



The City of Wellington Pipe Band Newsletter



November 2008

The Newsletter

Welcome everyone to the City of Wellington Pipe Band Newsletter. This email publication will be sent once a month to keep you all informed on the current events of the band. If anyone has any photos, current events or just funny stories that they want included in this newsletter then please do not hesitate to contact the secretary at PO Box 2870, Wellington 6140 or by email to admin@fireriskmanagement.co.nz.

Best Wishes
Chris Golder
Secretary

Pipe Majors Report

It was with much regret that the City of Wellington Pipe Band recently received the resignation for the position of Pipe Major from Davey Welsh. Davey said that it was a very difficult decision to make, but that it did not necessarily mean he would be leaving the band completely.

In view of Davey's resignation, the City of Wellington Pipe Band is now looking for a suitable person to fill the role of Pipe Major. Anyone interested in filling this exciting role and pushing the band forward into the future should contact the Secretary of the City of Wellington Pipe Band.

Practices

It was decided at the last Executive meeting that as the No 2 Band is operating consistently every Tuesday evening, these practices will continue. The Wednesday practices of the No 1 Band will however cease for the immediate future. No 1 Band members are invited to attend the first No 2 practice each month so the Band as a whole can be kept operating effectively. It was felt that this was very important for the future of the Band.

Presidents Report

In the near future you will notice that the front of the band hall will look quite different. Currently it is in the midst of being sanded and primed so that it will be ready for its new look. The new look will be that there is going to be a mural painted on the front wall which will include life size pipers and drummers and also it is planned to include a dancer or two. The mural is being coordinated by Catherine Nicolson a current band member. She works at The Learning Connection and it will be some of the art students from this organization that will actually paint the mural. Wattyl paint have kindly donated the paint for this project.

Grading

At the meeting where Davey submitted his resignation, a discussion paper he had prepared about amalgamating the two Bands (No 1 & No 2); and re-grading the No 1 Band to Grade 2 was circulated. The reasoning behind the suggestion was poor attendance at Band Practices and the need to grow the Band. With Davey's resignation, the re-grading issue has now become a major issue that will need to be resolved as soon as possible, as it will impact on who may or may not decide to apply for the Pipe Majors position.

Leave of Absence from the Band

Some members of the No 1 Band have requested a period of 'Leave of Absence' from the Band for 12 months so they can compete with other Bands in Christchurch. For the members who apply for this leave, approval will not be unfairly withheld. Other members wishing to compete in Christchurch must forward an application in writing to the Secretary of the Band in order to preserve existing membership.



Pete's Penny's Worth

The No 2 Band is I believe, still very much a viable option and will be the nucleus of the City of Wellington Pipe Band within the foreseeable future. It really is up to us to keep going as we are - and 'trade our way out' of the present situation. There are heaps of public requests for a band to play out and if we stick together now there is literally thousands of dollars to be earned, and for the opportunity to keep the Band together. I will outline some of the parades below and ask for commitment from all of you to help out. We may not be able to do them all, but need to know what we can't do so we can advise the public accordingly. Please let me know of your availability urgently.

Coming Events

1. 16th November Santa Parade - 12.30 pm (Council Parade)
2. Mid November - High Street Lower Hutt - 10.45 am.
3. 30th November - St Andrews Day Celebrations starting at 11am.
4. The cruise ships. There are some 60 ships / performances required during the season. If we all commit to do some this can be just three or four each. They will only pay for one piper per ship, but if the band turns out that's OK and it is good for groups of two or three to front up ... Even to take dancers if they are available. Any more volunteers, please contact 'Beaker'.

Scotland The Brave

As a fundraiser the band participated in the very successful Scotland The Brave Concert at the Michael Fowler Centre earlier this year.

Financial's

For those who still need to pay their subs, please forward them to John Nicolson or bank them in the Westpac account shown on the invoice.

The executive of the City of Wellington Band was pleased to receive a \$1500 donation from Pak'NSave Petone and Lower Hutt. We would appreciate band members showing support to these outlets following their generosity towards the band.

PETONE **PAK'N SAVE** LOWER HUTT
FOOD WAREHOUSE

Well, that's all for this month, I hope everyone is enjoying the nicer weather that is coming our way. Don't forget to send me any pictures or items of interest for the December newsletter, preferably before the end of November.

Chris Golder
Secretary