



Bluewater Fling and Ceilidh

July saw the Mackay and District Pipe Band hold their annual Bluewater Fling. With Ian Dean as MC, the event was an enjoyable and successful afternoon of the sounds of Scottish music echoing along the banks of the Pioneer River. Once again, the crowds were entertained by pipers and drummers from our visiting bands including Townsville RSL Memorial Pipes and Drums, Townsville and Thuringowa Pipe Band, Rockhampton Pipe Band, and Central Queensland Pipes and Drums. The massed bands marching over the bridge followed by Clan Banners from the Townsville Scottish Community was, as always, a fantastic way to start off the afternoon. This event also saw the debut of tenor drummer Maxine Stevenson and piper Brad Kelleher.

Our good friends Hullabaloo kept the music flowing throughout the evening with their folk Celtic style of music.

No Scottish event would be complete without the dancers from the Mackay Highland Dance Association who delighted the audience with their highland dance display, including special performances of the Sword Dance and Sailor's Hornpipe with solo piper Gray.

As the evening drew near, the massed bands gathered around for the finale playing crowd favourites such as Auld Lang Syne and Black Bear.

But the fun was not over, with many joining the Mackay and District Pipe Band at the North Mackay Bowls Club for a fantastic Ceilidh. Thorough out the night, the Bowls Club patrons were entertained with solo pipers, mini bands, drum salutes, highland dancing and country dancing. Bands and performers had a free night to show off their talents and build strong camaraderie with other pipe bands in the North and Central Queensland. A fantastic way to end a perfect afternoon.

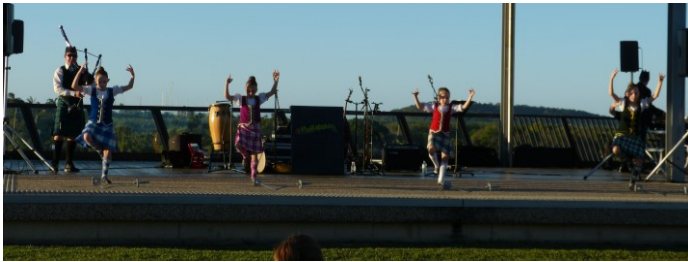
September 2018

Upcoming Band Events:

- **27th October:**
- **Global Grooves**
Queens Park
- **11th November:**
Centenary
Remembrance
Day Services
- **1st December: St**
Andrews Day
NMBC

Bluewater Fling Photos:









Vale Albert (Ab) Phillips

Ab Phillips, a former member of The Mackay & District Pipe Band sadly passed away. Ab was a piper from 1952 to 1968 and known for his playing at the Farleigh ANZAC Day Dawn services for many years.

The Phillips family has kindly donated his set of pipes to the band for the use by new members.

Thanks to Alex Cameron, our Quartermaster, for his work involved in having these beautiful pipes ready for someone to play.

The photos below are the band playing at Cascade Gardens with Ab sitting in front with the members, taken in December 2016, and Alex playing a tune on Ab's pipes recently at band practice.



Northside Fair

On Saturday the 11th of August, the band played at the Uniting Church's Northside Fair. This year the number of members was reduced due to several travelling and competing at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow. Special thanks to Piper Rankin for filling in as Pipe Major for this event. Congratulations also go to Piper Armstrong and Piper Shipston for their first appearance with the band. Thanks to members for supporting the Uniting Church, who support the band with the use of the church hall for our weekly practice venue.



Notices:

- Please look out for emails and be sure to reply as it makes the organisation of events easier.
- If you have any exciting news or information, please email to: fionagray71@gmail.com