

# B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



The official monthly publication of  
the British Columbia Pipers' Association

FEBRUARY, 1972 NO. 120



B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

PRESIDENT William Elder  
VICE-PRESIDENT Bruce Topp  
SECRETARY Bill Russell and Mrs. R. Swanson  
TREASURER Robert Gunn

Association Pipe Major Seb Nellies

The B. C. Pipers' Newsletter is published monthly at 5120 Spencer Street, Vancouver 16, B.C., by the British Columbia Pipers' Association and distributed to all members. Address all communications concerning the Newsletter to the above address. All other communications should be sent to Bill Russell, 20907 Newlands Drive, Box 487, Langley.

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JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1972

NO. 120

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## NEW EDITORS

In the October issue of the Newsletter, I announced that the current editors would be vacating their positions as of December 1971. Although the hope was expressed that new editors would volunteer in the near future, I was somewhat pessimistic about the continuation of the Newsletter. It appears, however, that my pessimism was without cause.

Beginning with this issue, the Newsletter will be edited and produced by Colin Abel and Angus MacPherson. They are active competitive pipers and we look forward to hearing their views relating to the current piping scene. Being members of a pipe band should also generate new items of interest for Newsletter publication.

Knowing the difficulties of obtaining newsworthy articles for our Association's monthly publication, Bill Elder and I will make every effort to submit articles of interest. Once again, and now for the benefit of our new editors, please feel free to use your Newsletter to express opinions and share information. Without the cooperation of people like James Lang, Edmund Esson, Ruairidh Macdonald, Cathrine Paterson and John McEwing, who were interested enough to supply us with material, and those who took the time to write Letters to the Editor, the Newsletter would not exist.

If I were to list all the people who helped us in producing the Newsletter during the last two years, I would leave out very few by thanking all those who consented to be a Piper of the Month. In most cases each piper was imposed upon to contribute an evening for the benefit of the Association. Bill and I thank all the Pipers of the Month for their contribution.

Colin and Angus make up the third team of individuals interested enough to see that the members of our Association have this important written link with one another. I am sure that the first team, Ian Walker, Bill McAdie and Ken MacIlvena, will join Bill Elder, Sharyn Elder, Linda Gunn and me in wishing the new staff of editors a great deal of success in their new venture.

Robert D. Gunn



EDITORIAL

In accepting this award, we wish to thank the Academy (oops) .... Seriously though, we would like to thank Bill and Sharyn Elder and Bob and Linda Gunn for the thankless work they have put into the Newsletter over the past two years. Although they too embarked on this adventure with high ideals and expectations, they soon realized that it was impossible to publish a Newsletter without help from the members.

One of the main problems we were told to expect was the apathy of the members in their failure to support the Newsletter, a pity because the B. C. Pipers' Association is one of the few piping societies that has such a publication. By introducing monthly features of local interest we are trying to get our members actively involved in the Association itself. In doing so, our editorials and features may provoke some controversy, a situation that the Newsletter perhaps needs?

Some members in the past may have thought themselves unqualified to submit material but if that's the case, how are we qualified to be editors? We volunteered our services, so how about you?

Being members of a local band, we feel that we are well enough acquainted with the piping community and thus think ourselves able to publish an adequate Newsletter. However, our inexperience in some fields may cause concern to some of the older members but a little direction in these areas would be greatly appreciated. The Newsletter can function only with your support and, in closing, we ask again for your help.

Colin Abel  
Angus MacPherson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1971

As President, it is my duty to give the membership a report of the Association's activities during the past year:

The entries in the Bi-monthly competitions were about the same as last year. However, the ceilidh was much better attended due to the new ruling that competitors must attend the ceilidh in order to receive a perfect attendance pin. This year there were 28 present to receive their pins out of 38 who were eligible. This is a tremendous improvement over last year when only 7 or 8 of the 40 who were eligible attended the ceilidh.





Our Annual Gathering was held April 30th and May 1st with two significant changes being made to the format:

1. Short leets were held in Novice March and Amateur Piobaireachd competitions. The leets were judged by a local judge and only the top 6 amateur and top 10 Novices competed before P.M. Archie Cairns from Ottawa.
2. As the leets were conducted while the competition proper was in progress, the length of the Annual Gathering was greatly reduced, and Friday's events did not start until 3:00 p.m. Instead of the usual two complete days of competitions, it was shortened to a day and a half.

The Knock-Outs once again proved very successful. The finalists were Bruce Topp and John MacLeod with the decision going to Bruce. This year an Amateur Knock-Out is being held just prior to the Professional event. The response from our Amateur pipers was very good with 10 competitors entering. However, the number of entries in the Professional is down.

The Annual Dinner was held May 29th with the final event of the Knock-Out competition being the highlight of the evening. The dinner was well attended but we look forward to an even larger turn-out this year.

Last year, for the first time, our Association offered two scholarships to attend the piping school sponsored by the Spokane Piobaireachd Society in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. We hoped this would further encourage pipers in our Province. We required that those interested apply in writing in 300 words or less giving their reasons for wanting to attend the school, their age and piping experience. The response was MOST disappointing. Only four people applied.

Last year the Association was honoured to hear three great pipers:

On April 19th, we had the pleasure of hearing Donald MacLeod, one of the world's finest pipers.

Then, only 10 days later, P.M. Archie Cairns gave a recital which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

In July, John MacFadyen gave a very memorable recital.

In closing, I would like to thank the judges, the competitors and all those who assisted the Association throughout the year, especially Bob and Linda Gunn and my wife, Sharyn, for the time and effort they put in on the Newsletter. A very special thank you to Bruce Topp, Ishabel Ross and Rose Swanson for all the help they have given me during the last year.

LAST MONTH IN AND AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Knock-Out - General Meeting

The annual General Meeting of the B. C. Pipers' Association was held January 21, 1972 at the Steelworkers' Hall on East Broadway. The president of the Association, Bill Elder, gave his resume of the past year's activities and the treasurer's report was given by Bob Gunn. The active members of the Association then nominated and voted in the officers for the coming year. Elected were:

President	-	Bill Elder
Vice-President	-	Bruce Topp
Treasurer	-	Bob Gunn
General Secretary	-	Bill Russell
Bi-monthly Secretary	-	Mrs. R. Swanson
Board of Directors	-	Seb. Nellies, Donald Ross, Alec Reid, John McHardy, Bill Lamont, John McDonald, John MacLeod, David Wilson, Angus MacPherson.

After the General Meeting, the amateur knock-out opened with Allan Skalazub playing a well-balanced selection. His opponent, and the eventual winner, was Allan MacDougall from Abbotsford. The professional knock-out, as usual, was no contest as only one competitor showed up. However, Albert Duncan treated us to a fine selection of tunes. After the actual competition, the usual impromptu piping and socializing was enjoyed by all.

P.S. It has been brought to the President's attention that the hall has been left in poor condition over the last few meetings so we ask for your cooperation in trying to leave shortly after the bar closes. (Hear that Donald?) Bar sales will end at 10:30 p.m. and the bar will close at 10:45 p.m.

Approximately three years ago, the B. C. Pipers' Association empowered the Board of Directors to appoint people who have given a great deal of service to the Association as honorary active members. At the last board meeting of 1971, Donald Ross was appointed to active membership in honour of his dedicated work for our Association. At the Annual General Meeting, Donald was nominated and consequently elected.

Mr. Ross has been a faithful worker for our Association and it is indeed fitting that he receive this honour.

We look forward to continued help from our newly elected member.

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION

January 14, 1972

Section 2  
Novice

- 1st - Ken McDonald
- 2nd - Linda Williams
- 3rd - Mark Steffich
- 4th - Howie Speer
- 5th - Ember Stewart
- 6th - Ronald Tait

Junior

- 1st - Allison Palmer
  - 2nd - Brian Carse
  - 3rd - Glen Esdale
- (9 competitors)

February 18, 1972

Juvenile

- 6/8's
- 1st - Gordon Paterson
- 2nd - Jill Laurie
- 3rd - Blake Keen
- 4th - Shelley McLean
- 5th - Gail Dawson

Amateur

- Piobaireachd
- 1st - Cindy Chambers
- 2nd - Terry Lee
- 3rd - Robert Menzies

Judge - John MacDonald

\* \* \* \* \*

Margaret Swanson has been accepted as an active member.

## NEXT MONTH

The next general meeting will be held in the Steelworker's Hall, March 3rd. Competing in the Amateur Knock-Out are Kelvin Wood and Hazel Ramsay, and two Victoria lads, Jamie Troy and Byron Barnard complete the entries for the Professional competition.

### Annual Gathering

North Vancouver Recreation Centre, Lonsdale  
Friday, April 7th and Saturday, April 8th.

With Iain McLeod the chief adjudicator, this year's gathering appears to be in competent hands once again. As was the case last year, short leets will again be held in the Novice Marches and Amateur Piobaireachd. However, this year Juvenile Marches and Juvenile Strathspeys and Reels will be conducted in the same manner. The top six pipers in each of these competitions will play in front of Pipe Major McLeod. We stress that it is in the interest of time only that we are reverting to this procedure. Again, in the interest of time, the miniature band competition will be limited to ONE miniature band only from each band. However, this year there will be a \$50.00 prize for the top band with \$30.00 going to the second placed unit.

Quartets will also receive cash prizes this year. The order for competing for all events will be posted throughout the building and we ask that all competitors take notice of them as failure to comply with it will result in disqualification.

Again there will be no entry fee. Admission is \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children for both days.

There is an entry form on the last page of this Newsletter.

### Banff Highland Gathering

Following the tremendous success it achieved last year in which Donalo MacLeod conducted the proceedings, the 1972 Banff Gathering promises to be bigger and better this year. Cradled in the Rockies it forms a beautiful, natural setting for the arts of piping, dancing and drumming. It will take place the week of March 31st to April 7th, 1972, hopefully under the auspices of Pipe Major Iain McLeod of the Edinburgh Police Pipe Band.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

12 years ago - Jan.-Feb. 1960

Results of the 28th Annual Gathering

- I. Novice Marches:
  - 1. Sherea Barwell
  - 2. Lylle Mairn
  - 3. Gordon Hardy
  
- II. Juvenile Strathspey and Reel
  - 1. Bob MacDonald
  - 2. Theresa MacInnes
  - 3. David McKenzie
  
- III. Junior Marches
  - 1. Peter McNeil
  - 2. Bill Elder
  - 3. Tommy Richardson
  
- IV. Amateur Strathspey and Reel
  - 1. David Wilson
  - 2. Rae Marie MacInnes
  - 3. Peggy Gillies
  
- V. Veterans over 60
  - 1. Kenneth MacLeod
  - 2. Seb Nellies

8 years ago - Jan.-Feb. 1964

A surprise party was held on January 4th, 1964, marking the occasion of the 25th Wedding Anniversary of Michael and Mary MacInnes. About 60 friends and relatives gathered to honour the couple, who has raised five well-known pipers; Duncan, Donald, Rae Marie, Theresa and Heather. The guests provided lots of entertainment, and the party continued to the early hours.

TUNE OF THE MONTH

About a year ago, Bruce Topp requested tunes from local composers. However as he ran into publication problems, he kindly consented to our publishing them in the Newsletter as the Tune of the Month.

This month our tune is James Stuart Tait composed by Ed Esson. Mr. Esson also submitted a brief account of the life of Mr. Tait.

James Stuart Tait came to Vancouver from his native Scotland just shortly before the outbreak of the first World War. Had he followed his original plan for crossing the Atlantic it is extremely doubtful that he would have reached here. He had signed on as a violinist in the orchestra of the ill-fated Titanic. At the last minute a more attractive opportunity ashore materialized and he promptly secured a release in order to take it.

As it turned out, he was to emigrate in the spring of the following year only to return to Europe shortly thereafter in the uniform of his newly adopted land. With the exception of those war years, he lived the rest of his life in Vancouver.

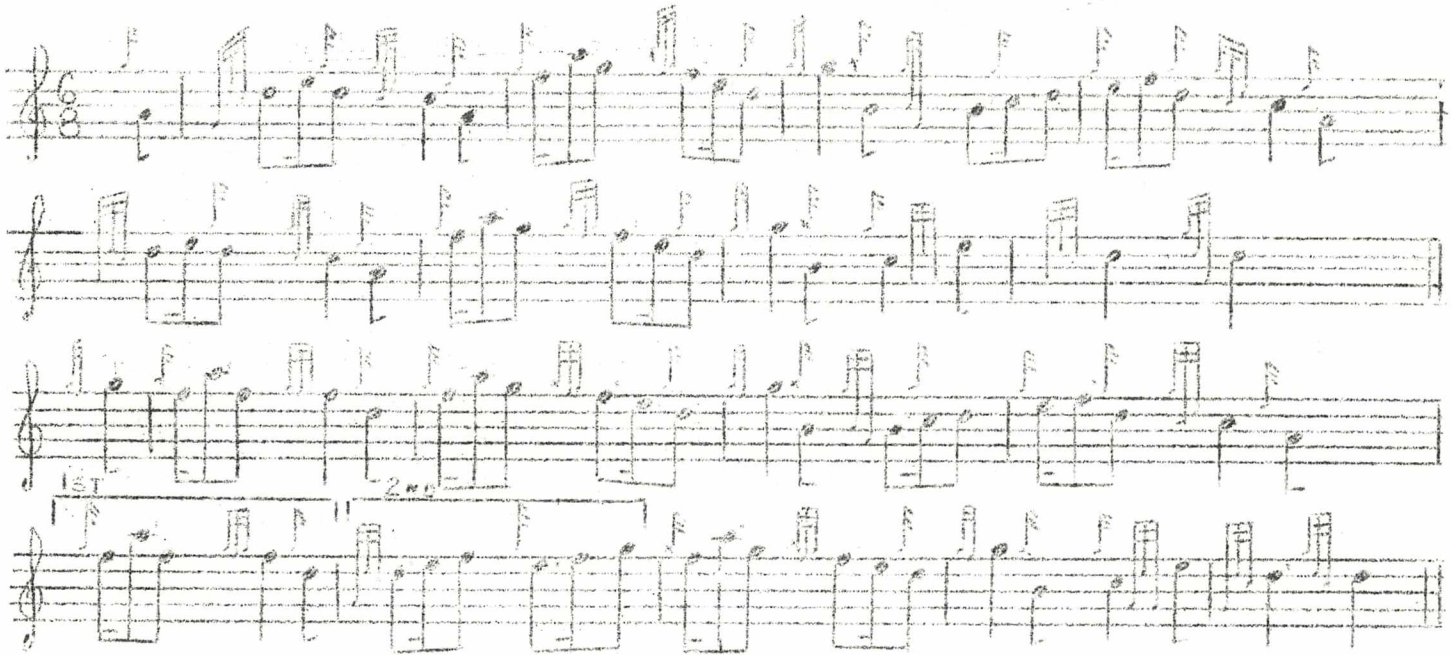
Choirmaster, organist, pianist and violinist, he was a highly respected figure in musical circles here for over half a century. His deep love for the culture of the land of his birth kept him in the forefront of Scottish affairs those many years.

Never was there a man happier than Jim with his beloved violin giving forth the nostalgic pathos of a Burn's love song or crashing out the stirring challenge of Scott's Border Ballad.

This is how we oldsters remember him. And miss him.

J. STUART TAIT

MARCH

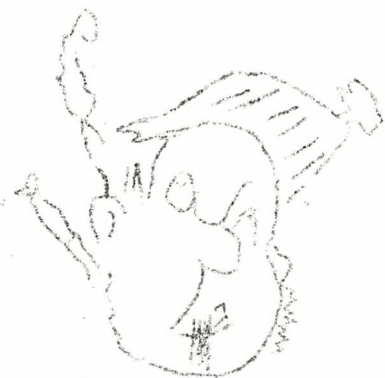


E. Esson  
Dec. 1970

HECTOR McFAYDEN

On behalf of the British Columbia Pipers' Association, the editors wish to express their sorrow at the passing of Hector McFayden on December 2, 1971. Undoubtedly, one of the greatest pipers of this generation, he won every first prize for professional piping at Cowal in 1963, both Gold Medals in 1964 and was the first winner of the Silver Chanter at Dunvegan Castle in 1967. The piping community of British Columbia will remember his visit in 1966 when Hector spent a month in the Lower Mainland judging, playing in recitals and even singing. Again, we would like to express our deepest sympathy to Hector's family and friends.

MEET HAGGIS McBAGPIPES



Most of our readers have seen the gentleman on the left before, however, he has never been properly introduced. In the past, he has been confined to the role of a mere figurehead but he has now been promoted to the front office of the Newsletter. His monthly column will be entitled "Dear Haggis" and it will concern itself with etiquette in piping and treatment of the pipes themselves. Hopefully, our readers will present their problems to Pipe Major McBagpipes, thereby benefiting not only themselves, but others.

OUT OF TUNE?

When angry Indonesians mobbed the British Embassy in Jakarta to denounce the new Federation of Malaysia, assistant military attaché, Major Roderick "Red Rory" Walker, strode boldly from the building, playing the bagpipes. Back and forth he paced skirling "Road to the Isles" and "Cock of the North". Police begged him to stop. So did a leader of the demonstrators. But Red Rory kept on. Awed by his wild wailing the Indonesians fell back. Then, stirred in a way he hadn't foreseen, they swept into the embassy and tore it apart.

David McDonald in Empire  
(August 16, 1964)

ARMSTRONG'S BAGPIPES FAIL TO SCARE CHAMP

LONDON - Jose Zegra of Spain won a unanimous decision Tuesday over Evan Armstrong of Scotland over 15 hard-fought rounds to retain his European featherweight title.

Cuban-born Zegra had to go all out to keep his title against the Scot who kept coming despite taking a cascade of punches.

Armstrong, who was led into the ring by a band of girl bagpipers, looked slow in the early rounds as Zegra landed rights and lefts, quickly reddening the challenger's face.

(The Vancouver Sun,  
February 16, 1972)



## BANDSTAND

Bandstand, a proposed monthly feature, will comprise a history of a local band followed by a band chatter column. However, the latter can only be successful with the help of our readers. As the piping community in Vancouver is almost entirely synonymous with pipe bands, we should have no trouble, right?

### Royal Canadian Legion - Branch #83

This band, under the direction of Pipe Major Tom Binnie, has rather a unique history. It was formed in 1951, mainly from former members of the Crawford Band to try and keep some of those pipers and drummers together. It started off with no money, no uniforms, no sponsor and no place to practice. Eventually, they gathered for practice at a drafty garage at 15th and Granville which was then known as the Highcroft district of Vancouver. So, for lack of a sponsor, they called themselves the Highcroft Band.

About a year later, they were contacted by the Moose Lodge which wanted a pipe band to carry its name. Unfortunately, the Lodge did not support the band as expected and when Pipe Major Binnie decided to call it quits, the rest of the band agreed and did the same.

Back to the garage they went with six pipers and one very used side drum for three drummers. About a year later, they approached the Marpole Community Centre to try and obtain a room to practice. The Marpole Centre Band, as it was then called, received a room to practice, however, no money was obtained for uniforms or equipment.

In November of 1956, Pipe Major Binnie talked to the President of the Canadian Legion #83 and he seemed interested in the band.

At this time the equipment of the band consisted of different coloured kilts, broken down drums, old police tunics which were cut down, hose which was hand-knitted by an old Polish woman and a various assortment of waist and cross-belts. Pipe Major Binnie asked for \$3,000 for equipment and was told to order the new uniforms as the money would be ready when they arrived (\$7,000 was eventually raised by the Legion). The band members had a choice of the McIntyre or Ancient Sutherland tartans and the latter was eventually decided upon.

For the first five or six years, there was a large turnover of personnel in the band but in the past few years, the members have stayed together. Tom Binnie is still Pipe Major and Director but has left most of the responsibility of the actual playing to Pipe Sergeants Bill Dow and Jim Johnson. "Blacky" Musa is the

Drum Major and Drum Sergeant Dale Evans is leading side. The band also has a dance team comprised from the members and are working on the Argyllshire Broadswords.

One of the pipers in the band who is known to all our readers is Seb Nellies, the Association's Pipe Major. Seb approached Pipe Major Binnie years ago and asked if he could play with the band on a part-time basis. He now attends chanter practice every week and once in a while plays a few tunes on the pipes with them.

Most of the members of Legion #83 are not too keen on competitions but they do enter a few each year. They've won the parade trophy at the Legion Gathering many times and last year took the Band Competition in Chilliwack. They've won the "D" class competition at New Westminster and have added many parade trophies from the States to their collection.

The Legion is not too demanding on the band, their attendance only being required at Armistices, dances and hospital concerts like Jericho School. Planned excursions for the coming year include the Legion Gathering at Campbell River and the Western Pipe Band Association competition in New Westminster.

The band shares expenses about half-and-half with the Legion now, as the members hold dances and barbecues during the year to raise money.

#### Band Chatter

The Burnaby Ladies', Vancouver Police and Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Bands held their annual Burns' Dinners last month and were, as usual, well attended. The respective bands each played a selection of tunes (both traditional and popular) and dance teams performed most admirably.

The Port Moody Pipe Band is now practicing in the Sixth and Commercial Legion.

The White Spot Pipe Band and dancers gave a well-received performance at the Channel 8 Telethon, February 13.

Look for a senior quartette from the Burnaby Ladies' Pipe Band in future competitions.

Beware of C.P. Air, "C" class bands.

Byron Barnard and Heather Zynck of Victoria were married over Christmas. We, at the Association, express our best wishes to them in the future.

Harold Senyk also of Victoria is now playing with Muirhead and Sons in Scotland.

### THE WESTERN PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION

Over the past year or so, the Western Pipe Band Association has come under a certain amount of criticism concerning its effectiveness. Like any new organization, it has had its problems and mistakes. It is foolish, however, to expect dramatic changes in a field that has for years lacked inspired organization and is, in general, slow to accept and incorporate change.

The achievements of the organization to date have been primarily of a foundation, building nature. In regards to pipe band competitions, it has completely redrawn the rules governing distribution of points and definition of terms of judgment. This also has been constructed to include miniature bands and for the first time, a uniformed class and scoring procedure for individual drummers. These rules are in effect in all the Games being governed by the Pacific International. This process has included the presentation of one Pipe Band competition, wholly organized and run by the W.P.B.A. during the centennial celebrations in New Westminster; and the possibility of more once the funds are available.

Secondly, the Pipe Band Association has provided the apparatus by which specific problems could be solved. In two cases, one involving the Pacific National Exhibition (which has yet to be concluded) and the other involving a local centennial committee, which was satisfactorily ironed out has proven group action has gained results that individuals would have found hard to achieve. There is much, much more to be done, of course, but these things require time, support and, above all, money.

Most important of all, the W.P.B.A. provides pipe bands of both the parade and competition variety with the means of controlling their own future. Whether they want more money for turnouts or different rules for competitions, a Pipe Band association can play a major role. The wants and needs of Pipe Bands are unique and it is my firm conviction that they may be dealt with most efficiently by an organization that is composed of the Pipe Bands themselves.

Bruce McRae, Secretary,  
Western Pipe Band Association.

PUZZLE CORNER

This month's well-constructed puzzle has been submitted by Mr. Gordon Taylor and we hope will prove to be a real brain-tickler. Perhaps our other readers have some doodles they are proud of and would like to send in.

Criss X Puzzle - Based Chiefly On Scottish Geographic Names

Words may be found vertically, horizontally or diagonally. When a word is found circle each letter of the word. Each word found must contain at least one not previously circled letter. All x's can be circled first as they do not form part of any word. (Angus and Colin are included in the puzzle as the names of the editors.)

Ainwick  
Allan  
Angus  
Arbroath  
Aye  
Beaully  
Ben  
Callander  
Carnoustie  
Clyde  
Colin  
Cupar  
Dee  
Don  
Dornie  
Dunkeld  
Edinburgh  
Eigg  
Eye  
Eyemouth  
Esk.  
Ewe  
Fair (Isle)  
Fetlar  
Fort Augustus  
Forth  
Fyne  
Gin  
Glasgow  
Golspie  
Haig

Hamilton  
Harris  
Hawick  
Hoy  
Hunt  
Iona  
Invergordon  
Irvine  
Jedburgh  
Keith  
Kilmarnock  
Kinross  
Kintyre  
Kirk  
Kirkintilloch  
Lad  
Lass  
Lerwick  
Loch  
Lomond  
Loom  
Luce  
Mallaig  
May  
Minch  
Moffat  
Montrose  
Nairn  
Neep  
Oban  
Paisley

Peat  
Perth  
Pikes  
Plaid  
Port  
Rae  
Rhum  
Robin  
Rona  
Rothesay  
Rousay  
Sanday  
Scapa  
Scot  
Skye  
Spean  
Spey  
St. Kilda  
Stirling  
Stornoway  
Strome  
Tam  
Tay  
Thurso  
Tinto  
Tune  
Tyndrum  
Ullapool  
Unst  
Wick  
Wyvis  
Yell

1 K C I W R E L C A R N O U S T I E E  
2 I I N I B O R P A P E E N U K N O D  
3 L Y R C R A U S L L A S S G S Y U I  
4 M O X K P V S S A A L C T N E N E N  
5 A H H U I O I N A N I A S A K X A B  
6 R T C T R N R N R Y D D N E I E K U  
7 N I N N U X T T E I D A L D P S R R  
8 O E I U C O L I N A A D Y S E N I G  
9 C K M X H A M I L T O N S I R R A H  
10 K I N T Y R E E A L L A N E N Y F N  
11 F N E B E A U L Y D O R N I E E O O  
12 O K C I W N I A E E H C A F M L R D  
13 R S S I V Y W G G I E C H E O S T R  
14 T O R E M O R T S S S C O T O I H O  
15 A T T U N E A K O E T M A L L A I G  
16 U N G R H M H R H G D K U A U P E R  
17 G I O X O T T I G N I Y I R X C W E  
18 U T L I R N N K R I D A L L D E E V  
19 S T S E O A A C U L N X H C D N E N  
20 T A P M B M M I B R O T H E S A Y I  
21 U E I O A U Y W D I M O F F A T E T  
22 S P E Y H X A A E T O W O G S A L G  
23 A R B R O A T H J S L O O P A L L U

### ROVING REPORTER

Trying to get away from the sterile reports that are given concerning band trips, we have decided to "get it straight from the horse's mouth". We hope that this feature will assist bands and individuals travelling to games or events abroad or around this continent.

#### Burnaby Ladies' Pipe Band

##### Visit to Stirling Castle

In recent years in the United Kingdom many regiments have been amalgamated and, therefore, lost their identity, consequently, their military life (history) came to an end.

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders popularly known as the Argylls was one of these regiments faced with amalgamation. The tradition of the Argylls is long and strong and they immediately decided they were going to do their utmost to prevent this disaster as they were proud of their regiment and its glorious past.

General Sir Gordon MacMillan, K.C.B.O., C.B.E., V.S.O.M.C. formerly connected with the Argylls and hereditary Chief of the Clan MacMillan assumed leadership in the effort and a world wide campaign was launched in which all who were interested and could be approached were asked to assist by signing a petition to the British War Office to reconsider their decision.

Thousands of volunteers took up the task of distributing sections of the petitions and while two of these volunteers were at the Santa Rosa Highland Games in 1969, the members of the Burnaby Ladies' Pipe Band carried these sections throughout the audience of thirty thousand people for signatures. When all signatures were presented approximately two million names were on the petition and the decision concerning the Argylls was reversed and the slogan of the regiment was changed from "Save the Argylls" to "Join the Argylls".

When Mr. and Mrs. John Campbell who were the volunteers working at Santa Rosa heard of the band visiting Scotland last year, they informed General MacMillan and Colonel Slessor, the Commanding Officer at Stirling Castle, home of the Argylls and the band was invited to the Castle.

This is a beautiful and imposing ancient fortress in Central Scotland of great historic interest, having once been Scotland's capital. The form of the Scottish Knights Round Table is clearly visible on the Castle grounds.

From its high rock the Castle commands a beautiful view of many miles in all directions.

They were greeted by General MacMillan and Colonel Slessor, and given a conducted tour of the Castle and toasted the future success of the regiment.

After given a second check of the original Sterling Mint situated within the walls of the Castle and another look at Wallace's monument high on the hillside in the distance, the girls boarded their bus and on their way back to Glasgow, stopped at Aberfoyle to visit the famous historic Baillie Nicol Jarvie Inn.

The thought that a Highland Regiment partly due to the girls' small contribution was not blotted out of existence will always be a memorable one with the Burnaby Ladies' Pipe Band.

#### FOREIGN CORNER

We all know that there are pipers in New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, and England, not to mention Texas, and New York. However, how many of us know beyond this fact? It is for this reason that a column has been created with the intention of informing our readers with information regarding the standard of piping, the pipe bands and the piping societies in these areas. However, as our foreign complement of pipers in Vancouver is limited, it is our hope that our overseas readers and those in the States will help us in our task.

"Everyone likes to see his name in print, so write a letter to the editor."

RECORD REVIEW

The purpose of this column is to acquaint our readers with piping records. All too often one is confronted with a colourful array of covers depicting bands in full regalia, however, the average listener is unaware of the inner contents. Our intention, therefore, is to help the listener in his selection and to pass on ideas to pipers and bands.

The Pride of Scotland - Red Hackle Pipes and Drums

Under the direction of Pipe Major John Weatherston M.B.E., B.E.M., the Red Hackle has become one of the foremost prize winners of Grade One bands. This fact is evidenced by the fine and varied programme on their record, the first ever, incidentally, to incorporate an organ. Although somewhat overdone in places, it does add an extra "lift" to some tunes, replacing the rather hackneyed use of "seconds".

The second interesting feature in this record is the tympany effect produced by the bass and tenor drums. The use of the tenor is especially effective in Dora McLeod and Skye Boat Song, the second part of the latter devoted to rolls by the bass and tenor. The trend in Scotland now calls for more use of tenor and bass in the move towards ensemble, with the days of tenor drummers playing like they are swatting flies rapidly coming to an end.

The younger members of our bands might take interest in the selection of tunes. Although Corriechoillie's Welcome and Teribus were the first tunes that many pipers commenced their careers with, it doesn't halt Grade One bands from playing them, demonstrating again that it's how a tune is played, rather than the degree of difficulty, that counts. Some other tunes include the popular Longueval and Gairloch, both waltzes, the slow air Kylesku and Champion Piper, a catchy reel.

One of the better records produced, it has been criticized for having only a few pipers playing and the forementioned complaint regarding the organ. However, it takes courage to produce innovation in the narrow scope in which piping has to work and the Red Hackle has done this successfully, producing pleasant listening. In short, a record worth buying.



THE SCOTTISH HOMEMAKER

In this column, we would like to print some of the authentic, old recipes of Scottish origin, or dishes common to the British Isles. Some we have found to have been simplified but others are the original but-and-ben recipes. We thought we would start off with two recipes - one an all time favourite - the other - well try it if you like with our "good luck" to you.

Oatcakes (traditional method)

4 oz. oatmeal	a pinch of salt
1 tsp. fat	a pinch of bicarbonate of soda
Hot Water	

As the dough stiffens when lying about, it is best to make a bannock at a time, using the above quantities, the next being prepared whilst the one is on the girdle. Put the oatmeal into a bowl and add the salt and soda. Melt a teaspoonful of dripping or fat. (Bacon fat, goose fat, or poultry fat are excellent). Make a well in the centre of the meal, put in the dripping, and add as much hot water as will make a stiff paste. Rub plenty of oatmeal on to the baking board; turn out the mixture and form into a smooth ball. Knead and roll out as thinly as possible. Rub constantly on both sides with dry meal to prevent sticking, and keep the edges as even as possible by pinching with finger and thumb. Give a final rub with meal, cut into a round, using a plate, and then cut the bannock into farls (fardels or quarters) or into smaller pieces. Place on a moderately hot girdle and bake steadily till the cakes curl up at the edge; then toast the other side slightly before a clear fire or finish in the oven. If you have neither a girdle nor a thick-bottomed frying pan, you may bake the oatcakes in a moderate oven for twenty or thirty minutes, till quite dry and curled at the edges. Buttered oatcakes are particularly good with marmalade, honey, cheese, fried herrings and sardines.

Hattit Kit (A very old Highland dish)

2 pints buttermilk	Sugar	Double Cream
2 pints New milk	Nutmeg	

Warm the buttermilk slightly before milking time. Carry the vessell to the side of the cow and milk into it a pint of milk. Stir well together. At the next milking, add another pint and stir again. Let it stand until it firms and gathers a "hat". Remove the curd, place it on a hair seive, and press the whey through until the curd is stiff. Put into a mould and leave for half an hour. Turn out and strew with sugar and nutmeg (or cinnamon if preferred) and serve with thick cream.

If any of our readers have any favourite recipes or household hints, they would like to have printed, please send them along and we will include them in the following issues.

The Sons of Scotland Tartan Ball will be held on March 4th, 1972 at the Gizeh Temple, Wayburne in Burnaby. The Grand March starts at 8:45 p.m. and full bar service is available.

Tickets are \$3.50 and are available from Donald Ross - 526-7905.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale:

Premier Red Pearl Side Drum, case, sling and knee rest - wooden storage case.

Phone: M. MacDougall  
299-5307

For Sale:

Black, wooden rope tenor drum - \$45.00

Phone: J. Abel  
435-7538

Equipment Needed:

Any pipe bands having equipment they would like to sell, please contact:

Mr. G. W. Coombs, Port Renfrew, B. C.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Bill and Sharyn Elder  
Bob and Linda Gunn  
Donald and Ishabel Ross  
Bruce Topp  
Bruce McRae  
Ed Esson  
Tom Binnie  
Heather Abel  
Gordon Taylor  
Mrs. E. Nicholson

B. C. PIPERS ANNUAL GATHERING PROGRAMME

Friday, April 7th - 3:30 p.m.

Event Nos.

1. Junior Piobaireachd
  2. Junior March
  3. Junior Strathspey and Reel
  4. Juvenile March
  5. Juvenile Strathspey and Reel
- (Event 4 & 5 - short leet 6 to qualify)

Friday, April 7th - 6:00 p.m.

7. Novice March (short leet
8. Amateur Piobaireachd 6 to qualify)

Friday, April 7th - 7:00 p.m.

4. Finals Juvenile March
5. Finals Juvenile Strathspey and Reel
6. Junior Quartettes

Saturday, April 8th - 9:00 a.m.

7. Finals Novice March
8. Finals Amateur Piobaireachd
9. Amateur March

Saturday, April 8th - 1:30 p.m.

10. Amateur Strathspey and Reel
11. Professional Piobaireachd

Saturday, April 8th - 6:30 p.m.

12. Professional March
13. Professional Strathspey and Reel
14. Professional Jigs
15. Pipers over 60 years (tune of own choice)
16. Senior Quartettes
17. Miniature Bands

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11.	1st	\$50.00	2nd	\$30.00	3rd	\$20.00
12-13-14	1st	\$25.00	2nd	\$15.00	3rd	\$10.00
16.	1st	\$30.00	2nd	\$20.00		
17.	1st	\$50.00	2nd	\$30.00		





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