Ingersoll Pipe Band Newsletter

Celebrating our 115th Anniversary

1910 - 2025

Volume 16 Issue 3 October 2026



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August zoomed by in a flurry of activities for IPB members as we tried to fit family vacations, summer travel, and work timetables around "regular" scheduled practices and special events booked for the band. Before we knew it, it was September with all of its annual list of things to do. Everything that was put on the back burnner had now been moved to the front.

For IPB that means not only performance events/parades but also fundraising activities for next year's East Coast tour. Some of these activities include/included – Kincardine's "Gathering of the Bands", the annual Bayfest Parade in Port Rowan, Glencoe Fair, Battle of Britain ceremony in Ingersoll, Reuse-A-PalooZaha in Embro, the Outdoor Farm Show near Woodstock, our IPB Picnic, and at the bandhall our annual Trivia Night, and our fall Ceilidh celebration.

This newsletter covers events from August through to the end of September. I hope you enjoy looking back at what we were all up to! Thank you to our contributors to this issue. Let's all follow Charlie Brown's philosophy and enjoy this colourful season!



Your Newsletter Editor, *Veronica*

Tavistock – A Visit to The Maples – August 13th

Here are some pics from last night prior to and after the performance for the residents - The Maples Home for Seniors -Long Term Care / Retirement Home

Beautiful weather and a great turnout of drummers, pipers, residents and neighbours who enjoyed the ice cream social evening.

The band members even got delicious ice cream sundaes after the performance.

Thank you to the staff of The Maples for welcoming us back from last year's performance. It was great to visit with staff and residents and hear about their Scottish connections!

Pre Performance Group Pics



All Pipers and Drummers ready to go – just waiting on the word from our PM Doug who is getting instructions from The Maples' management



The Maples : Retirement Section: 44 private, semi-private, and couple-suited rooms. **Long-Term Care Section:** 43 licensed beds.







Top Left – Piper Ian and his brother Robert visiting from Scotland;
Top Right – Pipers Bonnie-Heather and Piper Lee
Bottom - Band getting ready to march off to perform



Post Performance Group Shot – Beautiful Evening at The Maples

Thanks to The Turveys who invited everyone back to their home outside of Embro for some more treats after we had finished up in Tavistock.

Ingersoll Pipe Band brings sounds of Scotland to the Maples

GARY WEST

Gazette Correspondent

Residents of the Maples Home for Seniors and their families and friends were treated to the sounds of Scotland recently during the annual visit from the Ingersoll Pipe Band.

The pipes and drums could be heard throughout the neighbourhood as members of the band marched from the parking lot and gathered outside the Maples on William Street in Tavistock.

Warm August weather provided perfect conditions for an outdoor performance, with a large crowd gathering in front of the seniors' residence to enjoy more than an hour of traditional Scottish music.



(GARY WEST PHOTOS)

Members of the Ingersoll Pipe Band march up the hill from the parking lot to the front of the Maples Home for Seniors on William Street in Tavistock during the band's annual summer visit.

Maples executive director Joan Hergott welcomed residents, family members, neighbours and other visitors before the band began its performance.

Between songs, the band's pipe major shared some of the history of the century-old organization, including the role women have played in ensuring the band's continued success.

He explained women were first permitted to join the band in 1970 and said their musical talents have since become essential to keeping the tradition alive.

The pipe major also drew some laughs when someone in the audience asked the age-old question of what band members wear beneath their kilts.

"Their shoes!" he replied with a smile.

Following the performance, Maples staff treated those in attendance – including members of the band – to ice cream with plenty of toppings, bringing another memorable summer evening at the Maples to a close.



Residents of the Maples Home for Seniors gather with family members and friends to enjoy the annual performance by the Ingersoll Pipe Band.

A Fun Practice - August 20th

It's become a new tradition over the last three years to have one of our late summer practices at Tammi and Larry's home. Band members gathered shortly after 7 pm and tuned up our instruments and then participated in a one hour practice. Knowing that "The Gathering of the Bands" in Kincardine on the last Saturday in August was our next performance on our radar, we worked hard to tighten up all our "strike ins" and endings of each tune that would be on our playlist.

Once the hard work was finished, we packed up our instruments and moved on to some quality time of snacks provided by our hosts and lots of conversation. This social time allowed us to get caught up on what everyone has been up to over the summer.



Pipers gathered in the back yard while PM Doug tuned each set of bagpipes





Drummers gathered on the back deck; Doug giving directions to band members







Thanks again, Tammi and Larry, for being such super hosts and allowing us to hang our at your house!




Phoenix
Scottish Games
2024

The Gathering of the Bands Kincardine August 29th

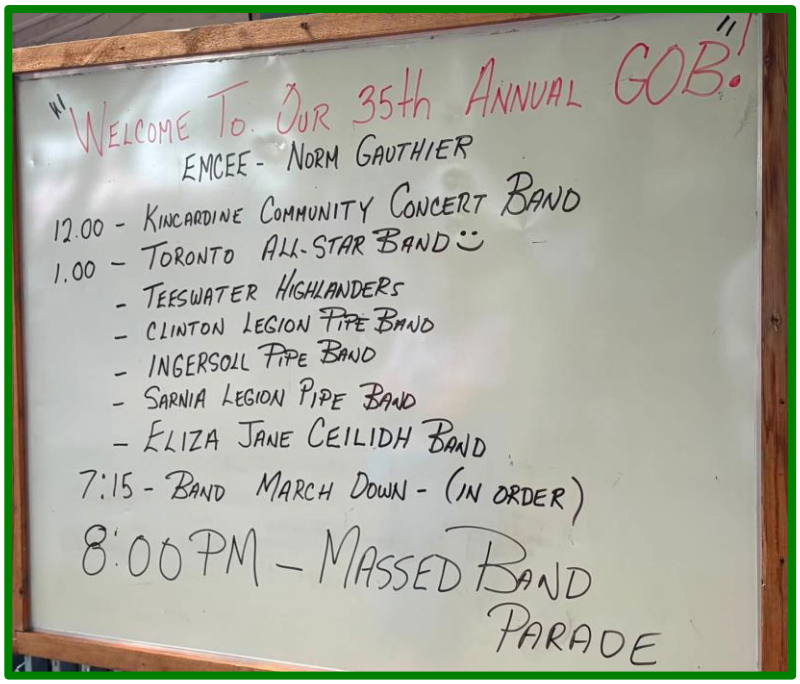


Every year, the IPB looks forward to heading to Kincardine on the last Saturday of August. It is a wonderful opportunity to gather with fellow pipers and drummers from across Ontario and join in the massed band parade down Kincardine's main street. The spectators are large in number and very appreciative of all the participants' enthusiasm and efforts to entertain them. Many follow along behind the massed band and enjoy marching down Queen Street with us. The photo above, by photographer Sarah Chisholm, demonstrates the spectacular sight of the colours of our Scottish kilts. PM Doug Collins and DM Aly Banaszak stand out in their Ancient Royal Stewart tartan.





Members of the IPB and their family members and friends gathered at Victoria Park in Kincardine just after 2 pm. Some of us travelled earlier in the morning by hired bus from the pipe band hall; others headed up to Kincardine on their own either on Friday night or Saturday morning. Once we were all assembled we had quite a lovely contingent of pipers, drummers and supporters. We were invited to “play in the circle” in the park prior to the evening’s parade. Our performance time was around 3:30 pm so that gave us plenty of time to register, to visit with other bands’ members, get tuned up and enjoy the entertainment on stage and on the field ahead of us.



Photos of the IPB performing in the circle were taken by PM Scott Shaw from the London Police Pipes and Drums and photographer Andre Coulombe. Others were made available for our newsletter from freelancer Dave Dadson of the Kincardine Record newspaper. Thank you to all three of these individuals for providing these photos.





(Photo by Scott Shaw) Waiting to Enter The Circle



And We Were Off! **(Photo by Dave Dadson)** **Click on the photo to see a video**



An appreciative reception by the crowd in Victoria Park (Photo by Dave Dadson)

Click on the photo to see a video

VISIT Kincardine







Performance Photos by Scott Shaw









More great photos of our band taken by Andre Coulombe, a local photographer who enjoys his hobby very much and is great at it! Thanks, Andre for sending these onto the newsletter editor!





THE MUNICIPALITY OF
KINCARDINE
great energy. balanced life.



Click on the photo for our "retreat" video from the performance circle

Thank you Scott Shaw for providing the three videos for us!

After our performance, it was time for some relaxation and time to eat. The hosts always treat performing musicians exceptionally well – all the hot dogs and corn on the cob that you can eat, and of course a few beverages – on the house! Here are some photos of our gang just "hanging out"!



Top Left – Ron and Angus; Top Right – Jim, Vicki, Cheryl, Lisa, Kevin

Middle Row – Left – Lana, Tammi, Andrew, Larry; Right – Harold, Wendy, Ron, Nancy

Bottom Row – Left – Gord and Patty; Right – Eric and Karen



Far Left – Pat and Dave; Middle Top – Pat, Dave, Jim and Vicki; Far Right Top - Esther and Don; Bottom Right – Doug C, Neil, Lisa, Jen, Charlie



Our pipe holder - Esther



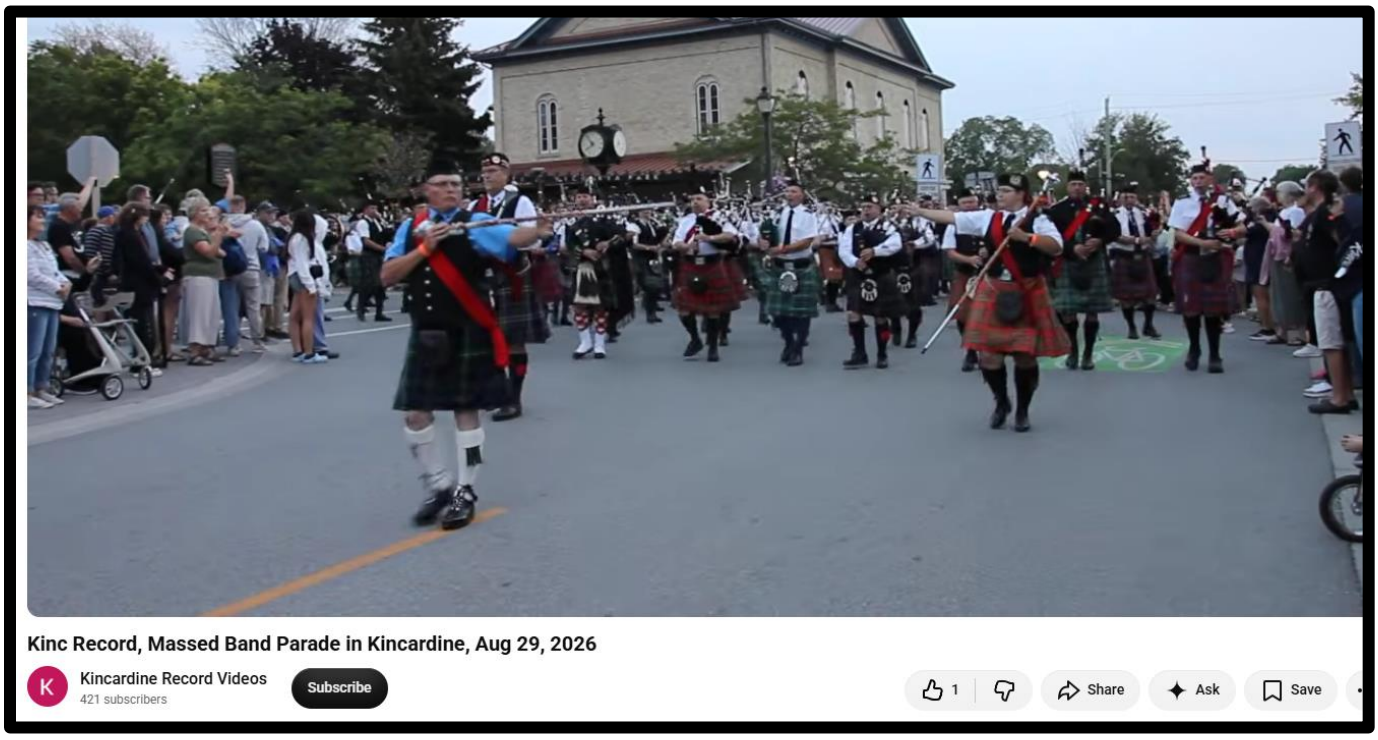


Top Row L to R – Scott, Elaine; Pat, Veronica; Al, Cheryl; Al in need of a new ball cap (wore his first one out) Middle Row L to R – Christine; Brian and Dave (part of our Kincardine host team); Brian and PM Doug; Lois, Chris and Mary Lou; Bottom Row – Nancy and Chris with members of Wiarton's McLaren Pipe and Drum Band; Jen, Charlie and Elaine; our two bass drummers Doug T and Aly; bus organizer Wendy with our driver, Brian

After dinner we reassembled and got ready to march down Durham Market St. N to reassemble with the rest of the bands for the epic march down Queen Street. It was lots of fun doing this stretch of Kincardine. Thanks again to all the participants and contributors to this special day.



Centre photo courtesy of the Kincardine Record; others contributed by Kevin and Harold



Click on the photo above to see the the massed band parade.

Bayfest Parade – Port Rowan Sept.6th



Long Point Bayfest Parade is always a popular annual Sunday afternoon tradition held at 2:00 pm during the Labour Day long weekend in Port Rowan, Ontario.It is also a tradition the Branch 379 Legion in Port Rowan always invites us to march in this popular event. It features decorated floats, classic cars, marching groups, and community participants, serving as a signature family-friendly highlight of the village's summer-ending festival.





Dave and Jim ready to carry the IPB banner

Drummers waiting for pipers to tune up!







And of course pipers tuning up under PM Doug's supervision





A lovely "end of summer vacation" Sunday for a stroll

After the parade, we took up the Legion members' generous offer to have some refreshments on its patio where locals gathered after the parade as well. Family members joined in and visited with us.












Al with his new cap!









Time for the Annual IPB Picnic at The Muterer Farm September 13th

Once again the Muterer sisters let us descend upon their farm to enjoy horseshoes, croquet and a delicious buffet supper. It was very well attended and everyone enjoyed the sunny day and the mid September temperatures. It didi cool down significantly after we ate so if you wonder why some folks had blankets wrapped around themselves, you have to know that once the sun started to set it was a wee bit chilly! Not much commentary with the photos that follow as you can tell from the photos that all were enjoying themselves.

Thanks again Mary Ellen, Joanne and Jane for looking after the myriad of hosting duties when so many folks descend on the tranquility of the farm for the afternoon. Also thanks to Nancy who organized the croquet tournament and set up a very challenging course!



The Muterer Farm with IPB Picnic Attendees
Top Right – Our hosts – Joanne, Mary Ellen, Jane, and Mark





Dave & Lois Runner Ups in Horseshoes



Dave K & Al
Horseshoe Champs

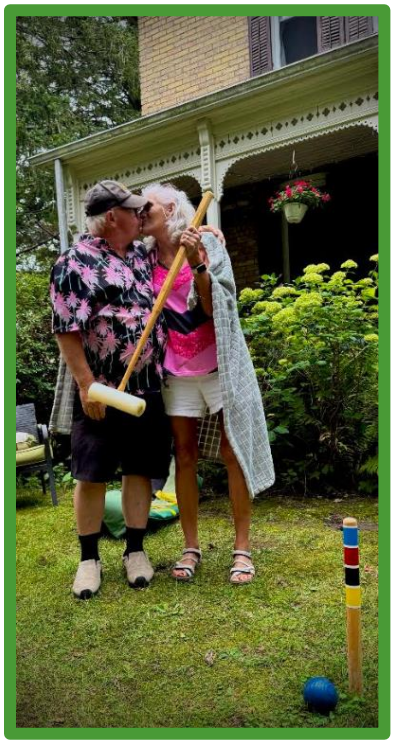




Food lots of it and then onto croquet!







Winners of the croquet competition Al & Cheryl



This comic first appeared April 2, 1968. Just proves that some things never change!

Battle of Britain Ceremony Ingersoll September 20th



IPB members pictured above were meeting up outside of the Ingersoll Rural Cemetery to play at the Battle of Britain ceremony hosted by Branch 119 - Hillcrest Memorial Legion to commemorate the 86th year since the Royal Air Force decisively repelled massive Luftwaffe daylight raids on September 15th 1940. Over 100 Canadian pilots and 300 ground crew served, with 23 Canadian pilots making the ultimate sacrifice during the campaign.

Their bravery provided crucial technical and tactical leadership that shaped the future of the RCAF throughout World War, The Canadian pilots made up a critical component of Allied forces. While many flew individually within British Royal Air Force (RAF) units, Canada's primary formal contribution came through two highly notable fighter squadrons - No. 1 Fighter Squadron, RCAF (The Sole Canadian Unit) and No. 242 (Canadian) Squadron, RAF. The success of Canada's air combat rested on more than 300 Canadian groundcrew and support staff. Working under extreme sleep deprivation and constant bombing threats, they kept the Hawker Hurricanes operational, frequently achieving rapid 12-minute turnaround times to refuel, re-arm, and send pilots back into the skies.

Canada officially honors this legacy every year on **Battle of Britain Sunday** (the third Sunday of September), ensuring that the courage of "The Few"—and the Canadians who flew among them—is never forgotten.

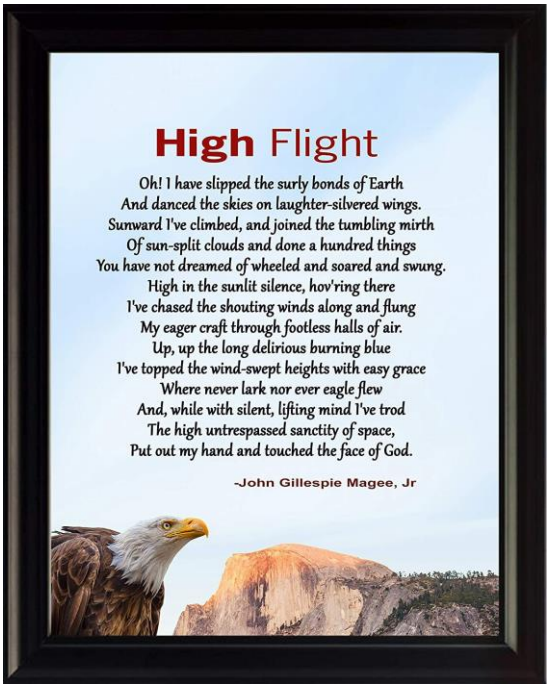


The IPB is very honoured to play at our local cemetery to honour these heroes who left Canada and travelled to Europe to support the British and Allied forces.



Photos of the band sent to us by Christine March





Legion members, town councillors, MPP Ernie Hardeman, Padre Marty Keatings , local cadets, the Salvation Army Band along with the IPB all took part in the service. Afterwards there was a time of fellowship at the Ingersoll Legion Hillcrest Branch location.

A Trip to London for a Special Birthday Party September 17th



Instead of our normal Thursday evening pipe band practice at the band hall in Ingersoll, we travelled to London to Earls Court Village Nursing Home to wish the mom of one of our drummers, Gord Hopper, a very special 93rd birthday. The weather was perfect so many residents joined us outside of the residence in the back gardens to listen to us perform a variety of tunes. PM Doug played for the birthday girl "Happy Birthday" on the pipes while the rest of us sang along. Then we were treated to birthday cake prior to departing. Gord's family pictured above were very happy to celebrate with their grandma/great grandma.

Following the party, we travelled to piper Don Gale's home nearby where we got to hang out on his brand new deck! There were lots of snacks and beverages including an incredible array of pizzas from Don's favourite pizzeria, Belmont Pizza. Definitely a very fun and rewarding night for all of us.

Did You Know? – If we visited as many nusing homes and retirement homes as possible on Thursday nights in just the two counties of Oxford and Middlesex we would be extremely busy!

There are 8 long-term care (nursing) homes in Oxford County and approximately 21 long-term care homes in Middlesex County/London, alongside dozens of private retirement residences.

Oxford County - Long-Term Care (Nursing) Homes: There are 8 government-regulated facilities (3 municipal Woodingford Lodge locations in Woodstock, Ingersoll, and Tillsonburg, plus 5 private/non-profit operators like Caressant Care and peopleCare); Retirement Homes: There are several major private retirement residences (such as Chartwell Oxford Gardens in Woodstock and Oxford Manor in Ingersoll), though exact totals fluctuate. Middlesex County (Including London) - Long-Term Care (Nursing) Homes: There are 21 listed regional facilities, including Strathmere Lodge in Strathroy, AgeCare facilities, and multiple urban sites in London like Mount Hope and Dearness Home; Retirement Homes & Assisted Living: There are over 34 verified retirement home and assisted living operators listed across the London and Middlesex region, ranging from small private houses to multi-level senior campuses.



Glencoe Fall Fair Parade September 26th

The annual Glencoe Fall Fair parade is usually held on the last Saturday of August. The IPB was able to send a delegation of pipers and drummers to participate. Some pipers and drummers who also belong to the London Fire Fighters Pipe Band were in Glencoe as well with the LFFPB. No matter which band they chose to parade with, everyone agreed that it was a perfect morning for a parade. It was also a great opportunity to visit the exhibits afterwards and enjoy the 150th celebration of the fair.





Other Band News

The London Police Pipes and Drums also had a busy schedule in September. The fundraiser "Jordan's Run the Runway" which supports YMCA programs at Camp Queen Elizabeth in memory of Jordan Strictland was held at the Fanshawe College Norton Wolf School of Aviation on September 25, 2026 with over 600+ runners. It was a fun time for us all.



Fundraising in September – ReuseApalooZaha & The Outdoor Farm Show



We participated in this event back in 2023 when we were fundraising for the Phoenix Trip.Piper **Lois Turvey** agreed to organize the fundraiser for IPB and above are photos of the volunteers who worked the event. Lois thanked everyone later that day with an email sent out to all workers and contributors! (see below)

"Good afternoon, Everyone! Once again, I thank each of you for your help with Reuse-A-Poloozaha this morning in Embro. While the crowd was not large in numbers, and they certainly were not what you would call "generous", we ended up making $317.10!

Many thanks to all of you who donated, baked and delivered muffins and scones (Christy, Vicki H, Mary Ellen, Jane M, Merilee, Christina, Lana, Wendy, Annette M, Lois), Bonnie and Lee for donating 3 boxes of cookies, and Veronica who donated coffee, cups, and cream/milk. With everyone's contributions, we had no expenses for this event. Many thanks also to those of you who worked a shift at Reuse-A... The event ran smoothly for us with everyone helping out.

There were not many muffins and scones leftover, and they will be purchaesd by a local church for a fundraiser it has coming up. The leftover cookies will be served at our Trivia night in Oct. Much appreciated,

Bass Drummer Doug Turvey agreed to volunteer IPB members for this gig! Volunteers are paid to park cars and the organization to which they belong receives the funds. We had 14 members plus family members who took part parking cars and being on duty from 7am to 1pm or 3pm. More details to follow in our next newsletter. Thanks, Doug T and gang!

CANADA'S OUTDOOR FARM SHOW

Late Spring and Summer Photo Round Up



Top Row – Wendy & Ron on an exotic vacation; The Starks with daughter Sarah Jean and the dogs after the Port Rowan parade; Jane W hanging out at the band hall; Jim A at an LFFPB practice; **Bottom Row** – Catherine and Adam in Nova Scotia with our trip consultant, Janice from Sheet Harbour; Tammi in Ireland on the Guiness Distilley tour; Eric, Karen, Tammi, Larry, Al, Cheryl, Martin & Veronica revisiiting Mexican Cuisine – memories from Phoenix



Top Row – Steve with the newest member of the great grandchild club; Carole with her prize winning art work judged first place at Western Fair this year; Lois hiking on the Bruce Trail with friends; Laurie saying cheers from BC; Heidi with the same adorable new great grandchild; Lois & Doug T on their BC adventure; Nancy & Harold at Stratford Theatre

Thanks again one and all for your photo submissions and allowing me to share them with our band.

Upcoming Events & Fundraisers for Our East Coast

Both of these events are shaping up to be very successful for both the organizers and the attendees! We can't wait to see who will be our top three trivia teams this time around! The addition of having the award winning P.B's Fries food truck ahead of time is also very tantalizing and we appreciate the support of local entrepreneurs over the years.







Piper Catherine Stark has created a fun front/back designed East Coast 'lobster themed' T-shirt for trip participants and band supporters to purchase. These shirts are a fitting tribute to our East Coast hosts, specifically those in Sheet Harbour who eat, pray and love lobster 24/7 during the harvest season. It will be full-on lobster time when we are travelling through PEI + Nova Scotia and what better way to honour, acknowledge and celebrate the lifestyle + livelihood of our East Coast friends, than by sporting a t-shirt with this tasty crustacean on the back. Our original East Coast Tour shirt is still available for purchase as well. We reordered new stock so have more sizes available. The shirts are **$20** and available in a range of sizes from S - XXL. Speak to Catherine or Nancy about getting a shirt before your favourite sells out! These shirts will also be sold at our Trivia Night and at the Ceilidh.