

Warrnambool Pipe Band– Newsletter

SEPT ISSUE 2011

World Pipe Band Championship

August is not only the month of the biggest competition in the world, it also holds the biggest piping and music week, Piping Live!

This year Piping Live! had a line up of LD and PM from six of the world's best bands showing off their stuff in a free concert in Glasgow. The concert this year was Scottish Power and it was a fantastic event.

Rounding off with the World Championships on Saturday the 13th of August, held at the famous Glasgow Green in Glasgow.

Leading up to the World's there were the lead up competitions, North Berwick and Bridge of Allan. At North Berwick, weather was not as kind, raining most of the day and the winner on the day in grade one was Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia. They also took out best drum corp.

The following day saw the competition at Bridge of Al-

lan. The winner of the grade one section was Inveraray and District. They also won best drum corp.

So on the 13th of August the day was full of excitement and competition with the favorite FFM going in already winning all the major championship up to this competition.

This event again was streamed around the world, and if you were like me it was one very late night.

The competition was tough and the qualifiers was very close. After having to play in the qualifiers this year Shotto's and Dykehead made it through to the finals and won the overall best drum corp on the day.

The finals saw a fantastic competition where the top six were very hard to separate.

The weather might have played a little part in the

results, raining on and off during the day. It wouldn't be good old Scottish weather if it didn't.

The end result was FFM taking out the World Pipe Band Championship for 2011, 2nd Simon Fraser University and 3rd Scottish Power.

Best Drum Corp for the medley went to FFM and for the MSR Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia. Overall winner of Best Drum Corp went to Shotts and Dykehead. Congratulations to all bands who competed on the day.

The next few seasons we will see some bands really make an improvement in the grade one section. The gap in my opinion is getting smaller between the top bands in the world and other grade one bands, and the one band in particular is Inveraray and District.

All results are on page 2.

Annual General Meeting

The band's AGM will be held on the 15th of September and we invite all members and friends to attend. It starts at 8pm, at the band rooms.

All nominations are now open for all positions on the

committee.

We are always looking for new members to join the committee so if you are interested, please let myself or Michael Bellamy know of your intention to nominate.

There is also supper after the meeting, can all members please bring a plate to share. Tea, coffee and milo will be provided.

Hope to see you all there. Apologies for the night please forward to your tutor or myself.

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Alasdair Gillies 1963 - 2011

The legendary piper Alasdair Gillies died suddenly on the morning of August 27th, 2011, at the age of 47. Gillies won almost every major prize in both Piobaireachd and light music, some many times over.

Born December 6th, 1963, a native of Ullapool, Scotland, and a son of the great solo piper Norman Gillies, his record of 11 Former Winners MSR Silver Stars at the Northern Meeting may never be rivaled. Indeed, it was the Northern Meeting where Gillies reigned supreme, winning every trophy in both senior and junior piping except for one in B Grade Strathspey and Reel. Among his other awards were the Glenfiddich Championship three times, both Highland Society of London Gold medals and the Clasp at

Inverness.

He was a career piper, first with the military as Pipe Major of the Queen's Own Highlanders and latter as Director of Carnegie – Mellon University's degree in Piping for 12 years.

Alasdair Gillies was laid to rest on the 3rd of September with more than 200 of family and friends attending.

Some of the people who attended on the day were the Queen's Own Highlander's Pipe Major Bruce Hitchings, who played the lament outside the church, and the pallbearers were six of the world's greatest pipers, Brian Donaldson, Angus MacColl, Colin MacLellan, Roddy McLeod, Willie MacCallum and Gordon Walker, each both a friend and contemporary of

Gillies.

He will be sadly missed around the solo piping scene.

Article from pipedrum.com.

International News - Results from Competitions

August was a huge month of competition results. All following results are from the Grade One Section.

North Berwick 6th Aug

1st Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
2nd Oran Mor
3rd Canterbury Caledonia
4th Dysart and Dundonald

Best Drum Corp. Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia.

Bridge of Allan 7th Aug

1st Inveraray and District
2nd Oran Mor
3rd Vale of Atholl
4th Lothian and Borders Police

Best Drum Corp Inveraray and District

World Pipe Band Championship 13th Aug

1st Field Marshall Montgomery
2nd Simon Fraser University
3rd Scottish Power
4th Inveraray and District
5th St Laurence O'Toole
6th Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
Best Drum Corp Medley - FMM
Best Drum Corp MSR - Boghall
Overall Best Corp – Shotto's and Dykehead

Cont.

Perth 14th August - Cancelled

Crieff 27th August

1st Mackenzie Caledonia
2nd Lochgelly F.P

Best Drum Corp. Mackenzie Caledonia

Cowal Championship 27th Aug

1st Field Marshall Montgomery
2nd Inveraray and District
3rd Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
4th St Laurence O'Toole
5th Strathclyde Police
6th Scottish Power

Drum Corp. Shotto's and Dykehead.

Field Marshall Montgomery has completed the golden run of winning all the major championships this season.

Terang Solo Results / Camperdown Concert

On 21st of August the Terang Piping Solos were held and our band hosted the day. Weather was fantastic so it was held for the first time outside in the sunshine overlooking the Terang valley, very beautiful.

Thank you to all members who helped on the day and also for the donations for the canteen. Greatly appreciated.

The following are the results of the day.

Novice

- 1st Imogen Akers
- 2nd Alison Wallace
- 3rd James Ruddle

C Grade

- 1st Laura Watson
- 2nd Craig McKenzie
- 3rd Scott Turner

B Grade

- 1st Clint Morris
- 2nd Miranda Boath
- 3rd Steve Anderson
- 4th Lachlan Moir
- 5th Cameron Ely
- 6th Nicola Sharp

A Grade

- 1st Katherine Belcher
- 2nd RJ Houston

All done to all members and competitors on the results.

Good Luck to everyone who is competing in the Victorian Piping Championships. Watch this space for the results.

Camperdown Concert.

On the 28th of August the band journeyed to Camperdown for the Robbie Burns Annual Concert to raise money for the completion of the restoration of the Robbie Burns statue.

Thank you to all members who attended and performed and helped to make the concert a successful event.

Special guests from the band, Cool Bananas and the Blair Trio performed for the audience.

There was a social night held at 'The Cottage' on the 27th, full of music, food and fun. Thank you to John Menzies and his family for hosting the evening in their home.

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!

2011

- 9th Sept – Horsham Solo Drumming—
Cancelled
- 11th Sept - Victorian Championship
Solo Piping

15th September – AGM Warrnambool Pipe Band 7.30pm. All members and players to attend. Apologies to your tutor or myself (Tanya Ross)

23rd October – Mini Bands and Piping / Drumming Solos Scotch College

3rd December – Daylesford competition

Up Coming (Main) Competitions– International

Oct 22nd - World Drumming Solos

Uniform Shop New Hours!

Attention All Members!!!!

As you all know, the uniform room has undergone a transformation with a huge clean out and now for the first time in the band history we are having times set so that our uniform lady can fit in some practice time.

So from now on the Uniform Shop will only be open between 7.30pm and 8.30pm on a Thursday night. You can make an appointment with Nannette Sharp.

Can all members also, please look in your cupboards for any extra uniform and equipment. The band are very

short of: band jackets, vests, pipe bag covers and anything else you may find.

If you have any information, stories or photos, for the newsletter please forward to me and I can add it to the next newsletter.

Thank you

Tanya Ross
Band Secretary