

The City of Wellington Pipe Band News

February 2009

This Months Newsletter is full of Photos and stories dedicated to the rich history of the City of Wellington Pipe Band that is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year.

Memorial Regards
Chris Golder
Secretary

President's Report

Success is simple. Do what's right, the right way, at the right time. (Arnold H. Glasow)

This is a principle that seems to apply to the City of Wellington Pipe Band during periods of the past that saw it succeed on so many levels. The current committee has begun planning for an event to celebrate the 70th anniversary of this organization.

We welcome all suggestions and comments from past and present members of the band as to how, where and when we should look to commemorate this milestone.

Please forward your comments to any of the addresses at the bottom of the last page of this newsletter.

We trust that you enjoy seeing the included photos from the past.

Ian Telfar

Octogenarian Arrivals

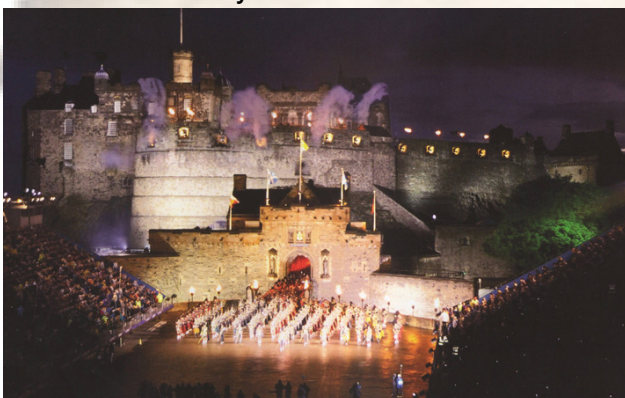
It is Sir Ian McKay's 80th Birthday in March and past member Reg Todd's this month. An Open Day event is currently being planned around April to celebrate these Octogenarian arrivals and all past and current members will be invited to celebrate these events and drink all the President's whiskey!



The City of Wellington Pipe Band meeting the Queen Mother.



The City of Wellington Pipe Band winners of the Australian Championships.



'The Crush' from the 2005 Edinburgh Tattoo.
Photo by Allan Wright.



The 'Anchor' from the 2005 Edinburgh Tattoo. Photo by Allan Wright.

Blast from the Past



The City of Wellington Pipe Band Inc. 1989, 50th Jubilee Year, Combined No. 1 and No. 2 Bands.

Fifth row: John Fyvie, Ian Hawkins, Steve Allison, David Oldershaw, Brian Elphick, Peter Menzies, Iain Blakeley, Rhys Williams, Stephen Humphries.

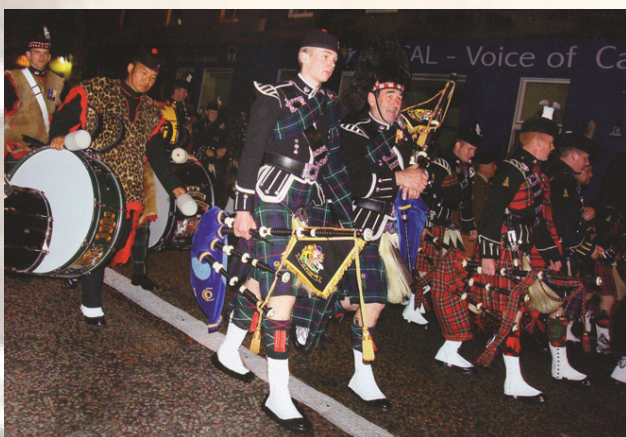
Fourth row: Craig Fraser, Claire Eeles, Dereck Mackay, Andrew Mulcahy, John Gray, Geoff Notman, Jimmy Smith, Linsay May.

Third row: Callum Shayle-George, Stuart Blacklock, Iain Hines, John Patterson, Phil Halliwell, Marion McVean, Ian Ferguson, David Rush, Alister Fraser, Ian Byars (Treasurer), Daniel Coward.

Second row: Gordon Ayres, Emlyn Brown (Drum Sgt), Callum McKenzie (Secretary), Nigel Foster (Pipe Major), Frank Mackinnon (President), Jim Belich (Mayor), Bill Blair (Patron), Gary Coventry (Drum Major), Phil Mair (Pipe Sgt), Ted Wilce.

Front row: Bruce Blacklock, Sharon McSloy, Kirsten Shayle-George, Lesley Burton, John Gorman, Anthony Morris.

Absent: Murray McCaw (Vice-President), Ian McCutcheon (Vice-President), Janet Bull, Ivan Levy, Scott McSloy, James O'Rourke, David Picketts, Robert Sinclair, Janet Weir, Mark Weir.



**The aftermath of the 2005 Edinburgh Tattoo.
Photo by Allan Wright.**

Part of the Edinburgh Heritage

Imagine Bob Irvine's amazement when he went to buy some postcards from a shop in Scotland in 2008. Yes, this photo has made it as a postcard and was also used in a photographic book of Edinburgh, the photo was taken during the 2005 Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Note the two pipers in the centre of the photo. They are Nick Clode and Peter Menzies from the City of Wellington Pipe Band.

Urgent Uniform Recall

The Executive of the band have agreed to hire the full set of No. 1 Uniforms including doublets, plaids, broaches, hose, spats, sword belts and feather bonnets to another New Zealand band who are traveling overseas later this year.

We require all of this kit to be returned urgently so it can be cleaned and inspected before being hired.

A Brief History of The City of Wellington Pipe Band

The band won their first New Zealand title in 1955 and with the exception of 1958 when the band went overseas were either winners or runners-up from 1951 to 1988. The band has won the Australian Championship once and the Victorian Championship twice. The band won the South of England Championship in 1958 which made them qualified to be able to compete in Grade 1 in the Worlds and other international competitions. All bands who have competed in the UK since then have been able to compete in Grade 1 on the basis of the performance of the 1958 band.

Also in 1958 the band competed in several other contests, but notably the European Championship in Renfrew where they came 4th. The Worlds in Aberdeen where they came 7th and won the drill and deportment with 100% and Bob Binning the Drum Major won the Worlds Drum Major competition. The Band were asked to perform the display (which was without whistle) after the Worlds which was received with acclaim.

The band has played at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo in 1980 and 1987. The CNE Tattoo in Toronto in 1975 and twice in tattoos in Australia around '78 and '82. The band is also in the Guinness Book of Records for the most consecutive wins in a national championship by a pipe band.

While playing at Toronto in 1975 the band performed the display wearing spats and with lights on their shoulders, the stadium lights were put out during the performance and the crowd went wild!



Band Contact Details

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Well that is all for this month, I hope the newsletter conjured fond memories for some of you!

Kind Regards
Chris Golder
Secretary