

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



#161

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

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published by the British Columbia's Pipers' Association

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May 1977

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Captain A. J. C. Campbell
Assistant Pipe President
1st BN Queen's Own Highlanders
Ritchie Camp
Kirknewton
Midcalder 880501 Ext 25

B. C. Pipers Association

Dear Sirs:

It was very kind of you to write such an appreciative letter following the Pipe Major's visit. It was a great pleasure for us to feel that he made a useful contribution to piping your side of the Atlantic and I know he enjoyed himself enormously; it is really our duty to thank you for looking after him so well.

As you guessed we are extremely busy this summer with endless engagements and duties but strangely enough, we seem to thrive under pressure. If any of you association are likely to be in Scotland please get in touch as we should love to see them and return some of your hospitality.

Yours Sincerely,
Alastair Campbell

The above letter is in reply to a thank-you note sent to P. M. Morrison's c/o which was written in appreciation of their Pipe Major's services and for allowing Iain to attend our annual gathering.

I was hoping to have a line or two from P. M. Morrison, with his resume of the games but; as you can guess he is very busy at the present.

Edit.

RESULTS OF VICTORIA INDOOR HIGHLAND GAMES
Held March 19th, 1977

NOVICE MARCH

1. Glen Campbell
2. Darlene Mihairji
3. Hugh Graham-mars
4. Patricia Mihairji

JUVENILE STRATHSPEY & REEL

- 1 S. Miller
2. Doug Sloan

AGGREGATE WINNER

Celia Miller

JUNIOR AMAT. WINNER-DRUMMING

1. C. Smith

JUVENILE MARCH

1. Pat Heibert
2. Doug Sloan
3. S. Miller

JUNIOR MARCH

1. Peter Aumonier

JUNIOR STRATHSPEY & REEL

1. Peter Aumonier

AGGREGATE WINNER

Peter Aumonier

NOVICE DRUMMING

1. R. Stevens
2. D. Raymer, P. Swedman

GOLDEN WEDDING

The B. C. Pipers Newsletter is very pleased to inform its readers of the Golden Wedding of John and Chrissie McLeod. They were married in North Battleford Saskatchewan, May 18, 1927. They are holding their reception at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall Branch 83 (Royal Oak) on Friday the 20th May. The reception will be for family only until 9 p.m. but after 9.00 they hope to see as many old friends in attendance as wish to come; as their son Lachie told me, all friends are welcome. So on behalf of the B. C. Pipers we all wish the very best to John and Chrissie. Their phone number is 534-2889.

C. P. Air and Port Moody Pipe Bands have amalgamated and retained the names of Port Moody Pipe Band.

The band will be under the direction of Pipe Major Robbie McNeil, Drum Sargant Davie Bruce and Drum Major Archie Walker. At present the band is practicing at Port Moody and are doing very well, the band has a good working relationship and hope to be ready for some of the summer games. Any pipers or drummers interested in joining Port Moody Band can phone Robbie McNeil 277-7813, Davie Bruce 931-3184 or Archie Walker 438-2155.

When the Port Moody band retired a few years ago they left a void which was never really filled, now that they are back again it is to be sincerely hoped that they will attain as good, or even better the excellent standard they had before.

9th ANNUAL V. I. PIPERS CLUB DINNER
May 21st in Bay St. Armouries Victoria
Cocktails 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7:00
Tickets \$7.00

Fun Competition after Roast Beef Dinner. This Dinner is being held the night before the Victoria Games. Contact:

Lilian Davis
2695 Eastdowne Rd.
Victoria B. C.
V8R 5R4
Tel. 592-3974

LEGENDARY NOTES TO THE TUNES
KINLOCH-MOIDART'S LAMENT
CUMHA FIR CHEANN-LOCH-MUIDEART

The Lament was composed in memory of Donald MacDonald of Kinloch-Moidart, who was executed at Carlisle in 1746 for his share in the Rebellion. Donald joined the Prince, who visited him in his house at Kinloch-Moidart, and at the head of a faithful band of a hundred of his retainers, he accompanied him throughout the whole campaign.

APPLICATION FORM
SUMMER PIPING SCHOOL
July 10 through July 29, 1977
THE SPOKANE PIOBAIREACHD SOCIETY / NORTH IDAHO COLLEGE
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

NAME _____ AGE _____ PHONE NO. _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

BRIEF PIPING BACKGROUND IF ANY: _____

THROUGH WHAT SOURCE DID YOU LEARN OF THE EXISTENCE OF THIS FAMOUS SCHOOL? _____

ARE YOU A PIOBAIREACHD ENTHUSIAST? _____

ARE YOU ABLE TO COME FOR THE ENTIRE THREE WEEKS? _____

IF NOT WHICH PERIOD CAN YOU ATTEND? _____

DO YOU DESIRE DORMITORY ACCOMMODATION? IF YES, WRITE DIRECT TO THE NIC STUDENT UNION OFFICE, ATTENTION MR. WES HATCH, AT AS EARLY A DATE AS POSSIBLE. SPACE WILL BE CRITICAL IN JULY. _____

Mail without delay to:

John McEwing
W. 3309 Dalke Avenue
Spokane, Wa 99208

Bring some friends and we will teach them to play the Bagpipes.

ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE
KNOCKOUT FINALS

Once again our annual dinner and dance is but a memory, a pleasant one, I trust as we hoped, the meal was excellent also the service, and things ran very smooth thanks to the good ground work by Donald Ross and his committee not forgetting all the help given by friends for the numerous chores.

The Band (Andy Arnott's) also sounded very good, with many favourable comments during & after the dance.

Final of the trio's was won by Triumph St. against very good opposition, with I thought Victoria No. 2 having a good run at the winners. Many of the spectators remarked on the quality of Triumph St. pipes which they thought were excellent.

JUDGES WERE: JOHN MACDONALD, ALEX REID, BOB YOUNG.

The only negative response which the committee received was of the hall which I know could have been larger, and it was quite warm throughout the evening, so we could see a change of venue next year.

LIST OF FORTHCOMING HIGHLAND GAMES

May 22nd	Victoria
May 22nd	Trail
June 4th	Bellingham
June 11th	New Westminster
June 18th	Royal Canadian Legion Games Chilliwack
July 2nd-3rd	B.C. Highland Games Minoru Park Richmond
July 9th	Nanaimo
July 16th	Portland, Park Rose High School
July 23rd	Athena, Oregon
July 29th-30th	Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Aug. 6th	Seattle Games, Bothell Near Everett

If any of the Secretaries for the above games will send me more info, on their games I will be pleased to publish same in following newsletters.

FOR SALE

Set of Kintail Bagpipes
Brand New, With Case
\$300. Firm
Call 980-4947 after 5 p.m.

BRIEF HISTORY OF
THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION PIPE BAND - BRANCH 26
KELOWNA B. C.

- Possibly the oldest Legion Band in B. C., being formed in 1923 by Sandy Mitchell and receiving Legion sponsorship in 1926 when the Legion began as a national organization.
- In the year 1930 uniforms were purchased for 9 Pipers and 6 Drummers. The present membership being 14 Pipers and 8 Drummers, wearing the Royal Stewart Tartan.
- The Band is well travelled in B. C. and Washington State participating in the Apple Blossom Festival in Wenatchee in May is some what of a record -- 30 times. Other Washington Parades include Omak, Wintrop, Republic and B. C. Parades include Pentiction, Kelowna, Vernon, Ashcroft, Kamloops, Nakusp, Greenwood, Grand Forks, Falkland and Clinton.
- Although not recognised as a competing Band we have attended the Annual R. C. Legion Band Competitions twice, at Haney in 1974 and Abbotsford in 1976.
- Since 1950 the band has held an annual Dinner & Dance For Wives & Friends of Band members and also sponsors an annual tartan night dance to be held this year on Saturday June 11th.
- Highlights of recent years include playing at the 1968 MacDonalds Brier Curling Championship in Kelowna - possibly our most important preformance for Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philipp and Princess Anne in Kelowna 1971 - B. C.'s Centennial year.
- No history of the Kelowna Legion Pipe Band would be complete without mentioning the record of James Arthur, one of the first pipers trained in the Okanagan who joined the band in 1930 and has been a member for 47 years, 35 of which have been as Pipe Major. In 1972 James was honoured with a Life Membership in the band.

My thanks to Nigel Alakija for these interesting histories of bands in the interior of B. C. Nigel also sends his appreciation and thanks to Graham Davidson and Scott Robertson for running a very successful piping seminar in Pentiction.

GLENTRUIM SCHOOL OF PIPING

NELSON B. C.

Once again we are organizing the Glentruim School of Piping, and looking forward to seeing old friends and new this summer. To let you know more about the School the following few paragraphs give an outline of the beginning of the school, the origin of the name, short sketches of our principal and instructors, and Notre Dame University of Nelson.

Glentruim School of Piping began with the renewal of longstanding friendships. While holidaying in Scotland in 1969 Bill Sutherland of Nelson got in touch with Pipe Major Donald MacLeod. Bill and Donald served together in the Seaforth Highlanders from 1938 until 1941 when Bill was injured and evacuated through Dunkirk. Donald was captured, but was soon to escape and make his way home to Britain through enemy territory.

In 1970 when Nelson's Own Kootenay Kiltie Pipe Band Association decided to start up a Piping School Donald MacLeod was our first choice. We began with 28 pupils instructed almost entirely by Donald with assistance from Bill Sutherland and Rab Douglas, also of Nelson. The second year of the school we had 40 pupils with Angus MacLeod and Bill Thomson joining the staff. The third year we had 50 pupils and were joined by Pipe-Major Edmund Esson, M. B. E.

The name Glentruim was chosen as this was the home of Pipe-Major John MacDonald, the great master player, and direct musical descendant of the MacCrimmons of Skye, who tutored Donald for 25 years.

PIPE-MAJOR DONALD MacLEOD possibly the greatest piper, teacher, and composer of modern times was born in Stornoway, Isle of Lewis and was first taught by his father at the age of four, and for five years was the pupil of the famous Willie Ross. Donald joined the Seaforth Highlanders and served with them for 25 years - 21 as Pipe-Major. Donald has not only won the Gold Medal and eight clasps at the Northern Meeting, but is a six time winner of the Silver Star for Marches, Strathspeys and Reels and is probably the only Piper ever to win all the events at the Northern Meeting at one time or another.

PIPE-MAJOR EDMUND ESSON, M. B. E. of Vancouver was Pipe-Major of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada for many years and the Senior Pipe-Major in the Canadian Army. Ed is a man of many accomplishments too numerous to set out here. He has taught, recorded, judged, and promoted piping in British Columbia. As recently as last year Ed was President of the Seaforth Association to which he donated many hours of his time. Pipe-Major Edmund Esson is an excellent Piper and a fine example for young Pipers. We are happy to have him as an instructor.

cont.

PIPE-MAJOR ANGUS G. MacLEOD is a native of the Hebrides, and served with the 2nd Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders. Angus was taken prisoner at St. Valery and made his own chanter in prison camp, keeping up his piping. Angus came to Canada after the war and served with the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada in Vancouver. He has instructed in piping for the past fifteen years and now lives on Salt Spring Island. Angus is very popular with the youngsters and is a good Administrator.

PIPE-MAJOR WILLIAM THOMSON served in the Imperial Army and took his piping training in Scotland. He has served as Pipe-Major of Nelson's Own Kootenay Kiltie Pipe Band and the Trail Pipe Band. Bill continues a school in Nelson through the winter months, his dedication to piping is an inspiration to all.

The School will run from SUNDAY, 21st AUGUST to FRIDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER, 1977, and will be sponsored by Nelson's Own Kootenay Kiltie Pipe Band Association in conjunction with Notre Dame University of Nelson. The fee will be \$250 for full-time students and \$150 for day-students.

This year we hope to limit the school to forty pupils in keeping with our policy of quality rather than quantity. As it will be on a "first come - first served" basis we suggest you submit your application no later than the 15th July, 1977.

Pupils are asked to bring Pipes, chanters, music, Highland dress for morning parade and outings, sleeping bag, sheets and pillow, changes of underwear and socks. Tape recorders are encouraged if you have one at your disposal.

APPLICATION FORM

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS* _____

PIPING EXPERIENCE _____

* _____

Is on-campus accommodation required? YES/ NO

Address and telephone no. of parent or guardian where they may be reached during the Piping School:

Kindly make cheques payable and address all correspondence to:

Glentruim School of Piping,
P. O. Box 269,
Nelson, B. C.
Canada V1L 5P9

NOTE: Deposit of \$50 required.

ANNOUNCEMENT

COEUR D'ALENE SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND TATTOO
P. O. BOX 30
Coeur D'Alene, Idaho 83814

David J. Warner
N. 5209 Fairmount Place
Spokane, WA. 99208

The Coeur d'Alene Scottish Festival & Tattoo is scheduled to be held from July 29th through July 31st. Events for the weekend are as follows:

Friday-July 29th - "Get Acquainted" Boat Cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene. By reservation only. \$3.00 per person. Snacks provided. No Host Bar. Cruise 7pm to 9pm.

Saturday-July 30th - Individual piping and drumming Competition in Coeur d'Alene City park beginning at 9am. Exhibition Soccer Games at North Idaho College. Pipe Band Competition at Memorial Field begins at 7.30 pm. Celidh following Band Competitions at North Shore Motel - Admission \$1.00 - Live Band for Dancing.

Sunday-July 31st - Picnic in Coeur d'Alene City Park at noon.

The Chief Adjudicator for piping will be Mr. Seumas MacNeil, assisted by Mr. Andrew Wright - Mr. George Pryde will judge the drumming events.

Reservations for the Boat Cruise may be made by sending full deposit to Dave Warner, N. 5209 Fairmount Place, Spokane, WA. 99208.

Entry forms will be in the mail by May 15th to all former competitors - further information may be obtained by also writing Mr. Warner.

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120 PARHAM PLACE
PENTICTON, BRITISH COLUMBIA
TEL. 492-7337

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" " "Bagpipe and Organ Recital."
Seumas MacNeil "Purely Piobaireachd."
John. D. Burgess "King of Highland Pipers."
" " "The Art of the Highland Bagpipe."
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" " " "The Shores of Loch Katrine."
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" " " " " " "The Skirl O' The Pipes."
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Pipes and Drums of Innes Tartan.
" " " " " " "World Tour."

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The Tunnochbrae Celidh Band-National Dances.\$7.00
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Also in stock PIPING, DRUMMING, AND DANCING EQUIPMENT.

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Anyone wishing to buy any of the above records,
should drop Nigel Alakija a note as he will be at
the New Westminster Games June 11th, and he will
be more than willing to bring along your selection.

Editor