



NEWSLETTER

January 2010

Welcome to what will be a quarterly Newsletter that will be circulated to the various Branch Secretaries for forwarding to all member bands, band members, solo members, associate and other interested parties that they have email contact with.

It is my intention to send future issues out on the 1st day of April, July and October this year. Please feel free to send any articles or photos that you would like to see published either to Lindsay Chuck at the addresses shown below or directly to me at michael@storagedesign.com.au

Australian Pipe Band
Association Inc.
[A00353465]

Telephone
(08) 8392 4730

Post
PO Box 248
Seaforth SA 5169

Email
secretary@pipebands.asn.au

Website
www.pipebands.asn.au

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Important Note
Please forward this
Newsletter to all your
band members or display
in your band practice hall

APBA National Conference 2009 Report (Compiled by Lindsay Chuck)

Our guest speaker at the conference was Jan Stirling from the Office for Recreation and Sport. Jan's presentation on member protection mentioned that anti discrimination now covers mental illness, and people with physical and mental disabilities are now considered main stream and cannot be discriminated against. Other items covered included child abuse and mandated reporting, equal opportunity, bullying and the role of the member protection information officer. Her presentation attracted various questions and highlighted the need to have policies in place. For instance what happens when a band has an unsuitable learner. A band should have a learner's policy in place which may include a trial period. If the learner is unsuitable the band does not have to accept the learner as a member.

Historian – the report from the APBA historian mentioned contributions of material received over the last two years. Bands and individuals are reminded that our historian, Viv Riley will accept any kind of pipe band memorabilia.

Management budget and future strategy -A document was formulated by the APBA management committee and was adopted at the conference. It includes a framework for moving forward with timeframes for review of identified critical areas. Discussion highlighted the need to focus on membership and encourage membership by bands who are not currently members of the APBA. Some branches already have strategies in place to encourage bands who are currently not members to join the Association.



Directors and Officers liability insurance for APBA Inc councillors has been investigated and the conference agreed that a policy be obtained, and that an extension of the policy be investigated to cover branch committees.

Australian Pipe Band Championship trophy management – For many years trophies presented at Australian Pipe Band Championships have been returned in a damaged state. The damage occurred for various reasons but probably due to the trophies not being properly packaged when sent to the Branch holding the Championships. The APBA council has ruled that trophies will be presented at the Championships but winning bands will not be able to remove the trophies from the Championship venue.

There was considerable discussion at the conference on grades, in particular splitting grade 4 into 4A & 4B. It was resolved that there be no change to the rules and therefore no 4A and 4B.



Australian Pipe Band Championships – A comprehensive paper on this topic was submitted by the Victoria Branch of the APBA enabling full discussion of the topic. Some branches indicated their intention not to hold the Australian Championships due to lack of resources both financial and human. Result of the discussion was that an APBA steering committee be formed to facilitate the holding of the Australian

Pipe Band Championships.

Election results

President - Greg Gordon, Secretary - Lindsay Chuck, Treasurer - Stewart Ims, Principal of Piping - Brett Tidswell
Principal of Drumming -Greg Bassani, Principal of Dress & Drill - David Booth,
Principal of Rules & Administration - Rosemary Tully,
Management Committee Members -Michael Stubbings, Greg Bassani

Possible APBC summer school – Principal of Drumming Greg Bassani spoke on the possibility of holding a pipe band summer school and believes it is a feasible project.

New adjudication process – The new process aims for a robust system with global recognition and involves two levels of certification. Briefly adjudicators will be required to provide a log of their adjudication activity on an annual basis.



The number of ensemble adjudicators continues to increase and it was mentioned that there should be trialling at most competitions.

Tony Sell was awarded the title Principal Emeritus. Tony has previously been recognised for his contribution to the pipe band movement.

MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION

The following is important information for Band Secretaries and members.

**THE APBA REGISTRAR HAS A NEW
FAX No: *** (08) 9594 0345*****

To ensure the prompt processing of your Membership/Registration paperwork.

- If you are paying band registration or membership by EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer), an invoice number must be obtained from the APBA Registrar and used as the reference number for the EFT transfer.
- Membership/registration can only be processed when;
- The application for membership/registration form is completed in full and Payment is received
- If the application is incomplete or payment is not received, your paperwork will be returned within 30 days.

News from APBA Inc. Tasmania Branch.

The first weekend in December saw the City of Hobart Pipe Band competing for the first time at the annual Daylesford Contest in Victoria. The band competed successfully in Grade 4 placing 3rd overall with a 2nd place in the drumming and winning the March Off contest. The band is lead by Pipe Major Garry Fletcher and Drum Major David Marshall.

The Tasmanian Police Pipe Band lead by Pipe Major Steve Percival and Drum Major Steve Bidgood will be participating at The Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Sydney during February 2010 at the Sydney Football Stadium. They are one of eleven police, civilian and school bands from all Australian States who will be participating in what is being billed as having the biggest cast of over 1500 performers of any previous Edinburgh Military Tattoo here or in Scotland.

APBA College Certificates have been issued to the following members in the past few months:

Dress & Drill.

Peter Scales Advanced
Sally Cornish Elementary
Dean Walker Elementary & Intermediate

Drumming.

Joan McIntyre Elementary Bass/Tenor
Gillian Hunt Elementary Bass/Tenor

Piping.

Lachlan McIntosh Elementary
James Pasch Elementary
Nicholas Train Elementary
John Philp Elementary
Peter Dearden Preliminary
Douglas Geddes Preliminary
Chung Wei Jian Preliminary
Robert Titcher Elementary
Tom Sun Preliminary
Sonya McClellan Elementary
Hamish McLachlan Preliminary
Lianne Anderson Elementary
Lewis Hayward Elementary
Anthony McKenna Preliminary

Ensemble Adjudicators.

Robert Bennett
Bruce Neal OAM
Bill Russell

Teaching Diploma.

Brett Tidswell

NSW Branch News.

Early December saw our newest Grade 4 band The Pipeband Club Development Band pack their bags to make their way to the popular Square Day Contest held in Palmerston North (NZ). They were first in both Grade 4 & Juvenile scoring 1st place in all elements from all Adjudicators.

Tasmania Branch News (continued).

Pipe Major John Ralph along with Drum Major Peter Scales and the members of the St Andrews Caledonian Pipe Band are touring Scotland & Ireland during August 2010, they will be playing at the World Pipe Band Championships on Glasgow Green on Saturday 14th August as well as performing at Edinburgh Castle and I am sure at many other places that they visit during their stay.

Australian Pipe Band Championships.

The entries close for the Championships on 5th February 2010, details for The Tartan Spectacular can be found at www.tartanspectacular.com/ a visit to this site will provide all the information you need including entry forms, rules etc. Also details about the Champion of Champions Highland Dancing Competition.

The venue is as follows:

Panthers AFL Ground North Street Caloundra Queensland

Details are also available from the Queensland Branch Secretary Alex McConnell
(Tel) 07 3257 4527 (Fax) 07 3009 0494 (Email) secretary@pipebandsqld.org

More from the NSW Branch.



Also travelling to New Zealand for the Square Day Contest was the Grade 1 City of Blacktown Pipe Band and although not placing in the Band Contest a number of the Drum Corp played in the Solo Snare Drumming event which

featured 15 competitors.

- 1st Gleren Meneghin (pictured) Currently a guest player with City of Blacktown from Boghall & Bathgate.
- 2nd Scott Birrell Boghall & Bathgate currently teaching in the South Island of NZ.
- 3rd Glenn Miller Auckland & District.
- 4th Dougall McConnell The Pipeband Club Australia.

The Adjudicators were J Reid Maxwell SFU Lead Drummer and Ross Levy a member of the New Zealand Drumming Adjudicators

YOUR FEEDBACK REQUIRED

The APBA Inc. Management Committee is investigating how we can value add to membership and we welcome your suggestions.

For example: Membership of an automobile organization may entitle a member to discounts off the recommended retail price of various products.

Please send your feedback to:
secretary@pipebands.asn.au

Life Membership of the APBA Inc. New South Wales Branch and the New South Wales Pipe Band Association Inc. was awarded to John Coughtrie at the December 2009 meetings of both organizations. The award was made in appreciation of many years of dedicated service to Pipe Band Drumming in NSW. John is currently an Adjudicator and is recently retired as the Vice Principal of Drumming for the College Branch in NSW. We look forward to John's input into the NSW Branch in the future.