

PIPELINE

Year in review

Canberra Celtic Pipe Band have had yet another busy year



2006 will probably be remembered as the year when the Canberra Celtic Pipe band achieved a certain amount of fame, as a result of our performances at the Folk Festival and resulting appearances on radio, television and in local newspapers.

We also performed at the regular gigs throughout the year, including Bundanoon, Yass,

Sutton Forest and Boorowa and at a number of smaller events including several Fetes.

Unfortunately, we also farewelled a number of experienced members of the band, to all of whom we wish the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Lets make 2007 an even bigger, brighter and better year for the band!

This year's performances

- Soul Bar Woden (17th March)
- Folk Festival (14th - 17th April)
- Bundanoon (8th April)
- Yass Anzac Day Parade (25th April)
- Irish Club Open Day (7th May)
- Hawker Church Fete (13th May)
- Sutton Forest (11th June)
- Sir Leslie Morshead War Veterans Home (22nd July)
- Boorowa (1st October)
- Orana School Fete (5th November)
- Triathlon parade (17th November)
- Young Cherry Festival (2nd December)
- Phillipine Embassy (3rd December)



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 2006

This year's annual general meeting was held on November 8th at the Cultural Centre.

The following people were elected as ranked officers or to the committee for the following year:

- President: Kevin McDonald
- Vice-President: John Uren
- Treasurer: Fran Emerson
- Secretary: Lynn Bloomfield

• Committee members: Stephen Ross and Trevor Howe

• Quartermaster: Owen Dive

All of the reports that were tabled at the AGM are available on the website.

TOUR DE ECOSSE - BY JOHN UREN

'Disappointment' is the word that comes to mind when recalling our 'Tour de Ecosse.'

Fine Dining is what most people think of when Scotland comes to mind, and the Haggisses were truly excellent. These tasty beasts are so highly regarded that a very lifelike stuffed and mounted example was proudly displayed in the Natural History Museum, among deers, wolves, grouses, etc. We were never disappointed when one found its way to our table.

Deep Frying is essential in Scottish Cuisine. Anything that can't outrun the Chef can land in the fryer. I was, however, unable to track down the Deep-Fried Mars Bar for which those Fryers are most renowned. Other Gourmets in our party met with better luck, but, for me, only Disappointment.

Haggisses are certainly not Mythical Beasts, but doubts have been expressed as to the existence of the Loch Ness Monster. I had carefully planned an irresistible bait to bring Nessie to the Loch surface, and, perhaps, even to the shore!

Fran and I had driven slowly along the Loch's North shore, stopping often, clambering down slippery slopes (yes, I did most of the clambering, Fran did most of the nitpicking as to appropriate aspects) until we found the Perfect Spot: a long, gentle slope down to a pebbly beach, pebbles and rocks extending well into the Loch. A bit of rock-hopping allowed Fran (and her pipes) to get well out from the shore.

The Trap was set!!

I was sure that the Sight (and Sound) of a Pipe Major blawin' awa' in such easy reach MUST have lured Nessie out. If Fran was slightly gobbled, well, it was in a Good Cause...

But, again, only Disappointment...

We played in The Worlds, on Glasgow Green... didn't win...

Tickets to the Grade 1 Arena cost a fortune, and were unavailable, but we found ourselves behind a gap in the fence as eventual winners Field Marshal Montgomery came out for their MSR! They played that popular favourite: Highland Wedding... could be part of our Band Repertoire for next year, or would be, if Nessie had taken the Bait.....



CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations go out to David Howard and Kerrie Flynn for their successes in recent solo competitions.

David placed 1st in the under 18's group in the Silver Tassie Australian Young Piper of the Year contest which was held at Sutton Forest on 22nd October.

Kerrie placed 2nd in the Beginner's Uralr at the NSW State Solo competition on 4th November.

Congratulations to both David and Kerrie!

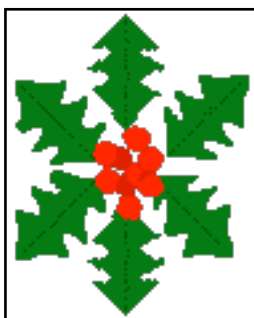


NEW PIPER'S SOCIETY FOR CANBERRA

The aim of the new Canberra Pipers Society is to bring pipers and piping enthusiasts together in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to play, regardless of level of piping. The inaugural meeting was held on 26th November.

Contact Sean Hodgman (62822795 or u4114272@anu.edu.au) or Jamie Forsyth (0419 631 999 or jamesforsyth@hotmail.com) for more information.

CHRISTMAS PARTY!



Saturday December 9th

Fran and John will be hosting the band Christmas Party again this year from 6pm on Saturday December 9th. Sausages and steaks will be supplied and there is a swimming pool for the kids (and for the kids at heart).

Christmas Break!

The last practice for the year will be on 13th December, and we will be starting up again on the 17th January 2007.

Christmas Spice and Cranberry Cookies

Ingredients:

- 125g unsalted butter
- 250g light brown sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 40g raisins
- 40g dried cranberries
- 50g walnut pieces
- 350g plain flour, sifted
- 15ml mix of ground cloves, ginger and cinnamon
- 5ml bicarbonate of soda
- pinch of salt

1. Preheat oven to 190 degrees
2. Beat the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy, then add eggs gradually. Stir in remaining ingredients to make a dough.
3. Shape into walnut-sized balls and place on a lightly greased baking tray, well spaced out
4. Bake for 10-15 minutes - the longer the biscuits are baked the crunchier they will be. Remove from the tray and allow to cool.
5. To serve, combined 30ml icing sugar with another 15ml of the spice mix (cloves, ginger and cinnamon) and cover the cookies.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!

Upcoming events for 2007!

Multicultural Festival (February 10th)

Two performances representing the Irish National Embassy

Moss Vale Competition (February 25th)

Keep practicing!

Bundanoon is Brigadoon (April 28th)

This is the 30th Brigadoon!

Heather's Wedding (June 9th)

Playing at the Shaw Winery in Murrumbateman as a thankyou to Heather for all her help with the Dance School

Irish Day at Sutton Forest (June 10th)

Our presence has been requested again at this regular event.

Website and Newsletter news and updates

WEBSITE

The website will soon be updated with biographies of playing members - keep an eye out for emails requesting a short biography and photo to go up on the website. Of course, its not compulsory, but will help get to know the other members of the band!

NEWSLETTER

Contributions for the newsletters are always welcome and can be sent to info@canberraceltic.org.

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

Don't forget that if you change your contact details, you will need to update the membership database, by going to the members section of the website and clicking on "update your details here".