



15 February 2010
Newsletter 131b

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Dear Parents, Bandsmen & Friends,
Ceud mile fàilte,



At the end of this week we have our Wellington & Hawkes Bay Centre Contest which will be a full day of band competition events. We go into this competition with a number of new faces in the ranks and a series of new challenges and targets. Can we continue the successes of Turakina?.

Band officers for 2010

As we prepare for the two major contests of the year we must acknowledge the continuing leadership of Alex Telfar, Pipe Major emeritus as he leads the band into these events. It is also the time to announce the new officers who will carry on the work throughout the rest of 2010. We have no Year 13 pipers this year so taking up the mantle of Pipe Major is Connor Macrae. The pipe sergeant will be announced after the Nationals as Connor fills that role until then.





Our drum corp. will continue under the able leadership of Matthew Belesky until the National contest has concluded. Matt has been a long standing member of the band and took on the responsibility of leading the drum corp. when he was in Year 9. He is to be succeeded by Campbell Orchard who has the awesome responsibility of continuing the development of our new drum corp. Drum Major Chris Poppe is once again confirmed in his role and is responsible for managing drill and deportment as well as contest timing. I'm sure these boys will lead the band well.

Turakina Highland Games

Once again we held our annual camp at Wanganui in the week before school. This camp ran over three days and provided an opportunity to advance individual and band skills. At the end of camp we move to Turakina where the longest running NZ Highland Games are held, this year it was the 146th consecutive games. Here the boys competed in solo drumming and piping as well as various band contests with some pleasing results.

Solos Piping

Chanter: 1st Charlie Stapleton
Stevens

Novice Slow March: Curran

Cunningham 1st

C Grade Strathspey & Reel: Alwyn
McCallum 3rd

C Grade 2/4 March: Ben tait 3rd

Solos Drumming

C Grade Drumming 4 parts 2/4

March: Campbell Orchard 3rd

Novice March: Ben Martin 1st,
Ethan James 3rd

Games

Cannon Shot: Michael Findlay 1st

Hill Climb: Michael Findlay 2nd



Charlie Stapleton-Stevens competed in solo drumming and also solo learner chanter in which he won a Turakina Gold Medal for first place. Thomas Bingham competed in chanter too even though he has only had three lessons on the instrument. A commendable effort. It was also good to see Edward Sargent, one of our learner drummers, competing in the emerging & novice drummer events. With the addition of four new drummers into the drumming corp. and two new pipers we did not expect to be placed in the Youth Contest this year. It was with great delight that we were placed second and that was only by one point off first. The Senior competing band competed in Grade 4 and again we did not expect a placing having recently lost a large number of our senior bandsmen, however, the performances were magic and the band gained 1st in all disciplines making us Turakina Champion Grade 4 Band.

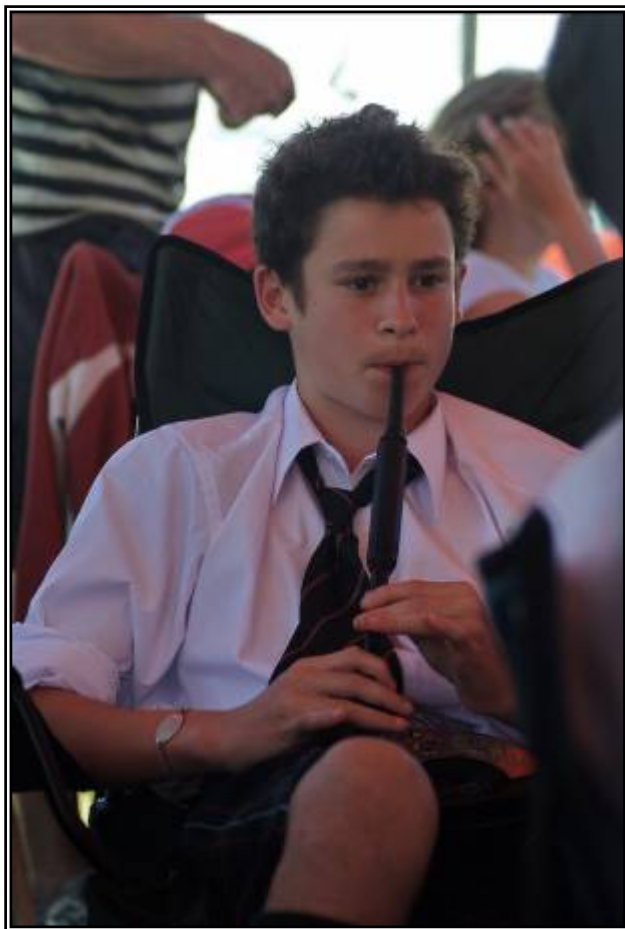
Juvenile 2nd

Band Grade 4

Set 1st

Medley 1st

Turakina Champion Grade Four band: Scots



Tom Powell

Wednesdays are from 3.30 till 5.30 until the Nationals and 3.30 till 5pm after the Nationals.

Learner pipers Michael Findlay, Thomas Harding, Matthew Latta and Ben Woodham are invited to Wednesday practices where the first half hour will be focused on getting them up to speed with as many tunes as possible in order that these boys can do their first parade with the band at the Easter Service on Sunday 28th March.

The tunes these boys should focus on are:-

- Amazing Grace
- Scots Wa Hae
- The Barnyards of Dalgaty
- High Road to Gairloch
- Teribus
- Scotland the Brave
- Loch Ruan
- The Rowan Tree
- Farewell to Nigg
- Pipe Major JK Cairns

To make this camp work well we rely on the help of our parents. Marion, Adam, Maurice & I would like to record our thanks to the parent team who kept the hungry feed and watered; sorted, mended and refitted the uniforms; transported us all about; and encouraged the boys in their preparation and performances.

We are all so lucky to have two great tutors in Marion & Adam and I know the boys appreciate all that you do for them. We are grateful too to Sandra who travelled up to help put some order into our vain attempts at drill. The ranks & files are now starting to come together nicely. It is not easy if you are new to the band and all of a sudden have to remember what your feet are doing whilst playing an instrument at the same time.

Notes from Marion (as per email)

To clarify the band practices

Mondays are 3.30pm to 5.00pm for the guys that will be attending the Nationals. These practices will cease after the Nationals.

To attend: Alwyn, Oliver, Jono, Chris, Hugo (as a drummer), Ben Tait, Curran, Connor, Peder, and



- Greenwoodside
- Highland Cathedral
- The Green Hills of Tyrol
- When the Battles Over

They will still be able to do the parade even if they can't play all of the tunes, they should just work on polishing the ones they know and then start on the ones they don't know.

Marion



Notes from Adam (abridged from email)

Hello all. I'm slowly starting to get back into the swing of things as I've been so busy the last two weeks...

1. I firstly want to congratulate two of the SC learners for picking up a 1st and a 3rd in Turakina on the 30th of January. Ben Martin was awarded 1st place and Ethan James was awarded 3rd place. A big well done to the other boys that entered. These solo competitions are good exposure to the bigger pipe banding scene, as you boys (and parent) who went to Turakina would've seen. I was quite chuffed myself that two of my learners come out in the top three.

2. Lessons have started again last week. If your son has another commitment during the school day, please let me know so I can work a lesson time suitable.

3. Band practices for those involved (you know who you are). There was an email sent to you by Mr. Nicholson regarding Monday and Wednesday practices until the 2nd weekend of March. The time stipulated was 3:45pm. This time is when you need to be warmed up ready to go, not arriving! I would prefer if you were there at 3:30pm but know this isn't possible for some boys. If you're not going to be at band practice, it's the same as lessons. Don't just not turn up. Let me know or tell someone else to tell me. As I have said in the past, an after school offer of Playstation at a friend's is not an excuse for not going to practice.

4. Recruitment. I will be talking to Mr. Nicholson about recruitment in the prep school. I would like my current drummers to perform a piece to demonstrate what the band is like and then maybe give a testimony to how you have enjoyed drumming so far (I don't think you would still be doing it if you didn't enjoy it).

5. Reports after lessons. I want to start something new this year where by after every lesson that your son has, a follow-up email will be sent that night or next day with what he needs to work on for the next lesson. This will give both you and myself a report of progress and to make sure practice is being done at home. If you do not want me annoying you with emails, a notebook is just as easy (if not better) that I can fill out every week. If the emails are not working by the end of term, I will more than likely switch to notebooks.

6. Hawke's Bay Easter Highland Games. I have emailed out the entry forms and schedule for this event. From what I have been told, it is a great wee event held in Hastings over Easter weekend. Entries close soon so if you want to go, get those entries in quick! Band boys (except Ben and Campbell) should be entering Novice and others should be entering Beginner Class.

Adam

Ceilidh 2010

We have recommended the date for our 2010 Ceilidh be May 15th. We are reliably informed there is no substantial rugby event on that day and it was the only day that didn't have a



rugby event on. I have made a booking for the hall for the Friday & Saturday.

Regional Championships Centre Contest February 20th

I will be taking the school mini bus to the regional Centre Contest departing Scots at 5.30pm. Should boys need a ride to Masterton could you please respond by email. We hope to set up our tent in Queen Elizabeth Park by 7.45 ready for everyone to meet between 7.45 & 8.00. The full band needs to be changed and ready with instruments by 8.15am. Marion will indicate timing for the day on the whiteboard at the tent. We must all be strict with timing as we do not want to gain penalty points.



The Wellington Hawkes Bay Centre Contest of the Royal New Zealand Pipe Band Association at Masterton

Street March:

The Street March will start on Perry Street near the corner of Highway 2 then a LEFT wheel onto Queen Street to a RIGHT wheel onto Park Street (as highlighted on the map below). It is then a very short distance to Queen Elizabeth Park where the OTHER events will take place.

Timing Schedule:

The same system of FLAGS and DISQUALIFICATIONS will be used as in the past. At your band's appointed time to be at the starting line a GREEN FLAG will be displayed indicating the judges are ready and your band may start its performance. A RED FLAG will be raised after three (3) minutes which indicates that if your band has not commenced its opening drum rolls it will be DISQUALIFIED from that event.

Parking:

There is ample street parking on Dixon Street for the early birds and a Car park North of QE Park on Memorial Drive.





Gate Passes:

ALL events are OPEN events to the public with no need for gate passes.

March Past / Massed Bands:

This event is a compulsory event for all competing bands.

Wet Weather Venue: In the event of inclement weather I am uncertain where the events are to be held. Last year it was designated to be in The Masterton Ladies Croquet facilities (In the North end of the park).

The Draw for Scots

The event will begin with the Street March followed by Grade 4 MSR and Medley.

Starting after lunch performance/juvenile events, followed by Display, Staff Flourishing and March Past

	STREET MARCH DRESS	STEP-OFF	Reverse Street March	MSR (Set) BOARD 1	MEDLEY BOARD 2	Lunch	PERFORMANCE Event (Juvenile)	Massed Bands
Scots College	8.58	9.03	9.45	12.12	12.52	?	2.00	4.00

NOTE: Grade one bands will draw your MSR at the line and then they will be announced over the PA system

↔ Entry/Exit

1&2 Nos 1&2 Circles and Tuning Areas

3 Grandstand

4 Band Rotunda

5 Croquette Rooms

6 Toilets



Book of Orders

With any luck I will have been able to photocopy the 2010 Book of Orders for the band and included it with this posting for current band members. Please read through it and note particularly the section on the correct way to wear our band uniform My thanks to Sandra for revising this so that it is in keeping with the RNZPBA rules.

RNZPBA Champs

After the bomb shell relating to our accommodation for this event disappearing, we are working toward possible solutions and strategies. Consequently notes on this major event will be provided at a later date. On the bright side it is likely that the band will not be withdrawn from school until Friday (rather than the Thursday & Friday as is traditional). Obviously the boys will be delighted with this turn of events.

New Bandsmen

As you have probably gathered we have a number of new bandsmen join the band this competing season gaining both their coloured badge and band tie by successfully reaching the standard necessary to join the Youth (I do hate the RNZPBA term "Juvenile") Competing Band. They are...



At PN Square Day

Hans-Peder Oliff	Piper
Hugo Stephens	Bass

At Turakina

Jamie Bruin	Snare Drum
Curran Cunningham	Piper
Ethan James	Snare Drum
Ben Martin	Snare Drum
Samuel Ward-Pickering	Snare Drum

It is exciting to see the new bandsmen coming into the band. But wait, there's more! We have another group of pipers, drummers and tenor drummers

who have set a target of joining the band as novice bandsmen for the College Easter Service at St.Johns. Fantastic!

Yours Aye -

Jonn Nicholson

Manager, Scots College Pipe Band

Photographs in this Newsletter

All photographs are from the Wanganui camp and Turakina Highland Games day.





The Calendar

Saturday 20 February

Centre Contest: Masterton. Details in this newsletter – All competing Bandsmen

Friday 12, Saturday 13 March

Pipe Band Championships: Masterton. Details to follow – All competing Bandsmen

Sunday 28 March

College Easter Service at St John's in the City - All bandsmen

6.00pm Band meets

6.30pm Band performs

Wednesday 31 March

Sport and Cultural Assembly – All bandsmen

1.25pm Band meets

1.40pm Band Performs

2.00pm Sport and Cultural Assembly



