

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



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

SEPTEMBER, 1972

NO. 125

ADAMANTIA

1875

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

PRESIDENT	William Elder
VICE-PRESIDENT	Bruce Topp
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EDITORS:	Colin Abel Angus MacPherson
STAFF:	Barb Morley Janice Taylor Judi Taylor

SEPTEMBER, 1972

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Table of Contents

Letters to the Editor.....	Page 1
Editorial.....	3
Last Month In and Around the Association:	
B.C. Pipe Band Championships.....	3
Silver Chanter.....	4
Intercontinental Championships.....	5
Iain McLeod.....	6
Spokane Fiobaireachd Society.....	7
Next Month	
Knock-Outs.....	13
Triumph Street Band Contest.....	14
White Heather Concert.....	17
Lament for a Girl Piper.....	17
Do You Remember?.....	18
Record Review.....	19
Puzzle Corner.....	20
Roving Reporter.....	21
Foreign Corner.....	22
Special Announcements.....	23

Bandstand	
Innes Tartan.....	Page 24
World Pipe Band Results.....	25
W.P.B.A.....	26
Band Chatter.....	28

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As you have probably noticed, we are now including pictures in the Newsletter. However as our library of local pictures is somewhat limited it is our hope that the members will submit some material. They will be returned as soon as possible.

* * * * *

New Members

Jimmy McColl
Andrew Dunn
James Naismith
Stephen Geddes
Jack Gallagher
Keith Langhorn
Gwen MacGregor
Betty Rowell
Michael Campbell
Mr. I. Ferguson
Glenna Glendinning
Jim MacLeod
Bruce McPhee
Drew Noot
Judi Taylor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do You Remember Contest

Dear Sirs,

I certainly do remember! All the girls were members of the then active Glengarry Girls Pipe Band. From left to right: Margaret McDonald Newbold, Francis Kellas, Lorna Wilson Hudema, and Betty Pringle Barrett.

What a delight to turn over the page and see that picture!

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) Betty Pringle Barrett

P.S. I enjoy very much the B.C. Pipers' Magazine and read every page and letter looking for old familiar names.

Dear Sirs,

We read your newsletter (June issue) with much interest. Thank you, Angus and Colin, for your kind words re Trail Games and activities. We are very pleased to receive any constructive criticism to help improve our games. We are fairly new in the field and very willing to learn - people learn by mistakes made. By correcting these errors, we arrive on the plateau called advancement.

Would it be possible to obtain rules and regulations put out by the Association? Would it not be a good idea to send out information to new members and tell them what is available, for the asking, in rules, etc. for bands and competitions. I think persons not able to attend the meetings miss out on important bits of information.

Sorry to hear Allan Skalazub was disappointed in several aspects of the games, but if he or anyone else had brought it to the attention of the Committee re the announcements of results, the error would have been corrected and all results available in all quarters of the Arena. Other years the games have been in the Park and one announcement was heard by all. One little word from him to us would have saved him less frustration and we would have been pleased to oblige.

I do believe, Mr. Abel, that you and a few of the Triumph Street Band requested to see the band cards and results. I had the Secretary, for results, dig out the cards and release them to you folk to copy your band results. I grant you the cards were mailed out officially at a later date, but you were able to see the results the day of the games. A discussion also took part re judges for deportment and how some people feel about this. Do you drop this from your competitions in your area?

Do you have a list of Piping and Drumming judges available? Some time ago, I noticed a short list of about six names who were examined by P/M Cairns. Are there others, too? We have no trouble obtaining the official list of registered judges of the Scottish Official Board of Dancing for all of North America and this makes our task much easier. I do hope you have at least a Canadian list available.

How do you grade bands from the U.S.A. and other Canadian Provinces? Your grouping concerns bands in the Pacific Coast Area (June issue). Information we received from some areas stated the Judges panel placed the bands in their respective classes. We were to understand this was acceptable to the bands. What information have you regarding this practice? I do believe it must have taken many, many years of hard work with many errors and snags to get other games up to the high standards that competitors appreciate.

We hope in 1973 to have a bigger and better games and we hope to see some of you fine folk back in Trail again - we certainly enjoyed having each and every one here in '72.

Mrs. Kate E. Shaw,
Secretary,
Trail Caledonian Society.

Editors' Note: For rules and information regarding individual piping, please contact Miss Patricia Dawson, Secretary, B.C. Pipers' Association, 3932 Dunbar Street, Vancouver. For those concerning Pipe Bands, please contact Mr. Bruce McRae, Secretary, Western Pipe Band Association, 4745 Fairlawn, Burnaby 2, B.C.

EDITORIAL

Although Mrs. Shaw's excuses are somewhat lacking, her letter does raise a good point; namely the standardization, or the lack of it, in piping. This is an issue that has been discussed before in the Newsletter, but that is as far as it got in this area at least. Are we to assume then that we don't want or don't need any system of standardization? Boulderdash! Piping is no longer in the ages when a lament was played high atop some mountain pass or when tunes were passed along by mouth, but rather the bagpipe is a highly developed instrument with an equally highly developed notation system. It is only fitting, therefore, that the art of piping be standardized in all aspects, i.e. teaching, judging, care, and maintenance.

Perhaps it is unfair to say that nothing is being done. In Scotland, the Institute of Piping (The Piobaireachd Society, the Army School of Piping, the College of Piping) has prepared a programme whereby six certificates of piping ability and two certificates for teachers are available. (Details of the syllabus for each test will be given later). However, the Institute does not alleviate our problem for the time being.

Do we wet a reed? Use sandpaper on reeds? elastic bands on drone reeds? Is it proper to immerse a pipe bag in water to seek out leaks? Ask any ten teachers here and you will get an interesting cross section of answers.

What about our competitions? What is a prospective young piper supposed to think when he gets 80 points in his march and 30 in his strathspey and reel?

Standardization. Think about it!

LAST MONTH IN AND AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

B. C. Pipe Band Championships

The answer to all our game problems came on August 26th at Empire Stadium. The "Big Games" has hopefully finally materialized. It is fairly evident that people will not turn out to listen to individual piping but they will come to see pipe bands, e.g. Toronto, Coeur d'Alene, Santa Rosa, etc. One of the most encouraging facts was that of the 12 competing bands, 11 were from Vancouver. So, with all the right ingredients (solid

financial backing, good location, free admission, good prize money), next stop.....?

For more details, see Bandstand.

Results

Grade I

	Penalty Points	Final Points
1. Pipes & Drums of Innes Tartan	-	93.8
2. City of Port Moody	-	92.45
3. Seaforth Highlanders	-	90.75

Grade II

1. Triumph Street Pipe Band	-	89.5
2. Branch #83 Royal Can. Legion	5.6	61.9

Juvenile (Open)

1. Kiwanis Boys Pipe Band	-	89.9
2. Burnaby Ladies #1	7.3	80.3
3. Richmond Senior Boys	7.1	78.3

Juvenile Novice (Open)

1. Burnaby Ladies #2	-	74.7
2. Highland Laddies	12.5	62.2
3. Richmond Junior Boys	19.5	58.4

Drum Majors Contest

1. D/M O. A. Hamilton, Seaforth Highlanders
2. D/M E. Eeles, Innes Tartan
3. D/M A. Walker, City of Port Moody

SILVER CHANTER

The coveted silver chanter was won this year by Iain MacFadyen, Pipe Major of the Glasgow Corporation Transport. Held at Dunvegan Castle, Skye, the competition is open only to elite pipers.

INTERCONTINENTAL PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Billed as the largest gathering of Scots ever held outside of Scotland, the four day World Scottish Festival at the C.N.E. kicked off with a parade of 2,500 pipers and drummers, watched by Mayor Dennison of Toronto and crowds 20 deep along the 3/4 mile route. In amongst the Tattoos, drill exhibitions, and displays of military pomp and pageantry was the Intercontinental Pipe Band Championships. Over 114 bands competed, including 28 in Grade One, in the two day competition.

Edinburgh Police carried off top honours in Grade One while Paisley captured Grade Two.

Results

Grade I

1. Edinburgh Police
2. Shotts and Dykehead
3. Muirhead and Sons
4. Red Hackle
5. City of Toronto

Grade II

1. Paisley
2. Dysart and Dundonald
3. General Motors
4. Dumbarton

Grade III

1. Cumbernauld
2. Erskin

Grade IV

1. Kilsyth Thistle
2. Birmingham Scottish
3. Royal Canadian Legion #50
4. Dalzell Steelworkers



The Scotsman

Iain McLeod, Pipe Major of the City of Edinburgh Police

One of the more consistent winners of the "little music", Iain McLeod has led his band to World Championships in 1963, 1964, 1967, and again in 1972.

Pipe Major McLeod was introduced to the pipes at the age of 11 at George Heriot's in Edinburgh and later received tuition from the late Willie Ross. He joined the police in 1951 and was elevated to Pipe Major in 1959.

Iain has made two trips to Canada this year, the first to Banff and our Indoor Meet, and the most recent to carry off the Intercontinental Championship. His consistency on the boards is well evidenced by his fine recital held here in May.

The Spokane Piobaireachd Society - North Idaho College
Summer School for Piping
1972

The resort town of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, suddenly came to life on July 16 when 82 kilted figures appeared on the beautiful campus of North Idaho College to receive instruction on the ancient bagpipe. After an orderly "processing-in" with the College Administration, they reported to Pipe Major R. G. Hardie and his deputy, Mr. Andrew Wright, who assigned them to their respective skill level classes after having them play a short tune on the practice chanter. Piper James McLean of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society was assigned duty as adjutant to P/M Hardie. His responsibilities included maintaining an up-to-date training record on each student and ensuring that the proper coordination between students and instructors was carried out. The students had been invited to report at 1:00 p.m. for administrative processing and a few minutes prior to 5:00 p.m. all preliminary work on the entire group had been accomplished. Prior to 9:00 a.m. on Monday, class areas had been clearly designated and at exactly 9:00, the entire school, consisting of 82 students divided into eight groups, was set in motion.

The previous evening, P/M Hardie called a staff meeting of his nine assistant instructors at which time he outlined in detail the methods of teaching he required, the allowable time factor for each class and the importance of adhering to the posted training schedules at all times.

The Summer School of 1972 may rightfully claim many achievements, but I am quite sure none were as significant as the professional manner in which the entire school was set in motion by Mr. Hardie. Training progress reports on each student were fed daily by the instructors to McLean who was able to develop a most comprehensive file on each individual. It is believed that these records will become an invaluable tool in the management of subsequent school programs.

After the lunch break on Monday, July 17, the President of North Idaho College, Mr. Barry Schuler, formally welcomed the 82 students and ten instructors to his College. This was the third year that this unique training project was held at the College and the second year since the North Idaho College became an equal partner with the Spokane Piobaireachd Society in sponsoring this cultural program.

In his brief message, President Schuler emphasized the importance of maintaining certain links with the past and he praised all Scots everywhere for their desire to strengthen these links through their Gaelic language, the wearing of their native garb and the emphasis that is being placed on the playing and study of their ancient national music, the Piobaireachd. He stated that he had become a genuine devotee of this haunting music and he can now easily understand why the masters of music - Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Dvorak, and men of literature - Ossian, Scott, Stevenson, Buchan and so many others were inspired and caught up in its spell. President Schuler said he looked forward to the following two weeks of living under a musical umbrella of these ancient compositions.

Mr. Robert Bruce Carrick, Secretary of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society, praised President Schuler and his able staff for making the facilities of his excellent College available each year because without this high level of cooperation it would be impossible to make this excellent training program available to so many young people.

The 1972 student body consisted of an age range from ten years old to seventy-two years young. There were twenty female students and sixty-two male students. There were eight students enrolled who had never touched a practice chanter before; however, these all had a sound musical training background and their progress, as expected, was dramatic.

Students came from five Canadian Provinces and eleven States. The student who won the President of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society prize for travelling the greatest distance "a magnum of champagne-Mums 1952" was Mr. Donald Alexander MacLennan. This veteran piper travelled 2300 miles from Lochalsh, Ontario. His claim to greatest distance was disputed by P/M Dan Henderson who flew in from Fairbanks, Alaska. However, another student who is a junior engineer with the Geodetic Survey ruled that MacLennan had travelled in the vicinity of 25 to 30 miles further. This distance problem may be turned over to the next Apollo Crew for more accurate mileage determination.

With the exception of the eight beginners and two young lads of ten and eleven, all students studied piobaireachd and even the beginners acquired a rudimentary knowledge of the fingering technique. In fact, as time went on, it appeared that all other forms of pipe music were becoming subordinate to the study and practice of the classical music. One on-looker suggested that it was like a contagious element invading the entire school. There were even times when classes were given specific instructions in practicing pieces of newly acquired ceol beag, but when on their own time could be heard happily polishing a crunluath or a dithis or even a

crunluath a mach. One day during the second week the writer was present when a ten year old spoke - "Bob, is there any difference in the way I make my crunluath and the way you make yours?" He did an excellent job of it even though he was supposed to be memorizing "Scots Wha Hae".

As mentioned earlier in this report, P/M R. G. Hardie and Mr. Andrew Wright were supported by eight student instructors - all members of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society and top level performers in their own right. Included in this group were two former "Bratach Nam Beann" winners - John MacLeod and Hal Senyk. The others were Jamie Troy, James McLean, Jim Hardie, Reuben Santos, Chris Jensen and Iain MacCrimmon. These instructors provided each student with a minimum of four hours daily of direct instruction. During the remaining four hours they received polishing from Mr. Hardie and Mr. Wright.

The over-all instructional surveillance was by far the best on record. It was found that there is no substitute for as many qualified instructors as possible, and since this school offers an entirely non-profit program, the instructor force will continue to be consistent with the size of the student body. Because of its phenomenal growth it is obvious that the summer school management will be forced to carefully measure the dormitory and training facilities with the applications, and a selective system will of necessity be adopted - however, top priority will be given to the class of 1972.

The graduation ceremony took place at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 28. It was preceded by a class picture which reflects the largest summer school for piping in the world. North Idaho College President, Barry Schuler, was the principal speaker at this brief ceremony. He thanked all those who participated in the program and hoped the school would continue to enjoy the College facilities at Coeur d'Alene for many years to come. He mentioned how pleased he was with the manner in which the students conducted themselves and the enhanced image that continued to grow between the College and the Community.

Mr. Gordon Sherman, a retired business executive, was invited to speak on behalf of the students. What this distinguished individual had to say about the school and the future of piobaireachd in the New World will be published in a separate article at a later date.

President Schuler, together with members of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society, presented handsome graduation certificates to all of the students.

Another of the highlights of the graduation ceremony was the presenting of special certificates to the eight student instructors. These gold-embossed, framed certificates are signed by the President of the North Idaho College, the President of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society, and endorsed by P/M R. G. Hardie. The certificates state that each recipient whose name appears on the certificate is "fully qualified to teach Ceol Beag agus Ceol Mor". In presenting these unique Teachers Certificates, Lt./Col. John McEwing, President of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society, stated "These precious Certificates must always be earned, they will never be for sale". The student body loudly applauded this statement of policy.

A number of items on the graduation ceremony agenda were, because of the time factor, dispensed with since the Medallion event was scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m.

Fourteen students played in this event, which was won by Mr. Allan Walters, Calgary. His winning tune was "The Desperate Battle". P/M R.G. Hardie and two former Banner winners, John MacLeod and Hal Senyk adjudicated. Walters' immaculate fingering technique, the tone of his pipes and the imaginative interpretation of his tune left really nothing to be desired. His Medallion prize carries with it a return air trip to Scotland where, I am sure, many people in the beautiful Highlands will be in for a great treat.

The playing for the Medallion took from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. There was a one hour break and starting at 5:00 p.m., and still in the cool shade of the giant Ponderosa pines on the College Campus, the event of the year for great piping took place, the playing for that prestigious prize - the Bratach Nam Beann (Banner of the Mountains).

Since the entire two week summer piping school program had been designated as the "Angus MacKay Memorial Festival" each Banner competitor was required to play, preceding his piobaireachd, any one of Angus MacKay's competition marches. He could then touch up his pipes prior to playing one of the four set tunes for this event.

There were eight competitors in this event and one "scratched" prior to playing.

James McLean, whose ancestors hail from Mull, was an easy march winner with "The Duke of Roxburgh's Farewell to Blackmount Forest". His magnificent, steady interpretation of this great tune played on perhaps the finest sounding instrument heard that evening, brought a lump to the throats of many and earned him a standing ovation from all the students and a considerable gallery of experts and devotees.

Happily, a high quality tape recorder captured McLean's playing of this tune and it will become a permanent item in the Spokane Piobaireachd Society Library for Pipers, which will be available to summer school students each year. A prize of \$100 was connected with this event, the donor of which elects to remain anonymous.

The adjudicators of the Banner and its preceding march were P/M R. G. Hardie and Andrew Wright. The Banner winner was Jamie Troy of Victoria. The set tune drawn by him - Angus MacKay's "Farewell to the Laird of Islay" - about the only complete piobaireachd this great artist is credited with composing. Jamie Troy's victory was a popular one. His musical style and his complete mastery of his instrument make him a great joy to listen to.

Like the Medallion, the Bratach Nam Beann carries with it a return air trip to Scotland where Troy will represent the Spokane Piobaireachd Society at the Argyllshire Gathering where he will compete for the Highland Society of London's Gold Medal in an attempt to carry it across the broad Atlantic to the lands and mountains of Canada.

The tourists and the simply curious are discouraged from attending the piping events that are connected with the piping school during the afternoon and evening of the closing day. These people have a tendency to disturb the artist by talking and moving about and are completely oblivious of the sublime moment in musical history that is theirs for the listening.

Special Events

Piping recitals were held nearly every evening during the two weeks, usually involving two individuals. These recitals attracted nearly all the students and one found many interested people from the College community attending. Those who participated in these recitals included P/M Hardie, Mr. Andrew Wright, Jim Hardie, Jamie Troy, Hal Senyk, Reuben Santos, Chris Jensen, Rod Sim and Allan Walters. Mr. Hardie and Mr. Wright performed on several occasions. Many tape recorders were in use during these delightful events.

Another special feature occurred when P/M Hardie gave a lecture on the manufacture of bagpipes. He brought "cutaway" pieces of drones and chanter from his factory in Scotland. Many of the students saw and examined for the first time the inside of these components. The "wave guide" principle was thoroughly explained and it is believed that the relatively short period devoted to this subject will enable many of the students to greatly improve their tuning technique. At the conclusion of this exciting lecture-demonstration, Mr. Hardie presented these components to the Spokane Piobaireachd Society.

Andrew Wright gave a lecture-demonstration on reeds. This, too, was an exciting work period. He climaxed his presentation by making a tenor reed which was born with a magnificent tonal quality. At the end of these presentations the meeting was thrown open for questions. Mr. Hardie answered twenty-two questions on pipes and Mr. Wright twenty-one on the fabrication of reeds and what to look for in selecting them.

During the weekend break following the first week, many of the students travelled to Seattle in order to attend the Games in that city, and it was no surprise to learn that they completely dominated the prize lists. Out of nine professional prizes, all nine were won by students from Coeur d'Alene.

Of Special Interest

There was a total of six scholarships received this year. The students who benefited by these scholarships were carefully chosen and all of them brought great credit to the donors who are so interested in preserving this delightful musical heritage. Several were enrolled by virtue of winning top honors at distant Games or some other achievements. As a rule they won top honours in their classes. It is sincerely hoped that the increase in the scholarship trend continues.

On the final day of the school there were a number of distinguished men and women on hand to listen to what is perhaps the finest piping in the New World. Noted in this group were: John Wilson, one of the world's most distinguished composers, players, adjudicator and writer, and the beneficial influence he has had on piping during his lifetime will, I am sure, last for a hundred years; the Honourable John McRae, former U.S. Attorney, Legal Counselor for the Spokane Piobaireachd Society and member of the Board of Governors of the Society; P/M William Thomas, member of the Board of Governors of the Society; P/M Fred MacLennan, member of the Board of Governors; P/M George Mars, member of the Board of Governors; the Honourable Robert Bruce Carrick, Secretary/Treasurer of the Society; and P/M William Watt of Edmonton, noted piping teacher and adjudicator.

In summary, it can be said that this summer school was by far the most successful one to date. The morale of the students and the ten instructors remained at an all time high during the entire school period. The relationship between the faculty members and the students was friendly and professional. The student/instructors assumed the responsibility for dormitory life, and this procedure was highly successful. Even though the dormitory was filled to capacity with enthusiastic young people with tons of vitality, there was not one single occasion where counselling was required by the

student/instructor monitors. The behaviour of all the students during the two week period, on and off campus, has brought great credit to North Idaho College at Coeur d'Alene and great pride to the Spokane Piobaireachd Society.

Currently, discussions are taking place between the NIC and the SPS regarding the advisability of holding two summer schools during the month of July 1973. It has been found that so many students would prefer to attend this type of specialized training for four weeks instead of the normal two. Details on such a revised program will be advertised as early as definitive plans have been made and not later than November 1.

John McEwing,
President,
Spokane Piobaireachd Society.

NEXT MONTH

Knock-Outs

At present, only a knock-out for professionals is planned. If we intend on having these social evenings as successful as they have been in the past, we must have a good professional entry. We would ask that all professionals enter this competition.

The dates for this year's knock-outs are as follows. Please mark them on your calendar.

November 3, 1972	February 2, 1973
December 1, 1972	March 2, 1973
January 19, 1973	April 6, 1973

First prize will be \$100.00 and second prize will be \$50.00.

The rules for the Professional class will remain the same as last year.

Entries must be in the hands of the Secretary, Miss Patricia Dawson, 3932 Dunbar, Vancouver, no later than October 13, 1972.

TRIUMPH STREET PIPE BAND CONTEST

For years now everyone has been complaining that there is nothing for bands in the winter. In some cases, turnouts at band practices diminish due to the lack of interest and, in other cases, the winter months are the strongest because of members leaving town in the summer to seek employment.

Well, your troubles are over. On December 16, 1972, Triumph Street is conducting a contest for miniature bands, trios, drum sections and individual drumming. Why drumming and no solo piping you may ask? Mainly because the pipers have the bi-monthlies, the knock-outs and the Indoor Meet in which they can compete whereas the drummers don't get their chance until the summer (and even then, very rarely).

The trio competition proves to be very interesting. Instead of the usual March, Strathspey and Reel combination, the bands (it is not restricted to bands, however) will be able to show their ingenuity in their selection of a Waltz, Hornpipe, and Polka. The juniors will have to contend with a 6/8 March, Slow Air, and Jig.

In the drum section event, the drummers will play a selection without pipers and the best bass drummer will be judged here.

The miniature bands have been divided into two categories, junior and senior. i.e. senior - Grades 1 and 2, and junior - Juvenile and Novice Juvenile. Both classes will be required to play a selection varying between five and seven minutes.

To round out the day, a ceilidh has been planned for that evening.

For tickets to the dance, phone Angus MacPherson at 526-8182.

TRIUMPH STREET
BAND CONTEST

DECEMBER 16, 1972

One o'clock

AT

ST. FRANCIS DE SALLES SCHOOL
SPERLING AND BALMORAL
BURNABY

Ceilidh following
the competitions

GENERAL ADMISSION : .50

EVENTS

- 1. Senior Miniature Bands
- 2. Junior Miniature Bands
- 3. Senior Trios
- 4. Junior Trios
- 5. Senior Drum Section
- 6. Junior Drum Section
- 7. Novice Drumming
- 8. Amateur Drumming
- 9. Senior Amateur Drumming

PRIZES

Senior Bands --\$60.00
 Junior Bands --\$30.00

TROPHIES TO BE AWARDED TO ALL CLASS WINNERS

ENTRY FEE

Bands: \$5.00
 Trios: \$1.00
 Drum Section: \$2.00
 Ind. Drumming: \$.50

RULES

- 1. All members of junior bands and trios must be 18 years of age or younger.
- 2. Miniature bands to consist of 6 pipers, 2 sides, 1 tenor, 1 bass.
- 3. Both junior and senior bands to play medley, 5--7 minutes.
- 4. Senior trios; Polka, Waltz, Hornpipe
 Junior trios; 6/8, Slow Air, Jig
- 5. Drum Section to consist of 2 sides, 1 bass and 1 tenor.
- 6. Drum Section to play DRUM SALUTE, without pipers.
- 7. Novice Drummers; March, with piper
 Amateur " ; M.S.R. " "
 Senior " ; Musical Selection, without piper

PLEASE ENTER:

IN EVENTS for whichis enclosed.

MAIL ALL ENTRIES TO ALLAN SKALAZUB,
 2430 SPERLING AVE.,
 BURNABY 2.

CLOSING DATE
 DECEMBER 1.

The White Heather Concert

On Friday, September 29 and Saturday, September 30, the B. C. Pipers' and St. Andrews and Caledonian are presenting the White Heather Concert Party. Jimmy Logan is back by popular demand along with Ann Baird, John Shearer and Anna Cowie.

The time, 8:30; the place, Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

See you there!

Bi-Monthlies

Entry form and schedule at back of Newsletter.

* * * * *

LAMENT FOR A GIRL PIPER

Girl piper, Georgina Petty, wanted a trophy to take back home to Canada - but her pipe-dream had an unhappy ending.

For she went to the Cowal Games in Dunoon, Argyll, at the weekend, she was told: "Sorry, men and boys only."

And yesterday a disappointed Georgina, from Saskatchewan, said: "It's time you had a stronger Women's Lib movement over here."

But she plans to try for a prize at other top Scottish gatherings during her four-week visit.

Georgina, 21, who is staying with Mr. and Mrs. George Jenkins, of Union Street, New Stevenston, Lanarkshire, won her 8000 mile trip from a Canadian piping school.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

B.C. Pipers' Association - Financial statement/1939

Cash on hand \$106.60

Receipts

Dues \$53.50
Oct. Concert 25.26
Mar. Concert 23.60
\$102.36

Expenses

Rent \$10.00
Donations 24.15
Flowers 7.00
Printing 23.03
Sec. 14.60
Competition 19.26
\$98.04 4.32
\$110.92

Accts. Payable 11.10
Accts. Received 9.75
\$1.35

Cash in bank \$90.41
Cash on hand 21.86
\$112.27

Less 1.35
\$110.92

H.A. Urquhart, A.C. MacNab
Auditors.

Bi-Monthly Competitions - September, 1960

Novices

1. Gordon Hardy
2. David Irvine

Juveniles

1. Robert MacDonald
2. Larry Gillott
3. Michael MacInnes

Juniors

1. Peter McNeil
2. Bill Elder
3. Tom Richardson

Amateur

1. Peggy Gillies

Senior Amateur

1. William Paterson
2. David Ireland
3. Harry Mumford

RECORD REVIEW

ROYAL SCOTS DRAGOON GUARDS THE DAY IS ENDED/SERENADE

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards are out to repeat the success of their chart-topping record "Amazing Grace". Their new disc released in early August sold 7,000 copies in the first two days.

Like the first, the latest record has the unusual combination of the regiment's pipes and drums and military band.

Captain Mel Jamieson, the regiment's band president, said:- "In 'Amazing Grace' we think we discovered a new sound which all ages like. We aim to give the public more of it."

This time the bands offer another nineteenth-century hymn, "The Day is Ended," backed by the German composer Heyken's "Serenade." Obviously R.C.A., the recording company remembering the Guards' first success, think either tune might become a hit, so each side of the record has an "A" rating.

The consensus is that the more catchy, up-tempo, "Serenade" will be the one the errand boys will be whistling, although the over-40's may nostalgically remember it as "Standchen", a popular five-finger exercise of their piano playing youth.

"Amazing Grace" held top place in Britain for five weeks and has sold three million copies in 18 countries.

Royalties from the records go to the bandsmen, the upkeep of band equipment, and regimental funds. They lost out on "Amazing Grace" - the contract was on a normal pop group basis.

"Naturally, we have now negotiated much better terms", Captain Jamieson said.

Two further long-playing records are planned, one in the late autumn and another for Christmas.

Forestalling critics who might fear the dignity of the pipes are in danger, Captain Jamieson said, "We will offer only good music - no trash."

Although we know the conservative element among us will probably cringe at this "prostitution" of the pipes, anything, gimmick, innovation, novelty, call it what you like, that can sell 3,000,000 copies of the pipes in 18 countries can't be that detrimental to piping.

After hearing this record, we must commend the Dragoons for producing such a pleasant combination, a combination which in no way offends piping.

Although it has not been released in Canada yet, do yourself a favour and buy it when it is.

PUZZLE CORNER

Unscramble these six jumbles to form six piping terms:

TRCDCNANIAAE

- - - - - = - - - - - = - -

RUALR

- - - - - =

OSKCT

- = - - - -

GAESPBPI

= - = = - - - - -

EIPP RJAMO

- = - - - = - - - = -

RPOT DOYMO

- = - - - = - - - - -

Now, unscramble the underlined letters to form the surprise answer as suggested by the clue.

"Every Newsletter has one on it".

The first correct answer will receive \$5.00.

Mail your answers to:

Puzzle Corner,
5120 Spencer Street,
Vancouver 8, B. C.

ROVING REPORTER

SHOTTS - 1972

It was a warm, sunny day as I stepped off the local train at Shotts, bringing back the memory of 1964 when the rain was so heavy the dancers had been moved indoors and small groups of pipers and drummers stood around in small groups, huddled under their dark capes. After the hour's ride, it's fun to wander up the hill to Hannah Park, listen to the townspeople, catch the odd skirl of a pipe, and arrive at the gate ready for a good afternoon. To North Americans, the seating would be a disaster, but a few hundred pay extra to sit in the stands, while the rest brush gravel and dirt off the small step arrangement surrounding the field, settle themselves on the hard, uncomfortable seats to talk over the coming events.

As the games start, the overall effect is like a six ring circus. Two bands compete at the same time - the stewards lining up one band ready to march on as the other marches off, dancers are on three separate platforms, runners dash around the track, heavy events take place at one side, while the Drum Majors line up down the middle for inspection, and a little later strut up and down. In between a relay race, Queen Moira is escorted around the track by the visiting American Band and during a slight pause, the chieftain, Major D. Pollock-Smith, and his party are piped to the platform.

The crowd grows larger by the hour, chatting happily, munching hot pies and crisps, drinking cup after cup of hot tea or enjoying a cool ice. The men disappear every so often to refresh themselves at the large tent over in the corner. It's a big thrill to pick out Harold Senyk playing with the Muirhead Band and to chat with a young Toronto piper, spending the summer in Sweden and competing with their smart Thistle Pipe Band.

Finally, everyone has competed and the March Past begins. Can you see four Grade I bands in the middle of the field taking turns playing, as over sixty bands march around the outside, saluting the chieftain and covering the field with tartan? Prizes are given out to the winners. Another thrill as the "Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band Trophy" is presented to the winning Grade IV Band. Excitement mounts and finally the Edinburgh City Pipe Band is presented with their trophy as No. 1 Band. As winners, they lead the long procession back down the hill to the train station. The street is lined with people, clapping, cheering, and listening as the bands hold their trophies high and play all the way.

The pipes ring in your ears as you settle down for the train ride back to Glasgow, pictures come and go and memories to last a lifetime fall into place.

Mrs. H. Abel

FOREIGN CORNER

Jimmy McCallum, Annbank, Ayrshire, is usually the first man visitors meet when they arrive in Scotland.

He's been the Prestwick Airport piper for 18 years.

In that time, he's piped all the top celebrities. But the person he'll never forget was an 80 year old Glasgow granny. Seriously ill, she was flying to her daughter's in Canada to see her grandchildren. She knew she might never see Scotland again. She asked Jimmy to play "Rowan Tree". Neighbours, friends, relatives had all turned out to see the old lady off. There wasn't a dry eye amongst them. As it turned out, "Rowan Tree", was the old lady's last memory of Scotland. She died only weeks later in Canada.

If that was the saddest occasion, Jimmy will never forget the happiest. A Kilmarnock couple, in their thirties, emigrating to Toronto. They'd never been blessed with a family. They promised Jimmy that, if they ever were, they'd come home to have the baby born in Scotland.

A year later, Jimmy piped them down the steps of the plane with "The Cradle Song" when they arrived back for the birth of their son.

Recently, a flock of geese was sold to a Canadian factory owner to act as guards. As Jimmy struck up "Wi' A Hundred Pipers", one goose went berserk. It flew at Jimmy, squawking and pecking. He got a couple of nasty nips before one of the handlers managed to get it under control again.

You may recall the story about Jimmy piping off Russia's Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko. Mr. Gromyko loved "We're No Awa' Tae Bide Awa'." He sent an aide to Jimmy with a bottle of vodka. There was just one snag. Jimmy had to pay duty to bring the bottle back through Customs. He refused. Mr. Gromyko was none too pleased when he heard his gift had been confiscated. Fortunately, the incident ended in smiles all round when Jimmy's bottle was returned after a back-stage diplomacy!

The biggest mystery Jimmy's come across concerns Thomas Olsen, the Norwegian shipping magnate. Every time he arrives at Prestwick, he insists Jimmy plays "Scotland the Brave". Without fail, when Jimmy strikes up the tune, tears flow down the cheeks of the tycoon. Jimmy would dearly love to know why the tune is so special to the Norwegian.

One of his proudest possessions is his scrap book of pictures taken with the personalities he's piped into Scotland. Douglas Fairbanks, Frank Sinatra, Alfred Hitchcock, Roy Rogers and Trigger, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Marshal Zhukov, Yehudi Menuhin and Bing Crosby, among others.

But, Jimmy says his proudest moment was only last month - when he piped Rangers' captain, John Greig, on to the tarmac with the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are pleased to announce the engagement of the co-editor Colin Abel to Barb Morley.

The rest of the staff wish Colin and Barb every happiness in the future.

* * * * *

The editors are pleased to announce the formation of 300 new appointments. As of now, every member of the B.C. Pipers' Association has been appointed an "Honorary Roving Reporter". Your duties shall include the reporting of events which the editors were unable to attend or even supplement the editors' report with your own views.

Remember, don't let the bubble burst: support the Newsletter!

For Sale:

Cow-hide leather pipe case, Phone 922-7332.

BANDSTAND

The Pipes and Drums of Innes Tartan Inc.

One of this year's biggest treats was the appearance of the Innes Tartan Pipe Band from New Zealand. Formed in 1926 as the Auckland and District Highland Pipe Band, they adopted the Hunting Menzies tartan in honour of their first Pipe Major, George Couper, formerly of Dundee City Police Pipe Band.

First major success in New Zealand competition was in 1949 when the Band won the "B" Grade Championship title. The following year the Band added the "A" Grade title to its list of successes. No other band before, or since, has won these titles in successive years.

In 1965 the Band began its present run of successes under the present Pipe Major, Keith Laird. In that year, it won the Test Selection and has continued to compete regularly with distinction.

An invitation to compete in the biennial Australian Championships in 1967 was accepted and the Band was placed first in the Grade 1 Selection against 47 Australian bands.

Over the past four years the Band has won the "A" Grade title three times and been placed second on the other occasion. It is the current Champion Band of New Zealand.

Contesting in New Zealand involves not only test selection playing, but also certain drill events, and the championship titles in the three grades are decided on the aggregation of points gained in the Test Selection and Quickstep events.

Ross Wilson, a piper in the Band, is the Drill Instructor. In the past three years under his instruction, and the competent leadership of Eddie Eeles (eight years Drum-Major) it has risen to the top in the Drill Section.

An example of this aspect of New Zealand contests is the Drum-Major's Display which was performed at many of the engagements on this tour. This involves eight to nine minutes of marching evolutions to music and is under the continuous control of Drum-Major Eeles.

Innes placed 8th at the Scottish Championships, 24th at Toronto, 1st at the B.C. Championships and 1st in Santa Rosa.

To help offset costs, Innes played twice a day at the P.N.E. They were scheduled to play once at Toronto but the

crowd loved them so much that they played every night.

Among the membership of the band can be found several well-known soloists. Lewis Turrell, previously mentioned in Noel Chalmer's article, is the only New Zealander to have won the Medal at Inverness. He demonstrated his ability at the Triumph Street dance and the Armouries and it is well seen how he achieved this feat. Another piper who captured the fascination of the audience was Jim Barrie, son of William Barrie, formerly of Vancouver. Composer of John McKenzie's Fancy (formerly Powell River). Jim kept our mouths open with his rendition of Glasgow Police Pipers.

The drum section is handled by Graham Laird (brother of P/M Laird). His drum corps has won the "A" Grade Drumming Championship title for the past five years in succession.

The Band "on tour" was under the management of Mr. K. J. Campbell of Wellington, an Executive Councillor of many years standing in the New Zealand Pipe Bands' Association. Formerly a piper and Drum-Major, he has assisted with the training of a number of New Zealand bands and is a member of the New Zealand Judges Panel.

World Pipe Band Champions, 1947 to 1972

<u>Year</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Pipe Major</u>
1947	Bowhill Colliery	Edinburgh	C. Sutherland
1948	Shotts & Dykehead	Glasgow	T. MacAllister, Sr.
1949	Glasgow Police	Edinburgh	J. MacDonald
1950	Edinburgh Police	Dundee	D. S. Ramsay
1951	Glasgow Police	Edinburgh	J. MacDonald
1952	Shotts & Dykehead	Ayr	T. MacAllister, Sr.
1953	Clan MacRae	Edinburgh	A. MacLeod
1954	Edinburgh Police	Aberdeen	D. S. Ramsay
1955	Muirhead & Sons	Stirling	J. Smith
1956	Muirhead & Sons	Belfast	J. Smith
1957	Shotts & Dykehead	Paisley	J. K. MacAllister
1958	Shotts & Dykehead	Aberdeen	J. K. MacAllister
1959	Shotts & Dykehead	Kirkcaldy	J. K. MacAllister
1960	Shotts & Dykehead	Inverness	J. K. MacAllister
1961	Muirhead & Sons	Edinburgh	J. Smith
1962	277 Regt. R.A.(T.A.)	Belfast	J. Weatherstone
1963	Edinburgh Police	Dumfries	I. McLeod
1964	Edinburgh Police	Ayr	I. McLeod
1965	Muirhead & Sons	Forfar	R. Hardie
1966	Muirhead & Sons	Inverness	R. Hardie
1967	Muirhead & Sons	Oban	R. Hardie
1968	Muirhead & Sons	Grangemouth	R. Hardie

1969	Muirhead & Sons	Perth	R. Hardie
1970	Shotts & Dykehead	Aberdeen	T. MacAllister
1971	Edinburgh Police	Lanark	I. McLeod
1972	Edinburgh Police	-	I. McLeod

Western Pipe Band Association

Saturday, August 26, was a memorable day for the members of the W.P.B.A. It was our 1st British Columbia Pipe Band Championship held at Empire Stadium under glorious weather conditions. We estimated the audience at 3,000 which was most gratifying.

All competing bands marched from the Coliseum through the exhibition grounds to the stadium prior to the contest. The P.N.E. visitors around me were delighted with this unusual touch and it gave the bands a chance to blow the cobwebs out.

The judges for the day were P/M E. Esson, P/M G. Ogilvie, W. Mossie, M.F. Parsons and W. Saunders. The chief steward was Donald Ross.

The championships proved to be a great success from the audience reaction to the medley presentations, and everyone stayed till the finish, including the President of the P.N.E., who has already confirmed their desire to sponsor us again next year.

The programme went extremely smoothly under the capable hands of our stewards, and I should like to thank all of them for their diligence.

The introduction of the two juvenile grades I feel was a great success and should prove to be a most worthwhile move. The bands in this grade turned in delightful performances and seemed to flourish under the medley rules. Burnaby Ladies #1 were the winners in the "Open" and Burnaby Ladies #2 won the novice. Grade II which should have been the attraction of the afternoon unfortunately had only two bands competing. Triumph Street were our first B.C. Champions in this event, rendering a first class performance. I am sure we will see them in Grade I in the future. Second place was won by #83 Branch, Royal Canadian Legion.

Grade I was the largest entry that we have seen in many years, and the quality was excellent. Our guests, "The Pipes and Drums of the Innes Tartan" from New Zealand were our grand champions in this event. The City of Port Moody ran a close second with a great effort.

The Drum Majors were accompanied in their contest by the massed pipes and drums of the juvenile (open) class.

At the conclusion of the events, the Pipes and Drums of the Innes Tartan treated us to a brilliant display of drill and marching manoeuvres which can only be compared to the best that we have seen by touring military units through the years. We were indeed fortunate to have been able to have them for they in no small way helped make the day the success that it was.

Prior to the massed bands performance, various members of the St. Andrews & Caledonian Society presented the awards. Lt. Gov. John Nicholson presented Innes Tartan with the "Stewart Trophy".

Your executive body feel that we achieved our aim in this venture, and we are already drawing up a budget for the second presentation. We are planning on increasing the prize monies and hoping for a generous allowance to aid out-of-town bands with expenses. The evening massed bands will also be continued next year if we can arrange more commitments. We will also be negotiating for an increase in remunerations to bands for this feature.

The Caledonian Society have indicated their willingness to offer trophies to second place bands next year, also drumming in each grade.

The "Stewart Trophy" will be displayed at Seagrams Head Office till next year. This was the wish of the Grade I champions before their departure.

DON'T FORGET THE GENERAL MEETING

OCTOBER 15, 1972

LEGION HALL - 6th & Commercial

Notices now in mail.

See you there.

J. Lang,
President,
Western Pipe Band Association.

Band Chatter

Two members of the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band are travelling around Europe for a few months. Piper Laurie Robson and tenor drummer Janet Abel will spend the winter visiting as many European countries as possible and they hope to spend Christmas in Edinburgh. Since Laurie is a member of the Association we hope she will find the time to drop us a line before they return home next spring.

Burnaby Ladies' won "C" class bands at Nelson during the Labour Day weekend.

The Innes Tartan Pipe Band was warmly welcomed during their stay in Vancouver as they were hosted on different evenings by Triumph Street, Port Moody and the Seaforths.

In the continuing story of the globetrotting V.L.P.B. members, Janice Taylor, Heather MacInnes and ex-band member Robyn Quackenbush have just returned from Hawaii.

Band members were kept busy during the P.N.E.'s two weeks as most bands took part in the "March of the Hundred Pipers" sponsored by Seagrams. The Innes Tartan Pipe Band from New Zealand was the featured attraction.

Aileen Arnott, a piper for the V.L.P.B., won a first in open dancing at the Portree Highland Games in Scotland.

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Fall Dance

The V.L.P.B. are having a fall dance on October 28th at the Scottish Auditorium, 12th & Fir from 9-1 o'clock. Tickets can be obtained by phoning 435-5998 or at the door. \$2.00 per person. B.Y.O.B.

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Portree Games

Open piping: Pibroch (Dunvegan Medal) - 1. Iain MacFadyen, Glasgow; 2. W. Macdonald, Benbecula; 3. Patrick Moland, Brittany.

March: 1. John Burgess, Edinburgh; 2. Iain MacFadyen; 3. Donald Morrison.

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION SCHEDULE

1972 - 1973

Competitions will be held in the Gymnasium of the Seaforth Armoury, 1650 Burrard Street, Vancouver, at 8:00 p.m. SHARP.

NOTE: ALL COMPETITORS IN ALL CLASSES MUST SUBMIT A COPY OF THE SETTING OF THE TUNE HE INTENDS TO PLAY. The music must be presented to the judge just prior to competing. COMPETITORS NOT COMPLYING WITH THIS RULE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO COMPETE.

DATE	NOVICE	JUVENILE	JUNIOR	OPEN AMATEUR
Oct. 20		Old Highland Airs		Hornpipe
Nov. 17	<u>Section 1</u> Old Highland Airs		Marches	
Dec. 15		Strathspey & Reel		Jigs
Jan. 12	<u>Section 2</u> Old Highland Airs		Strathspey & Reel	
Feb. 16		6/8 March		Piobaireachd
Mar. 16	<u>Section 1</u> * March		Jigs	
Apr. 13		March		March, Strathspey & Reel
May 18	<u>Section 2</u> * March		Piobaireachd	
June 15	Novice Finals at Ceilidh	Ceilidh	Ceilidh	Ceilidh

* Note: Novice March may play 6/8, 2/4, 3/4, 9/8 - any time.
ALL COMPETITORS MUST ATTEND CEILIDH TO RECEIVE PERFECT ATTENDANCE PIN.

ENTRY FORM FOR BI-MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

Name

Address.....

Class.....

Only one entry form necessary for Bi-Monthly year.

Entry fee: \$1.00 for novice
\$2.00 for all others

All entry forms to be mailed to:

Bi-Monthly Secretary
Mrs. R. B. Swanson
8363 Shaughnessy St.
Vancouver 14, B.C.

by OCTOBER 13th, 1972

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PROMOTIONS UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM

Novice to Juvenile

Robert Bruce McIntosh
Grant Wilkie
Kim Walker
Stephen Shipley
Alan Wilson
Mardelle Rowell
Ashley Stewart
Gail Burnett
Terry Ray
Steve Ramsden
Ruth Tremaine
Doony McNeil
Kellie Sutton
Ronald Tait
Bill Wishart
Mike Guillemin
Rob Cross
Howie Speer
Ember Stewart
Terry Raymond
Chuck Zittel
Warren Fells

Juvenile to Junior

Wade Calder
Jean Laurie
Robbie McNeil
James Wright
Gordon Lyle
Gail Dawson
Blake Keen

Junior to Amateur

Drew Heggie
Doug Sommerville
Alison Palmer
Stewart Reid
Pat Dawson
Allan MacLeod
Eloise Roane

Pipers in all classes are reminded that they may move up at any time to a higher class but having done so they may not move back. The people listed must of course move up to the next class.

