



Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

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**June
2000**

**June Meeting
Monday 26th**

Souths Leagues Club, Jane Street, West End

7.45 pm

**That meeting will be a
Hornpipe & Jig contest**

The contest will be held with a junior and senior division if numbers are sufficient – otherwise it will be a combined contest

Prizes: 1st \$30, 2nd, \$20, 3rd \$10.

Entries to the Secretary by 14 June would be appreciated (phone 07 3397 4512 A/H)

From the Editor:

The format of this month's newsletter is a bit "compressed" and a few things are left out. The Society's photocopier is not working at the moment as so we have tried to reduce the size a bit to cut down on photocopying charges. We should be back to normal next month.

Thanks very much to Bob Payne for doing the May newsletter and for writing so much of this one as well! It sounds as though it was a great Patron's Trophy night. This month we have a Hornpipe and Jig contest, so here's hoping we get good support again – and don't forget the Jimmy Durham trophy for July – 2/4 March for junior players.

Alex McConnell

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

MAY 2000 MEETING

Patron's Trophy

No meeting was held last month because Easter was late this year and Anzac day immediately followed Easter Monday, the day of our scheduled meeting. Most of our members were returning from their Easter activities, The Australian Pipe Band Championships in Adelaide, Maclean's 96th Highland Gathering, the Highland Dancing Championships in Brisbane, or whatever. Many pipers were also on duty for Anzac day.

The weekend of 19/20/21 May has been a splendid one for the solo piping enthusiast with the Pipers Retreat at Tenterfield and the A.O.M. competitions in Brisbane providing a feast of entertainment. It seems a pity that such events are programmed simultaneously so that competitors and supporters are divided in that they have to choose one from the other.

The first and second placegetters in the A.O.M., Stewart McKenzie, and Martin Frewen are from New Zealand, with Darin Cook from Queensland in third place. All will travel to Lorient in August for the Festival Interceltique De Lorient.

Some 32 members and supporters gathered on a warm Brisbane autumn evening for the annual Patron's Trophy competition; the March, Strathspey, and Reel for senior (Open & Intermediate) players. We had four contestants, two of whom played in the A.O.M. competition the previous day. Our judge for the evening was Donald Galloway.

The New Zealand contestants in the A.O.M. stayed at the home of Alan and Jan Hancox. Stewart McKenzie had already returned to his home in New Zealand.

As Martin Frewen was still here the Hancoxs invited him to accompany them to our meeting. (for which we are most appreciative). He competed in the Patron's Trophy competition and won it.

The first to play was Martin Frewen

His tunes were:- Mrs. John McColl
Shepherd's Crook
The Grey Bob.

Second to play was Mark McKenzie

His tunes were:- Jenny Carruthers
Cameronian Rant
Mrs Macpherson of Inveran

Third to play was Phillip Cowan

His tunes were:- Pap of Glencoe
Captain Duncan Macgregor
The Sheep Wife.

Our final contestant was Cael Wright

His tunes were:- John Macmillan of Assynt House
Arniston Castle

Alex. C. Macgregor.

While the judge deliberated, our Patron, Maurie de Hayr, took the floor to express our thanks to Ron Fleming. Our previous Patron Arch. Galloway, in 1982, presented a trophy for this competition to be retained for one year by the winner. It was housed in a cardboard box which he insisted always be used to protect it from damage. This evening Ron brought the trophy to us in an attractive wooden case he had especially made to be its permanent home.

As our Patron, Maurie, presented the prizes to the winners, as follows:

- 1 .Martin Frewen
- 2.Phillip Cowan
- 3 .Mark McKenzie

Since he is returning to New Zealand Martin asked Donald Galloway if he would be custodian of the trophy, on his behalf, for the year ahead. Maurie de Hayr will have a miniature of the trophy made and forward it to Martin in Dunedin. N.Z.

As the winner Martin was prevailed upon to play a few tunes for us. These are the tunes he played: ***Braes of Castle Grant, Mrs. MacDougall, Athole Cummers, Shepherd's Crook, Caledonian Society of London, Little Cascade, Smith of Chilliechassie, Worth the Wait, Lucy Cassidy, Alan MacPherson of Mossspark, Donella Beaton, Glasgow City Police Pipers***

Cael Wright then took to the boards with the following tunes: ***Southhall, Maggie Cameron, Sandy Cameron, Jimmy Blue, Banjo Breakdown, Bonny Ann, High Level.***

Finally Phillip Cowan played quite a musical selection. including Dark Island. I am sorry but I forgot to get his other selections.

The Raffle won drawn and won by David Sinclair.

Bob Payne thanked all those who had contributed to making it a pleasant evening, advised them our next meeting is the Hornpipe & Jig contest, and invited everyone to partake of supper.

Following are comments supplied by our judge, Donald Galloway, on the contest performances

The Patron's Trophy Competition

It was with a feeling of anticipation that I attended the May meeting of the Highland Pipers' Society to judge the annual Patron's Trophy Competition. Four performers were on hand to compete and all present were eager to hear the players present their march, strathspey and reel selections.

First to play was Mark McKenzie who entertained us with his usual first class performance on a nicely balanced although fairly robust sounding bagpipe. Mark demonstrated his fingering skills by playing the tunes Jeannie Carruthers, Cameronian Rant and Mrs Macpherson of Inveran. Unfortunately Mark's otherwise excellent performance was marred by a slight choke in the reel.

Next to play was Martin Frewen a young piper from across the Tasman who was visiting Brisbane for the AOM Trophy competition. Martin's bagpipe, like Mark's was nicely balanced and well tuned although perhaps not sounding quite so robust. Martin's tunes were Mrs John McColl, The Shepherds Crook and the Grey Bob which he executed in fine style and with a steady tempo.

Martin was followed by one of our own young local exponents of fine playing, Phillip Cowan. Phillip's tunes were Pap of Glencoe, Captain Duncan Macgregor and the Sheep Wife played on a relatively sweet sounding instrument. Phillip's performance was also of a very high standard indeed, my only criticism being a little inconsistency in phrasing in the march and a slight variation in tempo in the strathspey.

The final performer for the night was Cael Wright. It is some years since I heard Cael play and he has certainly progressed his piping skills. Cael's tunes were John Macmillan of Assynt House, Arniston Castle and Alex C Macgregor. Unfortunately, Cael's bagpipe had not settled before he commenced his performance and therefore was a wee bit out of tune which detracted a little from his otherwise very creditable performance.

After Cael had completed his performance, it was time to check the points and determine the placings. Needless to say it was a very close competition and the final results were:

Martin 1st Phillip 2nd Mark 3rd and Cael 4th

I would like to conclude by saying how much I enjoyed judging the Patron's Trophy competition for this year. The standard of playing which I had the pleasure of judging, speaks well for the future of solo piping not only in this country, but also for our New Zealand neighbours. I think this is particularly so when you consider the Patron's Trophy competition is for "senior" players of intermediate and open standard, both grades being represented on the night.

Donald Galloway

QHPS Program for 2000

26 June	Hornpipe & Jig Contest	25 September	Pair of Pipers Contest
24 July	Jimmy Durham Trophy (2/4 March for junior members)	23 October	Pipers' Night
28 August	Annual Meeting and 6/8 contest	27 November	Veterans' Contest (Medley 3-5 minutes)

What's On

JUNE	24	Bannockburn Dinner – Irish Club - \$50 a head – organised by the Clan Campbell and Clan Donald Societies – Contact Trevor Campbell 07 3359 6662
	27	Society Meeting – Hornpipe & Jig Contest
JULY	1	Maclean – Tartan Day Mini Band Contest (Grade 4) – Cameron Park – contact Bob McPherson 02 6645 2887
		Brisbane – Celebration in King George Square and Ithaca Room (City Hall)
	21	Society of St Andrew of Scotlan Ball – Convention Centre - \$97 per person. Enquiries John Simpson 3379 7327 or Graham McLeod 3300 6714
	25	Society Meeting – Jummy Durham Trophy
AUGUST	22	Society Meeting – Annual Meeting & 6/8 contest
SEPTEMBER	2-3	Newcastla Mattara Bands and Solos – Arthur Matthews 02 4943 6580
	9	Wynnum Highland Gathering- Bands and Solos – Contact Glenys O'Malley 07 3822 6563
	26	Society Meeting – Pair of Pipers Contest
	30	Queensland Pipe Band and Solo Championships – Limestone Park, Lion Street, Ipswich. Contact Liz McGhee (Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band – 07 3281 5408

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

**Scottish Radio
Programs**

SBS Radio – Brisbane FM 93.3 – Thursday nights 10-11pm
4EB - AM 1053 – Thursday afternoons 3-4pm

NEXT MEETING (JULY)

Jimmy Durham Memorial contest – 2/4 March for junior players (Elementary & Sub-Inter)

Prizes: 1st \$50 and Trophy, 2nd, \$25, 3rd \$20.

Entries to the Secretary by 22 July would be appreciated (phone **07 3397 4512**)

The Pipers Retreat Tenterfield 19/20 May 00

Piping has many facets, from the very formal rituals of top grade competition to the sheer fun and jollity to be found at events such as the Pipers retreat at Tenterfield. Immediately upon arrival I was made welcome by members of the McCabe family. Anyone not a local already had their ski parkas on. The warmth of the bar wherein we gathered belied the biting cold outside. Andrew McCabe blew up his pipes and the show was on! As usual, Friday evening was an informal ceilidh where one met old friends and made new ones. The publican was doing a roaring trade; food was available at all hours. This is a non competition weekend where one participates purely for enjoyment. Over the ever increasing buzz of conversation and laughter occasional shouts requesting silence were heard as Bill Sharp, Bill Smail, or Hugh Maclean tried to entertain us with a song. Someone struck up a button accordion accompanied by a mouth organ. What's that? A young man with the chanter and bag of a Uilleann pipe. Some semblance of silence was attained while he played. More piping, Andrew with his guitar accompanied by accordion and mouth organ led the community singing late into the night.

After an early morning walk we gathered in the hotel for a morning session on Piobaireachd. Alastair McInnes, who had arrived early, warmed up his pipes with a few tunes. The following is a list of tunes played.:-

Alastair McInnes ----McDougal's Gathering

Fraser Bolton-----Glengarry's Gathering

Alastair McInnes ----Lament for Lachie McCabe

Andrew McCabe----Dargai

Jacqui Sheehan ----Duncan Macrae of Kintail's Lament

Phil. Knight-----Salute to Donald---As a tribute to Lachlan.

Angus McKinnon ---In praise of Mary (Moladh Maire)

Played in Alan McDonald style.

Frank Baillie-----Clan Chattan's Gathering

(MacPherson, Mackintosh, Parkinson clans amalgamated for protection).

Roy Gunn (ex.N.Z.) His Father's Lament for Donald Roy Mackenzie.

Alastair McInnes----The Unjust Incarceration.

"China"-----Struan Robertson's Salute

All players came well prepared and their efforts were enjoyed by all present.

The afternoon comprised light music. Joe Joyce, in good form, started us off with a bright medley followed by Darryl Thompson, Bill Sharp sang a song, Hugh Maclean gave us the ground to Mackintosh's Lament, Jean McCabe bid us all adjourn for afternoon tea to a feast of home made food, cakes, and sandwiches. Some also drank tea or coffee. On resumption Roy Gunn played a medley, two small girls as a pair played "Highland Cathedral", Angus McKinnon, Fraser Bolton, Jacqui Sheehan and Joe Joyce followed in turn. Joe's hornpipes and jigs were played with "conventional fingering" for the benefit of Charlie McInnes.

Jean McCabe had 5 medallions which she presented to the youngest of our players as a memento of the weekend. She had also unearthed a beautiful silver trophy engraved (George & Millie Reid Memorial trophy - Piobaireachd) from the days of the Pipers Rest. The names engraved on the cup were;-Lachlan McCabe, Captain Doug Thoresen, Alan Dodd, Mark McKenzie, Viv Riley. This she presented to Phil Knight as the oldest Piobaireachd player present to keep for one year.

More drinking, more chatter, more food, more laughter - pipers playing singly, in pairs, in fours, Hugh Maclean took over as MC. A blonde lass, accompanying herself on the guitar, sang; Joe, standing on a chair, played at a frantic pace for "strip the willow", Jock (who was 67 on the day) aided by Hugh and May sang "Keep right on to the end of the road", and four young ladies performed two Highland dances. A great fun night which stopped for me when I retired about 2300hours..

Hand knitted "Piper's socks", at bargain prices, and raffles raised \$550 to be given to the Blue Nurses at Warwick in gratitude for their kindness to Lachlan.

Our thanks once more to the "Tenterfield Highlanders" for their contribution to both our enjoyment ,and solo piping.

CONTEST RESULTS

South Burnett Competition May 13th**PIPING****Learner Chanter**

1. Vaughn Parker
2. Peter McDiarmid
3. Andrew Simmons

Elementary 2/4 March

1. Cory Dale
2. Alisdair McDiarmid
3. Stephen Taylor

Elementary Slow Air

1. Alisdair McDiarmid
2. Cory Dale
3. C.H.G. Anderson

Sub-Intermediate MSR

1. Matthew Supranowicz
2. Cory Dale
3. Kerry Tuttle

Sub-Intermediate Air

1. Cory Dale
2. Kerry Tuttle
3. Stephen Taylor

Intermediate MSR

1. Lea Ahokava

Intermediate Hornpipe/Jig

1. Lea Ahokava

BANDS**Grade 4 Mini****March**

1. Qld Police Juvenile 'B'
2. Sunshine Coast No 2
3. Rockhampton 'A'

Musical Selection

1. Qld Police Juvenile 'B'
2. Rockhampton 'A'
3. City Of Brisbane

Overall Grade 4 Mini

1. Qld Police Juvenile 'B'
2. Rockhampton 'A'
3. Red Hackle

Wide Bay-Capricorn Trophy Grade 4

Rockhampton 'A'

Paul Rainbird Memorial Shield for Highest Piping Points Grade 4 limited to Wide Bay-Capricorn Area

Rockhampton 'A'

Duncan Page Memorial Trophy for Highest Drumming Points Grade 4

Qld Police Juvenile 'B'

European Pipe Band Championships – AYR - 20TH MAY**Grade 1**

1. FIELD MARSHAL MONTGOMERY
2. SCOTTISH POWER
3. SHOTTS & DYKEHEAD CALEDONIA
4. STRATHCLYDE POLICE
5. BOGHALL & BATHGATE CALEDONIA
6. DAVID URQUART TRAVEL PIPES & DRUMS

Grade 2

1. RAVARA
2. BLEARY & DISTRICT
3. LOTHIAN & BORDERS POLICE
4. BUCKSBURN & DISTRICT
5. GRAMPIAN POLICE
6. DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY CONSTABULARY

Dr. Dan Reid Memorial, San Francisco, California, USA May 13, 2000**Masters' Piobaireachd**

1. Bill Livingstone
2. Willie McCallum
3. Roddy MacLeod

Masters' MSR

1. Willie McCallum
2. Jack Lee
3. Roddy MacLeod

Masters' Jig & Hornpipe

1. Jack Lee
2. Willie McCallum
3. Bill Livingstone

Cameron-Gillies Piobaireachd

1. Michael Rogers
2. Jenny Hazzard
3. Hector MacDonald

Cameron-Gillies MSR

1. Michael Rogers
2. Hector MacDonald
3. Jenny Hazzard

Judges for all events were Ronald Lawrie, Oban, Scotland; Major AM Cairns, London, Ontario; and Angus J. MacLellan, Glasgow, Scotland.

Highland and Islands Invitational Piobaireachd, May 6th, 2000 - Oban, Argyll

1. Willie McCallum, "My King Has Landed in Moidart"
2. Stuart Shedden, Glasgow, "Sobieski's Salute"

3. Greg Wilson, Falkirk, "The King's Taxes"
4. Colin MacLellan, Glasgow, "Lament for the Earl of Antrim"

Ipswich Solo Piping Championships - More details about this in a later newsletter, but the committee have decided to have a contest in memory of the late Roddy MacSween, a long time stalwart of the Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band and of Pipe Bands in Queensland in general. The contest will be open to all grades and all competitors will play a tune specially written for the contest. Liz McGhee has asked us to publish the tune now so all prospective entrants can start learning it, so here it is:

RODDY MacSWEEN

Air

Composed by Tom Watson