



**October Meeting
Monday 22nd
Balmoral Bowls Club,
Jean Howie Drive,
Morningside
At 7.45 pm**

**Queensland
Highland
Pipers' Society**

The meeting will be a pipers' night--a chance for all to bring along their pipes and have a tune.

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October

2001

From the Editor:

Once more last month we had an excellent night's piping and a good attendance. By now the Veterans should be getting in practice for their contest in conjunction with the Christmas Party at the November meeting. As last year, we will be asking them to play an own choice medley of 5-7 minutes. We may have a partly organised program for the October meeting, but the Secretary's preoccupation with his daughter's wedding two days before might mean this doesn't happen, so all pipers are commanded to bring their pipes and some tunes.

Alex McConnell

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PO Box 1252
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Editor: A J McConnell
Phone: 07 3397 4512
alexmcconnell@optushome.com.au

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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.

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.

SEPTEMBER 2001 MEETING

About 33 members and supporters were in attendance for our Pipers' Night. It was good to see Roy Gunn back after a couple of month's absence. He reports that the recent surgery on his hand has had good results and he expects to be playing for our enjoyment soon. He's also shifted residence on the Gold Coast and by all accounts has created a magnificent Piper's Room with near complete soundproofing. With such a good practice venue we look forward to hearing great things from him.

Doug Thoresen started the evening off with a musical selection on a musical pipe. His mix of tunes included *Scottish Banner, Wings, Farewell to the Creeks, 10th HLI Crossing the Rhine, Barbara's Jig* and *Paddy O'Rafferty*.

Following Doug, we heard from two of the younger members of the Queensland Highlanders, Bonnie McRae and Robbie McGrath. On a couple of well tuned pipes they started out with *Green Hills of Tyrol*, with harmonies in the second part. Then into *When The Battle's O'er*. Just a bit of a whistle on the High As. Next they played *Greenlands* and *Gardens of Skye*. Generally they blew the pipes steadily and kept a good consistent tone, with just a few fluctuations here and there. For their third selection they played *Flora Duncan, Flett from Flotta* and *Lord Lovat's Lament*.

Phillip Cowan was the next player on a resonant but not over-loud instrument. Starting off with *Caber Feidh* played as a march he also played *The Crusaders, The Rose of Allandale, The Rowan Tree, Qld Youth on Parade, All the Blue Bonnets are Over the Border, Hector the Hero, The Lochaber Gathering, Blair Drummond, Pretty Marion*, the ground of *Lament for Alasdair Dearg MacDonnell of Glengarry, The Bells of Dunblane, Jim*

Tweedie's Sealegs, Duncan the Gauger, the Dark Island, The Walrus, The Tune no one Remembered, The Reel that Surfaced, Captain Colin Campbell, The Sheepwife and Sleepy Maggie. As he went on his pipes continued to improve, with the drones blending in especially well and creating the unique sound only heard in the world of music from a well tuned and blown pipe. He played a wide range of music and continues to show that he is one of our most promising young pipers. He could have done with a bit more snap and stress in the Strathspeys and also had some tempo variations in marches and reels.

Matthew Supranowicz, backing up from his more or less impromptu performance at the previous meeting was the next to play. Straight into the 6/8 *Ellenor* played in fine style. he played a briefer set of tunes than Phillip but his selection was well structured, well expressed and musical on a well blown and tuned pipe--perhaps not "singing" quite as well as Phillip's but very nice nevertheless. His other tunes included *Duncan McGillivray, Royal Scottish Pipers' Society, Caber Feidh* (strathspey), *The Brown Haired Maiden* (reel), *The Dune, Gotterdammerung* and *Dodging the Rain.*

Lea Ahokava, winner of our contest from last month was next to play. His pipes were again impeccable, in tuning and blowing. He started off with some simpler tunes but was soon into the big stuff, mixed with some more interesting modern tunes. He had some slightly shaky starts to tunes but picked up the phrasing better once established into the piece. *The Mexican Hat Dance* was a bit of a feature with a clever mixing of the bagpipe idiom with the original tune. Other tunes included *Bathgate Gathering, Duncan McGillivray, Dust Gatherer, Mason's Opal, Wee Bons, Dirty Laugh, John Patterson's Mare, Tommy Tully's Air, Mudah Ruah, Silver Spear, Humors of Tulla, Rakish Paddy* and *Gravel Walk.*

Doug had a few announcements, including the birthdays of your scribe and Roy Gunn. We were accordingly embarrassed by having Happy Birthday sung to us.

Maurie had a bit of a chat and announced that an Australian pipe band magazine is in prospect. Ron Gallacher has retired as principal of piping and Doug Thoresen has been appointed. (applause followed).

Doug then played the ground of *Struan Robertson's Salute* on a set of Center pipes and finally *Happy We've Been All Together.*

Having run out of pipers and other things to do, we resorted to drawing the raffle and then finally to supper.

Pipes for Sale

Purchased from Ron Fleming eight years ago
\$3,500 spent on sterling silver (2½ years ago) and refurbishment in the UK
imitation ivory

Offers of \$2,500 and over considered

Contact

Andrew Crichton
3866 8941 (work), 3265 5585 (home)

What's On

O C T O B E R	20	Woollongong Highland Gathering—Dapto Showground. Contact Irene Watson 02 4261 8052
	22	Society Meeting
	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)
N O V E M B E R	26	Society Meeting—Veterans' Contest and Christmas Party
	30	Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band St Andrew's Night Supper and Ceilidh—Band Hall, Lion Street, Ipswich. Contact Liz 0414 776 361
D E C E M B E R	1-2	Daylesford (Vic) Highland gathering. Bands Saturday, Mini Bands and Solos Sunday
	31	Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band New years Eve Ceilidh—Band Hall, Lion Street, Ipswich. Contact Liz 0414 776 361

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

Society Program for 2001

October 22

November 26

Veterans' Contest &
Christmas Party

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

CONTEST RESULTS

Scottish Junior Solo Pipers Championship Carnoustie, - September 22 **Carnoustie Bicentennial Invitation Trophy (Best in Angus County)**

1st David Maitland Gardner, Craigclown

2nd Paul Leask, Fraserburgh

3rd Grant Fyfe, Dunkeld

4th Cai Wardle, Craigclowan

5th Scott MacCallum, Dundee

6th Stephen Johnston, Burntisland

Under 13 Novice

1st Glen Ross, Forfar

2nd Adam Michie, Moulinearn

3rd Keith Bowes, Inchinnan

4th Lindsay McLean, Stanley

5th Grace Miller, Dundee

6th Hamish Wilson, Lathallan School

Novice Piping 13-16

1st Calum Emslie, Strathallan School

2nd David Braidwood, Carnoustie

3rd Laura McKay, Bankfoot

4th Alan Forrester, Kennoway

5th Benno Rawlinson, Strathallan School

6th Gavin Lowe, Carnoustie

Under 13 Championship

1st Callum Beaumont, Bo'Ness

2nd Scott McKillop, Livingston

3rd Fraser Maitland, Stonehaven

4th Cameron Barnes, Leven

5th Ross Townsley, Perth

6th George Stewart, Perth

Under 13 Piobaireachd

1st Callum Beaumont, Bo'Ness

2nd Scott McKillop, Livingston

3rd Fraser Maitland, Stonehaven

Under 13 Scottish Champion 2001

- 1st Callum Beaumont, Bo'Ness
- 2nd Scott McKillop, Livingston
- 3rd Fraser Maitland, Stonehaven

Intermediate March Strathspey & Reel (13-16)

- 1st Jamie Graham, Lockerbie
- 2nd Kerri Bruce, Arbroath
- 3rd Michael Leadingham, Peterhead

Junior Piping Champion 2001 (13-16)

- 1st Finlay Johnston, Glasgow
- 2nd Kevin McNulty, Dalbeattie
- 3rd Gillian Chalmers, Fraserburgh
- 4th Mark Chisholm, East Lothian
- 5th Claire Lynas, Livingston
- 6th Robert Barnes, Methil

Junior Piobaireachd Champion 2001 (13-16)

- 1st Finlay Johnston
- 2nd Andrew Carlisle, Northern Ireland
- 3rd Thomas Fraser, Aberdeen
- 4th Cameron Drummond, Edinburgh
- 5th Claire Lynas
- 6th Ewan Dewar, Northern Ireland

Scottish Junior Champion 2001 (13-16)

- 1st Finlay Johnston
- 2nd Andrew Carlisle
- 3rd Claire Lynas

Champion of Champions 2001

- 1st Finlay Johnston
- 2nd Tom Fraser
- 3rd John Mulhearn, Troon

Old Pipe Band Championships--Redlands Showgrounds- 30 September

Grade 4

- 1st Maclean & District
- 2nd Qld Highlanders No 2
- 3rd Rockhampton
- 4th Gold Coast Tweed

Grade 3

- 1st St Andrew's
- 2nd Qld Police Juvenile
- 3rd Qld Irish Association

Grade 2

Iain Dall Mackay, (the "Blind Piper of Gairloch.") Memorial Contest--Gairloch, Scotland - September 29, 2001

This is a new invitational solo contest.

Competitors had to submit two tunes from a list of Iain Dall MacKay compositions for the Piobaireachd event. Both sections were judged by John D. Burgess

Piobaireachd

1st Dr. Angus MacDonald, Skye, "Lament for Laird of Anapool"
2nd Niall Matheson, Inverness, Scotland
3rd Euan MacCrimmon, Inverness
4th Duncan MacGillivray, Calrossie, Scotland

March, Strathspey & Reel

1st Niall Matheson
2nd Euan MacCrimmon
3rd Brendon Eade, Inverness
4th Dr. Angus MacDonald

Ipswich Solos--25th August

Open Piobaireachd

1st Alastair McInnes
2nd Gill MacKenzie
3rd Fraser Bolton

Restricted Piobaireachd

1st Phillip Scott Cowan
2nd Matthew Supranowicz
3rd Fraser Bolton

Open MSR

1st Alastair McInnes
2nd Gill Mackenzie
3rd Larry Flynn

Open Hornpipe & Jig

1st Alastair McInnes
2nd Larry Flynn
3rd Gill Mackenzie

Intermediate MSR

1st Cory Dale
2nd Phillip Scott Cowan
3rd Matthew Supranowicz

Intermediate Hornpipe & Jig

1st Cory Dale
2nd Matthew Supranowicz
3rd Phillip Scott Cowan

Sub-Intermediate MSR

1st James Sagar
2nd Fraser Bolton
3rd Jacqui Sheehan

Sub-Intermediate Jig

1st Fraser Bolton
2nd James Sagar
3rd Craig Hardner

Elementary March

1st Ryan Hofmann
2nd Jacqui Sheehan

3rd Jordan Whicker

Elementary Air

1st Jordan Whicker

2nd Shane Gower

3rd Jacqui Sheehan

Learner Chanter

1st Charles MacKenzie

2nd Ben Scholl

Mills Family Shield

Jacqui Sheehan

Roddy MacSween Memorial

Alastair McInnes

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BBC Pipeline

23 September: You guessed it! Computer failure again!!

30 September: Woke up at 2 am to supervise the computer and it worked perfectly! The program featured Graeme Roy, one of the younger members of Shotts and Dykehead. There is also a track of the band playing at the Worlds in 2000 and some music from a Piping Centre CD featuring Allan MacDonald.

7 October: The program featured Peter Hunt, a piper starting to appear on the prize list and a member of the Scottish Power Pipe Band. There was also a track from Dysart and Dundonald from the Bob Shepherd Era. As well we heard from the Alberta Caledonian Pipe Band, Gordon Walker, an archive tape of Duncan Johnstone playing James Maclellan's Favourite and a track of Philip King and Peter Browne on Guitar and Uilleann Pipe. All in all a very varied and entertaining program. Duncan Johnstone's tune was associated with a story about the St Francis Pipe Band for the Gorbals in Glasgow, of which Duncan was a member in his young days.

RONALD GALLACHER O.A.M. A LIFE IN VICTORIA'S PIPE BANDS

This is an edited version of an article which appeared in the August edition of *Pipe Bands Victoria*

As reported elsewhere in this newsletter Ron Gallacher has stood down as Principal of Piping of the Australian Pipe Band College. He was born in Melbourne of Scottish parents on 26th May 1928, and lived in Richmond until his late teens. They were strongly involved with the Richmond Caledonian Society. At the age of four he commenced learning Highland dancing and continued competing with success to the age of sixteen.

Ron had displayed early interest in piping, and commenced lessons from David Wanless at the age of twelve. After a year or so Ron's parents arranged for him to transfer to Alex McPhedran Snr., past Pipe Sergeant of the Glasgow Police Pipe Band of the 1920s. He continued to receive tuition from Alex McPhedran for many years and achieved much success in solo piping.

Ron joined the Hawthorn City Pipe Band in 1942, and is still actively involved with it. Alex McPhedran also invited Ron to assist him with tuition of a newly formed Ladies' Pipe Band, which became the Melbourne Ladies'. Eighteen months later Ron was appointed to the position of Pipe Tutor, which he held until 1960. He returned in 1963, until 1976, and returned again in 1983, remaining until the band's demise in 1989. Most will be aware of the considerable successes achieved by the Melbourne Ladies, especially during their time in Grade 1. Ron was appointed a Life Member of the Band in recognition of his input over so many years.

His involvement at Hawthorn is now nearly sixty years of faithful service. He has held administrative posts as well as musical. He was appointed Pipe Major in 1959 when illness forced Ian Matheson out of the post; Ian returned in 1960. Ron again became Pipe Major in 1976, and continued until 1986. During that period, the Band achieved much success in Grade 1 contests, including two firsts, two seconds and a fourth in the Australian Championships; it was beaten only once in the Victorian State titles. Since standing down as Pipe Major, Ron for several years filled the positions of Musical Director and Pipe Tutor. His work with the band has been recognised with Life Membership. Bands all around the country have sought guidance and assistance from Ron, and this has always been willingly given! One such approach which led to appointment as Pipe Tutor of the Geelong Ladies' Pipe Band, which continues after twelve years, and has led to Life Membership also of that band.

In 1996 Ron was asked to assist the Rats of Tobruk Memorial Pipes & Drums with their preparation for participation in the 1997 Edinburgh Tattoo. This he did with success, resulting in continuation as Pipe Tutor after the band returned from Edinburgh. This year he has been working with more than 20 pipers for the band's return to the Edinburgh Tattoo, now as Pipe Major.

He has also made a significant contribution to the Victorian Highland Pipe Band Association and now to the Victoria Branch of the APBA, and also to the former Australian Federation of Pipe Band Associations and the present APBA. He is currently Vice-President of the VHPBA. He has been a piping judge since 1964, and has since judged in every State and was the Victorian Vice-Principal of Piping from 1973 to 1977. The VHPBA recognised his dedicated contribution with the award of Life Membership.

Ron was appointed Principal of Piping of the Australian Pipe Band College in 1981 and has been invited to visit many States to conduct workshops and examinations. Over the years he has made every endeavour to keep pace with the ever-changing piping scene, and so has made many overseas trips, including visits to Scotland and New Zealand. In Scotland, he had several meetings with the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association Music Board. He is also a regular visitor to the annual Highland Gathering in Jakarta, as player or judge.

After training as a motor mechanic and then spending two years in the RAN, he joined the Repatriation Department, presently the Veterans' Affairs Department, in 1949. He worked in that Department until retirement in 1989, filling a number of senior positions, including hospital management.

Subscriptions for 2001/2002 are now due.

The Annual Meeting decided to keep the annual figure at \$20.00 but also impose a levy of \$5 to help in replacing the Society photocopier

If you haven't paid yet (a few eager souls have got in early), can you please either post your subscription and levy to the Society PO Box (see front page of the Newsletter) or pay it at the September meeting. Please use the form at the foot of the page to make sure we allocate the payment correctly.

Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

Subscription 2000/2001 \$20.00

Levy \$ 5.00

TOTAL \$25.00

NAME _____