

# Ingersoll Pipe Band



Volume 12 Issue 4 October 2022

Celebrating 112 Years



mòran taing

many thanks

taing mhòr

big thanks

mìle taing

a thousand thanks

## Practise your Scottish Gaelic!

### Inside This Issue

Pg 1 Give Thanks

Pg 2 - 9 Kincardine Gathering of the Bands

Pg 10 -11 Bayfest Port Rowan

Pg 12 – 13 Embro Fair Parade

Pg 14 – 15 Armstrong Birthday Party

Pg 16 – 17 Warrior's Day Parade Simcoe

Pg 18 – Thamesford Party

Pg 19 – 25 Travels with Charlie

Pg 26 – 27 Other Band News; Chatham Celebration

Pg 28 Celebrations

Pg 29-30 Final Thoughts and Images

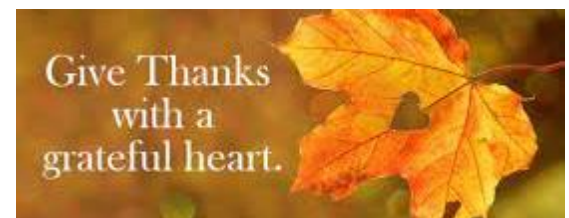
No doubt many of us in the IPB and extended family got to enjoy a beautiful Thanksgiving weekend – at home, camping, visiting relatives, at the cottage or just relaxing a little at home (unless you were hosting the family turkey dinner festivities). So now you have a chance to practice up on your Gaelic to give thanks for all the blessings in your lives and that includes in our ‘band lives’.

Just think about it! While the Guelph Pipe Band celebrated 100 years this July and Chatham's the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 642 Pipes and Drums is celebrating its “75 + 2” anniversary this month, we are still the eldest sibling of the piping world fraternity/sorority in southern Ontario!

We definitely have much to be thankful for to our past leadership and present leadership, our past teachers and present teachers, our past and present membership, and our past and present supporters.

Keep that in mind as we move into one of the busiest piping and drumming seasons of the year. We have several bookings for Santa Claus parades in November and December and of course we want to honour our veterans on Remembrance Day on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>.

So everyone stay healthy, practise your instruments and whether you are a participant or a spectator, be thankful for all that we have achieved and participated in during the past 10 months! Your Editor - *Veronica*



"The Gathering of the Bands"



What a Great Looking Bunch!



## Kincardine August 2022



Around noon hour on Saturday August 27<sup>th</sup>, our friendly bus driver, Sue Hargreaves, from Elgie Bus Lines (Embro) pulled into the IPB Armoury parking lot to pick up a very eager group of pipers, drummers, and support personnel to head for our destination – Kincardine. Held annually in August on the Saturday before the Labour Day Weekend in Victoria Park Kincardine, The Gathering of the Bands is a day full of fun and great music. 2022 was the first gathering since Covid shut things down in 2020 and 2022. The IPB was happy to participate as one of the sponsored bands and we were eager to get on the road and get to our destination. Thanks to Nancy, we had lots of delicious snacks travelling in both directions.



**Saturday August 27th, 2022**

Kincardine Scottish Pipe Band is thanking the community with our...

### 31st Annual Gathering of the Bands

**Entertainment All Day from Noon-8pm**  
**Beer Gardens from Noon-Midnight**  
**Victoria Park**

Stromness Legion Pipe Band - Flying in From Scotland  
 Toronto All-Star Band

*Visiting Pipe Bands and Entertainment Includes:*

- Kincardine World Fiddle Day Players
- Penetangore Pipe Band
- Clinton Legion Pipe Band
- Sarnia Legion Pipe Band
- Teeswater Highlanders
- Ingersoll Pipe Band
- Eliza Jane Band
- Mass Pipes and Drum Parade 8:00pm**

All You Can Eat  
 BBQ Hot Dogs and Roast Corn  
 \$10.00  
 (Children 8 and Under Eat Free)

FREE ADMISSION

NO PARKING  
 On Queen Street from Victoria Park to Broadway Street after 5pm.  
 We must have your cooperation due to the size of the parade and crowd.

## Victoria Park Kincardine Sights



Enjoying hot dogs, corn on the cob, beverages and conversation with family and friends on a beautiful Saturday afternoon in the park. Kincardine Pipe Band was a great host with fantastic volunteers.

Some time for R & R prior to performing in the circle for the crowds in the park.



PM Doug with hosts Dave & Brian



IPB Members assembling to perform

## Performance Time – Prep Work – Tuning and Last Minute Details



### Rookies and Experienced Players Alike Get Final Instructions from our PM

Performers in the afternoon : Pipers Charlie Thomson (PSgt), Nancy Matthews, Ron Marshall, Jim Armstrong, Steve Shepherd, Cheryl McEown, Jack Habkirk, Lois Turvey, Veronica Jackson, and Doug Collins (PM) ; Drummers : Lisa McPherson (D Sgt), Winston Kooistra, Jane Watt, Wendy Marshall, Kevin MacKay, Harold Matthews, and Doug Turvey  
Additional Pipers in the evening parade: Lee Merrick, Bonnie McCauslan, Angus Thomson

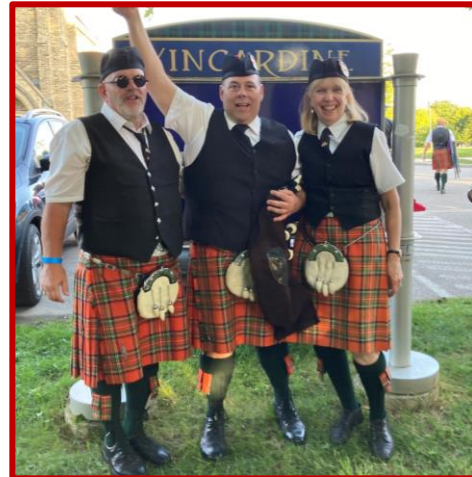
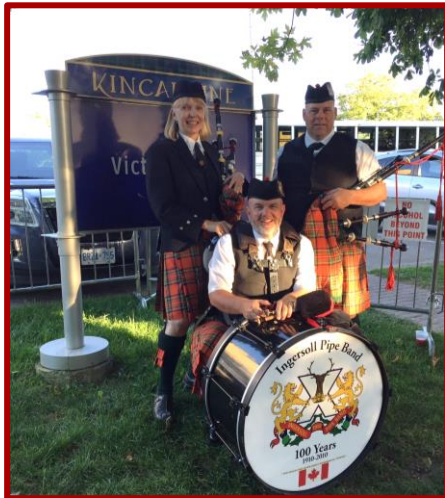




Click on the photo above to hear a couple of tunes. Our bus driver, Sue shared this post on Facebook.



Getting ready for the “big” parade – massed bands marching down the main street of Kincardine





Veronica, Doug T and Steve at the 2019 Gathering on the left and 2022 on the right

IPB being introduced prior to the parade



# Mammoth crowd packs Victoria Park, Kincardine, for return of Massed Band event

By: **Liz Dadson**  
August 30, 2022

 Share 70  Tweet

**The Kincardine Record**  
Serving the Kincardine, Ripley, Tiverton & Lucknow area



Thousands of people packed Victoria Park, Kincardine, for the return of the Massed Band event, Saturday afternoon, after it was cancelled for the past two years, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It was a great day,” said John McManus, president of the Kincardine Scottish Pipe Band which hosts the event as a thank you to the community for its ongoing, unwavering support. “We were very pleased with the huge turn-out in the park.

“In light of the past two years of COVID-19 restrictions, we’ve been pretty pumped up for this annual community event.

“We were also thrilled to have the Stromness Pipe Band from Orkney, Scotland, here.”

The entertainment began with the Kincardine World Fiddle Day players, followed by the impressive Toronto All-Star Big Band, with artistic director Zygmunt Jedrzejek, and conductor Jesse Whiteley. The Toronto band has been in attendance for 28 years, except the past two years during the pandemic.

Also performing, were the Stromness RBL Pipe Band, Penetangore Pipe Band, Clinton Legion Pipe Band, Sarnia Legion Pipe Band, Teeswater Highlanders, Ingersoll Pipe Band, and Eliza Jane Ceilidh Band.

Norm Gauthier was MC for the show.

McManus said the hungry crowd went through 3,800 hot dogs and 2,400 cobs of corn, as well as 100 pounds of onions, 950 cans of pop, and 27 pounds of butter.

He gave a shout-out to all the sponsors of the event, and the many, many volunteers, for their ongoing support of this appreciation event.

Following the afternoon of entertainment, the visiting bands formed up along Durham Market North, beside Victoria Park, to join the Kincardine Scottish Pipe Band in a massed band parade through downtown Kincardine to Quinn Plaza, and then back to the park for a concert.

A humongous crowd lined Queen Street as about 170 pipers and drummers marched down the street, with thousands of people gathering to march behind the band.

**A reminder that the final Kincardine Scottish Pipe Band Saturday Night Parade is this Saturday, Sept. 3, at 8 p.m.**



**Catch the video at**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWwTomurzug&t=47s>

(The Ingersoll Pipe Band marches down Durham Market North to join the other bands for the Massed Band Saturday Night Parade through downtown Kincardine, Aug. 27, 2022.)

**The Ingersoll Pipe Band marches down Durham Market North in Kincardine**



## The Massed Band Parade

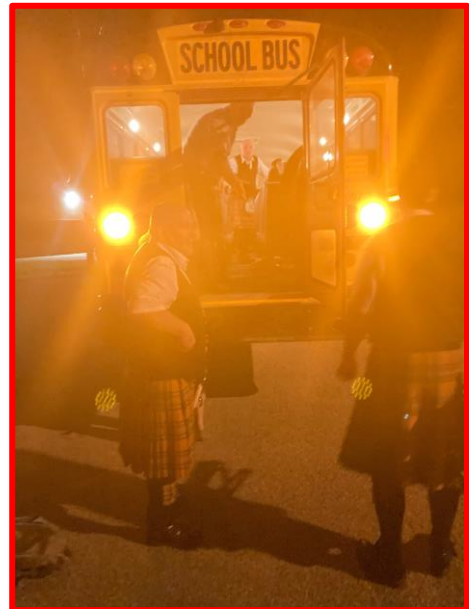


[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qW9ab-k6z\\_Y&t=12s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qW9ab-k6z_Y&t=12s)

Great footage of all the bands present and a chance to see the appreciative crowds in Kincardine for The Gathering of the Bands 2022. Click on the YouTube link above.



Piping and drumming is thirsty work! A trip to the beer tent before we hopped aboard the bus for home.



Arrival back in Ingersoll just after midnight, and no, our bus did not turn into a pumpkin!

Our 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary plus 2 years field trip was accomplished and we had a very fun time checking our trip to Kincardine off our “bucket list”. Looking forward to The Gathering of the Bands in 2023.

## Bayfest Parade – Port Rowan September 4<sup>th</sup>



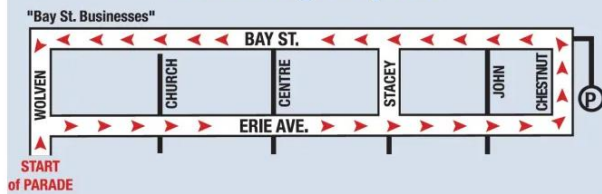
Port Rowan Ontario - Bayfest  
September 4 • 🌐

Unfortunately the weather does not look like it is going to cooperate!  
The parade WILL go though and will start at 2pm

There was some doubt as the band members headed south to Port Rowan for the annual Bayfest parade if we would be able to escape marching in the rain. But despite the overcast conditions, the parade marched off without any major “wet weather” conditions. Surely, it was a relief to all the villagers and visiting cottagers who were lined along the parade route. This is one parade that always draws big crowds.

11am BARRICADES AT:  
BAY & PRICE AND BAY & CHESTNUT

### BAYFEST PARADE ROUTE Sunday 2 pm



Pipe Sergeant Charlie was in charge of the band and although our numbers were depleted for various reasons (Covid, folks on holidays on the Labour Day weekend) we still managed to lead our sponsor’s members, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #379 Port Rowan, smartly along the parade route!



Here is PS Charlie with his “Angels” – all female pipe corps under Charlie’s instructions!



Angels (L to R): Lois, Veronica, Jane, Joanne and Mary Ellen

And of course our Drummers –



(L to R) : Graham, Doug T, and Doug G

After the parade we all got a chance to relax at the outdoor patio operated by the Legion. Piping and drumming as you are all aware is “thirsty work”. And it was a great way to relax prior to the drive home and “Labour Day” ! Thanks to Branch #379 for their hospitality.



## Some More IPB Images from Bayfest 2022



**SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
 PORT ROWAN LEGION #379  
**SUNDAY**  
 SEPTEMBER 4th  
 8:30 am to 12 pm

BACON, SAUSAGES, SCRAMBLED EGGS, HOMEFRIES  
 PANCAKES & SYRUP, TOAST & JAMS, MUFFINS & CUPCAKES,  
 FRUIT COCKTAIL, JUICES, COFFEE & TEA

ADULTS \$13.00  
 KIDS \$ 7.00  
 PRESCHOOLERS FREE  
PRICE INCLUDES TAXES

**ALL YOU  
 CAN EAT!!**



Every year, Port Rowan hosts Bayfest, an annual Labour Day celebration which has been celebrated for more than 30 years. Originally known as Tomato Fest, the name changed to Bayfest in 2001.

Bayfest featured three days of activities, many for kids, with a fantastic parade Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. and fireworks that night. There were midway rides, food, vendors and great entertainment found down by the waterfront and in town. Plus there were plenty of other fun events for the family such as hula-hoop contests, a plastic frog toss, soap-box derby in town and additional events held at nearby Long Point.

Doug Glover took advantage of the great breakfast served in the morning and vouched for its tastiness!

## Embroid Sept. 17th



We were very fortunate again to have a beautiful, warm sunny afternoon to take part in the Embroid Fair Parade. Appreciative crowds lined the parade route from Matheson Park to the Embroid Zorra Community Centre.

*"Fall fairs have existed in Ontario for decades, with about 60 per cent of them established prior to 1867, according to the agricultural societies association. Some are older than Canada itself, with many dating back to the 1800s. Established in 1836, Woodstock Agricultural Society is among the earliest of such organizations and is believed to be the oldest in Southwestern Ontario."*

<https://lfpres.com/news/local-news/small-town-fairs-roar-back-to-life-as-crowds-flock-to-community-touchstones>)

The Embroid Fair has existed for more than 160 years and has occasionally been postponed in the past, the most recent in 2020 because of Covid, and before that during the Second World War.



The pipe band had an excellent turnout of pipers and drummers to help the community celebrate its fair.



**Some of our drummers waiting for the pipers to tune up.**



**Drummer Wendy and Piper Lois discussing their upcoming trip?**



**More strategists...Steve and Jim**

# The All Important Tune Up and Exchanging “Shop Talk” in Embro



## Armstrong Family Celebrations October 1<sup>st</sup> Ingersoll

Is there a better way to spend a Saturday afternoon at the beginning of October, than outdoors in the sunshine, helping a grand lady celebrate her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday? We don't think so!

We showed up to surprise Ruth (nee Collins) Armstrong, at her celebratory birthday bash. She is 95 years young and is one of the top supporters of the IPB in town. She pretty much has to be considering her roots!

Her son, Jim and her nephew, Doug (PM) are both active members of the band and her brother, Bob (Doug's dad) and her father, Alex (one of the band's original members and Doug and Jim's grandfather) were obviously key members of the band as well.

There were lots of guests from out of town and out of country there to mark this momentous occasion with her. We felt very privileged to play for Ruth and her company. The cup was passed around and the Armstrong family made a wonderful donation to the pipe band. We were also treated to lots of refreshments. Thanks to Doug and Jim for hatching this surprise!



**Pictured above – Top Left – Jim and Doug flanking Aunt Margaret and the Birthday Girl (far left) with Aunt Mary. (Ruth, Margaret & Mary all grew up in the Collins family). Top Right – PM Doug & Jim; Bottom – Ruth's other sons, Ron & Ken, and one of her grandsons, Greg, and family friend PT.**

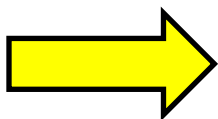


**At the band hall prior to setting off for the birthday party.**

**More Birthday Celebration Photos from Wellington Street**



Notice that RUTH shows up as one of the popular baby names!



**Happy  
95th  
Birthday**

**1927**

POPULAR BABY NAMES	
GIRLS	BOYS
Dorothy, Ruth, Lisa, Elizabeth, Virginia	Edward, Frank, John, Joseph, Raymond
POPULAR BOOKS	
Siddhartha, Ulysses, The Velveteen Rabbit, The Waste Land, The Castle, Jacob's Room	

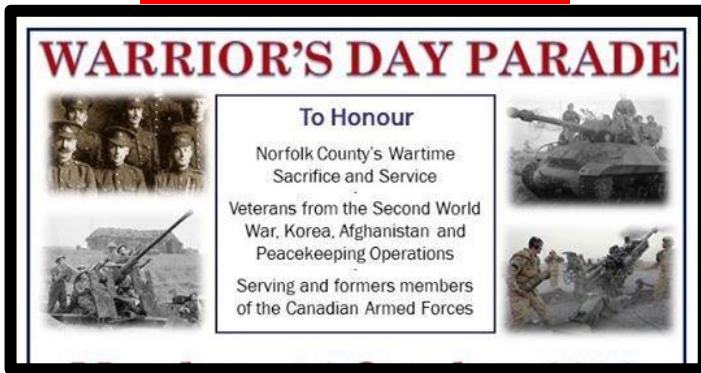
**WHAT THINGS COST**

Minimum wage .....	\$0.70/hr
New house .....	\$7,700.00
Gallon of gas .....	\$0.25
Gallon of milk .....	\$0.28
Bacon .....	\$0.47/lb
Loaf of bread .....	\$0.90
Postage stamp .....	\$0.02
Movie ticket .....	\$0.25

**Average Income Per Year**  
**\$1,450.00**

“Ruth was the third most popular name in the 1890s, remaining in the Top 10 through the 1920s. The name “Ruth” is of Hebrew origin, meaning “friend,” “friendship,” or “compassionate friend.” How appropriate for **this** Ruth.

**Warrior's Day Parade**  
**Simcoe ON October 7th**



Almost every year, the Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show hold a Warrior's Day event to recognize the veterans of the county and surrounding area. This year the event was held on a Friday evening. The IPB, Legion Colour Party and cadets and officers representing the 56th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery Unit of 4th Canadian Division's 32 Brigade Group marched from Branch 79's (Royal Canadian Legion) hall to the fairgrounds.



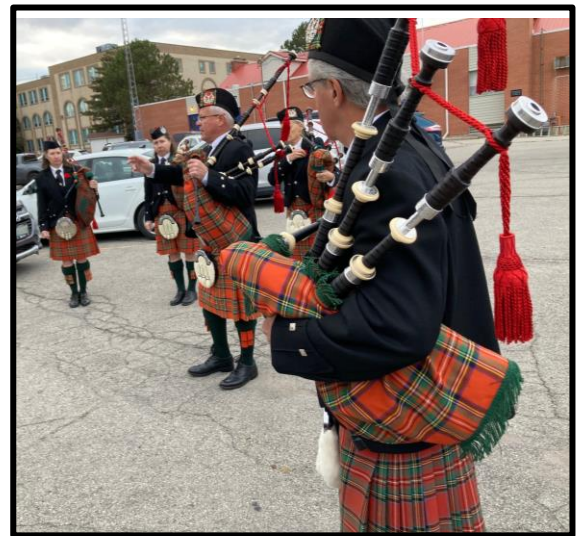
**Cadets and instructors awaiting the march to the fairgrounds**



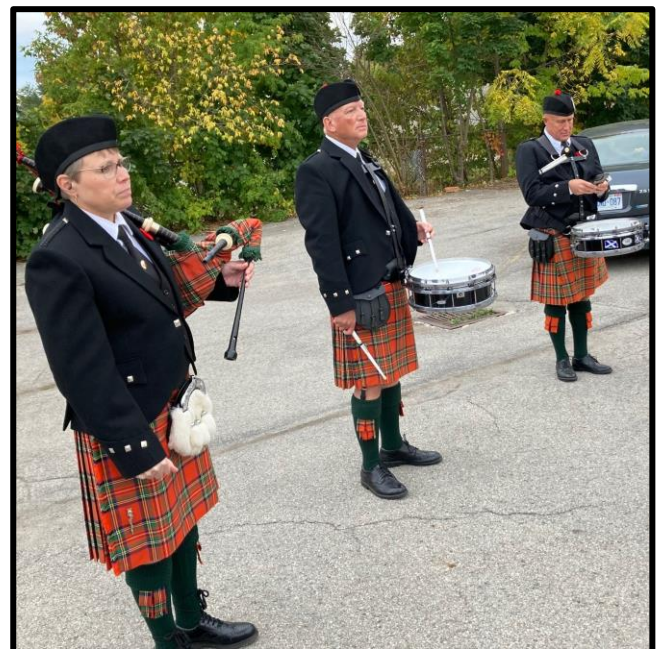
The weather was a little nippy and chilly on that evening so warming up was a good thing as it kept us busy prior to the short, brisk march.



**Tuning in the Circle**



**Waiting Upon PM Doug's instructions**



**Prepping for March Off**



**At The Norfolk County Fairgrounds & The Legion**



## Birthday Party Celebration – Thamesford Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup>

Piper Lois Turvey gathered up a few of her band mates and we headed off to the village of nearby Thamesford to help one of Lois' acquaintances, Mary, who was holding a celebratory birthday party for her husband, surprise him. After our pop-in surprise appearance, Lois wrote to say:

*"Hi Everyone,*

*Thank you all once again for playing with me on Saturday at the birthday party. I spent the day with Mary today, and she was thrilled! Everyone was surprised and delighted on Saturday - her husband was amazed, and thoroughly enjoyed our performance. Her daughters couldn't believe she had kept this surprise from everyone. And, she was so excited about the whole thing on Sat that she forgot to ask us to stay for a drink and some food - she had every intention of doing that for us. Today, she gave us a donation of \$150!" – Lois*

It was rather fun to be a Scottish pipe band appearing at a 95<sup>th</sup> birthday party for a Dutch-Canadian gentleman! Plus, Lois and Doug treated us all at Tim Horton's afterwards and we solved the problems of the world!



Photos from Thamesford outside of St. John's Anglican Church and Thamesford Public School

## A Travel Report from Pipe Sergeant Charlie and His Trip to The Hebrides



Charlie headed overseas for a visit with his brother and family in Glasgow in early September. As many of you are aware, Charlie is a cycling enthusiast and used his visit to Glasgow as a springboard to complete a cycling vacation to the Hebrides. And where might that be, you ask?

The **Hebrides** (/ˈheɪbrɪːz/; Scottish Gaelic: *Innse Gall*, pronounced [ˈiːjə ˈkauɹ̥]; Old Norse: *Suðreyjar*, "southern isles") are an archipelago off the west coast of the Scottish mainland. The islands fall into two main groups, based on their proximity to the mainland: the Inner and Outer Hebrides.

These islands have a long history of occupation (dating back to the Mesolithic period), and the culture of the inhabitants has been successively influenced by the cultures of Celtic-speaking, Norse-speaking, and English-speaking peoples.

This diversity is reflected in the various names given to the islands, which are derived from the different languages that have been spoken there at various points in their history.

The Hebrides are where much of Scottish Gaelic literature and Gaelic music has historically originated. Today, the economy of the islands is dependent on crofting, fishing, tourism, the oil industry, and renewable energy. The islands have a combined area of 7,285 square kilometres (2,813 sq mi), and, as of 2011, a combined population of around 45,000.<sup>[u]</sup> (Wikipedia)

Charlie has been kind enough to share his experiences and photos of his adventure.

### INNER HEBRIDES

- 1 - Arran
- 2 - Islay
- 3 - Jura
- 4 - Colonsay
- 5 - Mull
- 6 - Iona
- 7 - Tiree
- 8 - Coll
- 9 - Eigg
- 10 - Rum
- 11 - Canna
- 12 - Skye

### OUTER HEBRIDES

- 13 - Lewis
- 14 - Harris
- 15 - North Uist
- 16 - South Uist
- 17 - Barra

### ORKNEY ISLANDS

- 18 - Mainland Orkney
- 19 - Hoy
- 20 - Northern Orkneys

### SHETLAND ISLANDS

- 21 - Mainland Shetland
- 22 - Yell
- 23 - Unst
- 24 - Fair Isle

# Scottish Islands

More information at:  
[www.zigzagonearth.com/scottish-islands-scotland](http://www.zigzagonearth.com/scottish-islands-scotland)

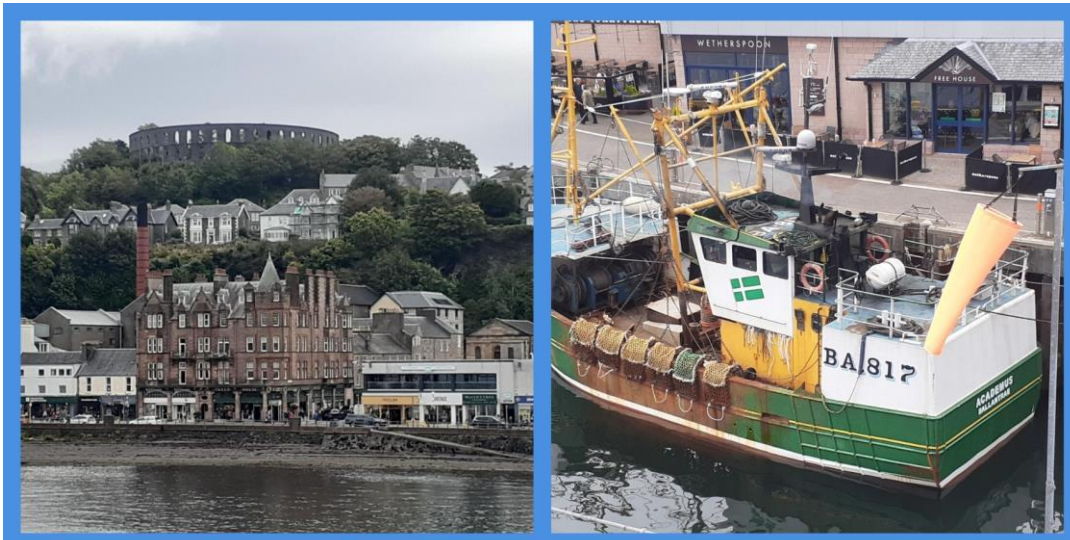
## Hebridean Journey.

It would be a long journey from Largs to the Hebrides, it started with getting the 6:40 train from Largs to Glasgow Central Station, then cycling from Central station to Queen street station to catch the 8:20 train to Oban.

The train took just over four hours arriving in Oban around 12:30 p.m. in plenty of time to buy my ticket and catch the 1:30 ferry to Castlebay on the Isle of Barra.

With my bike secured on the car deck it was time to settle back, relax and enjoy the five-hour crossing. Before sailing I went on deck to take a couple of photos of the town of Oban, above the town you may notice a circular structure, this is McCaigs Tower, built in 1897 and funded by John Stuart McCaig to provide work for local stonemasons and as a family legacy. Unfortunately, McCaig died in 1902 and construction of the tower was then stopped. Also, there were several fishing boats in Oban harbour, one of them was from Ballantrae, I always thought that Ballantrae was an imaginary town from the book, "The Master of Ballantrae," by Robert Louis Stevenson but no, it's a town on the coast of South Ayrshire near Girvan.

The ferry "The Isle of Harris" was on time leaving and once we left Oban Bay and made our way past the Isles of Mull and Coll then we were in the open Atlantic Ocean and could feel the swell and see the waves break over the bow of the boat.



Left to Right: The Town of Oban, Fishing Boat from Ballantrae in Oban Harbour

Arriving at Castlebay on the Isle of Barra the sky was a very dark grey with lots of heavy clouds not a nice night to spend in a tent, so I managed to book a room in the Castlebay hotel. No more than an hour later the rain was torrential and it lasted almost all night, a smart move to get a hotel room, warm shower, nice meal and hot full breakfast.



Left to Right: Approaching the Isle of Barra through the Atlantic showers; View from Castlebay Hotel

Leaving the hotel next morning with the sun shining, I was on the road by 9:15 heading to the Eriskay ferry but within 10 minutes the first of the non – stop Hebridean hills was about to test my legs. Barra as well as having some lovely beaches has a very unique airport, it's the only airport in Britain where the runway is the beach. Unfortunately, the road to the ferry terminal by-passes the airport beach. I could have made the detour but I wasn't sure how long it would take to get to the ferry and I wasn't wanting to miss it, but alas there would have been plenty of time to detour as I had an hour and fifteen minutes to wait before the ferry arrived.

The ferry from Barra to Eriskay took just over 30 minutes and arriving on the island you are met with another set of Hebridean hills to tackle.

One event that brought Eriskay to fame was the grounding of the "S.S. Politician" on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1941. The ship was on route from Liverpool to Jamaica and New Orleans when it ran into a storm and then grounded on a sandbar. Part of the ship's cargo was 264,000 bottles of Scotch Whisky. The locals helped to salvage the cargo and 24,000 bottles were never recovered. This event became the book (1947) and movie (1949) "Whisky Galore" by Compton Mackenzie.



Eriskay

Eriskay is also known for its wild ponies, I passed a group of white ponies grazing at the side of the road but at that time I didn't know they were wild and unique to the island.

On every bicycle trip a little rain must fall and this happened on Eriskay, although it didn't last too long, it felt like I was cycling through a car wash.

Leaving Eriskay I cycled across the first of several causeways that now connect the isles of the Outer Hebrides, this one was from Eriskay to South Uist.

South Uist was different in terrain, much flatter and easier on the legs. The cycle route here left the main road and took a route where only the beaches and sand dunes separated me from the ocean, although it was much nicer scenery it felt a few degrees cooler.

South Uist was also the birth place of Flora MacDonald who was well known for assistance to Bonnie Prince Charlie in the Outer Hebrides following his flight from the mainland after the defeat at Culloden in 1746.

The next causeway took me from South Uist to Benbecula, every singer who has sung the song or every piper that has played the tune "The Dark Island", played and sang about Benbecula. Once again it was an island of flat roads with little to no hills, but the wind coming from the ocean gave me a new challenge.

The grass growing beside the road looks like it was over two feet long but it was hard to tell because the grass didn't grow vertical it grew horizontal because of the constant Atlantic winds.



Left to Right: Causeway from Eriskay to South Uist; Horizontal grass in Benbecula; Late morning break in Benbecula (protein bar and an Irn Bru (a Scottish carbonated soft drink))



Leaving Benbecula I cycled the next causeway to the Isle of North Uist, after the gentle roads in South Uist and Benbecula it was back to the hill challenge of the Hebrides, North Uist is certainly one of the most scenic islands in the Hebrides, the cycle route is on the west side of the island, where the road follows the grassland and sand dunes where the beaches are long and of pure white shell sand and the water is crystal clear, safe for swimming if you are brave enough to challenge the water temperature.

After North Uist the next stop was across a short causeway to the small island of Berneray where I stayed in the best accommodation during my trip. This was a hostel where you paid on the honour system, there was no one else there, but there was cooking facilities, hot showers and washrooms and a comfortable bed, what else could anyone want. I woke up during the night and took a walk outside, there were no other lights to be seen, no noise to be heard except the lapping of the waves onto the shore and every constellation in the night sky could be seen, it was truly amazing, this alone made my journey worthwhile.



**Top Left: Leaving Benbecula, crossing to North Uist; The Road Travelled; The Road Still to Go; Bottom Left: Feeling like You are being Watched; Wild Beaches of North Uist**



**Left to Right: Berneray Hostel, kitchen and dorm room; The Main Washroom and Shower Unit of the Berneray Hostel; Outside the Hostel in Berneray**

Next morning after showering and breakfast I was sitting outside when I saw the ferry heading towards the island, the timetable I had said the ferry wasn't due to leave the terminal until 10:40 a.m. but right now it was only 8:45 a.m. I didn't know if the timetable had changed but didn't want to risk missing this ferry as the next one wouldn't be until 4 p.m. I loaded up my bike and cycle the two miles or so to the terminal only to discover the ferry arriving at 9:30 and not leaving again until 10:40, big rush for nothing.

The ferry from Berneray took an hour to cross over to the Isle of Harris where once again the hills of the Hebrides took their toll. The Isle of Harris is known worldwide for the material, Harris Tweed, but it also has a very popular distillery, not making any blended or malt whisky, but distilling Gin, and along with North Uist it has spectacular sea views and beaches. Along the route from the ferry terminal at Leverburgh to Tarbet there are several spots where photographers set up their tripods and equipment in hopes of getting a perfect photo of the bays and sand when the sun just hits them at the right angle or the clouds just pass at the perfect time.



**Left to Right: Arriving on the Isle of Harris; The Start of Another Hill Challenge on Harris; One of the Many Spots where Photographers set up to Capture the Perfect Shot**



On reaching Tarbet I eventually found excellent accommodation in the backpacker's hostel, as it turned out I had to be there a little longer than originally planned as a severe Atlantic storm moved into the area, constant rain and winds ranging from 110 to 140 kms/per hour. On the third day in Tarbet I eventually got the ferry "Lord of the Isles" back to the mainland, docking in Uig in Skye.

From Uig next stop was Portree & from there a four-hour bus ride past Eilean Doran castle on an island in Loch Duich, through Glen Sheil, then Glen Garry past the monument at Spean Bridge where special commando units trained during WW2 to execute some of the most dangerous assignments of the war then onto Fort William followed by a train journey to Glasgow and then on back to Largs.

In total it was a journey of over 1,000 kms, at times a very challenging journey but one I am very glad to have taken, but also very glad it is over.



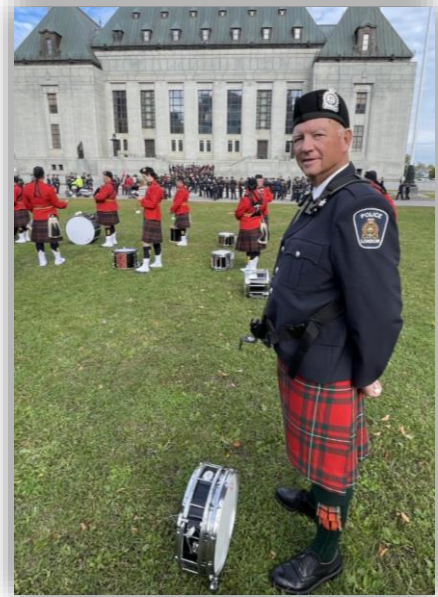
Left to Right: Top – The Ferry Lord of the Isle, waiting to head back to Skye; Leaving the Isle of Harris, heading for Uig on the Isle of Skye; Middle – Portree of the Isle of Skye; What Came First, the Pub or the Pipe Tune; Bottom: Eilean Doran Castle; Heading Along Loch Lochy to Fort William in time to catch the Train Back to Glasgow

## Other Band News



A return to the full Canadian Police And Peace Officers Memorial (CPPOM) service was held this year on September 25, 2022 at 11 am in Ottawa on Parliament Hill. A few IPB members who also play with the London Police Pipe Band are pictured above. A video of the service can be viewed by clicking on the photo to the right. Well done by everyone who piped and drummed on this occasion.

The London Band was also in attendance at the funeral held on October 20th for two South Simcoe Police officers who died in the line of duty following a shooting in Innisfil, Ont. Colleagues, relatives and police officers from across Canada gathered in Barrie, Ont., for the service that remembered Const. Morgan Russell, 54, and Const. Devon Northrup, 33.



In Ontario we have 13 pipe bands associated with police forces – these include bands from Halton Region, Hamilton, Durham Region, Niagara Region, Peel Region, Ottawa, Sudbury, Toronto, York Region, Windsor, London, and two representing the OPP and RCMP.



Adam Walker, a former piper with IPB, plays with Peel Regional Police Band which has several competition bands.

## Out and About with Chatham



The Richmond Good Old Days parade was held again in early September. The IPB did not have enough band members prepared to do a “border” crossing so we regretfully sent a message of decline to participate this year. However, the Chatham Legion Branch 642 Pipe Band did attend and met up with our piping friend Christine Gatt who often pipes with the IPB. Pictured above, Christine is on the right and drummer June from Chatham on the left – hanging out at the beer tent after the parade. Christine has been waiting at the end of many previous parades handing out fresh baked goods and water and lemonade for all the pipe bands.



The Chatham band celebrated its 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the weekend of October 22/23. Pipe Bands that have had some affiliation with the Chatham band were invited to attend their two events – a pub night and their open house. Your editor represented the IPB at the open house and extended congratulations to our younger sibling! The events were well tended with alumni and friends of the band present

from other areas of Ontario, Canada and the USA.



**Pipers Dick (past PM), Jeff, Walt (PM)**



**Band members (present and past) perform**

*“The band’s roots run deep, providing the soundtrack for major events such as Remembrance Day ceremonies throughout the years. Branch 28 Royal Canadian Legion Pipe Band was formed after the Second World War. The first parade was held on Dominion Day, July 1, 1945, with the band bearing the distinction of being one of the oldest and continuously active Legion pipe bands in Canada. A junior pipe band was active between 1962 and 1972. When the two Chatham Legion branches amalgamated in 2015, Legion Branch 642 became the sponsor.*

*Wearing the Fingask tartan, the band continues to support events and parades across Chatham-Kent, maintaining a year-long practice schedule. The band has played across Canada, the Netherlands, New Orleans, New York City and for the RCMP Musical Ride. It has also performed in France at the Vimy Ridge War Memorial.” – Pam Wright from The Chatham Voice newspaper*

## Celebrating with Our Members and Their Families

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, several IPB members and friends travelled south to Tillsonburg to the Station Arts Centre to take in a joint artist display, "One Trunk, Two Branches". Piper Jack Habkirk's wife, Barbara Scott was one of the artists so we went to the opening reception celebrating her work. Her exhibit is called "Purple Banyans of Life" and for more information about it go to -

<https://www.stationarts.ca/current-exhibit>

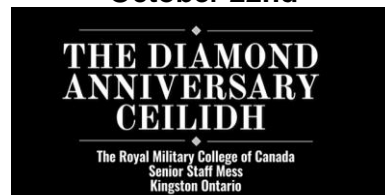
After our viewing of the gallery exhibits, IPB members and friends were invited back to the band hall for a delicious supper. Thank you to The Habkirks for their hospitality.



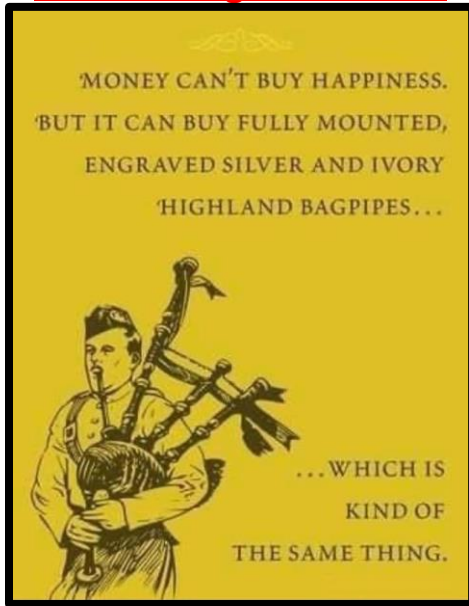
Congratulations to all those members of The Pipers' & Pipe Band Society of Ontario who enjoyed a season of sustained performance excellence at the Highland Games they sanctioned. It was very exciting to see that one of the individual winners was **Graham Carroll** who is a member of three bands – the IPB, The London Firefighters Pipe Band and The Royal Scots O'Mocha Pipe Band. Graham took the award for **Novice Bass Drumming**. This was no easy feat as he participated in 7 different competitions at Highland Games from June through August. Well done, Graham!



Graham received his award in Kingston on October 22nd



## Final Thoughts & News



**Drummer Doug Glover enjoying an autumn hike with his family in Guelph.** "Catherine and I went to Guelph for Alex's Birthday Day. He had wanted to go on a hike with his Mum Catherine, me and Breanne and his kids, Theo and Immy. We all had a great time!"



Many thanks to Diane Normand (Russnor Designs) of Embro for creating such a beautiful sign to honour our band member, friend, tutor, and leader Wilson McBeath who passed away in October 2019. The sign is a beautiful and fitting tribute to Wilson.



**The Shepherds, Matthews and Turveys at Fear Farm Bright ON enjoying some Hallowe'en fun**



**Piper Christina at a yard sale in Sept. dog sitting The Matthews' dog, Rosita**



**Piper Lois Turvey being wooed by Mozart's "living" statue in Vienna.**

Lois, Wendy and Ron Marshall, and Elaine Northmore travelled to Europe in September to make a tour of several cities and countries and to attend The Oberammergau Passion Play held every 10 years.



Wendy acted as the Tour Escort for Craig's Travel. We hope that more photos will be shared with us for another issue of the newsletter.



**Wendy in blue coat escorting her guests**



**A serious discussion about cars, scotch and beer between a fan of the band, Bernd and drummer Dave K. Thanks, Bernd for your donation to the IPB.**

### **Upcoming Parades**

Check our IPB website for the latest parade dates. Lots of activity coming up in the next two months.

**Ingersoll Remembrance Day – Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Ingersoll Santa Claus Parade – Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Tillsonburg Santa Claus Parade – Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Ingersoll Lighting of the Lights – Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>**

**St. Andrew's Night – Embro – Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Embro Santa Claus Parade – Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Springfield Santa Claus Parade – Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Woodstock Santa Claus Parade – Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Belmont Santa Claus Parade – Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Innerkip Santa Claus Parade- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**

