-lomond-highland-games.com. Contact Helen Campbell on 01389 842024 or email: helen.c@campbellsairconditioning.co.uk

Sat 14 – Tain Highland Gathering. Contact Duncan MacGillivray at: secretary@tainhighlandgathering.com

Sun 15 – Kinlochard Gathering and Highland Games. Contact Gregor Wood at: info@greattimescotland.com

Sun 15 – Stonehaven Highland Games. Contact Paulene McEwan at: paulene.mcewan@hotmail.co.uk or Roger Barnett at: rogerbarnett73@yahoo.co.uk (Juniors)

Sun 15 – Rosneath Peninsula Highland Gathering. Telephone Helen Campbell 01389 842024; helen.c@campbellsairconditioning.co.uk

Sat 21 – Inverness Highland Games. Contact Alastair Campbell at: invernesspiping@gmail.com

Sat 21 – Tomintoul Highland Games. Contact Patricia Grant on 01807 580407 or email: tomintoulhighlandgames@hotmail.co.uk

Tues 17 – Inveraray Highland Games – www.inveraray-games.co.uk. Telephone Eilidh Wright on 07795 466475 or email: piping@inveraray-games.co.uk

Wed 18 – South Uist and Piping Society Highland Gathering. Contact A. MacDonald 01878 700509

Thurs 19 – Isle of Mull Games. Contact Torquil Telfer at: torquilandmorag@tiscali.co.uk

Thurs 19 – Highlands and Islands Young Piper of the Year, Benbecula. Contact Pauline Craib at: paulinecraib@btinternet.com

Fri 20 – North Uist Highland Games. Contact N. Johnston at theoldcourthouse@gmail.com or telephone 01876 500358

Sat 21 – Balquhidder, Lochearnhead and Strathyre Highland Games. Contact Jim Heron at: jim.heron@rocketmail.com

Sat 21 – Taynuilt Highland Games – www.taynuilthighlandgames.com. Telephone Molly MacLean on 01786 814774 or email: info@taynuilthighlandgames.com

Sat 28 – Airth Highland Games – www.airthgames.co.uk. Contact Emma Gillanders at: secretary.airthgames@gmail.com

Wed 25 – Arisaig Highland Games: www.arisaighighlandgames.co.uk.



Nick Hudson at last year's Northern Meeting.

ABERDEEN HIGHLAND GAMES

Sunday 17th June

**Hazlehead Park, AB15 8BJ
10am-5.30pm**

Piping events start from 10.30am
Junior events (under 18 years)
Senior events (18 and over)

Entry forms: [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/
highlandgames](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/highlandgames)

Online tickets: Eventbrite

Glenisla Games

The Haugh, Forter, Angus

Friday, August 17

*Open competitions
and Under 18 competitions*

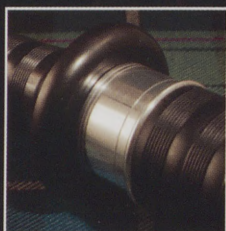
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kat_in_aberdeen@hotmail.com



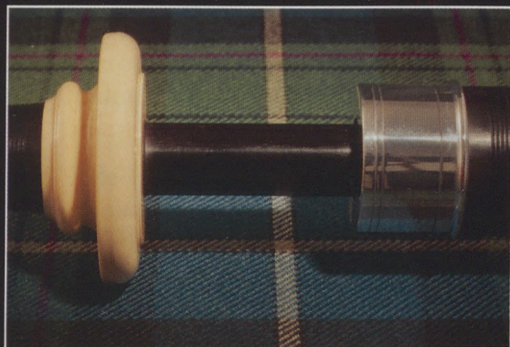
SL4: Thistle engraved alloy ferrule and slide with imitation ivory projecting mount



SL1, SL2, SL3:
Imitation ivory ringcap



SL1: Blackwood projecting mounts with plain alloy ferrules



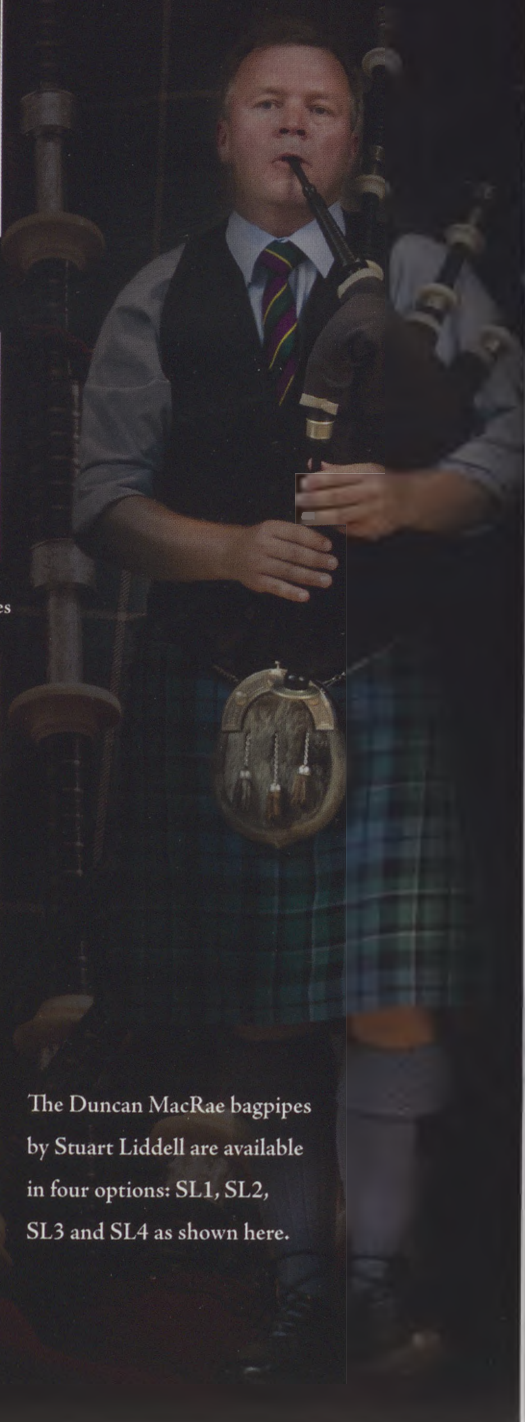
SL2: Imitation ivory projecting mount and blackwood slides with plain alloy ferrules



SL3: Imitation ivory ferrule with blackwood slides



SL3: Imitation ivory projecting mount and ferrule



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Contact James MacKenzie at: secretary@arisaighighlandgames.co.uk
Fri 27 -- Durness Games. Contact Mark Manning at: secretary@durnesshighlandgathering.co.uk
Sat 28 – Dufftown Highland Games. Contact Chris Brouseau on 01340 820471
Sat 28 – Halkirk Highland Games: www.halkirkgames.co.uk. Contact Christopher Coghill at: halkirkhighlandgames@yahoo.co.uk
Sun 29 – St. Andrew's Highland Games. Molly Mclean, 01786 814774

August

Wed 1 – Killin International Highland Games. Contact Dr David Syme at: david.syme@nhs.net
Fri 3 – Dornoch Highland Gathering. Contact Lesley Conner at: lesleyconner72@gmail.com
Sat 4 – Aboyne Highland Games – www.aboynegames.com. Contact Jack Taylor at: jack@taylor7361.freeserve.co.uk
Sat 4 – Inverkeithing Highland Games. Contact Brian McGarry 01383 414982
Sat 4 – Newtonmore Highland Games – www.newtonmorehighland-

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Isle of Lewis

Wednesday 1st August
at Carloway Showground
Main Stage commencing 1.00pm

Register on the day

MSR and Hornpipe & Jig.
Medley (piper's choice of 3 tunes
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at: aafraser@aol.com

BALQUHIDDER LOCHEARNHEAD & STRATHYRE HIGHLAND GAMES

Saturday 21st July

GAMES PARK LOCHEARNHEAD

Piobaireachd draw at 10.00am with
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MSR draw at 12.30pm with
competition commencing at 1.00pm.

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For further information contact
Jim Heron on 07967 654576

games.co.uk. Contact Tom Robertson on 01540 673348

Sun 5 – Mallaig and Morar Highland Games – www.road-to-the-isles.org.uk. Contact Colin Buchanan on 01324 552841 or email: colinj.buchanan@blueyonder.co.uk

Sun 5 – Bridge of Allan Highland Games. Contact info@bofagames.com

Tues 7 and Wed 8 – Skye Highland Games – www.skye-highland-games.co.uk. Contact Cailean Maclean at: cailean@skye-media.com. Dunvegan Medal, 6/8 March, Hornpipe & Jig and Col. Jock Clasp on the 7th; 2/4 March (Kemble Star), Strathspey & Reel (Peter MacFarquhar Star) on the 8th.

Wed 8 – Silver Chanter MacCrimmon Memorial Piobaireachd Competition, National Piping Centre, Glasgow.

Thurs 9 – Ballater Highland Games. Contact Ron Drever at: info@ballaterhighlandgames.com

Fri 10 – Assynt Highland Games. Contact Helen Acreman at: helenacreman@hotmail.co.uk

Sat 11 – Dundonald Highland Games. Contact Graeme Dunn at: info@dundonald-games.org.uk

Sat 11 – North Berwick www.northberwickhighlandgames.co.uk. Contact John Starr at: chairmain@northberwickhighlandgames.co.uk

Sat 11 – Abernethy Highland Games: www.nethybridge.com/highland-games

Sat 11 – Strathpeffer Highland Games. Contact Malcolm Cleghorn at: mac@albagames.co.uk

Sat 11 – Atholl and Breadalbane Highland Games – www.aberfeldyshowandgames.co.uk. Contact Morag Kennedy at: info@aberfeldyshowandgames.co.uk

Sun 12 – Perth Highland Games – www.highlandgames.co.uk. Contact Brian Whyte at: info@highlandgames.org.uk

Sun 12 – Cortachy Highland Games. Contact Jane McEwen at: jane.mcewen@icloud.com

Fri 17 – Glenisla Highland Games. Contact Katy Blair at: Kat_in_aberdeen@hotmail.com

Sat 18 – Helmsdale and District Highland Games – www.helmsdale-highlandgames.org. Contact Fiona Sutherland at: games@fhearnan.force9.co.uk

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Sat 18 – Lochaber Gathering – www.lochabergathering.com. Contact Allan MacColl at: maccolls@btinternet.com

Sat 18 – Kinloch Rannoch Highland Games: www.rannochhighland-gathering.co.uk. Contact rannochgathering@gmail.com

Sat 18 – Glenfinnan Highland Games: www.glenfinnan.org.uk

Sat 18 – Nairn Highland Games: www.nairnhighlandgames.co.uk

Wed 22 and Thurs 23 – The Argyllshire Gathering – www.obangames.com. Contact Torquil Telfer at piping@obangames.com

Sat 25 – Lairg Crofters Show. Contact Catrina Mackenzie at: lairg.show@hotmail.co.uk

Fri 24-Sat 25 – Cowal Highland Gathering – www.cowalhighland-gathering.com. Contact Malcolm Barclay on 01369 703206 or email: info@cowalhighland-gathering.com

Sat 25 – Lonach Highland Gathering and Games – www.lonach.org. Contact Jennifer Stewart on 01975 651772 or email: info@lonach.org

Sat 25 – Glenurquhart Highland Games and Gathering. Go online to: www.glenurquhart-highland-gathering.co.uk

Sat 25 – Strathardle Highland Games. Contact Hamish Nicholson at: hamishnicholson@scotnet.co.uk

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www.collegeofpiping.org

Sat 25 – Birnam Highland Games – www.birnamhighlandgames.com. Contact D. Crawshaw on 01350 727785 or email: crawshaw990@btinternet.com

Sun 26 – Grantown-on-Spey Highland Games. Contact gogames@yahoo.com

Thur 30 and Friday 31 – The Northern Meeting Inverness – www.northern-meeting.org. Contact pipingsecretary@northern-meeting.org

September

Sat 1 – Braemar Gathering – www.braemargathering.org. Contact Jim Wood at: secretary@braemargathering.org

Sun 2 – Blairgowrie and Rattray Highland Games – www.blairgowrie-highlandgames.co.uk. Contact the convenor, Murray Henderson, at: murray@hendersonreedmakers.com

Sun 2 – Chatsworth Country Fair www.chatsworthcountryfair.co.uk. Contact Irene Samson at: branch_secretary@rspbalondon.org

Sat 8 – Pitlochry Highland Games: www.pitlochryhighlandgames.co.uk. Contact J Templeman on 01796 473488 or email: secretary@pitlochryhighlandgames.co.uk

Sat 15 – Invercharron Highland Games – www.invercharrongames.co.uk. Contact Sally at: sallymackintosh123@btinternet.com

Sat 29 (provisional) – Ian Dall MacKay Young Pipers Festival, Gairloch High School. Contact Ian Blake at: mackenzie@iambik.org

October

Fri 12 to Sat 20 – Royal National Mod. Contact: www.acgmod.org/nationalmod

Sat 20 – Festival of Juvenile Solo Piping. Contact J. Gerard McClumpha at: fofjsp2003@hotmail.com

Sat 27 – The Glenfiddich. Contact marketing@thepipingcentre.co.uk or Liz.Maxwell@wgrant.com or call +44 8456 021974.

November

Sat 3 – Annual London Competition – www.scottishpipingsoctyoflondon.co.uk. Contact Jackie Roberts at: Jackiespsl@aol.com

• *We invite all secretaries to send in their results for inclusion in the magazine. The email address is: thepipingtimes@gmail.com. Photographs of the winners are also welcome.*



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CHOICE TUNE

March

Adam S. MacKenzie Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders

By P.M. Andy Venters

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 6/8 time. It consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is in 6/8 time, as indicated by the time signature. The score features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are two first endings, marked with a '1' and a bracket, and two second endings, marked with a '2' and a bracket. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

This attractive 6/8 was composed recently by Pipe Major Andy Venters for his friend who is a veteran of the Korean War. Adam (89) served in the Argylls and lives in Livingston, West Lothian.

OBITUARY

Iain Westgate, 1981-2018

Iain Westgate was more than just a piper. He achieved a phenomenal amount, more so than some achieve in a lifetime. There really were no bounds to his talents. Iain was a keen sports fan and loved statistics. I worked out that Iain had been a piper an incredible 91.67% of his life. An impressive stat and one he would be very proud of.

There was no messing around with Iain: when he was determined to achieve something, piping or otherwise, he was damn sure going to make sure it happened.



Iain leading RAF Halton Pipe Band.

Iain started to take an interest in the pipes when his father, Brian was a member of the Milton Keynes Pipe Band. At the tender age of three, Iain became an enthusiastic supporter of the pipe band where he would regularly strut around with what remained of a set of small, tourist shop bagpipes. At every opportunity he would march up and down with this well-worn relic and from then on he was completely taken with piping. Apparently, during a big competition at Ashbourne in Derbyshire, he, together with his worn tartan bag and stocks, was found discussing chanter reeds with a famous reedmaker to the incredulity of people close by. Iain was still only three at the time!

As soon as his fingers were big enough – aged seven – he was on to the practice chanter and started to learn seriously. He showed promise immediately. Like most youngsters he wanted to run before he could walk but the learning disciplines were quickly accepted and adhered to and he progressed well. To no surprise at all, his father said Iain was a joy to teach because of his unbounded enthusiasm, and musical appreciation ... he was certainly the best Brian ever taught. He progressed quickly, and was soon ready to take up the pipes properly and to this end he was greatly helped by the loan of a three-quarter sized set from friend, Tony Harris. He was one of Iain's biggest fans and later

gave Iain a valuable piper's dirk.

In September 1989, aged eight, and only a few days after marching down the street at the Cowal Games in front of the Milton Keynes Pipe band he played his first band engagement. Iain was a favourite of the audience wherever the band played because he was so small and was ready to play a solo at any opportunity. Brian recalled trying to tune the band when it played at a holiday camp while all the time holiday-makers kept pulling Iain out of the circle to take photographs.

By his early teens the medals were beginning to accumulate and at the age of 14 he moved to RAF Halton to take advantage of tuition from Pipe Major Iain Macey. During this time he developed his piobaireachd and MSR playing significantly. In 1996 Halton went abroad to Modena in Italy to play in a military music festival. With 24 hours on the bus with Ian Macey and a couple of others playing piobaireachd most of the way, this was a firm initiation for any young player. Iain was very grateful to learn from someone who may be considered a 'traditionalist' as it really formed the foundations for his success thereafter.

Iain competed in all the local competitions at this time and once in the Scottish Piping Society of London's Competition. His achievements at branch level soon became the norm and led to him being selected play in the Pipe Major William Fergusson Memorial Shield, a competition held in Glasgow for pipers under the age of 18, which drew two young players from each of the RSPBA branches. He played in the competition three times before he was ineligible, gaining an unofficial second the first time (there being no runners up on that occasion). Iain's determination meant that he came first in the two subsequent competitions beating, amongst others Alastair Dunn and Chris Armstrong. I remember Tony Harris saying it ruffled a few feathers, this cocky English lad coming up to Glasgow and beating the local talent.

Another memorable occasion was at the RAF Pipe Band Championships at Kinloss. Alasdair Gillies was the adjudicator. Iain won the



Hornpipe & Jig, the first prize being a copy of the *Scots Guards Book, Volume 2*. Iain promptly asked Alasdair to sign it to which Alasdair replied, "Me, signing a Scots Guards book? Whatever next!" While at Halton, Iain also played with the Scots Guards Association band for a short time.

When Lenny Browne took over Halton in 1999 he chose Iain as Pipe Sergeant. The band won more RAF championships than it lost. In a period of only eight years it achieved a whopping 12 top six finishes in piping at the majors, including a second place at the Worlds in its first year of entering. Iain's talent for music writing and medley construction and particularly harmony definitely, without a doubt, contributed significantly to the band's progress throughout this time.

Iain moved to Western Australia in 2008. In just over two years there he made a big impact on so many people both in the pipe band community and also socially around Perth. Iain was employed at the WA Police Service where he was an integral member of its pipe band. As Pipe Sergeant, his contribution was obvious in the band's musical selection and overall performances.

He also assisted a local band, tutoring the Shadow Highlanders Pipe Band and leading them to an interstate competition with them never having competed until Iain got his hands on them. He was a member of the Pipe Band Club, Sydney and also a member of the Australia Highlanders Pipe Band.

During his two years in Australia he touched the lives of many, and all who had the pleasure of his tutelage, bandsmanship and friendship will remember his support and enthusiasm of piping.

Iain returned to the UK in July of 2010 where he fulfilled a childhood dream to play with Shotts & Dykehead Caledonia Pipe Band under Robert Mathieson. His new target by now was to produce a highly competitive English pipe band to compete against the Scots. He made this happen by attaining the British Championships in Grade 3A with the RAF Halton/Waddington Pipe Band (two bands that combined the best players of each station). The band later achieved a second place at the Scottish Championships and a third place at the Worlds. What a season that was. The band was upgraded to Grade 2 but sadly, due to the commitments placed on the band to meet in the middle of England with members coming from all four corners, the band folded.

Iain's health was evidently an issue to all except him; there was still business to be done on the park. For a number of years the question of amalgamating local rival bands came up. Eventually, a meeting



Iain leads the City of London Pipe Band at the British Pipe Band Championships at Paisley last year.

was set up in an Irish bar in Hertfordshire and the City of London Pipe Band was born.

Sadly Iain's strength declined rapidly at this time and he was unable to play for long periods. He insisted he wanted to remain involved and the band agreed it was the right call he was Pipe Major. One of the proudest moments in my piping career with the number of trophies we won together as a team, was at last year's Scottish Pipe Band Championships where Iain was feeling too ill to take part at massed bands. He had heard our fifth place result over the loud speakers and as we returned to the bus we saw Iain running to give us a massive hug. I've no doubt the band will continue to achieve great things thanks to the legacy he's left.

Sean Walker.

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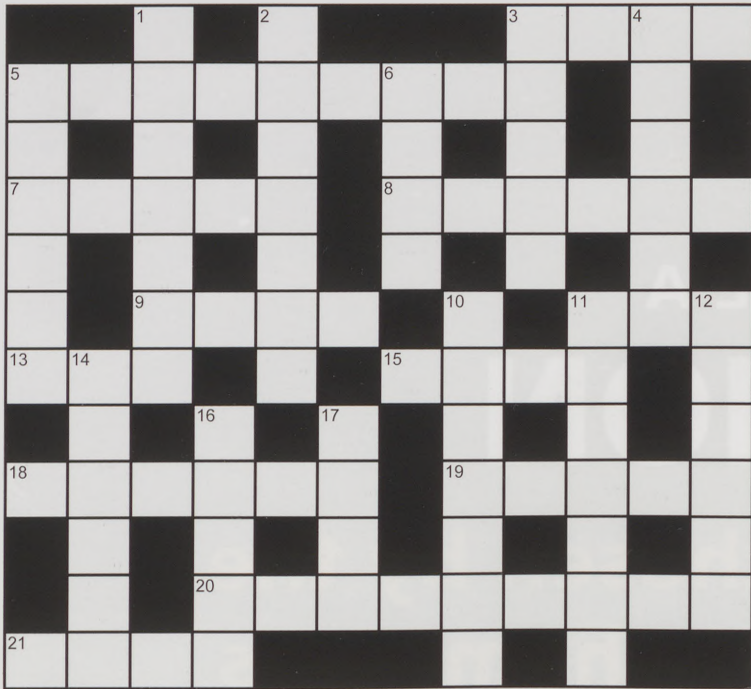


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CROSSWORD

- compiled by Jeannie Campbell



Across

3. Lt. Mackintosh, pictured last month (4)
5. Canal which the 4 down Highlanders will visit in June (2,7)
7. Bridge where the commandos are remembered (5)
8. Hill in More Music for the Highland Bagpipe (6)
9. The Bubbleman by Gordon Duncan (4)
11. ---the Other Dogs by Donald Morrison (3)
13. Brothers John and Kenneth, PMs of the Scots Guards (3)
15. Tam with a famous Lum (4)
18. Battle in Piob. Soc. Book 5 (6)
19. The --- and Drums of The Highlanders (4 Scots) were featured last month (5)

20. John, George and James were the ---- of the Duke of 4 down (5,4)

21. Ms Lyall in Neil Dickie's book (4)

Down

1. You can do this to a hard reed (7)
2. Archie whose competition was in March (7)
3. One of the MacLellans pictured last month (5)
4. Duke with a private army (6)
5. Lamented female relative (6)
6. For Ireland I'd not --- her name (4)
10. Big Donald who tutored at the Easter School ((7)
11. Lamented Laird in P Soc. Book 9 (7)
12. Lonach girls by R Meldrum (6)
14. Sequence of eight notes (6)
16. The Falklands are in this part of the Atlantic (5)
17. The Ale is this (4)

Test your piping knowledge with the *Piping Times* Crossword. Send completed puzzles to: *Piping Times*, 16-24 Otago Street, Glasgow G12 8JH, Scotland. The winner receives a £10 voucher. Online subscribers can download the grid on the PT Extra page: www.collegeofpiping.org. This month's crossword is sponsored by the College Shop.

Last month's solution: *Across* – MacDonald, Oban, Sanda, Don, Apps, Canmore, *Wedder*, Cannon, Emerald, Beat, Hut, Gavin, Nice, Ronaldsay. *Down* – Music, Conon, Of Aro, Andrew, Donald, Campbell, Academic, Nether, Newton, Elgol, Alves, Denny. The winner of the March crossword is Dr Roderick MacLeod of Portnalong, Isle of Skye.

PT NOTICEBOARD

Uist & Barra date

The Glasgow Uist & Barra Association's annual invitational solo piping competition will take place at the College on September 29. The invited pipers are: Alasdair Henderson, Craig Sutherland, Jamie Forrester, Sarah Muir, Angus MacColl, Faye Henderson, Peter McCallister, Ben Duncan, Calum Beaumont, Cameron Drummond, Finlay Johnston, Glenn Brown, Iain Speirs, Roddy MacLeod and Willie McCallum.

The event had been due to take place in March but was cancelled due to severe weather.

DONALD DRONE

(with apologies to Seoras)





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RESULTS

Contest secretaries and other organisers should note the *Piping Times* email address: **thepipingtimes@gmail.com**. Please forward all results and photographs (in a high resolution and in jpeg format) to this address. Please include date and place of contest, tunes played by the prizewinners in piobaireachd competitions, and a list of the judges. Light music tune names are also welcome. Editorial and comment on individual events and performances is also encouraged.

Scots Guards Knockout, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh, April 22

Winner – Jonathon Simpson.

Scottish Pipers' Association Annual Professional Solo Piping Competition, College of Piping, April 14

Ceòl Mòr – 1. Cameron MacDougall (*The Old Men of the Shells*); 2. Gordon McCready (*Battle of the Pass of Crieff*); 3. John Dew (*The Earl of Ross's March*); 4. Darach Urquhart (*The Big Spree*); 5. Steven Gray (*Lament for the Iolaire*).

Former Winners' MSR – 1. Gordon McCready; 2. Sarah Muir; 3. Allan Russell; 4. Steven Leask; 5. Ben Duncan.

March – 1. Gordon McCready; 2. Cameron MacDougall; 3. John Dew; 4. Dan Nevans; 5. Sandy Cameron.

Strathspey & Reel – 1. John Dew; 2. Dan Nevans; 3. Cameron MacDougall; 4. Ross Miller; 5. Stuart MacCallum.

6/8 March – Ashley McMichael.

Judges: Ian McLellan and Willie Morrison.

Overall – Gordon McCready.



The chanter and the pen
Ian R. Murray's contributions to the Piping Times and other journals

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Australian Pipe Band Championships, Brisbane, April 7

Grade 2

Medley – 1. Hawthorn City; 2. PipeBand Club; 3. Moorabbin City; 4. St. Andrew's.

Judges: Greg Wilson and Tom McGirr (piping); Reid Maxwell (drumming); Rob Bennett (ensemble).

MSR – 1. Hawthorn City; 2. PipeBand Club; 3. Moorabbin City; St. Andrew's.

Judges: Richard Hawke and Joe Joyce (piping); Callum MacSween (drumming); Emlyn Brown (ensemble).

Overall – 1. Hawthorn City; 2. Pipeband Club; 3. Moorabbin City.

Grade 3 – 1. New Zealand Foundation Youth Band; 2. Emmanuel College Highlanders; 3. Scotch College (Melbourne).

Grade 4 – 1. Knox Grammar No.1; 2. Brisbane Boys' College No.1; 3. Haileybury College.

Juvenile – 1. Scotch College (Melbourne); 2. New Zealand Foundation Youth Band; 3. Scots College (Sydney).

P-M Donald MacLeod, M.B.E. Memorial Competition, Caladh Hotel, Stornoway isle of Lewis, April 6

Ceòl Mòr – 1. Angus MacColl; 2. Finlay Johnston; 3. Iain Speirs; 4. Roddy MacLeod.

MSR – 1. Angus MacColl; 2. Niall Stewart; 3. Roddy MacLeod; 4. Craig Sutherland.

Hornpipe & Jig – 1. Craig Sutherland; 2. Niall Stewart; 3. Iain Speirs; 4. Glenn Brown.

Judges: Dr. Angus MacDonald, Iain MacFadyen and Willie Morrison.

New Zealand Open Piping Championship, Hastings, New Zealand, March 31-April 1

Ceòl Mòr

Gold Clasp – 1. Stuart Easton; 2. Brendon Eade; 3. George Mason.

Gold Medal – 1. Liam Kernaghan; 2. Anna Smart; 3. Sebastian George.

Silver Medal – 1. Campbell Wilson; 2. Lewis McDonald; 3. Stella Dobbs.

Premier Clasp Double MSR – 1. Liam Kernaghan; 2. Stuart Easton;

Books 1-9 and Book 16 of The Piobaireachd Society's collection can be downloaded from the College of Piping shop. The tunes contain links to recordings and sources on the Piobaireachd Society website. £9.99 per book. The 'Kilberry Book of Ceol Mor' can be downloaded at £19.99. Go to: <http://online.collegeofpiping.org> and select the 'Piobaireachd Society Digital Books' tab



3. Brendon Eade.

Open – 1. Brendon Eade; 2. Stuart Easton; 3. Marion Horsburgh.

2/4 March – 1. Marion Horsburgh; 2. Stuart Easton; 3. Brendon Eade.

Strathspey & Reel – 1. Stuart Easton; 2. Greg Wilson; 3. Brendon Eade.

Hornpipe & Jig – 1. Stuart Easton; 2. Liam Kernaghan; 3. Brendon Eade.

Judges: Iain Hines and Bain McGregor.

Toronto Indoor Games, Moss Park Armoury, Toronto, March 31

Bands

Grades 1 and 2

MSR – 1. Peel Regional Police; 2. Hamilton Police.

Judges: Bob Worrall, Ken Eller (piping); Greg Dinsdale (drumming); Michael Grey (ensemble);

Medley – 1. Peel Regional Police; 2. Hamilton Police.

Judges: Peter Sinclair and Michael Grey (piping); Greg Dinsdale (drumming); Bob Worrall (ensemble).

Grade 3 Medley – 1. Guelph; 2. Toronto Police (Grade 3)

Judges: Andrea Boyd and Michael Grey (piping); Greg Dinsdale (drumming); Bob Worrall (ensemble).

Grade 4 Medley – 1. 8 Wing; 2. Niagara Regional Police; Cambridge & District.

Grade 5 March Medley – 1. Peel Regional Police (Grade 5); 2. Guelph (Grade 5); 3. Paris Port Dover (Grade 5).

Judges: Andrea Boyd, Ken Eller (piping); Greg Dinsdale (drumming); Peter Sinclair (ensemble);

Slow Air and 6/8 March – 1. Niagara Regional Police; 2. Ryan Russell Memorial; 3. Niagara Regional Police.

Judges: Ken Eller and Peter Sinclair.

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Solo Piping

Ceòl Mòr

Professional – 1. James MacHattie; 2. Brad Davidson; 3. Andrew Hutton.

Judge: Jim McGillivray.

Senior Amateur – 1. Liam Melville; 2. Colin Johnstone; 3. Charles-David Mitchell.

Judge: Michael Grey.

Intermediate Amateur – 1. Matthew Parsons; 2. Alex Burlew; 3. Roy Huang.

Judge: John Cairns.

Junior Amateur – 1. Kris Bawden; 2. Alison Andrews; 3. Caleb John Macpherson.

Judge: Michael MacDonald.

Novice – 1. Alek Baker; 2. Sarah MacKinnon; 3. Jeremy Cameron Rostirolla.

Judge: Michael MacDonald

Ceòl Beag

Professional

MSR – 1. Ian K. MacDonald; 2. James MacHattie; 3. Sean McKeown.

Judge: Bob Worrall

Hornpipe & Jig – 1. Matt MacIsaac; 2. James MacHattie; 3. Sean McKeown.

Judge: Ken Eller.

Grade 1

MSR – 1. Mark McClellan; 2. Liam Melville; 3. Charles-David Mitchell.

Judge: Andrew Berthoff.

Grade 2

MSR – 1. Henry Michael Paluch; 2. Michael Malish; 3. Ben Elliot.

Judge: John Elliott.

Grade 3

March – 1. Victoria McRae; 2. Janet French; 3. Matthew Parsons.

Judge: Andrew Berthoff

Strathspey & Reel – 1. Matthew Parsons; 2. Roy Huang; 3. Victoria McRae.

Judge: Bob Worrall.

Grade 4

March – 1. Alexander MacDonald; 2. Dani Williams; 3. Caleb John MacPherson.

Judge: Trish Kirkwood.

Grade 5

March – 1. Hayden Sauer; 2. John Douglas Beattie; 3. Matthew Greco.
Judge: John Elliott.

Novice Practice Chanter – 1. Connor Ellwood; 2. Isla Marcella; 3. Declan Fox-Ivey.
Judge: Trish Kirkwood.

PT DIARY

TUITION

Term 2 – (Spring) commenced on Saturday, April 21. It's not too late to enrol. The term lasts until Saturday, June 23rd. Classes run on Saturday mornings and on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Call 0141 334 3587 or go online to: www.collegeofpiping.org and select the Tuition/Schools tab.

Term 3 – (Autumn) runs from September 15 until December 15 (with a mid-term break on October 13-20.

Each Tuesday at 7.00pm – Bellows/Smallpipes class, in association with the Lowland & Border Pipers' Society.

Summer Schools – Six weeks of intensive piping and drumming instruction at a time to suit you. From July 2.

June 15-22 – the College of Piping's 47th California Summer School, Army and Navy Academy of Carlsbad, California. Call 0141 334 3587 or go online to: www.collegeofpiping.org and select the Tuition/Schools tab.

June 17-22nd – National Piping Centre Virginia Piping School, Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA, USA. Call 0141 353 0220 or go online to: www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/learn/overseas/virginia

July 9-12 – NPC Young Stars Summer School. For young players (aged 16 and under). Call 0141 353 0220 or go online to: www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/learn/seasonal-schools/young-stars

July 24-27 – NPC Adult Summer Gathering for players aged 17+. The National Piping Centre, 30-34 McPhater Street Glasgow. Call 0141 353 0220 or go to www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/learn/seasonal-schools/npc-gatherings

College tuition in Edinburgh on Monday evenings, 7.00pm-9.00pm. The RSPS Rooms, Rose Street. Contact Dugald MacNeill at college@collegeofpiping.org

For more information and bookings on all College tuition, visit www.collegeofpiping.org and click on Tuition/Schools or call 0141 334 3587.

EVENTS

May 4-6 – The Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival, Oban. www.obanfestival.org

July 19-21 – The National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland Inverness Summer Camp, Millburn Academy, Diriebught Road, Inverness, IV2 3QR. Call 0141 353 0220 or go online to: www.thepipingcentre.co.uk

July 30-August 3 – Isle of Skye Piping School, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Sleat, Skye. www.smo.uki.ac.uk

August 13-19 – Piping Live! Glasgow International Piping Festival. www.piplinglive.co.uk

August 26 – The Captain John A. MacLellan MBE Memorial Trust Dinner, Waldorf Astoria, Edinburgh. Contact Colin MacLellan at colin@pipereeds.com

Every other Tuesday – Eagle Pipers Society, 7.30pm at the Scots Guards Club, Clifton Terrace, Edinburgh: www.eaglepipers.wordpress.com

Every other Wednesday – Highland Pipers' Society at the Scottish Arts Club, 24 Rutland Square, Edinburgh – contact bob@boblawson.co.uk



Summer Schools

2nd July – 6th July • 9th July – 13th July

16th July – 20th July • 23rd July – 27th July

30th July – 3rd August • 6th August – 10th August



Cost: £110.00. To book please call 0141 334 3587
or visit: online.collegeofpiping.org/tuition

First Friday of each month – SPA Club Nights at the College of Piping.

RSPBA MAJOR PIPE BAND COMPETITIONS

May 19 – British Championships. Venue: St James Playing Field, Paisley, Scotland.

June 16 – United Kingdom Championships. Venue: Stormont, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

June 30 – European Championships. Venue: Grant Park, Forres, Scotland.

July 28 – Scottish Championships. Venue – Levensgrove Park, Dumbarton, Scotland.

August 17-18 – World Pipe Band Championships. Venue: Glasgow Green, Glasgow, Scotland

USA / CANADA

May 5 – Ogden Legion Indoor Competition, Bowness High School, Calgary.

May 19 – Fair Hill Scottish Games, Fair Hill Race Track, Elkton, Maryland.
<http://fairhillscottishgames.org>

May 19-20 – Smoky Mountain Scottish Festival & Games, Maryville College, Maryville, Tennessee.

May 19-20 – Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival, Topaz Park, City of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

June 16 – United States Piping Foundation Competition, University of Delaware, Newark, DE. www.uspipingfoundation.org

EUROPE

First Wednesday of each month – Pipers Club of Copenhagen. Contact: fear-an-tigh@c.dk or +452075 3306.

Every Friday at 11.00am, the Costa Blanca Pipers meet in the Casa Cultura in Finestrat Village near Benidorm. Pipers and drummers of all levels would be most welcome: email drewthepiper@yahoo.co.uk or call 003467 6993716.

AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND

May 3-6 – Australian Celtic Festival, Glen Innes, New England High Country, NSW, Australia. www.australiantcelticfestival.com

May 12 – Scots PGC Warwick Band and Solo Contest, Scots PGC College Warwick.

May 19 – Sunshine Coast Pipe Band Contest, Nambour Yandina United Football Club, 6 North Street, Yandina.

First Thursday of each month – The NSW Pipers' Society. Contact: Adam Wishart – 0409 1 58 237 or adamwishart@live.com.au

Piping Society in Perth, Western Australia, meets monthly. Contact the Secretary, Aiton Sheppard on +61 417 097 687 or email shepap@bigpond.com

The Smallpipers Group – on the first Tuesday of the month at Milton, Queensland. Contact Malcolm McLaren for meeting details at: mrmclaren@bigpond.com or 3820 2902.

SOUTH AFRICA

May 12 – Jeppe Gathering.

May 26 De La Salle Gathering.

June 9 – Cornwall Hill Gathering.

June 20 – Pretoria Boys Gathering (Championship).

June 30 – Natal Scottish Gathering

July 14 – St Benedict's Gathering (Regional Final)

July 28 – Benoni Gathering (Championship and Championship Final)

BELLOWS / FOLK

Monthly group meeting, NW England. Contact Richard and Anita Evans on 016974 73799

Monthly group meeting in London on the third Thursday each month except July and August. Contact Jock Agnew on 01621 855447

RADIO

BBC's 'Pipeline' is on FM 92.4/97.7MHz; MW 810 (Dumfries 585) and on Radio nan Gaidheal FM 103.5-105 at 9.05pm on Saturdays and repeated at 7.05pm on Sundays. Also on Radio nan Gaidheal 'Crunluath' with Catriona MacNeill at 4.00pm on Thursdays with repeats at 10.30pm on Thursdays.

Piping Times

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