



SPORRAN CORRESPONDENT

wapolpipeband.com.au
Sans Tache - 'Without Stain'

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For editorial inquiries please email public.affairs.branch@police.wa.gov.au

WAPOL to the Tattoo

Once again the band travelled in May to Adelaide, South Australia, to perform at the Commonwealth Bank International Police Tattoo alongside internationally renowned vocalist Julie Anthony, the US 7th Fleet Marching Band and the Pipes and Drums of the New York Police Department as well as groups from Malaysia, Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands.

WAPOL performed in the massed pipes and drums alongside the Auckland Police Pipe Band and the Australian Federal Police Pipes and Drums under the direction of Drum Major Peter Bannister.

Being the senior pipe band at the event WAPOL was responsible for the music and the drill for the massed pipes and drums and with just three days for rehearsals our work was cut out. Together with



The band at the Adelaide Tattoo with Scott's Highland Dance School.

Scott's Highland Dance School performing out the front we achieved our aims with a very engaging display.

Piper Adam Britten said it was an entertaining event and it is safe to say a lot of fun was had by all. "I think we were all quite surprised however, at the hidden vocal talents of Dougal McConnell".

"It's really enjoyable to get out and

about in the full dress now and again because at events such as this, the crowd really do listen with their eyes".

Thanks again to Samantha Cowie and Kirsty Lee who travelled with the band for the event.

A highlights DVD of the 2006 Tattoo is available for online purchase at www.ezydvd.com.au.

On the road again

It's that time of year again when the pipe band world sets its sights on Glasgow, Scotland, for the fast approaching World Pipe Band Championships and although WAPOL has decided against travelling to Scotland this year, a number of band members will be at the gathering having a tune with other bands.

Bands set to profit are Nunawading Pipe Band (Victoria) and the St. Mary's Band Club Pipes and Drums (NSW). Alisdair McLaren will again line up with the Strathclyde Police Pipe Band, Glasgow, who, as some may remember, took away 12 World Championships from 1976 to 1991. The band's sole aspiration at the World Championships is to break into the top three, stated Alisdair.

"Coming off what was a very successful 2005 season, the expectations for this year are very high" Alisdair McLaren said.

Watch out for...

Coming up on 6 October is the Band Dinner at Tompkins on the Swan, Tompkins Park in Applecross. Tickets are \$70pp including a three course meal and drinks.

The band will perform during the evening.

Further information from Alisdair McLaren or Craig Bailey on 9370 7183.





Something old something new

What better way to celebrate the Western Australia Police Pipe Band's 40th anniversary than to hold what was to many a brand new show in one of the band's favourite venues, the Burswood Theatre. The band opened the evening with some spirited playing accompanied by the WA Highland Dance Academy, much to the delight of the 800-strong crowd.

The music on the night covered all ends of the musical spectrum with a reprise of "Oft in the Stilly Night" from the *Off the Beat* album released in 1984, the virtuoso hands of Michael Redmond, Adam Britten and James Cowie to the captivating Annihilator Suite composed by Alisdair McLaren.

"After all the work that went into the piece I was quite pleased with how it was presented" said Alisdair.

Proud father of Piper Michael Redmond, Phillip, said it was the most enjoyable pipe band concert he had attended. "An awesome concert. It really showed the bagpipe as a versatile

instrument". Phillip had travelled all the way from Christchurch, New Zealand, (some 5100km) to see *Forty Years in the Making*.

Band OIC, Sergeant Peter Bannister, said the appearance of the Commissioner of Police Karl O'Callaghan and Deputy Commissioner Chris Dawson certainly compliments the band's concert repertoire and we look forward to many more performances.

"The footage of the band performing at the WA Police Recruit Graduation in 1967 was certainly a memorable aspect of the concert, and as always, the composition Highland Cathedral was a real crowd pleaser" said Sergeant Bannister.

Thanks are a must to our guest players Samantha Cowie, Kirsty Lee, John Giovannetti and the ever reliable Keith Shoobridge (APM). Thanks also to Doug Kirkwood for his assistance backstage, the WA Highland Dance Academy and the gifted Belinda Lush.

All the way from Nova Scotia



George started playing the pipes when he was 10 years old at St Andrews College, New Zealand. He took on the role of Drum Major at 15 and then Pipe Major at 17, experiencing success at national level in Grade Three and at international level.

He then joined the Canterbury Caledonian Pipe Band in Christchurch as a Piper and was made Drum Major there also. Three years later he moved to Nova Scotia, Canada, to play with the 78th Highlanders Halifax Citadel Pipe Band and study under Bruce Gandy. George spent two years in Halifax attending two World Pipe Band Championships and playing in the Grade One final in 2005. His work with the Citadel Ceremonial Band sent him all over North America performing at events such as Tattoos, mini band performances and cruise ships.

George joined WAPOL in January and enjoys playing with the band in the many different formats it undertakes. He is a valuable member of the band.

Going, going, gone... The recently released limited edition publication *Forty Years in the Making* is selling quickly. Don't miss out. Contact Police Public Affairs 9222 1529 or Iain Hamilton 9370 7185.

From the OIC...

Well here we are six months into the year, almost tax time, and we are wondering where the time has gone. With the two Quarry Concerts, the Police Concert at Joondalup, the Commonwealth Bank International Police Tattoo in Adelaide and our very own "Forty Years in the Making" concert at the Burswood Theatre it has been a very busy period in our history.

A period where we have gained many new fans struck up many new friendships and gained much positive exposure for both the WA Police and Western Australia.

Whilst I do not wish to dwell on negatives there has been a downside in recent times as we

have had to cancel our plans to attend the 2006 World Pipe Band Championships being held in Glasgow on Saturday 12 August. The Burswood Concert was to be the major fundraising event on our calendar to get us over the line and on our way to Scotland, however this was not to be. We fell some dollars short and with the arrangements that have to be put in place to make this type of event happen the decision, whilst not easy, had to be made as soon as we became aware that we weren't quite going to make it. This has been done and we now have some disappointed fans and players both at home and overseas.

With the worlds programme now on hold we are in the process of looking forward and planning for the next two years. As it has been three years since WAPOL: Live @MPAC, these plans must include recording a new compact disc, a major concert and a major overseas event. We would also like to take the band to the outer regions of Western Australia and in particular the opportunity to tour the North West of the state. This would, however, be subject to a major sponsor coming on board to assist with transport and accommodation which as you can see means we have much to do. Many thanks for your continued support.

