



Queensland
Highland
Pipers' Society

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February

2001

**February Meeting
Monday 26th**

**At our NEW
VENUE**

(see Page 2 for instructions in getting there)

**Balmoral Bowls Club,
Jean Howie Drive,
Morningside**

At 7.45 pm

**The meeting will be a "Pipers'
Night", so bring along your pipes
and have a tune.**

From the Editor:

As members will see, we have secured a new venue for this year. The Balmoral Bowls Club is already the home of the Balmoral Scottish Community, whose functions we have often advertised. The President of the club, Don McDonald, has made us feel most welcome and the facilities are well suited to our needs. The venue is fairly central, perhaps just a little less so than Souths. The bar will be open during meetings and we have use of their kitchen facilities, so the meeting arrangements are a little better than we have been used to lately.

Your committee has sketched out a plan for the year as detailed inside the newsletter, but much of it is still open for detailed discussion so come along next Monday and make your suggestions, as well as listening to the piping.

Alex McConnell

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Price 60 Cents

HOW TO GET TO THE BALMORAL BOWLS CLUB

For those who like to work out their own directions the UBD Reference is Map 160, Reference Q12 (see below).

From the Gateway Arterial--turn north at the Lytton Road intersection (just south of the bridge), travel along Route 24 and the Route 23 (Wynnum Road) till you see the Colmslie RSL on your left. Turn in as if going to the RSL but go right through their carpark and continue along Jean Howie Drive for about 350 metres. Turn left into the Bowls Club car park.

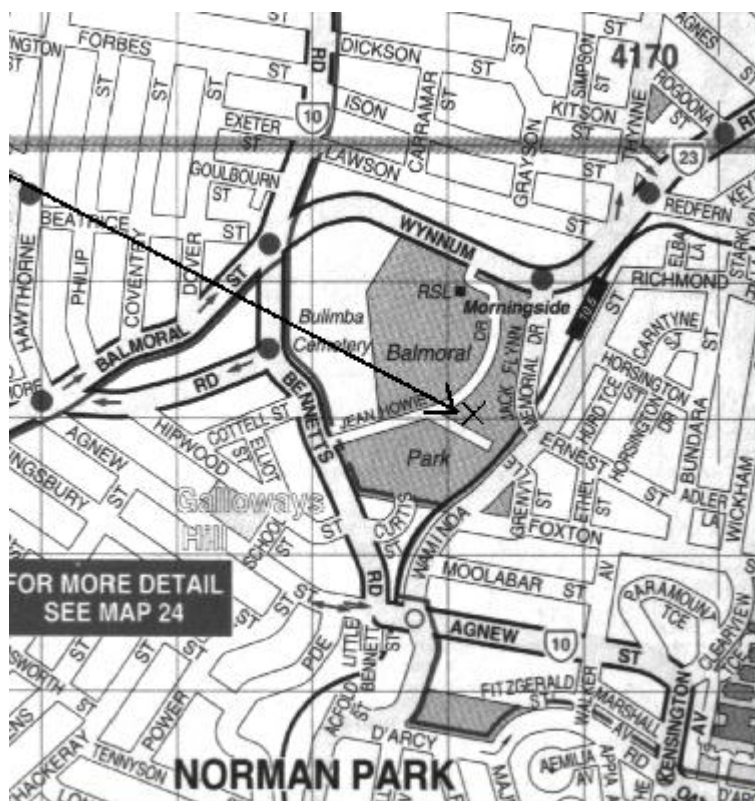
From the City--go across the Story Bridge, left into Shafston Avenue, then into Lytton Road and Wynnum Road (Route 23). Go along Wynnum Road until you see the Colmslie RSL on your right. Turn in as if going to the RSL but go right through their carpark and continue along Jean Howie Drive for about 350 metres. Turn left into the Bowls Club car park.

From the west (old Cleveland Road--Turn into Bennetts Road. Continue along Bennetts Road, across the railway line and a park will appear on your right. Jean Howie Drive goes through the park (the entrance to the drive is near the boundary of the Bulimba Cemetery). Go about 350 metres along the Drive and turn right into the Bowls Club car park.

BALMORAL BOWLS CLUB

Pipes for Sale

Henderson Drones
Ivory & Imitation Ivory
Mounts
Ross Bag
Aluminium Pipe Case
Eezedrone Drone
Reeds (with spares)
Warmac Chanter
Bag Cover, Cords
\$1,600
Contact James Kelso
07 4928 9708



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.

NOVEMBER 2001 MEETING

Our November Meeting gathered together 46 members and supporters, a good final effort for the year--all obviously keen to see how the "old stager" would perform in the Veterans' Contest.

We had some apologies. Doug Thoresen and Hattie were away on a holiday and Bob Payne stepped ably into the breach to chair the meeting. Roy Gunn had also apologised, along with Doug Watkins who had suffered the tragic loss of his son a few days before. Our sympathy is extended to him and his family.

Your scribe had the unenviable task of judging the ten competitors. A quick estimate gives a figure of about 400 years piping experience in that sized field of veterans!

First to play was Jack McCandlish, His tunes included *The Pipers' Cave, Greenwood Side, Walk Around Hornpipe, Leaving Lismore, Molly Connel, Sleepy Maggie, Jack's Welcome Back and a Jig*. Jack showed good firm fingering and phrasing. His bagpipe was going well and was consistently blown throughout. The Air and the Strathspey and Reel were particularly musical.

Next was Jock Stewart, who must have set some record for gaps between performances at the Society meetings--he last played 25 years ago! Jock had an interesting set of tunes including the Air *Gavin Stewart*, a Gaelic Lullaby, *The Victoria Police Pipe Band Quickstep*, and *Millbank Cottage*. There were a couple of others whose names I can't decipher. Jock's drones were a little off from the start but they improved throughout his performance. He was also playing quite a low pitched chanter which was quite nice apart from a low inclined to squeak occasionally. Jock had a little less control throughout than Jack with tempos a little variable at times, but it was good to hear him after such a long absence.

The next competitor was Beatty Thornton, playing her usual big sounding bagpipe and impeccable turned out as usual. Her tunes included *Shoals of Herring, Captain Horne, Country Girl and the Hungarian Fiddler, Green Glens of Antrim, Enniskillen, Geordie's Waltz* and *Leaving Port Askaig*. Her playing was very musical as usual with good strong execution but there were a few variations in blowing, including a few wee chokes.

Bill Sharp was next with an interesting set of tunes, many with a Brisbane theme. They were *Barefoot in Brisbane, Innes Barker's Dance, Big Billy in the Bog, Samantha's Lullaby, Peter O'Neill's Birthday* and *One Hump or Two*. He had a firmly blown and well balanced bagpipe with good execution and phrasing throughout. The juxtaposition of time signatures and tempos in his selection was particularly noticeable.

Maurie De Hayr had a good solid set of tunes-- *Farewell to the Creeks, Haughs of Cromdale, W C Balfour-Campbell, Death of a Chief, Molly Connell, Itchy Fingers* and *The Duck*. His bagpipe was a bit lighter than the previous two competitors but generally well blown--it improved during his performance apart from a momentarily double toning drone toward the end. His execution and phrasing were good and demonstrated well the music present in some of the "old" tunes.

Next to play was Laurel Foo, with *Haughs of Cromdale* and *Rab's Wedding*. She had an even-sounding bagpipe with just a couple of suspect notes on the top hand. She handled the tunes quite well at a steady tempo but her blowing was just a little unsteady in the latter stages.

Laurel was followed by Jim Muir, playing *Donald Maclean of Lewis, Orange and Blue, Forest Lodge, Fair Maid of Barra* and *Jimmy Findlater*. Jim showed some good fingering and blowing, although there were a few irregularities in the latter. He played at a steady tempo with good expression shown in the 6/8. The final 4/4 was very musical.

And still they came! --next was Jim Stevenson, whose tunes included *Sunset, Crossing the River*

Po, Theme of Glory and Jimmy Blue. His drones were a bit out from the start and he played a bit too carefully some of the time but he showed he wasn't afraid to join the fray.

Next we heard from Iain Bruce, who once again dipped into his repertoire to give us some excellent tunes, some of which were little known. The tunes were *Lewis Turrell's 3/4, Norman Edmond* (a 4/4) a nameless 6/8, an air called *The Cairn on the Hill, The Caledonian Canal, Major Manson, Itchy Fingers* and the jig *David Ross*. His pipe was fairly light but "grew" during the selection. This was an excellent performance in both the execution and musical departments.

Finally we heard from Bob Payne who played *The White Swan, Waters of Kylesku, Meeting of the Waters, Kilworth Hills* and *Fair Maid of Barra*. Bob continues to show a good improvement each time we hear him. He had a bit of a problem with the top hand and an occasionally squeaky low A but by sticking to steady and melodious tunes gave us an enjoyable performance.

As with all competition, there has to be a result and the final placings were:

1. Iain Bruce
2. Bill Sharpe
3. Maurie DeHayr

As we had filled the whole evening with competition all that remained was to draw the raffle and retire for supper.

What's On

F E B	27	First Society Meeting for 2001
M A R	18	Geelong Highland Gathering—Contact 03 5243 4276
	25	Ringwood Highland Games, Victoria—Contact 03 9876 4140
	26	Society Meeting
A P R	7	Bundanoon Highland Gathering—NSW Southern Highlands
	11	Simon Fraser University Pipe Band Concert—Sydney Opera House—Contact Ticketek
	13, 14	Macleod Highland Gathering—see separate notice
	14, 15	Australian Pipe Band Championships—Ringwood, Victoria. Contact Glenys 07 3822 6563
	23	Society Meeting

The NSW Pipers' Society meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6 Holterman Street, Crows Nest. Contact Ron Clement - 02 9948 1914

The WA Pipers' Society meets on the 3rd Saturday at the Autumn Centre, Inglewood. Contact John McMurchie - 08 9401 9587

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

1893 -2001
Presents the
97th MACLEAN HIGHLAND
GATHERING

EASTER WEEKEND
APRIL 13th - 14th 2001

Friday Afternoon - Cameron Park
Saturday- Maclean Showground
ADMISSION

- Adults \$6.00
- Pensioners \$4.00
- School Students \$3.00

Scottish Concert

Easter Saturday Night
8.00 pm - Civic Hall
POPULAR SCOTTISH
ENTERTAINMENT

- Guest Piper
- Highland Dancing
- Special Displays
- Guest Vocalist
- Special Band Display

Limited Seating - Book Early - Tickets Adults \$10 each
School Students \$5 each
Money plus stamped addressed envelope to accompany booking -
Marked attention Contest Secretary

CHIEF--Peter Smith
23A Roderick Street
Maclean 2463
(02) 6645 2517
SECRETARY-Bob MacPherson
7 Sunart Lane
Maclean 2463
02 6645 2887 A/H
TREASURER- John McPhee
South Bank Road
Palmer's Channel 2460
02 6646 0121

GOOD FRIDAY 13th APRIL
Cameron Park Afternoon
- Elementary Piping & Drumming
- Chanter Learner
- Drum Learner
CWA Hall
-Open Piping Piobaireachd

Night
R.S.L Hall

- Open Piping MSR
- Hornpipe/Jig

Shopping Centre

- Civic Welcome
- Bands
- Scottish Entertainment

**EASTER SATURDAY 14th APRIL
Shopping Centre 8.30 am**

- Street March Bands on Parade Contests
- Hugh Donald Anderson Band Sign
- Chief Colin Gregor Memorial Street March

**Showground
9.00 am**

- Highland Dancing Competition
10.00 am
- Solo Piping/Drumming Contest
10.00 am
- Band Contest
- Chief Colin Gregor Memorial Dress/Drill Contest
- Drum Major Solo Contest
- Highland Sports
12.30 pm
- Official Opening Scottish Stalls
- Childrens Fun Rides
4.45 pm - Massed Band Display

SOLO PIPING

MACLEAN GOLD MEDAL PIPING CONTEST

James McSwan Gold Medal (Solid 9 ct gold) Sponsored by the James MacSwan Estate.
Points 5-3-1 events 1 to 4.

Event No. 1 OPEN PIOBAIREACHD (J.K. McKinnon Memorial Trophy) Competitors to nominate 3 tunes to the Judge. Sponsored by the Family of the late Mrs. May Blanch
1st \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$30. Entry fee \$5.

Event No. 2 OPEN MARCH/STRATHSPEY/REEL

Competitors to nominate 3 sets of tunes to the Judge, each of (4) parts minimum.

Special NSW Centenary of Federation Trophy, plus cash Sponsored by Norman Finlayson MacSwan

1st. \$50, 2nd \$30, 3rd \$20. Entry fee \$5.

Event No. 3 OPEN HORNPIPE/JIG Competitors to nominate 3 sets of tunes to the Judge each of (4) parts minimum. Sponsored by Ruby Davis {Nee Macleay}
1st. Trophy & \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$25. Entry fee \$5.

Event No. 4 OPEN AIR (Ewen McInnes Memorial). Saturday Contest Sponsored by Charles McInnes & family

1st Trophy & \$50, 2nd \$30, 3rd \$20. Entry fee \$5.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Event No. 5 RESTRICTED PIOBAIREACHD (Dr. H.W. Charlton Memorial) Sponsored by David & Bill Charlton.

1st Sgian Dubh and Certificate plus cash \$25, 2nd \$15 and Certificate., 3rd \$10 and Certificate.
Entry fee \$2.

Event No. 6 DONALD MACSWAN MEMORIAL {Open to all grades}

Tune "Mrs MacSwan" correct music on application stamp address envelope to the Secretary.
1st \$50, 2nd \$25, 3rd \$15. Entry fee \$2.

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPION PIPER

Alastair MacSween Memorial Trophy plus \$30.

Event No. 7 MARCH/STRATHSPEY/REEL (Charlie McKinnon Memorial Trophy) Sponsored by the McKinnon Family-- Tunes each of (4) parts minimum.

1st. \$20, 2nd \$15, 3rd \$10.

Entry fee \$2.

Event No. 8 HORNPIPE/JIG (John Wallace Memorial Trophy)
Sponsored by the Wallace Family. Tunes each of (4) parts minimum.
1st. \$20, 2nd \$15, 3rd \$10
Entry fee \$2.

SUB-INTERMEDIATE CHAMPION PIPER

Mary Catherine MacKenzie MacPherson Memorial Trophy plus \$25. Sponsored by the Estate of Mary MacPherson,

Event No. 9 MARCH/STRATHSPEY/REEL (Alex Wallace Memorial Trophy) Sponsored by the family of Alex & Mary Wallace. Tunes March of four (4) parts into Strathspey/Reel each two (2) parts minimum.
1st \$15, 2nd \$10, 3rd \$5. Entry fee \$2.

ELEMENTARY CHAMPION PIPER (Fred Douglas Memorial Trophy) Plus Cash. Sponsored by the Douglas family.

Event No. 11 MARCH 2/4 (Maggie Wallace Memorial Trophy) Sponsored by the Wallace family. Tunes (4) parts minimum.

1st \$15, 2nd \$10, 3rd \$5. Heats \$5. Paid 1st/2nd/3rd Entry fee \$2.

Event No. 12 SLOW AIR (Maud Douglas Memorial Trophy) Plus Cash. Sponsored by the Douglas family.

1st \$15, 2nd \$10, 3rd \$5. Heats \$5. Paid 1st/2nd/3rd Entry fee \$2.

Event No. 13 CHANTER LEARNER (Peter Mathieson Memorial Trophies) Sponsored by Jillian Ryan, Jennifer Anderson & families. Tunes 2/4 March (2) parts minimum to be played on the practice chanter. Trophies 1st, 2nd, 3rd. Entry is Free

Event No. 14 CHANTER LEARNER Restricted Age 10 years and under Sponsored by Barry Spinks Trophies 1st, 2nd, 3rd. Entry is free & date of birth with entry. Both Chanter events are restricted to Learners under 12 months and definitely not playing the pipes.

BAND CONTEST

GRADE No. 1 NORMAN MACSWAN MEMORIAL Sponsored by Lower Clarence Services Club Maclean

Grade No. 2 NEIL WALLACE MEMORIAL Sponsored by O'Halloran Motors Maclean

GRADE No 3 JANET SUSAN MACLEAY MEMORIAL Sponsored by Moran Service Centre Maclean

GRADE No. 4 CLAN MACLENNAN MEMORIAL Sponsored by the Clan McLennan Society Grafton

CHIEF COLIN GREGOR MEMORIAL DRESS AND DRILL CONTEST

This event is open to any registered Solo Drum Major competing with a band. Competing Bands must perform as a cohesive unit in a 4 part competition using a drum major. Points will be awarded for each event using the aggregate point system.

- 1) Band Street March Contest
- 2) Drum Major Solo Contest
- 3) Band March Off Drill Contest
- 4) Band Dress Contest

Prizes

Drum Major with a band - 1st Silver Quaich. Plus cash \$100

Band with a Drum Major- 1st 1.25L Malt Whisky. Plus cash \$200

Sponsored by Bruce & David Gregor Entry fee \$5

HUGH DONALD ANDERSON MEMORIAL

Street March Band Name Banner Contest.

1st \$50, 2nd \$30, 3rd \$20. Entry is Free

**Highland Sports Events -
Saturday April 14th**

1st 2nd 3rd 4th
1 Shot-put \$15 \$10 \$5 Medal
2 Hammers \$15 \$10 \$5 Medal
3 Skye Coffee Lounge Cabers
30kg/40kg \$50 \$30 \$20 Medal
4 Farmers
Walk \$25 \$15 \$10 Medal
5 Log
Wrestle \$25 \$15 \$10 Medal
6 Lads kilted dash 16 & over \$10 Medal Medal Medal
7 Lassies kilted dash 16 & over \$10 Medal Medal Medal
8 Lads kilted dash 15 & under \$10 Medal Medal Medal
9 Lassies kilted dash 15 & under \$10 Medal Medal Medal
10 Mens open race 16 & over \$10 Medal Medal Medal
11 Ladies open race 16 & over \$10 Medal Medal Medal
12 Boys race 11 to 15 years
\$5 Medal Medal Medal
13 Girls race 11 to 15 years
\$5 Medal Medal Medal
14 Boys race 10 & under
\$5 Medal Medal Medal
15 Girls race 10 & under
\$5 Medal Medal Medal

Games Champion Special Trophy decided on Events 1-5

CONTEST RULES

1. Band & Solo Competitions conducted in accordance with Australian Pipe Band Contest Regulations 1999.
2. Prize Money
1st Prize only - 2 competitors
1st & 2nd Prize - 3 competitors.
1st, 2nd & 3rd prize - 4 competitors.
3. Acceptance of Entries - At least one appropriately graded band must enter for that grade to be contested. Competitors may only compete in their registered state grades. No money will be refunded. Date of birth required with Chanter Learner Event 14
4. State registration numbers must be submitted with all entries.
5. **All entries with event fees, including the administration fee of \$2.50 must be in the hands of the Secretary before the last mail FRIDAY, MARCH 16th, 2001.** Business size stamped addressed envelope must accompany all entries for the return of the contest draw and conditions.
6. Only correct Highland Dress or Registered Bands uniforms must be worn under the contest rules.
7. Definitely only fine tuning permitted in front of Judges.
9. Accommodation= All competitors to arrange their own accommodation, assistance will be given on request to the secretary.
10. All competitors compete at their own risk, no liability is accepted for injury or loss sustained by any person taking part in any event.
11. The Judges' decision is final.

**97th MACLEAN HIGHLAND
GATHERING
Year 2001**

ENTRY FORM:

**Entries close last mail Friday, March 16th, 2001
NO PHONE ENTRIES ACCEPTED.**

SOLO ENTRIES - PIPING
(Cross out section not applicable)

SURNAME PHONE
FIRST NAME P/Code
ADDRESS
DATE OF BIRTH (Chanter Learner 14 only)
REGISTRATION NO
BAND/STUDIO
Event No Section Entry
Event No Section Entry
Event No Section Entry
Event No Section Entry
Event No Section Entry
Event No Section Entry
Sub Total
Piping & Administration Fee \$2.50 \$ 2.50
Concert Tickets Adult \$10.00 \$
School Student \$5.00 \$
Total \$

Include Business Size stamped addressed envelope. Competitors Passes - Refer to rule 15

BAND/SOLO ENTRIES
Bob MacPherson
7 Sunart Lane
Maclean 2463
02 6645 2887

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PO Box 8024,
Wynnum North, Qld 4178 or **Phone** 07 3396 9025

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BBC Pipeline Program on the Internet

The Pipeline program began to be carried on the Internet at the beginning of January, as we forecast last year. Your scribe managed to listen to the first one but hasn't managed another yet. Perhaps this has something to do with the broadcast being carried at the unsociable time of 6.00 am Sunday morning Eastern Standard Time. However, I will strive to do better so that I can bring you pearls of wisdom from the centre of the piping world.

If you have Internet access, to listen to the program go to

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/radioscotland/> and click on the "On Air" icon

any time between 6.00 am and 7.00 am on Sunday (the program runs for an hour).

[Some rambling notes I made as I listened to the first program](#)

[Review of the year](#)

[Some Playing](#)

Gordon Walker - Northern Meeting MSR

Willie McCallum at Donald Macleod Stornoway contest - Piobaireachd - The Field of Gold Worlds - Field Marshall Montgomery Medley (2nd)

Bill Livingstone - - Glenfiddich Ground & First variation of Lament for the Earl of Antrim (winner)

[Interview](#) with Andrew Berthoff (editor of the Piper and Drummer magazine, Ontario Canada)

and Mike Paterson (editor of the Piping Centre Newsletter - a New Zealander)

Piper and Drummer website, which supports the magazine by carrying current news between publications of the paper magazine gets 2000 hits a day on the internet - mostly from N America, Australia, NZ and South Africa. Getting support from pipers around the world. First to have Worlds, Cowal results. Mike Paterson gave a New Zealand perspective. They discussed the Millennium report from the RSPBA - considered it a good start - better promotion needed - better use of Worlds Championship including TV rights - also structuring it so you can hear the bands.

[More playing:](#)

John Patrick--Alistair Downie of Appin (6/8), Kenneth J MacLeod

[Back to Interview](#) - AB - Distance Learning - MP put in wider context (comment on highland dancing in NZ). International centre for piping research being set up by Piping Centre in association with its new degree course

[Review of year](#) pretty positive

[Mention of webcasting of Pipeline](#)

[More playing](#)

Niall Matheson - Air and Jigs--Untitled, Cutting Bracken ,and Judges Dilemma

As you can see, it was an excellent program and if the standard continues it will be well worth a listen. I'll look into the feasibility and legality of recording it. However, I fear that both of these may present a problem, but we'll see what we can do.



Society Program for 2001

The program of dates is shown below. You'll see we haven't allocated many of the nights to specific things yet, but your committee has been discussing possibilities and would appreciate your comments, either at the February meeting or in writing.

Some of the ideas are:

- A knockout contest over several meetings (medley?, junior and senior divisions?). This might involve inviting competitors and will need some planning to ensure competitors are present.
- Organising the playing of one piobaireachd or part thereof per meeting
- A Jig contest (6 or 7 minutes of jigs).

We have been offered sponsorship for competitions by Alba Publications and we will be looking at how best to use this, especially for promoting contest for younger players.

We have also decided to start planning for a high level contest to be held in Easter 2002 in association with the Australian Pipe Band Championships which will be in Brisbane. The Society ran similar contests in 1980 and 1990 with great success.

February 26	Pipers' Night	July 23	Jimmy Durham Memorial (2/4 March for junior members)
March 26		August 27	Annual Meeting and a Contest
April 23	Patron's Trophy (MSR for senior members)	September 24	
May 28		October 22	
June 25		November 26	Veterans' Contest and Christmas Party