B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



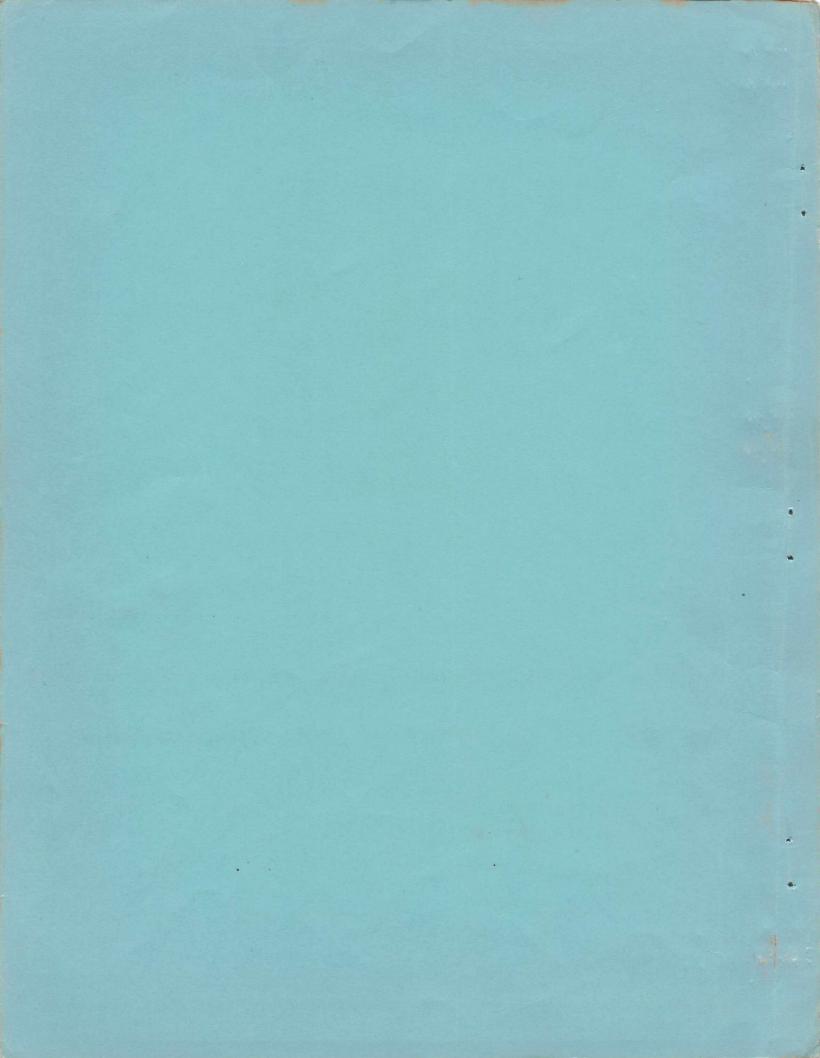
The official monthly publication of the British Columbia Pipers' Association

SEPTEMBER, 1963.

No. 42.

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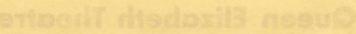


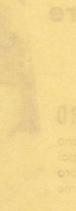
NEW WESTMINSTER SHOW

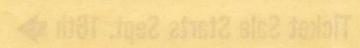
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B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published monthly by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

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B.C. PIPERS' ASSOCIATION: 1963/64 SEASON:

Plans are now being made for the 1963/64 season. A busy schedule is again planned, and we hope to offer an interesting and varied programme to our members and friends.

The following dates have been tentatively set, but we would point out that these dates are subject to confirmation:

October 18th - Ceilidh

October 25th - Bi-Monthly

December 13th - Bi-Monthly

January 4th - Annual Members' Banquet

February 14th - Bi-Monthly

March 21st - Annual Gathering

April 24th - Bi-Monthly

June 5th - Bi-Monthly

The Bi-Monthly competition schedule is set forth in detail in this issue of the Newsletter. Extra copies of this schedule are available on request.

- 0 -

GENERAL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 27th.

On Friday, September 27th, the first General Meeting of the season will be held. All members are asked to make an effort to attend this meeting and support the Association.

A social evening of piping will be held following the meeting, where refreshments will be available. Wives and friends are welcome to the meeting. Come out and have a tune!

Place: Band room, Seaforth Highlanders Armoury

Time: 8:00 p.m.

CEILIDH: - OCTOBER 18th:

On Friday, October 18th, the annual Ceilidh will be held, for the purposes of awarding the various prizes and awards in last season's Bi-Monthly Competitions.

The first prize winners will each give a selection, and an interesting variety programme is planned.

We would ask the following persons to be present to receive their prizes:

Novice: 1. Donald Smith 2. Jean Jarvis & Bill McMichael (tie)

4. Janice Taylor & Lindsay Maddock (tie)

6. Robin Woods & Wayne Penner (tie)

Juvenile: 1. Raymond Irvine 2. Douglas Graham 3. Laurie McIlvena

4. Bob Lamont

Junior: 1. Bob McDonald 2. John MacLeod

Amateur: 1. Bill Elder 2. Larry Gillott

Senior Amateur: 1. C.I. Walker 2. Bill Paterson

The following persons should also be present to receive their pins for perfect attendance in the 1962/63 Bi-Monthlies:

Colin Abel Raymond Irvine Bill McMichael Bobby Barker Jean Jarvis Dennis Martin Craig Davis Dal Jessiman Bruce Montgomery Bill Elder Bill Lamont Colin Stuart Bob Lamont Douglas Graham Donald Taylor Bruce Holmgren Georgina Lamont Janice Taylor Neil Hunter Ross Lamont C.I. Walker David Irvine Bob McDonald Robin Woods Alex MacInnes

Following the programme tea and refreshments will be served. All parents and friends of competitors are welcome.

The Ceilidh will commence at 8:00 p.m.

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION SCHEDULE: 1963/64

V410

DATE	NOVICE	JUVENILE .	JUNIOR .	AMATEUR	SR. AMATEUR .
. OCT . 25	Marches		Strathspey and Reel		Jigs
DEC	6/8 Marches	Marches			Piobair- eachd
· FEB		Strathspey . and Reel .		Jigs	. Marches
APR 2l4	Strathspey and Reel	Marches .		Marches	Old . Highland . Airs .
JUNE 5	Marches	Jigs			Strathspey , and Reel

All dates are subject to change.

Competitors must submit entries with Secretary at least one day before the competition.

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THERE'S NO SOCIAL APARTHEID IN THE PIPING SOCIETY:

(from Weekly Scotsman, August 1st, 1963)

"We Never closed" - this wartime slogan of the Windmill Theatre might well apply to the Scottish Piping Society of London. For week in, week out, come sleet or sunshine, the faithful foregather at the Signals Drill Hall, Brompton Road, to practice and play their favourite tunes. Here, teenagers, octogenerians, master-pipers and pupils are as one in their devotion to the art of the Piobaireachd. To them, class, colour or title count but little compared to one's skill on the Piob Mhor.

Heading this tuneful yet truly democratic band of enthusiasts - for there's no social apartheid in piping - is James Campbell, the president. A son of Archibald Campbell of Kilberry, for many years secretary of the music committee of Piobaireachd Society, James, with his wealth of knowledge and authority of background, is a weel-kent judge at Oban and Inverness.

David Ross, the society's Honorary Pipe Major for the past eleven years, is perhaps better known to the fraternity as of Rosehall in Sutherland. A successful competitor at our leading Highland Games for over fifty years, David is still playing sweetly and well, just as one would expect from a former pupil of William Maclean and Angus MacPherson, Invershin.

Another founder member, and an outstanding performer, is Pipe Major James B. Robertson, late of the Scots Guards. Having won practically everything worth winning, this Member of the British Empire and native of Dundee, devotes much of his time to instruction and gives tuition to the scholars at Eton and Harrow. Today his name is legend as a piper and composer.

Yet another in a gallery of splendid players is Pipe Major Robert Hill who hails from Invergordon. He, too, was with the Guards and with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

There is no doubt in the minds of these experts of the increasing popularity of the pipes furth of Scotland. And one very noticeable and heartening feature of the Society's activities, particularly during the winter months, is the number of promising young pipers attending the weekly meetings.

Sensibly, these youngesters appreciate that to become really skilled in the art one must listen, and most attentively, to first class players. Fortunately for them, and for us, London possesses these in good measure.

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1st ANNUAL FRASER GATHHERING, CHILLIWACK, B.C. August 14th, 1963:

The first annual Fraser Gathering was sponsored by the Chilliwack Agricultural Society, and was held in conjunction with the Society's three day Fall Fair. The Gathering was held in the Oval of the Fair Grounds, where the spectators were seated close to the "competitions of their choice" or allowed to wander to and from the different events as they pleased.

Good sportsmanship was practiced by all, and smiling faces were the order of the day; this, combined with lovely weather, and our beautiful setting produced a fine atmosphere at the games.

We thank Mr. James MacMillan who did a good job of judging the piping events.

Novice Marches:

1. Robert Vowles 2. Bobby Barker 3. Ross Lamont

Juvenile Marches: .

1. Douglas Graham 2. Colin Stuart 3. Laurie McIlvena

Junior Strathspeys & Reels:

1. John MacLeod 2. Bob McDonald

Junior Piobaireachd:

1. Bob McDonald 2. Bruce McRae

Amateur Marches:

1 Bill Elder 2. Bill Paterson

Amateur Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Bill Elder

Amateur Piobaireachd:

1. Bill Elder 2. Bill Paterson

"C" Class Pipe Band: Junior Pipe Band

We would like to thank all competitors, and especially Mr. Nicholson and his young friends of the Kiwanis and Highland Laddies pipe bands, for putting on such a good competition and exhibition.

We are planning this as an annual event and hope to have a full slate of trophies next year, to draw larger numbers of competitors and spectators each year.

Trophies:

: :; ;

Bretts Ltd. Trophy - Novice - Robert Vowles

Audrie Stubberfield Trophy - Junior Piobaireachd - Bob McDonald
Neil Stubberfield Trophy - Amateur Piobaireachd - Bill Elder

⁻ Neil Stubberfield - Chilliwack, B.C.

ANNUAL GATHERING - NOVEMBER, 1938 .- FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Recently, while going through some old minutes of the Association, we came across the financial statement for the 1938 Annual Gathering, which we thought would be rather amusing to see.

Entries Donations Admissions	\$13.25 53.50 52.20 118.95	Advertising Hall rent Engraving Printing	\$3.50 20.00 9.55 19.71
	110.95	Prizes	55.20
Net loss	19.26	Reception Miscellaneous	15.25 3.50
1,00 2 2000	_,	Secy's Expenses	11.50 \$138.21

Progress certainly is a great thing! Now we are able to lose far more than \$19.26 at our Annual Gatherings!

- 0 -

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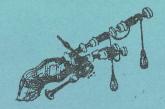
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FROM PIPE MAJOR JOHN ROBERTSON'S SCRAPBOOK:

IRELAND'S PIONEER PIPER - SKETCH OF SEAN WAYLAND, FOUNDER OF CORK PIPERS' CLUB: by Tadg Crowley, Cork.

(from "Piping and Dancing February, 1936)

Fifty years ago, so far as I am aware, pipers' bands did not exist in Ireland, but there was a small number of individual "Hielan' " pipers to be found scattered here and there, and the number was fast diminishing, while the same remark applied to the Uileann Pipers. During the great Irish Famine, musical talent was tragically silenced, and many of the pipers on both instruments departed as best they could for Glasgow and Edinburgh or the cities of England - there to earn a precarious living or die in want and obscurity - what a change has since taken place!

Now, there are scores of pipers' bands to be found in Ireland in city, town and country - with the happy result that pipe music has become
a popular feature of outdoor processions, sports meetings, and Gaelic football
and hurling matches. Kilted pipers on the march lend colour and traditional
charm to these events at which liveliness, picturesqueness and rousing
music are so necessary to prevent crowds - large or small - from becoming
dull and devoid of interest during necessary intervals in the proceedings.
At early Feiseanna and Gaelic League concerts a "blast of pipe music" roused
the audience to the right pitch of traditional enthusiasm, more especially
when the colleens and boys danced their reels, jigs and hornpipes to the
"fairy" music of the chanter and drones.

The great revival which has taken place, is due in great measure to the efforts and unbounded enthusiasm of one man whose name and fame are worthy of an honourable place in the new journal which, did he know in far away Australia, of its existence, would have given him intense delight.

A pioneer piper, Sean Wayland was a man of fine physique, open countenance and great energy, and the Cork Pipers' Club, which he founded and organized, became famous among exiled Irishmen throughout the world, and most of the Champion Irish dancers of the first quarter of this century were, at one time or another, members of it. "Piping and dancing!" Yes! they were all consuming ideals and accomplishments with this braw Tipperary man who spent his available money and leisure in fostering and developing the twin arts.

Sean Wayland received his first inspiration from the piping of Tom Hogan, of Cashel, and the dancing of Mickey Walton, when the latter taught as a dancing master during Wayland's boyhood days, and Hogan played the accompaniment.

Born in 1874, not far from the historic Rock of Cashel, in County Tipperary, his father was a farmer in that part of the "Golden Vein" where also was born the author of that popular song and tune "The Peeler and the Goat".

Leaving home at a comparatively early age, Sean Wayland secured a clerical position with a large firm in Cork, and soon got in touch with a few who were similarly enthusiastic as regards Irish music. With these, he founded The Cork Pipers' Club in 1898, and contending with many difficulties - indifference, lack of funds, etc. - the club soon developed into what may be described as a national success. Troupes of Colleen dancers, attractively attired in garments of green and gold, were soon got together and taken to various towns to give displays of traditional Irish dancing to the accompaniment of Uileann and Hielan' pipers.

Captain O'Neill, of Chicago (report of whose death has just come to hand), that noted collector of Irish melodies and tunes and a great admirer of Wayland, both as a piper, organiser, and man of wide knowledge, states that "all the crack dancers so conspicuous in America learned to "trip the light fantastic toe" at the Cork Pipers' Club.

One of his most talented pupils was Miss May McCarthy, who won first prizes in piping and dancing at various feiseanna, and so famous did she become as an artiste that she was invited to tour England and Wales in 1911. With her was that inimitable champion Irish dancer, Charlie O'Keeffe, present holder of the championship of Ireland, belt and various other championship trophies.

About 1903, a regiment or battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders was transferred to the Cork Barracks and Sean Wayland soon made the acquaint-ance of its pipe-major and pipers. He made an Edison record of a number of Scottish tunes, but the pipe-major's rendition of "Brian Boru's March" seemed to Wayland to be something diving in pipe music and of course "The 79th Farewell to Gibralter" became a great favourite with the band. He also made records of hitherto unheard of tunes played by old surviving pipers living in districts remote from the influences of Anglicisation. Whenever possible, he brought these old pipers to Cork for a week or a month, but their idiosycrasies and individual oddities made these musical geniuses more difficult to handle and please than Radio stars of the present day.

From 1900 to 1912 the Cork Pipers' Club was by far the best in Ireland, and Wayland's name became famous. Then a number of Irish enthusiasts of Western Australia induced Wayland to set sail for the Southern Continent in 1912, and since then he has never returned to his native shores. Little is known of his present whereabouts, but unfortunately his hopes were not realised, and he has probably settled down to a life of quietness and obscurity, content to play his pipes and fill his soul with the melody of music, while recalling to mind his early enthusiasms and his great achievements as a pioneer: "Where the bells of Shandon sound so grand on the pleasant waters of the River Lee."

In concluding a necessarily brief and modest appreciation of this pioneer Irish piper, it may be of interest to quote the following account of his journey to A ustralia as recounted in "The Irish American in January, 1913:-

"A by-product of the movement for the restoration of the Irish language has been the revival of the Bagpipes, an instrument that shared with the harp the distinction of being, if not Irish in its origin, associated with Ireland through twenty centuries of its history. Pipers' bands have been formed all over the country, and the members clothed in ancient Irish costume, marching with skirling pipes and beating drums, produce a remarkably picturesque and martial effect.

Recently, Mr. Wayland, of Cork, the first of Irish pipers, left Ireland on a visit to Australia and all piping Ireland is in glee today on the account received of the remarkable effect produced by his pipe playing en route - in France, Italy and Egypt. The vessel in which Mr. Wayland sailed, put in for a day or two at Toulon in France, Naples in Italy, and Port Said, and at each place he disembarked, and clad in Irish costume marched through the streets playing his pipes. At Toulon, the people, attracted by the novel spectacle and martial music, thronged around him, cheering admiringly and gesticulating through the streets. One man left his carriage to follow the piper, a barber deserting his customer, came running to the procession, and the customer lathered and towelled, followed after.

Returning to the quays, the magic piper had an advance guard of some hundreds of children, a rear guard of men and women, sailors, soldiers and gendarmes, singing and cheering the musician. Before boarding the ship the piper struck up "The Marsellaise" and the Toulonese sang it with frantic enthusiasm. The delight of Toulon in the Irish pipes proved embarrassing for the piper at the close, for it was only with the aid of a French officer that he succeeded in getting on board his ship, the people were so clamorous for him to stay.

At Naples the scenes of Toulon were repeated on a greater scale. Through the streets of the city the piper marched, followed by thousands of enthusiastic Italians, and when in front of the Royal Palace some Irish fellow-passengers danced reels and jigs to the piper's music, the enthusiasm rose to fever pitch. The women took possession of the piper, garlanded him with flowers, and like a Roman Conqueror he returned to his ship cheered from the shore until the anchor lifted.

At Port Said the scenes of Toulon and Naples were repeated. Every Irish piper is swelling with pride today at the triumph of Mr. Wayland."

- 0 -

A limited number of back copies of the Newsletter are still available. If any of our readers wish back copies, let us know. The cost is 15ϕ per copy.

STOLEN: BAGPIPES - HOOT MON! ETC. (from the Vancouver Sun, Aug. 23,1963)

Scots wha hae for countless generation stirred the blood with the martial skirl of the bagpipes now face a mortal danger. For the lassies have deserted harp and spinning wheel for the pibroch and the strathspey and the drone.

Alas the nation which gave us whisky, Harry Lauder and the Loch Ness Monster could surrender this instrument and desecrate the memory of those brave Roman soldiers of yore who used it to strike fear into the hearts of their foes. This is an outrage comparable to the inauguration of female suffrage or the invention of T.V. dinners.

What is worse, several of your women have banded together in a united front, calling themselves the Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band. This subversive organization was founded more than 30 years ago by Mary Isdale and have continued ever since, luring wilful wenches away from their pantries to weekly joint manoeuvres.

To illustrate the devilish intent of these manoeuvres it is enough to point out that this year alone, the band of 18 pipers and 10 drummers capture first places in Bellingham, Nanaimo, Victoria, Portland, Seattle and Vancouver, competing in each case (horrors) against all male bands. They have even seized the Pacific Coast International Pipe Band Championship.

Shades of humid haggis, can we allow this to continue? Can we let Pipe Major Norma Nicholson, an otherwise winsome lass, dim our fading male glory by carting away the trophy as Professional Pacific International Champion Piper? Her own father, Malcolm Nicholson taught all but two of the band's present pipers and so must rank in the halls of infamy alongside the likes of Joan of Arc and Theda Bara for contributing to the downfall of man.

Only one hope lies open to the men of Vancouver. The 13 to 25 years old "lady" pipers are determined to sail to Scotland next year to compete in the Cowal Games at Dunoon - the largest highland games in the world. They need to raise \$10,000.00 to finance the trip. If we pay their way over, we can drive a Scottish bargain and make them leave their pipes in the Highlands before we pay their way back. This will not only help Canada do its part toward world disarmament, by ridding our Pacific shores of several examples of the most decisive weapon since the club; it will also lessen the worries of the S.P.C.A., which will no longer burst into living rooms across the city, fearing that someone had taken to beating up his cat. Gone will be the mortifying sight of young women masking their femininity behind the groan, oops, drone of a deflating windbag. Gone will be the best argument for ear plugs since the discovery of politics. Back will come womanhood to the kitchen and sanctity to the home. Let us rise to the challenge of the lady piper, taking as our battle cry a phrase inspired by the ghost of Rudyard Kipling: A bag is a bag and a pipe is a pipe and ne'er the twain should meet".

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NELSON HIGHLAND GAMES: September 3rd, 1963.

The piping results of the Nelson Highland Games, held on Sept. 3rd, and judged by Ian Inkster of Revelstoke, were as follows:

Marches - Junior under 16:

1. David F. Hogg, Nelson 2. Peter Demers, Nelson

3. Dave McInture, Kellogg, Idaho.

Strathspeys & Reels - Junior under 16:

1. David F. Hogg 2. Don Burns, Trail 3. Norma Jean Jenkinson Spokane

Marches - Junior under 19:

1. John Jones 2. David Warner 3. Mary C. Jenkinson, Spokane

Strathspeys & Reels - Junior under 19: 1. David Warner 2. Mary C. Jenkinson 3. Gordon Titsworth, Trail

Marches - Bandsmen:

1. Patsy Wright, Nelson 2. Patrick McInnes, Nelson

3. Jay M. Johnson, Spokane

Marches - Senior Amateur:

1. W.R. Thomas 2. Alister Gilchrist 3. Keith Langhorn

Strathspeys & Reels - Senior Amateur:

1. Alister Gilchrist 2. W.E. Thomas 3. Raleigh Smith

Slow Airs - Amateur Open:

1. W.R. Thomas 2. Alister Gilchrist 3. Patsy Wright

4. Clifford Underwood

Strathspeys & Reels - under 16, confined to Kootenays:

1. David F. Hogg 2. Peter Demers 3. Don Burns

Drumming - under 16 - Marches, Strathspeys & Reels:

1. John W. Robb 2. Gordon Jenkinson 3. John Ellison, Trail

Pipe Band Section - March, Strathspey & Reel: - Drumming:

1. David Paterson & Pat O'Neill. Medicine Hat

2. F. Walgren, J.L. Miller, Fred Bradley, Nelson

Marches, Strathspeys & Reels - Senior Amateur: - Drumming:

1. Gordon Jenkinson 2. John W. Robb 3. Greg Young, Spokane

Marches - Professional:

1. Bramley Eccles, Trail 2. John R. Robb, Penticton

3. James F. Munro, Nelson

Strathspeys & Reels: - Professional:

1. Bramley Eccles 2. John Robb

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1. Bramley Eccles 2. John R. Robb 3. James F. Munro

Pipe Bands:

1. Trail Pipe Band

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3. Kootenay Kilties

Drumming: - Professional - Marches, Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Iver Cameron 2. Ray McCable, Trail 3, Jack Neill, Trail

• O •

SOME DESPISE EVEN GOOD MUSIC:

A piper, who was trying to sell his home, experienced difficulty, on account of the large down payment demanded on new houses. At last he found a salesman who offered him a good house, for which he would accept his valuable bagpipes as the down payment. Needless to say, the piper was more than surprized, but the deal was completed, and the bagpipes were handed over. A little later on, everything didn't seem so strange to the piper, when he discovered that the salesman was living next door to the new house he was to occupy.

DO PISTONS MOVE TO PIPE MUSIC?

When Locomotives, in parts, were sent from the U.S.A. to Nigeria, an American Superintendant was sent to oversee the work of putting them together.

He got as foreman-mechanic a piper, who in his spare time always played his practice chanter, when learning tunes from a music book.

Apparantly he was a better piper than a mechanic, as he was continually bothering the Superintendent, inquiring about how certain parts of his work had to be done.

Getting exasperated one day, the Superintendent said to him: "I've told you over and over again, Mac, how that should be done. Do you want me now to write it in Pipe music for you!"

- Roderick MacLeod -



5 AWARDS GRADE I WORLD 1963

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4th Red Hackle

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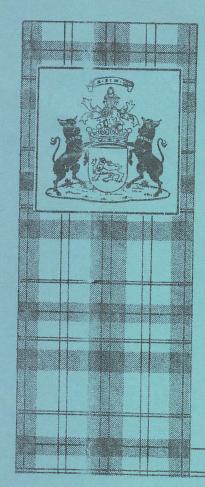
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GENERAL MEETING - SEPT. 27th

WHITE HEATHER - OCT. 3rd, 4th & 5th

CEILIDH - OCT. 18th

