

FALL 2002

B.C. PIPERS' ASSOCIATION
Newsletter



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the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
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Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations



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B.C. Pipers' Association
Newsletter

FALL 2002
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SUBMISSIONS FOR NEXT ISSUE
DUE
December 31, 2002

B.C. PIPERS' ASSOCIATION Newsletter



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FALL 2002

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On the cover

Shown on the cover are BCPA Grand Aggregate Champions and their trophies. See page 30-31 for details of trophy winners. Photos by Bob Dunsire, Darlene Lewis-Chin, Iain MacDonald, Rob MacNeil, Neil Macpherson, Jan Mattock, Bob McIlwaine, Ian Nelson.

All submissions become property of the BCPA. Submissions are subject to editing for length, grammar, tone, and taste, and may be reserved for a future issue due to space constraints.

LETTERS

Dear Editor:

A Tribute To Arran Campbell and the Scottish Community

It has been an incredible gift to be the parents of Arran Campbell for almost 19 years. What a remarkable journey he has taken us on. Arran has taught us so much about life. He has shown how important it is to celebrate one's culture, to go after your dreams through strong determination, to build friendships at all age levels, and to give back to the community in a supportive and nurturing role. He made a difference. At times, it felt as if we were hanging on tightly to his shirt tails, but often we were at his side, travelling to many parts of the world. And when we couldn't be with him, others stepped in.

It is with our deepest gratitude that we wish to thank the Scottish Community both in the Okanagan and on the Coast. Our son was influenced by the best people in the world. From the moment we arrived in Los Angeles after his tragic accident, so many showed their concern and bathed us in an outpouring of love. Callum Hannah, who never left our side; Kate and Joe Foley, who offered their home to Arran; Seumas Coyne, who brought pipe band CDs for Arran to listen to at the hospital; Forest Cormany, who brought Arran back home to us; the Los Angeles Police Department Pipe Band, who played at Arran's service at Huntington Beach; Sgt. Bruce Bogstad, who arranged for the L.A. City Council to share two minutes of silence in Arran's memory; Ian Whitelaw, who came to visit Arran with his daughter, Shannon, and offered to billet our family; Bill Saul, who has known Arran since he was 6 years old and flew down from San Francisco to see his friend.

Upon our arrival back in Canada, we were overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from friends, relatives, the Okanagan and Vernon Communities, the Kalamalka Highlanders Pipe Band, the Kelvern Celtic Society, and the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band. Our close friend, Tom Skinner, and sister, Andrea Malysh, helped to make Arran's "Celebration of Life" in April, a truly joyful occasion. The pipes and drums never sounded so good!

Arran's mentor, J. Reid Maxwell, and the SFU Pipe Band honoured our youngest son on three memorable occasions. At his service in Vernon, the band led the family out of the Church with one of Arran's favourites— "Blackie MacLeod". This tune eventually became the SFU starting tune for their Medley at the World Championships in August. At Piping Hot Summer Drummer in July, almost two hundred participants wore black T-shirts this year in Arran's memory. The band put on a wonderful recital for our family at Silver Star Mountain. Finally, on September 28 at the new Vernon Performing Arts Centre, the SFUPB joined Isla St. Clair from Scotland to create a benefit concert full of energy and love for Arran. The lone drum on the stage during the Fanfare was a touching reminder of his spirit. Terry and Jack Lee, along with

Reid and the rest of the SFU band put on such a performance that it will be talked about by Okanagan residents for many years to come.

The saying, "It takes a village to raise a child," has very personal and new meaning for us. We have been so lucky to have Arran raised in the Scottish Community here, in Vancouver, in Los Angeles, and around the world. We celebrate this incredible family and say "thank you" from the bottom of our hearts.

Sincerely and with fondest memories,

Don and Lois Campbell

..... and your soul will never fade away, you'll live forever when the pipers' play



Lois Campbell, Isla St. Clair and Don Campbell
at the Benefit Concert in Vernon.

B.C. Pipers' Association

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Materials appearing in this Newsletter
do not necessarily reflect the opinions of
the Editor or the BC Pipers' Association.

EDITORIAL

Sustained Leadership in Current Times

The last half of this year marks several notable anniversaries for peers and bands of our Association. Pipe Major Terry Lee of the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band marked his twenty-fifth consecutive year as leader of the organization. In leadership longevity for bands in our Association, his tenure ranks up there with P/M Ed Esson of the Seaforth Highlanders Pipe Band and P/M Bruce Topp of the Delta Police Pipe Band (28 years), P/M John Gillies of the Seaforth Highlanders Pipe Band and P/M Dave Westie of the Powell River Pipe Band (26 years), and P/M James W. Troy of the City of Victoria Pipe Band and P/M Archie McAffer of the Maple Ridge Legion Pipe Band (over 22 years). Also, the MacRae family of Seattle contributed three generations of Pipe Majors to the Washington Scottish Pipe Band for many decades.

On the drumming front, L/D Reid Maxwell of SFU celebrated his 10th anniversary with the band, joining L/Ds of other competition bands such as Colin Magee (13 years with City of Victoria), Davie Bruce (11 years with Port Moody) and Willie McErlean (11 years with Triumph Street) in this club. The record for longevity here appears to be L/D Bud March of the Seaforths (18 years) and L/D Gwen Collins of the Vancouver Ladies (14 years).

Also this summer and fall observed the 30th anniversaries of the formation of the Grade 1 bands of Triumph Street and City of Victoria and the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band. These people and organizations have had a profound effect on the pipe band scene, some in their own communities and some on the world stage.

There are many others across our jurisdiction who have not been in leadership positions but who have dutifully served pipe bands for even longer years. To these people, we tip our glens for they are as important to the prosperity of their organizations.

However, it is the people at the top who ultimately determine the success of the organization. It has been said that the definition of leader is a person who can bring people to heights they could not achieve by themselves. Leaders have a vision of what they want to achieve, believe in it strongly, and are willing to endure the “thrill of victory and agony of defeat” on the way toward achieving their goals. But the most important part of a great leader is his/her ability to frame their vision and goals in terms that members can easily see as their own and take on with equal zeal.

When one looks at great leaders in our genre of music, you will find that they have specifically thought out and planned their life around their life goals. Their work, family life, and social activities are all determined to support the journey toward achievement of these life goals. However, it is their key ability to galvanize members behind common goals that present continuing and increasing challenges that enables the process of working toward life goals to propagate to each one of their members. Longevity for great leaders (and subsequently long-time members of an organization) is never a pursuit; it is the by-product of knowing that your life's work is not yet complete.

People want to be a part of a successful organization because they feel their individual efforts contribute in a real way to something of lasting significance, be it material or social. Their definition of success might be competition winnings, major contributions to communities, or advancement in the personal development of people. What people see in a successful organization is actually the vision of the leadership at work, multiplying through its members.

In a time when many people in society lament the lack of great leaders and leadership, be thankful that great leadership relevant to you may be as close as your band practise hall.

The North American Championships

Perspectives on a Return after 20 Years

By Rob MacNeil

It was July 1982 when I was last at the North American Championships. That year with the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band we won the Grade 1 event, our first international competition. That day was not a particularly good one weather-wise. I remember having lunch under the grandstands as the rain poured down. Thankfully, the weather cleared for the contest.

So it was with a great deal of nostalgia that on stepping off the bus on the hot Friday afternoon, Reid Maxwell and I strolled around the Games site, remarking what was the same and what had changed from that day twenty years ago. Back then Reid was the Lead Drummer of the 78th Fraser Highlanders and that day marked the start of each band leapfrogging the other in championship contests in the race to become the first non-Scottish band to win the Worlds.

Competitor-wise, Maxville is the largest Highland Games in North America, and the fact that it is held in Canada should be a sign to Highland Games in BC that successful Games can take place on this side of the border. The Friday events are devoted to the senior professional events such as the Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal and Clasp (Canada), March, Strathspey and Reel, and the Former Winners MSR. These events took place just off the Games site. However, at the Games site there was a moderate amount of people, swelling to significant numbers for the evening Tattoo at which SFU performed.

The Saturday morning events clearly showed the dominance of the piping and drumming. There were 22 platforms in use and the highland dancing, while in front of the grandstand, hardly appeared significant. I arrived early to observe the events and was called upon by Bob Allen, President of the Pipers and Pipe Band Society of Ontario (PPBSO), to fill in for an adjudicator who couldn't judge because of an urgent work situation. I adjudicated a section of the Grade 3 Strathspey & Reel. The PPBSO music requirements for this event were 2 parts of strathspey and 2 parts of reel, which is a lesser requirement than the BCPA and ANAPBA Common Solo Music requirements. I was pleased to hear a standard of play comparable to the Grade 3 on our circuit, indicating that grading decisions are reasonably harmonized between the two associations (at least for this grade). Almost half of the competitors played 2 parts of 4 part tunes; my impression is that they could play the remaining parts just as well.

The PPBSO requires adjudicators to include points on the critique sheets and to include these points and rankings on a master sheet that is posted. Many years ago, the BCPA eliminated points on sheets with the idea that competitors (and adjudicators) would focus on the comments not the numbers. These two different methods of posting results illustrate the particular emphasis that each association's adjudication committee places on the "full disclosure" of an event's result.

The Professional Strathspey & Reel and Jig events were adjudicated in a way that I had not seen before. In front of the same adjudicator (Willie Connell), each competitor played their S&R event, stopped and after a brief re-tuning played their Jig event. Kudos to the adjudicator who can simultaneously manage the adjudications of two events.



Maxville Panorama

With an entry of 72 bands, the band events ran in four arenas. The Grade 2 Medley and both Grade 1 events were in an arena with stands on three sides, very close to the competition circle. With the large number of bands, the massed bands enter the main field in sections, each section playing different tune sets. Each pipe band association uses different massed band tunes and it is refreshing to hear these tunes when competing in other associations. The PPBSO has a particularly long list of tunes to draw from, breaking the monotony for bands in their association.

Like the Canmore Games in Alberta, Maxville has a huge beer tent that was packed right after massed bands. But that wasn't the only place to have a brew afterward. There was a separate building that served as an after Games reception centre for volunteers, officials and dignitaries. And it too was packed. It is very obvious that these Games know how to unwind and have a good time after the prizes. While this is mainly due to the fact that most bands attending these Games travel from a distance and stay overnight, we don't see this willingness to "ceilidh" at out of town Games on the Pacific Northwest circuit.

It is interesting to see how a Games like this is run as a business. The Tattoo was a very professional, diverse and entertaining show. The souvenir program was comprehensive and colourful. There were lots of food vendors catering to a wide variety of tastes. There was a buffet lunch for all competing band members. The opening and closing massed bands were well coordinated. And the atten-

tion to government programs and VIPs is obvious. The grandstand sports the well-recognized "Canada" logo, showing that some federal funding was obtained. A look through the program lists the chieftains of the day since inception and it is full of prominent Canadians, cabinet ministers and prime ministers.

Overall, a truly great Highland Games, a model for many others.



Simon Fraser University Pipe Band
North American Champions

Results of the Senior Professional Events at Maxville

Gold Medal

1. James McHattie
2. Andrew Hayes
3. Robert Crabtree
4. Andrew Rogers
5. Jori Chisholm

Open MSR

1. James McHattie
2. Jori Chisholm
3. Andrew Douglas
4. Andrew Bonar
5. Ken McKeveny

Former Winners Piobaireachd

1. Jack Lee
2. Iain Macey
3. Matthew Turnbull

Former Winners MSR

1. Jack Lee
2. Iain Macey
3. Matthew Turnbull

North American Championship

Grade 1

1. Simon Fraser University
2. Toronto Police
3. City of Washington
4. Peel Regional Police
5. 78th Highlanders (Halifax)

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from the
PRESIDENT

The following is the text of out-going President Kim Smith-Jones' message to the Annual General Meeting on November 9.

First off, I would like to thank the board members, the committees, the stewards and other volunteers for their efforts this past year. Although it may not seem like it, I want you to know that the countless hours, the endless meetings, and the hard work that must be put in to organize and run an association of this size, does not go unnoticed. I would also like to congratulate the solo players and bands on their success this past summer. I know, only too well, the sacrifice and commitment required to be competitive in this "hobby" of ours.

The BCPA has instituted a number of new rules, regulations, and guidelines. Many of these have been worked on for the past couple of years, and now are being implemented. The Board has, to its best efforts, communicated these to the membership. Still, I encourage every member to take responsibility and review the bylaws, rules & regulations, and to understand how they affect you or the band you play in.

The BCPA continues to take an active role in the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations (ANAPBA). ANAPBA was formed as a tool for the piping associations in North America to communicate and share information. It has taken on the role of suggesting standards of play in piping, drumming and pipe bands, and has encouraged the implementation of Music, Grading & Adjudication Committees within each organization. I was fortunate to be able to attend the ANAPBA summit in Toronto this past January. What became abundantly clear from the presidents/representatives in attendance, was the need to keep each organization's individuality.

I will not be running for President again this year. I have served on the Board since 1991, and have been fortunate to work with a number of dedicated musicians and volunteers.

-continued on page 10

BOARD NOTES

Mary MacKinnon steps down as Recording Secretary

At her request last year, Mary MacKinnon has stepped down as the Recording Secretary for the Association effective with the election of new Directors this year. Mary will continue to be the Games Secretary for all BCPA sponsored competitions.

Mary has served as Recording Secretary for over twenty years and her home has been the Association's "Board Room" during this time. The Board is very grateful for her service in this role and appreciates her interest in continuing to serve as Games Secretary.

Annual Gathering Invited Adjudicators

The Association is pleased to announce that Bill Livingstone, Chris Armstrong, and Gordon Brown will be the invited adjudicators at the Annual Gathering April 18 and 19, 2003 and will perform in concert on the Friday evening.

Bill Livingstone of Whitby, Ontario is recognized as the Canadian pioneer in competitive solo piping and bands, winning the Gold Medal and Clasp at Inverness, the Gold Medal and Senior Piobaireachd at Oban and numerous championship prizes in light music and piobaireachd throughout North America. Under his leadership the 78th Fraser Highlanders won the Grade 1 World Pipe Band Championship in 1987.

Chris Armstrong of Bathgate, Scotland is Scotland's fastest rising piping star, having won the "A" Marches, "A" Strathspeys & Reels, and Former Winners MSR at Oban and the "A" MSR all before age 23! He is also a prolific composer and has produced two best selling albums "Notes in Ma Heid" and "Quantum Leap". For several years he was Pipe Sergeant of the Grade 2 Torphichen and Bathgate Pipe Band.

Gordon Brown is the Lead Drummer of the Grade 1 Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band and son of the legendary Tom Brown. He is the current World Solo Drumming Champion, also having won the title several years earlier. In 2001, he led the band to the World Drum Corps Championship. Gordon and his father run a large and very successful drumming instruction business.

Meeting on Future Plan for the Trust Account

On October 5, ten members attended a meeting held to develop a future plan for the Trust Account. The resulting recommendations were on the following themes:

- The BCPA Bylaws should be revised to restructure the Trust Account as an endowment, with a defined purpose and a name to reflect the purpose.
- A defined amount should be drawn each year from the endowment for the Association to grant to piping and drumming education projects and scholarships, advancement of the Annual Gathering, and special projects promoting the art of piping, drumming and bands. For the fiscal year 2003, up to \$10,000 for these purposes should be made available, subject to establishment of the programs and guidelines by the Board.
- Information should be annually provided to the membership on the progress of the endowment, the distribution of the funds, and the resulting benefits.
- An annual fund raising campaign for the endowment should be established to encourage donations, including planned giving
- Submissions to private foundations and government agencies should be made to obtain grants to support education initiatives of the Association and augment the activities supported by funds from the endowment

Other initiatives suggested were to expand the Annual Gathering into a major indoor Scottish event by partnering with highland dancing associations and other Scottish associations, planning and developing a Centre for piping and drumming, and developing education and training programs through workshops, night schools, scholarships, etc.

Pilot run of Grade 5 for Bands

The Board has approved a pilot run in 2003 for a new grade for entry level bands (composed of beginner pipers and drummers be they youth or adults). The grade will be designated "Grade 5" and the music requirements for Grade 5 will be a Quick Marches Medley (2 minutes 45 seconds to 4 minutes 30 seconds of Quick Marches).

The grade will be first offered at the Annual Gathering next year and at some Highland Games, at their preference. If two or less bands enter in Grade 5 at a competition then the Grade 5 bands will compete in the Grade 4 event (still playing their QMM music) and the best Grade 5 band will be announced during the prize givings. Next fall, the Board and the Highland Games will determine whether to make Grade 5 an official grade for bands.

Special General Meeting

At a special general meeting on November 9, members passed the following motions:

- That the first sentence of Bylaw 7.2 be amended to read as follows: "The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President and a minimum of 6 to a maximum of 9 directors."
- That the first sentence of Bylaw 7.9.4 be amended to read as follows: "A director may participate in a meeting of the Board by means of any communications means permitted under the British Columbia Society Act provided that a majority of directors participating in a Board meeting agree to such participation."
- That Bylaw 17 be added to the Bylaws to read as follows: "All complaints made by members must be in writing and signed, and handed or mailed to the Secretary. Such complaints shall be dealt with by the Board of Directors at their next meeting after receipt of same. The Board of Directors shall not be called upon to take notice of any complaint made to any member of the Board or to the Association or other officer otherwise than as herein provided."

Annual General Meeting

At the Annual General Meeting on November 9, the following Directors were elected by acclamation: Andrew Bonar, David Bruce, Alex Galloway, Bob McIlwaine, Robert N. MacLeod, Rob MacNeil, Colin McWilliams, Bill Meston, Duncan Millar and Dan Weeks. At the first meeting of the new Board of Directors on November 17, the following appointments were made: President Rob MacNeil, Vice-President Robert MacLeod, Secretary Duncan

Millar, Treasurer David Bruce. Kimberly Smith-Jones assumes the position of Immediate Past President on the Board.

The new Board has restructured its meetings to be quarterly and to be focussed on long-term planning and shorter term issues requiring directors resolution. All other Association business will be handled by individual members or new committees. The new organizational structure of the Association will be published in the next issue.

Portland Highland Games as BCPA Sanctioned Competition

Following a meeting in Seattle on November 2, the BCPA and Portland Highland Games Association are pleased to report that resolution has been achieved on issues that enable the Portland Highland Games to be a BCPA sanctioned competition next year and on resources and services to be provided by the BCPA to assist the Portland Highland Games and other Highland Games in advancing piping, drumming and pipe band competitions. The BCPA is grateful to Michael Martin of the Keith Highlanders Pipe Band for making space available at their practise facility for this meeting.

Promotions

The Board is pleased with the transition to the new competitor promotions system, part of the harmonization of competitor grading across North America. There were a few cases where instructors of competitors not included in the annual promotions list exercised their option to submit a promotions request on behalf of their students. The Grading Committee has promptly reviewed and processed these requests.

ANAPBA meeting

President Rob MacNeil and Adjudication Committee Chair Duncan Millar will be representing the BCPA at the fourth summit of the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations in Atlanta January 10-12, 2003.

Among the issues to be addressed will be finalization of recommendations for an Adjudicator Certification and Professional Development Program and further recommendations on harmonizing solo and band competition rules.

Call for Revisions to Competition Rules and Bylaws

Members who would like to propose changes to the BCPA competition rules and bylaws should submit their recommended changes to secretary@bcpipers.org by February 1, 2003.

From the President continued

Last year there were a number of new Board members elected and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge their contributions to a busy year. However, I would also like to thank those who built this organization. It is their efforts that have opened the gates to the successes this organization is enjoying today. To individuals like Mary MacKinnon, Angus Macpherson, Bill and Sharyn Elder who have spent endless hours on the Annual Gathering, Mini Gatherings, and Knock-outs. To the competitors Hal Senyk, Jamie Troy, and Jack Lee who started a legacy of success that continues today. To pipe bands that set BC standards, fostering the legacy of World Championships and titles held in BC today: Port Moody, Triumph Street, City of Victoria, and Vancouver Ladies. To incredibly talented teachers like James McMillan, Fred Brodie, Malcolm Nicholson and Jimmy Wilson.

Perhaps it is the relative proximity in date to Remembrance Day, but it seems to me fitting that we take this opportunity to remember the history of BCPA, and those that gave their dedication to it.

Bonnie Ridout - Newsletter Design and Layout

With this issue, Bonnie Ridout joins the Newsletter Team on design and layout. Many members will know Bonnie through her children, piper Kirstin and drummer Kali. Bonnie takes over from Melissa Maxwell, who for three years brought a new and refreshing look to the publication. Melissa will continue to create Newsletter covers and provide occasional design ideas to keep the Newsletter a visually interesting read.



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for coming events around the region
including Burns Dinners

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Keith Highlanders Pipe Band Adventure in Scotland

By Darlene Lewis-Chinn



The Keith Highlanders Pipe Band (KHPB) of Seattle, Washington spent the first two weeks of August in Scotland. The band had three purposes for this trip: celebrate the band's 50th anniversary, perform for events at the Clan Keith's 1000th anniversary, and compete at the World Championships. The band contingent included fifteen pipers, eleven drummers, one

drum major, eight dancers from the Marian Webb School of Highland Dance and over twenty family members participated in this fantastic trip filled with performances, competition and sightseeing.

The KHPB has a unique relationship with a Scottish clan in that the band is the official pipe band of the Clan Keith and the band has had a relationship with the last four Earls of Kintore, who are the Chiefs of the Clan Keith. In 2000, Lord Kintore invited the band to participate in the Clan's 1000th Anniversary and international clan gathering planned for early August 2002. After deliberation with the band members and our partners at the Marian Webb School of Highland Dance to determine viability of taking this much time from work and families, the band decided to participate in the Clan Keith events and World Championships as part of the band's 50th anniversary celebration.

The Clan Keith 1000th anniversary celebration and international clan gathering was conducted 31 July to 4 August 2002 in Aberdeenshire. Several hundred clan members from Scotland, United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand attended this event. The KHPB performed in parades, concerts and social events with the Clan Keith under the leadership of P/ M Greg MacDonald and Band President Michael Martin.



KHPB at Peterhead

The band led the Lord and Countess of Kintore and members of Clan Keith in parades in Inverugie Castle and Peterhead. This included a ceremony in which Lord Kintore received a "Scroll of Association" from the Peterhead city council as Lord Kintore's ancestors founded the village of Peterhead. The band also led the Keith contingent to a dedication of a new Keith Cairn in Inverurie that is dedicated to the 1000 years of this clan. This cairn has a time capsule that will be inserted into it and clan members provided mementos for this box; the KHPB submitted photographs of the band and a copy of the recently published book on the fifty-year history of the KHPB for inclusion in the time capsule.

During this time, the band also conducted concert performances at: (1) Dunnottar Castle near Stonehaven, (2) Keith Hall in Inverurie, including a solo piper performance from the ramparts of the Hall, (3) Rickarton House near Stonehaven to commemorate the dedication of a plaque the band presented in 1997 to the memory of the late 12th Earl of Kintore, (4) The Stables in Inverurie (on the grounds of the home of the current Earl of Kintore) and (5) Drum Castle near Banchory (Clan Irvine's hereditary castle).



KHPB at Dunnattor Castle

Other social events in which the band participated included a barbecue at the Keith Hall estate in Inverurie and the Clan Keith's Annual Gathering Meeting and dinner at Inverurie Town Hall. At a formal dinner at the University of Aberdeen, the entertainment included Scottish Country Dancing. Luckily, the Countess of Kintore had advised the band in advance of this event so the band learned four dances (Marian Webb patiently provided us with instruction). The Scots were truly amazed when the entire band and dancers from the USA participated in these dances! The band also visited the Kinneff Old Church and heard a special lecture about how the Scottish Regalia were taken in the 1651 from the besieged Dunnottar Castle and saved from capture by the English forces by being hidden in the floor of the church.

On 3 August, the band participated in the Aboyne Highland Games. Scotland has apparently had the wettest summers in fifty years and this was the only performance day that we really experienced the rain - we had to wear our Inverness Capes all day. The pipe bands started the Highland Games in the morning by marching through the village to the Games site (the bands left the starting point at five minute intervals). KHPB were the last of the six bands to march into the Games gates and it was thrilling to be received so warmly by the village and other bands. Four times during the afternoon, the massed bands marched around the Games arena where the grassy arena turned into a gigantic mud hole, while solo piping competition took place less than ten feet away and athletic events were ongoing in the center of the arena, adding to the excitement, chaos - and danger! The Marquis of Huntly was the Chieftain of the Games and the Drum Majors for the massed bands saluted him during each pass-by. At 3:00pm, the KHPB performed in front of the grandstand and the exuberant crowd spoke volumes about the concert (the rain even stopped for most of our concert).

While the band was at the Aboyne Highland Games, our Highland dancers went to a dance competition near Inverness. All but one of the eight dancers placed at this event and one dancer also was the aggregate winner in her grade. We were quite proud of all of their accomplishments.

The finale for the Clan Keith events was the signing of a peace agreement as a symbol of atonement between the Clan Keith and Clan Irvine. Although friendly in modern history, these two clans started fighting over 600 years ago. At the Park Bridge over the



KHPB at Glasgow Green

River Dee at Keith's Muir near Drumoak, a site near the start of this feud, the KHPB led over two hundred members of the Clan Keith on a half-mile march to the bridge. The Clan Irvine was already gathered on the bridge and could not see our approach. They could hear the KHPB and when we rounded a hill above the bridge the Clan Irvine saw quite a large Clan Keith crowd approach and stop short of the bridge. Clan Irvine's lone piper led their Chief to the center of the bridge. This was followed by a lone KHPB piper leading the Chief of Clan Keith to the bridge, marching from around the hilltop down to the bridge and through the center ranks of the band. The Marquis of Huntly then witnessed the signing of the peace agreement. Later that evening, a dinner was held at Coe Cathedral near Aboyne with the Clan Keith and Clan Irvine. Entertainment by a small fiddle orchestra resulted in more Scottish country dancing by the Clan Keith, Clan Irvine and KHPB.

Following these Clan Keith events, the band had a few days of sightseeing. Most of the band did a bus tour seeing castles, historical sights and the vistas along the route through Inverness, the Isle of Skye, Fort William and Glasgow. Their tour also included attending the Military Tattoo in Edinburgh. A few other band members spent this time in Edinburgh and a few others went to the Isle of Skye Highland Games at Portree and the Silver Chanter Piobaireachd Competition at Dunvegan Castle. During this time, everyone continued daily practice of the tunes we would perform at World Championships.

Everyone rendezvoused in Glasgow on 9 August and did final preparations and tuning for the World Championships on 10 August. The day of Worlds turned out to be sunny! There were approximately 220 bands and over 7000 pipers and drummers at this

event. As this was our first time to compete at Worlds and a majority of our drum corps had only been playing drums for two years, our primary goal was to qualify for the final. There were forty-two bands competing in Grade 4B and six bands from each of the two heats went into the final. We competed at Glasgow Greens for our Marches Selection at 10:10am and we all felt quite positive about our strong performance. After we marched out of the arena, we were greeted with additional applause from family members and friends. To our surprise, the Lord and Countess of Kintore also came to the event to support us and hear us compete.

By 11:00am, the results of the Grade 4B were announced. We were ecstatic when KHPB was named as one of the twelve bands in the final and we had reached our primary goal! With a new set of judges, we competed in the final at 1:40pm and felt we performed even better than our morning competition. During the day, it was also a super experience to be able to observe and cheer for the other three Pacific Northwest bands that were competing: Simon Fraser University, Robert Malcolm Memorial Grade II, and Maple Ridge. KHPB was one of sixty bands invited to participate in the massed bands event in the center arena at 5:00pm where everyone learned the results of the day's competitions. KHPB received 5th place in our qualifying heat and 11th place overall out of forty-two bands in Grade 4B. We knew we did superb performances in the qualifying heat and final round of which we were quite proud.

Overall, the trip was a huge success and a lot of fun. Our performances in Aberdeenshire made the Clan Keith events quite special and afforded us the opportunity to perform at many historic locations and events. Participating at the World Championships was an absolutely incredible experience in a venue that is full of energy and enthusiasm. Key elements to our musical preparation for this trip included lots of individual practice, additional competition band practice sessions almost each week for the past two years and obtaining tutoring from Jori Chisholm and Duncan Millar. The instruction these two gentlemen provided has been extremely beneficial and their assistance and encouragement at the World Championships was invaluable. The band members and our Highland dancers returned from Scotland highly motivated about our next performances and competitions.

(Editor's note: Copies of the book on the Keith Highlanders Pipe Band are available for purchase from the band. Contact Darlene at darlenlc@attbi.com)

NIGEL ALAKIJA

By Jan Mattock

Profile of a great teacher and a most unusual human being.



If the mark of a fine teacher is the success of his students, Nigel Alakija is one fine teacher. For thirty years he taught piping, piobaireachd included, to very many students of school age. He not only taught them, but he transported, maybe eight at a time to the various B.C. Pipers competitions in his van, billeted them out in different homes in

Vancouver, tuned them and encouraged them to play well. And they did. He then packed them up in his van with their medals in hand and drove them back to Penticton. Then the whole process started again. He derived particular pleasure seeing them do well, and was encouraged to keep them going, which he did. And they kept him going! This major undertaking happened several times a year.

What kind of a background gave Nigel the depth of personality to make young pipers play a plane above their peers?

Nigel Alakija was born in Glasgow, but did not know his parents. He was brought up by the Cameron family who owned a farm just out of town. He was expected to work for his keep and did so for all of his childhood. His work ethic was established very early and it has been a boon to all his students of piping. Mr. Cameron eventually retired and moved to Inverness where, at about twelve years of age, Nigel was introduced to bagpipes by playing with the Boy Scout Band and taking Pipe lessons from Jimmy Grigor who was with the Legion band in Inverness. He was verrra, verrra strict! He expected the music to be played correctly and Nigel did so. Anyone who has been taught by Nigel knows that the discipline learned as a young man has carried over into his work with many young pipers. He was greatly influenced by Pipe Major Donald MacLeod.

Eventually, the Boy Scout Band folded and Nigel attended the College of Piping in Glasgow for seven years. He was taught by the famous John MacFadyen and, of course, Pipe Major Donald MacLeod, who he says were even more strict! He and Gladys were married in the late sixties, and decided to leave the constant rain of Scotland and take up residence in Dauphin, Manitoba, probably the driest place in Manitoba or anywhere else! In Dauphin, Nigel took over the Canadian Legion Pipe Band, formerly run by Jeannie Harker who was pipe major of the once famous Heather Bells Pipe

Band of Winnipeg. While there, he taught pipes and among his students was Garth Neel who won the Marches event in Inverness about 1978.

Having had enough of the “dry” in Dauphin, the young family left for the beautiful Okanagan and decided to live in Penticton.

During all this time, he was teaching his children, which, he says, may or may not work. He came to realize that if his young students could not play piobaireachd, they would not fare as well in competition. Never at a loss, Nigel contacted his old mentor, Pipe Major Donald MacLeod who just happened to be teaching at the Saskatchewan School of Music (Fort San) that summer. Donald MacLeod taught Nigel and his daughter, Pauline, at the same time, continuing for many years after he had gone back to Scotland. Nigel has in his possession dozens of tapes sent by the Pipe Major for teaching. His first piobaireachd was “My King Has Landed in Moidart”. From then on, piobaireachd was included in his classes. While doing a lot of teaching, he was also leading the City of Penticton Pipe Band.

During this time, Nigel’s profile in the piping community was climbing. He began to judge piping competitions and has now become a sought after judge known for his fairness and willingness to speak to competitors if they would like to do so. He also declines to become involved in the politics of piping.

Nigel believes that it is not necessary to be a top player to be a good teacher. It is only necessary to be disciplined and expect the music to be played correctly. This theory has worked for him with hundreds of students, his own three children included. They have all played at a higher level by being taught by Nigel Alakija.

Recently, he made an interesting and valuable discovery. Gladys located a cousin of Nigel’s mother. She is a 93 year old lady who has been able to fill in the blanks for him regarding his past since she knew both his mother and father. His mother is English-Scottish and his father is Nigerian. His tartan is Munro, because, as it turned out, his grandmother was a Munro from Stornaway, something he is very proud of. He has visited his mother’s cousin three times and has discovered a cousin in Birmingham.

At last, Nigel has discovered why piping is a part of him, and he has discovered a family he never knew existed. Nigel is still teaching and is very proud of Kristy and Cameron King who played with the 2001 World Pipe Band Juvenile Champions, The Robert Malcolm Memorial Pipe Band.

RSPBA Meeting Communique

By George Ussher and Al McMullin

Following this year's World Pipe Band Championships the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (RSPBA) hosted a meeting on Sunday August 11 between George Ussher, Chairman of the RSPBA, and Al McMullin, President of the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association and Chairman of the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations. This meeting was also attended by Robert MacNeil, Member of the Board of Directors, BC Pipers Association, Ciaran Mordaunt, Chairman of the Irish Pipe Band Association, Ian Embelton, Executive Officer, RSPBA and Kevin Reilly, Convenor of Marketing & Publications, RSPBA.



Apologies were received from Greg Gordon, President of the Australian Pipe Band Association, Bob Allen, President of the Pipers and Pipe Band Society of Ontario, Jenny Edmunson, Secretary of the Pipe Band Association of Southern Africa, Kevin Blandford, President of the Western United States Pipe Band Association, David Noga, President of the Saskatchewan Pipe Band Association, Paul McCormack, President of the Alberta Society of Pipers and Drummers, John Geddes, President of the Southern United States Pipe Band Association, Brian Hoel, President of the Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba.

The theme of the meeting was "The Future" and there was no set agenda.

Discussion took place on many issues concerning the organisations and agreement was made that we should all work toward closer co-operation. There are already many areas of commonality between our organisations and we must strive to increase that. The use of communication mediums such as the Internet must play an ever increasing role in making available every item of information. Printed record and news should be circulated throughout the World using the present structured association publications where possible.

It was agreed to set up direct lines of communication between the Officers of the various Associations so that issues can be quickly addressed and a close working relationship can be developed.

A further meeting is to be planned for August 2003 involving, where possible, representatives of all the known pipe band associations

throughout the World. This has been a very useful and productive meeting and should be looked on as the first step of a new and better future for Pipe Band co-operation throughout the World.

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SOLO COMPETITOR AND BAND PROMOTIONS FOR 2002/2003

At the conclusion of each summer competition season, the BCPA Music, Grading & Adjudication (MGA) Committee reviews the prizes won by bands and amateur pipers and drummers at the Mini-Gatherings, the Annual Gathering and the eight BCPA sanctioned highland games. The MGA committee recommendations for regrading competitors are presented to the BCPA Board of Directors for final approval.

With the BCPA Competition Rules revisions approved in March this year, the BCPA has begun implementation of a “continent grading standard” for solo competitors and a “world grading standard” for bands, as recommended by the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations (ANAPBA). This means that solo competitors and bands graded by the BCPA would be determined to be in the correct grade if assessed by other ANAPBA member associations (for solos) or by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (for bands).

Thus solo competitor promotions will be determined based on assessed ability to successfully compete (i.e. have a reasonable chance of winning some prizes) at the next grade level, not only in BCPA sanctioned competitions, but also in sanctioned competitions in other ANAPBA member associations. Band promotions will be determined based on the upper half standard of the grades at the World Pipe Band Championships.

Solo competitors and bands are not permitted to “self-promote” themselves to the next grade level. However, solo competitors and bands which have not been promoted may appeal the decision to the BCPA (secretary@bcpipers.org or fax 604-522-9697 or 6959 Halligan Street, Burnaby, BC, Canada, V5E 1R4) with a written letter from their private instructor/band leaders providing information and reasons as to why the competitor would meet the playing standard for the next grade level. Similarly, solo competitors and bands which have been promoted may appeal the decision to the BCPA with a written letter from their private instructor/band leaders providing information and reasons as to why the competitor would not meet the playing standard for the next grade level.

After careful review, the BCPA Board of Directors has approved the following promotions for 2002/2003.

SOLO PIPING

Beginner (on Chanter) to Grade 5

All pipers who played in Beginner (on chanter) to the maximum of 12 months

Grade 5 to Grade 4

Nicholas Henderson, Alastair Lee, Megan Angeltvedt, John Lee, Noel Keyes, Tomas Peralta, Scott McDermid, Graeme Pratt, Jessica Logan, Kyle Banta, David MacNeil

Grade 4 to Grade 3

Jessica Ibach, Andrew Hession, Ryan Angeltvedt, Callum Mathers, Brittney-Lynn Otto, Kevin MacNeil

Grade 3 to Grade 2

Robert-John Houston, Robb Scott, Josh McLaughlin, Jesse Bills, Shane Smith

Grade 2 to Grade 1

Colin Lee, Micah Babinski, Kirsten Mossington, Blair Stewart

Grade 1 to Professional

No promotions

SOLO SIDE DRUMMING

Beginner (on Drum Pad) to Grade 4

All side drummers who played in Beginner (on drum pad) to the maximum of 12 months

Grade 4 to Grade 3

Iain Mack, Alex Moscrip, Alanna MacRitchie, Lee Campese

Grade 3 to Grade 2

Cameron Reid

Grade 2 to Grade 1

Alexander Munro, Holly Tawse

Grade 1 to Professional

Grant Maxwell

SOLO TENOR DRUMMING

Grade 2 to Grade 1

James G. Marshall, Michael Dykes

BANDS

No promotions

October 25, 2002

The eleventh year of the Club got off to a fine musical start at the home of Ron & Eileen Sutherland. This is where it all began one wet November evening in 1990. Gathered around the table that evening were Jack Lee, Peter Aumonier, Duncan Fraser, Ron Sutherland and Ron MacLeod. The idea of a Piobaireachd Club was discussed and agreed to. The purpose of the Club would be to promote the playing of the great music in a relaxed setting for the enjoyment of players and their audience. Most particularly, the Club would create opportunity for young players to perform in a venue other than a competition.

Has the Club lived up to its purpose? A resounding YES. One of the great delights over the years has been to hear the many youngsters blowing away with a right good will and then to follow them as they hone their skills. A young Alan Bevan played Lament for Ronald MacDonald of Morar to open the first Club session on February 1st, 1991. Alan is now a proud new father and respected practitioner of the art of ceol mor.

Over the intervening years 107 different ceol mor have been played in 264 performances. The Battle of Auldearn is a favoured tune, having been played 8 times, followed by Lament for the Viscount Dundee and The King's Taxes (7 times) and Lament for Patrick Og MacCrimmon (5 times). Among the well-known guest players were Malcolm MacRae, Angus MaColl and Andrew Wright of Scotland, and, John MacKenzie of Australia.

The evening got off to an excellent start with performances by two young players. Elizabeth Dunsire played a tune heard for the first time at the Club, The Blind Piper's Obstinacy. Little is known about the origin of this tune that some ascribe to Iain Dall MacKay. If the composer was Iain Dall, it may have been inspired by the youthful incident in which he was driven by envious fellow learners at Borreraig to take a 20 foot leap off a rock. Fortunately, he was unharmed and lived to compose much great music over a very long life.

Andrew Lee followed with The Piper's Warning to his Master. The origin of this tune is also lost in the mists of time. It may well be, as some suggest, a salute that commemorates an incident that occurred during the siege of Dunyveg in 1649. If so, Alasdair MacColla, he of Auldearn, would have been involved and it may well be that it is a Macdonald tune.

Alan Bevan played a John Ban Mackenzie tune, Mrs. Smith's Salute. The lady is shrouded in mystery. It is known that she was a Highland lady who moved to Taymouth, the haunt of John Ban. It is also known that this handsome, strapping piper was a noted ladies man. All that can be said is that Mrs. Smith must have been very special to have such a fine tune dedicated to her.

Jack Lee played the Earl of Seaforth's Salute. His rendition was poetic and inspiring. One could hear the composer, Finlay Dubh MacRae, pleading with his master Earl William to come home from his exile in Spain, to cross the seas in his birlinn and take his rightful place in the life of his clan.

Ed McIlwaine closed the evening with Glengarry's March, a tune thought to be linked to the burning of the church of Chille Chriosd in 1603.

The date of the next meeting will be December 6 at the home of Randy & Lynn Bullis. Call Ron Sutherland at 604-988-0479 or Ron MacLeod at 604-538-5709 for information.

BC Piper's Annual Dinner

March 8, 2003

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The presence of many Inverness capes on the Sunday was one of the most unusual images of this year's Pacific Northwest Highland Games. Experiencing drizzly weather for the first time in memory, the Games carried on with good sized entries in solos and bands. The Games typically features adjudicators from Scotland and this year RSPBA adjudicator Jim Hutton handled the majority of the drumming events and bands while Iain MacCrimmon returned to the adjudicators circuit while on vacation for a couple months in western North America.



On Saturday, a couple platforms were late in getting started which caused the piping quartets to finish just minutes before the start of the noon massed bands. Lead Drum Major John Nichol and his attending drum majors again did a fine job in marshaling the bands for prompt opening and closing ceremonies.

Games Snapshot

Soloists: 178, *Bands:* 18

Weather: Overcast in the morning on Saturday clearing to hot sun in the afternoon. Overcast and drizzly all day on Sunday

Adjudicators: Jim Barrie, Rene Cusson, Dan Diessner, Dave Hicks, Terry Lee, Iain MacCrimmon, Angus Macpherson, Keith Paton, Jim Hutton, Duncan Millar

Grade 5 Piping

2/4 March "A"
1 Alastair Lee
2 Graeme Pratt
3 Tomas Peralta
4 MacKenzie Warren
5 Richard Bakuska

Slow Air "A"
1 Tomas Peralta
2 Graeme Pratt
3 Alastair Lee
4 Michael Gazeley-Romney

6/8 March "A"
1 Tomas Peralta
2 Alastair Lee
3 Nate Voelkel
4 Jessica Logan

Aggregate: Tomas Peralta

2/4 March "B"
1 Madeline Boyd
2 Megan Angelvtedt
3 Kyle Banta
4 Angus Martin
5 Dennis McCarthy

Slow Air "B"
1 Madeline Boyd
2 Scott McDermid
3 Megan Angelvtedt
4 Noel Keyes
5 Angus MacDonald

6/8 March "B"
1 Noel Keyes
2 Jack Voelkel
3 Megan Angelvtedt
4 David MacNeil
5 Tina Hamrick

Aggregate: Madeline Boyd

Grade 4 Piping

2/4 March "A"
1 Jessica Ibach
2 Scott Needham
3 Andrew Hession

Strathspey & Reel "A"

1 Andrew Hession
2 Jessica Ibach
3 Callum Mathers

Piobaireachd "A"

1 Andrew Hession
2 Jessica Ibach
3 Karen Dykes

Aggregate: Andrew Hession

2/4 March "B"

1 Ryan Angeltvedt
2 Cooper Sims
3 Brant Wayment
4 Brianne Boatman

Strathspey & Reel "B"

1 Kevin MacNeil
2 Ryan Angeltvedt
3 Brittany-Lynn Otto

Piobaireachd "B"

1 Brittany-Lynn Otto
2 Kevin MacNeil
3 Cecily Grant

Aggregate: Kevin MacNeil, Ryan Angeltvedt

Grade 3 Piping

2/4 March "A"
1 Robert-John Houston
2 Sean Van de Voorde
3 Patrick Case
4 Emerson Dodge

Strathspey & Reel "A"

1 Sean Van de Voorde
2 Robb Scott
3 Robert-John Houston
4 Patrick Case

Piobaireachd "A"

1 Josh McLaughlin
2 Robb Scott
3 Alexa L. Johnson

Jig "A"

1 Sean Van de Voorde
2 Josh McLaughlin
3 Robb Scott
4 Emerson Dodge

Aggregate: Sean Van de Voorde

2/4 March "B"

1 Jesse Bills
2 Shardaey Joy
3 Kaleena Matheson
4 Mark Mullaney

Strathspey & Reel "B"

1 Jesse Bills
2 Nicholas Glover
3 Shane Smith
4 Eric McAskill

Piobaireachd "B"

1 Shane Smith
2 Jesse Bills
3 Kaleena Matheson

Jig "B"

1 Turner Kirk
2 Shane Smith
3 Shardaey Joy
4 Jason Thomas

Aggregate: Jesse Bills

Grade 2 Piping

March, Strathspey & Reel

1 Micah Babinski
2 Colin Lee
3 Steven Anderson
4 Will Nichols

Piobaireachd

1 Neil Hubbard
2 Colin Lee
3 Alexander Gale
4 Matt Reid

Jig & Hornpipe

1 Peter Moran
2 Micah Babinski
3 Cameron King
4 Steven Anderson

Jig

1 Peter Moran
2 Cameron King
3 Ben Parsonson
4 Micah Babinski

Aggregate: Peter Moran

Grade 1 Piping

March, Strathspey & Reel

1 Blair Cooper
2 Elizabeth Dunsire
3 Andrew Lee
4 Drew Dodge

Piobaireachd

1 Elizabeth Dunsire
2 Blair Cooper
3 Andrew Lee
4 Jonathan Farrell

Jig & Hornpipe

1 Elizabeth Dunsire
2 Kelly Fuller
3 Iain Bullis
4 Mark Tomasetti

Jig

1 Mark Tomasetti
2 Iain Bullis
3 Evan Stewart
4 Elizabeth Dunsire

Aggregate: Elizabeth Dunsire

Professional Piping

March, Strathspey & Reel

1 Jack Lee
2 Alan Bevan
3 Andrew Bonar

Piobaireachd

1 Jack Lee
2 Alan Bevan
3 Alison Dunsire

Jig & Hornpipe

1 Jack Lee
2 Alan Bevan
3 Bernard Bouhadana

Jig

1 Jack Lee
2 Alan Bevan
3 Alan Walters

Aggregate: Jack Lee

Open Piping

Hornpipe & Jig "A"

1 Andrew Bonar
2 Alan Walters
3 Alan Bevan
4 Evan Stewart

Hornpipe & Jig "B"

1 Blair Stewart
2 Marco Caturegli
3 Jessica Ibach
4 Kaleena Matheson

Grade 4 Side Drumming

2/4 March

1 Alex Moscrip
2 Lee Campese
3 Aaron Copeland
4 Curtiss Mann
5 Alanna MacRitchie

6/8 March

1 Lee Campese
2 Colin Hearty
3 David Hoffert
4 Alanna MacRitchie
5 Jennifer Patch

Aggregate: Lee Campese

This Games is the only one on the circuit to feature a Drum Major competition each day and it was a nice touch for the winning drum major of the day to be given command of the closing massed bands in the parade from the field.



On Sunday, there were large crowds to watch the drum corps competitions. The bands performed in drizzly conditions and luckily the rain abated until after the massed bands had cleared the field. The announcements of the winners of the Grand Aggregate awards during the closing massed bands was another fitting end to the season's competitions.

Grade 3 Side Drumming

2/4 March
1 Cameron Reid
2 Shawna Keyes
3 Sara Galvez

6/8 March
1 Cameron Reid
2 Shawna Keyes
3 Rayna Watson

Aggregate: Cameron Reid

Grade 2 Side Drumming

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Kate Boyd
2 Alexander Munro
3 Holly Tawse

Hornpipe & Jig
1 Ted McKnight
2 Holly Tawse
3 Stephen Farrell

Aggregate: Kate Boyd, Ted McKnight, Holly Tawse

Grade 1 Side Drumming

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Grant Maxwell
2 Richard Park
3 William Gunn

Hornpipe & Jig
1 Grant Maxwell
2 William Gunn

Aggregate: Grant Maxwell

Professional Side Drumming

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 J. Reid Maxwell

Hornpipe & Jig
1 J. Reid Maxwell
2 Louise Hansen

Aggregate: J. Reid Maxwell

Grade 2 Tenor Drumming

2/4 March
1 James G. Marshall
2 Katie McKnight
3 Michael Dykes

6/8 March
1 James G. Marshall
2 Katie McKnight
3 Michael Dykes

Aggregate: James G. Marshall

Grade 1 Tenor Drumming

- No competitors

Professional Tenor Drumming

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Simone Reid
2 Amanda Darlington

Hornpipe & Jig
1 Jacqueline Middleton
2 Simone Reid

Aggregate: Simone Reid

Open Drum Majoring

Dress, Deportment & Flourishing - Saturday
1 Laird Will
2 Bob Wiebe

Dress, Deportment & Flourishing - Sunday
1 Laird Will
2 Bob Wiebe

Aggregate: Laird Will

Grade 4 Pipe Corps - Quartets

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 White Spot "A"
2 Fraser Valley "A"
3 Robert Malcolm Memorial IV "A"

Grade 3 Pipe Corps - Quartets

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Robert Malcolm Memorial III "B"
2 Washington Scottish "B"
3 Washington Scottish "A"

Grade 2 Pipe Corps - Quartets

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Robert Malcolm Memorial II "B"
2 Maple Ridge "A"
3 Maple Ridge "B"

Grade 1 Pipe Corps - Quartets

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Simon Fraser University "A"
2 Simon Fraser University "B"

Grade 4 Drum Corps

Fanfare
1 Sir James McDonald
2 White Spot "A"

Grade 3 Drum Corps

Fanfare
1 Washington Scottish "A"
2 Salt Lake Scots

Grade 2 Drum Corps

Fanfare
1 Robert Malcolm Memorial II

Grade 1 Drum Corps

Fanfare
1 Simon Fraser University

Grade 4 Bands

Medley
1 Sir James McDonald
2 White Spot
3 Keith Highlanders

Best Drum Corps:
Sir James McDonald

Quick March Medley

1 White Spot
2 Sir James McDonald
3 Keith Highlanders

Best Drum Corps:
Sir James McDonald

Overall

1 Sir James McDonald
2 White Spot
3 Keith Highlanders

Best Drum Corps:
Sir James McDonald

Grade 3 Bands

Medley
1 Robert Malcolm Memorial III
2 Washington Scottish
3 Utah

Best Drum Corps:
Washington Scottish

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Robert Malcolm Memorial III
2 Washington Scottish
3 Utah

Best Drum Corps:
Washington Scottish

Overall

1 Robert Malcolm Memorial III
2 Washington Scottish
3 Utah

Best Drum Corps:
Washington Scottish

Grade 2 Bands

Medley
1 Robert Malcolm Memorial II
2 Maple Ridge

Best Drum Corps:
Robert Malcolm Memorial II

March, Strathspey & Reel

1 Robert Malcolm Memorial II
2 Maple Ridge

Best Drum Corps:
Robert Malcolm Memorial II

Overall

1 Robert Malcolm Memorial II
2 Maple Ridge

Best Drum Corps:
Robert Malcolm Memorial II

Grade 1 Bands

Medley
1 Simon Fraser University

Best Drum Corps:
Simon Fraser University

March, Strathspey & Reel
1 Simon Fraser University

Best Drum Corps:
Simon Fraser University

Overall

1 Simon Fraser University

Best Drum Corps:

Simon Fraser University

OVERSEAS RESULTS

OBAN

Senior Piobaireachd

1. Willie McCallum
2. Greg Wilson
3. Angus MacColl
4. Murray Henderson

Gold Medal

1. Iain Speirs
2. Stuart Liddell
3. Douglas Murray
4. Stuart Shedden

Silver Medal

1. Innes Smith
2. Chris Armstrong
3. Ross Cowan
4. Matthew Turnbull
5. Louise Hay

Former Winners March, Strathpey & Reel

1. Willie McCallum
2. Iain Speirs
3. Christopher Armstrong
4. Allan Russell

“A” March

1. Bruce Gandy
2. Robert Watt
3. Gavin Walker
4. Jenny Hazzard
5. Niall Stewart

“A” Strathspey & Reel

1. Christopher Armstrong
2. Alan Bevan
3. Robert Watt
4. Iain Speirs
5. Gavin Walker

“B” March

1. Ross Cowan
2. Neil Walker
3. Martin Frewen
4. Gary Watterston
5. Glenn Brown

“B” Strathspey & Reel

1. Gordon McCready
2. Brian MacKenzie
3. Ross Cowan
4. Simon McKerral
5. Neil Walker

Open Jig

1. Robert Watt
2. Alexis Munier
3. Greg Wilson

INVERNESS

Clasp

1. Dr. Angus MacDonald
2. Gordon Walker
3. Willie McCallum
4. Angus MacColl

Gold Medal

1. Bruce Gandy
2. Iain Speirs
3. Allan Russell
4. Donald MacPhee
5. Alasdair Gillies

Silver Medal

1. Fiona Manson
2. Jonathan Greenlees
3. Martin Kessler
4. James Beaumont
5. Simon McKerral

Silver Star MSR (Former Winners)

1. Alasdair Gillies
2. Willie McCallum
3. Roddy MacLeod
4. Christopher Armstrong

“A” MSR

1. Niall Matheson
2. Greg Wilson
3. Iain Speirs
4. Jenny Hazzard

“A” Hornpipe & Jig

1. Angus MacColl
2. Gordon Walker
3. Greg Wilson
4. Chris Armstrong

“B” March

1. D.J. McIntyre
2. Ross Cowan
3. John Mulhearn
4. Daroch Urquhart

“B” Strathspey & Reel

1. Donald MacKay
2. Gordon McCready
3. Scott MacLeod
4. Simon McKerral

World Solo Drumming Championship

Adult Section

1. Gordon Brown
2. Jim Kilpatrick
3. Eric Ward
4. Andrew Scullion
5. Barry Wilson
6. J.Reid Maxwell

Juvenile Section 3

1. Eli Fugate
2. Grant Maxwell
3. Alistair Brown
4. William Glen Homes
5. Steven Nelson
6. Leigh Kelly

Juvenile Section 2

1. John Henderson
2. Christopher McNicholl
3. Scott Fletcher
4. Jason Hoy
5. David Murray
6. Chris Karte

Juvenile Section 1

1. Sean Donaldson
2. Jonathon Hoy
3. Cameron Ward

As in recent years, the BCPA was well represented in Scotland this summer by some of our local stars. Congratulations to all who made the trip and, especially, to these prize winners...

Alison Dunsire

Crieff:

- 3rd - in Open MSR
- 5th - in Open Piobaireachd

Alan Bevan

Oban:

- 2nd - Open “A” Strathspey & Reel



Alan Bevan at Oban



Alison Dunsire at Crieff

Ed McIlwaine

Aberfeldy:

- 3rd - Open Piobaireachd
- 4th - Open March

Jori Chisholm

Perth:

- 3rd - Open “A” Piobaireachd
- 5th - Open Marches

Glenfinnan:

- 4th - Open Piobaireachd
- 4th - Open Marches

Crieff Highland Games:

- 4th - Open Piobaireachd



Ed McIlwaine at Glenfinnan

J. Reid Maxwell

- 6th - Adult World Solo Drumming Championship

Grant Maxwell

- 2nd - Juvenile 3 World Solo Drumming Championship



Jori Chisholm at Oban

World Pipe Band Championships

Grade 1

1. Field Marshal Montgomery (Northern Ireland)
 2. Simon Fraser University (Canada)
 3. Shotts & Dykehead
 4. 78th Fraser Highlanders (Canada)
 5. ScottishPower
 6. Strathclyde Police
- BDC: Shotts & Dykehead

Grade 2

1. Ballycoan (Northern Ireland)
 2. Robert Malcolm Memorial (Canada)
 3. Upper Crossgare (Northern Ireland)
 4. Bleary & District (Northern Ireland)
 5. Windsor Police (Canada)
 6. Bagad Cap Caval (France)
- BDC: Upper Crossgare

Grade 3A

1. McNaughton's Vale of Atholl (ensemble preference)
 2. Lord Edward's Own
 3. Killadeas (Northern Ireland)
 4. Royal Burgh of Stirling
 5. Syerla (Northern Ireland)
 6. Tullintrain
- BDC: MacNaughton's Vale of Atholl

Grade 3B

1. Inverkeithing
 2. Black Raven
 3. Ballydonnaghy Caledonia
 4. West Midlands Police (England)
 5. Finvoy (Northern Ireland)
 6. Cottown
- BDC: Ballydonnaghy Caledonia

Juvenile

1. George Watson's College
 2. Lochgelly High School
 3. Dumbarton and District
 4. Paisley
 5. Dunoon Grammar School
- BDC: George Watson's College

Grade 4A

1. Killen (ensemble preference)
 2. Altnaveigh
 3. Quinn Memorial
 4. Gortaclare
 5. Annsborough
 6. Arbroath RBL
- BDC: Mountfield

Grade 4B

1. William Wood
 2. Aarhus (Denmark)
 3. Corpus Christi
 4. Duns RBL
 5. Tweeddale
 6. Gransha
- BDC: Gransha

Novice Juvenile

1. Edmonton Juvenile (Canada)
 2. Craigmount High School
 3. Lochgelly High School
 4. 47th Culter BB
 5. Bucksburn
 6. Kintyre Schools
- BDC: Lochgelly High School

Oot and About

- The BCPA extends our congratulations to Bruce Gandy for winning the Gold Medal at Inverness and to his initial instructor James W. Troy. To see one's student go on to win such a prize has to be one of the most rewarding experiences for an instructor.
- The Triumph Street Pipe Band held a 30th anniversary reunion this fall. Word is that the City of Victoria Pipe Band is having a similar reunion. More to report on these events in the next issue.
- On September 28 the SFU Pipe Band, Scottish singer Isla St. Clair, and representatives from pipe bands in the Okanagan teamed up for a benefit concert in memory of Arran Campbell. Over 700 people filled the new Vernon & District Performing Arts Centre for the concert.
- More Ancient Clan Fraser kilts will be visible at the Highland Games this season, as the Robert Malcolm Alumni Pipe Band begins its first year. Under Pipe Major Rorri McBlane and Lead Drummer Rick Caines the band is composed of graduated RMM band members who want to continue playing at the Grade 3 level and other players who share similar goals. More members are welcome. Contact Rorri McBlane at 604-469-1806.
- This fall Elizabeth Dunsire and Andrew Lee represented the BCPA at the two top North American Amateur Piping Championships, the Nicol-Brown contest in Connecticut and the George Sherriff Memorial contest in Ontario. Elizabeth placed fifth in the 6/8 Marches at both contests.
- On a sad note, Jack Ironside Junior passed away in early August. For many years, Jack and his brother Angus assisted their father in the famous "Scottish Shopper" store in Seattle.
- Dan Weeks stepped down as Lead Drummer for the Maple Ridge Pipe Band. Kyla Richdale has been appointed the new lead tip.
- Wedding bells were ringing for Maple Ridge Pipe Band piper and BCPA past President, Kim Chisholm and Phil Jones as they tied the knot over Canadian Thanksgiving weekend.



Maple Ridge Pipe Band members on (cancelled) Bridge of Allan Highland Games Day

Full Report continues on page 26

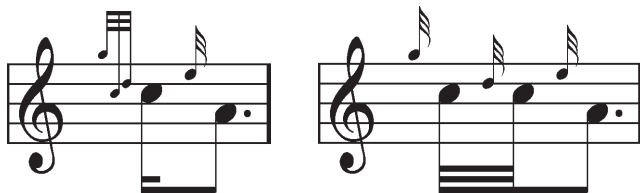
Techniques for Improving Strathspey Playing

by Alan Bevan

Strathspeys are probably the most technically and musically challenging tunes in a piper's repertoire. Although today's competition strathspey is something that is unique to the bagpipe, it remains strongly rooted in the dance tradition from which it evolved. This relationship is something that should be at the forefront of a piper's mind when playing a strathspey. It is an extremely valuable exercise to play for highland dancing, or at least to watch and listen to a good dance piper playing for dancers.

Technique

It is impossible to express a strathspey effectively unless you have your technique in order. This means not only being able to comfortably play all the movements in a tune, but also to play them so that they fulfill their proper rhythmic role in the tune. Grips, Taorluaths, and other movements with low G grace notes must be full and strong (i.e. without letting your little finger come up early on the second low G). The G grace note of each Tachum must be played squarely on the beat - especially when there are two or more Tachums in a row. Hachums must be strong and open - i.e. the two notes of the doubling should be exactly the same length:



written

played

Expression

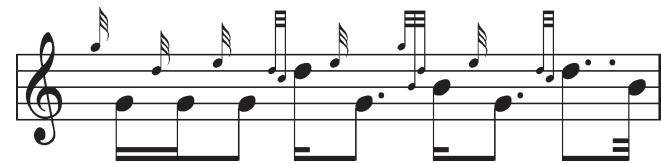
Strathspeys are played in common time, meaning that there are four beats per bar, and the quarter note gets a full beat. The beat is fairly elastic, resulting in there being heavy or strong beats, and light or weak beats. Most of us are familiar with the trusty old *Strong, Weak, Medium, Weak* formula for expressing strathspeys. It doesn't always fit (for example, there are M W S W and S W S W bars), but it is a good starting off point if not followed too slavishly. In my experience as a teacher, an adjudicator, and a listener, I have often found that people have no problem holding the strong beats; it's the weak beats that are usually the problem. Remember that you are trying to keep an imaginary dancer airborne as much of the time as possible - so relentlessly stomping out strong beats cannot be the full answer. If you get "strathspey lacking lift" on your adjudication sheets, it is a good sign that you need to pay more attention to beats 2 and 4.

There are two quite common ways that people go astray: The first is that people often fall into the trap of holding EVERY beat (S S S S!). Contrast is the key. I tell my students to think of the beat as an elastic: You stretch it for the strong beats, and let it relax into its original shape for the weak beats. It is also useful to think of beats

2 and 4 as "up" beats (hence the "lift"). Sometimes the remedy is as simple as tapping your foot a bit more gently on the weak beats - piping publications are full of letters from cranky old codgers complaining that solo pipers stomp their feet too loud, and they have a bit of a point. The second trap people fall into is that they play too round on beats 2 and 4, and lose the snap. Remember that the weak beats set up the strong ones, so if you are sloppy with your dots and cuts, you won't have as much impact when you hit the next strong beat. The comments made by Kevin Blandford last issue in regards to exaggerating the dots and cuts in 6/8 marches also hold true for strathspeys. This bar, taken from *Caber Feidh*, is typically written:



but beat 4 should *really* be played:



One further thought: triplet runs in strathspeys, as written in the *Scots Guards* books, are rarely played as triplets. Far more often they are played with the same rhythm as a Hachum:



written



usually played

Final Thoughts

One of the best ways to perfect your strathspey expression is to listen to great strathspey players and try to internalize the feel. No two pipers express exactly alike, so you can always learn from hearing someone else play. And try playing for dancing once in a while. It can be a real eye-opener.

Alan Bevan is a member of the SFU Pipe Band. He won the 'A' Strathspey and Reel at Inverness in 1998, and placed second in the same event at Oban this year. He won the BCPA Grand Aggregate for Professional Piping in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

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The BCPA welcomes our newest members!

James Barrie Duncan, BC
 Jami L. Bills Wasilla, AK
 Jessie Walker Bills Wasilla, AK
 Bruce Neil Black Ellensburg, WA
 Lynn Bullis Tsawwassen, BC
 Timothy Byron Langley, BC
 Celtic Dragon Pipe Band Missoula, MT
 Ian Dailey Maple Ridge, BC
 Dan Diessner Portland, OR
 Andrew Douglas Marietta, NY
 Jill Dykes Pitt Meadows, BC
 John Dykes Pitt Meadows, BC
 Andrew Finley Gresham, OR
 Benjamin Finley Gresham, OR
 Fort St. John Rotary P.B. Fort St. John, BC
 Linda Foster Courtenay, BC
 Cliff Fournier Surrey, BC
 Donna Fournier Surrey, BC
 Matthew Fournier Surrey, BC
 Rachel Fournier Surrey, BC
 Tom Fullerton Vancouver, BC
 Sarah Gleeson Ft. Langley, BC
 Mitchell Goodman Coquitlam, BC
 William Hames Chilliwack, BC
 Nichole Holdbak Delta, BC
 Nicholas J. Insley Coquitlam, BC
 Kalamalka Highlanders P.B. Vernon, BC
 Kamloops Pipe Band Kamloops, BC
 Robert Kehoe Vancouver, BC
 Amanda Keyes Couville, WA
 Collin Stuart Kortschak Surrey, BC
 Grant Laporte Surrey, BC
 Christine Lee Surrey, BC
 M.L. Loudermilk Anchorage, AK
 Duncan MacDonald Chilliwack, BC
 Hannah MacDonald Chilliwack, BC
 Robert MacFann Port Orchard, WA
 Stuart MacNeil Vancouver, BC
 Stephen Matich Surrey, BC
 Teresa Matich Surrey, BC
 Alex McCaul Portland, OR
 Andrew Sturrock McCormack Laconner, WA
 Brenda McGuff Campbell River, BC
 Lindsay McLoughlin Campbell River, BC
 David McMillan Victoria, BC
 Trish McMordie North Vancouver, BC
 Kevin McQuiggin Burnaby, BC
 Laura McQuiggin Burnaby, BC
 Justin McTavish Surrey, BC
 Meaghan Morrissey Delta, BC
 Nicholas Neuls Burnaby, BC

Todd A. Oberlander Port Orchard, WA
 Jackie Patch Surrey, BC
 Scott Patch Surrey, BC
 Mary Ellen Read Vancouver, BC
 Barry Rhodes Victoria, BC
 Heather Saunders Campbell River, BC
 Pascale Schittecatte Vancouver, BC
 Serina Sneddon Surrey, BC
 Scott St. Clair Kirkland, WA
 Jason Thomas Redmond, WA
 Matthew Turnbull Seattle, WA
 Connor Watt Coquitlam, BC
 Stacie Wiebe Burnaby, BC
 Allie Williams Seattle, WA
 Justin Williams Seattle, WA
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The 2002 World Pipe Band Championships on August 10 was a culmination of an extraordinary two weeks in Scotland. The country was pounded by heavy rains leading to severe flooding and an outbreak of a bacterial disease in the water supply around Glasgow.

The Bridge of Allan Highland Games was cancelled as the field could not be drained, letting down many bands that had made the early trip for the run-up contest to the Worlds. The Maple Ridge Pipe Band was among these bands as was the 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band, which boycotted the North American Championships that weekend in protest of the organizers providing funding to bring the SFU Pipe Band out to perform at their Tattoo and Games.

As bands departed from all points around the globe, rumours swirled that the World Championships might be cancelled if Glasgow Green was similarly affected. It was not to be. Adequate drainage at the Green and good weather in the final ten days produced a rare, warm and sunny day for the Worlds.

Worlds week has evolved into concerts and recitals week with the Glasgow Skye Pipe Band sponsored concert mid-week at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, and recitals by top solo players at the Piping Centre and Todd's Bar at Strathclyde University residence downtown.

This year, the Field Marshall Montgomery Pipe Band put on the pipe band concert, which was also recorded for an album and subsequent webcast. The quality of playing, music and sound by the band was superb throughout yet the "show and integration" element of the evening was significantly behind that currently produced by SFU or the 78th. The pipe band concert attendee has come to expect "the total package" now for their £15 or £20.

Worlds day saw all BCPA member bands advance to the finals of their respective grades. The Keith Highlanders Pipe Band finished in eleventh place in the Grade 4B Final. The Robert Malcolm Memorial Pipe Band II, competing in their first Worlds, handily won their qualifying heat over the Ballycoan Pipe Band from Northern Ireland, who were unbeaten at RSPBA championships all season. In the final, the Ballycoan boys turned on the jets and won the Grade 2 Worlds with RMM II placing second and Maple Ridge Pipe Band placing eighth, despite a broken drum head in the last 30 seconds of their performance. The second place by RMM II was the highest prize ever won by a BCPA jurisdiction Grade 2 band at the Worlds, a tremendous achievement.

Following on their fine playing at the mid-week concert, the Field Marshall Montgomery produced two excellent performances on superbly set instruments to capture both events and lift the Grade 1 World Championship title for the first time in nine years. In what amounted to a two horse race, SFU finished a close second, tying FMM for piping in both events but coming behind them in ensemble and drumming in both events.

2002 will be remembered as the Year of the Irish, and most deserved so.



P/M David Hilder of RMM II



SFU in the Medley at the Worlds

In The News... A look back at reporting from previous BCPA Newsletters...

40 Years Ago

The September 1962 issue had an article from Malcolm Nicholson about the Vancouver Kiwanis Boys' Juvenile Pipe Band's month long trip to Scotland, during which they placed second at the Scottish and Cowal Championships. On landing in Scotland, the band was met by newspaper reporters and later by a television crew.

Forty two members of the Optimist Pipe Band (now White Spot) performed in Hawaii.

The schedule for the Bi-Monthlies (predecessor to the Mini-Gatherings) was published, running from late October to early June. "Old Highland Airs" was an event in every amateur grade.

25 Years Ago

The August 1977 issue contained a letter from P/M Iain Morrison including his comments on the standard of play at the Annual Gathering: "... I felt that they [younger competitors] were concentrating more on how to get from the beginning to the end of a performance without choking etc rather than thinking of the music being played..."

At the Seattle Games, a well-known drummer in the Northwest Pipe Band was hit in the head with a cream pie as the band played off following their competition performance.

The Triumph Street Pipe Band placed fourth at the Intercontinental Pipe Band Championships in Toronto and first in the Canadian Championships in Cambridge.

10 Years Ago

The Summer 1992 issue noted that the SFU Pipe Band made an appearance at the home of Ian and Mary MacKinnon. "Marching the band right up Halligan Street, SFU put on a 1/2 hour show to the delight of the neighbourhood. Ian was beside himself".

Alan Walters and Bill Saul took over the leadership of the Triumph Street Pipe Band. An ad announced the newly formed Elliott Bay Pipe Band of Seattle, seeking new members.

The Coeur d'Alene Summer School of Piping and Drumming attracted 100 pipers and 20 drummers. Peter Aumonier won the Professional Piobaireachd Banner and James P. Troy won the MacRae Cup for amateur piobaireachd.

When all is said and done, you'll read it in the VOICE.

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Highland Arts Fund Silver Medal Contest

The Midwest Highland Arts Fund and MidWest Pipe Band Association proudly announce the inaugural Midwest Highland Arts Fund & MidWest Pipe Band Association United States Silver Medal Piobaireachd Competition, to be held January 17, 2003 in Kansas City, Missouri, USA.

The new MHAF & MWPBA Silver Medal (USA) will be awarded to the champion in Piobaireachd and prize monies of 1st \$500, 2nd \$400, 3rd \$300, 4th \$200, and 5th \$100.

Open to pipers graded one, advanced or open by their regional pipe band associations, the contest will not as yet be a qualifying event for entry to the Silver Medal competitions at Oban and Inverness. The judges will be award-winning pipers Alasdair Gillies of Pennsylvania, Iain Macey of Michigan, and Jack Lee of British Columbia, Canada.

Rules and entry forms are available on the MHAF website www.mhaf.org or contact admin@theroutetothehighlands.com

Instructors Directory

Piping Instructors	Phone Number	Location
Alan Bevan	604-504-0720	Abbotsford, BC
James Barrie	250-743-1207	Duncan, BC
Tamara Cameron	604-951-4198	Surrey, BC
Jori Chisholm	206-851-9140	Seattle, WA
Rene Cusson	250-758-0208	Nanaimo, BC
John Dally	206-937-2039	Seattle, WA
Alison Dunsire	360-788-1821	Bellingham, WA
Elizabeth Dunsire	360-387-5372	Camano Island, WA
K. Nicholson-Graham	604-597-6172	Surrey-Newton, BC
Fred Hansford	604-858-2742	Chilliwack, BC
Steve Kelly	250-721-5208	Victoria, BC
Jack Lee	604-574-3299	Surrey, BC
Alex MacCuaig	250-658-6786	Victoria, BC
Robert MacLeod	604-463-4199	Maple Ridge, BC
Neil Macpherson	604-939-9614	Coquitlam, BC
Rorri McBlane	604-469-1806	Coquitlam, BC
Kevin McKay	604-467-1979	Maple Ridge, BC
Bill Meston	604-942-5726	Port Coquitlam, BC
Jim Stewart	604-888-5598	Langley, BC
Alan Walters	604-951-4198	Surrey, BC
Drumming Instructors		
Tennille Brown	604-461-3102	Burnaby, BC
Cameron Bullis	604-943-1987	Tsawwassen, BC
Erin Davis	604-461-3102	Burnaby, BC
Reid Maxwell	604-936-5016	Coquitlam, BC
Gregor Merry	604-882-4779	Langley, BC
Curt Watts	604-929-6323	North Vancouver, BC

The BC Pipers' Association wishes to thank the following members for their generous financial donations.

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 Doug Mossington
 Andy Snodgrass
 Ron R. Sutherland
 Dave Turnbull

This is a list of pipers and drummers who have indicated their availability for instructing students. Their inclusion in this publication is not an approval or endorsement by the BC Pipers' Association of any particular instructors of piping or drumming or the quality of the instruction provided.



British Columbia Pipers' Association
BCPIPERS.ORG

events results membership contacts teachers links photos rules

Calendar of piping related events in the Pacific Northwest:
Highland games, other contests, concerts, schools, shows, meetings, ...

by *Bob Dunsire*

BC Pipers Website Report

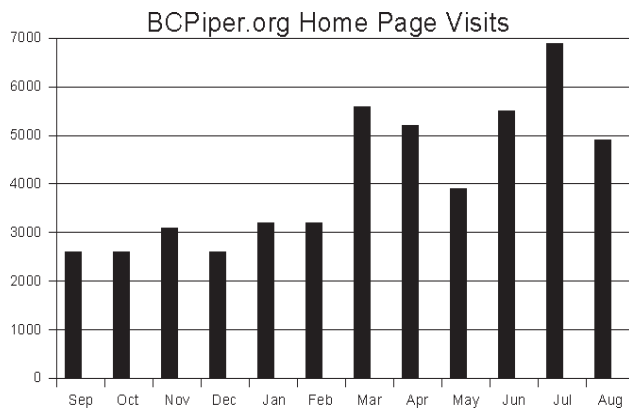
Home Page Visits Breaks 100,000!

WOW - We're rapidly broke the 100,000th visit to the home page of the BC Pipers Association. While it took three years to reach just the first 60,000 visits, is has taken only eight additional months to reach the next 40,000.

- about
- adjudicators
- audio - video
- classified ads
- comments
- F.A.Q.
- history
- links
- members
- music
- newsletter
- piobaireachd club
- special events

As you know, the BCPA web site consists of a great deal more than just the home page; in fact it consists of more than 75 (!) web pages. FYI - The most popular web pages (from last season), after the home page, are the Results (26 local contest results posted), the Events Page (52 events listed), the Photos page (30 photo albums added), the Audio / Video page (17 video reports posted), and the Classified Ads page (although the new Forum Trading Post is replacing that one on a fairly large scale)

Here is a graph showing the monthly visits to just the BCPipers.org home page over the past season.



A few comments on the graph...

You'll note the monthly variations are closely related to our events. There is an obvious peak as we approach the Annual Gathering in March, and an even greater increase in June and July as our outdoor season was in full swing. Overall the visits are about twice the numbers we saw last year - I think this is good - a tremendous effort being expended to keep the web site current, and informative, and it is encouraging to see the web site being used by more people all the time.

Rebuilding the Email List

We have decided to re-create the email list each year, as this is the most efficient method of ensuring we have only current and valid email addresses for our members. If you supplied your email address when you renewed your membership this year then thanks, you're all set. If you did not supply an email address with your renewal, OR if you have additional email addresses to send us, please send a note to the webmaster@bcpipers.org. This email list will be used for our 'regular email updates - every month or so.

Events Calendar for 2002/2003

Once again the Events calendar is starting 'fresh'. This has proven to be the most efficient and accurate way to create the seasonal Events calendar. If you have a piping related event (contest, recital, school, fund raiser, dinner, meeting, etc - any piping related event) within the Pacific Northwest, and you'd like to have it included in the Events calendar (and why wouldn't you?) please send a note about the event to the webmaster@bcpipers.org. Include the event name, what it is, contact information, and any other details that you feel would / should be included on the web Events calendar.



Terry Lee accepting the Grade 1 Worlds Second Place Trophy

BCPA 2002 Grand Aggregate Winners

Piping

	Annual Gathering	Comox Valley Highland Games	Victoria Highland Games	Bellingham Highland Games	Sons of Scotland Highland Games	BC Highland Games	Penticton Highland Games	Skagit Valley Highland Games	Pacific Northwest Highland Game	Total Of GA Points		Annual Gathering	Comox Valley Highland Games	Victoria Highland Games	Bellingham Highland Games	Sons of Scotland Highland Games	BC Highland Games	Penticton Highland Games	Skagit Valley Highland Games	Pacific Northwest Highland Game	Total Of GA Points
Grade 5											Grade 1										
Alastair Lee	8			5	13	8	13		16	63	Andrew Lee	8.5	14	10	2	8	7	8	8	6	71.5
Nicholas Henderson	8	3	3	2	8	13	7	16		60	Evan Stewart	2	16	16	1		13	8	10	3	69
John Lee		5	13		16	10	3	8		55	Elizabeth Dunsire	11	10		3		7	5	3	23	62
Megan Angeltvedt	5				3	8	13	5	11	45	Blair Cooper				14	11		3	13	13	54
Tomas Peralta	6			6				11	19	42	Kelly Fuller				8	13	1	5	2	5	34
Scott McDermid		3			11	3	13		5	35	Kevin Watsyk	8.5			11	5	3		2		29.5
Noel Keyes	8				2	5	2	8	10	35	Myles Wilcott					7	8		8		23
Graeme Pratt	3	2	5	1	8	3			10	32	Drew Dodge				2	2	13			2	19
Jessica Logan			8	3		10	8		2	31	Malcolm Wallace		5	3	10						18
David MacNeil		8.5		5		5	3		2	23.5	Iain Bullis					5			3	8	16
Grade 4											Professional										
Jessica Ibach	8		8		8	8	8	13	18	71	Alan Bevan	16	15	8	16	19	24		21	20	139
Andrew Hession	8	16	8		3	13			19	67	Andrew Bonar	11	19		11	13	10		8	3	75
Ryan Angeltvedt				8	10	2	5	5	13	43	Jori Chisholm	18			8	13	8	16	11		74
Brittney-Lynn Otto		3	11			3			11	28	Jack Lee		11	16	13					32	72
Kevin MacNeil	3			5		5			13	26	Alan Walters		3	8		3				3	17
Callum Mathers			5		8		5	3	3	24	Bernard Bouhadana							11		3	14
Scott Needham	2	5		7				3	5	22	Andrew Douglas						5		8		13
Karen Dykes				2			3	10	3	18	Alison Dunsire							3		3	6
Kyle Ross DeGraw		8		3			2	2		15	Adult										
Emily Kate MacLellan	13									13	Ken MacKenzie	8	8	16		3	5		13		53
Grade 3											Bob McIlwaine		5			11	8	13	8		45
Robert-John Houston	5	16	8	10	13	18	5	15	11	101	Ian Perry	8			8	13					29
Robb Scott	8	16		8	8	2	10	10	13	75	Bill McIvor				10	6		11			27
Josh McLaughlin	8			8	7	8	11	13		55	Diana-Jo Rex							16			16
Jesse Bills	16					4	13	21		54	George Young	8						6			14
Shane Smith	2	8			2	11		11	16	50	Don Stawski		11								11
Sean Van de Voorde	3			8					21	32	Mary Witwicki			10							10
Laura C. Rose			3		8	3		10		24	Cliff Fournier							10			10
Emerson Dodge	0.5			0.5	3	8		6	4	22	Ken Rogers	8									8
Shardae Joy		5	5					4	8	22	Barry Mattock							8			8
Kaleena Matheson				2	2			8	6	18											
Grade 2																					
Colin Lee	2	8	8	2	10	18	8	10	10	76	<p>Grand Aggregate Awards were established by the BCPA to recognize exceptional competitive achievement by soloists and bands. Winners (and subsequent placings) in each grade are determined by an accumulation of points won at the Annual Gathering (solos only) and the 8 BCPA-sanctioned highland games. Competitors must be BCPA members to win Grand Aggregates.</p> <p>Points are awarded as follows: 1st place: 8 points; 2nd place: 5 points; 3rd place: 3 points; 4th place: 2 points; 5th place: 1 point; 6th place: 1/2 point. A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the winner in each grade. Shown above and on the next page are the top finishers in each grade.</p>										
Micah Babinski	3	8	8	13	8		5	10	15	70											
Peter Moran			8	8				5	16	37											
Blair Stewart	4		5			16		8		33											
Kirsten Mossington	5		3	5	3	5	8	3		32											
Cameron King		8	2			2	8		8	28											
Steven Anderson				3	3		3	13	5	27											
Alexander Gale	5				8	3		3		19											
Matt Reid					8	6		2		16											
Morgan Page	16									16											

Side Drumming

	Annual Gathering	Comox Valley Highland Games	Victoria Highland Games	Bellingham Highland Games	Sons of Scotland Highland Games	BC Highland Games	Penticton Highland Games	Skagit Valley Highland Games	Pacific Northwest Highland Game	Total Of GA Points
Grade 4										
Alex Moscrip	13			4	13	8	3		8	49
Iain Mack	13	16		5		8	5			47
Alanna MacRitchie			3	8	13	8	2		3	37
Curtiss Mann	3	8	11	8					2	32
Aaron Copeland		5	13					10	3	31
Lee Campese							8	5	13	26
David Hoffert	3			5			7	5	3	23
Colin Hearty					2	3	8		5	18
Sarah McLatchy					3	4	3	6		16
Ben Anderson				3				10		13
Grade 3										
Cameron Reid	8	19		5	13	16	16	16	16	109
Shawna Keyes			16		13	10	5	5	10	59
Christa Renneberg		16	10		3		3	6		38
Rayna Watson		13	6		3			5	3	30
Britainy Nelson	8			8						16
Ted McKnight	8			8						16
Andrew Finley	8			8						16
Fiona Vandergucht							8			8
Janine Johnston				3						3
Sara Galvez									3	3
Grade 2										
Alexander Munro	16	16	8	11	13	16	16	16	5	117
Holly Tawse	10	5	13	11	13	5	10		8	75
Stephen Farrell	6		3	5		6		5	3	28
Kate Boyd				5		5			8	18
Ian Aastrom		8	8							16
Ted McKnight									8	8
Cody Navid		3								3
Grade 1										
Grant Maxwell	13			16	16	16			16	77
Carly Coulson	13									13
William Gunn									8	8
Richard Park									5	5
Professional										
J. Reid Maxwell	16			8		16			16	56
Duncan Millar				8				16		24
Louise Hansen							16		5	21

Tenor Drumming

	Annual Gathering	Comox Valley Highland Games	Victoria Highland Games	Bellingham Highland Games	Sons of Scotland Highland Games	BC Highland Games	Penticton Highland Games	Skagit Valley Highland Games	Pacific Northwest Highland Game	Total Of GA Points
Grade 2										
James G. Marshall		8	8	8	8			8	16	56
Michael Dykes	8	5	5		5	8	8	5	6	50
Katie McKnight	5			5					10	20
Julie Ann Gilmour					3	3	3	3		12
Graeme Mack		3	3			5				11
Anna Sergeant							5			5
Sarah Hoffert				3						3
Benjamin Finley	3									3
Grade 1										
Annie Head		8		8	8	8		8		40
Sarah Ballard			8				8			16
Mary Bruce	8					5				13
Kate Rennie						3				3
PIPE BANDS										
Grade 4										
White Spot		8	3	3	5	5	8	8	5	45
Northwest MacGregor			8	5	8	8		3		32
Fraser Valley Youth		5	5		3		5			18
Sir James McDonald					8				8	16
Keith Highlanders				2				5	3	10
Kelowna Legion							3			3
Campbell River Legion		3								3
Robert Malcolm Memorial IV						3				3
Grade 3										
Robert Malcolm Memorial III		8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	64
Chilliwack & District					5	3	5	5		18
Washington Scottish				5		5		3	5	18
Castle Cary		5	5							10
Triumph Street		3	3							6
Elliott Bay				3						3
Utah									3	3
Vancouver Police					3					3
Grade 2										
Maple Ridge				8	8	5	8	8	5	42
Robert Malcolm Memorial II		8		5	5	8		5	8	39
City of Regina						3				3
Grade 1										
Simon Fraser University				8		8		8	8	32
Alberta Caledonia				5						5

PIPING

	NOV 9	DEC 14	JAN 18	FEB 8
BEGINNER (on Chanter)	2/4 March	Slow Air	6/8 March	4/4 March
GRADE 5	Slow Air	2/4 March	6/8 March	4/4 March
GRADE 4	2/4 March	Strathspey & Reel	6/8 March	Piobaireachd (ground only)
GRADE 3	2/4 March	Strathspey & Reel	Piobaireachd	6/8 March
GRADE 2	Strathspey & Reel	2/4 March	Piobaireachd	Jig & Hornpipe
GRADE 1	Jig & Hornpipe	2/4 March	Strathspey & Reel	Piobaireachd
ADULT	Slow Air	Piobaireachd (ground & 1 var)	2/4 March	6/8 March

SIDE DRUMMING

BEGINNER (on Drum Pad)	Massed Band 6/8 March	Massed Band 3/4 March	Massed Band 4/4 March	Massed Band 2/4 March
GRADE 4	2/4 March	6/8 March	4/4 March	2/4 March
GRADE 3	2/4 March	6/8 March	2/4 March	6/8 March
GRADE 2	2/4 March	Strathspey & Reel	Hornpipe & Jig	MSR
GRADE 1	2/4 March	Strathspey & Reel	Hornpipe & Jig	MSR
ADULT	2/4 March	6/8 March	2/4 March	6/8 March

TENOR DRUMMING

GRADE 2	2/4 March	6/8 March	4/4 March	2/4 March
GRADE 1	2/4 March	Strathspey & Reel	Hornpipe & Jig	MSR

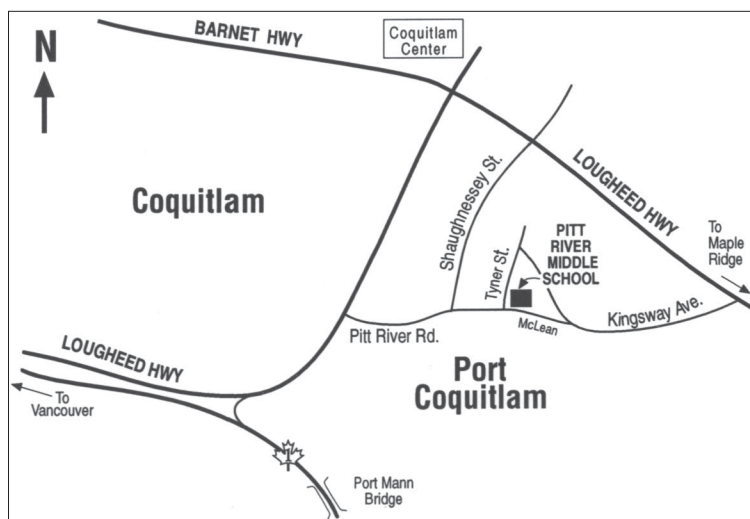
- The 2002-2003 Mini-Gathering season continues at the Pitt River Middle School. The school opens at 11:00 am with events beginning at 12:30 pm.

- All competitors must be current members of the BC Pipers Association or of a member association of the ANAPBA.

- Please refer to the Mini-Gathering entry form for specific music requirements (found on the BCPA website)

- For further information, please contact Mary MacKinnon, Competition Secretary, at secretary@bcpipers.org or 604-522-9697.

- All competitors must be pre-registered at least 15 days before an event.



LOCATION

Pitt River Middle School
2070 Tyner Road
Port Coquitlam, BC

Competitors from the U.S. should take PACIFIC HWY border crossing (becomes HWY 15). Follow HWY 15 north to HWY 1. Turn west onto HWY 1 (to Vancouver), and then take the first exit after crossing the Port Mann Bridge. Head to Port Coquitlam, Pitt River Road is not that well marked. Watch for it just after passing the hospital on the left. In "normal" traffic conditions, drive time from the border is approximately 40 minutes.

November Mini-Gathering and Knockout Reports

By Rob MacNeil

A new season begins with a new Knockout format and a return to a familiar venue. Will it revive this poorly attended event?



Two days before Remembrance Day, the new BCPA season got underway at the Pitt River Middle School, home to the Mini-Gatherings for the past several years. This year there was some trepidation toward the new format for the winter events. While the Mini-Gatherings have been pretty consistent and generally well attended, last year's Knockouts were a spectator's disappointment. The new venue, closer to the Association's population centre, was panned by attendees and competitors. The lack of sufficient entertainment on the evenings led to a steady drop in attendance each night. Over the summer, the Board took specific action to try to revive attendee interest in the Knockouts. November 9 would tell whether the efforts were successful.

Special General Meeting and AGM

The morning got underway at 9:30 am with administrative business: a Special General Meeting that passed several by-laws reducing the size of the Board of Directors, permitting electronic meetings for Board business, and re-establishing a process for complaints. The AGM followed directly afterward. A week before the AGM, a director noted that the association had not been following the by-laws by electing the President and Vice-President separately from directors. This year the election for directors was held according to by-laws, electing the directors and then the directors appointing the President and Vice-President. Eleven directors were elected. See Board Notes for details on these two meetings.

Mini-Gatherings

In the review of the Mini-Gatherings and Knockouts over the past summer, it was recognized that both have distinct audiences which do not have much overlap. It was decided to not specifically tie the two events together in time. Thus this year, the Mini-Gatherings were set to start at their previous time of 12:30 pm.

The number of competitors at the Mini-Gathering was up slightly over last year. In the side and tenor drumming events, several promoted Grand Aggregate winners captured firsts in their grades: Cameron Reid in Grade 2 Side Drumming, Alexander Munro in Grade 1 Side Drumming, and James Marshall in Grade 1 Tenor Drumming. However, none of the first prizes in the piping were captured by promoted Grand Aggregate winners.

Mini-Gathering chair Len Leroux indicated that the events generally ran on time, with just one event falling behind, and the whole afternoon finishing by 3:30 pm.

Knockouts

The new format for the Knockouts, where all competitors play off in the first round and progressively higher payments to competitors advancing in each round are made, yielded piping entries (22) not seen since the early 80s but extremely disappointing drumming entries (4). Competitors came in from Vancouver Island, Seattle, Portland, and Calgary for the event. With the large number of competitors and the Grand Aggregate awards ceremony to conduct, Knockout chair Randy Bullis ran the event with tight scheduling that enabled it to finish on-time.

The piping selection was two two-part tunes for Marches, Strathspeys, Reels, and Jigs while the drumming selection was a Hornpipe and Jig, submit two selections. This Knockout introduced "band-style" scoring (judges rank order all the competitors and their scores are added together to determine the final ranking) to determine the ten pipers that would advance to the second round. As the same format was used for the drumming, all four drummers competing advanced to the second round.

It was a night of high calibre playing on well set instruments. While several of the well-known piping competitors advanced to the next round, first time Knockout competitors Ryan MacDonald and Blair Cooper brought about the most refreshing and unexpected performances of the evening. Ryan's choice of a Cape Breton theme for her selection added a significant contrast to that of other selections and Blair's performance was probably one of the most impressive professional debuts in many years.

During the first break, the fourth annual Grand Aggregate awards were presented by Cilla Bachop, a director of the St. Andrew and Caledonian Society.



Ryan MacDonald



Blair Cooper

The result of piping judges Jack Cairney, Duncan Fraser and Rob Menzies determined the following players advancing to the semi-final in February: Alan Bevan, Andrew Bonar, Ryan MacDonald, Blair Cooper, Alan Walters, James P. Troy, Jori Chisholm, Ann Gray, Danielle Millar, and David Hicks. The result of drumming judges Gregor Merry, Colin Nicol, and Scott Robertson scoring was: Andre Tessier, Kristen Coulson, Duncan Millar, and Glen Gurney.

The crowd at this first Knockout was over 140, which was better than the first Knockout last year. With the quality of entertainment on the night, this may spark renewed interest in this annual event. The next Knockout on February 8 will determine whether this momentum is sustained.

Mini-Gathering and Knockout Results

BCPA Mini-Gathering and Knockouts • November 9, 2002 • Pitt River Middle School, Port Coquitlam, BC and United Scottish Cultural Centre, Vancouver, BC



Games Snapshot

Amateur Competitors: 134

Professional Competitors: 26

Mini-Gathering Adjudicators: James Barrie, Shaunna Hilder, Iain MacDonald, Robert MacLeod, Jim McWilliams, Pat Napper; Willie McErlean, Gregor Merry

Knockout Adjudicators: Jack Cairney, Duncan Fraser, Rob Menzies; Gregor Merry, Colin Nicol, Scott Robertson

MINI-GATHERING

PIPING

Beginner

2/4 March

1. Mitchell Goodman
2. Justin McTavish
3. Teresa Matich

Grade 5

Slow Air "A"

1. Daniel McQuade
2. Ryan Trasolini
3. Nicholas Insley
4. Trevor Bauder
5. Angus MacDonald

Slow Air "B"

1. Cameron Harding-Rooney
2. Christopher Low
3. Jake Yonge
4. William Clarke
5. Tim Byron

Grade 4

2/4 March

1. Karen Dykes
2. Scott McDermid
3. Kyle Banta
4. Nicholas Henderson
5. Darlene Lewis-Chinn

Grade 3

2/4 March

1. Ryan Angeltvedt
2. Collin Kortschak
3. Jessica Ibach
4. Kaleena Matheson
5. Jason Thomas

Grade 2

Strathspey & Reel

1. Alexander Gale
2. Steven Anderson
3. Michael Lake

Grade 1

Jig & Hornpipe

1. Neil Macpherson
2. Drew Dodge
3. Kevin Watsyk
4. John Sutherland
5. Kelly Fuller

Adult

Slow Air

1. Bill McIvor
2. Marshall McCallum
3. Grant Laporte

SIDE DRUMMING



Beginner

6/8 March

1. Meaghan Morrisey
2. Bill Hanes

Grade 4

2/4 March

1. Curtiss Mann
2. Colin Hearty
3. David Hoffert

Grade 3

2/4 March

1. Justin Williams
2. Alex Moscrip
3. Fiona Vandergucht

Grade 2

2/4 March

1. Cameron Reid

Grade 1

2/4 March

1. Alexander Munro

Adult

2/4 March

1. Doug Mossington

TENOR DRUMMING

Grade 2

2/4 March

1. Graeme Mack
2. Deborah Mossington
3. Sarah Hoffert

Grade 1

2/4 March

1. James Marshall
2. Allie Williams

KNOCKOUTS

PIPING



Professional

Two Marches, Two Strathspeys, Two Reels, Two Jigs (all tunes two parts)

Advancing to the next round

- Alan Bevan
Andrew Bonar
Ryan MacDonald
Blair Cooper
Alan Walters
James P. Troy
Jori Chisholm
Ann Gray
Danielle Millar
David Hicks



SIDE DRUMMING

Professional

Hornpipe & Jig

Advancing to the next round

- Andre Tessier
Kristen Coulson
Duncan Millar
Glen Gurney

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