



Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

www.qhps.org

Newsletter - February 2014

February Meeting

on Monday 24th at 7.30pm
at Balmoral Bowls Club

Jean Howie Drive, Morningside

Admission \$5

We are hoping to have a **featured piper** for the February Meeting. Arrangements are not quite complete as we go to press so watch the website for further advice.

All are of course welcome to bring their pipes and have a tune.

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2014. The committee has been planning out the year ahead and you can see the result so far on Page 2. We are still arranging all the "featured pipers" nights and will announce the players as soon as we know them.

It looks like a good year for the Society and also for piping and bands in Queensland, with a good selection of competitions either already announced or in the planing stages.

The Balmoral Bowls Club has closed but we are still able to use the building for the next 6 months so we are a looking for a new "home", Several options are being investigated and more news as it comes to hand.

We will be selling some drinks ourselves at the February meeting so all is not lost!

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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 particular officer or member of the Society.

Alex McConnell

2014 SOCIETY CALENDAR

MONTHLY MEETING Dates

FEBRUARY 24 TH	FETAURED PIPERS	JULY 28 TH	JIMMY DURHAM MEMORIAL (2/4 FOR JUNIORS)
MARCH 24 TH	FEATURED PIPERS	AUGUST 25 TH	FEATURED PIPERS
APRIL 21 ST	PAIR OF PIPERS CONTEST	SEPTEMBER 22 ND	ANNUAL MEETING + AIR/JIG CONTEST
MAY 26 TH	PATRON'S TROPHY (MSR FOR SENIORS)	OCTOBER 27 TH	JULIE APPLETON-SEYMOUR MEMORIAL
JUNE 23 RD	FEATURED PIPERS	NOVEMBER 24 TH	JACK McCANDLISH TROPHY (6/8S)

After each competition, the floor is open for all. Please advise as you arrive that you intend to play so we can schedule performances.

The aim is to start meetings at 7.30pm (7.15pm for a 7.30pm start) to allow an early finish/more piping/more social time at the end of the meeting. Junior competitions are to start promptly and finish by 8.30pm.

PIOBAIREACHD GROUP

2nd February	4th May	3rd August	3rd November (Recital)
2nd March	1st June	14th September	2nd December
6th April	6th July	5th October	

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our final meeting for 2013, was, as usual, one of our larger meetings with about 50 in attendance, including 12 competitors in the Jack McCandlish Memorial 6/8 March contest. President Donald Galloway opened the evening at 7.40pm. He conveyed an apology from Andrew Roach and welcomed Rob and Isobel MacGregor back after a break caused by Rob spending some time in hospital.

He then introduced Maurie DeHayr as the judge for the evening.

The Junior division was conducted first and the competitors (in order of play) and their tunes were:

Tamar Stanfield-Roche - *Leaving Port Askaig*
 Abby Dalziel - *Queen Elizabeth March & Major May's Welcome*
 Jordan Simmers - *Piobaireachd of Donald Dhu*
 Kristian Stanfield-Roche - *The Heights of Cassino*
 Nicholas Johns - *Mrs Lily Christie*

The senior competitors played next:

Ross Campbell - *Dr Ross 50th Welcome to the Argyllshire Gathering, MacLeod of Mull*
 Lloyd-George Worth - *The Heights of*

Cassino, Hills of Cherat

Wayne Kennedy - *Kirkwall Bay, John MacColl's Farewell to the Scottish Horse*
 Malcolm Cox - *Captain Craig Brown, John D Burgess*
 Lachlan McPhee - *Murdo MacKenzie of Torridon, P/M Donald MacLean of Lewis*
 Michael Rodger - *Dominic McGowan, Frank Thompson*

All competitors got through their tunes quite well and all the pipes were of a good standard but of course there had to be winners.

Sandra Supranowicz, Jack McCandlish's's daughter, presented the prizes and they went to:

Junior

1st Mitchell Durham
 2nd Nicholas Johns
 3rd Kristian Stanfield-Roche

Senior

1st Michael Rodger
 2nd Ross Campbell
 3rd Wayne Kennedy

In addition, we had been accumulating points during the year to award senior and junior Piper of the Year

prizes. Points were awarded for placing in competitions but also for just participating in the competition or playing a selection at one of our Pipers Nights. This is designed to reward consistency of competition and participation throughout the year.

The winners were:

Junior - Mitchell Durham

Senior - Lachlan McPhee

Sandra also presented these awards

By now all that was left to do before supper was to draw the raffle which was done by Malcolm Cox (it was his birthday) and the winner was Lachlan McPhee.

We finished up with applause for all the players and good wished for Christmas and the New Year



Lachlan McPhee, Michael Rodger, Ross Campbell, Wayne Kennedy, Kristian Stanfield-Roche, Nicholas Johns, Mitchell Durham, Sandra Supranowicz

Piobaireachd Group

The December Piobaireachd Group was a fairly quiet affair, with only 8 in attendance but still there was a full diet of good music. There was an apology from Andrew McCabe.

Peter Hurwood led off playing his Dunbar pipes with the Tune *Struan Robertson's Salute*. Ross Campbell gave him some assistance with the pitch of the pipes, He has entered in the World Online Championships in the Grade 3 Piobaireachd and this is the tune he will be playing. He carried off the tune well with just a few small misses in the Taorluath and Crunluath movements. The pipe went very well.

Next Ross Campbell played *Melbank's Salute*. He had presented this tune at one of our meetings some time ago but the way he played it on this occasion was different from the way he had presented it. He has gone back to the way Robin Sutherland taught it to him. This rendition was a most melodic one on a very good pipe.

Ian Yardley was the next to play and his tune was *MacIntosh's Banner*. Unfortunately his chanter reed had just died and he was playing a new one which was somewhat harder. Ross gave him some assistance with setting up the instrument. After he had played through the tune, Ross gave him some comments on what could be improved., especially in the variations. Ian is fairly new to Piobaireachd and has improved considerably since playing for the group.

Bruce McLeod then played *The Company's Lament* on a good pipe. This was the best we had heard Bruce play, with the song persisting well through the tune, and despite a few blips in the blowing and a few difficulties in the Taorluath and Crunluath variations it showed his marked improvement. Ross gave him some ideas for further improvement and he played the Crunluath again to try them out.

Ross had brought along a few books including Ian McKay's *The Art of Piobaireachd*, Jim McGillivray's *Piobaireachd Fingerwork* and a couple of others and invited those present to have a look at them and consider buying them, as most can still be obtained. He also referred to the fairly extensive text in the *Kilberry Book* and in particular read out a paragraph on Page 17 which gives a very good explanation of the need to only use the written music as an approximate guide, as the length of notes shown in the music often does not reflect accurately how long they are played in the tune. There was some general discussion about the books.

At this stage we broke for morning tea and afterward Maurie De Hayr played *MacLeod of Raasay's Salute*. His pipe was a little out at the beginning but came in well and he showed off the melodic nature of the tune.. As it was some time since he had played it he lost track a little a couple of times but nevertheless it was enjoyable to listen to.

To finish up, Ross announced he was going to play *Clan Chattan's Gathering* and he mentioned the repetitive phrasing in the tune as found in many Gathering tunes. Unfortunately the repetitiveness must have got to him as he had an attack of the dreaded "piper's block". Not to be deterred, he restarted and played *The End of the Great Bridge* instead in great style.

That was the end of the piping and Maurie wished all present well for the festive season. He reminded all that the first meeting for 2014 will be on 2 February.

Finally he made a presentation to Ross which will assist him in meeting the considerable costs he incurs in coming from Toowoomba for our meetings. Ross emphasised that he gets great personal satisfaction from coming, despite the distance.

The first Piobaireachd group meeting of 2014 was very successful, with 11 people in attendance and plenty of tunes.

Maurie DeHayr welcomed everyone for the new year. He announced that Iain Bruce's health had improved and also that Roy Gunn had just had some surgery but was doing well.

Andrew McCabe was the first to play with *The Desperate Battle* on a good pipe. He was followed by Peter Hurwood playing the Donald MacLeod tune *Field of Gold*. He had studied this at the Pipe Bands Australia Summer School in Sydney recently, having already done some work on it himself. His pipes were a bit variable but were going very well by the end of the tune.

Maurie DeHayr said that he had been advised by Bob MacPherson that Maclean were not posting out as many programs this year but full details of the contest will be on their website (see Coming Events later in this newsletter).

Ross Campbell advised us that we should all consider joining the Piobaireachd Society (Scotland). They have a very good website which is further enhanced for paid up members. It is possible to join up online and the cost is very reasonable. The announcement of the set tunes this year has commentaries on each tune to assist competitors. Ross passed around a printed copy that he had printed himself from the website.

Fraser Bolton then played *Clan Chattan's Gathering* on a nice pipe and well executed apart from a little difficulty in the Crunluath. He said he had got the tune from Lachlan McCabe who had got it from John Burgess and the version is a bit different from that usually played.

Ross Campbell then distributed a CD and notes for *Tulloch Ard*, but advised us to ignore the track with himself playing on the Deger Pipe as he has reconsidered how it should go. He played a track of Malcolm McRae at our own group some time ago singing through the tune.

At this stage we had morning tea.

After the break Ross played *Tulloch Ard* on the pipe. In his tune up he played *Donald MacLeod's Tuning Phrase No 3*, which is a very tuneful air on its own. Apparently it is not published. His pipe was excellent. After that he played *Clan Chattan's Gathering*.

To finish off the day, Fraser Bolton played *The Wee Spree*. He played Variation 1 "up" and with slightly different timing to what is usually heard. He said it is a Robert Reid interpretation via Willie Connell. He hadn't played it since the Ipswich Contest last year and unfortunately went off just after the beginning of the Crunluath.

A great meeting with plenty of tunes and a good start to the new year,

What's on.....

F
E
B

24 First Society Meeting of 2014 at Balmoral Bowls Club at 7.30pm

2 Society Piobaireachd Group

M
A
R

7-8 NZ Pipe Band Championships, Tauranga. Contact lynkev@xtra.co.nz Phone: +64 7 579 1689 Mobile: +64 21 411420

24 Society Meeting - Featured Pipers

30 BBC Band and Solo Contest

6 Society Piobaireachd Group

A
P
R

12-13 Australian Pipe Band Championships - Ballarat - details at www.australianpipebandchampionships.com.au Contact Michele Bodey on 03 5331 9611

18-19 Maclean Highland Gathering www.macleanhIGHLANDGATHERING.com.au Contact Bob MacPherson 02 6645 2887

28 Society Meeting - Pairs of Pipers Contest

M
A
Y

4 Society Piobaireachd Group

4 R U Brown Competition - Adelaide www.rubrown.org.au/competitions

17 Sunshine Coast Band Contest - Yandina - Queensland Pipe Band and Mini Band Championships Contact : Robyn Allen br.allen@bigpond.com 07 5442 8632

26 Society Meeting - Patron's Trophy

J
U
N

1 Society Piobaireachd Group

7 Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band and Solo Contest - Queensland Solo Championships

23 Society Meeting - Featured Pipers

Jul 20 Logan Pipe Band Contest

Following on the successful Scotland Homecoming year in 2009, there is to be another one in 2014

VISIT THE COMING EVENTS PAGE AT www.pipebandsqld.org FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE ABOVE, INCLUDING WEB LINKS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

For more details about above events where a contact isn't mentioned, ring or email the Secretary (07 3397 4512 or qhps@qhps.org) and we'll see what we can dig up for you. If we don't know about your event (social, musical, or whatever) we can't publicise it. So tell us and get free publicity

RADIO PROGRAMS

College of Piping Radio: You can tune in on the Internet on <http://www.collegeofpiping.org/media/cop-radio/>

4EB - FM 98.1 – Thursday afternoons 2.15—4.30 pm

Radio 99.7 FM (Redcliffe) – Sundays 12noon to 3pm

Burnett River Radio (91.5 FM) - Thursdays 7pm to 9pm

OTHER PIPING SOCIETIES

The Smallpipers Group - 1st Tuesday of the month at Old Museum, Gregory Tce, Brisbane.

Contact Malcolm McLaren for meeting details - mrmclaren@bigpond.com or 3820 2902

The NSW Pipers' Society usually meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at Unit 2/10

Hampstead Road, Homebush West, 2140. Contact Adam Wishart – 0409 158 237 or adamwishart@live.com.au

Victorian Pipers Association: <http://www.vicpipers.org/>

Canberra Pipers Society - contact Sean Hodgman 02 6282 2795

West Australian Piper's Society - contact 08 9448 7446

RU Brown Piobaireachd Society of South Australia: www.rubrown.org.au or Craig Masson
08 8261 1119

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The Scottish & Celtic Magazine of Queensland

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

CONTEST RESULTS

Illawarra Scottish Fair Band Contest (NSW) - 20 October

Grade 3

1st Sydney Thistle
2nd Scots College No 1

Grade 4

1st Sydney Thistle
2nd NSW Police
3rd Knox Grammar School No 1
4th Hawkesbury Nepean No 1
5th Burwood RSL

Juvenile

1st Scots College No 1
2nd Knox Grammar School No 1
3rd Scots College No 2
4th Knox Grammar School No 2
5th Knox Grammar School No 3

Grade 3 Quickstep

1st Sydney Thistle
2nd Burwood RSL

Grade 4 Quickstep

1st Burwood RSL
2nd Sydney Thistle
3rd Illawarra Pipe Band

Drum Major

1st Doug Hall
2nd Jock Swan
3rd Geoff Lazer
4th James Kirby

2013 APBA Inc NSW Branch State Solos - Castle Hill - 17 November

Learner Chanter

1st Hugh Carney
2nd Will Nicolas
3rd Matt Grimshaw

D GRADE

Air

1st Sebastian Turner (Scots School Albury)
2nd Sean Grace (Scots College Sydney)

3rd Lachlan Scott (Knox Grammar School)

2/4 March

1st Lachlan Scott (Knox Grammar School)
2nd Taylor Cottee-Warner (Scots College Sydney)
3rd James Dey (Knox Grammar School)

C GRADE

2/4 March

1st Brian Tran (The Pipeband Club)
2nd Scott Nelson (Knox Grammar School)
3rd Zac Webster (Scots College Sydney)

Strathspey & Reel

1st Heather McKenzie (St Marys Band Club)
2nd Brian Tran (The Pipeband Club)
3rd Alasdair Caveney (City of Blacktown)

B GRADE

2/4 March

1st Matt Gervasoni (The Pipeband Club)
2nd Nick Robinson (The Pipeband Club)
3rd Ken McLeish (City of Blacktown)

Strathspey & Reel

1st George Harper (The Pipeband Club)
2nd Andrew McCormick (Hawkesbury NV)
3rd Heather McKenzie (St Marys Band Club)

Hornpipe & Jig

1st George Harper (The Pipeband Club)
2nd Andrew McCormick (Hawkesbury NV)
3rd Heather McKenzie (St Marys Band Club)

A GRADE

2/4 March

1st Jason Craig (Canberra Burns Club)
2nd Adam Wishart (NSW Police)
3rd Ken McLeish (City of Blacktown)

Strathspey & Reel

1st Jason Craig (Canberra Burns Club)
2nd Adam Wishart (NSW Police)
3rd Andrew McCormick (Hawkesbury NV)

Hornpipe & Jig

1st Andrew McCormick (Hawkesbury NV)
2nd Barry Gray (Hawkesbury NV)
3rd Adam Wishart (NSW Police)

VETERANS MARCH

1st Fraser Smith (Hawkesbury NV)
2nd Rolfe Chrystal (Hills District)

PIOBAIREACHD

C Grade (Urlar)

1st Lachlan Scott (Knox Grammar)
2nd Sharon Jameson (NSW Solo Player)
3rd Max Macdonald (Hawkesbury NV)

B Grade

1st Graham Durant-Law (Canberra Burns Club)
2nd Matt Gervasoni (The Pipeband Club)
3rd Nick Robinson (The Pipeband Club)

A Grade

1st Jason Craig (Canberra Burns Club)
2nd Barry Gray (Hawkesbury NV)
3rd Ken McLeish (City of Blacktown)

AGGREGATE TROPHIES

D Grade Piping

Lachlan Scott

C Grade Piping

Brian Tran

B Grade Piping

George Harper

A Grade Piping

Jason Craig

Palmerston North, New Zealand, Square Day - 14 December

Grade 1

1st Canterbury Caledonian
2nd Manawatu Scottish
3rd Auckland & Districts
4th New Zealand Police
5th Pipeband Club (Grade 2)
6th City of Invercargill

Grade 2

1st Pipeband Club (Australia)

Grade 3

1st Whangerau County
2nd City of Hastings
3rd Wellington Red Hackle
4th Manawatu Scottish No 2
5th Celtic
6th City of Auckland

Grade 4

1st City of Tauranga
2nd Hamilton Caledonian
3rd Papakura
4th Kapiti Coast
5th Manawatu Scottish 3

Waipu Highland Games (NZ) - 1 January

Solo Piping

A-Grade

Helen McGregor Memorial Recital

1st Martin Frewen
2nd Ben McLaughlan
3rd Stuart Easton
4th Geoff Hauberg

2/4 March

1st Martin Frewen
 2nd Stuart Easton
 3rd Willie Rowe
 4th Jamie Hawke

Strathspey & Reel

1st Martin Frewen
 2nd Jamie Hawke
 3rd Stuart Easton
 4th Willie Rowe

Piobaireachd

1st Stuart Easton
 2nd William Rowe
 3rd Jamie Hawke

MSR

1st Martin Frewen
 2nd Willie Rowe
 3rd Stuart Easton
 4th Jamie Hawke

Hornpipe & Jig

1st Martin Frewen
 2nd Stuart Easton
 3rd Willie Rowe
 4th Jamie Hawke

Northcote Invitational (NZ) - 30 December**MMSSRR**

1st Martin Frewen
 2nd Ben McLaughlin
 3rd Jamie Hawke
 4th Craig Meinsmith

Freestyle Medley

1st Martin Frewen
 2nd Willie Rowe
 3rd Ben McLaughlin
 4th Craig Meinsmith
 Judge: Brian Switalla

New Zealand Solo Championship - Turakina - 25 January**Overall**

Greg Wilson

A-Grade**Piobaireachd**

1st Greg Wilson, *Lament for the Children*
 2nd Brendon Eade

3rd George Mason

4th Liam Kernaghan

Judges: Bain MacGregor, Iain Hines

March

1st Greg Wilson

2nd Stuart Easton

3rd Martin Frewen

4th Jamie Hawke

Judge: Brian Switalla

Strathspey & Reel

1st Martin Frewen

2nd William Rowe

3rd Greg Wilson

4th Liam Kernaghan

Judge: John Hanning

Hornpipe & Jig

1st Liam Kernaghan

2nd Brendon Eade

3rd Stuart Easton

4th William Rowe

Judge: Stewart McKenzie

Metro Cup Newark, New Jersey USA - 17 February**Overall**

Callum Beaumont

Piobaireachd

1st Roddy MacLeod, *Isabel MacKay*

2nd Callum Beaumont, *Ronald MacDonald of Morar's Lament*

3rd Willie McCallum, *The Big Spree*

4th Angus MacColl, *The End of the Great Bridge*

5th Alastair Dunn, *Melbank's Salute*

Medley

1st Callum Beaumont

2nd Angus MacColl

3rd Alastair Dunn

4th Chris Armstrong

5th Bruce Gandy

Other competitors: Glenn Brown, Andrew Carlisle, Margaret Dunn, Alex Gandy, Andrew Hayes, Dan Lyden, Derek Midgley and Gordon Walker.

Judges: Donald MacPhee, John Wassman, Bill Wotherspoon