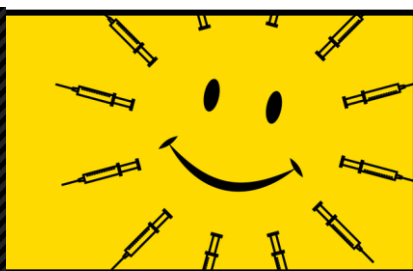


Ingersoll Pipe Band



Volume 11 Issue 1 April 2021

Celebrating 111 Years



Covid 19 vaccines are being rolled out across the region and IPB members are looking forward to “rolling out” the outdoor practices as the temperatures start to warm up in this first real month of Spring! We had an early taste of the joys of outdoor piping and drumming on Sunday March 21st at the band hall. (This informal get together was prior to going back into the present province wide shutdown on April 3rd). Hopefully by the end of the month we will be able to return to scheduled outdoor practices for 2021.

Our Pipe Major Doug Collins and Drum Sergeant Lisa McPherson are doing a fabulous job leading us in our Thursday Zoom practices. Doug is also keeping the Intermediates busy with a Zoom session.

Piper and instructor John Lynes is looking after our Beginner individuals through a series of on-line lessons.

We hope that everyone is keeping active with practice sessions at home and with memorizing new tunes.

**PATIENCE IS NOT
THE ABILITY TO
WAIT. WAITING IS A
FACT OF LIFE.
PATIENCE IS THE ABILITY
TO KEEP A GOOD ATTITUDE
WHILE WAITING.**
-JOYCE MEYERS WWW.VERYBESTQUOTES.COM

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Our prospective gigs this spring and summer look like they will be confined to small mini band occurrences similar to 2020’s schedule of visits to Seniors’ Residences, Nursing Homes, holiday concerts in parks, etc The majority of the annual parades, festivals and highland games that we have taken part in have been cancelled for another year.

So while we are waiting ... take some time to enjoy the first IPB newsletter of 2021 – our 111th celebratory historic year!

– Your Editor - *Veronica*

IPB Executive 2021

At the Annual General Meeting in January, the Election of Officers took place for 2021 through the magic of a Zoom Meeting. 19 members took part in the meeting. The Executive and Committees for this year are:



EXECUTIVE:

President – Harold Matthews

Vice President – Doug Glover

Treasurer – Jane Muterer

Secretary – Lisa Gardner

Drum Major – Gail MacKay

Pipe Major – Doug Collins

Quarter Master – Scott Munro

Canteen Convenor – Doug Turvey

Attendance Officer – Nancy Matthews

Publicity Officer – Veronica Jackson

Past President Steve Shepherd will continue to attend monthly Executive meetings. John Lynes stepped down from his position as Secretary and he was thanked for his service in that position. Catherine Stark handed over the canteen duties but will be maintaining her position as our web master. Mary Ellen Muterer will attend Executive meetings in her capacity as band hall manager.

Because there was no Christmas Banquet, awards and service pins for attendance for 2020 were not given out. (They will be given out in 2021 after we return to the band hall). The following members achieved these levels of membership:

5 years – Aurora Vanderwoude

10 years – Doug Glover, Steve Shepherd

35 years – Joanne Muterer

Congratulations to all three members!

We would also like to congratulate the following two members on their special achievements. They were presented “virtually” with their awards at Zoom practices in January by the Pipe Major and the Drum Major:

Most Improved Piper – Liam McCreery

Most Improved Drummer – Lisa Gardner



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From January until the present time of this issue going to print, the IPB has held all its lessons and practices virtually. As we discovered in 2020, Zoom has become a very essential part of continuing on with our meetings and practices, and carrying out our “mandate” to train and educate pipers and drummers. To recap from page 1: John Lynes is teaching our Beginners at evening sessions during the week; Doug Collins instructs our Intermediates every Tuesday evening; and, Doug directs our pipers and drummers on Thursday evenings. Lisa McPherson has also set up a separate Zoom meeting on Thursday evenings to review and practise with our drumming corps. Thank you on behalf of the band to these hard working instructors for managing to keep us on task and assisting us with becoming proficient with new tunes.

"Our First Outdoor Informal Practice" **Sunday March 21st**

We had such glorious weather the third weekend of March that our PM Doug decided to extend an invitation to pipers and drummers to come down to the band hall and blow the dust out of our pipes and dust off our drum heads. As you can tell from the photos, everyone was enjoying being outdoors under "social distancing" measures.



PM Doug leading us in a few tunes



Pipers - Brother Don and Sister Cheryl



Piping Sisters Jane and Joanne



PS Charlie and Mary Ellen



Christina and Ron



Nancy and Angus



Liam (our most improved piper)



“Retired” Tenor Drummer – Kevin MacKay



Retired Piper Stew and wife Drummer Jane



Drummers out in force – Top Left – Freya and DS Lisa; Top Right - Wendy and Doug T; Bottom Left – Doug G; Bottom Right – DM Gail



As much as we enjoyed our “first day of Spring” outing, we will have to be patient and await the easing of provincial restrictions before we can resume Thursday night or weekend jams at the Band Hall. We are not alone – pipers, drummers, and musicians all over Canada are in similar circumstances. We stand with them and their communities in solidarity waiting for healthier, less-Covid times. Roll out those vaccinations for all age groups!



Our Personalized Facemasks



Models – Bass Drummer Doug Turvey, Members Stew and Jane Watt, Snare Drummer Doug Glover

In February and March we extended to our members, learners and band friends/ family members an opportunity to purchase red, blue and tartan masks from a Canadian mask company in Calgary AB. 2020 was rather a "bust" for celebrating our 110th Anniversary, so it looks as if we might just have to chase this elusive celebration into 2021.

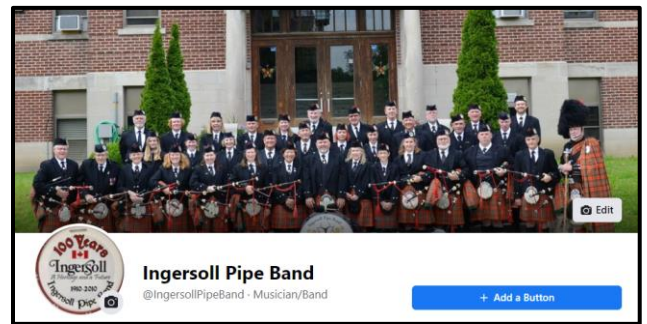
Canadianmasksupply.ca did a great job in manufacturing and helping to design our masks. In total we sold 135 masks – kids, tweens and adults!

Since it appears that we may be masked for quite a few more months, we will very proudly wear our "111th" Anniversary masks!



A 2021 priceless piece of "swag"

Some Facebook Follow up



We have a loyal following on our Facebook page and quite often get some very interesting "Comments". Earlier in January, we were contacted by Rob Brophy, a scenic designer for the Shaw Festival in Niagara on the Lake.

Rob wrote: *I am proud to have Pipe Major Tom Johnston's print of Robbie Burns hanging in my home. Great- grandson by way of his youngest son Gordon)*

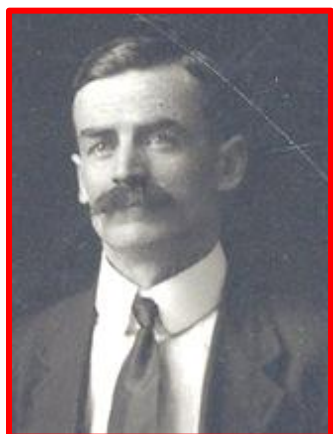


Scott Gilles who is the curator of the Ingersoll Cheese and Agricultural Museum read Rob's post and replied: *"Can you stay in touch with the Ingersoll Museum? We are trying to promote your great grandfather's legacy."*

Rob: *"Absolutely! I have a few things of his that may be of interest."*

Scott: *"Tom has featured prominently in a recent exhibition that I installed at the museum about the Pipe Band's 110 year history. I have also done a number of walking tours through the Ingersoll Rural Cemetery and have made a point of stopping at his grave. To commemorate his role in the early hours of November 11, 1918, I have also recommended to Town Council that a future street be named after him. If that happens,*

We will want to notify existing family members. In the meantime here is a phot of him, cropped from a larger picture of the Nixon soccer team”.



Rob: “Thank you for doing all this! I would love to know the location of the grave to pay him a visit one day.”

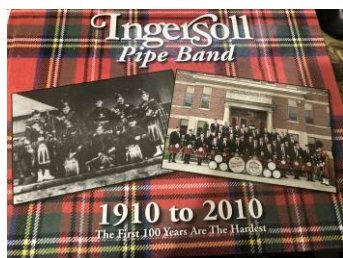


For those of you who would like more information about the Ingersoll Pipe Band’s first Pipe Major we have a couple of resources readily available:

1) Your editor wrote about PM Tom Johnston in the **May 2015 edition (pages 10 to 13) of the IPB Newsletter**. There are several photos and references to his time overseas in WWI. You can connect to this newsletter by clicking on his photo below. 2) Additionally, you can read about PM Tom in our band history book.

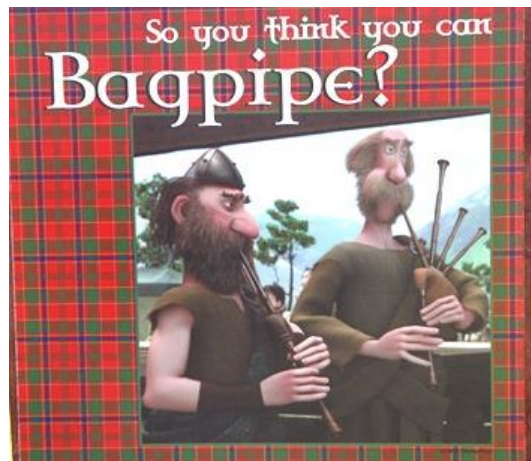


“ Ingersoll Pipe Band 1910 to 2010 The First 100 Years Are The Hardest”



The books are available for purchase if you would like one - \$10.00. A lovely way to catch up on the IPB. Talk to DM Gail if you are interested in purchasing one..

An Update from Our Beginners’ Instructor



“ When Veronica asked me to write an article about our learners I immediately thought of a book called “The Music Lesson” recommended to us by piper and teacher Ken Eller.

In the book the teacher was part musical genius, part philosopher and part eccentric wise man. The teacher would guide the student on a spiritual journey, and teach them that the gifts we get from music mirror those from life, and every movement, phrase, and chord has its own meaning. I could only wish that I was that kind of teacher ... well maybe I could say that I am eccentric.

I have come to the conclusion that teaching probably is one of the most rewarding things a person can do. Teaching any kind of instrument provides a unique connection with your students. As a participant in a person’s quest to play the bagpipes I enjoy the best seat in the house. My front row seat allows me to guide him or her along their particular path of achievement and every student has their own path. As you sit on the edge of your seat you get to watch as they grasp a technique, cringe as they struggle and jump up and down with glee when they conquer a particular phrase or embellishment. I have to say that teaching music is the best adventure anyone can undertake and the best part is I do not have to go any further than Ingersoll (or my living room) to participate. I now understand why Wilson’s face lit up with joy every time he sat down with a student.

At present we have 4 students in the beginner's class. Each of them has decided to play the pipes for different reasons and each of the 4 women have different musical backgrounds. Lynn previously has taken chanter lessons and is familiar with the tutor book. She trains guide dogs and has taught her dog to howl in tune with the chanter.

Maureen who has a busy life plays golf, cross-country skis and has recently purchased a telescope so her and hubby can spend some time together under the stars.

Abby and Christie both belong to the Stratford Symphony Orchestra and both play several different instruments. I am not sure when they have time to practice the chanter as both of them work fulltime. Abby works at the hospital and is devoting most of her spare time transcribing our tunes into a music program that the orchestra uses. Can you imagine doing a throw on a clarinet? Christie works full time as an investment advisor and is holding her own against her daughter's get-up-and-go desire to learn. I suggested to Abby that she should take her chanter to work and practice at every break and on lunch, much like what Ken Webster did when he was driving bus. The look she gave me will be similar to the one she will give me when she reads this.

All and all teaching is so much fun. I hope it never ends."

- *John Lynes*

P.S. I forgot to add that I think they will be great additions to the band once they finish their apprenticeships.



A BRIEF HISTORY LESSON

Another history lesson about piping tunes from John Lynes. This first one is a 2/4 ; a tune that our beginners will quickly come to recognize and memorize.

The Barren Rocks of Aden

2/4 March



'Barren Rocks of Aden'

Britain was the first European power in the region to take possession of Aden (now in the Republic of Yemen) on the Arabian coast in 1839, in order to protect British trade routes and provide safe passage and anchorage for ships. Over the years many Scots regiments were based there. This tune was written during this time. In the mid-1870s Egypt, defying the claims of Turkey, occupied some of the towns on the Somali coast. When the Egyptian troops left in 1882 to respond to the revolt of the Mahdi in the Sudan, Great Britain occupied the territory. Britain was mainly concerned with keeping open the route to India through the Suez Canal, which had been opened in 1869. Then in 1887, Britain proclaimed it a British protectorate, and named it British Somaliland. Initially a dependency of Aden, it was placed under the administration of the colonial office in 1905. It is the regimental quick march of the Kings Own Scottish Borders.

A popular 4/4 played by the IPB.

Minstrel Boy

MARCH
VERSION 07/03

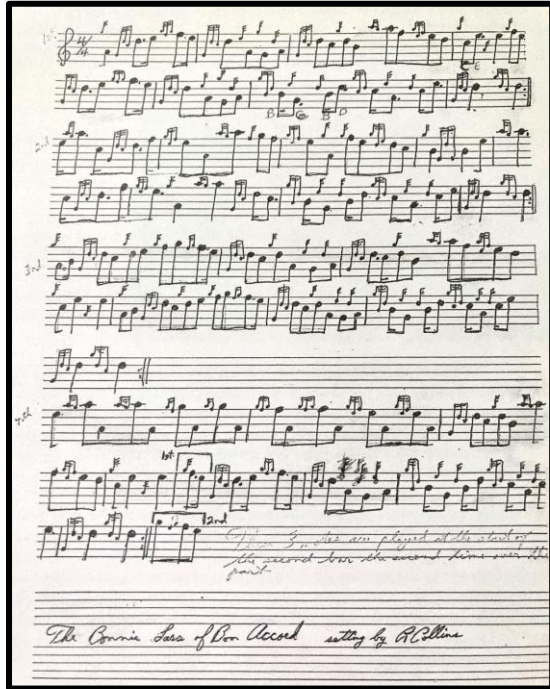
POLICE PIPES & DRUMS OF MORRIS COUNTY, N.J.



'Minstrel Boy'

The words are by Thomas Moore (1779-1852). The tune is an Ancient Irish Air. In 1798 two of Moore's friends participated in the rebellion of the United Irishmen. One died in prison, another was wounded and another later hung. He refused to testify against them.

More Interesting Correspondence About A Very Special Tune The Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord



A "Message" arrived for the Ingersoll Pipe Band in February via our website page "Contact" form:

Contact Us

Send Message

Name

Email*

Message

SEND

This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply.

Let's Connect

Do you have questions, wish to begin learning the Pipes or Drums, or have inquiries about Hall Rentals?

PIPERS AND DRUMMER for HIRE! Reach out to us and let's make music!

The Ingersoll Pipe Band Armoury & Hall

108 Worham Street South, Ingersoll, Ont. N5C 2Y8, Canada

(519) 485-0760

And this is what it said:

The Ingersoll Pipe Band has received a new message.

Name Bill Allison

Email bill.lbpspiper@gmail.com

Message

Greetings from Glasgow, Scotland.

I've been trying to locate the pipe music for "The Bonnie Lass O' Bon Accord" for some time now but without success. However, I've just came across your band's YouTube channel and was delighted to hear them play it. It was a medley tune in my Boys Brigade band in the 60s and that was the last time I heard it on the pipes - prior to this morning. May I trouble you to email me a photo of the music if available or if in print advise who may have published it?

Best wishes, Bill Allison

So the message was relayed to PM Doug Collins and here is his reply:

Good day Bill,

Greetings from Canada. A bit of history for this tune seems in order.

My name is Doug Collins current Pipe Major of the Ingersoll Pipe Band.

I am the third generation in my family to be the Pipe Major. My father Bob Collins was 65 year member and Pipe Major for over 45 years.

My Grand Father Alec Collins came to Canada after World War I in 1920 and served as pipe Major for over 37 years. Alec was a piper for a Colonel in the Scottish Army and trained as a sniper. While stationed in France during the war Alec heard a Pipe Band playing

the "Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord". He sat on a hillside listening to this tune while they played, and hand wrote the music to what he was hearing. When he came to Canada he introduced this tune to our band and has been our signature tune ever since.

The music attached is what he had written.

The band is now in our 111th year and is one of the oldest non-military Pipe bands in North America.

In 2019 I was lucky enough to be at the Worlds in Glasgow and hope to return again in the future when the worlds are held again.

Small World some times when it comes to piping.

I hope you enjoy this tune as much as we do.

All the best to you in Piping.

Pipe Major Doug Collins
Ingersoll Pipe Band



PM Alec Collins 1938

On March 2nd, Doug received a follow up email:

Hello Doug,

Many thanks for going to the trouble of forwarding the music and sharing the setting's wonderful provenance with me. It elevates the tune to another level and I now have a picture in my mind of Scottish soldier, on well-earned down-time: transcribing on some foreign hillside, with shells and bullets flying across no man's land probably a few miles in the distance. And of course at that moment in time, there's no way that Alec could ever have imagined that his band, and pipers like me would be seeking out and playing his setting more than a hundred years later.

On the subject of the Great War, The Scottish Pipers' Association held a series of concerts to commemorate the centenary. Jeannie Campbell who was our president for many years and curator of the College of Piping, produced a programme for the events. It refers to some WW1 tunes and composers. I have a copy and as it may be of interest and have posted to you at the band address.

I also look forward to the worlds back in Glasgow after the dreadful pandemic and for sure I'll be cheering the band on if you manage across.

Kind regards to all.

Bill Allison Bearsden Glasgow



Scottish Pipers' Association

Cèil nam Pìobairean Albannach



Jeannie Campbell M.B.E. at the College proudly showing off her M.B.E. awarded by Her Majesty the Queen at Holyrood for Services to Piping.

And our last piece of correspondence to date:

Hello Bill,

Thank you for the wonderful book, Pipers and Pipe Music of The Great War. So interesting to know about the composers of tunes we still play today. I am a bit of a history buff for this type of stuff as you appear to be as well.

I have attached a picture from a book "Old Castle Douglas" There I have highlighted Alec in the one picture. It was taken 3 days after the declaration of War in 1914.

I am also mailing you a history book of the Ingersoll Pipe Band that was published in 2010 to celebrate our first 100 years. Although it is 11 years old now it has some very interesting information on the men who served in the military and the band.

You will also see in one of the pictures attached, members of the band playing at the crossing of the Rhine Nov 11th 1918 and there are 4 members of the Ingersoll band playing in the picture. In the picture is a W. Collins who was Alec's older brother. It's a pretty amazing picture.

I hope when you get my book you will find it enjoyable even if you won't personally know anyone (other than me now)!

Take Care Bill, Doug Collins

Questions???

So "Where is Bon Accord" and "Who is The Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord" and "Who wrote this lively piece of music that Alec Collins heard"?



The University of Aberdeen has an entire website devoted to him and if you click on his photo above you can visit it and get the whole story!

Meet James Scott Skinner (5 August 1843 – 17 March 1927) who was a Scottish dancing master, violinist, fiddler, and composer. He is considered to be one of the most influential fiddlers in Scottish traditional music, and was known as "the Strathspey King". Over 600 of his compositions were published, among the best known being "The Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord," "Cradle Song," "Bovaglie's Plaid," "The Music o' Spey," and "Hector the Hero." He made over 80 recordings.

Another Request for Information

The Ingersoll Pipe Band has received a new message.

February
11th

Name

Jim Austin

Email

chaparral65@hotmail.com

Message

Hi all, I'm Jim Austin, grandson of James Galbraith and great grandson of Donald Galbraith. Both of them played with your band in the '30s to early '40s. I met you all by coincidence in 2002 at Decoration Day in Delhi.

More recently (a couple of years ago,) I posted a 1940ish photo of your band on your Facebook page.

Anyhow, the reason for this email is that the 'Bagpipe News' had an article about Donald Galbraith in their on-line Jan. 29 newsletter. I replied to them with a 1907-12 photo of Donald with an unknown band in Scotland.

<https://bagpipe.news/2021/02/09/more-information-on-donald-galbraith/>

Since then, a Facebook page named Pipe Band Archives ran the photo looking for info on that band. The Facebook page operator, Stewart Gardiner from Linlithgow, Scotland asked for more information about Donald Galbraith. I sent him the 1940ish Ingersoll Pipe Band photo along with some other material. So you may hear from Stewart and it's possible that he may publish the 1940ish band photo.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Pipe-Band-Archive-102581124458382/>

In other Galbraith related news, my cousin's 10 year old grand daughter is doing very well with the practice chanter and will soon be ready for the pipes. (once this covid drama is behind us all)

Best wishes,

James Braden Galbraith Austin

(on-line aka: Hamish Galbraith)



"The Bagpipe News" is the National Piping Centre (of the UK) online newsletter website and it is updated and published several times a month. <https://bagpipe.news/>

The **National Piping Centre** is an institution in Glasgow, Scotland, dedicated to the playing of the bagpipes, to include not only the Great Highland Bagpipes, but also the Scottish smallpipes and Irish uilleann pipes, as well as other traditional musical instruments. <https://www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/>

Facebook Page :

<https://www.facebook.com/TheNationalPipingCentreGlasgow/>

Our Response to "Hamish" James Galbraith (Feb. 12th)

Hi, James "aka Hamish",
Our new secretary, Lisa, for the Ingersoll Pipe Band forwarded to me your email about your grandfather, James and great grandfather, Donald. I look after the band newsletter and Facebook page so she thought I might be the best person to follow your email up. I will also send it along to our PM Doug Collins whose got lots of family connections to the band going back to 1910!
What great connections you have to the IPB!

I joined the band in 2007 so I didn't meet you in 2002 in Delhi. I have been to Delhi to participate in the past few years (pre Covid) at the Harvest Festival parade and Decoration Day at the local cemetery.

I spoke to Drum Major Gail MacKay and he says that your Grandfather and Great Grandfather were well before his time. Gail has been with the band 69 years and knows most of the band history.

He remembers your grandfather, James but not Donald. In our history book "Ingersoll Pipe Band 1910 to 2010" we have your grandfather listed as a member but not your great grandfather. James is listed as a piper from 1938 to 1943.

I searched through some local databases for both James and Duncan but came up empty handed. Did they move out of the Oxford County area at some point? Do you live in the Simcoe / Delhi area?

Very happy to hear that the piping genes are still coursing through your cousin's grandchildren's blood. What band will his / her granddaughter be interested in joining? Keep in touch and if we hear anything from Stewart Gardiner I will let you know, and if you have any additional info to share with us please do so. – Veronica Jackson

The Galbraith Story continues-

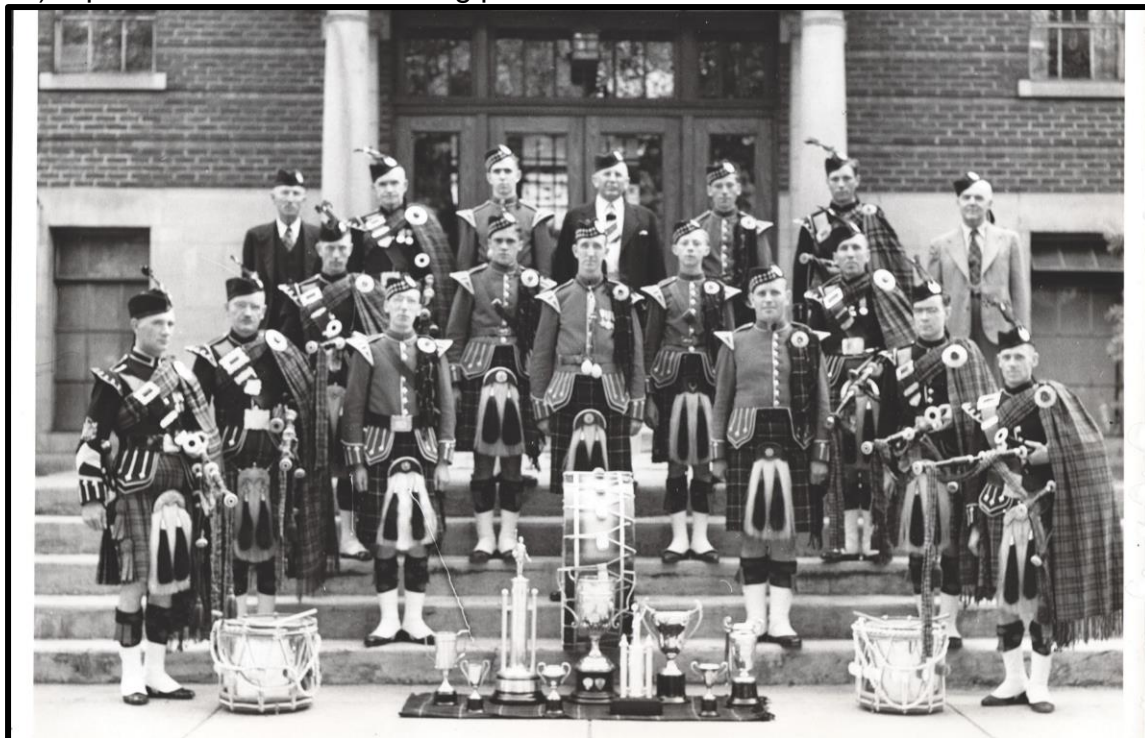
I sent a photo from our IPB History Book to Hamish with the IPB standing in their favourite photo location (in front of the former Victory Memorial School)



James Galbraith is in the middle row.



Jim (Hamish) replied and sent the following photo back to us:



He indicates that he had no date for this photo but thought it was circa 1940. He also pointed out that his great grandfather, Donald Galbraith is "in the top left". His grandfather, James is "3 up on the right".

(Almost identical photos. Perhaps Donald had retired from piping "on parade". He would have been 76 years old!)

Reply via Email on February 15th - Hamish A. <chaparral65@hotmail.com>

Hi Veronica,

Thank you for your follow-up email in regards to the Ingersoll Pipe Band.

I live in the Eganville which is in Ottawa Valley about 40 km. west of Renfrew. My wife, Paddy, plays with the Renfrew Highland Pipes and Drums. And I just putter with the pipes now on my own.

The Ingersoll Pipe Band photo in the Pipe Band Archive is marginally different from your book and is the one that was sent to the [Pipe Band Archives](#). (This is a Facebook Page that has been in contact with Jim)

I'm providing it to you as an attachment in case you don't have it. Donald Galbraith is in the top left and James Galbraith is 3 up on the right.

The second photo shows the band marching in Ingersoll. James Galbraith is distinctive because he is playing with the pipes on his right shoulder. This photo was stamped June 9 1941 on the back.

From 1938 to 1943, Donald (b. 1862) would have been 76-81 years of age. This could explain the jacket and tie.

My grandfather, James' house burned in Straffordville (south of Tillsonburg) in the thirties, resulting in James' pipes and kit being destroyed. He would have used Donald's pipes after that.

During the later thirties and early forties, the Galbraiths were in Straffordville (Elgin County). This included Donald and Catherine Galbraith, my grandfather James Galbraith with Mary and their family.

My grandfather's sister - great-aunt Janet Partington also lived there with husband Bill and family.

James Galbraith managed the Bank of Commerce in Straffordville and was transferred to Delhi during the war. Eventually, in 1950, there was one more transfer to St. Thomas. James, his wife Mary and most of both sides of my family are buried in Delhi Cemetery.

Donald and Catherine stayed in Straffordville. Catherine died in 1943, so Donald moved in with his daughter, Janey Partington. He passed away in 1947. They are both buried in Victoria Lawn Cemetery in St. Catharines. In 2005, Donald's pipes were restored by Dunbar's, a half km. away from the cemetery.

My cousin's granddaughter is quite young, so we're all holding our breath with a wait and see attitude. As long as she's having fun, we're all pleased.

Best wishes to you and all in the Ingersoll Pipe Band.

Jim Austin



Ingersoll Pipe Band June 9 1941

"Donald had played with the Campbeltown Pipe Band, the Argyll and Bute Artillery, and taught Boys' Brigade pipe bands.

Donald Galbraith was born in Saddell, Argyll on May 28, 1862.

Donald and family including my grandfather, James Galbraith (also a piper) moved to 3 Douglas St., Kilmarnock in 1907, then emigrated to Ontario in 1912." (Taken from Jim Austin's correspondence with Bagpipe.news)



Saddell a small Scottish village situated on the east side of the Kintyre Peninsula of Argyll and Bute



**Donald and son James
circa 1930**

Reply Back on February 16th

Hi, Jim

Thanks so much for the updated information. There is a good possibility that your photo is also on display at the band hall in Ingersoll. Since we haven't been in the building over the last year I haven't checked the wall of photos to see which ones are on display. Thanks so much for the second photo as well with the "left handed" piper. I presume that is why James carried the pipes on his right shoulder!

The Straffordville connection is interesting as up until about 5 years ago The IPB did a Santa Claus parade there. We were the only band and led the small parade to the community hall for hot chocolate and a visit to Santa. And then the building was condemned so the parade organizers skipped a year and then we never somehow made our way back to Straffordville. A fair distance to travel for us and probably an extra expense that the parade organizers could no longer afford.

I will use your information about the Galbraiths in our spring newsletter and I will send you a copy of it. Thanks again for all the background information about your "ancestors". Nice to have all these connections. Sincerely, Veronica



Pipe Band Archive

March 5 · 🌐

...

Pipe Major Donald Galbraith - c1891

Here is another nice photo of PM Galbraith, probably taken in the Campbeltown area, along with one of his children.

Thanks to his great grandson Hamish in Canada for sharing it. Hamish is also wondering if the medals Donald is wearing are military or piping. I suspect they are piping medals, but many of you will know more about British campaign and gallantry medals than I do. Either way, I think it's a great photo. 😊

Lots of additional photos of Donald (even one of the IPB) on this Pipe Band Archive Facebook page

Final Notes on The Galbraiths from Bagpipe.news

Donald Galbraith – from Argyll to Ontario via Kilmarnock

on February 15, 2021 in [Daily News](#), [News](#)

After our [two posts last week](#) seeking information on Ayrshire piper, Donald Galbraith, we have been contacted by a descendent of his in Canada. Readers will recall Scotland's East Ayrshire Council is seeking information on Donald and of a tune he composed which they hope could be played at the forthcoming re-opening of Dean Castle in Kilmarnock. Donald Galbraith piped at a previous re-opening event there in 1910.



Dean Castle in Kilmarnock, East Ayrshire, Scotland,

Jim Galbraith of Ontario tells us he is a great grandson of Donald and that Donald also has a connection to Argyll. He writes: "A long time ago, my grandfather, James Galbraith mentioned that Donald had played with the Campbeltown Pipe Band, the Argyll and Bute Artillery, and taught Boys' Brigade pipe bands. Donald Galbraith was born in Saddell, Argyll on May 28, 1862 so he would have been close to the age mentioned in [your] article."

IPB HISTORY BUFFS

To read the complete article about James and Donald Galbraith in the Piping Times, click on the castle photo above. It has information on James' move to St. Thomas where he retired from a career in banking. It also references Donald and his wife (Catherine)'s 50th Wedding Anniversary in Straffordville - "Golden Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. D. Galbraith – Popular Straffordville Residents, Formerly of Scotland, Honored; Ingersoll Pipe Band Joins in Tribute to Brother Piper who once played for Royalty Straffordville, June 16 "

A Message from Our PM



"Spring is here and here we go again.

2021 looks a lot like 2020 and we just have to have patience until it becomes safe to gather once more.

For now we will continue to use Zoom on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

The nicer the weather the more we want to play, so I encourage you to get outside on your own and shake up your neighborhood.

Keep the faith there will be an end to this virus. I am very pleased how well attended our Zoom practices have been and want to thank everyone.

We will keep everyone posted as things change and what we are allowed to do.

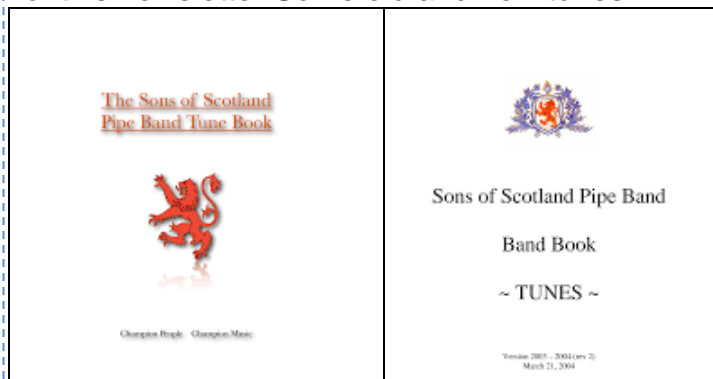
Soon enough we will be back together perfecting our craft!

Stay safe and healthy".

PM Doug

Some Piping Music Books for Free

These two tune books from "The Sons of Scotland" PB are in PDF format. If you check your email these were included with the mailout of this newsletter. Some old and new tunes!



Trivia Update 2021



We have had three trivia nights this year – always the last Friday of each month. The Jacksons were the quizmasters for the first two and The Marshalls took over on the third contest in March. We have added some new teams to the trivia fold and we are very happy not only about increasing the competition size in number of participants but also in the quality, versatility and difficulty of the questions.

Our teams are as follows:

Doug and Lois Turvey

The MacKay Brothers – Gail and Kevin

The Rimington Family (Angelique, John, Freya and Clarissa)

The Gardner / Bell Family (Lisa, Sammy, Les and Sonia)

Merilee and Jack Peter

Christy and Abby Benedict

Doug and Catherine Glover

Nancy and Harold Matthews and Bernice Wallace
Lana and Andrew Coghill

The McCreery Clan – Liam, Kathleen, Liam Sr.,
Susanne

Angus Thomson

Kathy & Doug Gillard

Bonnie McCauslan and Lee Merrick (joined "long
distance" with their BC kids – Darien & Andrew)

Danielle Turvey and husband Gradon

Adam, Bill and Catherine Stark

Veronica and Martin Jackson

Don and Kelly Gale

Cheryl and Al McEown

Charlie Thomson

Wendy and Ron Marshall & Family

Larry and Joanne Perry

Our upcoming Trivia Nights are as follows:

Friday April 30th - quiz masters - Doug and Lois Turvey; Friday May 28th - quiz masters - Veronica and Martin Jackson; Friday June 25th - quiz masters - Catherine, Adam and Sarah Jean Stark

Please join us by requesting a Zoom invitation!

Band Member Winter NEWS

On Top of the World!



Piper Hamish Matthews (far left) enjoying some holiday time off from his studies out West!



Pipers Joh Lynes and Catherine Stark and Drummers Bill Stark and Aurora Vanderwoude ushering in 2021 on Jan. 1st in Woodstock.



“Hiking in the Second Wave is Different than the First Wave” – reports Drummer Doug Glover. Pictured above Doug and his wife Catherine from a hike on Jan. 23rd. He writes “It’s more exercise just putting all the clothes on”!

Quartermaster Scott Munro and his wife welcomed a new member, Quincy, to their household in January! Scott writes:
“Quincey loves being an office manager for mum, site supervisor outside for dad, food, naps and playing with his farm animals.”



More Band News – Winter to Springtime!

Ice Fishing with Bill Stark



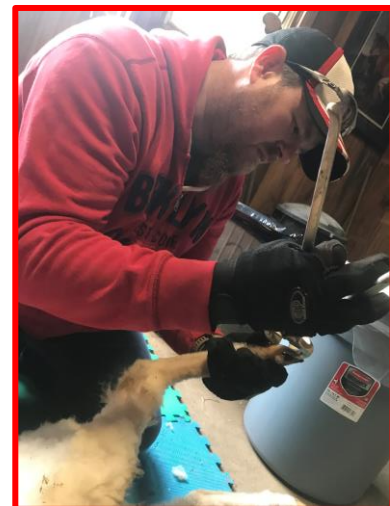
Bill invested in some “real estate” and it paid off BIG time!



Catherine doing her 10 minute practice each day (goal set for 1 year...Piping/Music challenge from NS). Catherine informs me that her dog Marley would like to audition for the band. When questioned about her experience Catherine assures me, “Nope but she has a natural tenor drone howl! Perfectly in pitch”! Perhaps a new mascot for IPB?

Free Pedicures and Haircuts!??

Piper Catherine Stark is offering the above services. As you can see from her photos below, she and husband Adam have been busy this spring practising animal husbandry!



Since we are in a “provincial lockdown” you might have to wait awhile for these personal care services!

Band Hall & Member News

Thanks to our resident professional plumber, Piper Don Gale, a new hand washing sink has been installed in the kitchen. Public Health and Safety personnel for Oxford County strongly recommended its installation.



Two new stoves have been ordered from Anderson's Appliances to replace our two old gas stoves that were nearing the end of their usefulness.

Piper and historian Mary Ellen Mutterer has been busy working her way through filing cabinets and desk drawers sorting many years of music sheets, receipts, papers, etc. She is very diligently getting rid of what we no longer require and safely securing what we do want to hold onto.

Pipe Sergeant Charlie Thomson is making a speedy recovery from his knee surgery. He has an impressive incision scar; and he is impressively working through his post surgery exercises and is out and about Woodstock on his bicycle.

Drum Major Gail is very happy to report the arrival of another grandchild! His youngest son, Dan and his wife Meg who reside in Toronto, welcomed a son, Edward Francis into the MacKay Clan this spring. He will be called "Teddy" and is a second child for the ecstatic parents. Congrats!

DM Gail also extends his best wishes to all band members and hopes to see everyone outside soon again at the Band Hall.

The Canadian flag at the hall has been lowered to half mast to recognize the death of Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh.

Our new Canteen Convenor, Bass Drummer Doug T reports that he has successfully completed and updated his "food handling" and "Smart Serve" qualifications so once the hall reopens he will be good to go!

Alexandra Hospital Fundraiser



The Band was approached earlier in the year by the Alexandra Hospital Foundation to participate in a virtual May fundraiser. We happily agreed to do so. However, with the recent lockdown restrictions, we are still trying to navigate how this can happen. The intent was to have a mini band performance videotaped but presently we are in limbo as to how or when this might occur. PM Doug Collins will advise us as we draw closer to the fundraising date.

Gift Baskets



Our Attendance office, Piper Nancy Matthews has been ordering local gift baskets for those members who have had recent surgery. Here's a sample of one provided by The Wine Cellar & Cheese Shop on Thames St. S. It's nice to shop "local"

More Accomplishments



Piper Steve Shepherd and his family decided to try their hands at making maple syrup. They have one very large maple tree on their front yard so it was tapped. It yielded quite a bit of sap and between the boil down outside in the back yard and finishing off the product on the kitchen stove, Steve was able to produce some liquid gold!



Looks pretty yummy!

Footnote: Steve is not giving up his day job to go into maple syrup production!

Community Announcements Covid 19 statement Embro Highland Games 2021

To our dear spectators, contestants, sponsors, and vendors:

After much consideration, the Board members of the Zorra Caledonian Society have made the difficult decision to cancel the 84th Embro Highland Games scheduled for July 1st, 2021.

We unanimously agreed that it is our responsibility to offer an event that is safe for all guests, competitors and volunteers by complying to all health protocols during these unprecedented times.

Since the founding of the Zorra Caledonian Society in 1937, only once have the Games been cancelled. It was during World War II in the summer of 1942. And now, due to this global pandemic, we are cancelling for the second year in a row. Many months of planning go into the organization of this event and many of our participants who travel from far outside of our community have already sent their regrets for this summer.

In the meantime, we are closely monitoring the COVID 19 restrictions in our area and are in the process of planning some incredibly special events in order to celebrate the "Spirit of the Games" on July 1st. For those Scottish enthusiasts, the Society will be holding virtual as well as socially distanced events during the year. Please keep checking our Website, our Facebook Page and other social media platforms for exciting opportunities to celebrate our Scottish heritage and get involved with our community.

• On July 1st watch for virtual piping and drumming online "Embro Highland Games Online", and we also have a few more surprises up our kilts!

Looking towards the future, we are anxious to see everyone again in July 2022 when we can once again reunite with friends and clans on the grounds of the Embro Highland Games. Until then stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

The Zorra Caledonian Board of Directors for information on the Zorra Caledonian Society visit; www.embrohighlandgames.ca



Get Practicing! Summer Contest Update!

Sunday March 14th, 2021

Some preliminary news to pass along today regarding the coming summer games season. While some games have decided to hang on with a "wait and see" approach to staging outdoor contests (with Cobourg aiming for September 11) we can tell you that the PPBSO will augment any outdoor season that transpires with six online events. Dates and complete detail will be passed along over the coming weeks. We can say mark your calendar for **Saturday, June 12; this day marks the kick-off of Ontario's online season.**

A full slate of 36 solo events will be on offer to competitors! We're even going to present an online Drum Major event at two of the contests – nothing ventured, nothing gained!

Join Us - Benefits include:

Education. Membership provides entry to seasonal workshops like those recently presented, "More Ceol Mor", "Evolution of the 2/4 March", "Music Memorization Tips" and more.

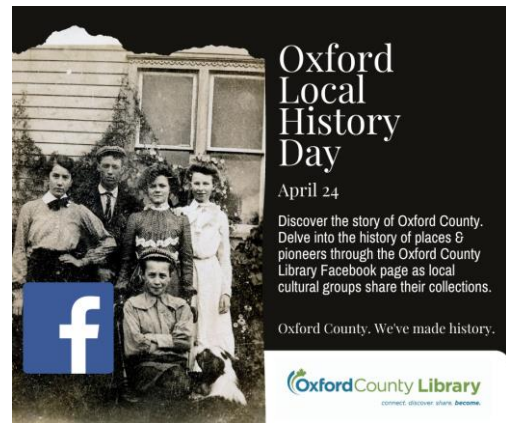
Community. PPBSO branches across Ontario are active - especially outside of the busy summer season - and offer members opportunities to network socially and professionally within a collegial, like-minded group of music lovers.

Discounts. Members receive a 20% discount off all seasonal learning programs, like the Summer Blast! summer school (a \$70 saving for the July 2021 school).

PPBSO Membership

- **ALL 2020 MEMBERSHIPS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL APRIL 30, 2021** New Members pay \$50.85 (HST Included) regardless of payment date.

<http://ppbso.org/membership>



Oxford County Library presents Oxford Local History Day - **Saturday April 24th**
Experience collections, exhibits & featured stories from archives, museums & heritage groups from around Oxford County, as we celebrate our local history. Watch Facebook Live throughout the day as focused presentations bring to light the story of Oxford.

Final Thoughts & Impressions

