



**April Meeting
Monday 28th
Balmoral Bowls Club,
Jean Howie Drive,
Morningside
at 7.45 pm**

**Queensland
Highland
Pipers' Society**

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**The April meeting will feature a
Hornpipe & Jig Contest with a twist –
the test piece is a Hornpipe and 2 Jigs.
Prizes are 1st: \$40, 2nd: \$20, 3rd: \$15 so
come along with some entertaining
tunes**

From the Editor:

Another very successful meeting last month, followed with a fairly hectic piping scene, with the Fred Morrison concert, the Celtic Celebration contest and the Maclean Gathering, all of which are reported in this newsletter.

There are also some more details of our Society program for the next few months.

Alex McConnell

April

2003

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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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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.

MARCH 2003 MEETING

We had a surprisingly good turnout at the March meeting, with nearly forty members, visitors and supporters in attendance. The imminence of the Maclean Gathering and some other events was evidently not enough to discourage people from another night of fine piping.

With President Doug Thoresen still in the Land of the Long White Cloud, Patron Maurie DeHayr and Vice President Matthew Rigby took charge of the evening's proceedings.

Matthew did the opening announcements. He mentioned the passing of John Weatherston (see the March newsletter) and also drew attention to the upcoming Fred Morrison concert and to the Celtic Celebration Committee competition.

Among our visitors for the evening was Roddy MacDonald, the new Pipe Major of the Police Pipe Band.

Then to the piping. Joan O'Neill was our first player. On a nice firm sounding pipe she started with slow tunes. This was followed by a set of tunes in march time. Once again, she put on a very presentable and musical performance with good execution and phrasing with only a few minor glitches. Her tunes included *Morag of Dunvegan*, *Rhu Vaternish*, *Two Ronnie's Maggies*, *My Land* and *Colin's Cattle*.

Robert Baker was our next piper. In conversation before he said he'd been having some trouble with his pipes. Perhaps they lacked a little in tone but they were good and steady. Robert had been working on some new tunes to play for us. He had a few examples of the dreaded pipers block but he gave us a varied selection including the 4/4s *Wings* and *Gardens of Skye*, the 2/4 *King George V's Army* (after 3 attempts to remember the 3rd part!), the airs *She moved through the Fair* and *Steal Away* and the reel *Sleepy Maggie*..

Matthew Rigby was next, once again with the seemingly instant bagpipe. After a bit of warming up on some easy stuff he was into a musical but not lightweight selection of tunes including *Calderhead*, *P/M Bob Martin*, *Crusaders March*, *High Alexander Low of Tiree*, *Lady Loudon*, *The Grey Bob*, *The Men From Skye* and finally *Brae Riach*.

Our supper was next and with the big attendance there was much conversation and it was a bit difficult to break up!

Michael Redman, a new piper in the Police Band, was next to play. After a short time to settle his pipes down he was away with the 6/8 *Angus MacKinnon*. The pipes were full toned but quite mellow in sound. His selection of tunes showed a logical progression through a range of time signatures and musical styles, all carried out with good phrasing and execution making a most enjoyable musical performance. His other tunes included the 2/4 *Major Manson of Clachantrushal* strathspey *The Shepherd's Crook*, reel *Major D Manson*, jig *The Snuff Wife*, hornpipe *Bob Turner's Welcome to Cape Breton* and jig *The Geese in the Bog*.

Our final piper for the evening was Iain Bruce. On a pipe with the drones and chanter singing together from the start Iain seemed to fill in many of the gaps we hadn't heard during the evening in terms of time signature and style finishing up with the Piobaireachd *Corrienessan's Salute*. His other tunes included the 2/4 marches *The Piper of Dundee*, *The Haughs of Cromdale*, *The Back of Benachie*, *72nd's Farewell to Aberdeen* and *The Piper's Cave*, and the 6/8s *72nd's Farewell to Edinburgh* and *Captain Oldfield's Welcome to Kilrayock*.

And with that music still singing in our ears, we all set off home after yet another night of enjoyable piping.

What's On

A P R	28	Society Meeting – Horpipe and 2 Jigs Competition
M A Y	4 10 17 17 25 26 31	RU Brown Piobaireachd Society of South Australia Annual Piping Contest. Scotch College, Torrens Park, Adelaide. See notice in march newsletter. South Burnett (Kingaroy) Band Contest— CONTEST NOW CANCELLED Caboolture Blue Care Highland Gathering, Apex Park, Centenary Lakes. Contact 07 5498 9798 Scottish Pipe Band Championships—Dumbarton Taree Eisteddfod—special events for Pipe Bands. Entries by 28 March. Contact Geoff Kinchin: 02 6550 6189 Society Meeting – Patron's Trophy Contest Brisbane Clans Pipes & Drums Highland Debutante Ball. Riverside Ballroom. Contact 07 3369 2232
J U N E	14 24 28 29 29	Toowoomba Caledonian Society Highland Debutante Ball. Contact 07 4632 8455 Society Meeting Redlands Scottish & Celtic Assoc Solo Contest. Contact 07 3207 5820 Redlands Scottish & Celtic Assoc Band Contest. Contact 07 3207 5820 Tartan Day Celebrations, Cultural Forecourt, South Bank 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
J U L Y	19 22	Maryborough Contest – Contact Daphne 07 4122 1143 Society Meeting – Jimmy Durham Memorial Contest

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 10-11 pm 4EB - FM 98.1 – Thursday afternoons 2.15—4 pm 2RDJ - FM 88.1 - Wednesday morning 6 am - 9 am
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SOCIETY PROGRAM

- MAY** Patron's Trophy (MSR for Open and Intermediate players)
- JUNE** Pipers Night
- JULY** Jimmy Durham Memorial Contest – 2/4 March for Elementary and Sub-Intermediate
- AUGUST** Annual Meeting

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CONTEST RESULTS

Scottish Pipers Association Annual Competition - Glasgow - 22 March

Piobaireachd (A Grade)

1st Stuart Shedden *Lady Margaret MacDonald's Salute*

2nd Robert Wallace, Glasgow

3rd Euan MacCrimmon, Skye

4th John Angus Smith, London

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, James Young

Former Winners MSR

1st Willie McCallum. *Major Manson At Clachantrushal, Dora MacLeod, The Grey Bob*

2nd Roddy MacLeod

3rd Stuart Liddell

Judges: Walter Cowan, Angus J. MacLellan, Ronald Lawrie

National Piping Centre Quartets- First Heat - Glasgow - 28 March 28

1st David Urquhart Travel

2nd Strathclyde Police

3rd Lothian & Borders Police

Played but didn't qualify: Boghall & Bathgate, Dumfries & Galloway Police.

Test pieces. MSR and Medley

The second heat will be on 25 April, with Scottish Power, Dysart & Dundonald, Vale of Atholl, Glasgow Skye, Clan Gregor, and the 52nd Lowland Regiment.. The final will be on on 30 May.

Donald MacLeod Memorial: - Stornoway, Lewis - 4 April

All competitors submit piobaireachd and light music by Donald MacLeod

Piobaireachd

1st Willie McCallum *Lament for John Morrison of Assynt House*

2nd Iain Speirs *A Son's Salute to His Parents*

3rd Roddy MacLeod *Roderick MacDonald's Salute*

4th Bruce Gandy, Halifax, Nova Scotia, *Lament for Angus MacPherson of Invershin*

MSR

1st Alasdair Gillies, *Duncan MacColl, John MacDonald of Glencoe, Stac Polly, Inveraray Castle, Kildonan, Lt. Col. D.J.S. Murray*

2nd Willie McCallum

3rd Roddy MacLeod

4th Angus MacColl, Oban

Hornpipe & Jig

1st Alasdair Gillies *Arthur Gillies, The Shaggy Grey Buck.*

Overall winner

1st Willie McCallum

2nd Roddy MacLeod

Judges: Iain MacFadyen, John Wilson and Rona Lightfoot.

Maclean Highland Gathering—18, 19 April

Open Piobaireachd

1st Alastair McInnes

2nd Mark McKenzie

3rd Michael Redman

Judge: Roy Gunn

Open MSR

1st Alastair McInnes
2nd Cory Dale
3rd Michael Redman
Judge: Fred Morrison

Open Hornpipe and Jig

1st Alastair McInnes
2nd Mark McKenzie
3rd Barry Gray
Judge: Sam Young

Open Air

1st Michael Redman
2nd Matthew Supranowicz
3rd Alastair McInnes
Judge: Fred Morrison

Champion Open Piper

Alastair McInnes

Restricted Piobaireachd

1st Matthew Supranowicz
2nd Maree Poole
3rd Michelle Hodder
Judge: Fred Morrison

Donald MacSwan Memorial

1st Alistair Wallace
2nd Alastair McInnes
3rd Bruce Spence
Judge: Maurie DeHayr

Lachlan McCabe Memorial

1st Matthew Supranowicz
2nd Cory Dale
3rd Nicholas Barber
Judge: Alistair McInnes

Intermediate MSR

1st Matthew Supranowicz
2nd Mark Mitchell
3rd Cory Dale
Judge: Roy Gunn

Intermediate Hornpipe/Jig

1st Cory Dale
2nd Maree Poole
3rd Matthew Supranowicz
Judge: Maurie DeHayr

Champion Intermediate Piper

Matthew Supranowicz

Sub-Intermediate MSR

1st Alan Mathison
2nd Karl Beier
3rd John Holloway
Judge: Roy Gunn

Sub-Intermediate Jig

1st Michelle Hodder
2nd John Holloway
3rd Ryan Hofmann
Judge: Sam Young

Champion Sub-Intermediate Piper

Alan Mathison

Elementary March Heat 1

1st Christopher McLeish
2nd Lachlan Durham
3rd Ellie McCauley
Judge: Fred Morrison

Elementary March Heat 2

1st Vaughn Parker
2nd Matthew Spicer
3rd Malcolm Jorgensen
Judge: Doug Thoresen

Elementary March Final

1st Vaughn Parker
2nd Malcolm Jorgensen
3rd Ellie McCauley
Judge: Roy Gunn

Elementary Air Heat 1

1st Katrina Stead
2nd Vaughn Parker
3rd Lachlan Durham
Judge: Maurie DeHayr

Elementary Air Heat 2

1st Christopher McLeish
2nd Andrew Galloway
3rd Matthew Spicer
Judge: Sam Young

Elementary Air Final

1st Vaughn Parker
2nd Katrina Stead
3rd Lachlan Durham, Christopher McLeish (tie)
Judge: Doug Thoresen

Champion Elementary Piper

Vaughn Parker

Chanter Learner

1st Lindsay MacDonald
2nd Christopher Paterson
3rd Justin Watts
Judge: Maurie DeHayr

Grade 3 Bands

1st Qld Police Juvenile
2nd Qld Irish Association
3rd Maclean & District Services Club

Grade 4 Bands

1st Clan Stuart
2nd Gold Coast Tweed
3rd Qld highlanders No 2

Grade 1 & 2 Bands

St Andrew's (Grade 2) and Qld Highlanders (Grade1) played their contest pieces for display only as there were no other entries in their grades

Celtic Variety Concert – 6 April at Kedron Wavell Services Club

The big crowd that turned out to this concert were certainly treated to an excellent afternoon's entertainment. Organised by the Celtic Celebration Committee as a fundraiser for the Piping competition (see later in the newsletter), it drew on a great range of local and imported talent.

To start we had St Andrew's Pipe Band playing some more "traditional" 3/4s to start but then followed by their very "modern" medley, much of it written by Matthew Rigby. With only six pipers the sound was absorbed a bit by the big crowd but this didn't detract from the excellent playing.

They were followed by dancers from Thistle Highland Dancing studio, starting with four dancers dancing a piece choreographed by Margaret Paterson to the tune "Maggie". This was followed by Craig Johnston dancing the Sean Truibhas, with his brother Brett playing the pipes.

Enough Scots performance – we were next entertained by the Irish band Rye Bark led by Steve Clausen. They sang a variety of songs from a number of backgrounds. This led up to the star turn for the afternoon, Fred Morrison.

Fred has a reputation for being a virtuoso of the bagpipe and he certainly showed this with a selection incorporating both more traditional and more modern music, with displays of improvisation thrown in as well. In the middle of his performance he changed instrument and gave us two tunes on the low whistle – *Passing Places* (referring to the passing places encountered on single lane roads in remoter parts of Scotland) and *The Old School House*, written for the house where Fred lives on South Uist. Back then to the pipes and he continued to show his total control of the instrument until the mid-concert intermission.

After the intermission, the Thistle Dancers were back. First Craig and Brett Johnston danced a Sword Dance and then with four of the girls danced a reel. This was followed by a change of pace with the harper David Hall. Among his pieces were one by Henry Purcell (English), a 15th century Irish piece written as accompaniment to words of Francis of Assisi and a Spanish 18th century piece representing a dialogue between heaven and earth.

This put us in a nice quiet mood to be got moving again by Fred Morrison. He started with a very well executed March, Strathspey and Reel and then ranged once again across wide spectrum of types of music and tempos, finishing up with some of the really quick stuff to leave us remembering his virtuosity.

Alex McConnell

Celtic Celebration Committee Australasian Solo Piping Final

On 13 April a good crowd assembled at the excellent facilities of the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron at Manly to hear nine pipers battle it out for the opportunity to go to Lorient to compete at the Interceltic Festival. We had three from Queensland (Adam Britten, Matthew Rigby and Jason Palfrey), two from New Zealand (Martin Frewen and Stewart MacKenzie), two from NSW (Barry Gray and David Thorpe), Tracy Murphy from Victoria and James Cowie from WA.

The judges were to be Fred Morrison, Nat Russell and Jean-Pierre Picard from Brittany. Unfortunately Jean-Pierre had been hospitalised and was unable to travel so Fred and Nat were left to do the whole job. Fred is a multiple winner of the Macallan trophy at Lorient and so is well placed to evaluate the performances of Breton music.

Each player had to first play an MSR and, after a short re-tune, a Breton selection of 5-7 minutes duration. After all had played and an interval in the program, they came back in the same order to play a 5-7 minute Irish selection. This made for a fairly long afternoon but certainly a very entertaining one.

Although one could pick the occasional imperfection in bagpipe or execution or expression, this really was a competition of a very high standard. Although your scribe doesn't profess to understand the Breton music yet, it is certainly an entraining part of the contest and one can hear the very wide variation in the music selected by the competitors.

The three elements of the contest are judged separately and the results combined.

In the MSR, Martin Frewen was the winner. His march I thought was a little cautious, but his strathspey had excellent lift and his reel went very well, all this with the execution pretty well free from error and a good steady pipe. Adam Britten was second. His march and reel were probably about on a par with Martin, with the strathspey perhaps played a little square. Once again good execution and bagpipe. Third was Stewart MacKenzie. His march was excellent, played in a commanding style, and his strathspey and reel also had excellent lift. His pipe was one of the best sounding but there were some inconsistent birls in the strathspey and a slight loss of balance in the second part of the reel.

The Breton selection was won by Jason Palfrey. I thought his performance had good variety and was full of aspects with which I was not familiar – so I assumed that they are authentically Breton! Adam Britten was placed second and Martin Frewen third.

In the Irish selection, Matthew Rigby came first with an excellent performance that combined dexterity, musical expression and a good bagpipe. Jason Palfrey was second with another very good performance which just got a bit forced sounding from time to time, perhaps prompted by the pipes losing their edge a bit. Adam Britten was third with another good performance, but perhaps the selection was not constructed quite as well as the two who defeated him.

When the points were combined, the overall result was

1. Jason Palfrey
2. Adam Britten
3. Martin Frewen

Jason and Adam were actually equal on points but Jason was given preference because of his better performance in the Breton music. All three of the winners now go to the final in Lorient. In addition, Jason wins a set of McCallum Bagpipes and Adam and Martin both win a MacCallum Pipe Chanter. There were also trophies for the winners.

At the conclusion of the contest, Fred Morrison said he had been most impressed by the standard of playing and I think all in attendance would also have been impressed by the standard of organisation of the contest, for which the Celtic Celebration committee is to be commended. The committee comprises Kathleen O'Malley (Australasian delegate), Alan and Jane Hancox, Jeff Goward and Robert Wilson.

Alex McConnell

Maclean 2003 and advance notice of 2004

The Maclean Gathering was once again a great success. The day was fine and not very hot, and there was a solid turnout of (paying) spectators. The stands on the hill were almost full and they saw a great day of piping, sports and dancing. There were 24 bands in attendance, along with about 60 solo pipers and about 40 solo drummers.

Bob MacPherson and his team had the day running like clockwork, with our Society vice President Bob Payne controlling the microphone. Congratulations again to the Lower Clarence Scottish Association for providing us with this unique annual experience.

Next year is their 100th Gathering and Bob announced at the massed bands this year that there will be some special features next year: special one-off trophies for the 100th Gathering, and a keepsake for all band and solo competitors to commemorate their participation in this auspicious event.

For that reason they will be enforcing a strict deadline for entries one month before the contest, which will be on the 9th and 10th April 2004, so that means entries by 9th March. This is necessary so that they can arrange the keepsakes.

Ipswich 2003



Gathering of the Clans Queensland Pipe Band Championships & Queensland Solo Piping & Drumming Championships

Proudly hosted by

Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band Inc.

Saturday 30th August 2003

Limestone Park, Lion Street, Ipswich

The Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band are hosting the Ipswich 2003 Gathering of the Clans Queensland Pipe Band Championships & Queensland Solo Piping & Drumming Championships, on Saturday 30th August 2003, Limestone Park, off Lion Street, Ipswich.

They are offering again the Roddy MacSween Memorial special piping event (open to all grades). The tune to be played is "Roddy MacSween" composed by Tom Watson (music available from the QHPS secretary)

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. They include this special event as a tribute to Roddy.

They are seeking support from all solo Pipers & drummers, as they'd like to see a record number of entries into the Queensland Solo Piping & Drumming Championships and are also very hopeful that they will receive a record number of entries into the Roddy MacSween Memorial in its 4th year and are especially looking forward to hearing those performances. The Prize for the event is an inscribed Skean Dhu.

The closing date for all entries is Friday 1st August 2003, with definitely no late entries being accepted. If you wish a Solo entry form for the Solo Piping or Solo Drumming, Band entry form or Drum Major's 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.

Free Admission

Bring the family along and join with us for a relaxing afternoon. Bring a rug or a chair, bring an umbrella for shade and witness the spectacle of tartans on parade and listen to the bagpipes and drums as the bands compete for the title of 2003 Queensland Champions. The Queensland Solo Piping & Drumming Championships will be conducted in the morning with the Queensland Pipe Band Championships commencing just prior to lunchtime. Plenty of Stalls on site with Scottish fare, food and refreshments, Scottish Craft, Souvenirs and a variety of other items for sale.

* Please join us, we welcome your support *

Enquiries please to Secretary Liz McGhee 0414 776 361 or direct correspondence to P.O. Box 689, Booval, 4304

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 Morningside 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.

Redcliffe Scottish Looking for Past Members

Redcliffe Scottish Pipe Band are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year and are trying to contact all past members for a celebratory dinner in August. If you are a past member or know someone who is, can you please contact the Secretary, Rob Rawstron, at PO Box 391, Redcliffe 4020 or on 07 3285 7670.
