

Ingersoll Pipe Band Newsletter



Volume 14 Issue 1 April 2024

Celebrating 114 Years

**11 EASY
WAYS TO
MAKE
2024 OUR
BEST YEAR
EVER!**



**TOTALLY POSSIBLE BUT IT
WON'T HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT!**

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#1 Start the year off with a dedicated Board of Directors put in place at our annual AGM

#2 Hold another amazing Robbie Burns' Dinner; keep up this tradition

#3 Continue to commit to a 2023 goal – Trip to Phoenix Scottish Games 2024

#4 Practice, practice, practice! (Sunday practices were very beneficial)

#5 Get equipment, both musical instruments and uniforms, in pristine condition

#6 Acquire some very talented and dedicated mentors/volunteers to achieve #3,4 and 5

#7 Complete our goal #3 in brilliant style!

#8 –Thank EVERYONE involved for helping us achieve The Phoenix Project goals

#9 – Prepare for upcoming 2024 parade season and other events

#10 – Continue to support new learners and members (past/present/future) and welcome new supporters

#11 – Set long term goals for our band (hopefully involving new tunes and scores, fun, travel, and fundraising for new projects)

"The trouble with not having a goal is that you can spend your life running up and down the field and never score." — Bill Copeland

Your Newsletter Editor - *Veronica*

AGM

ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING

At the Annual General Meeting on January 14th , the Election of Board Members took place for 2024.

The Board this year is composed of :

- President – Winston Kooistra
- Vice President – Harold Matthews
- Treasurer – Jane Muterer
- Secretary – Mary Ellen Muterer
- Pipe Major – Doug Collins
- Quarter Master – Doug Turvey
- Canteen Convenor – Jim Armstrong
- Attendance and Welfare Officer – Nancy Matthews
- Communications Officer – Veronica Jackson



In March at the monthly Board Meeting we also confirmed the following volunteers to head up various committees.

Burns Night 2025 - Mary Ellen Muterer, Veronica Jackson, Doug Collins

Christmas Banquet- Winston Kooistra

Annual Picnic- Mary Ellen Muterer, Jane Muterer, Joanne Muterer

Pot Luck Suppers & Socials-

Nancy Matthews, Tammi Minogue, Veronica Jackson, Wendy Marshall

IB Constitution Review –

Chair- Winston Kooistra, Nancy Matthews, Jack Habkirk, Laurie Marson, Ron Marshall, Veronica Jackson



President Ron turning over the gavel to the incoming President Winston

Welcoming in 2024 – Jan 1st



The tradition continued with members of the IPB gathering at the pipe band hall to tune up in anticipation of the three levees to attend on New Year's Day. Pipe Sergeant Charlie was in charge and he put us through our paces with style and Scottish aplomb!



Piper Lois greeting P Sgt Charlie



P Sgt Charlie once again with his "Angels"

L to R – Veronica, Catherine, Charlie, Nancy, Lois, Lana



STOP #1

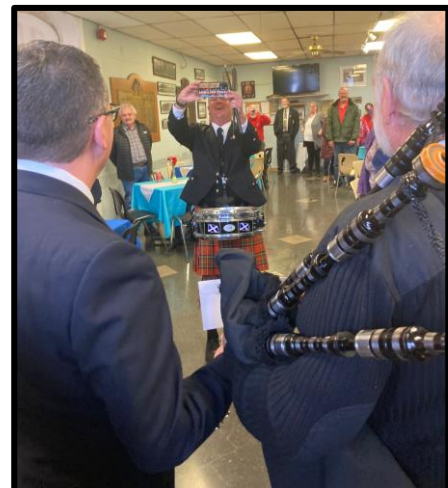
Ingersoll Legion (Branch # 119)



**Drummers assembled to greet the pipers
L to R – Doug T, Tammi, D Sgt Lisa, Jane W,
Jerry, Adam, Harold**



**Legion President Dave Presswell presenting
P Sgt Charlie Thomson with a donation for our
Phoenix Project Fundraising account**



**Drummer Harold taking a photo of the
cheque presentation**

The Ingersoll Legion Ladies Auxiliary outdid themselves, as usual, for providing an excellent lunch to all those who attended the levee. We appreciated the hospitality extended to the IPB. Then it was time to hop into our vehicles and head over to Woodstock for our next gig.

STOP #2
Woodstock Legion (Branch # 55)



Tammi, Charlie and Lisa toasting in the New Year



Pipers and drummers waiting to play; P Sgt Charlie speaking to those attending the levee



Bass Drummer Doug Turvey



What a handsome bunch we had assembled!

The Woodstock Legion Ladies Auxiliary also know how to skillfully feed New Year's Day visitors and members with some delectable dishes. After indulging in some more treats and beverages, some of our members decided to hit the dance floor. A local band, Loose Change, played some terrific songs and we just couldn't resist.



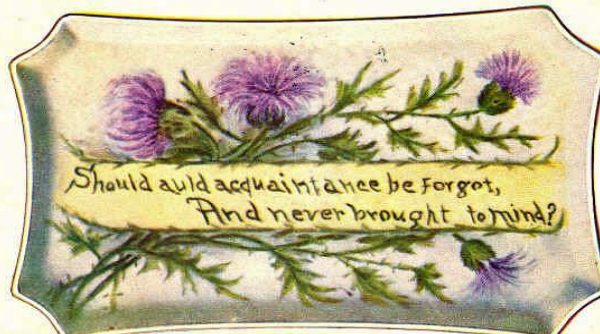
Harold, supporter Joanne, and Jerry cutting loose on the dance floor

STOP #3
Woodstock Navy Club




Enjoying the hospitality, conversation and support of Navy Club members, IPB members, family and friends

The Navy Club were very hospitable hosts and we enjoyed this final levee stop before packing up our gear and heading for home.

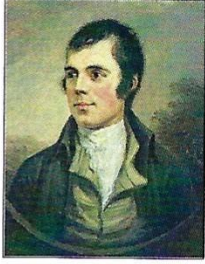



Oxford County Naval Veterans Association



959 James St.,
Woodstock
519-537-8991
www.ocnva.ca
"Quarterdeck"



Robbie Burns Night



**INGERSOLL
PIPE BAND**

Burns Night 2024

Saturday, January 20, 2024
Ingersoll Pipe Band Armoury
Cocktails & Music at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

 **\$40.00 ea** 

2023 was a busy year with setting up the band hall for a Burns Night, a Cèilidh, and a Spaghetti Dinner. So starting off 2024 with another traditional fundraiser was completely within the realm and imagination of our members' duties. We had an amazing turnout with all 150 tickets sold to a variety of patrons from near and far. Some were "regulars" while others were "newbies" coming out on a cold January evening to salute the Scottish bard in our humble armoury.

The IPB's Burns Night is known for a delicious roast beef dinner with all the trimmings, lots of good cheer (plenty of that too), and a variety of lively entertainment! The 2024 edition did not disappoint on any of these standards.

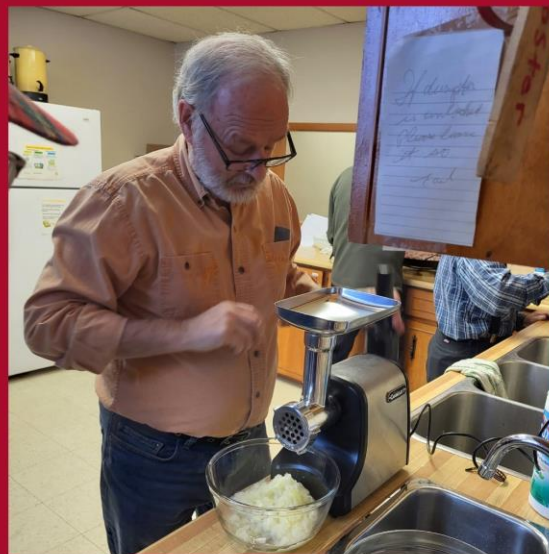
The kitchen crew and several members and volunteers toiled over 3 days prior to and on January 20th preparing the dinner - haggis, salad, potatoes, turnip, veggies, scones, roast beef; setting tables; shopping for groceries and sundries; decorating the hall; setting up the beverage bar; practicing pipes and drums; and, finalizing ticket sales, entertainers schedules, and printing programmes.

Let's break all of this down with some photos!

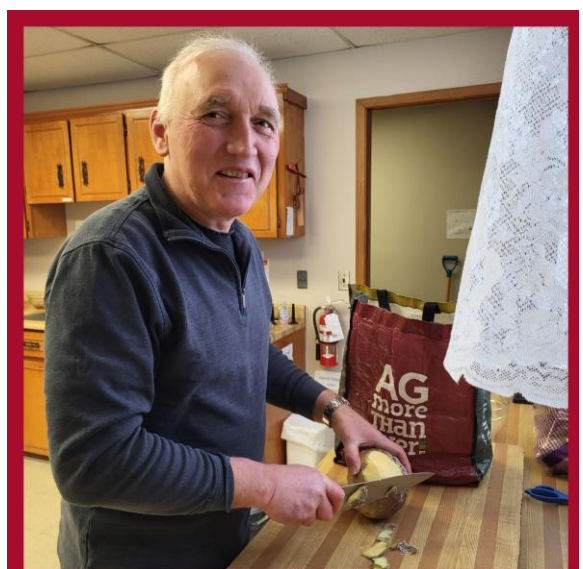
Haggis Making

Chefs and sous-chefs gathered at the hall on Thursday to prepare haggis for the dinner and for pre-sales. There was a lot of peeling, dicing, chopping, frying, stirring, mixing and seasoning going on! Pictured below – Mary Ellen, Ron, Harold, Nancy and Jerry.





Onions and liver under the watchful eyes of Nancy, Charlie, and Harold

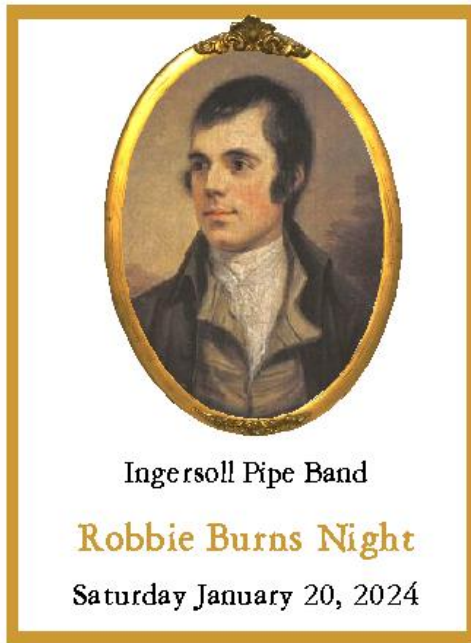


More chefs in action – Ron, Andy and Tammi.
The end result of all this haggis making was many appreciative thank-yous from our satisfied diners and customers.

More Prep Work



The Matthews



Programme Front and Back

Selkirk Grace

Some hae meat an canna eat, And some wad eat
that want it; But we hae meat, and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit.

Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days o' lang syne!

Chorus - For auld lang syne, my Dear, For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet, For auld lang syne.

And here's a hand, my trusty friend,
And give a hand o'thine
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

Chorus - For auld lang syne, my Dear, For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet, For auld lang syne.



Veronica preparing wall graphics of our Phoenix sponsors

Programme Inside

Grace

Veronica Jackson

Toast to the King

Pipe Major Doug Collins

O'Canada

Lana Coghill

Entertainers

Pre Dinner- Lana Coghill,
Catherine Stark, Winston Kooistra
After Dinner- Sim School of Highland
Dancers; Andy Longridge, soloist;
Fiddle and Frets; Ingersoll Pipe Band
(There will be short breaks between our
entertainers; Fiddle and Frets will perform
two separate sets so stay around)

Menu

Roast Beef, Salad, Mashed Potatoes,
Turnips, Vegetables, Haggis, Scones,
Dessert, Tea & Coffee

Program

Master of Ceremonies

Pipe Major Doug Collins

Piper

Steve Shepherd

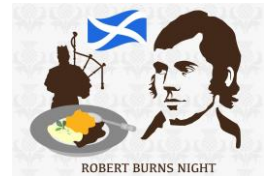
Address to the Haggis

Pipe Sergeant Charles Thomson

Haggis Bearer

Tammi Minogue

Some Photos of Our Patrons



The majority of our guests enjoy celebrating their Scottish heritage with us every Robbie Burns night. But some of our guests love to partake in the festivities "just because" they are always appreciative of a fine meal, excellent entertainment and the "joie de vivre" of the evening. This year, we even had a first time guest from London who is the great great granddaughter of the famous Scottish poet!



Pictured above Patsy Ste. Marie and her escort and PM Doug Collins

Some of Our Favourite Supporters and Guests



Some Photos of Our Workers



Whether they were cooking, carving meat, serving, tending bar, selling tickets, doing dishes or entertaining they all know their importance to making this such a successful event!

Some Photos of Our Entertainers



Thanks to IPB member Christina Breen and her husband Bob (Armor Pro Audio) for our sound system.

Our IPB members are always an integral part of the Robbie Burns Night entertainment lineup. PM Doug Collins acted as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Pre-dinner, Catherine Stark on pipes, Winston Kooistra on drum, and Lana Coghill on guitar entertained with some Celtic favourites and other tunes. As part of the official ceremonies, Steve Shepherd piped in the haggis, P Sgt Charles Thomson did the Address to the Haggis, and Tammi Minogue presented the haggis. Lana Graham led our guests in O'Canada. Later in the evening, Andy Longridge entertained the audience with Scottish poems, jokes and songs which were enjoyed by all. President Winston Kooistra officially thanked our guests. Our mini band this year was composed of pipers Jim Armstrong, Steve Shepherd, Jane Mutterer, Don Gale, Charlie Thomson, and Doug Collins; drummers were Doug Turvey, Lisa McPherson, and Winston Kooistra. Thank you to all our musicians and participants!




Click on the photo to the right to see a video clip of the mini band's entrance into the hall.



Robert Burns
Scottish poet

Scotland's national poet Robert Burns is recognised the world over for his work focusing on universal themes of love and nature.



Our Featured Guest Entertainers



Fiddle and Frets duo Lindsay and Barry on stage performing for us.

Click on the photo above to see the video of one of their amazing songs.

We were so fortunate to have Lindsay and Barry entertain us. Here's a little bit about their musical history as a duo –

Barry & Lindsay have performed together in a variety of venues nationwide and beyond. From intimate settings to large concert halls, house concerts to festival stages, backyards to orchestras.

The duo first met in 2009 when Barry joined Lindsay in the award winning Celtic supergroup, Rant Maggie Rant. The rest is history!

Lindsay is a seasoned musician who has performed globally as a soloist, freelance artist, and with various projects. Most notably, alongside Juno nominees Emm Gryner and Dayna Manning as 1/3 of the former critically acclaimed Canadian Folk Trio, Trent Severn & as a founding member of the award winning Celtic Fusion Band, Rant Maggie Rant. Recently Lindsay has partnered with Tara Dunphy in creating the contemporary Canadian Roots Band, Maggie's Wake, the sequel to Rant Maggie Rant.

For over 15 years, Barry has been the vision and creative force behind his project String Bone, a musical amalgamation of Folk, Alt. Country, Blues and Rock. He has collaborated with many high-profile Canadian artists such as Bob Egan (ex-Wilco, ex-Blue Rodeo), Aaron Allen (CMAO 2021 Male Artist of the Year), 3-time Juno Award winner, the late Bill Bourne, Rick Taylor, Mae Moore, Sarah Jane Scouten, Trent Severn and Shannon Lyon among others, and has toured across Canada and Europe.

Together, Lindsay and Barry bring a lifetime of musical experience and performance.

Thank you Fiddles and Frets for entertaining our patrons at our 2024 Robbie Burns Night.

More Guest Performers



Sim Dancers
EST. 1991

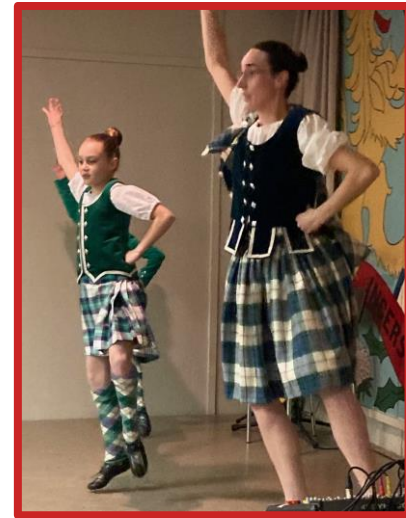
Once again, Sherry Sim, owner of Sim Dancers Studio, and chief instructor and choreographer of Highland Dance, provided us with three very talented dancers from Ingersoll to entertain our guests. Lilli, Anita and Heather demonstrated the traditional highland fling and the sword dance.



Lilli demonstrating the sword dance



Left to Right – Lilli, Anita, Heather



The Fling!

Thank you dancers for bringing this very popular performance component to our evening's lineup.

Parting Photos



Unsung Heroes & Entertainers in the Kitchen



MacKay Mainstays – Kevin & Merilee



Ontario Curling Championships Dorchester

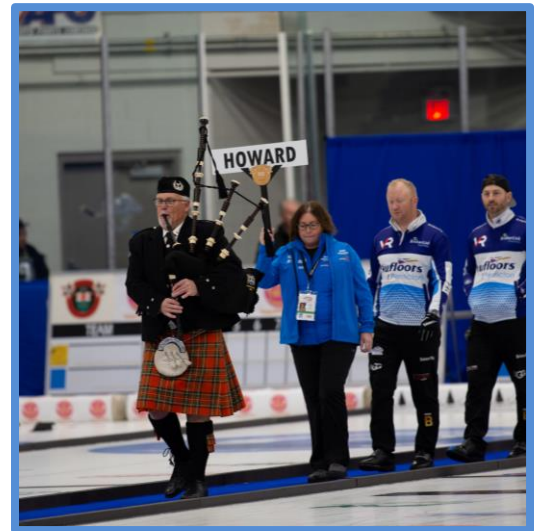


“Twenty four of the best mens and womens teams from across Ontario clashed on the ice to win the ultimate honour : the chance to proudly represent Ontario at either the prestigious Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Calgary or the iconic Montana's Brier in Regina.” These special bonspiels were hosted by the Ingersoll District Curling Club at The Flight Exec Centre in Dorchester, Thames Centre.

Our PM Doug Collins and his sidekick, Piper Jim Armstrong, made several trips over five days to The Flight Centre to pipe the teams onto the ice prior to the start of their games, and, also at the finals for trophy presentations. They also piped in team members from Ontario junior clubs who participated in the Special Olympics Tankard Provincial Curling Championship.



PM Doug piping in the Howard Team that eventually won the men's title



Jim also got to pipe in Team Howard during the week



Ace Curling Photographer Robert Wilson annually attends the provincial bonspiels and documents the action. Thanks for sharing your photos with us, Bob.



Additional photos from Robert Wilson

Well done, Doug and Jim; kudos to all the volunteers from Ingersoll and Dorchester that made this event such a success! And "well done" to all the curlers at every level that competed. Catch our pipers at the 4:45 minute mark on Curl ONTV's coverage of the Women's Final on Friday evening. Click on the photo below. Most of you will recognize the tune "Loch Maree"!



PROJECT PHOENIX 2024

Start Date – Official correspondence to Phoenix Mon. Nov 21, 2022, 4:21 PM

Subject Re: Ingersoll Pipe Band - 2024 road trip South? Email sent by Nancy Matthews to her cousin, Dianne Hossack Nunez, Pipe Sergeant of the Mesa Caledonian Pipe Band

“We are thinking of planning a band trip in the spring of 2024 and I thought Arizona might be a great destination...” Lots more in that email but this is what got the ball rolling!

Response back from Dianne - Date 2022-11-21 6:45:54 PM

Subject Re: Ingersoll Pipe Band - 2024 road trip South?

“What an awesome idea! We have the Phoenix Scottish Games the first weekend in March. They are held at Gilbert Regional Park in Gilbert, a suburb of Phoenix and close to Mesa. There is an International Twilight Tattoo on the Friday night and then the games on both Saturday and Sunday...”

And so it began! PROJECT PHOENIX was born!

Approval given by the PM, the Board of Directors and the Membership and then

planning, planning and more planning, meetings (virtual and in-person), surveys, fundraisers, sign-up sheets, travel arrangements, ordering and designing new “Phoenix merchandise, acquiring sponsors, and 16 months of emails and texts flying back and forth to make it all happen!

When the snow finally settled in the wee hours of **Thursday February 29th, 2024** Project Phoenix members and supporters boarded a plane at Pearson International and headed south. We had 27 performing members aboard (met up with one more piper in Phoenix) and 10 great supporters/volunteers (again acquired another supporter in Phoenix)!

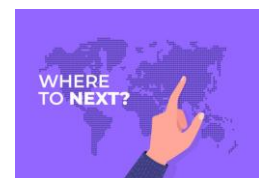
End Date – Official return to Ingersoll – Thurs. Mar. 7, 2024 11:30 pm

Follow up celebrations and debriefing during March; sorting out odds and ends; answering lots of questions from family, friends and interested bystanders

And so it finished! PROJECT PHOENIX was put to bed!



SPECIAL THANKS to IPB's quartet – Doug Collins, Wendy Marshall, Nancy Matthews, and Veronica Jackson for the many hours invested in this project to make the trip successfully happen. **On the Phoenix end**, thanks to DM Kevin Conquest and Dianne Nunez, and their amazing team for assisting us with all our Phoenix Games arrangements; as well thank you to the Arizona Caledonian Society for hosting us.





At our “wrap up” party on March 17th, we had a slide show of our Phoenix photos and videos.

For those of you who did not receive a copy of this PDF please click on the photo above. The link will take you to our IPB website where you can access all the photos. Below are the YouTube video links from Phoenix.

Friday Night
Warm Up - <https://youtu.be/pveelvNWbSQ>

Friday Night
Tattoo - <https://youtu.be/JQ4oF2T9Jro>

Saturday and Sunday Videos -

Among The Tents -
<https://youtu.be/KVWnbMZVZeQ>

Opening Ceremony -
<https://youtu.be/x7R1wv3u6K0>

Closing Ceremony - https://youtu.be/_0qqeE-tlZg

Closing
Ceremony https://youtu.be/_64fHbcvPtg

EXTRAS -

Gathering of the Clans
<https://youtu.be/1xmrdBi6UP8>

Amazing Grace - <https://youtu.be/VSkFmw2E-ls>

THANK
YOU
ALL

It cannot be repeated enough!
To our amazing membership, supporters,
families, friends, the Mesa Caledonian Pipe Band,
The Caledonian Society of Arizona, various levels
of government, private companies, and complete
strangers ... Merci Beaucoup / Thank You for
supporting

**THE
PHOENIX
PROJECT
2024**



**Group photo taken of all our performers and
supporters taken at Gilbert Park on March 1st
Phoenix Scottish Games Tattoo Rehearsal Day**

Oxford Local History Day April 20th

In early February, the IPB received an invitation from Vicki Brenner, the Local History Library Technician for the Oxford County Library asking if we were interested in participating again in the 4th annual Oxford Local History Day on Saturday, April 20th. We accepted the invitation and decided this year that we would focus on the various places that the band has travelled to across Canada, or, to international sites either to compete, attend a parade or event, or, just enjoy a band holiday.

We shared one of the meeting rooms at the Ingersoll Library with three other groups – The Ingersoll Cheese and Agricultural Museum, The Beachville District Historical Society Zorra Heritage Committee, and, The Beachville District Museum.



Thanks to the following band volunteers for taking a shift to greet and share information about IPB with the public that attended the event – Mary Ellen Muterer, Jane Muterer, Doug Collins, Kevin MacKay, Ron Marshall, Nancy Matthews and Veronica Jackson.

Part of our presentation was showing a PowerPoint slide show of photos taken on many of the band's journeys. These included Taiwan, Indianapolis, Phoenix, Richmond and more local places.



Above – more photos of other participating groups and displays in the main room of the library. Someone even came by and dropped off a 45 record for our “historic” collection at the band hall. It features a group called Rainbow (local band) and the IPB collaborating together on “Scotland the Brave and “Amazing Grace”.

All participants received an email from Vicki on the following Monday which read –
Good afternoon,
On behalf of Oxford County Library, I extend sincere appreciation to all of our exhibitors at Oxford Local History Day 2024, your engaging displays brought to life the story of Oxford. The work involved in researching, assembling, transporting & erecting your exhibits left in me a bit in awe – I thank you again for this effort to make Oxford Local History Day special. If I have missed anyone that assisted with your displays or helped on the day, please pass along my appreciation. Your support for our event meant that over 375 attendees took in your exhibits – I am pleased that so many sought to learn more about the history of this area!

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

March 17th



...with some St. Patrick's Day Fun 
and a big ol' Phoenix Flashback!



Who: for all members/learners/supporters
What: pot-luck feast with Steve + Adam's famous wings!!!
Where: band hall...be there!
When: **Sunday March 17th @ 5:30pm**
Why? ...because we want to feast, celebrate a great trip and thank all those who helped make it possible!

Sign up to bring some tasty 'vittles' + 'Git along little doggies' to get the cameras snapping in Arizona, so we may put together a fun flashback slideshow for our 2024 Road Trip to the Phoenix Scottish Games!



This year our St. Patrick's Day pot luck social had a slightly different twist to it. Actually, two twists!

First, Steve Shepherd was fortunate to acquire a massive number of chicken wings and without too much pressure applied, managed to get Adam Stark, a chicken wing specialist, to agree to assist with the outdoor deep frying of these delectable wings.

The second twist was the Country-Western-Irish theme as we were still celebrating our recent trip to Phoenix. You can see from the poster above created by Nancy Matthews, that we were hoping that the buffet table would be filled with some amazing "vittles"!

So glancing back at the photos from the evening, you will see that there were many clothing styles being represented. Several "cowgirls and cowboys", Irish "colleens and paddies", and everyday folks were present at this very fun social. We also had PM Doug and his sidekick, Katherine, serving up some delicious margaritas (thanks to the donation to the band of a bottle of tequila from our very generous bus driver in Phoenix, Jorge Cruz).



It appears that cooking chicken wings in the great outdoors, even when it snowed off and on, was a lot of fun (L to R) Adam and Steve



Aly also lent a hand with the outdoor frying



Doug our Margarita Mixologist



Jerry sampling one of Doug's margaritas



**Two more margarita imbibers
Catherine G and Katherine C**



**Sous-Chef Adam trying to stay ahead
of the dishes**

After an amazing meal of delectable wings and pot luck entrees and desserts, we turned our attention to a look back at the Phoenix trip. We viewed a slide show put together by Veronica and enjoyed the contribution of many photos by band members and supporters on the trip. In particular we enjoyed the photos taken by our "unofficial" photographer and videographer, Andrew Coghill.

Our host MC's took turns:

- regaling us with stories, memories and comments submitted to Nancy
- thanking everyone who participated in the Phoenix Project over the past year and a half - some of these dedicated folks went on the trip while others, who were unable to go but were vital to the success of the trip, were recognized
- acknowledging the time and dedication of the project leaders - Wendy, Nancy, Doug C, Veronica – with gift cards
- recognizing our amazing treasurer Jane M for all those deposits she made and keeping the books straight.

Before we knew it, the evening was over, the snow was flying around outside and it was time to clean up and head for home. Another memorable St. Patrick's Day evening at the band hall.



**Nancy relaying humorous messages and
memories of our days in Phoenix**



Looking green and good! Some of our band members and learners and their family members all decked out for St. Paddy's Day.



Definitely a Very Fun Pot Luck



Around The Band Hall and Further Afield

Congratulating Golspie Dairy for Their 1-Year Anniversary



I congratulated Golspie Dairy for the 1-year anniversary of their retail business. The family has been dairy farming since 1874, and their business is located on their family farm just outside Woodstock. Be sure to check out their milk vending machine and excellent cheeses.

Members of our band, **The Marshalls, Ron and Wendy** celebrated the first anniversary of the Golspie Dairy. Pictured above, Ron and Wendy, and their daughter-in-law, Marja, received a certificate from MPP Ernie Hardeman on this achievement. Missing from the photo is The Marshalls' son, Lawrence, who is one of the main operators of the store while Marja is the cheesemaker. The Golspie Dairy is located just outside of Woodstock. It is an on-farm processing plant specializing in fresh dairy products and small-batch cheeses based on iconic and well-loved British staples. The Marshalls are excited to be offering farm-fresh, pasteurized, non-homogenized milk from a vending machine.



Lawrence and Marja

Wendy is also known as a lover of travel and frequently works with Craig Travel out of Toronto. She acts as one of its group escorts assisting Craig Tour travellers with their vacation itineraries and needs.

Presently, as this newsletter is being written, Wendy is on a trip of a life time. She is in Morocco!



Wendy looks quite comfortable on her new mount!



Off to Cuba ... Again!



Doug Glover reporting in –

“I achieved my goal again this year of not shoveling snow on my birthday. Catherine and I went to Cuba from Jan 12 to Jan 22. We went to our favourite resort in Holguin. This is the 9th time we have been there. The waiter on the morning of my birthday said it was warm today. The temperature in Holguin was 32 degrees centigrade. I told him that where we lived it was -15. He repeated 15 degrees. I said no 15 below zero, a 47 degree difference from here. I could see him think for a minute and then he exclaimed, “Oh my God. I can’t even comprehend that!” It’s not really fair. The plane trip is only three and a half hours and yet the temperature difference was 47 degrees. I did had a great birthday. We spent that day and every day on the beach. I had birthday cake for breakfast and another cake at dinner. Catherine always books one of the restaurants and they make a special cake for me.” – Doug



Catherine and Doug enjoying birthday cake



Breakfast cake



Doug enjoying his B-Day on the beach



The Dominican Republic



Band members Carole and Laurie (Laurence) Marson headed south with their daughter, Lisa and her husband, Blake, to the Dominican Republic for some well-deserved R & R. Laurie had undergone hip surgery earlier in February in Phoenix and was very pleased with the results. Here's a photo of him below on the beach at a resort in Puerto Plata. As Carole says, *"30 above every day is good for the soul!"*

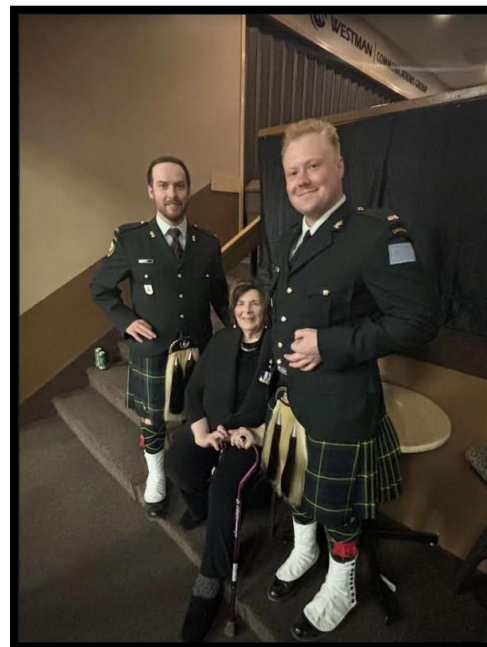


Manitoba Bound

The Matthews (Nancy and Harold) decided to spend some time at Easter out West visiting their son Hamish and his girlfriend Rachel. Needless to say, there was more snow on the ground in Manitoba than back here in Southern Ontario.



Here are the cross country skiers after a day's adventure of 15 km of skiing to the site of Grey Owl's cabin in Riding Mountain National Park.



Hamish, a former member of IPB piped at the Manitoba Royal Winter Fair Opening Ceremonies for Anita Neville, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba March 25, 2024

Meanwhile in Stratford Ontario

One of our Intermediate piping Learners, Christy Benedict, is also a member of the Stratford Symphony Orchestra and plays second violin (no not “second fiddle” but second violin!)

Harold and Nancy saw her in concert at the end of January. The Stratford Orchestra was in concert with the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir at Avondale United Church. As Nancy reported, “*What an incredibly musical and super talented person!*” Way to go, Christy!



Nancy, Christy and Harold post concert



Avondale Church



Christy in the Strings Section

And Back in Ingersoll Congratulations



Look who is back in town and at the band hall! Our web master and snare drummer, Freya Rimington, has just completed her two year program at Conestoga College and has moved back home for the next little while. The animation industry is growing in Canada and internationally, and there is a demand for highly skilled animation professionals. Freya's credentials will prepare her for animation opportunities in the fields of TV, film, game, and online production. Freya would like to get a position related to her animation diploma and work remotely from Ingersoll.

Thanks to all our photo contributors for this first edition of our band newsletter for 2024 – Harold, Doug G, Nancy, Andrew

A Look At Our Band Members at Our Final April Thursday Practice



Snares, tenors and basses – check out our array of percussionists



Look at all those pipers and we were missing three of our regulars...actually four. Three were absent and one piper, Pipe Sergeant Charles Thomson, went to “the dark side” and played snare drum!



JOIN THE DARK SIDE



A Message from the Pipers – “Charlie, don’t believe the drummers! They are lying!”