

Ingersoll Pipe Band



110 Years

Volume 10 Issue 3

August 2020

Celebrating 110 Years



Our last issue brought everyone “up to date” to the end of May with our mini band performances at various retirement and nursing homes around the county. Great memories for one and all. June found band members busy continuing to take part in Zoom practices, and memorizing

or polishing up tunes in preparation for performances on Canada Day. Like everyone else IPBers were learning to adjust to stage two of the Covid policies set out by the provincial government. Fortunately, our mini bands were able to increase in size from 5 to 10 and outdoor performances for the public were allowed with restrictions. We had to remind “fans” in a friendly manner to continue to social distance and to keep their numbers down to manageable “bubbles”.

Ontario's Action Plan in response to COVID-19



A FRAMEWORK FOR REOPENING OUR PROVINCE

Phase 1: PROTECT AND SUPPORT

\$17-billion in targeted support



Phase 2: RESTART

A gradual, staged approach



Phase 3: RECOVER

Long-term growth



Support and relief

Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Long-term recovery

A COORDINATED, SUSTAINED RESPONSE AND INTEGRATED STRATEGY FOR RECOVERY

MARCH 17

State of Emergency Begins

APRIL 9

Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee Announced

MAY 19

Stage 1 Begins

JUNE 12

Stage 2 Begins

JULY 17

Stage 3 Begins

MARCH 25
Economic and Fiscal Update Released

APRIL 27
Framework for Reopening Launch

Inside This Issue

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But our enthusiasm to perform was heightened and not dampened as July 1st approached. In mid-July we received an invitation to perform in beautiful Paris ON and in mid-August we returned to perform in Tillsonburg. By then we were in stage three so band size could increase. Lots of photos of all these events in this issue! Thanks to our newsletter photographers and contributors, Kevin MacKay, Merilee Peter, Janie Munro, Heidi Miller-Raposo, Harold Matthews and Doug Glover for forwarding items and being on hand to take photos.

– Your Editor - *Veronica*



On a “normal” Canada Day, members of the Ingersoll Pipe Band and their families would find themselves in beautiful Zorra Township at the Embro Highlands Games.

However, we received the disappointing news in March:

Embro Highland Games Cancelled for 2020

“The recent events surrounding COVID-19 have created an unprecedented situation for the Zorra Caledonian Society.

The Zorra Caledonian Society Executive and Board of Directors regrets to announce the CANCELLATION of the Embro Highland Games on July 1st 2020. It was a very difficult decision but a necessary decision. Our priority is the health and safety of all those involved in organizing, participating and volunteering at the games.

The Society ask that we all do our part to defeat this pandemic. Please take care of yourselves and support your loved ones as we weather the storm.

Again, we are deeply sorry about not being able to execute the 2020 Embro Highland Games. We hope to see you at the 2021 Embro Highland Games in Embro on July 1st 2021.”

2020 President, Zorra Caledonian Society

Kevin Fraser

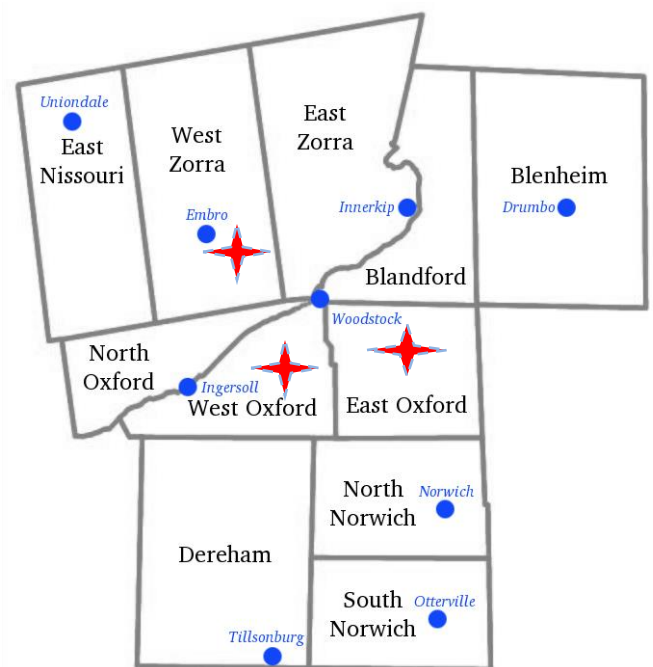
So, what is a pipe band to do??????????



The answer was very easy! If we couldn’t go to “the games” we would take our mini bands on the road and go and entertain all the fine people of Oxford County on July 1st. At this point, the province had entered Phase 2 so we were permitted to travel with a group up to 10 members! Social distancing was still important and we obviously needed to take precautions.

So we asked our IPB members to step forward and volunteer to perform on Canada Day at one of three locations – Woodstock, Embro (of course!) and Ingersoll. We set up groups of 10 and played at two different venues in each community.

The next few pages have lots of photos from our Canada Day celebrations and it is quite obvious from the photos that we had a great time. The weather was beautiful – warm and sunny – and we had great support from each of the communities that we visited. We managed to have a very enjoyable 110th Anniversary Canada Day!



OXFORD COUNTY

WOODSTOCK

Victoria Park



**Piper John Lynes and
Granddaughter Drummer Aurora**



Ron and Wendy Marshall



**Band Members assembling at Victoria Park prior to
our 11 AM performance**



Tuning Time for PS Charlie

More photos from Victoria Park – band members and appreciative audience members at the park.



Drummer Scott Munro and wife Janie



The Turveys – Lois and Doug

By noon hour we had reassembled at Woodstock's historic Southside Park and found a whole new group of holiday celebrators to perform for. The Canada geese on the pond weren't too interested in our tunes but we definitely had a few super fans who followed us from Victoria Park.



**Our Woodstock mini band was composed of Pipers – Ron Marshall, Christina Breen, John Lynes, Pipe Sergeant Charlie Thomson, and Veronica Jackson
Drummers: Bass – Doug Glover; Snares – Aurora Vanderwoude, Jerry Chevrier, Scott Munro; Tenor – Wendy Marshall**

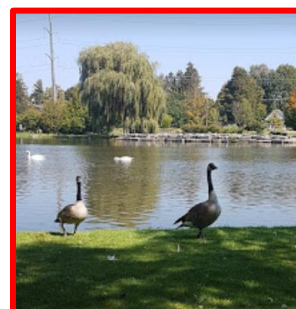


Photo posted on FB by Deborah Lyne Peach



CANADA DAY – AFTERNOON – EMBRO - The next IPB mini band convened on the lawns of Knox United Church opposite Matheson Park, the original home of Embro's Highland Games.



IPB Pipe Major, Doug Collins took over the afternoon session in Embro and we started at 1:30 pm. We had lots of our Embro and Zorra fans out – no doubt missing The Games. Our Embro contingent was made up of the following: Pipers: PM Doug Collins, Liam McCreery, Angus Thomson, Ron Marshall, Andy Longridge, Veronica Jackson
Drummers: Bass - Doug Turvey; Snares- Doug Glover, Lisa Gardner: Tenor – Wendy Marshall
Following the performance on the lawns of Knox United Church we went across village to Wallace Park for a 3 pm performance.



More Photos from Embro July 1st 2020



At Wallace Park

Left Photo

Top: DM Gail MacKay and brother Kevin with Drummers Doug G and Wendy

Bottom: The Thomson Family – “Super” Fans

Right Photo

Andy and Dorothy Longridge



A few more photos – relaxing at both Wallace Park and afterwards at Angus Thomson's home!
Thankyou Embro for the great hospitality!



More fans – The Northmores



Drummer Lis MG with her family



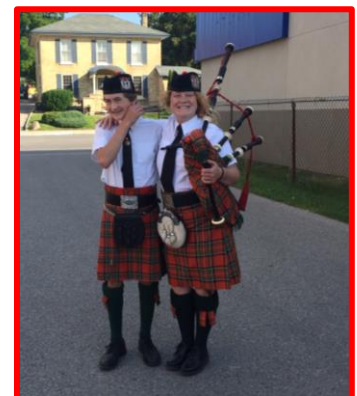
Fans from Happy Hills Retirement Village



Canada Day – Last Stop – Hometown Ingersoll

DM Doug took a break and then reassembled his troops in Ingersoll for two performances. The first was at Dewan Park downtown at 6:30 pm and the second followed at Smith Pond Park. It was a beautiful night with lots of spectators out. Members of the evening's mini band included the following band members:

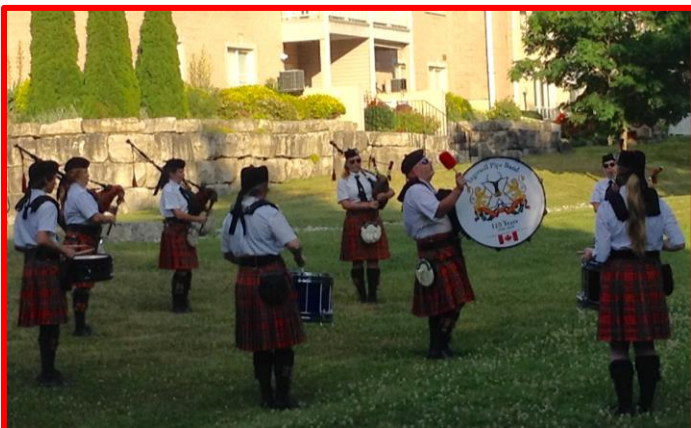
Pipers: Doug Collins, Mary Ellen Muterer, Jane Muterer, Joanne Muterer, Catherine Stark
Drummers- Snares: PS Lisa McPherson-Haycock, Jerry Chevrier, Freya Rimington, Bill Stark
Bass- Doug Turvey



More Super Fans (some from the band and others family members) – Top Left – Merilee Peter and brother Kevin MacKay; Top Right – Mark Ellah; Bottom Left – Angus Thomson; Bottom Right – Gail MacKay



Smith Pond Park – Canada Day Evening



Canada Day – Belmont Style



Most towns and cities cancelled their Canada Day parades but NOT Belmont!
The local fire department paraded their trucks and ambulance vehicles through the streets of the village to demonstrate its national pride. IPB piper, Don Gale, who resides in Belmont and is a local "piping" fixture was asked to take part and play a few tunes as the mini parade wound around. Donnie had a special horse drawn ride and at noon stopped to play O' Canada.



Saturday July 4th

Frequently the Ingersoll Pipe Band is participating in a parade on the American holiday – July 4th – in Algonac Michigan. Obviously, this was not going to happen in 2020 with all events cancelled. The IPB decided we would spend the afternoon in Woodstock and entertain some fine folks in three retirement residences.

Our piping and drumming crew this day was composed of : Pipe Sergeant Charlie Thomson, Doug Turvey, Doug Glover, Scott Munro, Lisa Gardner, Wendy Marshall, Ron Marshall, Christina Breen, Angus Thomson and Veronica Jackson.

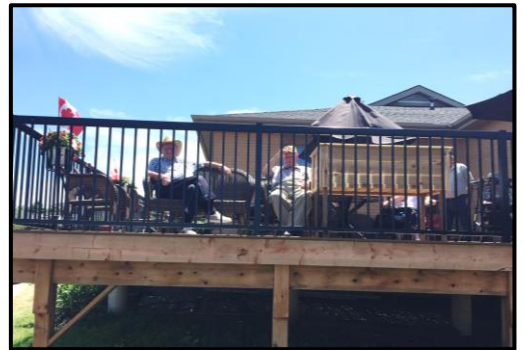


We visited Victoria Manor, Langdon Retirement Villa, and Cedarview Retirement Living. As you can see from the photo above, it was certainly a very HOT day to be piping. But we made it through in “fine form” and gratefully accepted drinks of cold water and lemonade from our hosts.

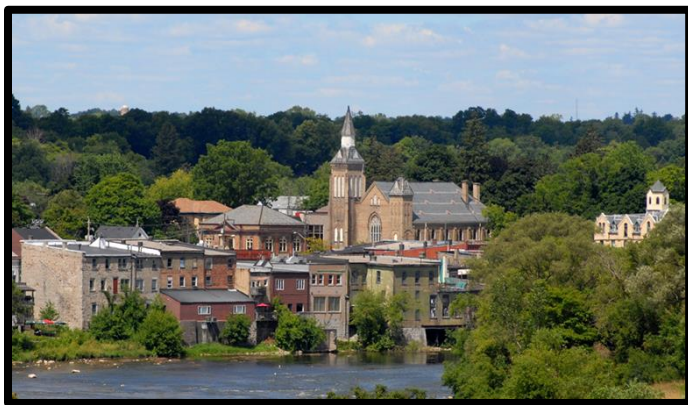




Photos of many of our grateful audience members!



The Paris Tour Saturday July 25th



Earlier in July, an invitation was extended to the Ingersoll Pipe Band to send a mini band to beautiful Paris ON. The request was made to visit one of the long-term care homes in the downtown core. The band happily agreed to fulfill the request. Since we were going to be “in the neighbourhood” we decided to book some entertainment time at three additional retirement residences. As per usual, it was a very hot July Saturday and band members probably lost a few pounds due to perspiration. Thanks again to all the retirement and nursing homes who welcomed us. Your wonderful staff and residents made us feel very welcome.

The team that travelled to Paris included:
Pipers PS Charlie Thomson, Catherine Stark, Steve Shepherd, Angus Thomson, George Duncan, Veronica Jackson;
Drummers Doug Turvey, DS Lisa McPherson-Haycock, Doug Glover, Jerry Chevrier; **Fans** DM Gail MacKay, Kevin MacKay, Heidi Miller-Raposo and her son Hunter and Joanne Perry.



Day's Itinerary

12 Noon – Park Lane Terrace

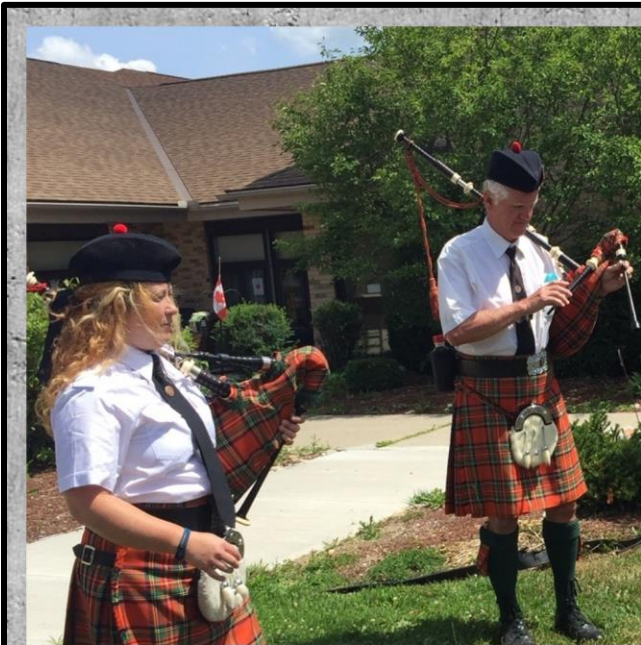
1:00 PM – Revera Telfer Place

2:00 PM – Penmarvian Retirement Home

3:00 PM – Queensview Retirement Community



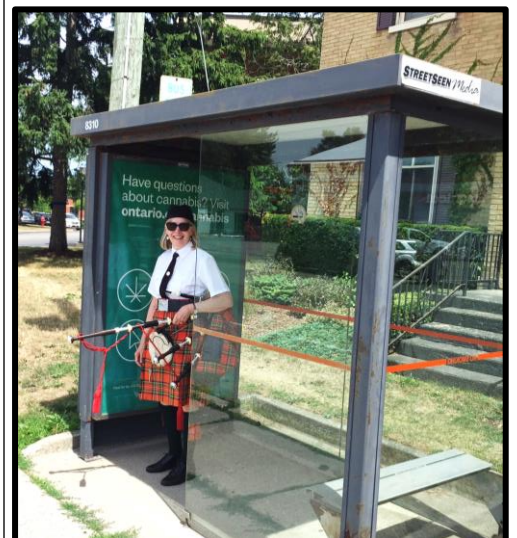
Photos from Our Paris Excursion



Catherine and her prized red motorbike

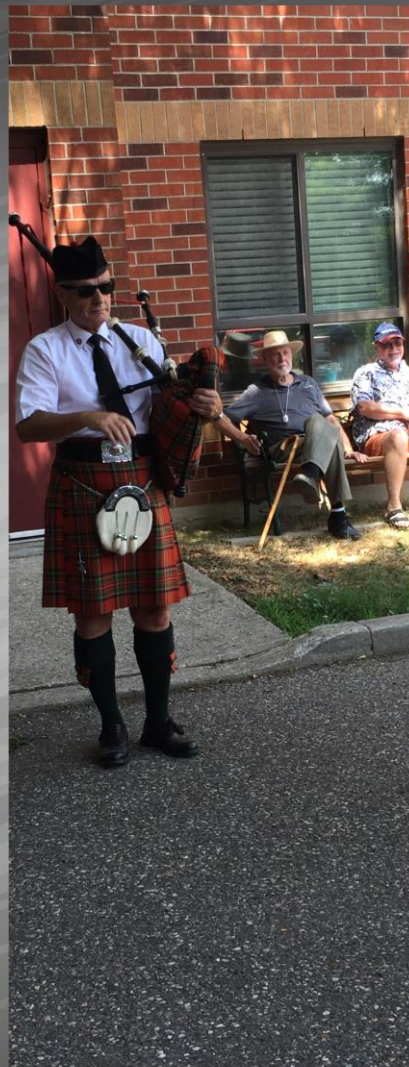


Healthcare Worker who showed us around at Park Place Terrace



Your editor waiting for the tour bus!

Paris Tour Continued



Lots of things for Pipe Sergeant Charlie to consider while keeping his rowdy group in check! His little red sports car looks right in place!



Telfer Residents : Retirement and Long Term Care



Residents gathering outdoors on the grounds of Penmarvian Retirement Home

Paris Continued ...

Queensview Retirement Community Facebook Page has video of us playing! Check it out!
Ingersoll Pipe Band visits Queensview
 THANK YOU to the [Ingersoll Pipe Band](#) for your visit and wonderful music!
[#IngersollPipeBand](#)
[#QueensviewRetirementCommunity](#)
[#ParisON](#)



Fan Joanne!



Super Fans Heidi and Hunter

Tillsonburg Revisited August 15th

Our IPB mini band trip to Tillsonburg was such a hit in May that we decided to go back for another visit mid August. This time we were not restricted to 5 so we expanded our numbers to include more of our exceptional volunteers.



Our first stop was a new one for us. We visited Harvest Crossing Retirement Community located in the south east part of the town.



Karen, the activity coordinator, greeted us and showed us around the exterior of the building. It is a very large complex with lots of balconies so we played several tunes and marched from one location to another for the maximum benefit of the resident spectators. Karen took several videos of us playing and photos. Here's what she had to say: *"Hope these videos and photos are okay for you. Thank you so much for entertaining our residents this afternoon. Music is such wonderful therapy and certainly lifts the residents spirits in such a time of uncertainty. Thank you again for playing 'Scotland the Brave', I couldn't have asked for a better birthday present! All the Best Karen"* (We played "Scotland the Brave" as a birthday present for Karen).



Video available on their Facebook Page.



Some social media comments for the visit to Harvest Crossing.

Harvest Crossing

August 15th

It is a great day to listen to The Ingersoll Pipe Band @ Harvest Crossing. The Pipe Band is celebrating its 110th year longest non military band in North America.

Leigh Harris-Carlson

I heard the great news that you had visited and that my grandmother thoroughly enjoyed your concert! Thank you so very much for coming out and entertaining everyone at Harvest. Slainte mhath!

Marilynn Smith

Wish I was there. This is a fabulous group of musicians....some I know.

Pat Lohmann Loncke

Awesome entertainment 🎵





Some additional photos from our first stop in Tillsonburg



Our next stop was across town at the **Tillsonburg Retirement Residence** where we were warmly welcomed back! Lots of delightful fans here. We performed several tunes and Pipe Major Doug Collins spoke to the residents and wished them well. He outlined the various activities the band was taking part in over the summer as IPB's official 110th Anniversary plans were put on hold. It was definitely warmer in Tillsonburg than our traditional visit for the annual Santa Claus parade in November.



**Drum Sergeant
Lisa McPherson -
Haycock**



TILLSONBURG RETIREMENT RESIDENCE



PS Charlie flanked by Drummers Freya and Lisa MG



Some of our best fans!

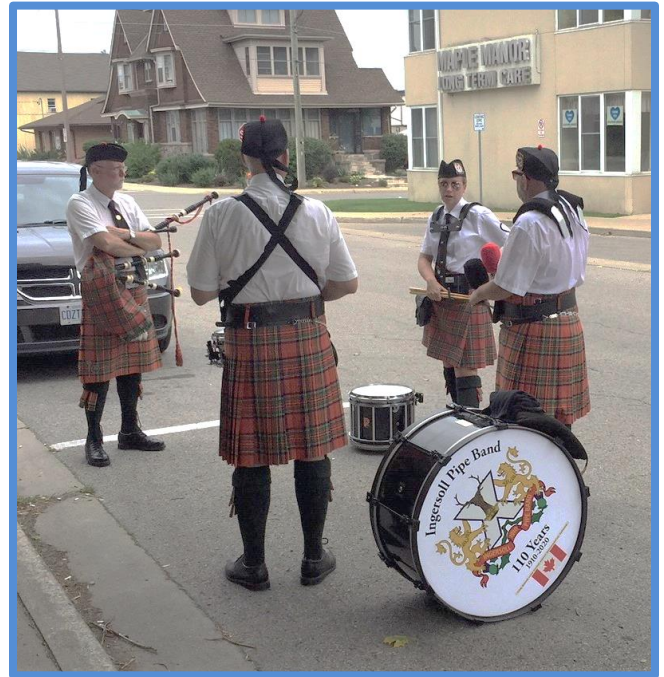
Tillsonburg IPB Contingent
PM Doug Collins, **Pipers:** PS Charlie Thomson, Christina Breen, Jack Habkirk, Don Gale, Veronica Jackson;
Drummers – DS Lisa McPherson-Haycock, Lisa Gardner, Doug Glover, Freya Rimington, **Bass-** Doug Turvey

Final Stop in Tillsonburg – Maple Manor

We also paid a stop at Maple Manor back in May. It has been operating for over 40 years and is located just a block away from downtown Tillsonburg, making it close to many churches, stores and the Tillsonburg District Hospital. It is a large complex with many long- term care residents. Both the staff and residents are always happy to welcome music to the residence and they especially enjoy Scottish music.



We gathered on the opposite side of the street and played some traditional favourites. As well PM Doug had a chance to speak to some of the residents who came outside to listen. Folks inside (workers and residents) were thrilled to have some “live” music!



Meet Some of Our Learners

Over the past couple of years, we have had numerous dedicated students sign up for both piping and drumming lessons.

Until Wilson McBeath's death, most piping Beginners started their studies with Wilson. He was a dedicated teacher who brought out the best in all his pupils.

John Lynes took over the role as the instructor for Beginners. He had several students continue and new ones registered so Mary Ellen Mutterer also contributed to their instruction.

Jack Habkirk is in charge of the Intermediate group and takes these students onto the "parade ready" level. These students eventually come to the band table for chanter practices.

Since Covid arrived on our doorstep teaching methods had to change and Zoom became part of the story. John Lynes continued with the Beginners group and Doug Collins worked online with the Intermediates.

All of our pipe teachers are continuing their roles as we make our way back to some sense of normalcy at the band hall. "In person" socially-distanced lessons for individuals has begun again this month.



So in mid-July the newsletter editor sent out an email to all of students who are receiving instruction and asked for their input for this newsletter! Here's what I wrote:

Dear Piping / Drumming Fans and Students:
All of you have registered over the last few months and / or years to take piping or drumming lessons with the Ingersoll Pipe Band. Some of you are still at the beginning of learning how to play and others are quickly advancing to becoming full time "parading" members of the band. Unfortunately, the Covid 19 situation that arrived on our doorsteps last spring has not helped with allowing you to move through various stages at a quicker pace.

But definitely through Zoom sessions and lots of practice hours on your own, you have made significant gains. In the next issue of the pipe band newsletter, which will come out around the third week of August, I would like (with your assistance) to profile as many of you as possible. Several years ago, when Doug Glover was editor of the newsletter, I and several newbies were asked to write down a few thoughts as well about how our love for pipes and drums led us down this road to the IPB hall.

So, if you would humour me and like to take part in this venture I would appreciate your input."

Five individuals rose to the occasion and shared with me a little bit of their piping stories. Thanks to Lois, Angus, Liam, Sammy and Maureen for their responses.

Maureen Jansen – Beginner

"After seeing a notice in the paper for lessons for pipes or drums at the Pipe band hall, I called to inquire.

I started chanter lessons Jan. 2020. The time seemed right. I thought "it's now or never".

I live in Ingersoll. I started lessons with Mary Ellen, then Covid happened. I was practising on my own until John Lynes contacted me. We are doing lessons on Zoom.

My fingers had a mind of their own in the beginning but have slowly found the right movements. When I am practising it is actually starting to sound like music lol.

I just love hearing the bagpipes and watching a marching band. The music just seems to head right to my heart". - Maureen



Sammy Bell – Intermediate

'My name is Sammy, and I am 13 years old. I was born in Scotland and moved to Canada when I was 9. In grade 3 in Scotland we were given the choice of learning chanter or drums and I chose chanter. My teacher's name was Mr. Canning. When I came to Canada, I had to take an 18 month break while we settled in and one of our neighbours told us about the Ingersoll pipe band. We saw the band play in the Belmont Christmas Parade and mom called the next day to ask about lessons. We came along a few days later and met Wilson and have been enjoying our Thursday nights ever since'. - Sammy



Sammy is also a cadet with 201 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron Dorchester



Sammy as flag bearer with DM Gail at the Victoria Day Parade in Woodstock 2019

Lois Turvey – Intermediate



"Growing up in a German community, the bagpipes were rarely, if ever, heard. The accordion was the instrument that was chosen for me to learn, which didn't go very well. Once I moved to Embro, it was hard to live without exposure to the bagpipes and pipe bands. Learning to play the pipes was not a goal of mine.

However, as we approached the season of empty nesting, I grew more apprehensive about things until a friend told me not to worry about the kids moving away, because they would surely move back home. This didn't sit well with me either. My solution, at first as a joke, was to learn to play the bagpipes so they wouldn't stay long if they did move back home. Many people enjoyed this joke, until we told it to Harold and Nancy, who of course, told us how much fun the band is.

The first Thursday night of the empty nest, Doug and I looked at each other, and the question was asked: "Want to go to Ingersoll?" We did, and knowing how pleasant and persuasive Wilson is, the rest is history.

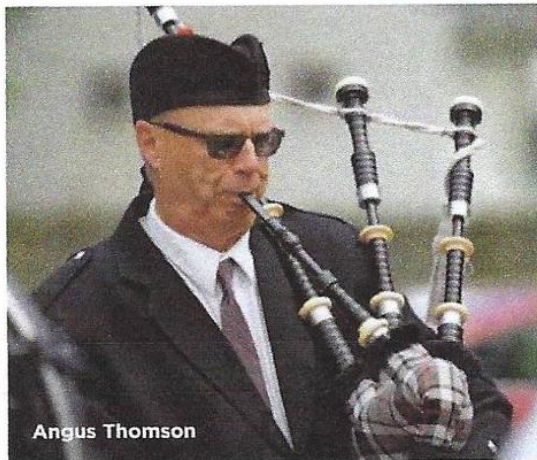
That was 6 years ago. Through lack of time/discipline to practise and health issues, it has taken me much longer than I ever thought it would take. The first few times I tried the pipes, I thought they were "broken" because no air would stay in the contraption. I was told the pipes were just fine. Now, because of Covid, and being off work for 12 weeks, I got busy and put a lot of time in on both the chanter and the pipes. A few months ago, I really didn't think I was going to manage this, but now it looks like a definite possibility!" - Lois



Lois at band practice August 2020 with Bass Drummer "Hubby" Doug Turvey



Angus Thomson – Intermediate/Mini Band



"Hello, my name is Angus Thomson. I live in the village of Embro. My heritage is Scottish and have been going to the Embro Highland Games since I can remember. I enjoy listening to the pipe bands and Scottish culture has always been a part of my life. A former member of the Ingersoll pipe band who is now deceased lived in Embro and would talk about the pipe band. Now that my kids are grown up and since I am not running them here and there which freed up time. I thought learning to play the bagpipes would be productive and fun.

Now I am wondering about my concept of fun but it is rewarding to learn this new skill. It is rewarding when the neighbours say the pipes sound good and I am not buying them beer. So far, I have been working on this for about five years, I had no musical experience but as Robbie Burns once said patience and perseverance will conquer many things".

- Angus



Angus promoting the Embro Highland Games



Angus volunteered to pipe in three mini bands over the summer

Another Beginner? !!!!



Drummer – in - training: Doug & Catherine Glover's grandson, Theo. Doug writes:

"Grandson Theo wanted to go to Paris with me to play the Bass Drum at the four Retirement Homes the Band visited on Sat."

Liam McCreery – Intermediate/Mini Band



Liam acting as flag bearer with PM Doug at the Victoria Day Parade in Woodstock 2019

"I live in Huntingford, swim in Ingersoll, play hockey in Embro and play softball in Tavistock. I have loved the Bagpipes since I first heard them as a young child. I also play piano and when I write my G.7 RCM exam this year (because my Mom made all her kids study to that level!), I would like to learn the electric guitar! I like listening to Rush, Alice Cooper and Led Zeppelin.

I phoned the advertisement in the Sentinel Review in August of 2017 and began my first Chanter lesson with Wilson McBeath that month. It turned out that Wilson also knew my Grandfather socially way back and my father through their shared political affiliation. I loved my Chanter lessons and I drove my family crazy by playing constantly! I have just started using my first drone in my Pipes.

I was proud to be a Flag Bearer for IPB in my first parade participations during the Woodstock and Thamesford Victoria Day Parade's in May of 2019.

I first played and marched publicly with huge respect, thankfulness and love at Wilson's funeral service. My first IPB playing and marching Parade participation was the 2019 Ingersoll Christmas Parade and then the Innerkip Christmas Parade. I played a tribute to the Nova Scotia/RCMP tragedy and have enjoyed playing with the small groups for the Senior's and in Public locations during Covid. It is nice to see how many other people love the Bagpipes and I am very proud of the IPB Community that have helped me learn this great instrument".

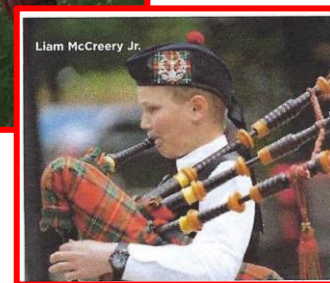
- Liam



Innerkip Evening Parade Dec. 2019



Canada Day in Embro



Liam in Tavistock

Trip to Secord Trails – Band Practice August 20th

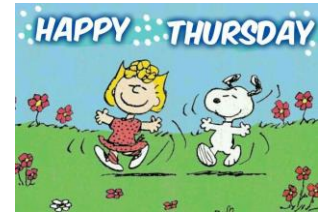
When our mini bands played at various locations in Ingersoll in May, we were unable to go to Secord Trails Long Term Care Home. There had been a Covid outbreak in the institution so all residents were confined to their rooms. Once the situation improved over June and July, we arranged to visit the residents of Secord Trails in August.

“The residents absolutely LOVED the performance. They were blown away! Staff and residents inside heard it as well and were talking about it for the next few days. We are so grateful for the experience!”

Thank you so very much”, Shannon Fielding-Bacro
Director of Resident Programs and Admissions
– on the behalf of the residents and staff at Secord Trails



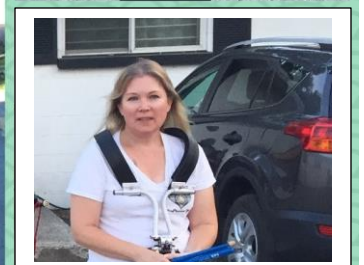
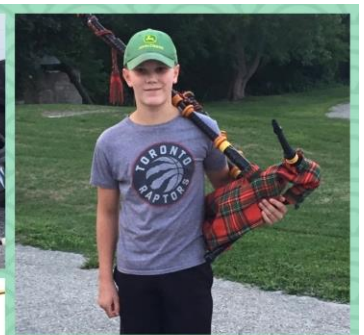
Practice Sessions



It was a “happy” Thursday on July 23rd when we finally got back to the IPB Hall. It marked our first outdoor practice since the fall of 2019.

Our turnouts were fantastic as everyone was eager to get back to practice – even a socially distanced one!

At one practice in August we broke a summer record – 19 pipers and 7 drummers! Let’s hope as fall approaches that we will have lovely evening weather to continue for our practices.





Practice Time! Masks in evidence!



Summer Fun



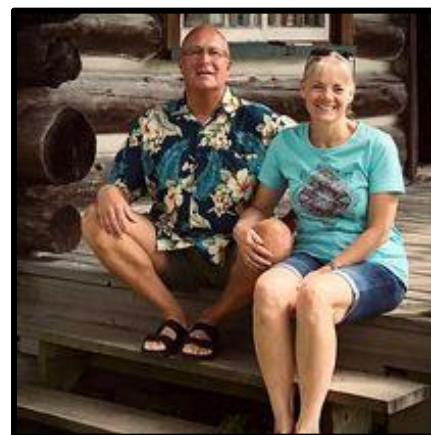
The Thomsons having fun with granddaughter, Heather



Steve Shepherd invited Catherine Stark to play a few tunes with him at Whistle Bare Campground near Cambridge where Steve and his family were camping for the week



Bill Stark showing off his catch of the day



The Matthews relaxing at the cottage