



Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

www.qhps.org

Newsletter - March 2014

March Meeting

on Monday 24th at 7.30pm

at Balmoral Bowls Club

Jean Howie Drive, Morningside

Admission \$5

This will be another Featured Pipers Night (details to be confirmed) but of course all are welcome (and encouraged) to come along with their pipes and have a tune

Our first meeting of the year was quite successful so we have to try to keep up the good work - don't forget we can always accomodate pipers who just want to come along and "have a tune"

The contest season is about to start in earnest and we wish all soloists and bands all the best in their endeavours.

Alex McConnell

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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.

2014 SOCIETY CALENDAR

MONTHLY MEETING Dates

FEBRUARY 24 TH	FEATURED PIPER-ALASTAIR MCINNES	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	

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February meeting featured the playing of Alastair McInnes, all the way from Grafton, following some arm twisting by Andrew Roach. Donald Galloway opened the evening with about 25 in attendance.

The first player was Andrew Roach and through we don't have a full list of his tune they included 6/8s *MacNeills of Ugadale* and *P/M Donald MacLean 2/4s Mrs MacDonald of Dunach* and *Donald Maclean's Farewell to Oban* along with Strathspeys, Reels and Jigs. His pipes were very strong (he had to ease the chanter off a bit!) but well balanced nevertheless.

Alastair McInnes was next. He apologised for the lack of volume (in contrast to Andrew!) but there was nothing wrong with his firm and resonant sound. The tunes included the 6/8s *Braemar Gathering* and *Mrs Lily Christie*, air *The Guerins* (by Doug Thoresen), hornpipe *The High Level*, jigs including *James MacLellan's Favourite* and others. That was followed by the MSR *Atholl Highlanders March to Loch Katrine*, *Caledonian Society of London* and *The Little Cascade*. Then the airs *The White Swan* and *Circle in the Ocean* and the hornpipe *Jimmy Tweedie's Sea Legs*. Finally he gave us the Piobaireachd *Lament for Captain MacDougall*. All in all quite a tour de force, with quite a few tunes we don't hear very often. Many thanks Alastair. Andrew cemented these thanks by

presenting Alastair with a bottle of single malt.

Donald Galloway advised the members that the Balmoral Bowls Club is closing, so our future meeting place is in some doubt. We will probably be able to use the club in March and beyond that time the City Council may keep it available. The committee is considering a range of options for our future meetings and information will be announced when known.

Ross Campbell was also in attendance a ready to play so without further ado he launched off on his usual excellent pipe and played the 6/8 *Tug Argan Gap*, airs *MacLeod's Oran Mor* and *Donald MacLeod's Tuning Phrase No 3* and then the Piobaireachd *The Black Wedder's White Tail*,

Finally Lachlan McPhee gave us some tunes, including *Lochanside*, *Dream Valley of Glendaruel*, *Donald MacLeod*, *John Patterson's Mare*, *Abercairney Highlanders*, *Lady Louden* and *The Sheepwife*. All on a good pipe (perhaps the high A was a little shrill).

The raffle was drawn by Alastair McInnes and won by Joan O'Neill.

Donald Galloway wrapped up the evening, once again thanking Alastair and all the players for a great night of piping.

Piobaireachd Group

The March Piobaireachd Group again had a good attendance of 12 but unfortunately Ross Campbell was unable to make it, having sustained an injury the previous evening. It's apparently dangerous to go to the movies in Toowoomba!

Undeterred, Sandy Dalziel led off with a musical *Corrienessan's Salute*. His pipe was a bit quieter than we are used to hearing from him but very nice nevertheless. It is one of the tunes he is working up for the R U Brown competition in Adelaide in May. The other is *Weighing from Land* and there was some discussion about that tune.

Peter Hurwood was next with *Lord Lovat's Lament*, which he is playing in Adelaide in the Bronze Medal. A good pipe but drifted just a little and a good performance overall, but with a few little imperfections still to be worked out.

Next to play was Abby Dalziel, now on a full set of pipes, and she gave us *Struan Robertson's Salute* which she is playing in the Bronze at Adelaide. A good firm sounding pipe and well executed. Very deliberate with the Crunluath movement but the tune well maintained throughout.

Maurie DeHayr then related some stories from the R U Brown contest last year and also gave us the benefit of some notes he had found on the Internet about the name of the tune *The Black Wedder's White Tail* (see elsewhere in this newsletter). Ross Campbell had played the tune at the Modnay night meeting, so Maurie had gone searching for the origin of the name.

We then broke for morning tea and afterwards Sandy Dalziel gave us the aforementioned tune, *Weighing from Land*. he explained beforehand that the very regularity of this "rowing" tune makes it difficult to get the music into it but then he proceeded to do so very well. We had a bit more discussion about rowing tunes in general.

Continuing on, Dave Marriner gave us a rendition of *The Flame of Wrath for Patrick Caogach*. Despite his B being out a little, the pipe was good and the performance enjoyable.

Ian Yardley was next to play, with his pipe much improved on previous months and he played the ground and a couple of variations of *Lament for for MacDonald of Kinlochmoidart No 2* quite nicely.

Bruce MacLeod then played *Struan Robertson's Salute*, the Taorluath a lot stronger than last time we heard the tune from him. A very good pipe and just a few errors in the Crunluath.

Fraser Bolton had just arrived following band practice and played *Too Long in the Condition* quite well on a good pipe, wrapping up what had been an excellent morning, despite our initial concern at Ross Campbell being unable to be with us.

Maurie DeHayr wrapped up the morning a few minutes early and urged all to return next month.

From Pipe Major Bill Robertson's Bagpipe Tutorials
<http://www.bagpipe-tutorials.com>

The Black Wedder's White Tail

The composer of this piobaireachd tune, The Black Wedder's White Tail, is unknown but the probability lies with a 16th century MacGregor.

The issue that eventually led to the Rout of Glenfruin, 1603, flowed from the theft of a black sheep by two MacGregors 76 years earlier. The two men had killed a black sheep owned by Colquhoun and had stopped to feast on the carcass. The sheep was distinctive for its white tail. The MacGregors were captured and summarily executed. Thus, were the seeds sown of a long standing feud between MacGregors and the Colquhouns with their Buchanan allies, a feud that grew in intensity with each passing year.

In 1603, the MacGregors with the help of some allies successfully ambushed a small Colquhoun-Buchanan army at Glenfruin. But, that was not enough for them. They sacked Luss and the Lennox and made off with several hundred cattle and sheep and anything else they could carry.

James VI was dismayed at the inability of his nobles to contain the MacGregors and angry at the many broken promises of MacGregor to keep the King's Peace. He issued a proscription that banned the name of MacGregor and banned them from carrying arms. Over the years other proscriptions followed, with some temporary relief during the reign of Charles II. It was not until 1795 that laws penalizing the clan were abolished.

OTHER PIPING SOCIETIES

The Smallpipers Group - 1st Tuesday of the month at Milton. 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

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

“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 - \$30 (including postage)

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

What's on.....

M
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- 24 **Society Meeting** - Featured Pipers
30 BBC Band and Solo Contest

5 Bundanoon Highland Gathering NSW Southern Highlands 02 4883 7471
<http://www.brigadoon.net.au/>

6 Society Piobaireachd Group

A
P
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- 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

1-4 Australian Celtic Festival - Glen Innes. (02) 67302410
<http://www.australiancelticfestival.com/>

3-4 Gold Coast Renaissance Fair, Pratten Park, Broadbeach. David Russell, (07)
5588 5155, 0450 123 574 <http://www.goldcoastrenfaire.com/>

M
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4 Society Piobaireachd Group

- 4 R U Brown Competition - Adelaide www.rubrown.org.au/competitions
9-11 Suth West Coast Piper Drummer Workshops, Warrnambool, VIC
www.wadpadi.org.au
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

31 British Pipe Band Championships, Bathgate

J
U
N

1 Society Piobaireachd Group

- 7 Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band and Solo Contest - Queensland Solo Championships
14 UK Pipe Band Championships - Belfast
23 Society Meeting - Featured Pipers

Jul 5 International Tartan Day, King George Square, Brisbane

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

CONTEST RESULTS

Ballarat Band Contest - 23 February

Grade 1

1st Moorabbin City

Grade 2

1st Hawthorn City

Grade 3

1st Federation University Ballarat

2nd Williamstown

3rd Scotch College

Grade 4

1st Golden City Bendigo

2nd Geelong RSL

3rd Warrnambool

Juvenile

1st Scotch College

2nd Haileybury

3rd PLC

Canterbury Pipe Band Championships - Kaiapoi, Christchurch 23 February

Grade 1

MSR & Medley

1st Canterbury Caledonian Society

Grade 2

MSR

1st Temuka Pipe Band

2nd St Andrews College

3rd Canterbury Caledonian Society #2

Medley

1st St Andrews College

2nd Temuka Pipe Band

3rd Canterbury Caledonian Society #2

Octagon Day Pipe Band Competition - Dunedin -15 February

Grade 1

1st City of Invercargill

Grade 2

MSR

1st Temuka Pipe Band

2nd City of Dunedin Pipe Band

3rd Canterbury Caledonian #2

4th South Canterbury Highland Pipe Band

Medley

1st Temuka Pipe Band

2nd City of Dunedin Pipe Band

3rd Canterbury Caledonian #2

4th South Canterbury Highland Pipe Band

Otago Southland Championships- Dunedin - 16 February

Grade 1

1st City of Invercargill

Grade 2

MSR

1st Temuka Pipe Band

2nd City of Dunedin Pipe Band

3rd South Canterbury

4th Canterbury Caledonian #2

Medley

1st Temuka Pipe Band

2nd Canterbury Caledonian #2

3rd City of Dunedin Pipe Band

4th South Canterbury Pipe Band

Pipe-Majors Wheel of Fortune - Danderhall, Scotland – 22 February

1st Douglas Murray

2nd Finlay Johnston

3rd Angus Nicolson

The test piece is a medley comprising an air, hornpipe, polka, an own composition and a rendition of G.S. McLennan's Jig of Slurs

MSR

Gordon McCready

Joke Contest

Angus Nicolson - his joke involved involved doctors, Portree and a farting man.

Judges: Barry Donaldson, Ian Duncan, Harry McNulty, and the audience.

Sounds like good entertainment!

Geelong Pipe Band Contest - 2 March

Grade 1

1st Moorabbin City

Grade 2

1st Hawthorn City

Grade 3

1st Federation University Ballarat

2nd Scotch College

3rd Williamstown

Grade 4

1st Golden City Bendigo
2nd Warrnambool
3rd City of Melbourne

Juvenile

1st Scotch College
2nd Haileybury
3rd PLC

Archie Kenneth Quaich - Royal Scottish Pipers' Society Rooms - 1 March

1st Bob Low, Nameless – *Hiharin dro o dro*
2nd Alan Forbes, *Lament for Donald Duaghal Mackay*
3rd Colin MacNeill, *Lament for Donald of Laggan*
4th John MacLeod, *Lament for MacSwan of Roaig*
This is the top amateur piobaireachd competition run by the Piobaireachd Society

New Zealand Pipe Band Championships - Tauranga - 7-8 March

Grade 1

Overall

1st Canterbury Caledonian
2nd Manawatu Scottish
3rd New Zealand Police
4th City of Invercargill
5th Auckland & District
Judges: N. Foster, Sam Young (piping), Phillip Mair (ensemble), Gordon Craig (drumming)

Medley

1st Canterbury Caledonian
2nd Manawatu Scottish
3rd New Zealand Police
4th City of Invercargill
5th Auckland & District

MSR

1st Canterbury Caledonian
2nd Manawatu
3rd New Zealand Police
4th Auckland & District
5th City of Invercargill
Judges: Alistair Hanning, Barry Brougham (piping), Brendon Eade (ensemble), Greg Dinsdale (drumming)

Grade 2

1st St Andrew's College
2nd Temuka

3rd City of Dunedin Pipe Band
4th Canterbury Caledonian Society Pipe Band Grade 2
5th South Canterbury Pipe Band

Duncan Johnstone Memorial - National Piping Centre - Glasgow - 15 March

B-Grade

Piobaireachd

1st Steven Leask, *Lachlan MacNeill Campbell of Kintarbert's Fancy*
2nd Sarah Muir
3rd Ashley McMichael
4th George Stewart
5th Roddy Weir
Judges: Willie Morrison, Jack Taylor

MSR

1st Steven Leask
2nd Ashley McMichael
3rd Michael Elder
4th Jamie Elder
5th George Stewart
Judges: Tom Johnstone, Ronnie McShannon

Jig

1st Connor Sinclair
2nd Christopher Gray
3rd Steven Gray
4th Callum Moffat
5th Bradley Parker
Judges: Tom Johnstone, Ronnie McShannon

C-Grade

Piobaireachd

1st Scott Barrie
2nd Alex Gehrig
3rd Duncan Beattie
4th Brian Mulhearn
5th Ross Hume
Judges: Alan Forbes, Bruce Hitchings

MSR

1st Glen Ross
2nd Matt Fraser
3rd Jonathan Lamberton
4th Edward Gaul
5th Colin McLean
Judges: Euan Anderson, Colin MacLellan
This competition is for B and C graded pipers only and is sponsored by the Competing Pipers Association