



**May Meeting
Monday 28th
Balmoral Bowls Club,
Jean Howie Drive,
Morningside
At 7.45 pm**

**Queensland
Highland
Pipers' Society**

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May

2001

All are welcome to bring along their pipes and have anything from a tune to a recital.

There are no standards of playing required and all will be listened to with respect and given constructive assistance (but only if they seek it).

From the Editor:

As you can see from the meeting report, we once again had a successful meeting but it could have been much more successful with greater support from some of the senior players in South East Queensland.

The Society always needs lots of participants and the reality is that the participants decide the way that we go by what they play--the committee can only do so much pointing, shoving and pleading.

So, if you've been thinking that the Society could do better

with more variety of performers and music, turn

up and provide that variety!
Alex McConnell

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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.

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.

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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.

APRIL 2001 MEETING

About 25 keen supporters turned up for the April meeting, which included the Patron's Trophy.

Doug Thoresen started out the evening with a sprightly selection of tunes. We deferred the start of the Patron's Trophy as Mark McKenzie had rung to say he would be a bit late.

Doug's pipe was firm and bright as usual and his tunes included *The Silver Chanter* (Air), *The Old Rustic Bridge* and *Antipodean Song* (Marches), *Hector the Hero* (air), *Paddy O'Rafferty*, *Lt. Maquire's*, *Accordion Jig* (Jigs) and the 3/4 March *Highland Division at Wadi Akarit*

Maurie DeHayr was next induced to have a tune playing Doug's pipes. After a quick tune-up he launched into the Air *Leaving Ireland*. He followed this up with the 2/4 *Teribus* and two polkas, *Liberton Pipe Band* and *Royal Scots Polka*. He then played a set of small Strathspeys, the 9/8s *Battle of the Somme* and *Heights of Dargai*, the 4/4s *Loch Ruan*, *Rose of Allendale* and Falkland Palace and finally the 3/4 *W.C. Balfour Campbell*.

As we were still waiting for Mark, Bill Sharp agreed to have a tune on, you guessed it, Doug's pipes. Our record of tunes fades out at this point so we can't tell you what he played! To keep things going Phillip Cowan next had a few tunes on a good pipe that got better as he

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went on.

Finally it was time for the contest! Our judge for the evening was Roy Gunn, imported at vast expense from the Gold Coast, and he has kindly supplied his notes of the contest, as follows:

Responding to a call from Alex, it was my pleasure to adjudicate the March Strathspey and Reel Competition for the patron's Trophy held on 23rd April last.

It is mystifying to me, that from an area such as the Sunshine Coast, Brisbane and the Gold Coast, obviously containing a large number of talented pipers, evidenced by the playing I had heard recently at Maclean Highland Gathering, that more do not front up to compete for such a handsome prize.

After hearing a great selection of most enjoyable tunes from a number of our members, with some Ceol Mor added for our enjoyment, the atmosphere was set for the more serious business of the competition. First up was Iain Bruce playing a nice mellow and well tuned pipe. He gave us a very good rendition of the March *Duncan McColl* followed by the *Caledonian Canal* and *Major Manson*.

Second on was Philip Cowan who gave us the *Lochaber Gathering*, *Blair Drummond* and *Pretty Marion*, marred by a choke but nevertheless showing that here is a talented piper who will figure prominently as time matures his expression.

Next came our worthy President Doug Thoresen who again on a nicely tuned pipe gave us *Donald MacLean's Farewell to Oban*, *Maggie Cameron* and *Sandy Cameron*.

Last of all came Mark McKenzie playing a more strident sounding though well tuned instrument, who gave us the March *Jeannie Carruthers* which flowed nicely into the Strathspey *Cameroonian Rant* and Reel *Mrs MacPherson of Inveran*.

Overall the competition was a feast of good music which I am sure all who attended found most enjoyable.

The results were:

- 1st Mark McKenzie
- 2nd Iain Bruce
- 3rd Doug Thoresen
- 4th Philip Cowan

Finally, Mark McKenzie had asked to be able to play *Lament for the Children* so that he could gain a critique from Roy Gunn (Mark has just finished learning the tune). Despite some interference run by his two daughters, Mark made his way successfully through the tune, with Roy helping him along with expression from time to time.

All that was then left to do was to draw the raffle (lost my notes about that too) and retire for supper.

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Society Program for 2001

May 28

September 24

June 25

October 22

July 23

Jimmy Durham Memorial (2/4 March for junior members)

November 26

Veterans' Contest and Christmas Party

August 27

Annual Meeting and a Contest

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What's On

MAY	26	Brisbane Clans Pipes and Drums Highland Debutante Ball—Kate Wyse 07 3369 2232
	28	Society Meeting
JUNE	23	Bannockburn Dinner (organised by Clan Campbell and Clan MacDonald - QIA Club-rooms. Contact Trevor Campbell 3359 6662
	23	European Pipe Band Championships (Ayr)
	25	Society Meeting
JULY	1	Tartan Day—Southbank Parklands. Contact 3359 8195
	7	All Ireland Pipe Band Championships (Omagh)
	14	All England Pipe Band Championships (Douglas—Isle of Man)
	23	Society Meeting—Jimmy Durham Trophy
	28	Redlands Highland Debutante Ball, Community Hall, Smith St, Cleveland. \$28. Contact Danni Hartley (3286 5714) or Sylvia McGrath (3286 7909)
AUGUST	7,8	Skye gathering, Portree
	11	Silver Chanter MacCrimmon Memorial (Dunvegan Castle, Skye)
	25	World Pipe Band Championships (Glasgow)
	22-23	Ipswich Pipe Band and Solo Contest—See separate notice— Note new venue; Evan Marginson Park, Goodna. Contact Liz McGhee 3281 5408
	25	Argyllshire Gathering, Oban
	27	Cowal Pipe Band Championships Society Annual 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

CPA Website

The Competing Pipers Association (CPA) has launched its official Web site at **www.competingpipers.com**.

The site features News, History, Membership and Events sections, as well as the CPA's extensive "Guide to the Games," which highlights all solo piping competitions in the United Kingdom

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Dave Sinclair continues to write to the Society

Piobaireachd Participation Project

Response to our project has been most favourable and encouraging, and I am sure that we will succeed, as there are so many points in our favour, the main one being that we can all take part.

But we would find it hard going if no one in our Society could play Ceol Mor for who would be able to help with the music? Well, we have a solid core of members who can help and will.

With the arrival of Roy Gunn on the scene we have someone who will inspire our best players into refreshing their interest. In fact, he is already doing so. He has visited his Highland birthplace many times over the years to compete and keep in touch with family and old friends. He has so much to share with us.

The music sheets will continue for a long time or such is my intention. I would like all members to have copies so as to keep up with developments. Get a collection together. Ask for back copies. Please get involved

All the best, David Sinclair

COLLEGE OF PIPING LAUNCHES BUILDING APPEAL

Scotland's oldest piping college The College of Piping in Glasgow, has launched a worldwide building appeal.

The Appeal was launched by the Rt. Hon Michael Martin, Speaker of the UK House of Commons and a pupil at the College. The College, established in 1944, already has a substantial amount of cash in place but needs to raise a further £1m to fulfill building plans approved by the local city council.

Mr Martin said: "As a charity dedicated to giving music lessons to anyone, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, I am delighted to be able to help the College by launching their building fund."

Robert Wallace, College Principal said: "Approaches have been made to both private and public funding bodies and we await the outcome. In the meantime we are appealing to the worldwide piping fraternity to assist us in our efforts. Any donation to our fund, no matter how small, will be gratefully received and the benefactor can be assured that it is going to a good cause."

The College has been in existence since 1944 and has been very successful in promoting and teaching the music of the great Highland bagpipe. It has always been able to maintain an income in excess of running costs. This income derives from selling tutors, music books, piping accessories and its magazine the Piping Times.

It now faces two difficulties:

- 1 The building it owns is inadequate in size and facility.
- 2 Old mine workings have made it a structural liability.

Situated on the banks of the River Kelvin in Glasgow's picturesque and fashionable West End, the College of Piping provides the ideal atmosphere for the study of the Highland bagpipe and its music. The area is well served with public transport and has a wide range of accommodation available locally at low cost. The site and building at 16-24 Otago Street were obtained by the College in 1958 with assistance from Sir Charles Hepburn of Hepburn and Ross Distillers. The redevelopment plans are designed in such a way as to make best use of this site and to allow for flexibility and various levels of specification depending on the amount of money that can be raised. The innovative development may include a number of residential apartments which could be offered for sale or rent, thus providing an endowment for the College in perpetuity. As to the specifics of the new College building, it will house:

- a large piping hall with an upper viewing area and performance space
- eight soundproof practice rooms
- office space and shop
- museum and archive space

(Continued on page 11)

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IPSWICH 2001

Gathering of the Clans

VENUE
EVAN MARGINSON PARK
WOOGAROO STREET
GOODNA



SCOTTISH FARE
REFRESHMENTS
SCOTTISH CRAFT
SOUVENIRS



PROUDLY HOSTED BY
IPSWICH THISTLE PIPE BAND INC.
Presents the
Annual

Pipe Band & Solo piping and drumming Competition

Solos commence 8.30 am--Pipe Band Competition--12 noon

Saturday 25TH August 2001

Bring the family, pack a rug, a chair or two, an umbrella for shade and come along and join with us for the day. Food and drink stalls on site for the hungry and thirsty.

Savour the sounds of the bagpipes and drums, whilst you relax. Witness the spectacle of the tartans on parade. We would greatly welcome your support in our efforts.

DIRECT ENQUIRIES PLEASE TO SECRETARY
LIZ MCGHEE MOBILE No. 0414 776 361
CORRESPONDENCE TO PO BOX 689 BOOVAL 4304 QLD

Dear Solo Pipers,

The Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band are proudly hosting the 'Ipswich 2001 Gathering of the Clans Pipe Band & Solo Piping & Drumming Competition', on Saturday 25th August 2001, Evan

Marginson Park, Woogaroo Street, Goodna. Please note a new venue for the Competition. We are offering again the "Special Piping Event" in the Solo Piping Section of the Competition which is the 'Roddy MacSween Memorial' and is open to "All Grades". The tune to be

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played is 'Roddy MacSween' composed by Tom Watson (music attached). The music is being made available to enable Solo Pipers who wish to enter into the Special Piping Event the opportunity to practice the slow air, prior to submitting entry.

Roddy MacSween was the Patron of the Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band for many, many years and devoted over 40 years to the Pipe Band Movement in Queensland until his death on 19th April 1999. Roddy was awarded Life Membership of the Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band & the Queensland Pipe Band Association for his outstanding services to both these organisations. We are including this Special Piping Event "Roddy MacSween Memorial" as a tribute to Roddy, who's fond memories, we'll hold forever in our hearts.

We are seeking support from all "Solo Pipers & Drummers", as we'd like to see a record number of entries into the Solo Competition this year. We're also very hopeful that we will receive many entries into the "Special Solo Piping Event", in it's 2nd year and are especially looking forward to hearing those performances. The Prize for the Special Event is a Skean Dhu.

The closing date for all entries is Friday 3rd August 2001, with definitely no late entries being accepted. If you wish a Solo entry form for the Solo Piping Competition or a Solo Drumming entry form, Band entry form or Drum Major entry form to be sent directly to you when they become available, please forward a Stamped addressed envelope and state which form you require and a copy will be forwarded on request.

Secretary Liz McGhee P.O. Box 689 Booval 4304 Qld. Mobile 0414 776 361 Please support us in our efforts.

Kind regards

Elizabeth McGhee (Liz) Secretary



CONTEST RESULTS

MACLEAN HIGHLAND GATHERING: 13-14 April

Grade 2

Qld Highlanders (points only)

Grade 3

1. St Andrew's
2. QIA
3. RAAF Amberley

Grade 4

- 1 Maclean
- 2 Qld Highlanders No 2
- 3 Gold Coast

AUST. PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS: Ringwood, Victoria, 14-15 April, 2001

(rest of results published last month)

GRADE 4

- 1 Maryborough (Victoria)
- 2 Haileybury College
- 3 Scotch College (Melbourne)

JUVENILE

- 1 Scotch College (Melbourne)
- 2 Haileybury College
- 3 St Andrew's Coll (New Zealand)

DISPLAY

- 1 Tasmanian Police
- 2 Canterbury Caledonian
- 3 Marton & District (New Zealand)

QUICKSTEP

- 1 St Andrew's Coll (New Zealand)
- 2 Marton & D (New Zealand)

Highlands & Islands Solo Contest-- Oban - May 4-5, 2001

Piobaireachd

1st Willie McCallum, "I Got a Kiss of the King's Hand"

2nd Niall Mathieson, Inverness, Scotland, "Lament for Donald Duaghal MacKay"

3rd Angus MacColl, Benderloch, Scotland, "Beloved Scotland"

4th Stuart Shedden, Glasgow, "The Big Spree"

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Jimmy Young, Walter Drysdale

March, Strathspey & Reel

1st Gordon Walker

2nd Willie McCallum

3rd Peter Hunt, Glasgow

4th Angus MacColl

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, Jimmy Young

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Hornpipe & Jig

1st Gordon Walker

2nd Willie McCallum

3rd Angus MacColl

4th Peter Hunt

Judges: Walter Drysdale, Joe Henderson

Festival Interceltique de Lorient Solo Piping Contest--Australasian Final: 6 May - Clayton RSL (Melbourne)

1st Danny Boyle (Vic Police)

2nd Martin Frewin (NZ)

3rd Stewart McKenzie (NZ)

KINGAROY HIGHLAND GATHERING--12 May 2001

Grade 3

1 Qld Police Juv

2 RAAF Amberley

3 Qld Irish Assoc.

Grade 4

1 Qld Highlanders No. 2

2 Scots College, Warwick

3 Sunshine Coast

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(Continued from page 6)

- teaching rooms
- dedicated car parking

In the recent past the College has expanded its teaching activities including the establishment of a network of tutors throughout the country. Its California Summer School grows in popularity every year. Its mail order business and shop have also been expanded and now include Highland dress and drumming instruments and accessories. Our web site means our 600 lines are available to our loyal customers throughout the world. The Piping Times circulation continues to increase and its tutors have been revamped and brought right up to date. We have built up our ties with our sister College in Prince Edward Island, Canada. The College has played its part in restructuring the Institute of Piping examinations.

Robert Wallace added: "Our future is extremely encouraging. A new custom built building will provide the infrastructure to allow all of these activities to flourish even more. All substantial donations will be recognised through the inclusion of an individual or company name on an inscription plate which will adorn the entrance hall of the new building.

Further recognition will be by linking benefactors to our very busy website where appropriate. There will also be acknowledgement through our magazine the Piping Times, read by 10,000 people worldwide every month. More than anything supporters can rest assured that they are helping a Scottish institution which for the last half a century has provided a unique service to pipers and enthusiasts the world over that of a genuine charity dedicated to providing lessons for all, no matter their means or background."

*If you'd like to contribute you can get in touch with the College at www.college-of-piping.co.uk or by phone at +44 (0) 141 334 3587.

BBC Pipeline

Unfortunately, I have had two computer disasters this month. The first involved a lightning induced blackout that caused me to lose more than the first half of the broadcast on 6 May and a Windows malfunction which caused the loss of the whole of the 13 May program, which was mainly about Iain Morrison, which was a great pity. However, some comments on the other programs:

22 April: This featured a great variety of playing from Euan MacCrimmon (yes, he is a genuine descendant of the famous family) from Inverness. We also heard a track from a CD of the Peel Regional Police (Canada), a track from "The Ghillies", Willie McCallum playing "Jack Adrift" and a 1997 track from the Piping Centre Recital Series featuring John Patrick

29 April: The main feature was performances from the Piping Centre Quartet Knockout contest held the week before (quartet of pipers with no drummers). Also solo performances from Brian Lamond and Euan MacCrimmon and some reels from Tracey Dares and Paul MacNeill (pipes and fiddle)

6 May (second half): Most of this was solo playing from Brian Donaldson but we also heard the (by now) old track of the 78th Fraser Highlanders playing "Journey to Skye".

20 May: A fairly varied collection of music including an interview with Ian MacLeod from Jersey about the style of Piobaireach taught to his grandfather by McDougall Gillies, involving a rounded style and use of the "redundant A". He played Lament for Donald of Laggan with the redundant A. Other pipers featured included Stuart Liddell and Angus McColl and bands including SFU, Halifax Police and Shotts and Dykehead and the 78th Frasers.

STOP PRESS

The first major Pipe Band Championships for the year, the British at Bambridge in Northern Ireland resulted in a win for **Shotts and Dykehead**, with Field Marshall Montgomery second, then Boghall and Bathgate, Scottish Power, Strathclyde Police and Vale of Atholl. Ravara from Northern Ireland won the Grade 2