

The City of Wellington Pipe Band News

November 2010

Welcome to the November Newsletter! The year is rapidly coming to a close and Christmas will be upon us before we know it! This month's Newsletter focuses on two important aspects of a healthy Pipe Band—Teaching and Fundraising and I am pleased to say that both are coming along well!

Edifying regards
Chris Golder
Editor

Pipe Majors Report

Recently, representatives from the City of Wellington Pipe Band attended a meeting of the RNZPBA that was held here in Kilbirnie, Wellington. The guest speaker at this meeting was a member of the Trust who have successfully revived piping and drumming disciplines (for pipe bands) in Otago and Southland.

It is ironic that two years ago, the City of Wellington Pipe Band found itself in the same position as our counterparts in Invercargill. We had put procedures in place to re-energize teaching of these disciplines here in Wellington, but we found it was hard going! Funny how everyone has their own ideas how to establish these things, and I continually found it difficult to go forward without standing on too many toes.

As a consequence of my attendance at the above meeting, I prepared a paper for the Executive outlining a preferred way forward. This was accepted by the Executive without alteration and we now have **Davie Welsh** coordinating the Learners Group for the City of Wellington.

(Note: Davie is running similar programs elsewhere, using the similar teaching aids and progression methods that we had adopted). Davie will provide 'tutoring for the tutors', as well as taking over the transition of Intermediate learners onto the pipes and then into the City of Wellington Pipe Band. In all, he will manage the Tutoring of the learners.

As another wonderful advancement, we have been able to secure the services of **Adam Alexander** (a drummer from Auckland and Districts) to assist and teach the City 'drum corps'. We see the benefits here coming from modern interpretation of the music we play, sound reinforcement of current drumming methods etc.

The last months have focused on set & medley, but the Band has also put together small concert sets that have been pulled out of the tool box during recent 'Concerts for the Elderly'. The last was in Upper Hutt and the response to the performance was absolutely tremendous.



70th Photo

As promised, here is another photo from the 70th Anniversary, this is the 2000-2010 Band Photo.



Gaelic Club Ceilidh

These pictures were taken at the recent Gaelic Club Ceilidh. It was an enjoyable evening and the Gaelic Club donated \$420 to the Band for their participation.



National Youth Pipe Band

It is now exactly 20 years since the first (very successful) National Youth Pipe Band was formed. Some members of that Band are now extremely well recognized as leaders in the Pipe Band World throughout New Zealand.

The task involved in establishing such a Band is quite daunting, but there has been a group of very dedicated people take this on. The RNZPBA will produce a second National Youth Band during 2011.

Two members of the City of Wellington Pipe Band have been nominated as playing members of that National Band. This is a wonderful opportunity for them both, but they will need considerable assistance with travel costs (both domestic and international) as the Band will compete both in New Zealand and Australia.

If these two nominees are successful, I intend to set up a travel fund and a management group to assist them with their attendances. *[It is sometimes helpful to know a travel agent].*



Fund Raising

Recently, 20 Band members and supporters spent two nights at the Warehouse in Wellington 'stock taking'.

Whilst requiring considerable concentration, the management of the Warehouse was very impressed with the professional manner in which the Band carried out their tasks.

We were able to raise about \$3,500.00 by attending this venture.

Garage Sale

A Garage Sale was held at the Pipe Band Hall on the 6th November. I was a very successful venture and helped to raise the Band about \$1,000.

Band Contact Details

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Band Web Site: <http://www.cowpb.org.nz/>

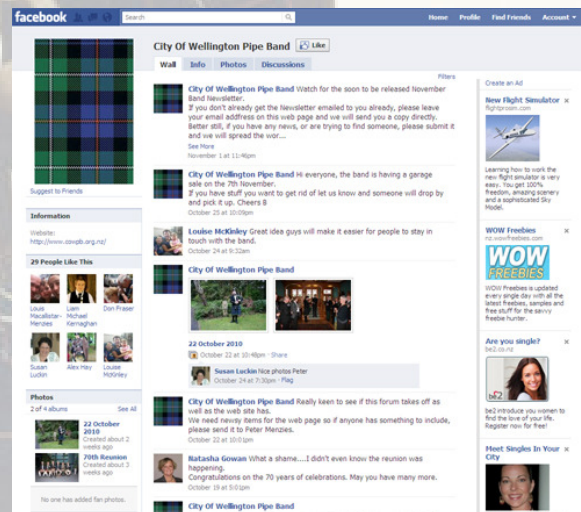
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Robert Sinclair (Vice-President, Education) - robert@crofffunerals.co.nz

John Nicolson (Vice President, Finance) - john@irwell.co.nz

Summer School

Our two (young) tenor drummers and the Bass drummer have booked in to the RNZPBA Summer School in Christchurch next year. This will assist that section considerably as the tutor will be the internationally renowned Tyler Fry.



Facebook

For those who have 'Facebook', you are now able to read current information on the City of Wellington's Facebook page, feel free to contribute or comment!

Upcoming Events

14/11/2010—The Christmas Parade

23/11/2010—St Andrews Day

11/12/2010—Square Day

Well, that's the end of another Newsletter, I will catch up with you all at Christmas!

Regards
Chris Golder
Editor
City Wellington Pipe Band News

