

January, 1985

218

B.C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



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

B.C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published by the British Columbia Pipers' Association

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The B.C. Pipers' Newsletter is published monthly at 351 Dartmoor Drive, Coquitlam, British Columbia, V3K 5R6 and distributed to all members. Address communications concerning the Newsletter to the above address. All other communications should be sent to Mrs. M. MacKinnon, Secretary, 6959 Halligan Street, Burnaby, British Columbia V5E 1R4

| | |
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JANUARY 1985

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E D I T O R I A L

With the new year upon us and the Christmas holidays but a blur, it's perhaps time to focus on our "Raison D'Etire", the Summer Games. Since inheriting the newsletter again I've flipped briefly through some back issues and the one topic that drew more attention than any other was the sad state of affairs at our outdoor gatherings. That was fifteen years ago and sadly not much has changed. Granted, we have beer tents, the scheduling has improved drastically and we have three of the top pipe bands in the world in our midst. But the dancers are still front and centre for the best part of the day and the only spectators present are the competitors' parents and grannies. If we're lucky the odd tourist or local enthusiast will stumble upon the event despite our efforts to discourage them. The reasons for this situation are the same to-day as they were fifteen years ago. Our games associations have neither the money nor the volunteer help to stage much beyond what we have been experiencing to this point. The volunteers that have assisted in producing our local games have our undying gratitude but, I'm sorry, when I see what can be done in Santa Rosa, in Cowal, in Maxville, in Chicago, etc., etc., etc., its obvious we're missing the boat. I don't believe we can duplicate a Santa Rosa in Vancouver for various reasons nor could we clone Cowal but we know the potential is there and we know the interest is there, so what's the answer? Apart from the financial and people deficiencies mentioned earlier our biggest obstacle to presenting a big annual highland games, not the one shot wonders we've seen in recent years, is our apparent lack of trust of one person or one association spearheading such a venture. The comments usually read "well, what is he/she getting out of this?" or "he/she always has to run everything." Well, I have two suggestions that merit some thought. The first one would be for our United Scottish Cultural Society, the new name for the United Scottish Societies Auditorium, to form a highland games committee. As you know, this group, in which we are a member, is in the process of procuring funds for the construction of our new building. As one convinced that games can turn a profit, I can think of no better way to kick off the fund raising campaign than to promote and run a Highland Gathering. The number of associations and the expertise found within those groups would provide the "people power" while a small part of the money gained from the sale of the auditorium would provide the working capital. With a figure of \$800,000.00 being quoted as the target for fund raising a calculated \$30,000.00 risk pales in comparison.

The second possibility would be to follow the rest of the western world and 'privatize' the games! Bill and Brian would be so pleased if one, or a group, in our midst were to present a Highland Games for their own profit.

Just a couple of suggestions for a topic that deserves a lot more than talk.

Angus Macpherson

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following letter has been forwarded to the Piping Times.

Dear Seumas:

With reference to your November editorial regarding my views on M.S.R. requirements, I believe a few points deserve clarification. At the outset I'm not "new to the task" having published the newsletter for a number of years prior to my present engagement (you must remember your discussions with the late John McEwing through the B.C. Pipers' Newsletter), but although the carpet does wear thin and many editorials are written tongue 'n cheek, you're correct in presuming that I really believe what I'm saying. My point in the editorial was that premier competitions deserve a more imaginative format rather than simply playing tunes twice through.

I suggested that the present set-up was instituted to separate the men from the boys. If this were the reason I facetiously proposed that competitors play their tunes three or even four times through. Regardless of the "crowd crush to get close to the action at Oban or cram the halls at Blair Castle and Inverness" I personally do not find listening to the same tunes played over as "the most exciting event in the piping programme". Two different M.S.R.'s as I suggested in my editorial, requiring competitors to submit, for example, three sets of two M.S.R.'s would still offer a challenge yet keep the event within the bounds of musical sanity. As you state, 216 possible permutations at Grants and Oban, to me, is an endurance event.

Since this particular article appeared in the newsletter it's drawn arguments from people in our own area, which is the reason editorials are written in the first place, but when, Mr. McNeil, does one's piping qualifications or lack of in some cases, determine one's ability to express views.

In that regard I'd be happy to discuss our respective qualifications in private, not in the pages of the Piping Times or the B.C. Pipers' Newsletter. Finally, I never stated that the task (playing M.S.R.'s twice through) was too tough for the B.C. Pipers. I think many of the top players in Scotland, who have been invited to Judge our Annual Gathering, would advise you to the contrary, and the steady stream of soloists, as well as pipe bands, from B.C. demonstrate that the B.C. pipers have not "chickened out".

Best Regards,
Angus Macpherson
President, B.C. Pipers' Association.

The Editor,
B.C. Pipers' Newsletter,

I am impressed! Our executive decision making President was right, and I congratulate him. The switch to Burnaby North School for the mini gatherings took place smoothly, and the gatherings are being run faster. The change from Friday night to Saturday night for the knockouts has had the dramatic effect our President hoped it would, which is that more of our junior players and their parents would attend the knockouts. The number of people coming to the mini gatherings and the knockouts is very encouraging.

There is, however, a problem associated with the increased number of people turning out to these events, and that is the background noise created by the buzzing of many people talking. Most, if not all, of the people who attend these events know better, and it shows a lack of common courtesy on their part not to give the competitor a chance to turn his pipe into play without the background noise.

Sincerely,
E.G. (Ted) Mark

PIONEER PIPERS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

I would like to use the pages of the Newsletter to announce to the members that I am preparing a book "Pioneer Pipers of British Columbia". It will contain a series of short biographies of persons who made a contribution to piping within the province prior to 1950. Of the 250 articles which are planned, approximately

100 have been completed. If any of the readers fit the description, or know of others who do (or their families if the oldtimer is deceased), or if they have not answered my request for information, kindly contact me as soon as possible.

The articles will contain, wherever possible, basic biographical information, piping history, such as tuition, competition, band history, teaching and composing activities, and any special information pertaining to piping which might be of interest.

I expect that I will spend the rest of 1985 completing the book, and 1986 getting it published.

C.I. Walker,
Box 381,
Squamish, B.C. V0N 3G0

WILLIAM LAMONT

The B.C. Pipers' Association was saddened to hear of the death of life-member Bill Lamont.

Mr. Lamont, aged 66, was a much respected member of the Vancouver Scottish community as a whole. Bill held every office on the executive of the society from president on more than one occasion, to secretary, treasurer, board member and his most recent position as trustee. He was without doubt, the most active of our senior members in his interest for the affairs of the Association, and his tireless hours spent on the White Heather committee has given the Society the financial freedom it enjoys to-day.

In addition to his administrative skills, Bill was most active in the piping arena. An accomplished soloist, he was a regular fixture on the judging panel. As a piper for dancers Bill conducted classes for younger players in the art of playing for highland dancers. Bill was also a pipe band member most recently appearing with the Shrine Pipe Band.

To Ev and family, our deepest sympathies. Bill has left many friends. We shall miss him.

LAST MONTH IN AND AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

The results of the Mini Gathering held on January 12, 1985 were as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>Chanter - March</u> | <u>Novice "A" - S & R</u> | <u>Novice "B" - S & R</u> | <u>Juvenile - Jig</u> |
| 1. Kathryn Savage | 1. Patrick Lindsay | 1. Patricia Hannigan | 1. Leslie MacKay |
| 2. Glen Jorgensen | 2. Mike Anderson | 2. Shelly Anderson | 2. Todd Sinclair |
| 3. Alan Bevan | 3. Campbell Stafford | 3. Paul Nailen | 3. Kathy MacLeod |
| 4. Jacqueline Blair | | | |
| <u>Jr. Am. - Piobaireachd</u> | <u>Sr. Am - M.S.R.</u> | <u>Adult - Slow Air</u> | <u>Novice Drumming</u> |
| 1. Richie Hamilton | 1. Robert MacLeod | 1. Jimmy Wilson | 1. Gregory Gibson |
| 2. Graeme Savage | 2. Chuck Zittel | 2. Ian Walker | |
| | 3. Bruce Woodley | 3. John Gregg | |
| <u>Jr. Am. - Drumming</u> | | | |
| 1. Karen Hinchey | 2. Carol MacDonald | 3. Glen Wright | |

The piping judges for the day were Peter Aumonier, Neil Dickie, Ian MacKinnon, Rob Menzies and Jimmy Watt. Our thanks to them and also to Murray Budden who judged the drumming competitions. Any drummer interested in competing at the next Mini Gathering to be held on February 9th, should contact Linda Aumonier at 525-3526.

A special thanks to our out-of-town piping judge, Neil Dickie, and also to those out-of-town competitors who participated in the day's events.

COMMENTS TO THE CHANTER CLASS

These do not apply to all the competitors but should be known by all. The reason for playing with the tips (or from the first knuckle top hand outwards) of the fingers is that it makes it quicker, faster and easier to make grace notes. A very slight movement at the base of the finger produces a note. The little finger of the top hand should be below the level of the chanter so it does not interfere with any movement of the "D" finger. I know its above when playing "E", but at that time you cannot play or move "D".

We play with the bottom hand further over so that the shorter little finger reaches the chanter. A very important finger here is the thumb. If you can keep behind the "C" finger or slightly lower it will give your hand a better balance and pivot point. Remember, it is almost impossible to strike the "D" with your thumb held above the fingers.

Maybe knowing the reasons for having to do some of these things will make it easier for you.

Lastly, I was very pleasantly shocked by the large turnout of competitors. The B.C. Pipers' future is secure if one can judge by the numbers, enthusiasm and quality of this group.

Open adult always a pleasure to be with and meet old friends. It is nice to see the class growing. There are lots more out there that should be coming out. Jimmy Wilson was the winner but I would also like to commend him on a very fine sounding set of pipes. The chanter and drones were well matched and well tuned. There is here; a good lesson for a lot of us to learn, and a good example for younger pipers to emulate.

Ian O. MacKinnon

TRIUMPH STREET PIPE BAND

Technical difficulties prevented us from bringing you the results of the pipe bands at the Triumph Street contest in the last edition (I forgot) so here they are:

Juvenile

1. White Spot Jr. Pipe Band
2. B.C. Junior Pipe Band

Grade III

1. Maple Ridge Pipe Band
2. Penticton Pipe Band
3. Abbotsford Legion Pipe Band
4. Keith Highlanders Pipe Band

Grade II

1. City of Seattle Pipe Band
2. Sir John A. McDonald Society Pipe Band
3. Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band

Grade I

1. Simon Fraser University Pipe Band
2. City of Victoria Pipe Band
3. Triumph Street Pipe Band

JANUARY KNOCKOUT

The largest crowd of the season was on hand for the January Knockout. The warm-up event was a Polka. In an attempt to "involve the audience" the warm-up was judged by four members of the crowd. Sheriff Macpherson of New Westminster, Willie McErlean, former lead tip for Triumph Street, Don Rankin, President of the B.C. Highland Dancing Association and Tim Hinchey, accordionist extraordinaire comprised the judging panel. Despite Neil Dickie's attempts to dance to a win, the judges gave the nod to Robbie MacNeil. Duncan Fraser made a good showing here and showed he's no slouch at the more "novel" light tunes.

The first match-up of the evening saw the final group of round one. Owen Reed, fresh from his honeymoon, was up against Neil Dickie. Unfortunately, Owen did not last long. He spent a good deal of time tuning. He did get the pipe socked in and started off in bold fashion. However, it was not Owen's night as he broke down. We certainly hope to see Owen entered in more events as I can assure you he'll be tough to beat. Neil Dickie, his way open to round two, was up next. Earlier in the day I had been talking to Neil. He had told me that to-night's knockout was going to be a serious venture for him. We were not going to see the Neil Dickie of old, with the usual clowning around, we were going to see him display his real musical ability. I could hardly imagine this happening especially after his performance in the warm-up. Neil did display some nice touches in his performance. His strathspey was superior to anything I heard all evening. However, once he hit the reels he must have been hit with the urge to show some of his own unique flashes. I think Neil mistook the auditorium for a kitchen. Neil proceeds to round two against the formidable Steve Geddes.

Duncan Fraser was to face Jamie Troy in the first match up of round two. Unfortunately, Jamie was ill and could not attend. I think it's the first time ever that Jamie has not shown for an event he's entered in. He expressed his regrets at not being able to attend. Duncan came well prepared to face Jamie. He played well and his performance was highlighted by a beautiful setting of "The Rakes of Kildare". It was a shame that Jamie was unable to attend as it could have been a real battle.

The final match-up of the evening had Robbie MacNeil against Alison Stewart. Robbie, with a well tuned instrument, gave a good performance. I felt, however, that he seemed to push throughout the whole performance and never really relaxed. Overall though, the pipe was good, the execution was good, and it was well expressed. Alison followed Robbie up. Unfortunately for Alison she never got her pipe settled in. She displayed her usual excellent execution but got only as far as her March before she packed it in. Robbie got the cakewalk to the next round. All in all, not vintage knock out playing.

The impromptu part of the evening got underway. Neil Dickie was now in his element and set about entertaining the audience in his own imitable fashion. The novel event in the impromptu part of the evening featured a relay race consisting of teams of three players. The race included the eating of the worst haggis you could ever imagine and several other obstacles. The winning team consisted of Robbie MacNeil, Neil Dickie and Jack Lee. This team had an obvious advantage as Jack Lee will eat anything.

Although appearing slightly disorganized, the B.C. Pipers' "Olympics" showed some merit and may come back next season.

The balance of the evening was devoted to impromptu with tunes from Andrew Bonar, Robert MacLeod and a refreshing selection from Theresa McErlean. Once again, not a classic night for piping although most of the crowd left happy.

Peter Aumonier.

NEXT MONTH IN AND AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY KNOCKOUT

The last heat of the second round will feature six players vying for a spot in the final. The first event will see Peter Aumonier versus Andrew Bonar. Both players came off very good performances in the opening round and promise to offer more of the same. Next up will be Jimmy Hardie and Angus Macpherson followed by Steve Geddes and Neil Dickie. The warm-up event will be a four part 6/8 named for a person, as in one person, not as in the Glendaruel Highlanders, etc.

Following the knockout a senior amateur strathspey and reel contest will be held. The remainder of the evening will be devoted to dancing (the Gay Gordon-Highland Schotische-Eightsome Reel-type dancing) with music supplied by the three winners that night.

Unfortunately, the response to our "family night" has been somewhat grim so I'm afraid it has gone the way of the Gaelic Choir. Maybe next year!

Bar Opens: 8:00 p.m. Contest Starts: 8:30 p.m. See you there!
February 9th, 1985 Willingdon Heights Community Centre,
Carleton and Douglas, Burnaby, B.C.

ANNUAL GATHERING



The 53rd Annual Gathering of the B.C. Pipers' Association will be held on Friday April 5th and Saturday April 6th. Once again Vancouver Technical School will be the venue for the Indoor as it has proven to be a most suitable location over the past three years. This year our Judges from Scotland will be P/M Ian McLellan and Mr. John McDougall. P/M McLellan is the current Pipe Major of the world champion Strathclyde Police Pipe Band and has had a very successful solo career.

John McDougall will be making his third appearance at the Gathering since judging his first indoor in 1973. All amateur events will take place on Friday, with profession piobaireachd starting late Friday afternoon. The professional M.S.R. and jigs will be held on the Saturday in addition to all drumming events. As is customary, the weekend will be capped off with the miniature band contest and ceilidh on the Saturday evening.

WILL ALL TROPHY HOLDERS PLEASE RETURN THEM TO THE SECRETARY AT THE FEBRUARY MINI GATHERING OR KNOCKOUT.

The programme of events and entry form can be found on the last page of this edition.

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ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

The 1985 Annual Dinner and Knockout Final will be held on March 9th at the Gizeh Temple, Wayburne and Canada Way, Burnaby B.C.

Five finalists will be competing for first prize of \$200.00 and charter class airfare to attend a competition of his choice in Ontario. The requirement for the final will be an 8-10 minute selection. Two of the entrants have already been decided, Duncan Fraser and Robbie MacNeil while the remainder will be known following the February knockout.

The "revived" dinner is quickly regaining the status it once enjoyed, the past two years being the most enjoyable, and this year is proving to be no exception. Tickets are going fast and if last year is any indication may well be in short supply. Don't be disappointed!



Tickets: Donald Ross 526-7905
Jim MacDonald 941-8057
Bar Service
Cocktails 6:00 P.M.
Dinner 7:00 P.M.
Tickets \$15.00 per person.



The February Mini Gathering will be held on Saturday, February 9th at Burnaby North Secondary School. All contestants must be members of the B.C. Pipers' Association. Memberships will be available at the Secretary's Desk the morning of the competition for anyone who has not yet joined.

TIME SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

| <u>Class</u> | <u>Tune</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Chanter | Slow Air | 10:00 A.M. |
| Novice "A" | 6/8 March | 10:00 A.M. |
| Novice "B" | 6/8 March | 10:00 A.M. |
| Juvenile | Piobaireachd (Ground and one variation) | 10:00 A.M. |
| Junior | Hornpipe | not before 10:45 A.M. |
| Amateur | Piobaireachd | not before 11:00 A.M. |
| Open Adult | 2 part March | not before 10:45 A.M. |
| Novice Drumming | Strathspey and Reel | 10:00 A.M. |
| Jr. Amateur Drumming | Jig and Hornpipe | 10:00 A.M. |

An order of play for all classes except Chanter will be posted the morning of the Mini Gathering. A new competitor who enters the day of the Mini Gathering will be first to play that day.

Stuart Macpherson won the best tenor drummer at the Triumph Street Competition held on December 8th, 1984.

Stuart also kept his winning streak alive by winning yet another door prize at the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band Association Burns Dinner.

BORN LOSER!



THE ROYAL SCOTTISH PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION
 OUTDOOR CONTESTS - 1985
 (REVISED)

| | | | | |
|------------------|------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----|
| MAY | | | | |
| 11th | Sat. | London | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 11th | Sat. | Dunbar | 1,2,3,4,J,N/J | D/M |
| 12th | Sun. | Gourock | 3,4,J | D/M |
| 18th | Sat. | Oban | 1,2,3,4,J,N/J | D/M |
| 19th | Sun. | Stirling | 1,2,3,4,J,N/J | D/M |
| 25th | Sat. | Bathgate | 1,2,3,4,J,N/J | D/M |
| 25th | Sat. | Ballyclare N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 26th | Sun. | Prestonpans | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 26th | Sun. | Hitchin | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| JUNE | | | | |
| 1st | Sat. | Barrhead | 1,2,3,4,J,N/J | D/M |
| 1st | Sat. | Blackpool | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 1st | Sat. | Londonderry N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 2nd | Sun. | Girvan | 0,3,4 | |
| 2nd | Sun. | Markinch | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 2nd | Sun. | Glasgow | J,N/J | |
| 8th | Sat. | Bearsden | 1,2,3,4,J,N/J | D/M |
| 8th | Sat. | Cookstown N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 8th | Sat. | Edinburgh (Miners Gala) | 1,2,3 | |
| 9th | Sun. | Turriff | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 9th | Sun. | Forfar | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 9th | Sun. | Cleckheaton | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 15th | Sat. | Lesmahagow | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 15th | Sat. | Oldmeldrum | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 15th | Sat. | Banbridge | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 16th | Sun. | Danderhall | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 16th | Sun. | Coventry | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 16th | Sun. | Aberdeen | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 22nd | Sat. | Scottish Champs (Ardrossan) | All | D/M |
| 22nd | Sat. | Ashbourne | 0,3,4 | D/M |
| 22nd | Sat. | Ahoghill N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 23rd | Sun. | Nottingham (English Champs) | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 29th | Sat. | Coatbridge | 3,4 | D/M |
| 29th | Sat. | Enniskillen N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 30th | Sun. | Birmingham | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 30th | Sun. | Cowdenbeath | 1,2,3,4,J | D/M |
| 30th | Sun. | Burghead | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| JULY | | | | |
| 6th | Sat. | Kilmore (Oban) | 3 | |
| 6th | Sat. | Carluke | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 6th | Sat. | Annan | 0,3,4 | D/M |
| 6th | Sat. | Newcastle N/I (All Ireland) | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 7th | Sun. | Dundee | 1,2,3,4,J | D/M |
| 13th | Sat. | Balloch | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 14th | Sun. | Lochfield (Kinlochard) | 3 | D/M |
| 20th | Sat. | Corby | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 21st | Sun. | Wellington | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 21st | Sun. | Irvine | 0,3,4 | D/M |
| 27th | Sat. | Bangor N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| AUGUST | | | | |
| 3rd | Sat. | Bridge of Allan | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 3rd | Sat. | Inverkeithing | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 3rd | Sat. | Portrush N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 4th | Sun. | Aboyne | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 10th | Sat. | Stirling (Clans) | All | D/M |
| AUGUST/ | | | | |
| 10th | Sat. | Craigavon N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 11th | Sun. | Perth | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 17th | Sat. | World Champs (Hamilton) | All | D/M |
| 24th | Sat. | British Champs (Rothesay) | All | D/M |
| 24th | Sat. | Kilkeel N/I | 1,2,3,4 | D/M |
| 25th | Sun. | Edinburgh | All | D/M |
| 31st | Sat. | Cowal Champs (Dunoon) | All | D/M |
| SEPTEMBER | | | | |
| 1st | Sun. | Chatsworth | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 7th | Sat. | European Champs (Shotts) | All | D/M |
| 8th | Sun. | Peebles | 1,2,3,4,N/J | D/M |
| 14th | Sat. | Dunblane | 2,3,4 | D/M |
| 14th | Sat. | Pitlochry | 1 | |

RECORD REVIEW

"Nous Sommes Prets", Simon Fraser University Pipe Band's first recording is an excellent sample of the band's musical progress. Recorded at Simon Fraser University, the album captures the band's sound tremendously well. The quality of the recording is certainly state of the art in as much as the chanter sound is concerned. Unfortunately, the only thing that keeps this album from surpassing the Strathclyde Police's latest album, as the all time best pipe band production, is the ensemble balance between the pipe corps and the drum corps. It would have been nicer to hear the chanters more "up front". The drum corps is too loud and the bass drum lacks subtlety. Considering how well the chanter sound was picked up I'm surprised the loudness of the drumming was overlooked. The effect is that the ensemble sound is dominated by drumming instead of having two units complementing each other. This is not to say the album is not good. It is a great album. However, from a critical point of view there is always room for improvements.

The selection of tunes on the album is very good. One of the outstanding cuts features the jig "The Old Woman's Dance". The opening selection is a March, Strathspey and Reel selection which shows good tone and execution which is heard throughout the album. There were two cuts I didn't particularly care for. On side two, John MacKenzie's Fancy is played in the same round idiom as the Kitchen Piper and from a musical standpoint just doesn't connect. The other cut that was not to my liking is the duet playing of P/M Lee and P/S Lee. The playing is good but, if the band was trying something different to make the album stand out, this doesn't do it. These criticisms aside, the album is well worth having in any collector's home.

Peter Aumonier

PUZZLE CORNER

Before tackling the excellent word puzzle created by Kevin Mark, a fine competitor in our Juvenile Class, it's time for a few answers. First, the answers to our September drivel pursuit.

Geography

1. Captain McPhail hailed from Tiree.
2. Donald Macpherson currently resides in Wales.
3. Murray Henderson is a resident of the U.S.A. However, since the printing of our contest Murray has decided to return to Scotland. He was originally from New Zealand.
4. Our quiz compilers are in some doubt as to the reference of "the eight men of Moydart". Two possible answers are, mountain peaks in western Scotland and eight clan chiefs. Help anybody?
5. The Tyrol is in Austria.

History

1. Angus McKay wrote The Abercairney Highlanders.
2. Sandy Marshall was the first Pipe Major of Triumph Street Pipe Band. Kelvin Wood was the first leader of the group but resigned prior to the Band taking its name.
3. John McDougall was the Judge at the 1973 Gathering.
4. Alison Palmer won the Junior March at the 1972 B.C. Highland Games. The answer was on the previous page under "Do You Remember".
5. Seb Nellies last held the position of Association Pipe Major.

Sports

1. Barry Beck, defenceman for the N. Y. Rangers, was a member of the Highland Laddies Pipe Band.
2. Willie Johnson was the Vancouver Whitecap who had a keen interest in the Scottish Band scene.
3. Who knows what the score was at the last T.S.P.-S.F.U. hockey game. (Jeff Crowther claims it was 16-12)

Science

1. Drone reeds usually squeal because the bridle is too tight.
2. Two materials commonly used for making pipe bags include sheepskin and elk hide.
3. Six manufacturers currently making bagpipes include:
Hardie, Grainger & Campbell, Kintail, Piob Mhor, MacPherson, Gillanders & McLeod, Naill.

NOVEMBER QUIZ

Geography

1. The Bellingham Games are held at Civic Field.
2. Maxville Games take place in Glengarry County.
3. Dunoon Sports Stadium hold the Cowal Games.
4. The last eight world pipe band championships were held in:
Hawick, Aberdeen, Lanark, Nottingham, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Glenrothes, Glasgow.
5. Lismore is an island in the firth of Lorne.
6. The Northern Meeting is held in Eden Court.

History

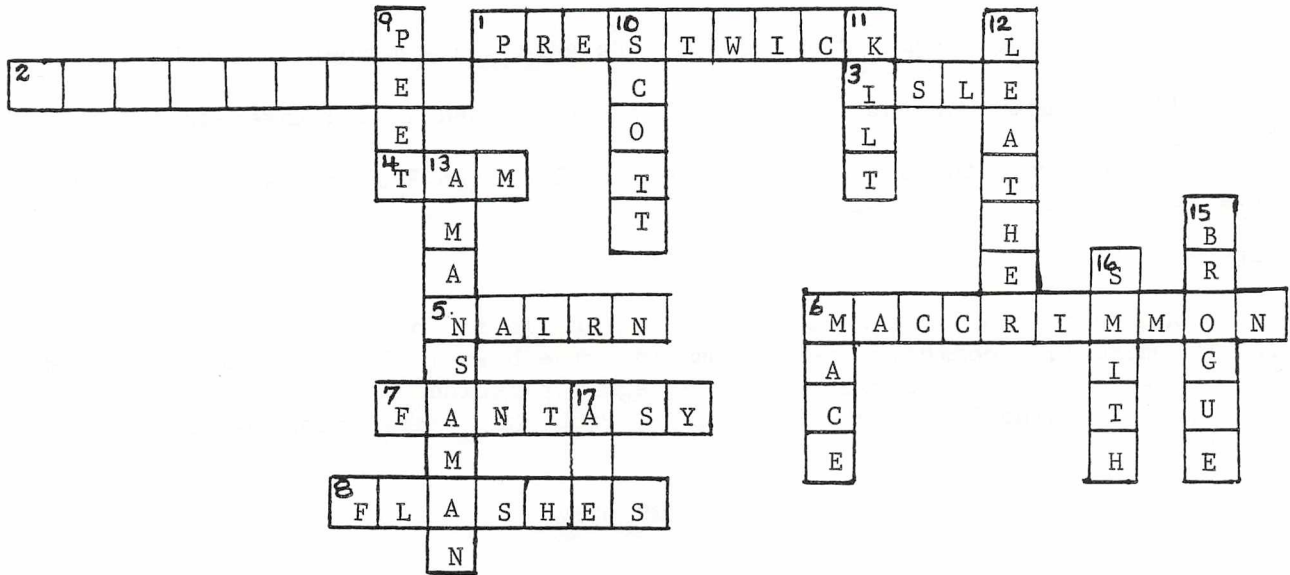
1. Four life members of the Association include Malcolm Nicholson, Bill Lamont, Rod McVicar, Jack Lee and Donald Ross.
2. The past five presidents are Peter McNeil, Donald MacMillan, Bob Murphy, Alec Young and Jimmy McDonald.
3. Jimmy Lang was the first president of the Western Pipe Band Association.
4. James Watt wrote Brentwood Bay.
5. The boat song of Brentwood Bay is the full name.
6. The Vancouver Kiwanis Boys' Band won the Juvenile Grade at Cowal in 1970.

General

1. Orange and Blue is the Strathspey related to hot punch.
2. Ian Whitelaw won the Cairn in 1983.
3. Lennox is the tartan worn by the City of Victoria.
4. Three local drummers who played in Grade I Scottish Bands include Katie Forsythe, Ron Annan and Jim Ingles.
5. The local resident who stood (well, actually floated) in the circle at the 1979 worlds without playing a note was Valerie Senyk. Jan, her mother, was pregnant at the time when she played tenor drum for Triumph Street Pipe Band.

Well, we'll give the trivia a rest for the time being and thank Bill Hiscock, our winner, and Jeff Crowther for submitting their answers.

The November crossword, courtesy of Robyn Fraser, was printed with a couple of small errors. First of all we neglected to include 14 Down and 2 Across, "the name of a Cardinal and a President's former car" referred to my former bomb (in more ways than one) a Wolseley. Unfortunately, the Cardinal's name was Woolsey. But for that, a brilliant question. By the way 14 Down was Poi.



The much appreciated replies to our December "Soap Operas" are printed below. First prize will be decided at the February Knockout.

Jimmy Findlater met Pretty Marion at Troy's Wedding and invited her to Jock Wilson's Ball, where she found his dancing so appalling that she called him a Clumsy Lover. She refused to dance with him anymore, so he tried dancing a jig with an Irish Washerwoman.

Leaving Lunga, Jimmy joined King George V's Army. On leave, he attended Jack's Welcome Home party, where he got so drunk that he imagined he saw the Devil in the Kitchen.

Submitted by: Jim Ahara

WHEN JOHNNIE COMES MARCHING HOME

or

DON'T SIT UNDER THE ROWAN TREE WITH ANYONE ELSE BUT ME!

Jock Wilson, a member of King George V's Army, was engaged to marry Pretty Marion, an Irish Washerwoman. Hurrying home to wed his beloved, after Leaving Lunga, where he had been stationed, Jock, or Jack, as Marion called him, burst into her home. He rushed like the Devil in the Kitchen, where she was having a fling practicing her bagpipes. Overwhelmed by his ardor and passion, Marion said: "Don't be Clumsy, Lover!" He said: "Is this your darling Jack's Welcome Home?" Marion answered: "As a matter of fact, dear Jack, it is over between us. I now love another and I cannot marry you. It is Jimmy Findlater. Jock gasped: "That cursed Findlater. He always destroys weddings". Overcome with grief, nothing could be heard but Jock Wilson's Balling. A reel pity!

Submitted by: C.I. Walker

Upon Leaving Lunga, King George V's Army, led by Jimmy Findlater, set off to Troy's Wedding. The problem was that they inadvertently arrived at Jock Wilson's Ball where they ran into Pretty Marion and her Clumsy Lover. Also, there was the Irish Washerwoman, sometimes referred to as the Devil in the Kitchen, because of her rumored experiences last year at Jack's Welcome Home.

Submitted by: Peter Aumonier

About the pipes.

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Z K J G T D N K F D T | H O U Y H O Y D C B S X Q E Y R |
| F O P R D B X Q P A T | U H R E T N A H C P H G P Y G M |
| F Q H H A G G I S J Z | U V P P T V N D I G V A L K M E |
| D U Y F N D P S Y P D | Y R E S I D A O U E C O U Y G R |
| D A K J T E E T R E K | Y G E H Y F B O B S I I G B A Q |
| F R J H S L U T F | H G F T G A L K S J H N A P L J |
| G T T P S G J Y T | U H T A I J H E H G F D S A E Y |
| F E J H G B R I K | H O Y R Y T N U Y T R E W S G Y |
| G T G R J H B Y T | H M E T P R G F G F D J |
| G T K J I T G A T G J U B F D E S A H S E G F D | H G U K |
| G E G H B A G F S R D K K T F D C T U V T G P L | J H J I |
| Z X C Q R F W R J S T R C F G H T Y N Y R P L Z | O K H G |
| R F E D F G J O T G H P A F D E P I P W O L B F | |
| G S F E F G H K L H B V T Y T R V B N V P G K M | |
| T E E E F H G T R S C O T L A N D T F M H R I J L J H | |
| R H O R N P I P E G H D A H G B F D U F Y U Y H T L P | |
| T S F G T Z J Z Q G D Z X C B V E R H G F T R E S N U | |
| T A H G F D S E C H I G H L A N D G A M E S G F A G K J H M G U | |
| F L W S E S G F R S D V Z E T R R G H Y R D O K M | |
| D F T R E O R Q Z X C V T Y J R Y T R R O N E T ! | |
| F D R N J L B R O G U E S J T P O T F O T F B H N L I T S R | |
| F B R Z X O A H G K V B F D X N G F P T B E N O R D G F D E | |
| T R E R D Z I J N J I T I J H N V D E S H G Y J N B F K J U T E | |
| T H E F V B G R D L H G F D V N G H H C R A M Y T G F B | |
| G J L R D K C O T S G | |
| R D F G R S E A T G B K | |
| G F R H D I L I E C H G F R J N G I U H G B D C S | |
| R E D G F V H K U Y T R E S W Q A Z X C V K I U X | |

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. STOCK | 19. CELLIDH |
| 2. PIPES | 20. BAND |
| 3. SCOTLAND | 21. ATTACK |
| 4. FLASHES | 22. JUDGE |
| 5. DRONE | 23. HIGHLAND GAMES |
| 6. REED | 24. BASS |
| 7. NOTES | 25. TENOR |
| 8. CHANTER | 26. DRUM |
| 9. REEL | 27. KILT |
| 10. MARCH | 28. SPORRAN |
| 11. PLOBAIREACHD | 29. INVERNESS CAPE |
| 12. SOLO | 30. BROGUES |
| 13. TRIO | 31. HAGGIS |
| 14. QUARTETTE | 32. TASSELS |
| 15. STRATHSPEY | 33. BLOWPIPE |
| 16. JIG | 34. TROPHY |
| 17. HORNPIPE | 35. BEER! |
| 18. SLOWAIR | |

Submitted by: Kevin Mark

BAND CHATTER

Congratulations to Katie Forsythe and Richard Ryan on their recent wedding. Katie, formerly with the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band and Triumph Street Pipe Band was also a drummer for Muirhead & Sons in Scotland. Katie and Richard were married during a small ceremony at the end of December.

Dave Rutherford is reported to be playing with Sir. John A. MacDonald. Dave, a former member of Triumph Street Pipe Band is also a former P/M of C.P. Air Pipe Band.

Contrary to rumors circulating around S.F.U. and V.L.P.B. the haggis served during the "olympics" at the last Knockout was not RAW!

Sorry to hear Jim Troy, P/M of City of Victoria, is under the weather. We hope for a speedy recovery and to see Jim out and about soon.

DUES

Your 1985 Dues in the B.C. Pipers' Association are now payable. Rates for membership, which include subscription to the newsletter, are \$15.00 per annum or \$30.00 per family.

Please remit payment to Mr. Neil Palmer, Treasurer,
4964 West 7th Avenue,
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 1X5

COMING EVENTS

The B.C. Junior Pipe Band is putting on a benefit concert Friday, March 29th 1985 at Seaquam Secondary School in North Delta. There will be Scottish and Gaelic singers, Highland Dancers, Scottish Country Dancers and, of course, the B.C. Junior Pipe Band all brought together by the expertise of M.C. Barry Cole. We hope you will come and enjoy this evening of varied Scottish entertainment.

Tickets will be on sale in January for \$3.00 adult and \$2.00 senior citizens and \$1.00 for children under 12.

For further information contact Cheryl Jorgensen at 596-8547

GAELIC CHOIR RACES - FEBRUARY 27, 1985

The Vancouver and District Gaelic Choir are having a night at the Cloverdate Race Track on Wednesday, February 27th, 1985. For parking, entry fee, programme and smorgasbord dinner, the total cost is \$20.00 per person. Anyone interested in a good evening and to help the choir raise funds for their trip to the the Mod this year, please contact Ishabel Ross at 526-7905 before February 6, 1985.

AND A LAST REMINDER - Don't forget to attend the 2nd Annual "Olympia Cup" Open Piobaireachd Competition to be held in conjunction with the Vancouver Ladies' Festival on Friday, February 22nd, 1985 at St. Stephen's Church Hall, 9887 Cameron Street, Burnaby, B.C. (behind the Lougheed Mall) commencing at 6:00 p.m. Refreshments.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PIPERS' ASSOCIATION 53RD ANNUAL GATHERING



VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SCHOOL
2600 EAST BROADWAY
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Events Friday, April 5th, 1985 - 9:00 A.M.

- | | | | |
|-------|---|--------|---|
| No. 1 | Chanter Class - choice of any March | No. 8 | Jr. Am. - Piobaireachd |
| No. 2 | Novice - March (4 part 2/4) | No. 9 | Jr. Am. - Jig |
| No. 3 | Novice - Slow Air | No. 10 | Sr. Am. - Piobaireachd (submit 2)sets) |
| No. 4 | Juvenile - March | No. 11 | Sr. Am. - M.S.R. (submit 2 sets) |
| No. 5 | Juvenile - Strathspey & Reel | No. 12 | Sr. Am. - Jig (submit 2) |
| No. 6 | Juvenile - Piobaireachd (Ground and one variation - not necessary to repeat Ground) | No. 13 | Open Adult - 2/4 March (for pipers who do not regularly compete) |
| No. 7 | Jr. Am. - M.S.R. | No. 14 | Open - Piobaireachd (submit 4) |

Events Saturday, April 6th, 1985 - 10:30 A.M.

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|
| No. 15 | Open - M.S.R. (submit 3 sets) | No. 16 | Open - Jigs (submit 3 sets of 2) |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|

Events Saturday Afternoon, April 6th, 1985 - Drumming

- | | | | |
|--------|--|--------|--|
| No. 17 | Novice Drumming - 2/4 March (may be two parts played twice) | No. 20 | Sr. Am. Drumming - Medley (5 - 7 minutes) |
| No. 18 | Jr. Drumming - M.S.R. | No. 21 | Open Drumming - M.S.R. |
| No. 19 | Sr. Am. Drumming - M.S.R. | No. 22 | Open Drumming - Medley (5 - 7 minutes) |

Events Saturday Evening, April 6th, 1985

- | | |
|--------|--|
| No. 23 | Grade IV Mini Bands (4 - 6 minute medley) |
| No. 24 | Juvenile Mini Bands (4 - 6 minute medley) |
| No. 25 | Grade III Mini Bands (5 - 7 minute medley) |
| No. 26 | Grade II Mini Bands (5 - 7 minute medley) |
| No. 27 | Grade I Mini Bands (5 - 7 minute medley) |

Entry Fees

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---------|
| All Amateur Events | - | \$ 3.00 |
| All Open Events | - | \$ 5.00 |
| Junior Bands | - | \$10.00 |
| All Other Bands | - | \$15.00 |

Prizes

| <u>Event</u> | <u>1st</u> | <u>2nd</u> | <u>3rd</u> | <u>4th</u> | <u>5th</u> |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Professional Piobaireachd | \$200 | \$100 | \$75 | \$60 | \$40 |
| Professional M.S.R. | 100 | 75 | 60 | 50 | 40 |
| Professional Jigs | 75 | 60 | 50 | 40 | 30 |
| Jr. Miniature Bands | 150 | 125 | 100 | | |
| Grade III Miniature Bands | 175 | 150 | 125 | | |
| Grade II Miniature Bands | 200 | 175 | 150 | | |
| Grade I Miniature Bands | 400 | 300 | 250 | | |
| Professional Drumming | 100 | 75 | 60 | | |

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

1. Solo piping is governed by the B.C. Pipers' Association.
2. Pipe Bands and Drumming are governed by the Western Pipe Band Association.
3. Tuning time will be limited to five (5) minutes in Open Piping.
4. Pipers not ready to play at their posted time will be disqualified.
5. The Chanter Class is open to anyone who has not competed on the Pipes.
6. Aggregate winner of the Professional Class is to receive a Charter Flight to Scotland. The winner must compete in all three events to qualify. In the event of a tie, preference will be given to the Piobaireachd.
7. Amateur and Professional Pipers must submit their list of tunes with their entry forms. Entries submitted without the list of tunes will not be accepted.
8. Pipe bands - Please submit your medley with the entry form.
9. Closing date of entries - March 23rd, 1985. All entries must be in the hands of Secretary by March 23rd, 1985.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM OF THE B.C. PIPERS' ASSOCIATION

NAME _____ FEE _____
 ADDRESS _____ PROV/ STATE _____ POSTAL CODE _____
 EVENT NUMBERS _____
 NAME OF TARTAN _____

MAIL ENTRIES TO: Mrs. Mary MacKinnon
 6959 Halligan Street
 Burnaby, B.C. V5E 1R4

CLOSING DATE OF ENTRIES:
 March 23rd, 1985

AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL PIPERS MUST SUBMIT THEIR LIST OF TUNES WITH THEIR ENTRY FORMS. ENTRIES SUBMITTED WITHOUT THE LIST OF TUNES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

PIPE BANDS PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR MEDLEY WITH THE ENTRY FORM.

