

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



**The official monthly publication of
the British Columbia Pipers' Association**

APRIL, 1964.

No. 49.

AN ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF BAGPIPE MUSIC

AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF PIPE PLAYING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The office of the

Secretary of the

B. C. P I P E R S ' N E W S L E T T E R

Published monthly by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

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The B.C. Pipers' Newsletter is published monthly at 3726 Blenheim Street, Vancouver, B.C., by the British Columbia Pipers' Association, and is distributed to all members. Subscription price to non-members is \$1.50 per year. Address all communications concerning the Newsletter to: The B.C. Pipers' Newsletter, 3726 Blenheim Street, Vancouver, B.C. Address all other communications to the Secretary, B.C. Pipers' Association, Ste. 304, 2110 West 38th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.

| APRIL, 1964. | CONTENTS | No. 49. |
|--|----------|---------|
| B.C. Pipers' Newsletter enters fifth year | | Page 3 |
| 32nd Annual Gathering, March 21st, 1964 | | Page 3 |
| Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band Social - April 25th | | Page 9 |
| Penticton Annual Games, May 16th, 17th | | Page 9 |
| B.C. Pipers' Association, Approved List of Judges | | Page 11 |
| Leave us the Laments | | Page 14 |
| Eagle Pipers Society | | Page 15 |
| Tribute to Pipe Major John Ross | | Page 15 |
| Bi-Monthly Competitions - April 24th, 1964..... | | Page 17 |
| They Want the Pipes in Fiji | | Page 17 |
| Alberta Amateur Piping Competition Results, March 28th | | Page 19 |
| Summer Games Schedule | | Page 20 |
| Annual Meeting, April 17th, 1964, | | Page 23 |

B.C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER ENTERS FIFTH YEAR:

The April issue of the B.C. Pipers' Newsletter marks the beginning of the fifth year of its publication. It is indeed difficult to imagine that we have produced forty-eight issues in the past four years, since it seems such a short time since we put out our first modest effort.

We hope to keep the Newsletter varied and interesting, as well as informative, in the year to come. It is imperative that we receive support from our readers by way of articles, and we would thank all those who have been of assistance to us in the past year.

We would like to give special thanks to our most prolific and regular contributor, Pipe Major John Robertson, whose scrapbooks and steady supply of clippings have been so useful. John Robertson's support has been mammoth, and more than once his material has been the difference between a skimpy and a well-rounded Newsletter.

The advertisers deserve our heartfelt thanks for their monetary support. We urge all of our readers to support these advertisers, who are instrumental in the production of the Newsletter.

If any of our readers have any friends who might like to receive the Newsletter, we would suggest that they send them a subscription, at \$1.50 per year. We would also mention that the Editor is anxious to get rid of a volume of back issues which take up considerable space. These are available (most numbers) for 15¢ per issue, and once they are gone there will be no more available.

32nd ANNUAL GATHERING: March 21st, 1964.

March 21st was the date of the 32nd Annual Gathering of the B.C. Pipers' Association, held at the Seaforth Armoury. The day was a successful one, and a very good crowd watched extremely good entries in most events.

Chief piping judge was Pipe Major Neil Sutherland, of Winnipeg. Drumming judge was Drum Major George Pryde, of Powell River, and Mr. George Allan judged the short leets.

It was somewhat disappointing not to have our regular contingent from Powell River in the senior events. It is only in the Open events where there is a shortage of competitors, and we feel that all professional pipers should make every effort possible to support the ever dwindling Open events.

For the interest of our readers, we are giving with the results the numbers of competitors. In those events where short leets were held, we are also listing the competitors chosen for the short leets, who did not end up in the prize list.

Junior Amateur Piobaireachd: (7 competitors)

1. Bruce Topp
2. James MacLean, Seattle
3. Bill Heaton, Seattle
4. Raymond Irvine

Amateur Piobaireachd: (7 competitors)

1. Margaret Gillies
2. Robert MacDonald
3. Jack Flancher, Bellingham

Senior Amateur (Restricted) Old Highland Airs: (2 competitors)

1. John MacKay
2. John Munroe, Bellingham

Novice Marches: (43 competitors)

1. Hugh MacInnes, Prince George
 2. Heather MacBride
 3. Dal Jessiman
 4. Ian Chalmers, Prince George
- Short Leet - Michael Murdoch, Barry Selkirk.

Juvenile Marches: (23 competitors)

1. Kelly Hagan
 2. Colin Stuart
 3. David Irvine
 4. Laurie McIlvena
- Short Leet - Neil Hunter, Michael McNeil

Juvenile Strathspeys & Reels: (23 competitors)

1. Kelly Hagan
 2. Laurie McIlvena
 3. Colin Stuart
 4. Neil Hunter
- Short Leet - David Irvine, Alan MacNeil

Junior Amateur Marches: (9 competitors)

1. John MacLeod
2. Bruce Topp
3. Michael MacInnes

Junior Amateur Strathspeys & Reels: (8 competitors)

1. Bruce Topp
2. John MacLeod
3. Teresa MacInnes

Quartette Competitions (Junior) (9 quartettes)

1. Seaforth Cadets (P.M. Bruce Topp)
2. White Spot Pipe Band # 2 (G. McBride)
3. Vancouver Ladies (B. MacArthur)

Amateur Marches: (10 competitors)

1. Robert MacDonald
2. William Elder
3. Margaret Gillies
4. Peter MacNeil

Amateur Strathspeys & Reels: (8 competitors)

1. Robert MacDonald
2. Larry Gillott
3. Karen Ruddick

Open Piobaireachd: (4 competitors)

1. Norma Nicholson
2. Rae Marie MacInnes
3. Roderick MacVicar

Open Marches:

1. Rae Marie MacInnes
2. Angus Graham
3. Norma Nicholson

Amateur Over 16 Highland Fling:

1. Mary Margaret MacMillan
2. Heather McBride
3. Jean Nicholl

Open Strathspeys & Reels: (4 competitors)

1. Albert Duncan
2. Angus Graham, Prince George

Quartette Competitions (Senior) (6 quartettes)

1. Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band
2. Vancouver City Police Pipe Band
3. Vancouver Highland Pipes and Drums

Old Highland Airs - Veterans 60 and over (1 competitor)

1. Seb Nellies

Miniautre Pipe Band Competition (6 bands)

1. Seaforth Highlanders Pipe Band
2. Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band

Open Jigs: (3 competitors)

1. Albert Duncan
2. Norma Nicholson

Trophies:

MacIver Memorial Trophy: (highest aggregate in all events)
Robert MacDonald & Bruce Topp (tie)

MacGrimmon Memorial Trophy (Open Piobaireachd)
Norma Nicholson

Laurie Trophy (Open Jigs)
Albert Duncan

Wm. Campbell Memorial Trophy (aggregate in Open Piobaireachd, Marches
and Strathspeys & Reels) Rae Marie MacInnes

Walter Douglas Trophy (Senior Quartette)
Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band

Nicholson Trophy (aggregate in Amateur Piobaireachd, Marches and
Strathspeys & Reels) Robert MacDonald

Alex Lobban Trophy (aggregate in Junior Amateur Piobaireachd, Marches
and Strathspeys & Reels) Bruce Topp

Tait's Jewellers Trophy (Drumming in Miniature Pipe Band Competition)
Seaforth Highlander Pipe Band Drum Corps

Cabar Feidh Trophy (Amateur Piobaireachd)
Margaret Gillies

Alan MacNab Memorial Trophy (Old Highland Airs, Veterans 60 and over)
Seb. Nellies

Gordon Sinclair Memorial Trophy: (Junior Amateur Piobaireachd)
Bruce Topp

Mrs. C.M. Crawford Trophy (Miniature Pipe Band Competition)
Seaforth Highlanders Pipe Band

K. Nicholson Willis (aggregate in Juvenile Marches, Strathspeys & Reels)
Kelly Hagan

Mrs. Walter Douglas Trophy (Junior Quartette)
Seaforth Cadet Pipe Band

Two of the best hands of the day went to two of our association stalwarts, Roderick MacVicar and Seb. Nellies. Rod MacVicar played in the Open Piobaireachd, and to the best of our knowledge it was the first time he ever entered competition. Rod made a very fine job of his piobaireachd and deserves our sincere commendation. Seb Nellies also got a well-deserved hand, after playing in the Veterans' class. Seb has kept this event alive for many years, often being the only competitor, and is always a favourite of our audiences.

We feel that special thanks must be given to Alistair Baillie who functioned as Chief Steward, the most important administrative position of the day. Al. has been in this job for many years, and keeps the day moving smoothly with his stop-watch and slide rule calculations. We are also grateful to the Commanding Officer of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, Lt. Col. C.B. Campbell, who made the facilities of the Seaforth Armouries open to us. We are very grateful to the Seaforths for their support, and once more we were able to enjoy the facilities of the Sergeants' Mess.

The following is a brief resume prepared by Pipe Major Neil Sutherland:

Open Piobaireachd:

1st - Norma Nicholson - Lament for Capt. MacDougall
Norma played a very good Piobaireachd and was pleasing to listen to. Her pipes were in excellent condition throughout the tune.

2nd - Rae Marie MacInnes - Black Donald.

Rae Marie started away a little nervous and remained that way practically throughout her urlar, but settled down when she came to the 1st variation; from then her taorluath and doublings, crunluath and doublings were something I did not expect from a girl. They were very good.

3rd - Roderick MacVicar - Corrienessan Salute

He played a very nice piobaireachd, and had nice expression and feeling throughout his tune. His pipes were going very well. When playing his cadence, he cut his "D" far too much - at times I could not hear the "D" at all.

Albert Duncan - Bells of Perth

He started away too fast, and his pipes went out of tune. He broke down at the beginning of his Crunluath.

All of the piping was very good in all of the competitions. There were very few break-downs.

The Junior Amateur and Amateur Piobaireachd competitions were good, but it would take too much space to go into detail on each individual. If any individual would like my comments and would like to drop me a line, I will be glad to give them their points and my view on their playing.

Every competitor was a credit to his or her teacher, and the only trouble was that there were not enough prizes to go around.

- Neil Sutherland -

(If any of the competitors want to take advantage of Neil's kind offer, his address is as follows:

P.M. Neil Sutherland
405 Rupertsland Avenue
Winnipeg 17, Manitoba.)

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WANTED:

Material on any of the defunct pipe bands which played in British Columbia in past years. This material will be returned if requested.

Also any other historical material concerning piping in British Columbia.

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VANCOUVER LADIES PIPE BAND SOCIAL - APRIL 25th.

The Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band Auxiliary will be holding a social and dance on Saturday, April 25th, at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 148 Auditorium, 4356 East Hastings Street.

Dancing will be from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00. Make up a party and join the Ladies for an evening of fun.

Tickets may be obtained by phoning CY 9-3589 or LA 2-1731.

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PENTICTON ANNUAL GAMES: May 16th, 17th.

The First Annual Penticton Highland Games will be held in King's Park, Penticton, B.C. on May 16th and 17th.

The following events are scheduled for pipers and drummers:

May 16th:

Novice March
Juvenile March
Juvenile Strathspey & Reel
Junior Piobaireachd
Junior March
Junior Strathspey & Reel
Amateur Drumming, March, Strathspey & Reel

May 17th:

Amateur March
Amateur Strathspey & Reel
Amateur Piobaireachd
Amateur Jig
Professional Piobaireachd
Professional March
Professional Strathspey & Reel
Professional Jig
Junior March (confined to Okanagan Valley)
Professional Drumming, March, Strathspey & Reel
"C" Class Pipe Band
"B" Class Pipe Band

You will agree that this is a most ambitious program for a first attempt, and we wish the Penticton Games the best of luck.

All entries must be in the hands of the Competition Secretary not later than Saturday, May 2nd, 1964.

Mrs. C. Steen, Competition Secretary
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B.C. PIPERS' ASSOCIATION - APPROVED LIST OF JUDGES:

Frequently this Association is asked to recommend piping judges for local and more distant competitions. For this reason, we have prepared a list of these judges, which we reprint below. These persons are approved by the B.C. Pipers' Association, and should be used wherever possible to judge the piping competitions in this area.

If there are any deletions, we would be pleased to hear about the same, in order that the appropriate action be taken.

Those persons who are marked with an asterisk (*) are teachers, and they should be used as judges only when their pupils are not competing. Games associations should ensure that judges' pupils do not compete when their teachers are asked to compete. Also, teachers, if asked to judge, should first determine if any of their pupils intend to attend the competitions, in order to prevent any difficulty.

Geo. Allan,
1824 Stephens Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

P.M. Frank Knight,
c/o Canadian Scottish Regt.,
Bay Street Armoury,
Victoria, B.C.

Mrs. Lillian Davis,
2695 Eastdown Road,
Victoria, B.C.

Wm. Lockie,
6908 Angus Drive,
Vancouver, B.C.

* Albert Duncan,
6970 Burns Court,
Burnaby, B.C.

* John Low,
950 Falkland Street,
Victoria, B.C.

* Ian Duncan,
2605 Wooton Cres.,
Victoria, B.C.

Donald Murray,
6985 Lanark Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Edmund Esson,
2539 West 22nd Ave.,
Vancouver, B.C.

Jas. MacColl,
23002 Ely Ave.,
Artesia, Calif.

R.A. Forman,
1176 Pinewood Cres.,
North Vancouver, B.C.

Kenneth MacDonald,
4233 Kelly Road,
Bremerton, Wash.

Peter George,
3838 Saul Street,
Victoria, B.C.

Ian McDougall,
3661 Oxford Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Ian Inkster,
Box 613,
Revelstoke, B.C.

John McHardy,
231 West 23rd Ave.,
Vancouver, B.C.

John MacKenzie,
Rodmay Hotel,
Powell River, B.C.

* Malcolm Nicholson,
3460 Triumph Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

P.M. Donald MacKenzie,
5537 Maple Ave.,
Powell River, B.C.

* Norma Nicholson,
3460 Triumph Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Ian MacKinnon,
6959 Halligan Street,
South Burnaby, B.C.

* Alex Reid,
7856 Hudson Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Fred MacLeod,
5608 Marine Street,
Powell River, B.C.

David Westie,
5778 Crown Street,
Powell River, B.C.

Kenneth MacLeod,
6016 Kingsway,
South Burnaby, B.C.

* Albert Whyte,
9445 Points Drive,
Bellevue, Wash.

* Jas. MacMillan,
6386 Burns Street,
South Burnaby, B.C.

Robert Young,
8357 10th Ave.,
New Westminster, B.C.

* C.A. MacNeil,
7504 S.E. 30th Ave.,
Portland 2, Ore.

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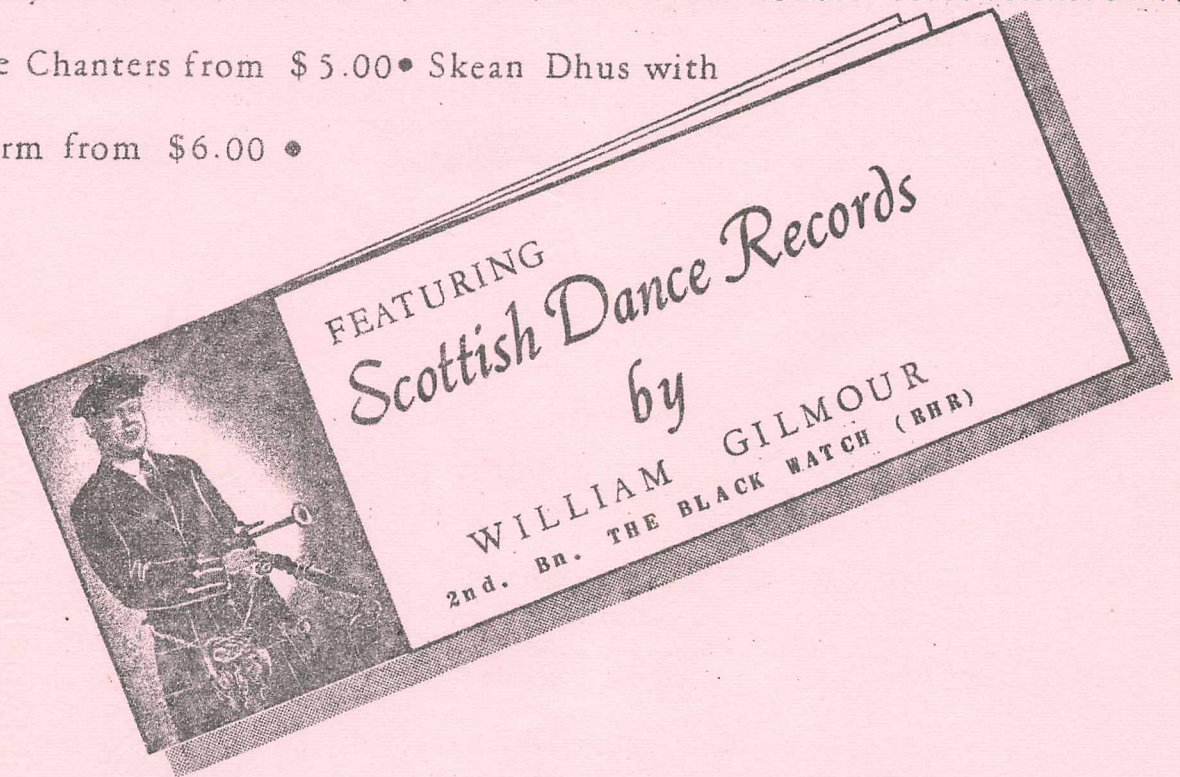
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LEAVE US THE LAMENTS: (from The Oban Times, Feb. 20th, 1964)

Sir: - I have been waiting for some G.O.M. of piping to take up the cudgels against the exploitation (and degradation) of our traditional begpipe music by Andy Stewart and other music hall star turns; but, since no one else can be bothered, here goes.

Don't get me wrong. I like Andy, but in his own sphere and, if he is not stopped, I feel that there will be no stirring or traditional music left for the "ceol mhor". Is there no copyright involved?

For instance: my own vision of a pipe band swinging along in full regalia, or of a girl gracefully dancing "Flora MacDonald's Fancy" to the strains of "The Glendaruel Highlanders" is becoming obliterated by the sound of raucous voices singing "Campbeltown Loch, I wish ye were whisky"; and does David Kinnaird know that his "Legends of Scotland" was originally called "Lord Lovat's Lament" and was often played by pipers as a slow march for funerals and other solemn occasions? Granted, those "hits" may reach the "Top ten" for a while, but is it really worthwhile filching OUR (repeat OUR) HIGHLAND MUSIC for a few weeks' popularity? The words could easily have been set to new tunes.

Anyway, let's hope it's not too late to ask Andy and his pals at least to -

Leave us the Lament

Time was when I thrilled to hear the drums roll
As the pipers were playing "Green Hills of Tyrol";
But now "Scottish Soldier" is far better known
And some people think that it's all Andy's own.

The craze is now spreading and another gent
Has changed to quick tempo "Lord Lovat's Lament".
Will "Flowers of the Forest" be next on this list
For singing a "pop" tune or dancing the Twist?

Find me an Englishman in music hall
Who would dare to "pep-up" the "Dead March in Saul";
And what Continental would deem it great fun
To dance to the Funeral March by Chopin?

So... leave us the laments, please, Scotsmen, do,
You've lots of tunes you can sing to.
I shudder to think that time may be nearhand
When you murder the piobaireachd "Kiss of the King's Hand".

I am, etc.

Feros Ferio

EAGLE PIPERS SOCIETY:

(from The Oban Times, March 5, 1964)

The Eagle Pipers' Society report a most enjoyable evening on February 26th, when Pipe Major George Stoddart was in the chair and the guests were welcomed by the president, Mr. Patrick Sandeman. A particular welcome was accorded to Mr. John Keswick, of the Royal Scottish Pipers' Society, who delighted the company with a nice selection of tunes. Mr. Keswick is an enthusiast for the pipes, and although resident in London can still find time to travel to Edinburgh to play. Selections were given by Major D. McKue, Hugh MacRae, Patrick Sandeman, James MacRae, Jack Abbott, and John Gubbins.

The Piobaireachd was played by Ronald E. Smith, from Washington, D.C. "This was a really excellent tune, and I have seldom heard "The Big Spree" played better," commented Pipe Major Stoddart.

Ronald was taught this tune by Donald MacMillan, South Uist, and is at present taking lessons from Hugh MacRae. Washington, D.C. as an address may deceive a lot of people, but Ronald is a true Highlander. He is married to the youngest daughter of Dr. Allan MacDonald, Portree, who himself is one of the founder members of the Eagle Pipers. Ronald is a really fine player, who spares no effort to improve his piping, and his "Big Spree" left the members with a feeling of pleasure tinged with regret as the last notes were sounded.

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TRIBUTE TO PIPE MAJOR JOHN ROSS: (from The Oban Times, February 27, 1964)

Members of the Highland Pipers' Society stood in silence at their last meeting on February 17th, in tribute to the late Pipe Major John Ross, Hon. Pipe Major of the society for about ten years, before Pipe Major Duncan Cameron took over that office. At the request of Pipe Major Cameron, the oldest member, Charles Innes, played the groundwork of the piobaireachd "His Father's Lament of Donald MacKenzie".

Pipe Major Ross, who died in hospital earlier this month, belonged to Dunblane and joined the 1st Bn. Gordon Highlanders during the First World War - having previously joined the Royal Scots and been taken out again by his father because he was under age.

After the war he passed through the pipe major's course at the Army School at Edinburgh Castle under Pipe Major Willie Ross, and in 1924 he went with the battalion to India, where he married in Bombay, and where all of his three sons were born. He returned to this country with the battalion as its pipe major about 1933, and was stationed at Redford Barracks, Edinburgh.

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BI-MONTHLY COMPETITIONS - APRIL 24th, 1964.

The Bi-Monthly competitions for April will be held on April 24th, in the Gymnasium of the Seaforth Armoury.

The events will be as follows:

Novice Strathspey & Reel
Juvenile 6/8 Marches
Junior Jigs
Amateur Marches
Senior Amateur Old Highland Airs

The events will commence at 7:30 p.m. This is a change in time, so we would ask the teachers to point the starting time out to their pupils.

Entrance is by silver collection, and all members and friends are welcome.

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THEY WANT THE PIPES IN FIJI: (from Weekly Scotsman, Feb. 13th, 1964)

The only bagpipe maker in England - that's 57 year old George Alexander from Glasgow. He has his showroom and a small workshop in Gerrard Street, in the heart of London's West End.

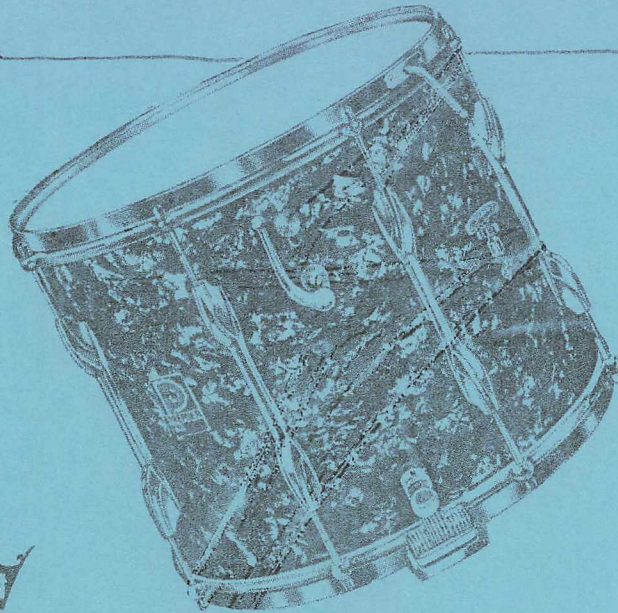
His factory, which employs a staff of six, is at Dunmore, in Essex. Since the business started in a humble way at home over six years ago he has built up a flourishing trade. He sends bagpipes and accessories to bands in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States - even back to Scotland.

Recently George had a request for a pipe bag from the Fiji Islands. To cater for less wealthy budding pipers he even imports sets of pipes made in Pakistan. On arrival, George fits the bags and tartan covers. They cost 17 pounds 10s, compared with 25 pounds for the cheapest in his range.

George is always trying out something new. His most successful invention so far is a long practice chanter. He said: "I'm rather proud of it, and it is a great commercial success. "I predict the practice chanter will supersede the present one. It really is quite simple.

When I took up playing the pipes I found the holes on the practice chanter were smaller than on the bagpipes. This meant you had to adapt yourself when you changed from one to the other, rather like typing on a portable typewriter and changing to a standard machine.

So I made the holes on my long practice chanter the same size as on the pipes. My chanter has been approved by many leading pipers. I started making them two years ago, and the demand is growing."



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NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP, AUG. 3rd., 1963, MAXVILLE, ONT.

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3rd. City of Toronto Pipe Band

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ALBERTA AMATEUR PIPING COMPETITION RESULTS - MARCH 28th.

The Annual Alberta Amateur Piping Competition on March 28th, 1964, was sponsored by the Edmonton Boys Pipe Band at the Strathscona Legion Auditorium. A Practice Chanter competition was held for the first time, which was successful and encouraging to the beginners.

Judges for the day were as follows:

Piping Harry Lunan
Department Drum Major Mel Parsons, P.P.C.L.I.
Drumming Drum Sgt. Stan Deane, Edmonton City Police Pipe Band
Novice piping & practice chanter - Pipe Major James Stout.

The results for the piping were as follows:

Novice Marches: (7 entries)

1. Hugh McQuiston, Calgary
2. Kathy Ballantyne, Calgary
3. Douglas Raffan, Calgary

Under 12: (3 entries)

1. Randall Stokoe, Calgary
2. Donald Davis, Edmonton

Under 14 Marches: (7 entries)

1. Robert Heggie,
2. Ronald La Plach
3. Ronald MacKinnon

Under 14 Strathspeys & Reels: (7 entries)

1. Robert Heggie
2. Ronald La Plach
3. Ronald MacKinnon

Under 14 Slow Marches: (7 entries)

1. Robert Heggie
2. Ronald La Plach
3. Ronald MacKinnon

Under 16: (2 entries)

1. Bryon Dickie, Edmonton.

Under 19 Marches: (8 entries)

1. Edmund Chilton
2. Clive McDonald
3. Alvin Johnstone

Under 19 Strathspeys & Reels: (8 entries)

1. Clive McDonald
2. Edmund Chilton
3. Jim Lyon.

Under 19 Slow Marches: (8 entries)

1. Edmund Chilton
2. Jim Lyon.
3. Clive McDonald

Ladies Piping: (5 entries)

1. Maureen Dunne, Rocky Mountain House
2. Margaret Jackson, Calgary
3. Anne Garden, Edmonton.

Trophy Winners:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Canada Safeway Open Jig | Edmund Chilton |
| Edmonton Scottish Grand Aggregate | Edmund Chilton |
| Senator MacKinnon Cup Under 19 | Edmund Chilton |
| Strathscona Legion Department Trophy | Edmund Chilton. |
| Peoples Credit Jewelers Shield Under 16 | Bryon Dickie |
| Scottish Imports Trophy Under 14 | Robert Heggie |
| Irvine Kline Trophy Under 12 | Randall Stokoe |
| Tom Campbell Memorial Novice Trophy | Hugh McQuiston |
| Stuart Campbell Department Trophy | Robert Stokoe |

- George Chilton -
 President, Edmonton Boys Pipe Band
 Edmonton, Alberta.

SUMMER GAMES SCHEDULE:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Penticton | May 16th & 17th |
| Bellingham | June 20th |
| B.C. Highland Dancing West Vancouver | July 1st |
| * Nanaimo | July 11th |
| Edmonton | July 11th |
| New Westminster | July 18th |
| * Victoria | July 25th |
| Vancouver | August 1st |
| * Seattle | August 8th |
| * Portland | August 15th |
| San Francisco | Sept. 1st |
| Nelson | Sept. 1st |

Further details can be obtained from the Secretary.

* - members of the Pacific International Highland Games Association.

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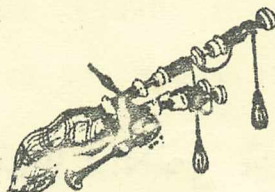
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GLASGOW, W.2.

SCOTLAND

ANNUAL MEETING: APRIL 17th, 1964.

A very disappointing number of members attended the Annual Meeting held in the band room at the Seaforth Armoury, on April 17th, 1964. Whether the general complacency of the membership is a good sign, indicating a harmonious and well-ordered association, or whether this lethargy signifies that there is not sufficient attraction at our meetings to attract members, is a matter of some conjecture. Nevertheless, the B.C. Pipers' Association has never been more active as a piping society, so there cannot be too many complaints.

At the meeting, reports were given by the President, Ian McDougall, by the Treasurer, Georgina MacPhail; by Donald Urquhart, on behalf of the Trustees, and by C.I. Walker and Wm. McAdie, on behalf of the Newsletter.

At the election of officers, the following persons were elected for the coming year:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| President: | Ian A. McDougall |
| Vice President: | Norma Nicholson |
| Secretary: | Georgina MacPhail |
| Treasurer: | Roderick MacVicar |
| Board: | Tom Binnie Albert Duncan Charles Irvine Wm. McAdie Roderick MacRae Seb. Nellies C.I. Walker |
| Auditors: | Al. Baillie J.T. McHardy |

Following the meeting was a social hour held in the Sergeant's Ness.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

My first year as President has brought me many new and pleasant experiences.

Our first function, held on May 7th, 1963, in honour of Rod MacLeod on his 80th birthday, was a success, in that he was greeted and entertained by so many friends. Being held on a week night and at quite short notice, it was a little difficult for many members to attend.

I was sorry not to be able to attend all of the summer games, but the ones I was fortunate enough to be at were most enjoyable. I was somewhat disappointed to note that our rules were not always being carried out in the Open Piobaireachd class. It is hoped that these rules will be followed in the coming season.

Our Bi-Monthlies were well supported by competitors - very gratifying indeed, since the main purpose of the association is to encourage and maintain piping. The large increase in entries, however, has created a time problem. It is hoped that the situation will be remedied in this regard in the new season.

The Ceilidh, held in October, 1963. I sincerely hope that it was enjoyed by the competitors, parents, friends and members, and special thanks are due to the entertainment committee.

The White Heather concert, as most are aware, was a success, with the talents of Andy Stewart giving us three packed theatres. His supporting cast added colour and variety to the event. We hear that Kenneth McKellar will be here this year, with Andy Stewart back in 1965.

Our Annual Banquet was held on Jan. 4th, 1964, in the Stanley Park Sports Pavilion. It was well supported by the membership, and after the dinner a very good session of piping was held, with selections given by most of the members present.

I would like, at this time, to take the opportunity of thanking the members for the lovely gift which was present to my wife and myself on this evening. It will always be cherished as something extra special given by fellow pipers and friends.

Our Annual Gathering, held in the Seaforth Armoury on March 21st, attracted pipers from all over B.C. and the northern U.S.A. Well over a hundred competitors vied for trophies and prizes throughout the day, starting at 9:00 a.m. and finishing at approximately 10:30 p.m. Neil Sutherland as judge did an admirable job. He was assisted by George Allen, short leet judge and George Pryde, judge of drumming. Special thanks must be given to Al. Baillie, and his hard working committee of Stewards. At an enjoyable social held after the gathering, we heard some fine selections from Neil Sutherland and others.

In the forthcoming year I would like to see plans made for a pipers' flight to Scotland in 1965. I have made certain inquiries in this direction, and it is thought that very reasonable fares can be arranged for a stay of three weeks in the peak piping season. I would ask all persons interested in this flight to contact me or some member of the Board.

In closing I would like to thank all members and friends for their support during the past year, and I would ask you to support the new officers even more actively.

- Ian. A. McDougall -



Robert C. Gilchrist

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