



# SCOTTISH AND CELTIC SOCIETY

# NEWS

**SEPTEMBER 2009**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As we come to the end of our financial year and the annual general meeting looms, I look back on our progress since we started using the Multi-Sports Club as our base. Whilst our membership has stayed fairly stable it is our Band and Dancing Academy which has increased their membership. As a band we started with 6 pipers, lost two and progressed to a practice night with 12 pipers, 6 side drummers, 4 tenor drummers and one bass drummer. This does not include the pipers and drummers in training. This progress is at odds with the other bands in the area. The Dancing Academy has made even better progress than the band. It started with 3 girls, and has now progressed to about 16 active dancers. My point is that if the Society has not moved much our parts have made great progress.

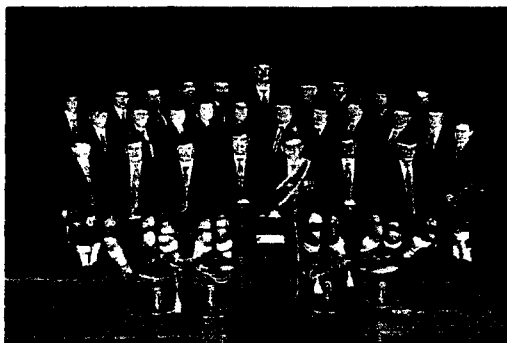
With reference to the move to make the Society a charitable institute where companies and firms can now donate to us and claim a tax relief, this has now moved one step forward. The only thing left to do is to get the Taxation office to agree.

As one letter in the local press pointed out, the Scottish day at Whepstead House was an outstanding success notwithstanding the short time it took to organize. Our thanks go out to the organisers for their sterling efforts.

Next month sees our Annual Gathering to the fore, but in the meantime we have as a band a very busy time in front of us.

*Spencer Sutton*

## PIPE MAJOR'S REPORT



While Tom is taking a promotion posting with his company which takes him to WA for a short period I will be continuing until his return, to move forward with the band with which he has done so well.

My focus is certainly on the Redlands Contest over the coming weeks. We have a great team of players available and expect to have success in both March and Medley events.

I welcome South African Grant Kennedy who brings plenty of experience to our band, having played with the Q'LD Irish and Bunbere bands. Also proud to have our pal Peter Gallacher back in the

ranks. His enthusiasm is infectious at practices.

Welcome to our guest piper Grayson Seymour who will be joining the competition band at Redlands, also Sandra Capra, Robert Mogg and Harry MacKenzie who are currently ensuring all our band team are moving forward with regular practice during this short time, and all have much knowledge to coach our young players.

The drumming team continues to have Buzz coaching Percussion. It is fantastic to have continuing support from such high calibre tutors.

I encourage every band member, parents and supporters to attend practices as this further encourages our band to a higher standard, and particularly as many of our up and coming pipers and drummers will step up to play in 2010 with the competition season and National Contest in Caloundra.

The Band also continues to provide a quality team for the Fire Service Recruiting Ceremonies. I

appreciate parents allowing our young players to attend this gig during school hours.

Mary McKillop Fete expect a huge band turn out to support Sam and Cameron's school with a surprise guest marching event planned.

Solo Players at Redland contest to watch for:-

Drummers:- Sam Davis, Mharie Hunter, Stuart Maclellan.

Pipers:- Joel Dennis, Peter Gallacher, Chloe Whyte, Carina Cattermole, Cameron Seymour, Ralph Nankervis and Amber Cattermole.

NZ Summer School:- It is pleasing to see there are further applications submitted for this fantastic opportunity. The band is well placed to have a successful candidate for these grants, and not only will our players benefit personally from this week of intensive coaching, but will bring new ideas and enthusiasm to the band.

*Piper Byron*

# THE 8TH REDLAND HIGHLAND GATHERING



The 8<sup>th</sup> annual "**Eddie Santagiuliana Memorial**" Redland Highland Gathering will take place on the 19th and 20th of September 2009 at the Redland Multi Sports Club, Judy Holt Park, Cnr Randall & Bailey Roads, Birkdale.

Saturday has been set aside exclusively for the solo piping and drumming events and will take place on the Rugby Union fields, with entrance off Old Cleveland Road East. Times will be advised when the draw has been done.

Sunday is the main event.

Features this year will include:-

- v South Queensland Pipe Band Championships grades 4 & 3 and an open competition for the top grades.
- v The inaugural "Bay Island titles" open air highland dancing competition.
- v Highland Games including Caber, Hammer, Haggis Hurl, Farmers Walk etc.
- v Kilted Dash & other foot races.
- v Pipe Band display to commence at 10.30 am.
- v Short Official Opening at 10.45am.
- v Bellinger River Pipe Band Drum Salute.
- v Gaelic Dream Entertainers.
- v Queensland Scottish Volunteer Corps.
- v The Sheiling Gaelic Singers.
- v Address to the Haggis.
- v Border Collies Displays

- v Highland Cattle
- v Stalls to include Scottish regalia, Genealogy, Craft, Food, Drink etc
- v Counter lunches & refreshments available from Clubhouse.

Owing to current upgrade of Field 1, the Gathering will take place on Field 2 and a land train will be available to shuttle folk between the club and the main arena.

Saturday entry - no charge.

**Sunday entry \$5 all** (children 12 and under no charge).

We will need volunteers for setting up/puling down on both days. Please contact Heather on 3207 3334 or Jan 3207 5820 if you can lend a hand.

It is shaping up to be another great day celebrating all things of Scottish culture. Hope to see you all there.

*Jan*

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## FROM THE DANCING SIDE

Hello all,

Firstly I would like to congratulate all my girls who danced recently at the Scotia Competition, Rachel, Rhiannon, Amber, Layla, Tamika, Breanna, Isabella, Zoe, Brooke and Carissa. - I must say "what a truly fantastic effort" and I will add I was an extremely proud teacher seeing, not just a couple, but all of my girls up on stage being presented with their trophies and prizes at the end of the day. Congratulations and keep up the fantastic work. The upcoming 'Magregor' competition is next, so let us see if we can make it a hat trick!

"Scottish Sunday" - what a great day, absolutely perfect weather, and the dancing displays went off extremely well - not mentioning one particular little dancer who decided half way through a dance to have a little rest. Little did we know at the time her big toe was stuck within the stage joins LOL - talk about hilarious!! That ice is a wonderful thing - fixes everything.

The Redland Highland Gathering is coming around fast and as most are probably aware this year,

we are holding our very first dancing competition 'The Bay Island Titles' - it's all very exciting and it's certainly going to add some flair to the day. The dancing kicks off at 8.30am on the Sunday. First up will be the advanced sections. There will be a number of well known champion dancers competing, most of whom would have just returned from competing in various championships throughout Scotland and honourably dancing in the 2009 Edinburgh Tattoo. This will be something not to miss. My girls are all dancing in the afternoon and I will be organising a couple of mass flings throughout the day, so it's going to be an awesome day. We will look forward to seeing you all there enjoying it.

Cheers until next time... *Susan*



# "OUR FANTASTIC FAMILIES"

"Hello" we are the Davis family, Heather (Mum) David (Dad) Sam (Son) & Mel (daughter). Our involvement with the band started in Sept 2007. I saw an advertisement in the local paper for the Highland Gathering. What drew me to the ad was the word "drums" - ( sorry pipers). My son Sam had been playing kit drums at school for four months and was showing some promise. The second he heard the snare drum he wanted to play it. Now I know my boy is not the performing type, so the thought of him learning to play the drum and then having to perform in a KILT - surely that would never happen, and I would be the one doing all the running round.

Mel and I tried to talk him out of it by using the word kilt and skirt and dress many times during the day, but as Sam said "I won't be the only one wearing the kilt so it will be OK". We bought him a drum pad from one of the stalls and asked the man running it some general questions about pipe bands. He told us to go find Harry MacKenzie and when I asked what he looked like he replied "he's wearing a kilt" (funny man). The first person I literally bumped into after this conversation turned out to be Harry MacKenzie. He took Sam's name and in true Harry style we got a 'phone call on Monday letting us know practice was that Thursday ( and every Thursday since).

Sam took to the drums like he was born to it, and in the December when Jan and Julie fitted him out with his first kilt I have never seen him so happy. He is very proud to wear his kilt ( maybe not the Glengarry though Tom).

He competed at Maclean in 2008 and it was great experience. At our own Gathering in 2008 he gained 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Maclean 2009 solos and with the comp band Ipswich

2009 he reached the finals. In Warwick 2009 he gained 1<sup>st</sup> place in his age division. In addition to his lessons with John (Drum Sergeant), he has internet lessons with James Laughlan, who came and did a workshop for us last year. These two men have become good friends.

Now be very careful what you say at practice night, because walls have ears. Sam noticed one night he was the



only band member who didn't have anyone from his family playing an instrument. All the other members did have; mothers, fathers, grandfathers, sibling etc., so I (jokingly Jan) said "no worries Sam I'll play the drum with the fluffy sticks". Two weeks later Jan had Doug Weatherall (bass drum tutor) turn up, gave me the fluffy sticks and my practice began. When I first practised in the circle with a drum and looked over at Sam he was beaming. It was a great feeling, I don't go fishing with him like his dad, he doesn't like to do the things I do, but we drum

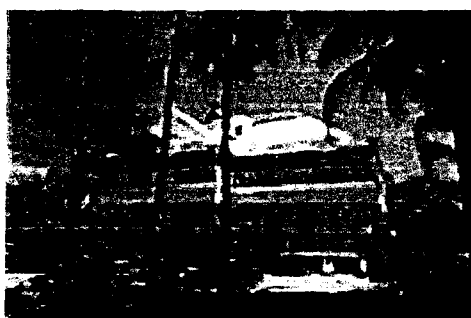
together and I love it, much to my surprise. I competed alongside Sam with the band at Maclean 2009 and was very proud of myself.

David is one of our support crew with many events requiring a lot of behind the scenes work, so Dave pitches in for these. Mel takes a lot of photos and videos and supports us at most events.

This Year under Jan's guidance, I have been the secretary for the society and have enjoyed various aspects of that also. So remember- you're never too old to try new things.

This has been the Davis family - watch this space for the next family instalment.

*Heather*



WHEPSTEAD MANOR

Highland Dance Academy, Belle Strings quartet, the Qld Services Historic Brass Band, 'The Sheiling' Gaelic Singers and the magic voice of Scottish Soprano Kathleen Proctor-Moore. A special mention and thanks must also go to Folk Redland for their superb contribution and support.

Tea was taken in the garden, Haggis was addressed and sampled, Border Collies delighted the crowd and Scottish Stalls displayed their regalia. Best of all, to the absolute delight of the patrons, Whepstead Manor's doors were opened, and people were given the privilege of an internal inspection. Champion Pipers Matthew Supranowicz and Mark MacKenzie played from the first floor verandah and the finale of the day saw Redland City Pipe Band pipers Byron Seymour and John MacLellan play from the Widows Walk. The whole day was just magic, and special thanks must go to the owner of the Manor, Redland City Council and sponsor RSVP hire.

The owner of the house was amazed at how many of our people turned up to help and how organised everyone was. Thank you to the members, volunteers and friends who made this day such a success. The public really enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and with such positive feedback it is set to become an annual event.

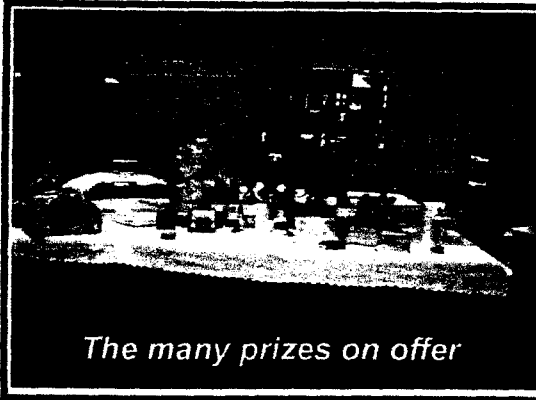
*Jan MacKenzie*

# TRIVIA NIGHT

On Saturday the 8th of August, the Society held its big Trivia Night at our home base, the Redland Multi Sports Club. 152 people booked in for this amazing night and Master of Ceremonies, Mrs Linda Allen was up to her usual high standard with questions that challenged, cheered or demoralised the best of us. Chef Peter Sutter supplied the tasty nibbles and supper items. Thanks Peter for great food.

PM Tom played host to the "coin nearest the bottle wins" game, and had us in fits of laughter. One of his quoted rules was "if someone knocks out your coin... it's so sad, too bad". It came down to a final challenge between a very 'merry' Bill Whyte and Harry (a dance group dad) who did precisely the above and shattered Bill's hopes of winning the whisky - much to the delight of the crowd.

We had a huge multi draw raffle with great prizes from a host of different kind sponsors. First draw was a seafood tray (generously donated by Mr Peter Goleby, a great supporter) and Mike Capra drew the ticket out with wife Sandra whispering in his ear "you better draw our ticket out" and voila! he did. Every table had a surprise win of one kind or another and people went home thoroughly enjoying a fun night that raised heaps of money for the Gathering.



*The many prizes on offer*

Thank you to the many sponsors for the prizes, and the host of volunteers who helped set up the room and also

quickly pulled down after the event. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful group of members and friends.

*Jan*

## THANK YOU!!

*To all the wonderful people who assisted in selling chocolates during our Chocolate drive. We are pleased to advise we raised \$615.00. A GREAT EFFORT.*

*Heather*

### **A GREAT SCOTTISH RECIPE (courtesy Danni Hartley)** **SCOTCH OR BLACK BUN FOR HOGMANAY (New Year's Eve)**

#### **For the Pastry**

8 oz. plain flour  
A pinch of Salt  
4oz. Butter  
Beaten Egg to Glaze

#### **For the Filling**

1lb. Raisins Stoned  
1lb. Currants  
20z. candied peel, chopped  
4oz Almonds chopped  
8oz. plain flour  
4oz. Brown Sugar  
1 level teaspoon Ground Cinnamon  
1 level teaspoon Ground Ginger  
1 level teaspoon allspice  
1 level teaspoon cream of tartar  
1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of Soda  
1 egg  
8 tablespoons Whisky  
.4 litre milk (about 4 tablespoons)

#### **Oven Temperature : Moderate (350 deg F. Mark 4)**

Grease an 8 inch round cake tin.

Make the pastry in the usual way, take two-thirds of it and roll out into a roll about 14 inches in diameter. Line the tin with it, making sure the pastry comes above the top of the sides of the cake tin and distributing the fullness even round the sides. Mix all the dry ingredients for the filling in a large bowl. Add the egg whisky and milk, and stir till the mixture is evenly moistened. Pack into the pastry case and fold the top of the pastry over. Roll out the remaining dough to an 8 inch round. Moisten the edges of the pastry case, put on the lid and stick the edges firmly together. With a skewer make 4 or 5 holes right down to the bottom of the cake, then prick all over the top with a fork and brush with beaten egg. (if you like, mark a decorative pattern or overlapping circles, using a plain 2 inch cutter.) Bake in the centre of the oven for 2. 1/2 hours - cover with brown paper if the pastry becomes too brown.

This cake should be made several weeks or even months before it is to be eaten, so that it may mature and mellow.

#### **Visit the Society's websites:**

[www.rscs.org.au](http://www.rscs.org.au)

[www.redlandcitypipeband.org.au](http://www.redlandcitypipeband.org.au)

Our thanks go to Rowena Spiranac for setting up and maintaining these websites. Rowena can be contacted at [rowena@aztecmedia.com.au](mailto:rowena@aztecmedia.com.au)

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#### **SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US**

**BUNNINGS CAPALABA** - who allocate Sausage Sizzles at their Store to the Society.  
**THE REDLANDS MULTI-SPORTS CLUB** - where our members meet and practise regularly. Membership fees are reasonable.