

# Warrnambool Pipe Band– Newsletter

JAN ISSUE 2012

## Merry Christmas and Happy 2012!!!

Another year and competition season has come to an end, with Christmas and the start of 2012. What will become of this year?! We can only wait and see. On behalf of the Warrnambool and District Pipe Band I would like to wish all members and players the very best for the coming year. I hope that you all had a safe and wonderful Christmas.

On the 18th of December we had the last gathering of members to celebrate the end of the year, with a Christmas lunch at the band rooms.

I would like to thank everyone who came along, we had a wonderful few hours, celebrating the year's events, and rewarding players and tutors with a few presents and awards.

As following are the awards presented :-

### Piper of the Year

It was a tie this year between Stacey Riches and Liam King.

### Drummer of the Year

Colin Ruddle

### Band Person of the Year

Tim McLeod

Photos of this event will be included in the next issue.

Looking forward to the rest of the competition season. Sunday practices will kick off on the 22nd of January, 10.30am - 12.30pm for Grade 2 and 1 - 2pm for Grade 4, at the Warrnambool Gardens at the usual spot, unless it is raining then practise will be at the band rooms.

The first competition for both grades is at Ballarat on the 26th of February.

Drumming solos are being held at the Berwick competition on the 11th of February. Entry forms can be found on the VHPBA website.

### Up Coming Play Out!

This coming Sunday the 15th of January, our second outing in Port Fairy is being held and we hope all members are available. All players please meet at Seacombe House by 9.30am, for a street march to the Civic Green at 10am. If you are not sure where this is, please contact your tutor for more details.

We will be entertaining the crowd for an hour and we will be playing in our corporate gear, so make sure that you have everything, including your cap. If you don't have items of the corporate uniform, please contact your tutor this week so we can organise this before Sunday.

We hope to see a big turn out. This will include Grade 4 members as well!

## Daylesford Results for 2011

Our band graced the competition ground for the first competition of the season. The Grade 4's had their first run and they did very well, assisted by some Grade 2 players.

Congratulations to the Grade 4's and we are looking forward to the real deal

at Ballarat! Although the Grade 2's missed out on a placing, it is important to keep up the practice, as well as keeping your instrument in top shape.

I would like to congratulate Peter Moir on winning the Peter Closely Award for 2011.

We had two entries from the band in the Drumming Solos. Nick McLeod placed 3rd in Open Snare and Peter Moir placed 1st in Open Bass Section. Congratulations!

All results are found on the VHPBA website.

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## Pipes/Drums' 2011 New Year Honours

In 2011 we (www.pipes/drum.com) asked a panel of 30 experts and informed pipers and drummers around the world for their votes across several categories for the people, bands and products that made the most news, the biggest impact and the best contributions in the piping and drumming world.

The winners are as following:

### **2011 Pipe Band of the Year.**

#### **Field Marshall Montgomery**

Panelists' comments:-

Clean sweep of championships, jaw-dropping miles ahead at the Worlds, it can only be FFM.

By taking all the majors' there's only one choice.

PM the whole time, he rarely, if ever takes his eyes off his PM. Great to watch.

Steven captured his second World Solo Drumming title. He also led Inveraray and District drum corp. to its best finish at the World Championship.

Never mind the World Solo Championship; it is how he is developing the youngsters at Inveraray that makes the difference.

Another well deserved world solo drumming prize for Steven. That, cou-

### **Piping/Drumming Event of the Year**

#### **Piping Live! Glasgow International**

#### **Festival of Piping**

Panelists comments:-

Piping Live! is miles ahead of any other event in terms of variety, interest, excellence, and more of all brilliant fun

Single-most important event of our year

It shows that even a band with an average technical drum corps but one that focuses on creating music can produce exceptional winning pipe band performances.

Spine-tingling stuff

In 2011 we probably heard from FFM the greatest sound and unison playing in history

Perhaps the greatest pipe band achievement of all time-five straight majors in the most competitive environment in history.

### **Piper of the Year and Solo Competition Pipe of the Year.**

#### **Roddy MacLeod**

Panelists' comments:-

Another Glenfiddich pips the rest,

pled with bringing on young drum corp. at Inveraray ensures Drummer of the Year.

### **Recording of the Year**

#### **Evolution (DVD) St Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band.**

Panelists' comments:-

A wonderful production

An amazing concert with an equally entertaining DVD. The bar for the pre-world's concert continues to be raised

Great variety from this wonderful pipe band

Like the NCAA basketball championships for piping. Solid week of superb entertainment/activity

Its keeps getting better and better!

Its simply impossible to take in all the events offered during the Piping Live Festival

A true celebration of piping throughout the world

A fantastic achievement appealing to all and bringing buzz to Glasgow

So much choice, so little time!

along with Piping Live! and the National Piping Centre.

This is a hard choice, but I think Roddy's ability to win solo events at the very top level, while still spearheading so much great organisational work at the NPC and the Piping Festival makes him hard to beat in any year.

Twenty-three years between MSR wins and the Glenfiddich says it all

He is like the terminator. You can't put him down.

Glenfiddich Championship edged it for me.

### **Drummer of the Year**

#### **Steven McWhirter**

Panelists' comments:-

This is the one LD who plays with his

### **Product of the Year**

#### **The Moidart Collection II- Allan MacDonald**

Panelists' comments:-

A stand out collection that will also stand the test of time

There are a significant number of gems in this collection that will stand the test of time

Quality music throughout.

## Dowco-Triumph Street join FFM in 2012 Pipe of Peace Contest

After the success of last years' concert, the promoters will again hold one in 2012. This time FFM will be joining Dowco Triumph Street Pipe Band.

The event will be held on Thursday August the 9th, at 7.15pm. Tickets go on sale January 25th, 2012.

While seventh time World's winners FFM have performed numerous times in big stage concerts, the performance will be a first outside of Northern America for Dowco Triumph Street, which finished ninth overall in the Final at the Worlds.

The Pipers of Peace Concert is part of a packed World's Week in Glasgow including numerous Piping Live! events over the course of the seven days. The traditional 'Pre-World's' concert will be performed by the Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.

### Boghall Launches new logo; Pre-World's Concert.

One of the world's most storied pipe bands, Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia, is making its 40th anniversary year in 2012 with the introduction of a new band identity. 'Forte' has been revealed as the name of their August Pre-World's Concert to be held at the Royal Glasgow concert Hall, underscoring the strength that the organisation has maintained consistently since 1972.

Latin for Strong: 'Forte' according to Boghall's Pipe Major Ross Walker, "is in reference to the continued strength our organization. Our aim for the concert in August is primarily to present a great evening entertainment for the audience."

Since its promotion to the top grade in 1980, Bathgate, Scotland-based band,

has maintained a strong position in Grade 1, annually hitting a large percentage of the prize-lists at RSPBA major championships, including finishing second at the World Championships several times.

The 'Forte' Concert will be the second time that Boghall has taken on the prestigious concert, organized each year since the late 1980's by the Glasgow Skye Pipe Band Boghall last performed at the event in 2004.

Walker added that several pipers and drummers from its teaching program are making the leap from the youth level to the Grade 1 band. Boghall's teaching program, which it started along with the inception of the band in the 1970's, is often cited as a model program for developing new players and sustaining a high standard over many years.

## Mark Saul's third collection 'The Antipodes' now for sale.

After eighteen years Mark Saul has released a volume 3 to his 'The Antipodes Collection'.

Saul noted the volume three is larger than the previous books, and includes several complete suites that he composed during the period. This includes 'Beaches of Harris' and 'Tir nan Og', works made famous by the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band, and his latest suite 'Back on Track', which made its debut at the August concert in

Glasgow by Scottish Power Pipe Band.

'Back on Track' is the third in Saul's train trilogy of suite that started with 'Hell Bound Train', which the Victorian Police Pipe Band made popular in the 1990's.

"This collection contains music ranging widely in style and technical difficulty, from tunes composed specifically for Grade 3, or Grade 4 players, up to more difficult pieces purpose

Built for Grade 1 bands," Saul said.

"The book also differs from my preceding two books in that it contains a greater number of suites and multi-parted tunes. This change reflects the requests of the bands I have been composing for, and potentially a shift in the repertoire for modern pipe bands in general".

The collection will be offered in paper form only.

## Up Coming Events

There are a few pipe band outings and playouts coming up and we would like you all to put the following dates in your dairies so you do not forget!

### 2012

9th -13th January – NZ Summer School Workshop

15th January – Port Fairy Playout

16th - 20th January – Australian Summer School Workshop

11th Feb - Berwick Comp

26th Feb – Ballarat Comp

March – New Zealand Championships

18th March – Geelong Comp

25th March - Haileybury VIC Championship

1st April - Ringwood Comp

7th and 8th April – Aus Champs – Ballarat

25th April - ANZAC day

27th-29th April – SWCPD weekend – Warrnambool

6th May - RU Brown Adelaide Piping Solos

Articles from [www.pipedrum.com](http://www.pipedrum.com)

Editor of Newsletter

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