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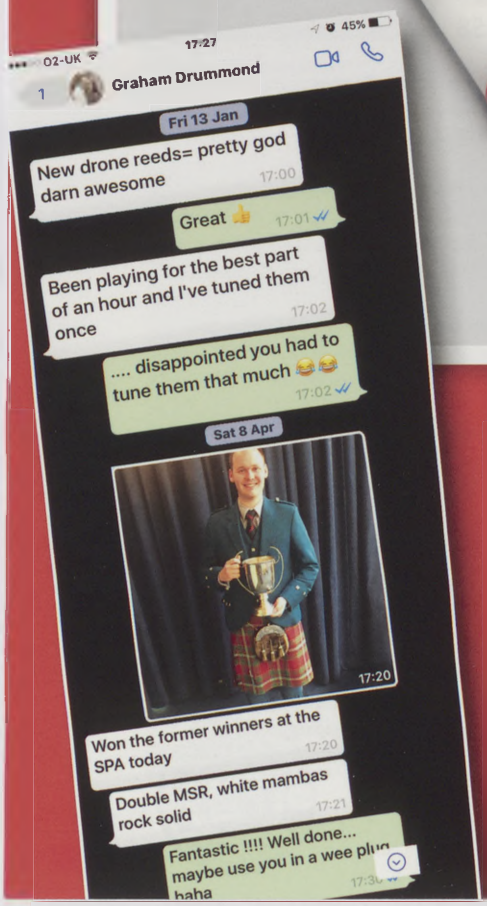
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Piping Times est. 1948

This issue marks the 70th anniversary of the *Piping Times*, an astonishing milestone, we are sure you will agree. It's been 70 years of reading, editing, writing, phoning, emailing, photographing, chasing, filing and mailing for its six editors, of which we remain honoured to be the sixth. In turning 70, the *PT* joins the National Health Service, the transistor radio, aerosol hairspray, the hand dryer and the Polaroid instant camera, which all first appeared in 1948.

As Seumas MacNeill, the magazine's third – and best – editor wrote in October 1973 when the *PT* marked its 25th anniversary, looking back to the first issues is a nostalgic exercise we prefer not to suffer too often. Occasionally, however, it is a pleasing endeavour.

While the *PT* is the oldest piping journal still in existence, it wasn't the first. *Piping and Dancing* appeared in August 1935 followed by *Piob Mhor* in August 1946. In 1948 three new magazines appeared. The first, in May, was the *Piping, Drumming and Highland Dancing Journal*, a monthly published in Edinburgh. A chap called Hugh Ross was its editor and he produced the magazine as a hobby really. Then, in October, the *Piping Times* appeared followed one month later by the *Pipe Band*. The latter is the official publication of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association and became an online publication some years ago. It had already incorporated Mrs Ross's publication in 1949. At least half a dozen such magazines appeared since then – most of which ceased long ago – and our museum has a large collection of them.

As Seumas himself acknowledged, magazines in those early years were rather flimsy, tentative and rather amateurish affairs – the *PT* included. In its very first issue it was acknowledged that the College of Piping had for some years been doing its best to advance the cause of piping, "and that does not help to lift the depression as we balance the budget." It is well known that for most of its existence the College experienced some uncertain times fulfilling its aims. That it succeeded in its aims is without question.

A few generations have now grown up that have never known a world without the *Piping Times*. As Seumas said: "At least they have the advantage we did not have – that much of the history of piping, and many pipers' views on many subjects, are now easily available any time they want to consult them." For the *PT*, a casual glance through the back numbers shows great writing, research and humour. It seems that every piping and pipe band grievance was aired in these pages. The *PT* can rightly claim that where improvements in

piping and pipe bands have taken place, it shares much of the credit. No wonder Capt. John A. MacLellan called it the "the biggest single repository of bagpipe knowledge in the world." In recognition of this we hope to digitise the entire *PT* archive in the near future.

It may be of interest to readers that the *PT* has always been edited and produced by a very small number of people. This is in contrast to every other piping publication which has come and gone and which seemed to be produced by an editorial board that, somewhat paradoxically, put out an inferior publication. It can also be said that the *PT* has never been parochial. It has always strived to reflect the worldwide interest in our instrument and the culture behind it.

The piping world was certainly a vastly different world in those days. The few recordings that were available were 78s (what do you mean, what's a 78?). The only collections of pipe music were *Logan's*, the *Piper's Delight*, three Willie Ross books, the Seaforth's *Collection* and seven of the Piobaireachd Society's series. The sheer number of music collections that appeared over the last 70 years has enriched us immeasurably and shows no sign of ending; four new collections were launched at the most recent Piping Live! festival, for example.

Shotts & Dykehead Caledonian Pipe Band won the World Pipe Band Championships in 1948 with a medley that is far removed from what's played and expected today. The Set Tunes for the Gold Medal at the Northern Meeting that year were *Lament for the Old Sword, Clan Campbell's Gathering* and *The Little Spree*, a selection which, as Seumas pointed out 25 years later, if set now (which it won't, of course) would cause raucous laughter.

As we now turn our attention to the centenary of the end of First World War – and if you haven't yet registered to participate in next month's 'Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute' event then please do so now – we note that John McLellan, Dunoon (8th Argylls), died not long after the *PT* came into being.

The *PT* has always been a journal of record. Even today, despite the immediacy provided by the Internet and social media, it still carries some news items and results in each issue. However, we believe its many readers and subscribers still take 'the *Times*' because of its interesting content but also because it is the easiest way of supporting our organisation's teaching endeavours and maintaining its charitable aims.

We would like to thank those who have sent congratulatory messages, some of which appear on page 35.

Stuart Letford.

Someone once said that most of us would rather carry a heavy load for a mile than sit down and write a letter or send an email. It is important that we should never weary in trying to set the piping world to rights. Email the *Piping Times* at: **otago@thepipingcentre.co.uk** or write or fax. Full contact details on page 1.

The Piper's Cave

Sir,

Re. Alistair Duthie's letter in last month's *Piping Times*, we have checked a few other publications. It would appear that this situation is a bit like that of *Dagshai Hills* and the *Hills of Dargai*. i.e. the tune was published subsequently under an erroneous title which then became the common moniker. We have concluded that we shall not change the tune name on the RSPBA website but instead insert the other name, viz: *The Pipers' Cave (Miss Ainslie Grant Duff's)*.

The vast majority in the pipe band world know the tune as *The Pipers' Cave* so we feel the bracketed addition should suffice.

We thank Mr Duthie for uncovering this.

Theresa Brown, Tunes Group, for the Music Board,
RSPBA, 45 Washington Street, Glasgow.

1st Volunteer Battalion HLI pipe band

Sir,

I wondered if any readers would know of a contact I could speak to regarding obtaining a list of members of the 1st Volunteer Battalion Highland Light Infantry pipe band? I have an old watch from my great, great grandfather William Brown [right]. It shows that he was a Private in the 1st VBHLI. The watch was awarded in 1891 for marks.



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The VBHLI Pipe Band.

I also have another photo that shows William and his son, James (Jim) in the VBHLI Pipe Band but I would love to get more information on when this photo was taken. I estimate that this photo was taken about 1900.

Amanda Brown, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

• *Amanda, thank you for contacting us about this. Military records are held online at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk and another useful website is www.forces-war-records.co.uk. Unfortunately, both these sites require a small fee.*

The Royal Highland Fusiliers Regimental Museum on Sauchiehall St., Glasgow may know if any records are available as the HLI was amalgamated into the RHF. We are unsure as to how much is available on the Volunteers and even for the regular army a lot of records have been lost or destroyed. The RHF museum's telephone number is 0141 332 5639 and there is an online contact form at www.rhf.org.uk.

Can readers provide more information? – Editor.

On reflection …

Sir,

You will recall we met at the recent World Pipe Band Championships and had a good chat about all things piping. In the beer tent we put the piping world

to rights, I am sure. You also gave me a few back issues of the *PT* for the guys in my band to read. Further to your last two editorials, I wish to comment.

Firstly, your August editorial. 1976 was a landmark year for me, too. It was the year my father walked in to Grainger & Campbell and came out with my first set of pipes. I was 12-years-old at the time and learning to play under the tutelage of my local Boys' Brigade Company in Ayrshire. We moved to Norfolk, England shortly after and my piping declined somewhat. I returned to it about a decade ago and now play with an ex-servicemen band. We do not compete.

Looking back, the 1970s perhaps wasn't a politically correct era but it was, for many of us, idyllic. We had no mobile telephones, no Internet, no Google tyranny and so on. Life was simpler but I suppose we were too young to see signs of decline around us. In his 1979 comedy, *Bedroom Farce*, Alan Ayckbourn wrote, "God, the tattiness of England now. We seem to be presiding over the collapse of decency and integrity without the energy even to realise what's happening." As the years went by this certainly seems to be the case. Tom Wolfe called the 70s the 'Me Decade'. Egad, I wonder what he'd call this decade!?!! Technology has now brought narcissism to an unparalleled fore.

Thank God for the fraternalism of the pipe!

I agree with pretty much all of your comments in last month's editorial concerning the World Pipe Band Championships. I am in my mid-50s now and this was my first visit to the Worlds. Overall, I enjoyed the experience but I was rather disappointed with the venue. I am aware Glasgow Green has been the venue for quite a number of years now but despite the positive aspects of my two days, my visit resulted in a miasma of disillusionment. I spent most of my day listening to bands in all grades except and I thought the arenas were far too widely spaced from each other. The organisers clearly utilised as much of Glasgow Green as possible but, in my view, it really wasn't necessary to do so.

I was exhausted and a little deflated by the time I left the park. I do not know Glasgow but surely there are other venues that could provide more of a sense of occasion, more of an atmosphere? Hey ho, this park seems to be considered the People's Venue, housing the People's Palace, is situated by the River Clyde (the People's River!) and hosts a pipe band competition (the People's Music!).

Despite my grumblings, I shall probably return next year.

Great magazine, by the way.

Ian Whitelaw, Great Plumstead, East Anglia, England.

• *It was good to meet you, Ian.*

DVD search

Sir,

First, my apologies for this length of time that it has taken me to write to you and to let you know that all of the materials packaged and sent to me all arrived safely and intact. Thank you all.

Since just before that arrival, I have been both in and out of state and country, and oft times I have been without Internet access, by dent of time and location. (Lastly, and again, in Normandy for The Annual D-day Memorial Ceremony, held on Sword Beach, in Colleville-Montgomery). And once again, I was scheduled for international travel. This time I found myself in Glasgow in early August. I visited Otago Street (formerly the College) to make some purchases, including, I had hoped, several copies of the DVD, *Follow Me! I'm Right Behind You!* Having already received and given out several copies of this DVD, I have found it to be of inestimable value and importance in the making plain the availability and the joy of the music, and to any who would 'have a go' at it all. I simply wish to see it as widely disseminated as is now possible.

Sadly, there were no copies left. If you or any readers of the *PT* have any copies of it extant, please consign at least five of them – and up to 10 or even 15, if at all possible – to me.

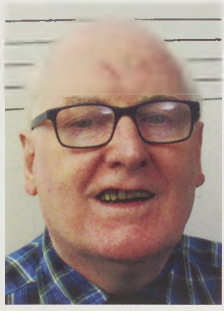
With warmest regards and gratitude to you all, for all of your tireless work on our behalf,

David Cormalleth, Illinois, USA.

• *David, it was a pity our paths didn't cross during that very busy week. Can any readers furnish David with copies of this particular DVD? If so, let us know at the usual address – Editor.*

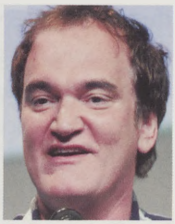


We have been asked by some readers to clarify the person in whose name George Johnston, [left] composed last month's excellent Choice Tune (on page 45). It is none other than Willie Morrison [right], champion piper, reedmaker, Uisteach, composer, senior judge, all round good guy and the Chief Instructor here in Otago Street.



Lookalikes


Tarantino.


McKerrell.

Sir,

I enjoy the lookalikes that appear now and again in the *PT*. I saw the photo of Simon McKerrell that appeared last month and was struck by his resemblance to Quentin Tarantino. One is a purveyor of a tradition with an unpredictable, violent culture characterised by nonlinear stories, improvisation, and an aestheticisation of violence.

The other is a Hollywood film producer.

Are they perchance related?

I must dash before someone shuts my butt down.

Davy Robinson, Falkirk, Scotland.

More from MacTavish, please!

Sir,

A quick note to say how much I enjoyed reading the account from MacTavish of that very first Silver Chanter in 1967. It read not so much like a report, more like a gripping yarn, if I may put it that way? It was a refreshing read, the best thing on piping I've read in years. What a shame he hid his article away for all these years.

More from MacTavish, please, whoever he is.

Eric G. Ballard, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute correspondence

Sir,

The Charleston Pipe Band would like to register for the 'Battle's Over' observance on November 11. Our band will be convening on the steps of the Charleston Library Society on King Street in downtown Charleston, South Carolina to participate in this commemorative event.

This will also coincide with the monthly '2nd Sunday' in downtown Charleston when the length of King Street is closed to vehicular traffic to create an outside mall for shopping and listening to music. So, we are assured a good crowd.

We will also promote the event through local media in the month before

the event. We will also sell poppy pins to raise money for a veteran's cause in our area. If there were other ideas that bands have shared with you about their level of participation, we would love to hear of what they are and possibly incorporate those ideas into our event.

The Charleston Pipe Band is well known locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally for its award-winning musicianship and professionalism. The band's membership is composed primarily of civilian volunteers along with active duty police, fire, and safety officers. Since it's founding 23 years ago, the band has traveled throughout much of the Eastern United States Seaboard and Canada performing at parades, festivals, public events, funerals, and competing at many Scottish Highland Games.

On a more personal note, I recorded *When the Battle's Over* for a local historic church (in Michigan where I spend my summers) last month. The video will be projected on November 11th at the church. Perhaps, other pipers could perform this service for remote locations where pipers may not be available on the actual day of the commemorations.

Thank you so much for coordinating this event.

Mary Scholtens, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, USA.



Sir,

A few of us intend to play our tribute at the Fovant Badges in Wiltshire where we live. The Fovant Badges, pictured above, are a set of regimental badges cut into a chalk hill near Fovant, in southwest Wiltshire and were created by soldiers waiting to go to France during the First World War. Eight of the original 20 badges remain.

Dave Surtees, Wiltshire, England.

Sir,

My tribute is in memory of relatives who fought in World War One: my grand father, Arthur George Burke, US Army Corp of Engineers, and my great uncle Richard Murphy, US Navy.

I reside in Eureka, California and am a piper with the Jefferson Pipe Band from Redding California. I secured authorisation from Sheriff Honsal for the Humboldt Highlanders to pipe from the Humboldt County Jail's roof top (5th floor).

John R. Burke, Eureka, California, USA.

Sir,

Alaska Celtic Pipes & Drums would like to register for the Battle's Over event on November 11. We will perform the tune at the Anchorage Veterans Memorial, in the municipality of Anchorage Borough (county), Anchorage, Alaska.

Pipe Major Richard Christiansen, Alaska Celtic Pipes & Drums, Alaska, USA.

Sir,

My 11-year-old grand daughter and I will be joining the universal massed pipers on November 11. We will be playing in Warsash, Hampshire. We are both members of the Hamble St Andrews Pipe Band and we will be remembering in particular both of my grandfathers who survived gassing at Passchendaele though suffering the effects for the rest of their lives.

Arthur Mills, Warsash, Hampshire, England.

Sir,

I am a 50-year-old-brained, non-traditional student with one year of practice under my belt and still on my practice chanter. I plan on playing *When the Battle's O'er* on my practice chanter at 06:00 Central Standard Time USA. The tune is one of five tunes I know thus far.

I am planning on playing outside the Iowa Memorial Union at the University of Iowa which is right on the Iowa River. The Iowa Memorial Union was built in 1924 to honour the state's casualties in the First World War and it has evolved to honour all our fallen in wars since. I have always been a student of military history, and I am very proud to do this.

William Douglas Moore, Iowa City, IA.

• *Good on you, William. – Editor.*

Braw Beard Oils

The Hirsute Hall of Infamy



Glynn Burke from Queensland, Australia, attended the recent World Pipe Band Championships and took this photograph of a member of the Toronto Fire Service Pipes and Drums. Glynn says he doesn't know the gentleman's name but would nevertheless like to nominate him for inclusion in the Hirsute Hall of Infamy.

The gentleman is in fact David Linder who lives over the border in Rochester, NY, and we agree that David and his face lace deserve to be included.

Email your nominations to: sletford@thepipingcentre.co.uk or post them to us at Otago Street (full address details on p1).

Only UK-based readers can receive a bottle of Braw Beard Oil.

DONALD DRONE

(with apologies to Seoras)



"That's a bad sign."



McCalister's smirk

Peter McCalister from Dunblane, won the Highland Society of London Gold Medal at the Northern Meeting, held as ever at the Eden Court Theatre, Inverness last month. WO1 Ross McCrindle (Scots Guards), a native of Girvan in Ayrshire but now resident in Edinburgh, won the Silver Medal. Peter's winning tune was *War or Peace* while Ross's winning tune was *The Desperate Battle of the Birds*, the tune that his teacher, Andrew Wright, won his Gold Medal with in 1970.

This year's event attracted more overseas junior competitors than ever before and a record number of entries overall. The two-day competition saw Angus MacColl from Oban being given the honour of winning the overall prize of the Northern Meeting Quaich. Callum Beaumont won the Clasp for the third time.

As reported last month, two new trophies were launched this year, one for ☛



Pipe Major Ross McCrindle, Scots Guards, won the Silver Medal.

juniors in the Highlands and Moray area and the other for a piper serving in the UK armed forces. The former was gifted by the Gordon and Ena Baxter Foundation and was won by Angus MacPhee from Inverness.

The second new trophy was donated in honour of Lieutenant Colonel D. J. S. Murray who died in January 2017. Pipe Major Ross McCrindle, Scots Guards – the Senior Pipe Major at the Army School of Bagpipe Music – won it.

This year the Northern Meeting Piping Committee made a presentation to Jack Lee for his commitment to the contest. Jack has travelled from Vancouver to take part in the contest for 40 years.

Major General Seymour Monro,





Jack Lee receives a Dalvey pocket watch from Lord Provost Helen Carmichael.



Angus MacColl with the Northern Meeting Quaich.

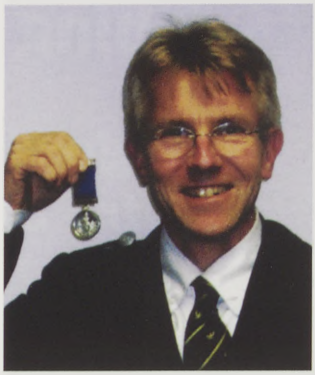
one of the Northern Meeting trustees, spoke of the challenges of funding. He said: "Despite being an efficient and largely voluntary organisation, the annual operating costs for the past three years have run at a loss. This is not a drama but it's surely not right that a charity running a world-class event should face a deficit annually despite its very best efforts. We are enormously grateful to the Inverness Common Good Fund but I do appeal to other organisations, businesses and individuals in Inverness, the Highlands and Moray to consider whether they could sponsor or donate to the competition."

Peter McCalister was born in Lurgan, Northern Ireland, and went to school at Campbell College Belfast, *writes Stuart Letford.* At age nine his first teacher of pipes was Pipe Major Andy Wilson, who came to the school to coach the Combined Cadet Force pipe band. Andy taught individuals at his own house (starting Peter on piobaireachd before he was 12) and also took Peter to join the Robert Armstrong Memorial Pipe Band where he played under Harry Stevenson. He took Music 'O' and 'A' level (piano being his first instrument). During his time at Edinburgh Medical School the pipes took a back seat, apart from OTC band playing which, he tells me, seemed to mainly revolve around the local bar.

When his children were little Peter took up bellows pipes after a chance meeting with Mike Rowan (founder of the Lowland & Border Pipers' Society). The Scottish smallpipes and Northumbrian pipes became a major pastime until

the late 1990s when he began to be successful in the National Piping Centre's CLASP contests. This was due mainly to constant tutoring by Tom Spiers, who still teaches him for piobaireachd although he has been to Roddy MacLeod and more recently Finlay Johnston for light music tuition.

During this time Peter became an active member of the Piobaireachd Society, joining its committees and working behind the scenes on its website. He still serves on the Music Committee although he has to step outside when the Set Tunes are discussed at meetings.



Peter in September 2012 when he won the Silver Medal at the Argyllshire Gathering.

In 2009 both he and Douglas Gardiner left the CLASP and joined the Competing Pipers' Association. Douglas had success in the Oban Silver Medal (5th) and then Peter won the same contest in 2012 with the tune *You're Welcome, Ewan*. Thereafter, says Peter, it has been a long battle to produce the consistent sound and seek the correct musical expression to gain success in the Gold.

Getting the bagpipe right is every piper's struggle, and Peter played many beautiful vintage sets before discovering a set of Naills that have been the best set of pipes he has played. In addition, he plays an Ayrfire chanter.

On August 30 Peter was on fifth in the Gold Medal. He hoped to get *War or Peace* which had been successful for him round the Games and which he had studied for some years. He was delighted when this tune was chosen. As he left the stage he reflected that perhaps he had got a bit carried away with the tempo, which gradually increases throughout the tune. In addition, he had opted to play a setting (Gesto) where the urlar is repeated five times – after each doubling –



and the speed of the urlar also increased incrementally throughout. However, the gamble paid off. The judges liked it.

Although that evening was a blur, Peter recalls having a meal and some drinks with fellow Eagle Pipers, Euan Anderson, Craig Robertson and Colin MacLellan, conscious of being first on in the light music the next day. The latter could have gone better, he admits, and puts this down to lack of sleep.

The next step is the Glenfiddich, which he is really looking forward to, being able to submit all of his favourite tunes. Having studied the music for so long, he has a lot of the repertoire already under his belt – which is some help when faced with eight or more tunes to learn for 2019 and the years to come.

Results:

Gold Medal – 1. Peter McCalister (*War or Peace*); 2. Cameron MacDougall (*MacKenzie of Applecross*); 3. Sandy Cameron (*The Brother's Lament*); 4. Cameron Drummond (*The Young Laird of Dungallon*); 5. Connor Sinclair (*MacKenzie of Gairloch*).
Judges: Alan Forbes, Murray Henderson and Dr Jack Taylor.

Silver Medal – 1. Ross McCrindle (*The Desperate Battle of the Birds*); 2. Andrew Donlon (*Grain in Hides, Corn in Sacks*); 3. William Rowe (*Grain in Hides, Corn in Sacks*); Alex Gandy (*The King's Taxes*); 5. Ursa Beckford (*Maol Donn*).
Judges: Ron Clark, Patricia Henderson and Malcolm McRae.

Former Winners' MSR – 1. Alex Gandy; 2. Stuart Liddell; 3. Iain Speirs; 4. Angus MacColl; 5. William McCallum.
Judges: Jimmy Banks, John Wilson and Bob Worrall.

'A' Grade MSR – 1. Callum Beaumont; 2. Seumas Coyne; 3. Alastair Lee; 4. Dr Innes Smith; 5. Connor Sinclair.
Judges: Andrew Frater, Allan MacDonald and Ian MacFadyen.

Clasp – 1. Calum Beaumont (*Farewell to the Queen's Ferry*); 2. Angus MacColl (*Mrs Smith's Salute*); 3. Finlay Johnston (*Salute to the MacCrimmon Cairn at Boreraig*); 4. Stuart Liddell (*Mrs Smith's Salute*); 5. Bruce Gandy (*Salute to James Campbell*).
Judges: Colin MacLellan, Iain Morrison and Bill Wotherspoon.

Hornpipe & Jig – 1. Stuart Liddell; 2. Alex Gandy; 3. Angus J. MacColl; 4. Gordon McCready; 5. Alasdair Henderson.
Judges: Jimmy Banks, Bruce Hitchings BEM MBE and Ian MacFadyen.

'B' Grade

MSR – 1. Calum Brown; 2. Liam Kernaghan; 3. Callum Moffat; 4. Cameron MacDougall; 5. Stuart Easton.
Judges: Ron Clark and John Wilson.

Hornpipe & Jig – 1. Stuart Easton; 2. Calum Brown; 3. Liam Kernaghan; 4. Matt Wilson; 5. Calum Watson.
Judges: Allan MacDonald and Malcolm McRae.

Under 18
Ceòl Mór – 1. Angus MacPhee; 2. Campbell Wilson; 3. Brodie Watson-Massey; 4. Anna Smart.
Judges: Patricia Henderson and George Lumsden.
MSR – 1. Ross Connor; 2. Brodie Watson-Massey; 3. Hamish Reade; 4. Angus MacPhee.
Judges: Patrick Grant and Bob Worrall.
Under 15
Ceòl Mór – 1. Kyle Cameron; 2. Robert Allen; 3. Drew MacKay; 4. Calum Dunbar.
Judges: Patrick Grant and Bob Worrall.
MSR – 1. Calum Dunbar; 2. Joseph Nicholson; 3. Kyle Cameron; 4. Robert Allen.
Judges: Patricia Henderson and George Lumsden.


Gandy Jnr.


Gandy Snr.

This year's Northern Meeting was remarkable in that there appears to have been more father and sons competing than ever before:

- Angus D. and Angus J. MacColl;
- Bruce and Alex Gandy;
- Jack and Andrew Lee;
- Greg and Campbell Wilson;
- Alan and Alistair Bevan.

There have been others in the past, of course, but we wonder if there has ever been as many all in the same year?

The win of Alex Gandy (Silver Star) means he will compete against his father (the overall champion at London last year), at this month's Glenfiddich, a father-son first for this prestiguous event.



RODDY MACLEOD M.B.E.

POWERED BY BEGG BAGS
TO
5 GLENFIDDICH PIPING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Pass Out Parade



The parade plays before Lt. Col. Colquhoun, Commanding Officer of Support Battalion ITC.

Parents and friends of students who completed a six month All Arms Piper & Drummer Class 3 & 2 Course were invited to the Pass Out Parade at the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming, Inchdrewer House on September 12.

Many of the students – all soldiers from various units of the British Army – were complete novices and in fact had not touched their instruments until the start of the 22-week course.

The prize giving ceremony followed in the Oak Room of Inchdrewer House. On behalf of the NPC Veterans' Association, Bob McFie presented Private MacAskill (3 SCOTS) with the trophy for the Best Piper. See photo, right. This trophy is presented annually.



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Piping movie appeal



Canadian actor Osric Chau is probably best known for his supporting role in TV's *Supernatural*.

Producers of a movie about a boy who takes up the Highland bagpipe and goes on to compete in a prestigious solo piping competition are appealing to pipers to assist with fundraising.

The screenplay for the movie has been written by Diane Carey, a bestselling author of 53 books and a screenwriter. Her screenplay, *Champion Supreme* is being produced by a film company in Michigan, USA. The story is about an Asian-American boy who takes to the instrument and who then competes for North American Champion Supreme.

Diane, a piper with Flint Scottish Pipe Band of Michigan, told the *PT*: "It's a family film that reflects the popularity of the Scottish heritage and activities. We have a professional film team, a recognised star in Osric Chau, champion pipers, two pipe bands, a composer, a special effects expert, a film festival expert and many other serious assets. We are moving forward in a prudent and professional manner."

Mary-Ann MacKinnon has given the rights to use her well known composition, *Steam Train to Mallaig* as the main musical theme of the movie.

"This month we launched a world-wide funding campaign through Indiegogo and are hoping to reach as many people who enjoy Highland/Celtic culture as possible. People will have the chance to 'vote' with a few dollars to help get the movie made and released," said Diane.

Pipe band movement

• Triumph Street Pipe Band of Vancouver has folded. The Grade 1 band had come to the end of its 10-year sponsorship by the Dowco Group, a Canadian structural steel consulting organisation.

Ahead of the news, Gary Nimmo, one of the band's Scottish-based pipers, was appointed Pipe Major of the Grade 2 Royal Burgh of Stirling Pipe Band. Nimmo had been the Piping Instructor for the schools of Wester Ross. Cameron MacDougall, a native of Easter Ross, succeeds Nimmo.



David Wilton.

• David Wilton left Lomond & Clyde Pipe Band to take over as the new Pipe Major of Grade 2 MacKenzie Caledonian Pipe Band from Neil Nicholson. Under Nicholson the Tayside band scored several successes at the major competitions and performed a series of concerts to celebrate its centenary.



Emmett Conway.

• In Grade 3, Oban Pipe Band has appointed Daniel Johnstone and Alan Irvine as Pipe Major and Leading Drummer, respectively.

• Emmett Conway has taken over as Pipe Major of Shotts & Dykehead Caledonian. He takes over from Ryan Canning who stepped down after the recent World Pipe Band Championships.

• Alastair Dunn has left World Champions Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band to concentrate on business and family.



A massed band took part in the RAF100 held at RAF Brize Norton last month. The event was the latest in a series of commemorative celebrations marking the centenary of the Royal Air Force. Around 50 pipers and drummers assembled at the Oxfordshire base to participate in a fundraiser for the RAF Benevolent Fund.

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Finlay Johnston and Hugh Anderson browse the very first issue of the *Piping Times*.

70 years of the *PT*

The *Piping Times* (*PT*) this month becomes a septuagenarian. Its origins go back to the beginning of 1947 when a little magazine entitled *Fiery Cross* made its first appearance in January that year under the editorship of Hugh MacDonald. The cover bore the logo of The League of Young Scots, which rapidly became more familiar as the logo of the College of Piping. Articles covered piping and the activities of the league. Only one issue appeared.

A simple newssheet entitled *The Piping Times* followed *Fiery Cross*. The first of these was a single duplicated sheet edited by Terry MacDonough, sub-edited by Iain Forrest, and it came out early in 1948. By the fifth edition in August 1948 it had grown to two sheets stapled together.

The first properly printed *Piping Times* appeared the following month under the direction of Terry MacDonough. The issue was actually dated October 1948 but an explanation was given 40 years later by Seumas MacNeill: "Of course we were pretty clever even in these days, for although it appeared in September we labelled the issue October, being pretty sure that over the years we would need that extra month's grace to allow for delay in production. And how right we were. Not the least of our achievements has been our success in maintaining a monthly appearance, and only sliding back three weeks in 40 years."

The first issue had a plain cover with a central picture of the MacCrimmon ☛

The 2019 German Winterschule

Jugendherberge, Homburg, Saarland, Germany
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The ninth annual Winter School will be held at the Jugendherberge (youth hostel) in the town of Homburg in Saarland, Germany, from February 10-17, 2019.

Secure your place with a 50% deposit with the remaining balance to be paid before January 31, 2019. ***Discounts for groups of five or more***.

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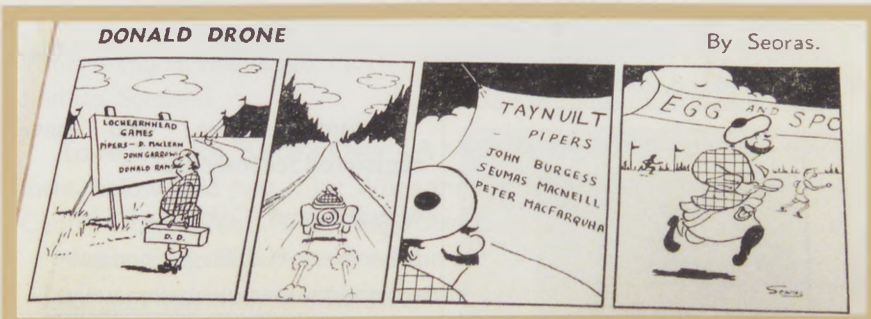
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Cairn. The March 1951 magazine saw the wording around the College logo on the cover change from 'League of Young Scots' to 'College of Piping' and from April 1951 the cover became a tartan pattern of black and white with a red line.

In May 1952 a crossword appeared for the first time. Since then crosswords have been a regular feature in recent years. By 1957 the *PT* was being run by an Editorial Committee with Seumas MacNeill as the Convenor and in 1958 Rosemary Currie was appointed Editor. At the College AGM in 1959 Seumas became the Editor and remained until he died in 1996. Dugald MacNeill then became Editor until October 1999 when Robert Wallace was appointed. After Robert's departure in 2014, Stuart Letford took over.

We wish to thank all our readers and advertisers for their continued support and thank those who sent congratulatory messages, of which space permits only a small selection:

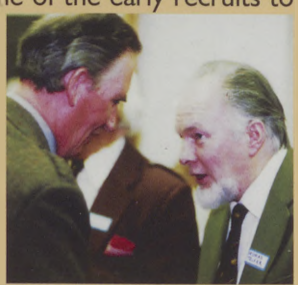
The Piobaireachd Society offers heartiest congratulations to the *Piping Times* on reaching three score years and ten. The coverage of ***Continued on page 35***



Donald Drone's first appearance.

The Donald Drone cartoon strip first appeared in October 1953, which coincided with an increase in size from 24 pages to 32. The strip was drawn by Seoras (George) MacDonald Telfer, one of the early recruits to The League of Young Scots. Seoras was also one of the first three pupils at the fledgling College of Piping, the others being Iain Thomson and David Smith.

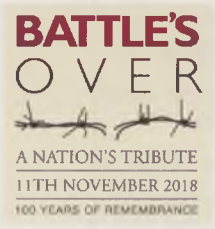
Seoras died on December 14, 2001. He worked on the railway and for many years until his retirement he was the signalman at Spean Bridge in Lochaber. He also appeared as an extra in *Highlander*, *Rob Roy* and *Braveheart*.



Terry MacDonalgh and Seoras Telfer in March 1993.

'Battle's Over' – fundraising element

Organisers of this unique early morning event commemorating the centenary of the end of the First World War wish to respond to queries from the large numbers of pipers and pipe bands who plan to raise money as part of their tribute. Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR, Pageantmaster, said: "Many participants have asked about fundraising and all we would ask is that they consider arranging a public collection at some point before or after their tribute to raise funds for the three armed forces charities and the Merchant Navy charity outlined in the official Guide. They will be most grateful for your generous support."

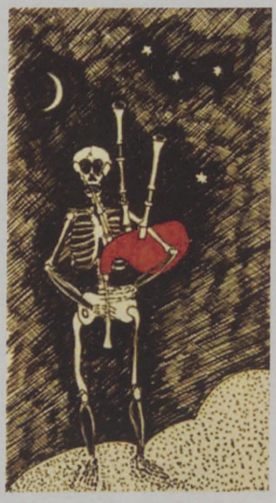


The most up-to-date Guide to Taking Part is available online at www.brunopeek.co.uk. The final version of the Guide will be available from October 30.

Participants can send photographs of their tribute to brunopeek@mac.com. As many of these as is possible will feature in a pictorial to be published in the *Piping Times*. Please include the name of your organisation (if applicable), and the location (county and country) with your photographs.

A follow-up event is being considered for the 75th anniversary of VE Day which is on May 8, 2020.

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Peter Morrison, North Ayrshire, Scotland.

Isaac Benda, Massachusetts, USA.

Kerry Marshall, North Island, New Zealand.

Christian Stommel, Benni Wenders, Sylvia Hamacher, Marina Birr, Irmgard Boden, Dagmar Schroers-Esser, Sandra Moll, Claudia Krahn, Markus Schmidt, Marcel Baumeister, Jeroen van den Bogaerts, Christian Stommel, Christian Fischer, Franz-Heinrich Busch – all North Rhine-

Westphalia, Germany.

Dawn A. Baldwin, Des Moines, Iowa, USA

Mark Hurm, Des Moines, Iowa, USA.

Gemma McVey, South Lanarkshire, Scotland.

George Rokahr, Norwich, Norfolk, England.

David Wilson, Kent, England.

Michael W Henry, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.

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William Fallon, Edinburgh, East Lothian, Scotland.

Thomas Fallon, Edinburgh, East Lothian, Scotland.

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Romuald Le Gall, Brittany, France.

Clive James Baxter Wilson, Hessett, Suffolk, England.

Chris Lindsay, Pencoed, South Wales.

Alasdair Johnston, Athelstaneford,

To register for 'Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute' simply complete the form, below, and post it to: When the Battle's O'er, The National Piping Centre Otago Street, 16-24 Otago Street, Glasgow G12 8JH, Scotland, UK.

Alternatively, fill in the online form at:
www.collegeofpiping.org/join-battles-oer/
or email: sletford@thepipingcentre.co.uk

Remember, the time to play on November 11, 2018 is 06:00 **your** time.

BATTLE'S OVER A NATION'S TRIBUTE 11TH NOVEMBER 2018 100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE	Name of Piper	
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From page 27

Society matters has always been first class, and many Society members must surely reach for it in preference to their professional publications or the daily newspaper. May the *PT* continue for many human lifespans to come.

Dr Jack Taylor, President, The Piobaireachd Society.

Since it's first edition in 1948, the *Piping Times* has been the unofficial record of piping in Scotland and beyond, as well as providing a forum for much needed research and discussion about our beloved music (in particular piobaireachd) and our celebrated composers, players and instrument makers. This is entirely due to the perspicaciousness and sharpness of the magazine's editors and its many correspondents and contributors.

As perhaps a lighter contribution, you may have heard the story about the time that there was a surfing competition being held in Tiree many years ago. A reporter from London tried to get hold of someone on the island to obtain a report of events. The only person he could get hold of was the local postmistress. He explained that he was a reporter and looking for the story of the event. She asked him where he was from and he said, '*The Times*' to which she replied: "Now would that be the *Oban Times* or the *Piping Times*?".

Dugald B. MacNeill, Edinburgh, Scotland.

The Veteran Pipers have had a long association with the premises in Otago Street. In the past, as in the present, the content of the *Times* is often discussed during our weekly meetings – and even argued over on occasion. During a recent conversation amongst the membership it was observed that the *PT* is getting old – although maybe not as old as some of the 'Vets'! It was calculated that the *PT*'s 70th birthday is this month so it was decided that our congratulations should be offered. As one of the members put it, "Lang may the *Piping Times*' lum reek!"

We thank you and all your predecessors for the educational content, the photographs and everything else … including Donald Drone. Congratulations from all members of the Veteran Pipers' Association.

Bob McFie, Honorary President, the Vets, Otago Street, Glasgow, Scotland.

Congratulations to the *Piping Times* reaching 70! Nearly as old as myself! Pipe Major J. B. Robertson MBE first introduced me to the magazine. He gave me all his back copies so I must be one of those rare subscribers that have almost every copy printed.

The magazine has done and is doing a great job for pipers around the world. We are a well-dispersed lot and it keeps us informed and in touch with our fellow ☛

pipers everywhere. All power to your elbow. Keep on keeping on!

John H. Shone, London, England.

Congratulations from The Northern Meeting to the *Piping Times* on 70 years of outstanding contributions to the worldwide community of pipers.

Alan Forbes, Piping Convenor, The Northern Meeting.

The *PT* is a world renowned institution and the MacCrimmons would be proud of its steadfast resolve and unstinting service to the art of piping. Congratulations on 70 years of excellence in piping. Keep up this great achievement .

Jim Begg, Kirkintilloch, Scotland.

On behalf of the Solo Piping Judges Association, may I congratulate the *Piping Times* on reaching the milestone of 70 years of continuous publishing. The magazine represents an exhaustive history of piping since its inception in the 1940s. Having a complete original set here in Edinburgh, the *Piping Times* is always my first port of call when I am in need of information. Long may it thrive.

Colin MacLellan, Chairman, Solo Piping Judges Association.

The Argyllshire Gathering congratulates the *Piping Times*. May it continue to inform the piping community for many years.

Torquil Telfer, Piping Convenor, The Argyllshire Gathering.

Interesting, amusing, often controversial and downright aggravating but today's piping world would have been the poorer without the *PT*.

Keith Sanger, Penicuik, Scotland.

REVIEWS

Crossing the Minch, An Lanntair, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, September 7

This event, an evening of traditional piping followed by ceilidh dancing, celebrated the music of Pipe Major Donald MacLeod MBE, one of the most influential pipers of the last century and one of the town's most famous sons. This was part of the Blas Festival which was staged over nine days in 34 venues across the Highlands and Islands.

Calum MacCrimmon and John Mulhearn are familiar to a piping audience from the Big Music Society venture, which was set up in 2014 to support the progression and staging of ceòl mór and to bring it to a wider audience.

For 'Crossing the Minch' they were joined by a piper from Lewis, James Duncan MacKenzie, who has made quite a name for himself, individually and in various bands on various instruments. James was taught originally by Pipe

Major Iain Murdo Morrison who was himself taught by Pipe Major Donald MacLeod. It was James who, at the age of 16, played the first tune to be heard within the walls of the An Lanntair building, playing *Pipe Major Donald MacLean of Lewis* on the opening night in 2005.

Calum and James made an entrance by marching down the aisles playing two well-known 6/8 marches, *MacLeod of Mull*, composed for the legendary Bobby MacLeod of The Mishnish Hotel in Tobermory, and the *Ross Battery*. Up until 1974 the Isle of Lewis was part of Ross and Cromarty, and many Lewismen served in the Ross Battery and saw active service in places such as Gallipoli.

Then on came the Fear an Taighe for the evening, the indefatigable John Wilson. John was a pupil of Donald MacLeod's for 22 years and is an authority on all aspects of his compositions, both the light music and the ceòl mòr. He spoke eruditely about how Donald blended his Gaelic heritage with his musicality and the common thread that runs through his compositions of a strong melody line with a strong Gaelic taste. John won the Gold Medal 50 years ago but demonstrated that his lungs are still in good shape, striding up and down, playing *Pipe Major John McWilliams*.



After a selection of jigs and strathspeys such as *Donald MacLennan's Tuning Phrase* and *Stac Polly,* John gave an informative chat about Donald's approach to ceòl mòr. He then introduced John Mulhearn to play perhaps Donald's most poignant composition, *Lament for the Iolaire*. The story of the *Iolaire* is well known and it was particularly relevant for Blas this year as we approach the centenary of the tragic event. The tune reflects Donald's sensitive feeling about the incident and shows him at his compositional best. John gave a very moving rendition on a well-tuned instrument.

The first half of the evening's entertainment was rounded off with a selection of tunes – *Knightswood Ceilidh, Neil Angus MacDonald* and *Calum Beag*, putting the audience in an anticipatory mood for the second half which took the form of a dance. The seating was pushed back during the interval, clearing a large space for dancing, demonstrating the flexibility of An Lanntair as a performance space.

The Glenfinnan Ceilidh Band provided music for the dancing and the programme very much followed a traditional west coast [Scotland] dance with ☛

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several pipe tunes being played. The last dance was a Strip the Willow and the band were joined onstage by the four pipers to play a string of Donald MacLeod's jigs … and John Wilson kept up with the youngsters.

One final tune as an encore. It had to be … *Crossing the Minch.*

Dr John Smith.

United Pipers for Peace – a French commemoration



The massed bands play through the streets of Amiens.

By Emmanuel Corbasson

In early July, Amiens, the capital city of the Somme in northwest France hosted the second United Pipers for Peace event. This event gathered 20 pipe bands (including two Breton bagads) from all over Europe to remember the soldiers who died during the First World War in France. The Samarobriva Pipes and Drums, organiser of this event since 2016, is a pipe band located in the city and its members wanted to pay tribute to the pipers in particular.

Held over July 7 and 8, United Pipers for Peace helped the public remember the role, service and sacrifice of the pipers as well as the role played by Amiens at that time. Located away from the front line, the city served not only as logistical support but also as a cosmopolitan centre where soldiers from various nations would come to rest and recuperate.

"The idea was to commemorate in a different way the centenary of the Battle



The Samarobriva Pipes and Drums plays everyone out of the cathedral.

of the Somme by the gathering of musicians," explained Pascal Lebeau, Pipe Major of the Samarobriva Pipes and Drums. With more than 8,000 spectators, the first event was such a success that the group decided to organise a second one to commemorate the end of this awful war."

The most moving moment came inside the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Amiens, the biggest and the most beautiful cathedral in Europe. More than 2,500 people attended this show. Emma Brown of the Huntly & District Pipe Band played *Amazing Grace* before 300 pipers and drummers joined in. More than six million people on social media shared a video of this performance. The bands then gathered in front of the cathedral and played together several pieces.

All the pipe bands marched on the Sunday afternoon in a parade throughout the city centre. The parade ended in front of the cathedral where the groups played to an enthusiastic public. French people seem to have a strong relationship with Scotland and all the pipe bands received a warm reception. The performances of the Huntly & District Pipe Band – who played in full dress uniform – and the Ballater & District Pipe Band were particularly appreciated. The proximity of the players and the public is one of the keys to the success of this event. The ambience was about sharing a moment all together.

Many individual pipers and drummers came together to form a colourful group to participate in all the events. Pipers and drummers from Australia, Canada, Belgium, Scotland and America, joined the ranks of this motley pipe band: the Lonely Pipe Band.

It is difficult to mention all the groups present over the weekend but it is interesting to note that a German group made the trip and gave to the event a



The bands prepare to play *Amazing Grace* inside Amiens Cathedral.

more European dimension. It is also a beautiful image of reconciliation.

On the French side, nine pipe bands had answered to the invitation, including the Haskol Ha Brug from Blain in Brittany, the oldest French pipe band. On this occasion, the Breton group wore its new tartan, the tartan of Blain, which was deposited, with the Scottish Tartans Authority in 2016.

United Pipers for Peace was also an opportunity to gather the pipe bands of the home county on the same event. Consequently, the Samarobriva Pipes and Drums, the Val Somme Pipe Band and the Somme Battle Field Pipe Band participated in the parade. It is rare to see the three formations of the Somme participate in the same event.

To complement the event, the Fédération Française de Pipe Bands (FFPB), France's pipe band federation, presented its activities, courses and competitions to visitors. This young organisation also accompanied seven pipe bands and helped players with reeds and other essential accessories. The FFPB's purpose is to bring together bands and to offer courses to improve group play. United Pipers for Peace offered a good showcase.



Pibroch en Bord de Mer, 2018



Yves Tison in Port Pican, Brittany playing *Corrienessan's Salute*.

This year's Pibroch en bord de mer (Pibroch by the seaside) in Cancale (Brittany), the 14th year, was another success, *writes Patrick Molard.* It took place on Sunday, September 16 amidst glorious weather and in beautiful surroundings with the Mont Saint Michel and the coast of Normandy in the background. A total 33 pipers took part and 36 pieces were played as a few pipers played both in the morning and in the afternoon.

As ever, the weekend's activities began on the Saturday with a master class. This year it was conducted by myself and we had 15 students attend the course. The pipers were from Brittany and other parts of France but also from Holland and California. We even a young piper from Hong Kong who is living in Glasgow. The class studied a piece in canntaireachd from the Colin Campbell manuscript, *One of the Dead's Lament*, a piece which can be found in *Pipers Meeting*, the book which Jack Taylor and I published recently.

After a break for lunch, we studied *The Boat Tune*, a piece from Angus MacKay's manuscript. The afternoon ended with the annual meeting of the Pibroch en Bord de Mer association under the leadership of our President, Remy le Castrec. Remy thanked all the different partners who give their financial support, in particular the Piobaireachd Society whose help is appreciated greatly.

The following morning, Jakez Pincet, our Honorary President – and founder



Remy Le Castrec concluding the afternoon with *Lament for the Old Sword*.



Denis Daniel playied *Captain Archibald Campbell of Glenlyon Lament* in the morning.

– had the thankless role of opening the festivities … well, it is a bit cold for the fingers at 09:00 in the morning! Jakez gave us a nice rendering of *Lady Margaret MacDonald's Salute* and was followed by 12 other pipers before we broke for lunch at 12.30pm.

We left the beautiful surroundings of the Pointe des Crosles and moved to another beautiful spot called Port Pican. The sun was hot and the sky blue … just magic! Lunch featured entertainment by the bagadig of Saint-Malo (the local pipe band with pipes, drums and bombards) and a welcome speech from the Lord Mayor of Cancale who emphasised the importance of this event and the impact on the Saint-Malo/Cancale region but also abroad as the event now has an international reputation.

A great many people attended the afternoon and listened to another 23 pibrochs until Remy Le Castrec concluded the event with a fine interpretation of *Lament for the Old Sword*.

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THE ARCHIE KENNETH QUAICH

The 27th annual amateur piobaireachd competition for the Archie Kenneth Quaich will take place on Saturday, 23rd February, 2019 (note: a week earlier than in previous years) in the rooms of The Royal Scottish Pipers' Society, 127 Rose Street Lane South, Edinburgh, starting at 09.30 a.m.

Entries and enquiries to: **peter.mccalister@doctors.org.uk** (email entry is preferred) or post to Peter McCalister, Drumcairn, Cawdor Crescent, Dunblane, FK15 9JJ. Tel: 01786 824619



Competitors should submit two tunes with their entries, one of which they will be asked to play on the day. Players will receive the name of the tune selected by the judges in the final tuning room. Competitors may not submit any tune with which they have previously won first prize in the competition.

Conditions for eligibility are as follows:

1) Competitors must be aged 18 or over.
2) Competitors must be amateur pipers. An amateur piper is someone who has never accepted a money prize in a senior solo competition.
3) Anyone in doubt about their eligibility to play should contact the competition organiser for advice.

This competition has been increasingly popular in recent years. In the event that there are significantly more than 25 entries there will be a ballot, and the first 25 entries drawn will be selected to play, plus reserves. Those who are unsuccessful in this ballot will be definite confirmed entries for the 2020 competition, if they intend to enter that.

The ballot, if needed, will be drawn on 14th December, 2018 to allow those travelling from abroad to make plans accordingly. Therefore 13th December is the closing date for entries.

Glenfiddich Piping Championships

The 10 competitors invited to this year's Glenfiddich, which takes place on October 27 at Blair Castle in Perthshire, are:

- Callum Beaumont
- Stuart Easton
- Alex Gandy
- Bruce Gandy
- Finlay Johnston
- Jack Lee
- Stuart Liddell
- Peter McCalister
- Angus MacColl
- Roddy MacLeod



The judges are: Patricia Henderson, Dr Angus MacDonald and John Wilson (ceòl mór); Murray Henderson, Stuart Samson and Bob Worrall (MSR). Euan Anderson is Fear an Tighe.

• Tickets can be purchased in advance from the website of The National Piping Centre: www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/glenfiddich

PT NOTICEBOARD

Fletcher pipes for sale

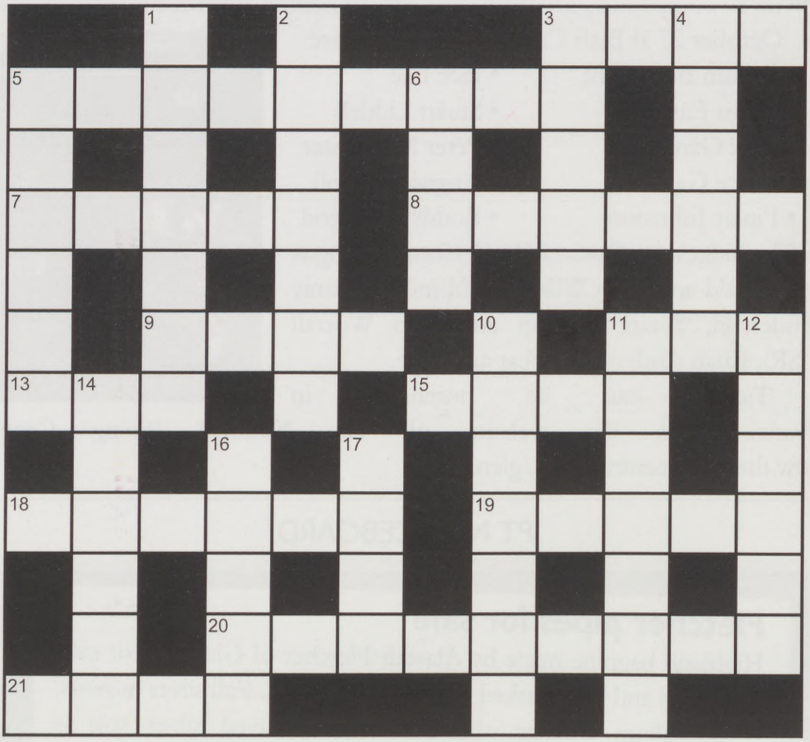
Highland bagpipe made by Alastair Fletcher of Glasgow for sale. Engraved and hall-marked African Blackwood. Full silver mounts. A McCallum chanter with matching engraved silver sole is included. This is a magnificent instrument with a commanding tone. £5,000. Also, a practice chanter by John Walsh. £80. Enquiries to mulberrytreeforest@hotmail.co.uk





CROSSWORD

– compiled by Jeannie Campbell MBE



Across

3. Thug mi ---- in J MacFadyen Bk 1 (4)
5. WW1 action and subject of a letter last month (4,5)
7. Jacky in W Ross Bk 1 (5)
8. See 18 across
9. Island off Mull (4)
11. Jack who has attended the Northern Meeting for 40 years (3)
13. Many pipers use --- plugs (3)
15. Ben near Callander (4)
18. and 8 across. Gold Medal Winner at Oban (6,6)
18. and 11 down. Senior winner at Oban (6,7)
19. Annoying inhabitant of the Highlands (5)
20. You might get a rush of it when competing (9)
21. This band was the best on parade at the Worlds (4)

Down

1. A non-professional (7)
2. Village and Point on the north coast of Islay (7)
3. Birds in the Bog (5)
4. This St Laurence has a band (1'5)
5. One of a set of books (6)
6. The --- Run by Robert Mathieson (4)
10. The school here was featured last month (7)
11. See 18 across.
12. An ----- Ard by W Fergusson (6)
14. The Green Glens of here in the Cabar Feidh Collection (6)
16. Shinty stick in the Glencoe Collection (5)
17. Moon ---- by Charlie Glendinning (4)

Test your piping knowledge with the Piping Times Crossword. Send completed puzzles to: *Piping Times*, 16-24 Otago Street, Glasgow G12 8JH, Scotland. The winner receives a £10 voucher. Online subscribers can download the grid on the PT Extra page: www.collegeofpiping.org. This month's crossword is sponsored by The Bagpipe Shop.

Last month's solution: Across – Chanter, Alison, Morar, Insch, Bonnets, Hawick, Lairds, Top Note, Usher, Patna, Lawrie, Torness. **Down** – Campbell, Arran, Three, Rakish, First Win, Loch, Northern, Skyeman's, Street, Piper, Of The, Udal.

The winner of the August crossword is Mr E. J. Feek of Rickmansworth.

Fake news quiz

The answers to last month's fake news quiz are as follows:

1. Donald MacPherson made his own sporran from his wife's handbag. TRUE
2. Stuart Liddell and Steven McWhirter are cousins, twice removed. FAKE
3. Willie Morrison is also a champion Spey caster. FAKE
4. Boghall (of Boghall & Bathgate) is twinned with Eastern Gouta. FAKE
5. Fred Morrison spent one summer in the early 1990s as Pipe Major of Bagad Quimper. FAKE
6. Andrea Boyd can trace her ancestry to Angus MacKay, Raasay. FAKE
7. Bruce Gandy is worshipped as a god by a tribe in Zimbabwe. FAKE
8. A strongman event formerly held at the early Northern Meetings involved pulling the legs off a live cow. TRUE
9. After holidaying in Mexico in 2009 Brian Lamond had a bounty placed on his head by a drug cartel. FAKE
10. As a teenage golf enthusiast, Mike Cusack once qualified for the US Masters at Augusta. FAKE



We received a good number of entries but incredibly no one had all answers correct. Question number 8 was the one most had difficulty with. No one had this as true yet, according to various sources, at the 1822 Northern Meeting at least, the eccentric revivialist Col. Alasdair MacDonell, 15th of Glengarry did indeed stage such a spectacle although we can only hope the story was exaggerated and that the beast was actually dead.





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Pipers' Peace



An artistic visualisation of the Scottish garden being constructed at Arras.

Work has begun on a Scottish 'Peace Garden' planned for Arras, France in remembrance of the pipers of the First World War. Edinburgh based landscape architects, Anna Rhodes and Melissa Orr were commissioned by Arts et Jardins Hauts-de-France and by the First World War Centenary Partnership Programme to design the perennial garden which will be one of 15 new gardens planned throughout the region on a WW1 theme



Anna Rhodes.

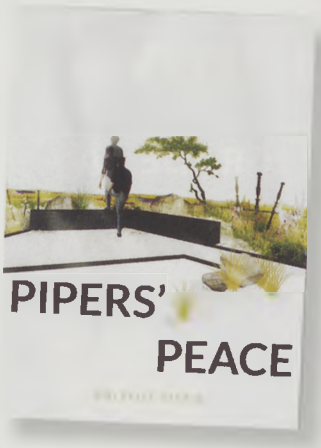


Melissa Orr.

The Scottish garden will be located adjacent to the Arras Memorial, at which battle the Scottish regiments suffered their heaviest losses.

Anna and Melissa aim to raise £7,500 for the project, which would produce at least 15 bagpipe sculptures.

To donate to this project please go online to: www.gofundme.com/pipers-peace-pipes



"There is more valuable material in the pages of the* Piping Times *than all the other books and magazines put together."

– Captain John A. MacLellan.

RESULTS

Contest secretaries and other organisers should forward all results and photographs (in a high resolution and in jpeg format) to **thepipingtimes@gmail.com**. Please include date and place of contest and a list of the judges. Editorial and comment on individual events and performances is also encouraged.

Springbank Invitational Solo Piping Competition, Seafield Hotel, Campbeltown, September 15

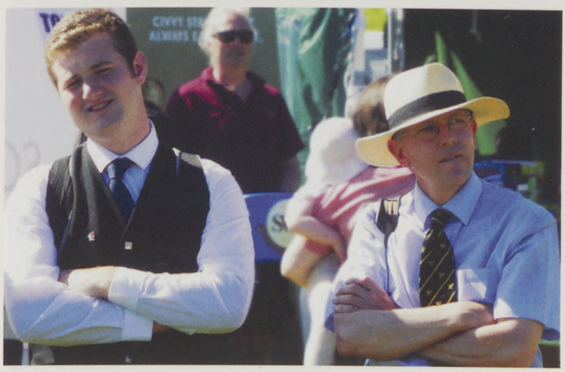
Ceòl Mór – 1. Roddy MacLeod (*Lament for MacSwan of Roaig*); 2. Callum Beaumont (*Mrs Smith's Salute*); 3. Gordon McCready (*Lady Margaret MacDonald's Salute*); 4. Alasdair Henderson (*War or Peace* [Gesto]).

MSR – 1. Willie McCallum; 2. Finlay Johnston; 3. Callum Beaumont; 4. Alasdair Henderson.

6/8 March (Local Composers) – 1. Gordon McCready (*Kintyre Piping Society*); 2. Callum Beaumont (*Tug Argan Gap*); 3. Roddy MacLeod (*North Berwick Highland Games*); 4. Alasdair Henderson (*The MacNeill's of Ugadale*).

Hornpipe & Jig – 1. Gordon McCready (*The Captain's Pledge, The Skylark's Ascension*); 2. Finlay Johnston (*Joe McGann's Fiddle, Kenneth MacDonald*); 3. Callum

---



Niall Graham-Campbell from Perthshire, is the winner of the best caption for the photo of Cameron MacDougall and Peter McCalister that appeared last moth and which was taken at May's Atholl Gathering. His caption is:

"It was OK till he touched that last drone".

Niall will be at the Glenfiddich later this month to take up his prize. A close runner-up is Willie Glover from Yorkshire who, with one eye on the results from Inverness, came up with:

Cameron: I'm telling you, Pete, I'll win the Gold this year. Just you wait and see.

Peter: Keep your hat on, Cam. Try next year.

Third placed Stevie Griffiths' caption was another good one: "The man from Del Monte he say 'Yes!'" Thank you to all those who sent suggestions.

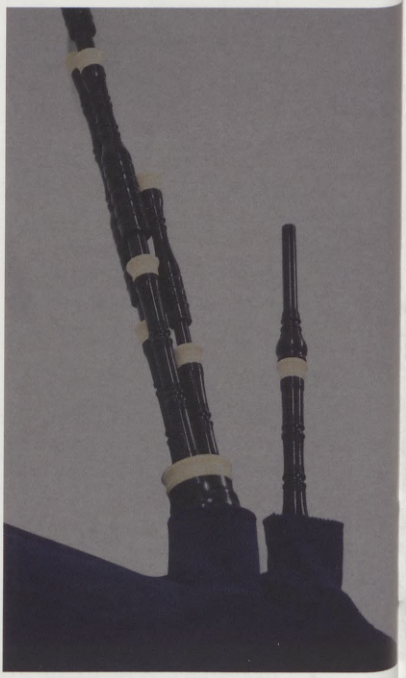


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MacDougall (*High Level, Angus John MacNeil of Barra*); 4. Willie McCallum (*Dr. MacInnes' Fancy, Center's Bonnet*).
Overall: Callum Beaumont.
Judges: John Wilson, Ian Duncan and Murray Henderson.
Bean-an-Tighe, Rona Lightfoot.

Scottish Pipers' Association Annual Juvenile Solo Piping Competition, National Piping Centre Otago Street, September 8

Chanter
Slow Air – 1. Euan McCartan; 2. Joanne Will; 3. Ruairidh Allison.
March – 1. Ruairidh Allison; 2. Euan McCartan; 3. Owen McCreadie.

B Grade
Ceòl Mór – 1. Euan Lindsay.
March – 1. Andrew Snedden, 2. Euan Lindsay, 3. Christopher McCartan, 4. Sandy Wedderburn.
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Euan Lindsay, 2. Christopher McCartan.
Overall: Euan Lindsay.

A Grade
Ceòl Mór: 1. Brodie Watson-Massey, 2. Ross Conner, 3. Eala Niamh McElhinney, 4. Finlay Peden.
March – 1. Brodie Watson-Massey, 2. Ross Conner, 3. James Simpson, 4. Connor Muirhead.
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Brodie Watson-Massey, 2. Ross Conner, 3. James Simpson, 4. Eala Niamh McElhinney.



Brodie Watson-Massey and Ross Conner.

Jig – 1. Ross Conner, 2. Finlay Peden, 3. James Simpson, 4. Brodie Watson-Massey.
Overall: Brodie Watson-Massey, A Grade Overall under 15 James Simpson.

Pitlochry Highland Games, Recreation Ground, Pitlochry, September 8

MSR – 1. Brian Lamond; 2. Donald MacPhee; 3. Robbie MacIsaac; 4. Eddie Gaul.

6/8s (three tunes) – 1. Brian Lamond; 2. Robbie MacIsaac; 3. Eddie Gaul; 4. Donald MacPhee.

Jigs (three tunes) – 1. Brian Lamond; 2. Timothy Ness; 3. Donald MacPhee; 4. Robbie MacIsaac.

Under 18

MSR – 1. Hazel Whyte; 2. Euan Thomson; 3. Cameron May.

Local Juniors

Strathspey & Reel – 1. Cameron Stewart; 2. Archie MacNab

Judges: Barry Donaldson, Archie MacLean, Tom Speirs and Robert Wallace.

Braemar Gathering, September 1

Ceòl Mór (Braemar Gold Medal) – 1. Gordon McCready (*Clan MacNab's Salute*); 2. Andrew Carlisle (*MacKay's Banner*); 3. Jori Chisholm (*Too Long in This Condition*); 4. Cameron MacDougall (*Lament for Donald Duaghal MacKay*); 5. Greg Wilson (*Good Health to You Donald*); 6. James MacHattie (*In Praise of Morag*).

Judges: Ian Duncan, Malcolm McRae and Robert Wallace.

March – 1. Ben Duncan; 2. Nick Hudson; 3. Ben McClamrock; 4. Finlay Cameron; 5. Cameron MacDougall; 6. John-Angus Smith.

Strathspey & Reel – 1. Finlay Cameron; 2. Ben McClamrock; 3. Nick Hudson; 4. Cameron MacDougall; 5. Ben Duncan; 6. Sandy Cameron.

Judges: Patricia Henderson, Stuart Samson and Duncan Watson.

Juniors

Ceòl Mór – 1. Angus MacPhee; 2. Luke Kennedy; 3. Anna Smart; 4. Bobby Allen; 5. Campbell Wilson.

March – 1. Bobby Allen; 2. Luke Kennedy; 3. Campbell Wilson; 4. Angus



MacPhee; 5. Tómas Young.
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Bobby Allen; 2. Campbell Wilson; 3. Brodie Watson-Massey; 4. Luke Kennedy; 5. Angus MacPhee.

CLASP results, Chatsworth Country Fair, Derbyshire, September 1
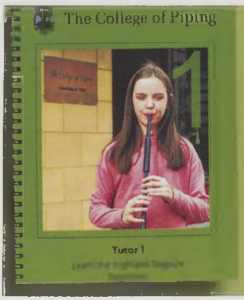
Grade 1
2/4 March – 1. David MacKenzie.
Strathspey & Reel – 1. David MacKenzie.
6/8 March – 1. David MacKenzie.
Jig – 1. David MacKenzie

Grade 2
Ceòl Mór – 1. David MacKenzie; 2. Tom Broderick; 3. Lachlan McDonald.
2/4 March – 1. Duncan Lamont; 2. Tom Broderick.
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Duncan Lamont; 2. Tom Broderick.
6/8 March – 1. Duncan Lamont; 2. Tom Broderick.
Jig – 1. Tom Broderick; 2. Duncan Lamont.

Grade 3
Ceòl Mór – 1. Bill Copland; 2. Philip Duthie; 3. James Hanlon.
2/4 March – 1. Robert Cunningham; 2. Bill Copland; 3. Philip Duthie.
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Bill Copland; 2. Philip Duthie; 3. Robert Cunningham.
6/8 March – 1. Robert Cunningham; 2. Philip Duthie; 3. James Hanlon.
Jig – 1. Bill Copland; 2. Robert Cunningham; 3. Lachlan McDonald.

Birnam Highland Games, August 25

Ceòl Mór – 1. Kevin McLean; 2. Jori Chisholm; 3. Anna Kummerlöw; 4. Jason Craig; 5. Callum Wynd,
Judges: Gordon Clark and Logan Tannock.



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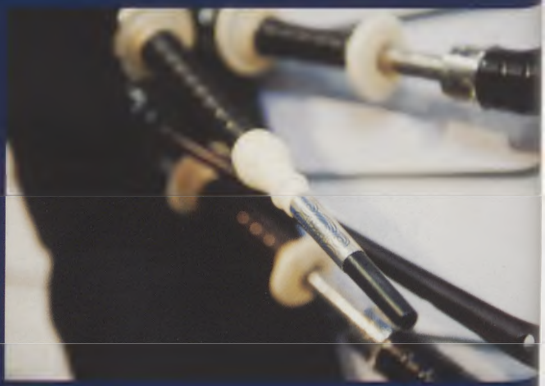
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Kevin McLean from British Columbia at Birnam.

March – 1. Jacob Dicker; 2. Anna Kummerlöw; 3. Jori Chisholm; 4. John-Angus Smith; 5. Jason Craig.
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Greig Canning; 2. Anna Kummerlöw; 3. Jori Chisholm; 4. John-Angus Smith; 5. Jason Craig.
Ceòl beag judges: Euan Anderson and Barry Donaldson.

Strathardle Highland Gathering, August 25

Open

March – 1. Callum Douglas (*Donald McLellan of Rothesay*); 2. Kevin Douglas (*John MacDonald of Glencoe*).
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Kevin Douglas (*Ewe wi' the Crooked Horn, Lexy McAskil*); 2. Callum Douglas (*Susan MacLeod, John Morrison of Assynt House*).
Jig – 1. Callum Douglas (*Glasgow City Police*); 2. Kevin Douglas (*The Jig of Slurs*).
Overall: Callum Douglas.

Juniors

March – Joshua Reilly (*Glenfinnan Highland Gathering*).
Strathspey & Reel – 1. Joshua Reilly (*Maggie Cameron, Sound of Sleat*).
Jig – 1. Joshua Reilly (*Paddy's Leather Breeches*).

Lonach Highland Gathering, August 25

Ceòl Mór – 1. Calum Brown (*Glengarry's March*); 2. Gordon Barclay (*The King's Taxes*); 3. Alan Clark, (*MacCrimmon's Sweetheart*); 4. Dr Jack Taylor (*Lament for MacSwan of Roaig*); 5. Duncan Watson (*The Munro's Salute*); 6. John MacDonald (*The Chisholm's Salute*).
Judges: Ian Duncan and Jim Hamilton.
March – 1. Calum Brown; 2. Alan Clark; 3. John MacDonald; 4. Gordon Barclay.
Strathspey and Reel – 1. Alan Clark; 2. Gordon Barclay; 3. Calum Brown; 4. John MacDonald.
Best Tune Composed by Pipe Major William Grant – 1. Alan Clark; 2. Gordon Barclay; 3. Calum Brown.
Light music judges: Dr Jack Taylor and Duncan Watson.

TUITION

Classes run at The National Piping Centre Otago Street on Saturday mornings and on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Call 0141 334 3587 or go online to: www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/learn

Term 3 – (Autumn) runs until December 15 (with a mid-term break on October 13-20.

Each Tuesday at 7.00pm – Bellows/Smallpipes class, in association with the Lowland & Border Pipers' Society.

Tuition in Edinburgh on Monday evenings, 7.00pm-9.00pm. The RSPS Rooms, Rose Street. Contact Dugald MacNeill at otago@thepipingcentre.co.uk

EVENTS

October 27 – The Glenfiddich Solo Piping Championship, Blair Castle, Blair Atholl, Perthshire. Tickets: www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/Glenfiddich

Every other Tuesday – Eagle Pipers Society, 7.30pm at the Scots Guards Club, Clifton Terrace, Edinburgh: www.eaglepipers.wordpress.com

Every other Wednesday – Highland Pipers' Society at the Scottish Arts Club, 24 Rutland Square, Edinburgh – contact bob@boblawson.co.uk

First Friday of each month – the Scottish Pipers' Association's Club Nights at The National Piping Centre Otago Street, Glasgow.

RSPBA MAJOR PIPE BAND COMPETITIONS FOR 2019

- **May 18 – British Championships, Paisley**
- **June 15 – United Kingdom Championships, Lurgan, Northern Ireland**
- **June 29 – European Championships, Inverness**
- **July 27 – Scottish Championships, Dumbarton**
- **August 16/17 – World Championships, Glasgow**

USA / CANADA

October 5-13 – Celtic Colours International Festival, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada (celtic-colours.com).

October 6 – The Nicol-Brown Amateur Invitational Contest, 224 N. Ballston Avenue (Route 50) Scotia, New York 12302.

October 13-14 – Seaside Highland Games, Ventura County Fairgrounds, Ventura, CA.

October 19-21 – Scottish North American Leadership Conference, Kilgore Center, Troy, Michigan.

October 19-21 – Stone Mountain Highland Games, 1000 Robert E Lee Blvd, Stone Mountain, GA 30083.

December 8 – 2019 Silver Medal Workshop with Derek Midgley, 168 Kings Gate Dr, Lititz, PA 17543.

February 15-16, 2019 – The Metro Cup Solo Invitational Piping Competition, Ramada Inn,160A Frontage Rd, Newark, New Jersey 07114.

EUROPE

First Wednesday of each month – Pipers Club of Copenhagen. Contact: fear-an-tigh@c.dk or +452075 3306.

Every Friday at 11.00am, the Costa Blanca Pipers meet in the Casa Cultura in Finestrat Village near Benidorm. Pipers and drummers of all levels would be most welcome: email drewthepiper@yahoo.co.uk or call 003467 6993716.

AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND

October 6 – ACT Pipe Band Championships Kambah Oval, Canberra.

October 7 – ACT Solo Championships, War Memorial, Canberra.

October 7 – Piobaireachd Group meets at the Ipswich Thistle band hall in Lion Street, Ipswich.

October 27 – Julie Appleton-Seymour Memorial Contest at Emmanuel College, University of Queensland.

November 4 – the Piobaireachd Group's Recital Day at Rochesdale High School, Ipswich, Queensland.

December 1 – Daylesford Highland Gathering, Victoria Park, Daylesford, Victoria (daylesfordhighland.com)

December 2 – Piobaireachd Group meets at the Ipswich Thistle band hall in Lion Street, Ipswich, Queensland.

March 29, 2019 – New Zealand Pipe Band Championships, Dunedin, South Island.

April 13, 2019 – Brisbane Highland Gathering, Brisbane Boys College, Toowong, Brisbane, Queensland.

First Thursday of each month – The NSW Pipers' Society. Contact: Adam

Wishart – 0409 1 58 237 or adamwishart@live.com.au

Piping Society in Perth, Western Australia, meets monthly. Contact the Secretary, Aiton Sheppard on +61 417 097 687 or email: shepap@bigpond.com

RU Brown Piobaireachd Society of South Australia: www.rubrown.org.au or call Craig Masson 08 8261 1119.

The Smallpipers Group – on the first Tuesday of the month at Milton, Queensland. Contact Malcolm McLaren for meeting details at: mrmclaren@bigpond.com or 3820 2902.

SOUTH AFRICA

October 5-7 – Caledonian Society Congress

October 5 – George Ackroyd Challenge, The View, 18 Ridge Road, Parktown, Johannesburg.

October 12 – Wynberg Highland Gathering, Wynberg Boys High School, Lovers Walk, Kenilworth, Cape Town.

October 26 – Pietermaritzburg Celedonian Centenary Celebration,

BELLOWS / FOLK

November 10 – Lowland & Border Pipers' Society Collogue (conference) and AGM, Edinburgh.

Monthly group meeting, NW England. Contact Richard and Anita Evans on 016974 73799

Monthly group meeting in London on the third Thursday each month except July and August. Contact Jock Agnew on 01621 855447

RADIO

BBC's 'Pipeline' is on FM 92.4/97.7MHz; MW 810 (Dumfries 585) and on Radio nan Gaidheal FM 103.5-105 at 9.05pm on Saturdays and repeated at 7.05pm on Sundays. Also on Radio nan Gaidheal 'Crunluath' with Catriona MacNeill at 4.00pm on Thursdays with repeats at 10.30pm on Thursdays.

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