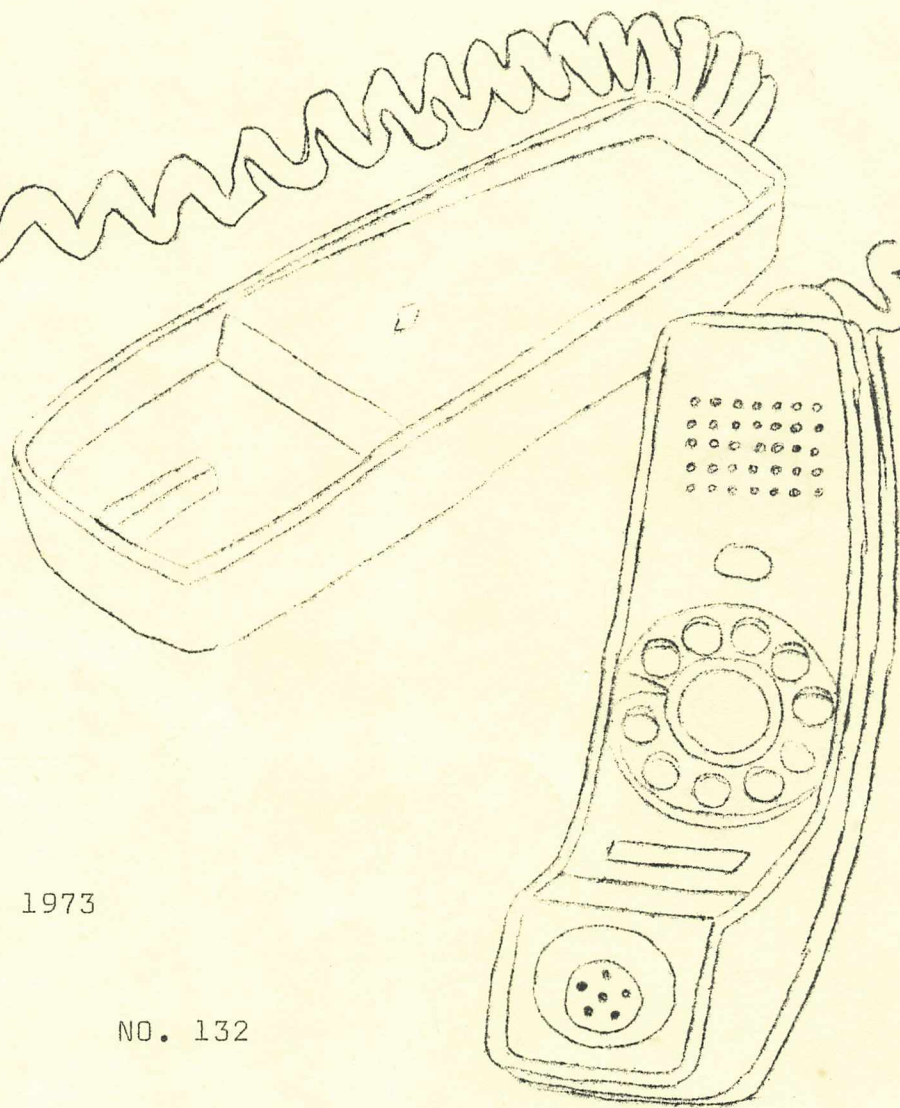


ELLA! DO YA KEN

WHAUR MA B.C. PIPERS'
NEWSLETTER IS?



JUNE/JULY, 1973

NO. 132

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

PRESIDENT Bill Lamont
VICE-PRESIDENT David Wilson
SECRETARY Ishabel Ross
TREASURER Robert Gunn
Association Pipe Major Seb Nellies

The B. C. Pipers' Newsletter is published monthly at 6286 Empress Avenue, Burnaby 1, 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 Mrs. D. Ross, 834 Burnaby Street, New Westminster.

EDITORS: Colin Abel
Angus MacPherson

STAFF: Barb Abel
Janice Taylor
Judi Taylor

JUNE/JULY, 1973

NO. 132

Table of Contents

Letters to the Editor.....	Page 1
Last Month In and Around the Association	
Results: New Westminster.....	3
Victoria.....	4
Vancouver.....	6
Nanaimo.....	8
Portland.....	9
Seattle.....	10
International Winners.....	11
Next Month	
Knock-Outs.....	11
Bi-Monthlies.....	12
Labour Day.....	12
V.I.P. Club.....	13

Hawaiian Dance.....	Page 13
Roving Reporter.....	16
Foreign Corner.....	16
Band Chatter.....	17
Black Chanter of Kintail.....	19
Announcements.....	21

"Sorry, Fred!"

The editors apologize for the delay in receiving your Newsletter, but due to the tight schedule of Highland Games, publication had to be postponed.

* * * * *

Life Saving Wins Courage Award

Richard (Dick) Swanson was awarded a star of courage medal in Ottawa last week for rescuing a drowning woman from the Fraser River five years ago.

Swanson jumped from the Fraser Street Bridge to save Lydia McClelland, 63, of Burnaby. The woman and Harold R. Wheeler, 60, of Coquitlam, were plunged into the Fraser River after Wheelers pick-up truck crashed through the guard rail. Mr. Swanson was driving home with his wife three cars behind the truck. He jumped into the icy October water wearing only pants and shirt.

Governor-General Roland Michener awarded the bravery medal to Swanson in a ceremony in Ottawa.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sirs,

Would you please record the passing of two very well known and highly respected pipers - Fred MacLennan and Iain Sutherland.

Mr. MacLennan was born in Lochboisdale, South Uist in 1900. He died at Sanoma, California on Sunday, May 13, and was buried in Coeur d'Alene on Friday, the 18th. He emigrated to Canada in 1922 and after approximately one year in Vancouver, he took up residence in the United States. He was employed at Berkley University for 35 years, retiring five years ago, and then lived for several years in Coeur d'Alene. Fred MacLennan was very active in piping in the San Francisco area for many years as a competitor, teacher, and adjudicator.

As a teenage lad, he attended the very first summer school in South Uist which was sponsored by the Scottish Piobaireachd Society and its teacher was none other than the late John MacDonald, Inverness. Others attending this school were three of Fred's brothers; John and Roddy MacDonald who later were members of the famous Glasgow Police Band; the MacIntyre brothers; and others who gained great fame in the world of piping in their day. During the past few years he was unable to play because of some surgery but this did not restrict his great interest in piping. He was an executive board member of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society and provided a great deal of guidance in its original organization.

Iain Sutherland was born at Lybster, Caithness Shire in 1903. He died in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 18 and was buried there on May 21, 1973. He had been in ill health for the past four or five years. He emigrated to southern California in 1927 and spent the greater part of his time in the Los Angeles, San Francisco areas. About ten years ago, he located in Nevada.

Iain received his early piping instructions from the late John Keith who lived in the local community. At the age of seventeen, the late John MacDonald, Inverness, recognized his potential as a piper and arranged employment for him, for two summers, with the late John "Jocken" MacPherson at Newronmore, from whom he received excellent teaching. The tone of his MacDougall pipes and the immaculate timing inherent in his style of march playing will be long remembered by many.

John McEwing.

Dear Sirs,

We would like to make a suggestion to Highland Games Associations on the west coast which are connected with the W.P.B.A. concerning the conventional March, Strathspey & Reel competition for quartettes.

With the trend in pipe bands leaning towards musical selection or medley, we feel this should apply to quartettes also.

The Triumph Street Competition partially accomplished this by providing variety of selections among bands and trios. This was enjoyable to the trio members as well as equally enjoyable to the audience.

We feel that a quartette musical selection would provide a greater repertoire of music and greater variety for the quartettes.

We hope that the Games Officials on the West Coast would consider this idea in the next competition year.

Robbie MacNeil
Bruce McIntosh
Donny MacNeil,
C. P. Air Pipe Bands.

Dear Sirs,

I am once again using your Newsletter as a means of informing the members of the circumstances surrounding individual drumming competitions.

As we are all aware, the B.C. Pipers' Association governs the individual piping contests and the W.P.B.A. the individual drumming, pipe band, and drum corp competitions. While the piping classes do not vary in their classifications at each of the games, the drumming classifications are not so enforced. Even though the W.P.B.A. does not govern all the games, it would seem most idealistic for the games which are not governed by W.P.B.A. to have their classes somewhat similar to those laid down by the Association. If they are not going to follow the rules which most individuals know concerning the structure of classes, they should clarify in the program the qualifications for entrance to these "homemade" classes.

Because of the individual's seriousness towards his drumming, he or she will find himself in one category whether it be novice, amateur, senior amateur, or professional and once in that particular class will not move up or down until the calendar year is at a close.

Of course, a drummer realizes that the following rule was put forth by the W.P.B.A. (our governors) and should, therefore, be followed with no exceptions: "Any competitor may choose to compete in a higher or more senior class but having done so would forfeit his/her right to again compete under his previous classification." Therefore, a novice drummer should be playing in a class that states itself as "Novice" and an amateur drummer in his prospective class being either "amateur" or "senior amateur".

In situations where Games do not follow the W.P.B.A. classifications, the individual should use his discretion in choosing the class in which he should play. Then, let us be honest with ourselves, drummers - a novice drummer or one who considers himself or herself as a novice drummer, should stick to the class of his ability and, if it was thought that he could play a set consisting of March, Strathspey & Reel and play it well, then he would be an amateur drummer. Once you have made that move there is no turning back - you are no longer a novice once you have competed in an amateur class.

Sue Burgess.

(Editors' Note: In particular, Susan is referring to the New Westminster Highland Games where there was no novice drumming and these drummers competed in amateur classes for that day only.)

LAST MONTH IN AND AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

New Westminster Highland Games

Novice Marches

1. Chris Taggert
2. Tom Leathem
3. Ian Putz
4. Linda Williams

Juvenile Marches

1. Rob Barrick
2. Duncan Fraser
3. Scott Butterfield
4. Bruce McIntosh

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Philip Gordon
2. Graham Davidson
3. Aileen Arnott
4. Bill Wishart

Junior Marches

1. Jean Laurie
2. Blake Keen
3. James Wright

Junior Strathspey & Reel

1. Brian Carse
2. Blake Keen
3. James Wright

Amateur Marches

1. Jack Lee
2. Jocelyn Lange
3. Allan MacDougall

Amateur Jigs

1. Allan MacDougall
2. Hazel Ramsay
3. Terry Lee

Professional Piobaireachd

1. Hal Senyk

Class 'C' Drumming

1. Sheila Roane
2. Chip Peterson
3. Sheila Brown

Professional Drumming

1. Keith Manifold
2. Jack Gallaher
3. Willie McErlean

Class 'C' Pipe Bands

1. Kiwanis Boys Pipe Band
2. Richmond Junior

'Open' Pipe Bands

1. City of Port Moody
2. City of Victoria

Victoria Highland Games

Novice Marches

1. Ian Putz
2. Bruce Gandy
3. Owen Reid
4. Jim Stewart

Junior Piobaireachd

1. Robbie McNeil
2. Brian Carse
3. Gordon Lyle

Amateur Strathspey & Reel

1. Terry Lee
2. Jack Lee
3. Stuart Reid

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Jack Lee
2. Stuart Reid
3. Sherea Barwell

Class 'B' Drumming

1. Ian Hunter

Drum Corps

1. Kiwanis Boys Pipe Band
2. Vancouver Ladies #2

Class 'B' Pipe Bands

1. Richmond

Novice Strathspey & Reel

1. Jackie Eckersley
2. Owen Reid
3. Tom Leatham
4. Bruce Gandy

Juvenile Marches

1. Duncan Fraser
2. Bill Wishart
3. Grant Wilkie
4. Scott Butterfield

Juvenile Slow Air

1. Ruth Tremaine
2. Graham Davidson
3. Phillip Gordon
4. Alan Strachan

Junior Strathspey & Reel

1. Brian Carse
2. Jean Laurie
3. Gordon Lyle
4. James Wright

Amateur Marches

1. Jack Lee
2. Allison Palmer
3. Terry Lee

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Jack Lee
2. Robert Menzies
3. Allison Palmer

Novice Drumming

1. Danny McKillop
2. Laurie McKendrick
3. Ray Lawrence

Senior Amateur Drumming

1. Ian Hunter
2. Sheila Roane
3. Gordon Anderson

Tenor Drumming

1. Dave Stewart

Pipe Bands - Class 2

1. Blue Heron - Portland
2. Courtenay Legion

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Bruce McIntosh
2. Phillip Gordon
3. Malcolm Kerr
4. Steve Ramsden

Junior Marches

1. Gordon Lyle
2. Gordon Patterson
3. Blake Keen
4. Jill Laurie

Junior Jigs

1. Blake Keen
2. Gordon Lyle
3. Robbie MacNeil
4. Brian Carse

Amateur Strathspey & Reel

1. Jack Lee
2. Terry Lee
3. Allison Palmer

Professional Marches

1. Jamie Troy
2. Stephen Geddes
3. Hal Senyk

Amateur Drumming

1. David Watling

Professional Drumming

1. David Fells

Bass Drumming

1. Dave Stewart
2. Jim Rankin
3. Mike Keen

Pipe Bands - Class 1

1. Victoria City Pipe Band

B.C. Highland Games

Novice Marches - Under 14

1. Val Pedersen
2. Christine Waddell
3. Robbie Fraser
4. Bruce Gibson

Juvenile Marches

1. Terry Raymond
2. Bill Wishart
3. Duncan Fraser
4. Kellie Sutton
5. Rob Cross

Juvenile Old Highland Airs

1. David Hennigan
2. Graham Davidson
3. Grant Wilkie
4. Bruce McIntosh
& Fred Hansford

Junior Strathspey & Reel

1. Jean Laurie
2. James Wright
3. Robbie McNeil
4. Gordon Lyle

Amateur Marches

1. Terry Lee
2. Rene Cusson
3. Jack Lee
4. Stuart Reid

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Terry Lee
2. Rene Cusson
3. Allison Palmer

Professional Strathspey & Reel

1. Jamie Troy
2. Hal Senyk
3. John MacLeod

Novice Marches - Over 14

1. Chris Taggart
2. Ruairidh McLennan
3. Vern Kennedy

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Alan Strachan
2. Grant Wilkie
3. David Hennigan
4. Rob Cross
5. Steve Ramsden

Junior Marches

1. James Wright
2. Gordon Lyle
3. Jill Laurie
4. Jean Laurie

Junior Hornpipes

1. Colin MacKenzie
2. Robbie MacNeil
3. Gordon Lyle & Jill Laurie
5. Jean Laurie

Amateur Strathspey & Reel

1. Terry Lee
2. Jack Lee
3. Rene Cusson
4. Alison Palmer & Heather MacInnes

Professional Marches

1. Jamie Troy
2. Hal Senyk
3. John MacLeod

Professional Jigs

1. Hal Senyk
2. John MacLeod
3. Jamie Troy

Juvenile Aggregate Winner - David Hennigan
Junior Aggregate Winner - James Wright
Amateur Aggregate Winner - Terry Lee
Professional Aggregate Winner - Jamie Troy

Chanter Class

1. Heather Lyle
2. Brenda Baker
3. Hugh MacNaught
4. P. McNeil
5. Norvona Lyle
& Ruby Labrecque

Amateur Drumming

1. Bruce Roane

Senior Amateur Drumming
- March, Strathspey & Reel

1. Ian Hunter
2. Murray Munroe
3. Gordon Anderson

Professional Drumming
- Musical Selection

1. Willie McErlean
2. Keith Manifold

Drum Corps

1. Burnaby Ladies #1

Juvenile Pipe Band Open

1. Burnaby Ladies #1

Grade 1 Pipe Bands

1. City of Port Moody Pipe Band
2. Triumph Street Pipe Band

Novice Drumming

1. Laurie McKendrick
2. Bonnie McKendrick
3. Erin Taggart
4. Danny McKillop
& Robyn Palmer

Senior Amateur Drumming
- Musical Selection

1. Murray Munroe

Professional Drumming
- March, Strathspey & Reel

1. Willie McErlean
2. Keith Manifold

Open Tenor Drumming

1. Laurel Marshall
2. Heather Scott

Juvenile Novice Pipe Band

1. Highland Laddies Pipe Band

Grade 2 Pipe Bands

1. Blue Heron Bay,
Lake Oswega

Upper Island (Nanaimo) Highland Games

Novice Marches - Under 14

1. Val Pedersen
2. Ian Putz
3. William Hamilton
4. Tom Leatham & Bruce Gibson

Novice Marches - Over 14

1. Chris Taggart
2. Judy Carl
3. Ian Cherry
4. Linda Williams

Novice Jigs - Over 14

1. Ruairidh McLennan
2. Chris Taggart
3. Ian Cherry

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Ruth Tremaine
2. Duncan Fraser
3. Aileen Arnott
4. David Hennigan
5. Steve Ramsdon & Graham Davidson

Junior Marches

1. Blake Keen
2. James Wright
3. Brian Carse

Junior Old Highland Airs

1. Brian Carse
2. Gordon Lyle
3. Blake Keen
Wade Calder

Amateur Strathspey & Reel

1. Terry Lee
2. Allison Palmer
3. Jack Lee

Professional Marches

1. Byron Barnard

Novice Strathspey & Reel Under 14

1. Tom Leatham
2. Val Pedersen
3. Ian Putz

Novice Strathspey & Reel Over 14

1. Chris Taggart
2. Judy Carl
3. Ian Cherry

Juvenile Marches

1. Howie Spear
2. Rob Cross
3. Duncan Fraser
4. Kelly Sutton & G. Davidson

Juvenile Jigs

1. Howie Spear
2. David Hennigan
3. Debbie Fraser
4. Philip Gordon
5. Duncan Fraser

Junior Strathspey & Reel

1. Brian Carse
2. Jean Laurie
3. Blake Keen

Senior Marches

1. Jack Lee
2. Terry Lee
3. Sherea Barwell

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Terry Lee
2. Jack Lee
3. Allison Palmer

Novice Drumming

1. Ray Lawrence
2. Allison McCarlie
3. Brenda Benson
4. Erin Taggart

Senior Amateur Drumming

1. Murray Munro
2. Ian Hunter
3. Sheila Roane

Juvenile Pipe Bands

1. Burnaby Ladies #1
2. Kiwanis Boys

Junior Amateur Drumming

1. Bruce Roane
2. Sheila Brown
3. Thomasine Rowell

Juvenile Novice Pipe Bands

1. Burnaby Ladies #2

Class 1 Pipe Bands

1. Triumph Street

Portland Highland Games

Juvenile Marches

1. Warren Fells
2. Gerry Raymond
3. Bill Wishart
4. Heather Parker

Junior Marches

1. Jean Laurie
2. James Wright
3. Colin MacKenzie
4. Blake Keen

Amateur Marches

1. Jack Lee
2. Terry Lee
3. James Hardie
4. Alison Palmer

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Jack Lee
2. James Hardie
3. Terry Lee
4. Candy Parker

Professional Strathspey & Reel

1. Hal Senyk
2. Alan Walters
3. James Troy
4. Therese McErlean

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Bill Wishart
2. Duncan Fraser
3. Warren Fells
4. Bruce McIntosh

Junior Strathspey & Reel

1. Brian Carse
2. Wade Calder
3. Gordon Lyle
4. Colin MacKenzie

Amateur Strathspey & Reel

1. Terry Lee
2. Jack Lee
3. James Hardie
4. Rene Cusson

Professional Marches

1. Hal Senyk
2. Alan Walters
3. Therese McErlean
4. James Troy

Professional Piobaireachd

1. Byron Barnard
2. Hal Senyk
3. Colin Gemmill

Junior Amateur Drumming

1. Bruce Roane
2. B. McKendrick & D. Watling
3. Todd Mitchell & L. McKendrick

Senior Amateur Drumming

1. Ian Hunter
2. Murray Munro
3. Sheila Roane

Professional Drumming

1. Willie McErlean
2. Jack Gallaher
3. Susan Burgess

Juvenile Novice Pipe Bands

1. Highland Laddies
2. Burnaby Ladies #2

Juvenile Open Pipe Bands

1. Burnaby Ladies #1
2. Vancouver Kiwanis

Grade 2 Pipe Bands

1. Blue Heron Bay
2. Seattle Scottish
3. Angus Scot

Grade 1 Pipe Bands

1. Triumph Street

Seattle Highland Games

Novice Strathspey & Reel

1. Judy Carl
2. Linda Williams
3. Carolyn Paterson
4. Ian Putz

Juvenile Marches

1. Aileen Arnott
2. Robert Moore
3. Graham Davidson
4. Ashley Stewart
5. Bruce McIntosh

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Aileen Arnott
2. Steve Ramsden
3. Robbie Barrick
4. Bruce McIntosh
5. Terry Raymond

Novice Drumming

1. Linda MacPherson
2. Barbara Lowden
3. Tom Gifford

Junior Amateur Drumming

1. David Watling
2. Chip Peterson
3. Bonnie McKendrick

Senior Amateur Drumming

1. Gordon Anderson

Professional Drumming

1. William McErlean
2. Jack Gallaher

Pacific International Highland Games

Trophy Winners

Piping	Juvenile	Duncan Fraser
	Junior	Brian Carse
	Amateur	Jack Lee
Drumming	Junior Amateur	Bruce Roane
	Senior Amateur	Ian Hunter
	Professional	William McErlean
Pipe Bands	Grade I	Triumph Street
	Juvenile Novice	Highland Laddies
	Juvenile Open	Burnaby Ladies #1

NEXT MONTH

Knock-Out Competitions

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, the following changes were made for the 1973-1974 Knock-Outs:

1. The competition will be for Senior Trios (19 years and over) and will be a knock-out competition.
2. A piper will be allowed to play in one Trio only.
3. A band may enter as many Trios as they want.
4. The competition is not confined to band pipers; any three pipers who wish to make up a Trio may do so.
5. Prize money for the winning Trios will be \$150.00 first prize and \$75.00 second.
6. There will be no entry fee.
7. The Trios will play a five to seven minute medley of their choice.
8. The first competition will be held in October, the date and place will be announced in the next Newsletter.
9. All entries with the names of the three players and the address and phone number of the leader must be in the hands of the Secretary, Mrs. Donald Ross, 834 Burnaby St., New Westminster, no later than September 7, 1973.

Please see entry form on the last page of the Newsletter.

Bi-Monthly Competitions

Please take note of the following changes to be incorporated at the forthcoming Bi-Monthly competitions:

1. In order to have the competitions over before the summer games start, the first one will be held in September. The exact date will be published in the next Newsletter.
2. The starting time for all competitions will be 7:30 p.m.
3. Rule 4, Section 9 of the B.C.P.A. will be enforced, "PIPERS NOT READY TO PLAY WHEN CALLED ARE LIABLE TO BE DISQUALIFIED".
4. Entries must be in the hands of the Bi-Monthly Secretary no later than September 7, 1973.
5. As there are some competitors who do not receive the Newsletter and as this is our only means of communication, we would ask all the teachers to inform their pupils of these changes.

Please refer to entry form on the last page of the Newsletter.

Labour Day

Pipers and drummers have a fairly wide choice of Games in which to participate this coming holiday.

For the conservative among us, the Bellingham Highland Games Corporation are holding their annual gathering.

For the more adventuresome, we can offer two packaged tours. One can either take in the Santa Rose extravaganza or risk his neck by battling the holiday traffic to Nelson. The Nelson Games mark the finale to the Glentruim Piping School and will have the services of Ed Esson, Angus MacLeod and Donald MacLeod for adjudicating purposes.

However, no matter which one you choose to attend, we expect you all to be back in one piece for the second Annual B.C. Pipe Band Championships to be held this year at Brockton Oval.

Vancouver Island Pipers' Club

Vancouver Island Pipers' Club will start its 1973/74 year with a recital by Pipe Major Donald MacLeod in person. The date of this meeting is Friday, September 7th, and it will be held in the Bay Street Armoury, 715 Bay Street, Victoria.

On the following evening at the same place, we will hold our regular club meeting which consists of a formal programme of piping and a talk on an interesting subject associated with piping. Following the formal programme will be the usual impromptu piping period in which some of the best piping in the Pacific area is always heard.

Tickets for the Donald MacLeod recital will be \$2.00 and club membership cards will be available both nights.

Donald delighted the entire audience with his playing last time he visited our club, so plan now to be with us on September 7th.

Bill Mossie,
President, V.I.P. Club

"Hawaiian Dance"

The Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band are having a "Hawaiian Dance" on September 22, 1973 at the Scottish Auditorium, 12th and Fir.

There will be bar service only and dancing from 9:00 to 1:00. Dress is optional. Tickets may be obtained from any band member at \$2.50 each.

* * * * *

From the careers page of The Harriston Review, published in the town that has been fighting Metro Toronto - CP Rail plans to dump 400,000 tons of garbage nearby:

"Wanted - One Piper, preferably pied, for Minto landfill site, re rat control."

ROVING REPORTER

Bonny Bagpipers Whose Bag is "Hatikvah"

When they play "Hatikvah" on the bagpipes you should maybe call a plumber. But they are possibly the only Jewish pipe band in the world, and since they play in Glasgow, their repertoire includes not only the Israeli national anthem but such local favorites as "Scotland the Brave" and "The Tenth Battalion Highland Light Infantry Crossing the Rhine".

The Glasgow group is one of the Jewish Lads' Brigades that began in 1895 as army cadets and after World War II turned blissfully civilian. While the brigades in London, Leeds, Birmingham and Manchester stick to brass and drums, the Glasgow Jewish Lads' Brigade (Incorporating the Jewish Girls' Brigade) has, since 1921, been doing what comes locally - pipes and drums and highland dancing.

There are about 15,000 Jews in Glasgow, but only the lads and lassies in the brigade wear the kilt, a McKenzie tartan. Why McKenzie? "There was a job lot going cheap," Ralph Del Monte explained.

Del Monte was in the brigade in his youth, and now he is its colonel. Several nights a week he leaves his family to check the plumbing and the drumming, accompanied by Jack Alexander, brigade chairman.

Alexander raised the money to buy the brigade's building at 65 Albert Road, Glasgow S.2. "I'm in the furniture shops. The people who shnorr (Yiddish word defining an international activity - borrowing on a semi-permanent basis) from me I shnorr from them.

Alexander was orphaned at the age of 7, and at 10 was a guest at the brigade's summer camp. One day a man sternly asked why he hadn't gone off somewhere with the other boys, and he mumbled an excuse, since he didn't want to say he had no money. He was ordered to report the next morning.

When he did, the stern man gave him a shilling, and ordered him to report every morning for another shilling and to write each day what he did with it. "I wrote a lot of lies," Alexander recalled, "because we didn't have any money at home and I gave the shillings to my sister." He never forgot the kindness of his benefactor, and he has returned it, on principle and with interest, to the Jewish Lads' Brigade.

Many of the boys still come from poor families. When one lad began turning up in a chauffeured Rolls-Royce, Alexander had a word with the parents, and soon it was impossible to tell the rich child from the others arriving for rehearsal.

In the days before World War II a retired army pipe major who taught the boys used to say, "Spread out and make a big band". Nowadays there are sometimes as many as 36 youngsters, aged 10 to 20, in the band - about one-third on pipes, one-third of drums and one-third on their feet waiting for a chance to do their fling. The current teacher is Edward McGowan, whose salary is paid by the municipality of Glasgow. "I'm the only Christian here," he said. "Och, we're all Jock Thomson's bairns (sons of Adam)".

"I was an army pipe major for 20 years," he went on, "and this is a good band. But there are too many outside attractions. It takes maybe four years to get anything out of a boy, and your biggest trouble is holding on to him. I'm rather thin in drummers, you know.

He watched proudly as the drums banged thinly and the pipes wailed and the drum majorette led the stately practice processions. The first tune was "In Bonnie Galloway," then "The Rustic Brig", "The Rowan Tree", "The Highland Cradle Song", "Amazing Grace" and "The Meeting of the Waters". The last celebrates salmon leaping in the River Dee, and as the brigade played it one could all but taste the salmon, smoked.

"One wee girl is learning the pipes", McGowan said, and he presented Janice Goodman to demonstrate. She is 11 years old and knows the nine-note scale.

The band, whose motto is "From Strength to Strength", was practicing extra nights to prepare for appearances at hospitals and charity benefits and the national brigade camp. Alexander remembers that at camp five years ago a man said to him, "Weren't you the drummer in the pipe band at the King George V Silver Jubilee at Kingston Bypass in 1935?"

"And he told me his name", Alexander said. "I remember him. Mottel. He's the regimental quartermaster now. A marvelous fellow, but what a memory!"

Even with help from quartermasters, the pipe band is having problems. It is short of pence, and so it does not have quite enough kilts yet. What is more, a couple of kilts it does have turned out to be Gordons instead of McKenzies. Not only that. Some of the mothers are complaining that their children don't even have proper tunics. When anyone complains to Colonel Del Monte, or even argues with his decisions, he flashes a sign that says, "But what's best for a brigade?" Occasionally that is enough to make the Glasgow 'mavens' pipe down.

FOREIGN CORNER

Canadian Forces Pipe Band School

In October, 1970, new Trade Specifications for Reserve Force Pipers and Drummers were brought into effect. These Specifications were devised, at the request of Canadian Forces Headquarters, by Pipe Major A.M. Cairns and Master Warrant Officer J.B. Kerr, Canadian Forces Base, Ottawa.

So that all Reserve Pipe Bands could be made aware of the new requirements for career progression, a Pipe Band School was set up at Canadian Forces Base Rockcliffe in 1971 with Pipe Major Cairns and MWO Kerr as the Instructors.

Four one week information courses were conducted and, as the last week was for Pipe Majors and Drum Majors, Drum Major G.C. Walford of 3 RCR in Petawawa was brought in to assist in the instruction.

The importance of this School is that, for the first time, an official Pipe Band School was conducted on a national basis. There had been other local schools/courses throughout Canada in the past, but never anything of this magnitude - AND - it was sponsored by the Service.

Vacancies were allocated to the various areas across the country and, during the four weeks, they came from Victoria, B.C. to Sydney, N.S., with a total of 45 attending in 1971.

In 1972, due to the success of the previous year, the School was extended to six weeks, from July 4 to August 11, and was now to conduct Qualifying Courses. Three two-week courses were held at CFB Rockcliffe, with the 1st course being information and instruction only (non-qualifying) for Pipers and Drummers at an elementary level. The 2nd course was to qualify personnel at the Sgt. level, and the 3rd course was to qualify personnel at the Warrant Officer level. Those on the two Qualifying Courses underwent a thorough assessment at the end of their Course which took one and a half days to complete, and successful candidates received a Certificate of Qualification.

Once again, candidates came from Victoria to Sydney, with a 1972 total attendance of 42.

To date, Units represented have been:

1. Canadian Scottish - Victoria, B.C.
2. Seaforth Highlanders of Canada - Vancouver, B.C.
3. Calgary Highlanders - Calgary, Alta.
4. North Saskatchewan Regt. - Saskatoon, Sask.
5. 10th Field Regt. RCA - Regina, Sask.
6. 26th Field Regt. RCA - Brandon, Man.

7. Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada - Winnipeg, Man.
8. Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada - Hamilton, Ont.
9. 4th Bn RCR - London, Ont.
10. 3rd Bn RCR - CFB Petawawa, Ont.
11. Toronto Scottish Regt. - Toronto, Ont.
12. Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa - Ottawa, Ont.
13. 400 Squadron RCAF (Auxiliary) - Toronto, Ont.
14. Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders - Cornwall, Ont.
15. Black Watch (RHR) of Canada - Montreal, P.Q.
16. 1st Bn Nova Scotia Highlanders - N.S.
17. 2nd Bn Nova Scotia Highlanders - N.S.

Each Course has a limited number of vacancies and the candidates undergo eight periods per day of Instruction/Playing. All subjects relative to Piping/Drumming/Pipe Bands are covered, which include Theory of Music, Maintenance, Tone and Tuning, Expression, Execution, Administration, and playing of tunes/beatings as set for the level being taught. In essence, the Qualifying Courses are training Instructors for the Bands and it is hoped that, in time, a measure of standardization will be achieved.

This year the School will also be of six weeks duration, with three two-week Courses, from July 3 to August 10. It will be held at CFB Ottawa with P/M Cairns and MWO Kerr once again as the Instructors.

BAND CHATTER

This season saw the emergence of three new pipe bands, two of which competed in Grade I.

"The City of Victoria Pipe Band" made their first appearance at the Triumph Street Contest under the Vancouver Island Pipers' banner.

The pipe section includes Pipe Major Jim Troy, former winner of the Banner of the Mountains, Knock-Out champion Steve Geddes, Rene Cusson (who also doubles as Pipe Major of Mt. Benson Legion) and Terry Lee. These pipers along with the drum section formed the nucleus of the "West Dalkes", a band assembled during the piping school at Coeur d'Alene.

Colin Magee, formerly of the Knightswood Boys' is in command of the highly versatile drum section.

The Annual Gathering can be credited for our first opportunity of hearing the North West Pipes and Drums. Cameron Wylie, formerly Sergeant of the Seattle Pipe Band, is the Pipe Major and, combined with Drum Sergeant Buddie Maxwell (of Lockheed fame), has managed to produce a very nice sounding band. An amazing fact about the band is that Cameron made the pipe chanters himself.

As well at the Indoor, the band also attended New Westminster and Coeur d'Alene Highland Games.

The other new band is Blue Heron Bay from Lake Oswego, Oregon. Playing in Grade 2 this year, this band, along with the Portland Ladies, was a credit to piping in the Portland area.

Although they didn't play in the miniature band competition at the Indoor Meet, the Pipe-Major, Jack McGillvary, entered a quartette and has since managed to take his band to Vancouver, Portland and Coeur d'Alene.

Aside from the fact that this was the first complete season for the above bands, the most noticeable feature is their lack of uniforms.

All, however, have some semblance of uniformity whether it be black waistcoats, same kilts, or red bow-ties. Without blowing any horns the road was paved by Triumph Street. Following in the philosophy of "Music First" these bands put some of our older and better equipped bands to shame. Lack of a piper or a missing drummer didn't deter them from competing although they knew they didn't have a chance of making the prize list.

We wish these bands and any others that choose to form this year all the best in their endeavours.

Terry and Jack Lee have left for a four-week trip to Scotland. They plan to attend the competitions at Oban, Skye, Braemar and Crieff among others. We wish Jack and Terry all the best.

Well, a girl has finally done it - not only playing as a piper in a Grade I Scottish pipe band but helping that band to win the World Championship Pipe Band Competition at Dam Park, Ayr, Scotland, on June 23, 1973. Gail Brown from Milton, Ontario, flew to Scotland last May and joined the Shotts and Dykehead Pipe Band officially. Unofficially, she had joined the band last August during the Scottish World Festival at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto.

On June 23rd, she took her place in the band and helped pipe the band to a World Championship and carved a niche for herself in piping history.

The City of Port Moody left on August 13th to take part in the Intercontinental Pipe Band Championships in Toronto. Part of the Scottish World Festival, the Championships will be a two-day event, August 18th and 19th. Port Moody will be up against the best in the world and we wish them good luck.

You think the story about Gail Brown is amazing? Triumph Street, the Pacific International Champions of Grade I, have had two girls playing all season. Both girls, drummer Sue Burgess and piper Cindy Chambers, contributed greatly to the band's success.

From the Library Files of
"The Spokane Piobaireachd Society"

Feadan Dubh Chintaille

The Feadan Dubh, or Black Chanter of Kintail, which, for several generations, was one of the heirlooms of the Mackenzies of Kintail, is now in the possession of Lieutenant Colin William MacRae of the Black Watch.

The chanter is considered to be much older than the drones, and the note holes are very much worn. At some time it must have been badly broken, and is now held together by no less than seven silver rings. The two top rings have engraved on them the words, "A smeorach aigharach" (the merry thrush). The other rings have "Scur Orain", the slogan of the MacRaes; "Caisteal Donain", "Cinntaille", "Loch-Duich", and on the bottom ring "Tulloch Aird", the slogan of the Mackenzies. On the chanter stock is fixed a stag's head and horns in silver, the Mackenzie crest, surmounted by a baron's coronet, and underneath it the inscription, "Lord Seaforth, Baron Mackenzie, High Chief of Kintail, 1797", and below this inscription the words, "Tulloch Aird".

The stock of the blowpipe has the following inscription: "This silver-mounted black ebony set of bagpipes, with the Feadan Dubh Chintaille, was the property of Lord Seaforth, Baron Mackenzie, High Chief of Kintail, 1797", and on the blowpipe itself is the figure of a Highlander, in silver, in full costume, with drawn claymore, surmounted by the motto, "O Thir nam Beann" (from the land of the mountains).

The stock of the big drone has the following inscription: "From Lord Seaforth, Baron Mackenzie, High Chief of Kintail, to Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John MacRa, K.C.H., of Ardintoul, Kintail, late 79th Cameron Highlanders." The big drone has three shields, and the top shield has the following inscription: "All Highland bagpipes, till after the Battle of Waterloo, had but two of three short treble drones." The second shield has "Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John MacRa, K.C.H., late 79th Cameron Highlanders, was the first to introduce (and it was on this set of pipes) the use of a big or bass drone"; and the third shield has, "The big or bass drone was pronounced a great improvement in the harmony and volume of sound."

The stock of the second drone has the following: "From Lieut.-Colonel Sir John MacRa, K.C.H., to his nephew, Captain Archibald MacRa Chisholm, late 42nd Royal Highlanders, the Black Watch." The shield on the second drone has, "The introduction of the big or bass drone was approved, and the example was soon followed in the making of military bagpipes."

The stock of the third drone has the following inscription: "From Captain A. M. Chisholm, late 42nd Royal Highlanders, Black Watch, Freicadan Dubh to (present possessor)." The shield on the third drone has "Lieut.-Colonel Sir John MacRa was an excellent performer on the bagpipes. He made pipes and chanters; and when military secretary to his relative, the Marquis of Hastings, Viceroy of India, he taught the natives of India to play on the Highland bagpipes."

Captain Chisholm some time before his death, on the 19th of October, 1897, presented the Kintail bagpipes to his cousin, Major Colin William MacRae.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the B.C. Pipers' Association, we would like to extend our congratulations to Donald and Ishabel Ross on their Silver Wedding Anniversary, July 13, 1973.

Both are very hard working members of the Association and we hope that they will continue to play as active a role as they have in the past.

On June 2, 1973, at St. Mary's Church in Vancouver, Glen Palmer, a piper with the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, exchanged marriage vows with Julie Rhydderch, a well-known local highland dancer. They were piped into the church and reception by Pipe Major Bruce Topp of the Seaforths.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our congratulations to Glenna and Daryl Edmundson on their marriage of June 16, 1973. Glenna is a former tenor drummer of the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band and the couple was piped out of the church by Judi Taylor and Laurie Robson.

The rest of the Newsletter staff join with the membership in wishing Colin and Barb all the best in the years to come. The Abels were married on June 30, 1973, at Beaconsfield United Church, and were piped out of the church by Tim Noot, David Anderson and Al Skalazub.

We would also like to congratulate Heather (nee Abel) and Neil Robertson, married on July 4, 1973. Heather is a former piper of the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band. The Robertsons have returned to London where they plan to reside for a few years.

The Association would like to congratulate Mary (nee MacInnes) and Alisdair MacArthur on the birth of their son, Donald John, born on July 3, 1973 in Hong Kong. Wee Mary is best known in Vancouver piping circles for her beautiful renditions of Gaelic songs.

Shiloh United Church on July 7, 1973, was the scene of the marriage between David Anderson of Triumph Street and Paula Oujla. The couple were piped up and down the aisle of the church by Tim Noot and Angus MacPherson. We're sure that all the members of the Association wish Paula and Dave every happiness in the future.

At this time we are pleased to announce the recent engagement of co-editor Angus MacPherson to Judi Taylor on July 26, 1973.

The rest of the staff join in wishing Angus and Judi every happiness in their future years together.



KNOCKOUT COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Name.....
Name.....
Name.....
Address of Leader.....
Phone No. of Leader.....

Mail entries to: Mrs. Donald Ross,
834 Burnaby Street,
New Westminster, B.C.

NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 7th, 1973.

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Name.....
Address.....
Class.....
Phone No.....

Entry Fee \$1.00 - Novice
 \$2.00 - All other classes.

All competitors are required to submit a copy
of the music to the judge.

Mail entries to: Mrs. R. B. Swanson,
8363 Shaughnessy Street,
Vancouver 14, B. C.

Phone 327-1441.

1881

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

.....
.....
.....

.....
.....
.....
.....

.....
.....

.....
.....