



**A HISTORY OF
STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND
WORLD CHAMPIONS 1909
BY JOHN R. YOUNG**

Hamilton Advertiser 4th September 1909

Success of the Pipe Band

"The Pipe Band added fresh laurels to their name at the Cowal games last Saturday by the annexing of the principal prizes. It was quite on the cards that they would be among the prize winners but it was rather a pleasant surprise when it was known that they had carried before them, winning both the "Harry Lauder" and "Argyll" shields, with the championship of Scotland, and the prizes of £18. The shields were presented by the respective donors, and in handing over the "Lauder" shield, Mr Lauder said he was pleased his shield was going to Stonehouse, a place he knew so well. The Duke of Argyll, in presenting the "Argyll" shield, said he had to sing Harry Lauders chorus and compliment the band on their success. Great excitement prevailed in the village when the telegram announcing the good news was received. At the request of several gentlemen, the Silver Band turned out to assist in welcoming the victors. On arrival at the station the pipers had a rousing reception, and were carried shoulder high to the Cross preceded by the Silver Band playing lively music. Again and again cheers were raised by the crowd of several hundred gathered at the Cross. After a selection by the pipers the villagers dispersed, thoroughly pleased and proud of their band. It is expected that the shields will arrive next week, and arrangements are being made for them being handed over to the custody of the Parish Council."

INTRODUCTION

STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND

In 2006 Fred McDermid approached the recently formed Stonehouse Development Trust with the idea of re-establishing the Stonehouse Pipe Band. The Band had ceased to function for some thirty years but undaunted the Trust took up the challenge and sought to consult the community in exploring the possible reformation of the Band.

Leading this initiative was none other than Morag Cook (Trust Director), who through her commitment and enthusiasm campaigned and succeeded in gaining the support of former members of the Band and interested individuals. Morag's dedication to this enterprise resulted in around a dozen or so potential members attending a series of meetings which led to the re-establishment of Stonehouse Pipe Band at their AGM on 15th May 2007. Most of these individuals it should be noted were younger members of the community who had no previous experience of playing the pipes or drums.

Unbeknown to the Band, past member Ian Watt contacted the Band to inform them he held within his garage a great number of items belonging to the Pipe Band which could be returned to the reformed Band to assist them in their efforts to encourage membership and obtain equipment to get the Band started. Among the items rediscovered was 20 metres of 'Red Hamilton' tartan, which have since been used to dress the present Band. Other items included the drums, a Band shield and a copy of the original Band constitution (now updated). Having sought grant funding, undertaken fund raising efforts and accepted several kind donations from supporters, the Pipe Band was then able to provide the basic needs of its membership in launching the re-established 'Stonehouse Pipe Band'.

Meeting initially in St.Ninian's Church the Band practices throughout the village and the Violet Social Club. Practising with chanters and drum pads a young but enthusiastic company have grown from strength to strength in quality and numbers. Presently there are 41 registered members. In a very short period of time the Band had progressed from chanter to playing with the Pipe bag and the sound of pipes can often be heard throughout the community.

In 2008 the Pipe Band played its first official engagements. On the day of the Agricultural Show the Band marched through the streets of Stonehouse playing a selection of appropriate tunes for the occasion. The following month the Band led the gala day procession through the village and played a selection of tunes in front of an appreciative audience at the bandstand in the Alexander Hamilton Memorial Park. The Band are now in great demand throughout Lanarkshire and the village can be proud of their achievements and success in such a relatively short time.

In 2009 Stonehouse Pipe Band celebrated its 110th anniversary and a century since winning the world championships in 1909. Although the standards nowadays are unsurpassed the Pipe Band is proud of its history and its roots as a local Band and we toast their every success in the future.

EARLY HISTORY

STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND

Stonehouse Pipe Band was formed on 11th October 1899 under Pipe Major Hector McInnes, accompanied by his two sons on drums and Peter Summers as the Pipe Band Drum Major. Together they formed the foundations of the Band growing steadily whilst practising in Townhead School.

Another founder member of the Pipe Band was James Laidlaw. In his recollections James stated that the Band made a name for itself at various outings throughout Scotland, led by the exceptional Pipe Major McInnes. Hector McInnes was said to be an expert in both playing and writing Pipe music of which James had been one of his many pupils. In 1977 James recalled the development of piping competitions nationally. In 1909 the first world championship was held at the now famous Cowal Games in Dunoon. The event was open to both military and civilian bands, including Stonehouse Pipe Band. The prize trophy was that of a family shield belonging to the Duke of Argyll. Previous to this competition James Laidlaw stated that the event was only open to military Bands and on the same day was contested the world championship. The prize winners shield was presented by Sir Harry Lauder.



STONEHOUSE PRIZE BAND 1909 (BOWLING CLUB PAVILION)

During the late nineteenth century military and Highland regiments dominated the piping scene. However with improvements in transportation across the country and the developing road network civilian pipe bands began to emerge in Scotland. Stonehouse Pipe Band was one of those and is recorded as one of the earliest, if not oldest civilian pipe band surviving in Scotland according to the Pipe Band Association (PBA). The Cowal Games of 1909 were the first games where civilian bands were able to compete alongside the military bands which had been so dominant in the past.

As a competing civilian band Stonehouse Pipe Band's most notable success came when it set a world record winning the Argyll and Lauder Shields at the aforesaid Cowal Games in 1909. In this year James Laidlaw said in judging the competing bands the judges were for the first time sent into tents erected for the event and so did not know which bands were playing. The prize money was fixed at £10, £7 10/-, £5, and 50/- for the contests. The civilian bands participating were permitted to choose their own tunes for the competition. When all the participating bands had competed the bands proceeded to have a massed march around the competing field before lining up before the judges at the grandstand to hear the winning band announced. James recalled with pride the moment Stonehouse was named as the winners of both the Argyll Shield and the Lauder Shield when the Band members and their supporters yelled out in celebration at the result. Incredibly the Band repeated the feat of winning the Lauder Shield the following two years in 1910 and 1911. In triumph James remembers the Pipe Band of the 1st Highland Light Infantry marching away while playing 'There is a Happy Land'.



The most famous of the coveted trophies was of course the Argyll Shield, presented to the winners of the Grade One Championships. The shield was donated to Cowal in 1901 by Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, the daughter of Queen Victoria. The cost of the trophy was raised by public subscription at a cost of £43 18s 6d and was made by Messrs Elkinton. Initially the competition to win the trophy was competed for solely by military bands.

Andrew MacNeill wrote of Stonehouses' success at the Cowal Games in the Piping Times (Volume 45 No.6) stating *"The first civilian band to make a real impact was Stonehouse.... Stonehouse won the world championship shortly before the first war and they made a very good impression on everybody who heard them. The pipes were so well tuned compared to those of the city. Previously very little attention was paid to the tuning of chanters and drones."*



STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND (BOWLING CLUB PAVILION)

This was undoubtedly Stonehouse Pipe Band's most successful period, winning many trophies including; county champions between 1902-1905, three Lauder Shields and one Argyll third between 1910-1912 and after the Great war a Lauder second and the Graham Moffat Cup in 1919. The Argyll Shield is now awarded to Grade one bands at Cowal and 'Lauder Shield' is awarded to Grade two bands. A full list of their honours are provided within this publication.



STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND LEADING PROCESSION DOWN LAWRIE STREET

The Highland Gathering held in Dunoon is better known as the Cowal Games, and is the largest Highland Gathering of its kind in the World. Held on the last Friday and Saturday in August, the first Games were held in 1894, and attracted around 2,000 spectators.

In 1906 the introduction of a Pipe Band competition ensured Cowal's place in piping history and established the event as the most spectacular of all the Highland Games worldwide. The competition now attracts over 20,000 spectators and 3,500 competitors annually from overseas including bands from Canada, USA, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. On average 150 pipe bands compete for the various contests taking place over the weekend. The event culminates with a massed gathering of bands who participate by marching past the games Chieftain to mark the end of this spectacular event. The bands then march back to the pier where the winning bands display their trophies.

As well as playing in competition with other bands, Stonehouse Pipe Band performed at many social occasions throughout Stonehouse itself. The Band regularly entertained audiences at the bandstand and on the braes of the Avon at social outings and fairs. James Laidlaw recalled the Band went out to various events such as cattle shows, sports days and Reid's field where the old football ground was situated adjacent to the Avon near Holm farm. James rejoiced in the comradeship of the Band and the joy it brought to him and fellow Band members practising on the braes of the Avon and entertaining audiences at barn dances for the farm workers throughout the parish. As he said *"our pleasures were simple and home made"*. By the winter of 1976 James Laidlaw was the last remaining member of the Stonehouse championship winning

Pipe Band. The Band was also involved in supporting many charity events in support of the war effort during the first world war. Returning soldiers and service men would be welcomed home as heroes from the railway station in Lawrie Street, parading through the village led by the Pipe Band. The pictorial archives of the Heritage Group also show the Band parading during a Coronation to the Holm in 1910 and escorting sporting heroes returning from victories against opponents in celebrating the success of Stonehousians in sporting competitions.

In the same year that Stonehouse Pipe Band distinguished themselves at Cowal winning the world championships another band was present in the village known as 'Thistle Pipe Band'. Whether or not this was a juvenile Pipe Band or a break away from the original Band is unclear. The only reference on record comes from the Hamilton Advertiser on 27th November 1909 stating the Band practised in Townhead School and they had made their first public performance in the village. Whether or not this was Dr Guthrie's Pipe Band identified in a collection of photographs of Stonehouse during this period we can only guess. The picture does however show what appears to be a Juvenile Pipe Band (right).



Despite the Pipe Bands popularity the playing of the pipes was not always welcomed in the village. At a time when the Lord's day was still respected as a day of rest and reflection, social entertainment was frowned upon in upholding the views of the Church authorities. Within the minutes book of the Stonehouse Leaseholders and Citizens Improvement Association records state that the County Council voted 6-5 to have Stonehouse boating pond (and Strathaven miniature railway) open on Sundays (Stonehouse and Strathaven representatives voted against). The local churches and Improvement Association fought unsuccessfully to oppose the plans taking the case to Secretary of State for Scotland. The Association also voted 6-5 in favour of banning Highland dancing and Stonehouse Pipe Band from playing in the Public Park on a Sunday.

Pipe Major Hector McInnes served during the Great war with the Scots Guards (Reg. No.14786 / Enlisted 22.11.15 Glasgow). He is recorded as residing at 42 Lawrie Street and is recognised for his service during the war on a commemorative plaque in Paterson Church. Former Band member and past President John Dunn states that Hector was a miner in his younger years and founded the Band at Swinhill colliery where he worked. It is worth noting the miners were ardent supporters of both the local Pipe Band and the Silver Band.

Another piper to have served during the Great war was Samuel Forsyth who alas was not to return from the fields of France. Private Samuel Forsyth joined the Scottish Rifles (Cameronians) 2nd Battalion (Reg. No. 10613) on 25th May 1911 having served three years in Malta before being drafted to the battle front in France. Formerly of 26 Townhead Street, Samuel died

of his wounds at the age of 22 on 25th July 1915. As a serving soldier Samuel also played the pipes in rallying his comrades in battle. His brothers Tom and John Forsyth also served during the war. As well as being commemorated in Stonehouse cemetery, Samuel is recognised for his sacrifice in Merville Communal Cemetery in Nord, France.

In November 1918 the Hamilton Advertiser described the first world war victory celebrations in Stonehouse as follows:

"On receipt of the news that the armistice had been signed steps were immediately taken to celebrate the great event. Flags and bunting were displayed in great profusion, work was stopped, schools were closed, the church bells clanged merrily and the streets were filled with excited joyous crowds. An impromptu Pipe Band was formed of soldiers and civilians who paraded the streets followed by cheering crowds. In the evening a huge bonfire was lit at the Cross and the silver Band played a patriotic programme. On the following day a victory demonstration was organised by the Discharged Soldiers and Sailors Federation. The procession paraded the principal streets accompanied by the silver and Pipe Bands and terminated at the Cross where an enthusiastic meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr A. McIntosh, F.E.I.S. Speeches extolling the great achievements of the Army and Navy were delivered by Mr A. Anderson M.A. and Mr A. Haddow, M.A."



SAMUEL FORSYTH c1914

Jack Muir, a fellow piper of James Laidlaw asked Laidlaw where the Band obtained its handwritten Pipe music. James stated that Hector McInnes wrote all the Pipe Bands tunes. According to James, Hector was a perfectionist and the Band was able to hold its own against the professionally trained military bands they were competing against. It is said that Hector strove for uniformity and performance by writing the Bands music himself. James is said to have had a book of Hector's music which was passed on to his nephew.

Hector's son Hector McInnes is said to have travelled to Detroit in the United States to establish the Ford Pipe Band. In 1943 the Hamilton Advertiser reported the following:

Record Price for a Rabbit

What is believed to be the highest price ever paid for a rabbit, an English buck, five months old, has just been paid to Mr. Robert S. McInnes, Innesfield Nursery, Sidehead Road, Stonehouse. The sum in question £112 10s, is the amount received by Mr. McInnes for the supreme champion of the Doncaster show, and winner of the "Dibble" gold cup. Mr. McInnes is the first Scotsman to win this coveted honour. To have reached championship status is nothing new in the McInnes family, for his father, Pipe Major Hector McInnes, trained Scotland's finest Pipe Band and won the Cowal championship, while his brother, Hector, attained world championship status with the famous Ford's (Detroit) Pipe Band. Robert's hobby is of course to breed furry champions.



JOHN AND HUGH MCINNES 1910

Recently a handwritten piece of Pipe music entitled 'Samantha's lullaby' was rediscovered in Stonehouse but whether or not this was within the Pipe Bands repertoire or not is unclear. The piece is likewise suitable for the fiddle and was recently performed at an evening of song and verse of Stonehouse at a Heritage Group.

Other members of the world championship winning band were Sorbie brothers Dan and John (right). Having celebrated success with Stonehouse Pipe Band, Dan and John emigrated to the United States to work in the mines of Wyoming in 1910. Dan, formerly a miner in Stonehouse was said to have either joined or formed the Gillespie Pipe Band in Illinois. When Dan died his wife Kate sold his pipes for \$10.



Another past Pipe Band member to win notable success was drummer Arthur Cook who joined Stonehouse Pipe Band at the age of eleven before moving on to play for a host of other Pipe Bands including Shotts and Dykehead and the Lothian and Borders Police Band. Arthur won many titles in his career but none greater than the RSPBA World Solo Drumming Championship in 1988. He was successful in winning many other events including various placings at the World Championships and runner-up in the World Solo Drumming Champion of Champions contest.



JOHN AND DAN SOBIE (TOP FROM LEFT) c1915

The Pipe Band has always been self supporting, relying on fund raising events and membership contributions to pay for instruments, uniforms and sheet music. In 1935 they appealed for financial support to the community to buy a new set of uniforms. The following year various fund raising events took place and the Pipe Band obtained new uniforms in June 1936. Originally the Band wore the 'Macgregor' dress tartan before changing to the 'Red Hamilton' dress tartan during the 1930's. Records state this was donated by Mrs Janet Millar of Tinto View (Mrs Millar was a sister of Alexander Hamilton of Kidderminster who gifted the public park to the village).



PIPE BAND AT BANDSTAND

The Pipe Bands demise began around the outbreak of the second world war. Fierce competition from other Bands who had financial backing put increasing pressure on Stonehouse Pipe Band and they found it difficult to compete. The industrial depression after the Great war, financial problems and differences of opinion within the membership caused friction within the Pipe Band. They broke up several times throughout the years but always managed to reform itself.



GRAHAM PERRIE (LEFT) 1945 AND JIM HUTCHENS 1945



A noted local piper during the second world war was Robert Whitelaw who is recalled in an article from the Hamilton Advertiser in December 1944:

Homes guard Man Honoured

His Majesty conferred the M.B.E. on Lieut. Robert Whitelaw for meritorious service to the Home Guard. As an instructional officer he did much to make the 4th Lanark the efficient battalion it was, and was so wholehearted and devoted to his duties that other interests had simply to go by the board. He made the Home Guard the "primo facto" of five strenuous years and was never happier than when initiating the young recruit into the modern methods of warfare. A strict disciplinarian and a stickler for detail, Lieut. Whitelaw earned the respect and esteem of all officers and men of his battalion. In private life Mr Whitelaw is a civil servant and does duty in the Employment Exchange at Hamilton. He is also one of the best known bag pipe instructors in the county, comes from a noted family of pipers, and has taught several bands. To know him personally is to be acquainted with a true Stonehousian.



PIPE BAND MINUTE BOOKS

STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND

Among a collection of memorabilia held by past president John Dunn was an old minutes book for the years 1956-1964 and an Accounts Book for the years 1948-1965 (Union Bank, Trongate). Also present were a number of slides dating to the 1970s and a tape recording of the Pipe Band at the local bandstand in the Alexander Hamilton Memorial Park in the years 1972 and 1976.



SIR HARRY LAUDER WITH HOME GUARD AND HECTOR MCINNES (RIGHT) AT PUBLIC HALL, TRONGATE 1942

The following are extracts taken from the minute books highlighting the organisation matters, office bearers of that year and difficulties the Band were experiencing during this period in their history.

Minute Book extract 1956

Annual General Meeting held in Cadet Hall. Office bearers elected: President, Robert Eadie; Vice President, John Hamilton; Secretary, William McNiven and Treasurer J. Burke (Senior).

Minute Book extract 1957

At the Annual General Meeting of the Pipe Band on December 25th the President stated there was no point in proceeding with business due to the poor attendance of membership. The President suggested that in view of declining membership the present Pipe Major should resign and let someone else have the opportunity of improving the Pipe Bands fortunes. An emergency meeting was proposed and approved to meet and discuss the future of the Pipe Band in the Ante room of the Public Hall in January 1958.

Minute Book extract 1957

An Emergency General Meeting was held to discuss the affairs of the Pipe Band. It would appear that holding meetings the week prior to Christmas may account for poor attendance but to hold the AGM on Christmas day itself beggars belief. Prior to any meeting taking place Pipe Major J. McCulloch resigned. John Barclay was proposed and approved by the membership as the new Pipe Major. Office bearers elected: President and Treasurer, Robert Eadie; Vice President, John Hamilton; Secretary, William McNiven.



PIPE BAND AT COWAL GAMES 1973

Minute Book extract 1958

The President reported on low attendances at practices. Despite this the Pipe Band reports state that they had attended nine engagements making a small profit. Christina McInnes bequeathed the Pipe Band £100 in her will towards the Bands needs. Office bearers elected: President, John Hamilton; Vice President, J. Summers; Secretary and Treasurer, Robert Eadie. It would appear from the general tone of the minute book that the Band was in decline, suffering internal conflicts of character. A motion was made at this meeting to withdraw members dress and Band property should members fail to attend Band practices. The introduction of this motion in itself may well have contributed to the lack of motivation and morale of a declining membership at this time.

Minute Book extract 1959

Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers: President, John Hamilton; Vice President, J. Summers; Secretary, William McNiven and Committee members; J. Fox, George Haddow, Herbert Leggate, J. McCulloch, R. Marshall and R. Leggate.

Minute Book extract 1960

A special meeting was convened to discuss poor attendance and the resignation of various official positions in the Pipe Band. Despite this it was reported that a number of pupils were learning to play the pipes and Robert Eadie was appointed to the post of temporary Pipe Major. George Haddow agreed to accept the position of treasurer and John Hamilton was elected secretary. The Pipe Bands old drums were donated to Strathaven Cadet Pipe Band.

Minute Book extract 1961

At a meeting of the Pipe Band Robert Eadie resigned his position due to a lack of cooperation with officials. New officials were elected as follows: President, Alex Johnston; Vice President, Allen Sergeson; Secretary, Arthur Hymas and Treasurer Herbert Leggate. Pipe Band members present were A. McLean, Alex Johnston, J. Paton, A. Ferguson, Arthur Hymas, T. Doran, J. Davies, R. Leggate,



JOHN SUMMERS 1959

Herbert Leggate and John Hamilton. At the AGM that followed this meeting Robert Eadie was still in the position of Pipe Major and the office bearers were re-elected. At the AGM of the following year James McVee was elected as President of the Pipe Band in 1962.



PIPE BAND AT LANARK 1972 (AND BELOW)

Minute Book extract 1963

Annual General Meeting. Office bearers elected: President, (not stated); Vice President, E. Sutton; Secretary, (not stated) and Treasurer, John Dunn. Members of the Pipe Band in this year included: E. Eadie, George Haddow, E. Sutton, William Watt, Sandy Barclay, S. Stewart, J. Fairlie, M. McDonald, J. Eadie, James Hymas, J Ballantyne, A. Thomson, A. McVee, A. Hymas and M. Dunn.

Minute Book extract 1964

At the Annual General Meeting the previous office bearers were re-elected to their positions. Robert Eadie refused to accept his fee of £12 as Pipe Major in recognition of his service to the Band. This was returned to the Pipe Band to assist in the Bands finances.

Although no minutes are available for the following years, a great number of photographs provide evidence of those still playing with the Pipe Band and where the Band were performing. In 1967 the Pipe Band were photographed at Stonehouse Cross and were recorded as a fourth grade Band. The photograph shown here features the following members and office bearers: Peter Jackson (Pipe Major), Andrew Barnes,



James McVee (President), Jimmy Wilson, Adam Agnew, Sandy Stewart (Bass Drum), Neil Malone (Tenor Drum), Jim Hymas, James Muir, John Dunn (Secretary/Treasurer), Ken Seeley (Pipe Sergeant), Matt Smith (S/D?), Charles Lennon and Andrew Prentice (below). Former members Adam Agnew and Sandy Stewart have pledged their support tutoring new members of the present pipe band.



PIPE BAND AT STONEHOUSE CROSS 1967

Stonehouse Pipe Band disbanded formally in 1977. The Junior Pipe Band thrived for a while but a lack of support and its senior pipers retiring or moving to other bands led to the Bands demise. Prior to its disbandment the Pipe Band made regular visits to the Cowal Games throughout the 1970s. The retiring officers of the Pipe Band were: President, John Dunn; Vice President, June Gibson; Secretary, Judith Watt and Treasurer, Arthur Milne. An inventory of the Bands dress and equipment is detailed in the appendices.

Today the Pipe Band is thriving once again under the guidance of Pipe Major Matthew Steele and Drum Sergeant Jim Schottner ably assisted by Drum Major George Bowie and Pipe Sergeant Stuart Kinniburgh. Incredibly the Band members raised an astonishing £23,000 in their first year to provide equipment for the Band. They are now a regular sight in the village at social and formal events in our community and indeed throughout Lanarkshire. Their commitment and success is a credit to themselves and Stonehouse in showing what can be done when we work together as a community. In what was the Bands 100th anniversary since winning the world championships, the people of Stonehouse congratulate the efforts of the Pipe Band committee and the inspirational endeavours of the Pipe Band members.



STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND MARCHING AT AGRICULTURAL SHOW 2008

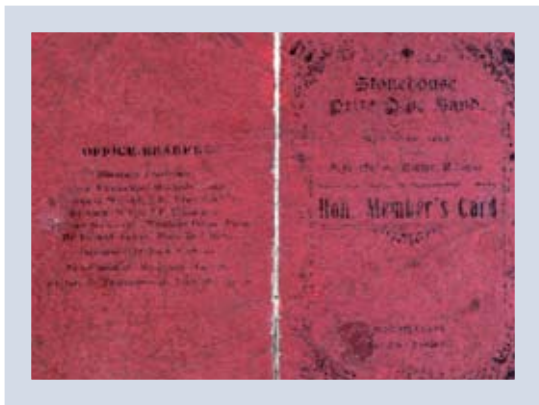
APPENDICES

STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND

Stonehouse Pipe Band Honours

Although not recorded within the Pipe Bands own records, there exists a reference to Stonehouse Pipe Band in the history of Wallacestone and District Pipe Band which states that their own Band was second behind Stonehouse at the Lanark Flower Show competition in 1900. There were said to have been seven entrants of which the winners received gold and silver medals respectively.

| | | | | | |
|------|---------------|--------|---------|----------------------------|--------|
| 1902 | Lanark | First | 1910 | Lauder Shield | First |
| 1903 | Larkhall | First | 1911 | Lauder Shield | First |
| 1903 | Coatbridge | First | 1912 | Lauder Shield | Third |
| 1903 | Motherwell | Second | 1914-18 | No Contests | |
| 1903 | Lanark | Third | 1919 | Cambuslang | Third |
| 1904 | Airdrie | Second | 1919 | Lauder Shield | Second |
| 1905 | Airdrie | Second | 1919 | Graham Moffat Cup (Lanark) | First |
| 1905 | Cambuslang | Third | | | |
| 1909 | Hamilton | First | 1919 | Strathaven | Second |
| 1909 | Argyle Shield | First | 1920 | Drumclog Shield | First |
| 1909 | Lauder Shield | First | 1920 | Strathaven | Third |
| 1910 | Argyle Shield | Fourth | 1920 | Argyle Shield | Fourth |
| 1910 | Hamilton | Second | 1922 | Avondale Cup | Second |



MEMBERSHIP CARD 1924-25

In season 1924-1925 the Pipe Bands office bearers were as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Lord Newlands | Mauldslic Castle | Honorary President |
| Thomas Wilson JP | Greenside Street | Honorary President |
| Archibald McFie JP | Union Street | Honorary President |
| James Hamilton | Woodside House, Paisley | Honorary President |
| Robert Burns | Black Bull Hotel | Honorary President |



JOHN DUNN 1972

Inventory of Pipe Band Equipment 30th January 1977

- 1 Eleven new kilts (various sizes)
- 2 Fifteen new sporrans (long hair)
- 3 Fifteen new spats
- 4 Fifteen new top hose
- 5 Fifteen new sporran belts
- 6 Sixty two silver buttons
- 7 Four coat buttons
- 8 Eighteen Cairngorm brooches comprising 15 matched and three odd.
- 9 Two tenor drums
- 10 Twelve drummer's half plaids
- 11 Eleven piper's plaids (various sizes and styles)
- 12 Twenty waist belts
- 13 Twelve shoulder cross belts
- 14 Twenty nine uniform jackets comprising 24 matched and five odd.
- 15 One kilt pin
- 16 Epaulettes comprising: 28 silver braided, 29 gold braided, 20 gold braided (poor condition)
- 17 One set of new pipes complete with box
- 18 Six pairs of top hose (poor condition), four pairs of top hose (very poor condition)
- 19 Thirteen pairs of top hose (poor condition)
- 20 Six pairs of top hose (very poor condition)
- 21 One pair of top hose (different pattern)
- 22 One bag of spats (very poor condition)
- 23 One roll of Red Hamilton tartan (length unchecked)

RULES.

1.—THIS BAND SHALL BE CALLED THE "STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND."

2.—This Band shall consist of (1) Ordinary Members as Pipers and Drummers in such numbers as shall from time to time be determined, and (2) Honorary Members who are not players.

3.—The Managing Committee shall consist of five members, and shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting of the Band. They shall hold the Honorary Offices of President, one Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Band shall also have their own Treasurer and Secretary.

4.—The President shall preside at all meetings or in his absence, the Vice President. The Honorary Secretary shall keep a record of all business passed, and minute the same. The Band Secretary shall keep a correct account of all contributions paid in by the members. The Band Treasurer shall collect the contributions which he shall at the end of every three months hand over to the Hon. Secretary.

5.—All playing members must attend at the Band Room on Practice Nights. Repeated non-attendance will be liable to a fine, or shall be expelled.

6.—The Band Secretary shall see that all the members pay their contributions regularly,

and any member more than three months in arrears shall be liable to be expelled.

7.—The Pipes shall be the property of the Players.

8.—The Drums and Full Dress shall be the property of the Band, and shall be held by the Managing Committee for the benefit of the Band.

9.—All members must pledge themselves to keep their Dress and Drums in good order, and in the event of their leaving the Band must hand in the same to the managing Committee at once.

10.—No playing member can be admitted into the Band without first being proposed and accepted at a General Meeting of the Band.

11.—Discipline in the Band must be observed at all times whether on parade or at practice. No member is allowed to leave practice or engagements without consent of the Pipe Major. Violation of this rule to be enforced with a fine or expulsion.

12.—A General Meeting shall be held on 10th October, or as near as possible, of each year, which shall be called The General Meeting of the Band and Election of Office-bearers.

13.—All members shall pledge themselves to abide by those rules, and all others that may be added from time to time.

14.—This is your Band: you can make it a good Band both for yourself and fellow members by complying with these simple Rules.

Acknowledgements

Emma Sutherland (daughter of John Dunn)

Tom Sorbie (descendent of Dan and John Sorbie)

John Graham Gibson (author of Traditional Gaelic Bag piping 1745-1945)



JUVENILE PIPE BAND (STATION PARK) 1975



PIPE BAND 1971



JUVENILE PIPE BAND (EAST KILBRIDE) 1976



PIPE BAND AT COWAL 1972

The Braw Stonehouse Pipers

Tune: A Hundred Pipers

*The braw Stonehouse pipers croon a', croon a':
The braw Stonehouse pipers croon a', croon a':
Nane wi' ye at Cowal could blaw, could blaw,
They won Lauder's shield an' Argyle's an' a'.
The Duke ne'er thocht that the wee weaving' toon
Could rear sic a clan o' brave pipin' loons;
When ithers they hadna a breath tae draw,
The braw Stonehouse pipers played awa', played awa'.*

*Some say 'twas favour that got them the prize,
I wadna believe it: they're jist tellin' lies;
Their reels an' strathspeys were foremost in tune,
An' the like o' them ne'er was heard in Dunoon
The folk a' stared when they saw Lauder smile
When the judge gied his verdict tae the Duke o' Argyle;
When Harry heard Stonehouse had won the twa shields
He danced Cailum Callum three times in the field.*

*The braw Stonehouse pipers marched roon', marched roon',
An' played a selection o' auld Hiellan' tunes;
Then crossed ower tae Gourock an' there got the train,
Which took them safe back tae auld Stonehouse again
The braw Stonehouse pipers croon a', croon a':
The braw Stonehouse pipers croon a', croon a':
Nane wi' ye at Cowal could blaw, could blaw,
The braw Stonehouse pipers croon a', croon a':*

Knowetap Laddie

This song composed after the author read an account of the pipe bands success at the Cowal Games. The article was taken from the Motherwell Times in September 24th 1909.



STONEHOUSE PIPE BAND, ST. NINIAN'S PARISH CHURCH 2008