

# Band Blurb

## July 2019



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Wasn't it a grand occasion? Over 80 Band members joined Kerry Marshall to celebrate his retirement as Pipe Major of the band - a position he has held for 20 years since the inception of the original Drones & Sticks Pipe Band.



As was fitting, the Marshall family were piped into the hall which was set up with a Touch of Tartan. Personal accolades were made to Kerry from Harry Renfree, Richard Loan, Bet Wilson and Morgan Awatere-Madden; all of whom attested to Kerry's generous nature, his friendship, his expertise and leadership.

Kerry was presented with a gift box of Mission Estate red wine, and a mock "Kerry Marshall scholarship" which has been set up in his honour. This scholarship is to be awarded to a worthy young piper or drummer annually, to assist them with their musical development. A very fitting tribute which honours Kerry's devotion to providing youngsters with tuition and opportunity to further their piping or drumming.

Kerry will be taking a three month break from band activities and I am sure you join me in wishing him and Penny well for their future.

The AGM was held at the Napier Pipe Band Hall on Monday 17th June. We farewelled Richard Loan, Penny Madden and Kerry Marshall from the Committee and thanked them for their never ending contribution and support of the band.

Bet Wilson has remained on the Committee as Secretary together with Alan Lawton. We welcomed Margaret Lumb, Jason Kaan and Robert Arrell as Committee members - my thanks to you all for volunteering your time and expertise to guide the band through the next year. (continued on page 2)

### Our Vision:

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

Whilst the Pipe Major position has not been filled, Richard Loan, Ken McLoughlin and Jim Brown will share the responsibility of taking practices and parades for the short to medium term. Our heartfelt thanks go to these three men for their assistance.

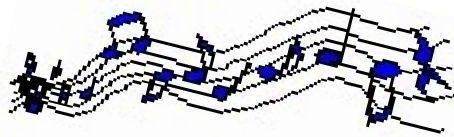
Don Wilson continues to pull together this newsletter for us every couple of months.

Articles would be welcomed from you all. Maybe you have a memory from your past you would like to share, a happening from recent times or perhaps a funny story. And don't worry if it's not Scottish related - it would be great to get to know each of you a little better.

One of the things I like to do during the year is preserve. Peaches, pears, plums, apricots, nectarines, feijoas, peacherines, apples - whatever is around. I am always on the look out for good preserving jars. If you do have some sitting empty in the back of your cupboard, please let me know - I can certainly put them to good use. Thank You.

In the meantime, keep warm, keep well. We look forward to seeing you at our regular Napier RSA concert later this month.

Sincerely,  
Julie



## My Piping History

I was attending the Napier Boys High open evening with my family the first time the idea of learning the pipes came up. I was a bit overwhelmed with all of the potential things I could do at a high school after spending my primary and intermediate school years at a small country school where the roll peaked at around 25 pupils, 3 of which were in the same year as me. My parents and I were talking about the subjects I'd take, when we heard the Boys High band playing and my Mum joked to me, "You could learn the pipes, too", although I didn't see it as a joke - I saw a challenge. So, once I started at Boys High, I met with Mr. Arrell and picked up a chanter and, with the help of Mr. Arrell and Ian Mansfeild, I was playing the pipes soon after. Once I had a few tunes off, I then started to attend practices on a Wednesday night with the Napier City Pipe Band. From there, Ian continued to tutor me and I entered into several solo competitions around the country, doing reasonably well. Upon finishing school, I decided I'd like to be a panelbeater, so I sent my CV to a lot of companies that specialized in classic car restoration (the part of the industry that interested me most) and to my surprise a few weeks later I received a phone call from a company in Matamata asking me if I'd like to come and work for them on a trial. So, I packed my bags and drove to the Waikato and 2 weeks later I signed my contract and had my first full time job. During my time in Matamata I didn't play with a band as such, although my Napier uniform still hung in my wardrobe at my parents place.

After 4 years, I decided to move back to Napier, where I quickly got a job as a panelbeater in a small company and it wasn't long before I was back playing in the band.

In 2013, along with Richard and Hugh, I joined the Drones and sticks pipe band. When we joined the two bands, we received a warm welcome and slotted into the rhythm of things quickly. Fast forward to the present day, I've just been elected to the committee, where I'm looking forward to serving the band into the future.

Thanks  
Jason Kaan

## Thank you

I'd like to thank everyone who attended my retirement afternoon tea and all those who sent messages. It did mean a lot to me that you took the time to share this special occasion. As I've said often this band is unique and special and there are some very special people involved. You are all people I hold in high esteem - for the time and energy and positivity you bring to the band, and for the many ways you contribute to and support the band and each other - thank you all. I appreciate very much the establishment of the scholarship for our youngsters – they are deserving of your encouragement and support – thank you.

*Kerry Marshall*

## Piping and Drumming Live – Napier RSA – Sunday July 28

Our next Napier RSA *Piping & Drumming Live* event will be on Sunday 28 July. Everyone enjoys these events and we are looking forward to bringing you all more of our music this month. Remember that all our band members (playing and associate) are welcome and there is the opportunity to stay for a meal afterwards. The Napier RSA has granted us reciprocal visiting rights so you don't need to sign in if you can produce your band membership card. After this the last two *Piping & Drumming Live* events will be 22nd September and 24 November (put these on your calendar).

## The Piping & Drumming Academy of Hawke's Bay

Wanting to increase the number of young people involved in the pipe band



**Tutor Neil Marriott with some of our youngsters.**

movement here in Hawke's Bay a group formed the Academy in 2013 with the objective of building piping and drumming education systems at Napier schools with consistent, quality teaching programmes and qualified tutors.

We have been supporting the activities of the Napier Pipe Band through the provision of

professional tutors for piping and drumming to augment the volunteer work of band members. A major focus in the next year will be further work to promote the objectives of the trust in schools so that there are regular numbers of young people learning the skills of piping and drumming in Napier.

In 2021 the Trust will be managing the RNZPBA national contest on behalf of the HB Caledonian and Napier pipe bands.

We have been fortunate that we have been able to build up some funds with

proceeds from various trusts (the Thomas Moore Trust, the Charlie Jennings Trust, the Services Trust (Napier), Harold Holt Trust and most recently The North & South Trust. We are very grateful to these organisations for their support of our objectives. In addition tuition fees and other donations have added to our reserves.

**You can support us!** The Trust welcomes your support to help us with our work through the payment of a one time membership fee for an Individual of \$100 (or a Corporate like a band or business of \$250) which entitles you to regular communication from the Trustees and involvement in appropriate activities of the Trust. Please contact us if you would like to become involved and/or support us financially.

Trustees: Julie Baxter, Jarrod Cawood, David O'Hanlon, Kerry Marshall

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## **CAN YOU HELP?**

We are looking for a Manager for the Band.

The person in this position is responsible for organising such things as concerts and trips, working closely with the President and other band officers.

You need to be willing, organised and able to get along with people.

If this is you and you are interested in knowing more or applying for the role, please contact Julie Baxter by phoning 027 295 8373 or email [jmbaxter@mail.com](mailto:jmbaxter@mail.com).



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Service.**

**Get them both at  
Thompson's Suits in Hastings.  
And what's more —show your  
Napier Pipe Band membership  
card and you will be given 20%  
discount.**

# Remember .....

Piping and Drumming Live

At the Napier RSA on the 4th Sunday of every second month.



Next on 28th July

(and again on September 22nd and also on  
November 24th)

These are too good to miss - have a meal -  
listen to the band & talk with your friends.

**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.

## AGM 2019 Report



The Band's AGM held on Monday night, 17th June, was very well attended with 37 people saying good bye to three longstanding Committee members. Penny Madden, Richard Loan and Kerry Marshall all stepped back from taking a leadership role, to now simply enjoy being a playing member of the band.

President Julie Baxter along with retiring Pipe Major Kerry Marshall, extended their thanks to band members, supporters and families for making the 74 parades possible. Special thanks was extended to the HB Caledonian Pipe Band for their willingness to work with the band, in particular providing opportunities for our younger players to play at a competing level.

Special thanks were given to Heather Thomson and Don Wilson for their tireless work in selling raffle tickets and preparing certificates and newsletters – their work is a huge help to the Band and helps support the cash flow which has been significantly diminished in the past twelve months, having invested in improvement to the Band Hall.

Your new committee is Julie Baxter (President), Bet Wilson (Secretary), Alan Lawton, Jason Kaan, Margaret Lumb and Robert Arrell. In the absence of a Pipe Major being formally appointed, Neville Lumb has kindly taken on the role of parade management and organisation, with Richard Loan, Jim Brown and Ken McLoughlin sharing the responsibility of taking Monday night practices.

All attendees attended a supper which was served from the Band's new kitchen.

Irish pillion rider..... Pat on the back.

If you must make mistakes, it would be more to your credit if you make a new one each time.

Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of cheques.

Everyone hears what you say. Friends listen to what you say; best friends listen to what you don't say.

# Legends of Scotland

Scotland: a land steeped in legends, superstitions and folklore.

Imagine a time before scientific reasoning could explain the sudden shifts in Scotland's fickle weather, the strange land formations like the Old Man of Storr, and the numerous hardships that gripped inhabitants of a harsh climate. You'll start to understand how Scotland's many myths emerged. Coupled with the Scots' famous knack for storytelling, the legends have been carried down through generations and live on for visitors to experience today.

To tour Scotland and her magical, storybook landscapes is to believe in the supernatural yourself. Below are just two examples of the mythical creatures you might hear about (or encounter, perhaps) on your journey.



## The Unicorn of Scotland

Unicorns are having a moment these days. But look behind the novelty shops, and you'll see it's not just a childhood toy or whimsical fancy-dress costume. The unicorn is, in fact, Scotland's national animal...if you can call it an animal.

Written depictions of unicorns go all the way back to ancient Babylonians and Celts, and as far back as the 12<sup>th</sup> century the unicorn was associated with nobility and

power in Scotland. Eventually it came to be seen as a symbol of Scotland's freedom-loving spirit and its hauntingly beautiful, wild nature.

Yet, like many other mythical beasts, danger lurks in the unicorn: too dangerous to be set free and impossible to capture, the unicorn is wrapped in chains in the Royal Coat of Arms of both Scotland and the United Kingdom.

Looking at Scotland's majestic landscapes and turbulent history, there's no better creature to represent this unique land and its bold people.

## Magical Fairies

If you've been following the TV series *Outlander*, then you probably know that Highlanders had many superstitions surrounding fairies. Particularly on the Isle of Skye, the belief in the existence of fairies (also locally spelled *faeries*), or “the

little people,” goes back to prehistoric times—although nowadays it’s little more than a colourful part of the local legends. Originally thought to be evil, fairies were believed to live deep within the heather of **Fairy Glen**.

This bizarre landscape of supernaturally green, grassy knolls is a lovely spot for a walk on a nice day. But if you visit this purported home of fairies, make sure to be on your best behaviour; word has it that they are vengeful to ill-mannered folks while repaying acts of kindness with good luck. And it goes without saying that fairies hate litter, so remember to clean up after yourself if you have a wee picnic here.

The **Fairy Pools** are another place associated with “the little people”. Also located on Skye, near Glenbrittle at the foot of the Black Cuillins, this is



an idyllic spot for a walk along the rocky terrain, beside the bubbling stream, crystal-clear pools and little waterfalls — great photo opportunities all around. It is said that fairies bathe here in the cold pools, and brave visitors sometimes do as well!

## Coming Events

### *July*

- Fri 19 Bryant House Rest Home 2pm (meet 1.45pm)
- Sun 28 Piping & Drumming Live Napier RSA

### *August*

TBA

### *September*

- Sat 14 Blossom Parade - Hastings 11am
- Sun 22 Piping & Drumming Live Napier RSA

