

Band Blurb

July 2018



NAPIER PIPE BAND

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Everyone

Thank you all for your support in nominating me to remain on the Committee for another term. It has been a pleasure to diversify from being a playing member and assist and grow the band in areas outside of the music.

Thank you also to those of you who recently completed the Supporters' Survey. Your opinions are very much valued and help us make your experience as a Supporter even better. Your feedback highlighted the desire to be able to identify yourselves visibly as part of the Napier Pipe Band. We are currently working on producing a badge which we hope you will wear with pride!

Congratulations must go to Ngaire Kemp whose name was drawn to have her subscription refunded – well done Ngaire.

Your newly elected Committee is Cameron Anderson, Alan Lawton, Richard Loan, Penny Madden, Kerry Marshall and Bet Wilson. You will of course know some of these people and for the ones you don't, we will do our best to introduce them to you over the next few months. Starting with me

With Scottish heritage, bagpipes have been in our family for generations although it was not until recently (in piping terms!) that I learnt to play. Playing a recorder at primary school was pretty much the extent of my musical ability.

It was with both trepidation and excitement that I went along to my first lesson at the ripe old age of 38.

As the saying goes "Where there's a will, there's a way" and whilst I could never be considered a good piper, I can play a few tunes without too much damage! I recall one of my proudest moments being donning the uniform for the first time.

A key strength of the Napier Pipe Band is the support more experienced players give to others. This shows in the diversity of players – young, old, good and great. All with having in common the love of pipe band music.

I look forward to catching up with you at our next function at the Napier RSA in July.

Bye for now,
Julie



Our Vision:

To be a musically competent pipe band, responsive to members' aspirations and respected in the community.



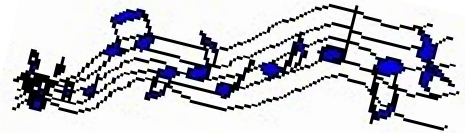
PIPE MAJOR'S REPORT

Ah, the winter months, cold and wet, just what our instruments need. And the cold certainly makes it difficult to get the fingers moving at times. For pipers its important to keep the pipe maintenance up to date and that moisture under control.

The weather certainly plays a part in your performance. Back in 2010 when I played in the Edinburgh Military Tattoo that was staged in Sydney we experienced what I thought were some extremes of climatic conditions. Practice at one of the Sydney University's ovals started at 7am in the morning by which time temperatures were already in the 30's (and climbing) with very high humidity. By lunch time those pipers without moisture control were struggling. Throughout the rest of the week our practices were dominated by high temperatures and humidity. Then we endured rain on each of the four performance nights, so much so that the video of the tattoo was largely based on the dress rehearsal performance.

At this time of year we are working our way through a few new tunes but concentrating on the music for our Winter Concert. I hope too that you're enjoying the regular *Piping & Drumming Live* concerts at the Napier RSA. Thank you all for your confidence in appointing me as your Pipe Major.

Kerry.
Pipe Major



Winter Concert

Good news! After the success of last year's Spring Concert the Band is planning another concert to satisfy all those who asked (or was that pleaded with us) to do it all again. So this time it will be the **Winter Concert**, to be staged at the Salvation Army Citadel, 56 Tait Drive, on **Sunday 19 August at 2.00 pm**. We've begun working on the music so please mark this date on your calendar.

***Tickets for the concert are available from Betty Wilson, Phone 06-844 0055
or Penny Madden , 06-844 5727***

\$20.00	<i>Adult - non member</i>
\$15.00	<i>Associate member/Supporter</i>
\$5.00	<i>Student</i>

Don Stuart



Don joined the band in 2007 and quickly slotted into the role of Drum Major. With little previous experience he set out to learn the skills required and became an accomplished leader when on parades. His first major 'expedition' was to lead the D&S PB to Bundanoon, Australia, in 2008 which he did very well. Subsequently Don has led the band on many notable parades.

Don's other contribution has been to manage the band's uniform keeping records of what is issued (and dealing with all the trivia involved in that) and doing purchasing when required.

Don has been involved in the committee as one of the band officers and has assisted at many events. He has organised the luncheons for supporters and helped maintain our positive relationships with them. Don has decided that the time has come for him to retire from the position of Drum Major so we record our gratitude for Don's twelve years leadership as Drum Major.

At the Annual General Meeting held recently the following people were elected to be your committee for 2018.

President	Julie Baxter
Secretary/Treasurer	Betty Wilson
Pipe Major	Kerry Marshall
Richard Loan	Committee
Penny Madden	Committee
Alan Lawton	Committee
Cameron Anderson	Committee
Patron	Harry Renfree





BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS (and more Books)

Robert Arrell has kindly offered to share the proceeds of the Napier Boys High School's Annual 2019 Book Sale with the Napier Pipe Band. This is one of the fund raisers for our Band's 2020 Invercargill trip.

We currently have in store some 4,000 books and are keen to add to the pile, so if you have any books that you would like to donate, please give them to a band member who will bring them to the band rooms. Alternatively give Don Stuart a ring 8435452 and we can arrange to collect them.

The Book Sale will be a major event over Art Deco weekend in 2019. It will be held at Napier Boys High School and we ask everyone to support us with this fundraising venture.

NAPIER RSA – PIPING AND DRUMMING

Come along on Sunday 22 July at 4 pm to hear the band playing for about an hour. You can have a bar meal if you wish from about 5.30pm onwards.

Presumably good at helping
people stay alive.



**“Vegetarian is Indian word
for lousy hunter”**



Hugh Harrison

All who know Hugh, know of his love of piping and how it connects with culture. Hugh learned the pipes from Pipe Major Doug Thoresen , while still at school. After only one year he went to his first National or Dominion (as it was called then), Pipe Band contest, playing in the City of Hastings Pipe Band. He joined the City of Napier Pipe Band under the late Pipe Major Charlie Jennings in the late 1970s, and became Pipe Sergeant. He continued to hold this position until the band amalgamated with the Drones and Sticks Pipe Band, and subsequently became the Napier Pipe Band.

Hugh served on the committee of the City Of Napier Pipe Band and became the President. In recognition of his outstanding service he was made a Life Member. Since joining the Napier Pipe Band he has been on the band executive committee and has given enthusiastic and competent support.

Hugh has continued to have high standard of piping. He has taught at NBHS and also taught numerous individuals. He has passed on his love of the bagpipe and music in general. There would not be many parades he hasn't attended and could be relied on to have his pipes well-tuned and maintained. The high standard achieved by the City Of Napier Pipe Band including a fourth in Grade One was due in no small way to Hugh's support.

I have appreciated his loyalty and friendship and always knew he could be relied upon. He could also be relied on to derive puns from most situations! Hugh has decided to step down from the executive. He will be missed at our meetings but we will still enjoy his presence at practices and parades.

I wish you all the best.

Richard Loan

TEAM

UP

WITH TREMAINS

IF YOU ARE

THINKING

ABOUT MOVING.

Are you, or someone you know, thinking about moving?

If so, contact Tremains Real Estate to list the property and mention to Tremains that you want to Team Up with Napier Pipe Band. When the property is sold by Tremains, we will be given \$500.00.

A great fundraising opportunity for our Band.

Fundraising Support

Behind the scenes, behind the great music and behind the people a lot goes on. Uniforms, instruments, maintenance and travel are just a few of the things which are part and parcel of running the band and can be quite costly.

Whilst we get support through grants and the like, fundraising is still required, especially for bigger events.

The Committee is setting up a Fundraising Group to help with financial assistance throughout the year. It is of course often hard to come up with new and different ideas on how to raise money – we would LOVE your help!



If you are keen to get involved hands-on with your Band, supporting in fundraising ideas and activities, please let any one of the Committee members know. Thank you very much.



Foundation New Zealand Youth Pipe Band

We are fortunate that the band will be back in Hawke's Bay later this year. After performing in Manawatu on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th September they will travel to Hawke's Bay for performances in Napier on the 1st October and Hastings on the 2nd October. Band members will be accommodated at Lindisfarne College for the two nights they are in Hawke's Bay.

While the Foundation New Zealand Youth Pipe Band was established in 2010 primarily to attend the Australian National Pipe Band Championships in 2012, its success has seen it continue to operate as a development band for NZ youth.

To date the band has had nearly 200 young people go through its ranks with most of these young people going on to play with the top bands in New Zealand, some competing at world championship level.

The band has attended Australia three times - 2012, 2016 and in 2018, successfully defending its championship title for the third time this year. The band has toured Canada and America including attending the famous piping hot summer drummer school at Silver Star Canada where their tuition was by some of the world's top tutors in piping and drumming. While in North America the Band performed in Disneyland and with the six-times world champion pipe band, Canada's Simon Fraser University Pipe Band.

There will be more information about the band's concerts in our next newsletter.

Coming Events

Band Calendar



July

- Sat 14** Napier Caledonian Society Ingleside
Sun 22 *Piping and Drumming Live* at Napier RSA, 4.00 pm
Tues 24 Music Group practice, 10.00 am, band rooms

August

- Mon 6** Concert practice at Napier Intermediate School, 7.00 pm
Tues 7 Music Group practice, 10.00 am, band rooms
Sat 11 Napier Caledonian Society Ingleside
Sun 12 Concert practice at Salvation Army Citadel, Greenmeadows, 1 pm
Mon 13 Concert practice at Napier Intermediate School, 7.00 pm
Thu 16 Music Group practice, 10.00 am, band rooms
Sun 19 *Winter Concert* at Salvation Army Citadel, Greenmeadows

September

- Sat 8** Napier Caledonian Society Ingleside
Sat 15 Hastings Blossom Parade
Sun 23 *Piping and Drumming Live* at Napier RSA, 4.00 pm



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**355 Heretaunga Street
West - Hastings**

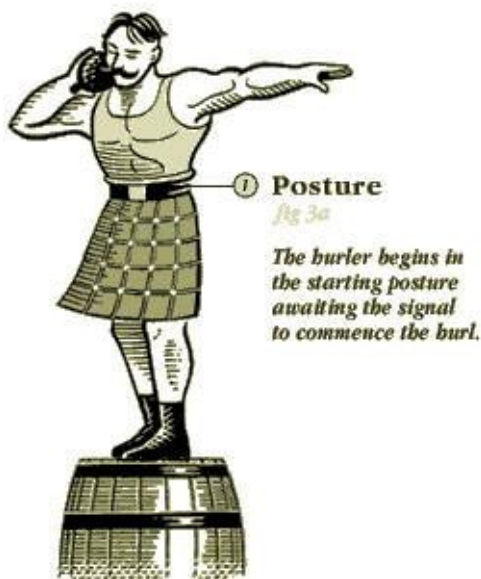
Pipe Band membership card and
you will be given 20% discount.

You can't lose.

Haggis hurling

This is a Scottish sport involving the hurling of a haggis as far as possible for distance and accuracy from atop a platform (usually a whisky barrel). The haggis must be edible after landing.

Although its proponents often claim an ancient origin, haggis hurling is actually a very recent invention. In 2004 Robin Dunseath, publicist for Scottish entrepreneur Tom Farmer and ex-president of the World Haggis Hurling Association, said he invented the sport as a practical joke for the 1977 Gathering of the Clans in Edinburgh, later using it to raise funds for charity at Highland games. It appeared on the BBC TV programme *That's Life!* around that time, when many people would have realised it was basically a joke.



Two variations have developed: one enacted at festivals, the other a professional sport.

The present world record for haggis hurling was set at 217 feet by Lorne Coltart at the Milngavie Highland Games on 11 June 2011, beating Allan Pettigrew's 180 feet record which had stood for over twenty years. However, the Australian cricket player Tom Moody was purported to have thrown a haggis in 1989 over 230 feet.

Modern haggis hurling is judged on the basis of distance and accuracy of the hurl and a split or burst haggis is immediately disqualified, as the haggis must be fit to eat after landing. The sport requires subtle technique rather than brute force, as the hurl must

result in a gentle landing to keep the haggis skin intact. Plans to use a fake haggis in a hurling competition at a Highland festival in Melbourne have split the purists from those who are fearful of the mess a high-speed impacting may cause.

Rules and regulations

The haggis must be of traditional construction, consisting of a tender boiled sheep's heart, lung and liver with spices, onions, suet and oatmeal and stock stuffed in a sheep's paunch, boiled for three hours.

At the time of hurling the haggis should be cooled and inspected to ensure no firming agents have been applied. Rules dictate that the haggis must be packed tight and secure, with no extra "skin" or "flab."

The *sporting* haggis weighs 500 grams, with a maximum diameter of 18 cm and length of 22 cm. An allowance of ± 30 grams is given and this weight is used in both junior and middle weight events.

The *heavyweight* event allows haggis up to 1 kg in weight, but the standard weight of 850 grams is more common, with an allowance of ± 50 grams.

Darren Laird from Bo'ness, Falkirk is the current world champion.