



Queensland
Highland
Pipers' Society

N
E
W
S
L
E
T
T
E
R

August

2001

August Meeting
Monday 27th
Balmoral Bowls Club,
Jean Howie Drive,
Morningside
At 7.45 pm

The meeting features an own choice medley contest and the Annual Meeting. For the contest:

TEST PIECE: A selection of tunes of duration 5 minutes or longer **Prizes:** 1st - \$40, 2nd - \$20, 3rd - \$10.

Entries to the Secretary, PO Box 1252, Coorparoo DC 4151 or by phone 3397 4512 (AFTER 4.00PM) by Friday 25 August

From the Editor:

Congratulations to the Queensland Highlanders for their win in Grade 2 at the World Championships a couple of weeks ago. Commiserations to the Queensland Police who were not able to progress from the Grade 1 qualifying round against very strong competition.

Another good meeting last month, so lets have a more relaxed contest this month with the own choice medley, as soon as the annual meeting is over. Please bring along any ideas for the next year to the meeting, so they can be referred to the committee for implementation.

Alex McConnell

Print Post Approved
PP 445886/0003

Publisher: Q.H.P.S
PO Box 1252
COORPAROO DC 4151

Editor: A J McConnell
Phone: 07 3397 4512
alexmcconnell@optushome.com.au

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.

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.

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.

JULY 2001 MEETING

For the July meeting, incorporating the annual Jimmy Durham Memorial contest we had another good turnout of members, and most importantly competitors. There were over 30 of the former and 8 of the latter. The contest is for Elementary and Sub-Intermediate players and the test piece is a 2/4 March

As our President Doug Thoresen was the judge for the event, Maurie DeHayr did the announcing duties. There was an apology from Bob Payne.

Getting straight to the action, Doug has kindly supplied the following notes on the contest (notes are in order of play) -

Steve Taylor: *Balmoral Highlanders*--Solid tone, drones went off and a wee finger fault in the 2nd part.

Ryan Hoffman: Donald Maclellan of Rothesay- Playing pressure varied and fingering good except for E doublings from F and a couple of grips missed in last part

Geoff Foote: Probably had the steadiest drones but the chanter lacked brightness. His *Brown Haired Maiden* was fine but for a finger fault in the 2nd part and the last part.

Andrew Galloway: *Alan Dodd's Farewell*--Tempo fine but missed the tachum movements which spoiled otherwise good fingering on a reasonably toned pipe.

James Sagar: *Arthur Bignold*--Pipe well toned but playing pressure up slightly. Tune moved well with

good fingering and just a wee choke in last part.

Andrew Mulligan: *Beaumont Hamel*--Displayed excellent fingering but the tempo was so cautious as to be slow. Some crossing sounds were evident in the last part.

Jordon Whicker: Glen Caladh Castle--Bright sound and good tempo. Good fingering and two chokes.

Robert Baker: *79th's Farewell to Gibraltar*- had a well toned pipe except for the F note. Tempo started bright but some hesitations and finger faults mainly the tachum movements spoiled an otherwise good effort

As with all contests, there had to be a result and the prizewinners were:

1. James Sagar
2. Jordon Whicker
3. Ryan Hoffman
4. Steve Taylor

The winners were presented with their medals once again kindly donated by Bill Durham, Jimmy's brother. The winner was presented with the trophy originally donated by the Warwick Caledonian Society.

Following the presentation, some of the competitors were induced to give us a few more tunes. Ryan Hoffman started out with *The Caledonian Canal* and *Alick C MacGregor*.

Next was Steve Taylor who played *Redford Cottage*, *Dr Ross* and *Rab's Wedding* for us.

Jordon Whicker gave us *Hector the Hero* (Air), *Wee Buns* (Jig), *Captain Colin Campbell* (Strathspey), *Lexy McAskill* (Reel), *Erin's Green Shores* (Air) and our winner James Sagar played *Hundred Pipers*, *Bonnie Dundee*, *Caledonian Society of London*, *Mrs MacPherson of Inveran* and *Leaving Ireland*.

Finally Doug Thoresen, in the tradition of the judge showing his own skills after the contest after the contest is over, played us a varied selection including the 6/8 *Colonel Robertson*, *The Fairy Lullaby*, the ground of *Struan Robertson's Salute*, 4 parts of *Barren Rocks of Aden* and the Strathspey and Reel *Monymusk* and *The Brolum*.

By now everyone had had their fill of piping so we proceeded to draw the raffle and head for the supper table.

Subscribe NOW! To
"Raising the Standard"
The Scottish & Celtic Magazine of Queensland

Be fully informed and up-to-date on what is happening in the Scottish and Celtic Community, here and overseas. Progressive Calendars of Events for Pipe Bands; Highland Dancing; Scottish Country Dancing; Irish Dancing and Clans Congress are featured in each edition of "Raising the Standard"

Annual Subscription - \$25 (including postage)

Write to: ALBA Publications,
PO Box 8024,
Wynnum North, Qld 4178 **or Phone** 07 3396 9025

Society Program for 2001

August 27 Annual Meeting and **October 22** Medley Contest
September 24 **November 26** Veterans' Contest & Christmas Party

What's On

A U G U S T	<p>22-23 Argyllshire Gathering, Oban</p> <p>25 Cowal Pipe Band Championships</p> <p>25 Ipswich Pipe Band and Solo Contest—See separate notice— Note new venue; Evan Marginson Park, Goodna. Contact Liz McGhee 0414 776 361</p> <p>27 Society Annual Meeting</p>
S E P T E M B E R	<p>1 Murrumba Pipes & Drums Ceilidh—Strathpine Community Centre at 7.00 pm. Bands 'Scotch on the Rocks' and 'A Touch of Guinness'. Bookings essential: Diane 07 5496 4867</p> <p>15,16 Newcastle Mattara Band Championships. Contact Ron Ferrier 02 4943 5918</p> <p>24 Society Meeting</p> <p>29 NSW Pipers Society Silver Chalice Piobaireachd Contest. Contact Ron Clement 02 9948 1914</p> <p>29, 30 Queensland Pipe Band Championships (including solo contest) Cleveland Showgrounds. Contact Harry or Jan MacKenzie 07 3207 5820</p>
O C T O B E R	<p>14 <u>Old State Min Band Championships</u> followed by <u>AOM solos</u>—Wynnum Manly Leagues Club. Mini Bands start at 9.00 am. Mini Band enquiries to Joe Joyce (work 3866 8951, mobile 0416 067 557)</p> <p>22 Society Meeting</p> <p>27 Ceilidh at Halloween—Scottish Clans Congress—Irish Club at 7.30 pm. Admission \$33. Contact Del Paten (3300 1031) or Val McDonald (5438 7030)</p>

The NSW Pipers' Society meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6 Holterman Street, Crows Nest. However their meeting times have been disrupted a bit of late, so ring before attending. 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 10-11 pm
4EB - AM 1053 – Thursday afternoons 3-4 pm

Tartan Day at Maclean--from Alastair McInnes

Despite a rather threatening start to the day, the weather once again smiled upon Maclean for the annual Tartan Day celebrations.

Formalities for the bands began at approximately 10.57 am with tuning for the 11.00 am massed band. This period must be regarded as ideal for such a function as there has rarely been a more uniform tuning heard for the march up and around River Street.

The dancing had to be relocated to the "wet-weather venue" at civic hall, so there was less activity than usual at Cameron Park prior to the mini-band competition.

This however was replaced with renewal of acquaintances with many regular attenders to these climes.

12 noon signaled the start of serious tuning up prior to the 1300 competition kick-off, and once again tireless secretary Bob MacPherson ensured that both competitors and spectators were fully informed of proceedings. He was ably assisted by various local stewards and, of course, the judges [Sam

Page 6 August 2001 Queensland Highland Pipers' Society Newsletter

MacPherson, Mark McKenzie and Maurie DeHayr]. It was indeed a pleasure to receive judges' sheets with so much helpful comment: Congratulations to all concerned.

Results: Grade 4 1st Maclean District Services

2nd Scots PGC College Warwick

Restricted 1st Lismore City

2nd Grafton District Services Club No 1

3rd Grafton District Services Club No 2

The handsome trophies gratefully received, most moved on for rehydration and reacquainting prior to the evening's activities.

By around 1630 hrs the "Top Pub" dining room was starting to fill for the retreat, while a dancing ceilidh was to commence at the RSL River Room.

Once again, Bob MacPherson featured prominently at the inaugural Maclean Pipers' Retreat, despite being officially off duty. He quite rightly made a major point of the debt owed to the McCabe clan, particularly Lachie, for initiating and encouraging so many similar events over the past 15 plus years.

The first performer was Alister Wallace from Maclean, and if a more relaxed looking piper walks this earth then I've not seen him or her! He actually was (typically) very nervous as usual but played some faultless 6/8 marches and Gaelic Airs on Ian MacLellan's pipe. His performance was top shelf and it is a great pity that he cannot find the time to compete at the level his talent roars that he should.

He was followed by John MacDonald of Kingaroy who traveled with the MacKenzies. He produced some nice 4/4 marches on a well set pipe, and will be worth watching for the future.

Phillip Cowan played next on his usual robust, well-tuned instrument, and began with that old favourite Caber Feidh and some other common time marches. He then launched into G S MacLennan's masterful Lochaber Gathering, The Piper's Bonnet (I think) and Pretty Marion. Pretty solid stuff! A few less well known airs followed and he finished with Alasdair Dearg McDonnell's Lament.

Mark McKenzie played next with his usual, splendid McDougall-Sinclair mix. He began with some 6/8 Marches and Airs and then launched into a mammoth Ceol Beag set: John MacColl's March to Kilbowie Cottage, Jeannie Carruthers, Mrs John MacColl (old John would have been pleased), then the Strathspeys The Piper's Bonnet, The Ewe wi' the Crookit Horn and (of course) the Cameronian Rant, and then finished with Mrs MacPherson of Inveran, The Little Cascade and the Sheepwife. PHEW!

Robert Baker, originally from Maclean, was next to entertain with some well-known tunes on a lovely McDougall pipe. His piping continues to improve and it's great to hear him playing at this event.

Paul Loman followed with some 6/8 Marches and an Air-Hornpipe-Jig combination. An excellent player, it is a pity not to hear more of this young piper.

Jaqui Sheehan impressed again with her Hardie pipes and began with Doug Thoresen's lovely air "The Guerins" which he gave to me back in 1981 and I believe commemorated a pupil's family. This tune should be played more widely! She then played a nice King George V's Army and some Jigs.

I, along with many, believe the highlight of the evening came next with the man himself, Doug Thoresen, delivering a spellbinding recital on a fabulous instrument. Beginning with Retreats, which are much underplayed by most younger pipers, he progressed through some competition-type 2/4 Marches, Strathspeys and Reels. The names were not recorded because the scribe was too busy listening. To prove that the decades had missed him, he finished with Jimmy Tweedie's Sealegs, Paddy O'Rafferty and some 2 part Jigs. Marvellous! Oh to live in Brisbane!

A generous meal was provided by the pub and a relaxed mode was employed for the next half hour or so.

After the break, Alastair McInnes commenced with an Air and some Jigs. This was followed by John MacFadyen of Melfort, Susan Macleod and John Garroway. Homage to Donald MacLeod was complete with the lovely Piobaireachd, Lament for the Rowan Tree, a tune which features on the wonder

ful CD of the 2000 Donald Macleod Memorial Competition, Lewis.

Fraser Bolton then stood to play some Airs and Jigs. His rapid maturation evident, he gave some fine 2/4 Marches in John MacDonald's Farwell to South Uist and Bonnie Ann. He finished with the famous MacCrimmon tune The Battle of Waternish. Memories of his famous uncle, and indeed the entire McCabe clan were vividly renewed. Well done Fraser. The last time I heard that tune was when Lachlan won the Gold Medal at MacLean in 1999 with a faultless rendition.

Mark McKenzie was next to play and delighted me with the promise of Ceol Mor. After some 4/4 marches and Jigs he began the famous MacKenzie tune, The Earl of Seaforth's Salute. All was going splendidly towards the Taorluath when suddenly more tuning. The reason soon became apparent with the opening phrase of The Lament for the Children, which was played to completion in fine style. We look forward to hearing this on again "on the boards" in the future.

Maurie DeHayr next delighted all with a musical performance of a wide spectrum of tunes on a beautiful pipe.

The organisers then provided a wonderful supper and all was steadied for the final lap.

Phillip Cowan again played some solid tunes before being accompanied by a silver-haired banjoist who looked disturbingly like a professional piper I once knew. This was very well done and appreciated by all, but unfortunately triggered an avalanche of kitchen piping which, while it thrilled many, did not thrill Clan McInnes nor DeHayr, who took their leave. Bit of a shame to have serious piping hijacked but then, we were in the minority!

Congratulation to the Scottish Town Committee for organising such a memorable day and evening. Special best wishes to Bob MacPherson, last seen smiling his head off having a well-earned dram.

CONTEST RESULTS

Roseneath & Clynder Highland Games - July 15

Piobaireachd

1st Colin MacLellan, "Glengarry's March"

2nd Gordon Walker

3rd Allan Russell, Kelty

4th Jenny Hazzard, Glasgow

March

1st Gordon Walker

2nd Allan Russell

3rd Brian MacKenzie, Inverness

4th Clive McFarland, Northern Ireland

Strathspey & Reel

1st Gordon Walker

2nd Allan Russell

3rd Allan MacDonald, Glasgow

CPA Piobaireachd

1st James Beaumont, "Black Donald's March"

2nd James MacPhee, Glasgow

3rd Fiona Manson, New Zealand

Inveraray Highland Games - July 17

Page 8 August 2001 Queensland Highland Pipers' Society Newsletter

Piobaireachd

1st Stuart Liddell, Inveraray, "Battle of Auldearn"

2nd Gordon Walker, Glasgow

3rd Angus MacColl, Benderloch

4th Colin MacLellan, Glasgow

March

1st Peter Hunt, Glasgow

2nd Donald MacPhee, Alexandria

3rd Angus MacColl

4th Stuart Liddell

Strathspey & Reel

1st Gordon Walker

2nd Stuart Liddell

3rd Robert Watt, Northern Ireland

4th Allan Russell, Kelty

CPA Piobaireachd

1st John Mulhearn, "The Old Men of the Shells"

2nd Martin Kessler, Germany

3rd James MacPhee, Glasgow

4th James Thompson

Scottish Pipe Band Championships--Dunbarton - July 28

Grade 1 (MSR)

1st Shotts & Dykehead

2nd Boghall & Bathgate

3rd Field Marshal Montgomery

4th Scottish Power

5th Strathclyde Police

6th Dysart & Dundonald

Drumming: Shotts

Grade 2

1st Ravara

2nd Ballycoan

3rd Dumfries & Galloway Constabulary

4th City of Glasgow

5th Boghall & Bathgate

6th Bleary & district

Drumming: Ravara

Bridge of Allan- August 5

Grade 1

1st David Urquhart Travel

2nd Strathclyde Police

3rd Lothian & Borders Police

4th Queensland Police

Grade 2

1st Maple Ridge

Silver Chanter--Dunvegan- August 8

Queensland Highland Pipers' Society Newsletter August 2001 Page 9

Winner-- Greg Wilson for the second year in a row (Greg is a New Zealander by birth but now resident in Scotland).

Other competitors: Alasdair Gillies, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Duncan MacGillivray, Nigg, Scotland; Willie McCallum, Bearsden, Scotland; and Bill Livingstone, Whitby, Ontario.

Judge: Donald MacPherson

World Pipe Band Championships--Glasgow, Scotland - August 11, 2001

The Society Secretary has the detailed master sheets from this contest. If you would like a copy please ask.

Grade 1 (Medley & MSR)

1st Simon Fraser University

2nd Shotts & Dykehead Caledonia

3rd Field Marshal Montgomery

4th Boghall & Bathgate

5th Scottish Power

6th 78th Fraser Highlanders

Drumming: Boghall & Bathgate

Judges: MSR: R. Worrall, A. Wright (piping); W. Young (drumming); J. Kennedy (ensemble). Medley: H. McNulty, N. Russell (piping); A. Dowling (drumming); G. Summors (ensemble)

Grade 2 (MSR)

1st Queensland Highlanders

2nd Niagara Regional Police

3rd Dumfries & Galloway Constabulary

4th Prince Charles

5th Boghall & Bathgate

6th Ravara

Drumming: Cullybackey

Judges: D. Clark, L. Ingram (piping); W. Reynolds (drumming); M. McKenzie (ensemble)

Grade 3A

1st 1st Royal Engineers

2nd Midlothian & Metropolitan Police

3rd Tullylagan

4th MacDonald Caledonia

5th Benoni (South Africa)

6th Chilliwack & District

Drumming: University of Luton

Judges: H. Stevenson, J. Wilson (piping); J. Hutton (drumming); C. Mordaunt (ensemble)

Grade 3B

1st Ballydonaghy

2nd Lyon College (USA)

3rd Syerla

4th Tullintrain

5th St. Columcille

6th Fintan Lalor

Drumming: Tullintrain

Judges: J. Campbell, D. Cardwell (piping); H. Russell (drumming); G. Lumsden (ensemble)

Juvenile

1st Robert Malcolm Memorial
2nd St. Thomas Episcopal School

Page 10 August 2001 Queensland Highland Pipers' Society Newsletter

3rd Lochgelly High School
4th Dumbarton & District
5th MacNaughton's Vale of Atholl
6th Burntisland
Drumming: Robert Malcolm Memorial

Grade 4A

1st Royal Burgh of Stirling
2nd Castlerock
3rd Lomond & Clyde
4th Finvoy
5th Brother Matt Boyd Memorial
6th Bellaghy
Drumming: Bellaghy
Judges: W. Pollock, I. Roddick (piping); W. Dunlop (drumming); J. Noble (ensemble)

Grade 4B

1st Aughintober
2nd Arbroath RBL
3rd St Laurence O'Toole/St Joseph's
4th Gortaclare
5th Kinglassie & District
6th 1st Royal Engineers
Drumming: Aughintober
Judges: R. Shepherd, D. McConnell (piping); A. Steele (drumming); T. Dear (ensemble)

Novice Juvenile

1st Paisley
2nd Monkstown Mossley
3rd Lochgelly High School
4th 47th Culter Boys Brigade
5th Bowhill
6th Craigmount High School

BBC Pipeline

22 July: Another computer disaster!

29 July: A mixed program including solo performance from Niall Matheson and Douglas Murray. Band music included CD tracks from the Victoria Police and Bilston Glen (a 1970s recording with a sound very different from what we hear today) and world championship recordings of Boghall & Bathgate (2000 medley), Simon Fraser University (1995 Medley) and Field Marshall Montgomery (1992 MSR). There was also a track by Michael McGoldrick and John McSherry on unison Uilleann Pipes and an interview with George Somers, recently retired as chairman of the RSPBA adjudication panel after 16 years.

5 August: Lost the second half of the program when my connection to the internet went to lunch. The first half was most interesting with an MSR from Iain Morrison, some quicksteps from Iain McInnes on lowland pipes in C, three brackets of tunes from Iain MacDonald of Glenuig and Dysart and Dundonald's medley from the 2000 world championships.

12 August: A program entirely dedicated to the World Pipe Band Championships the day before great to hear the winning bands while the news was still fresh and to get Iain Macleod's (former P/M of the Edinburgh Police) comments on the playing. Tracks from Simon Fraser, Shoots and Dykehead, Field Marshall Montgomery, Boghall & Bathgate, Scottish Power and 78th Fraser Highlanders.

Pipeline has now moved to 2.00 am Brisbane time on a Monday, so it's even more unsociable! Given the continuing computer problems, it looks like a few more early Mondays for your Editor until I get the automatic stuff properly sorted out!