

THE 31ST

Nicol-Brown

AMATEUR INVITATIONAL
PIPING COMPETITION

OCTOBER 12, 2013

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ALBANY, NEW YORK, USA

www.nicol-brown.org



What a weekend!

FRIDAY, October 11, 2013

**Benefit Concert by Patrick Molard and Andrew Hayes
and 2013 Nicol-Brown Reception**

7:00 pm at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

The 2013 competitors and judges will be introduced, and tune selections for the contest on Saturday will be announced.

SATURDAY, October 12, 2013

The Contest!

9:30 am to 7:00 pm at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

6/8 Marches

Piobaireachd

March, Strathspey and Reel

Award Ceremony

Celebration Dinner

Holiday Inn at 205 Wolf Road, Albany 12205

7:30 private cash bar

8:30 dinner

If you'd like to join us for dinner, please see Heather Scott-Wisheart or Barb McCarthy to ask if space is available, and to arrange for payment.

SUNDAY, October 13, 2013

Master Class

10:00 am to 1:00 pm at The Celtic Hall

430 New Karner Road, Albany, New York

Nicol-Brown competitors will have the privilege of an open lesson with Patrick Molard and June Hanley, who will discuss highlights of the contest and give valuable insight for any pipers wanting to improve their musicianship. Please register if you'd like to sit in on this advanced class. Call Maureen Connor: 518-374-6034 or email: maureen.e.connor@gmail.com

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Oct. 26th - 4th Anniversary Fest-noz, Manhattan NY

Nov. 16th - Fest-Noz, Watertown MA



Contact & Information: www.bagad.us

Judges for the Nicol-Brown Amateur Invitational Contest

1982	Ed Neigh	1999	Michael Cusack
1983	James McGillivray	2000	Alasdair Gillies
1984	Murray Henderson	2001	Michael Rogers
1985	Donald F. Lindsay	2002	Jack Taylor
1986	William Livingstone	2003	Bruce Gandy and Michael Rogers
1987	Amy Garson, Ed Krintz and Chip Reardon	2004	Stuart Liddell and Donald F. Lindsay
1988	Donald F. Lindsay	2005	Donald MacPhee
1989	Seumas MacNeill	2006	John Wilson and Alasdair Gillies
1990	James McGillivray	2007	John Wilson and Nancy Tunncliffe
1991	Colin MacLellan	2008	Nancy Tunncliffe, Bobby Minnear, and R. Iain MacDonald
1993	George Bell and Donald F. Lindsay	2009	Murray Henderson, Amy Garson, Andrew Douglas
1994	Colin MacLellan and Donald F. Lindsay	2010	Angus MacColl
1995	Bob Worrall	2011	Jack Taylor and Bruce Gandy
1996	Scott MacAulay and Donald F. Lindsay	2012	Willie McCallum, Nancy Tunncliffe, and Paula Glendinning
1997	Donald F. Lindsay		
1998	Jack Lee		

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The Nicol-Brown committee welcomes the judges for 2013: Patrick Molard, Andrew Hayes, and June Hanley



PHOTO BY CAILEAN MACLEAN

PATRICK MOLARD was born in 1951 in Saint-Malo in North Brittany, and started playing the pipes at the age of 14 in his local bagad.* Two years later, he joined the An Ere Pipe Band from Rennes under the direction of Jakez Pincet, his first Piobaireachd instructor, who introduced him to Robert U. Brown, one of the Queen's pipers at Balmoral Castle. Later, in 1971, Patrick was sent to Aberdeen as a French assistant and he studied the art of Ceòl Mòr with Robert Brown and Robert B. Nicol, also piper to the Queen. From them he learned about 100 tunes.

In 1972, he went back to Brittany and was involved in the revival of Breton music and culture, initiated by the celebrated Alan Stivell. In 1975, Patrick became a professional musician, touring all over Europe with different groups, and he also started playing the Irish uilleann pipes. At the same time, he conducted research in his own country, collecting material from singers and biniou and bombarde* players, thus storing a vast knowledge of the different facets of Celtic music which enabled him to win the coveted international MacAllan trophy in Lorient in 1980, 1981 and 1982. He also won the title of Champion of Brittany for bombarde and biniou-playing three times, along with his friends Youenn Le Bihan and Yves Berthou.

Patrick has been involved in the making of more than 50 different albums, and has recorded six albums under his own name. His recent recording, "The Waking of the Bridegroom," is dedicated solely to Piobaireachd, a genre to which he has given all his life and which is his favourite music. Patrick has recently retired as a permanent teacher at the Music School of Carhaix (Finistère) and leads numerous seminars and workshops both in Brittany and abroad, notably Galicia and Asturias in Northern Spain, and at Invermark on Skye.

* bagad : Breton pipe-band * biniou & bombarde : traditional instruments used in Breton piping



PHOTO BY DEREK MAXWELL

ANDREW HAYES was born and raised in Ottawa, Ontario and his initial instruction came from his father, the late Pipe Major Patrick Hayes. He also received instruction from Scott MacAulay, Bill Livingstone, and Murray Henderson. Andrew competed at the Nicol-Brown in 1990 and 1991. He was the first winner of the Donald MacLeod Memorial 6/8 March competition, and he still wears the belt buckle that was awarded.

Highlights of Andrew's solo piping career include some of the most prestigious solo piping prizes in both North America and Scotland, including: The Highland Society of London Gold Medal at the Northern Meeting (2010); The A Grade MSR at the Northern Meeting (2011); The Open Jig at the Argyllshire Gathering in Oban (2013); The Piobaireachd and the overall at the Dan Reid Memorial (2011); The Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal (Canada) (2003) and three bars to that Medal (2006; 2007 and 2008); The Piobaireachd (2007 and 2008) and the overall at the North American Championships in Maxville (2008); The overall at the Cowal Highland Gathering and Braemar Highland Gathering in Scotland.

Andrew has been a member of the Toronto Police Pipe Band and the 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band. He is currently Pipe Major of the Ottawa Police Service Pipe Band, the North American Champions in Grade 2 for 2013. Andrew is a lawyer with the Office of the Auditor General of Canada. He enjoys spending his free time with his wife (Katherine) and his two young daughters (Rachel and Megan).



JUNE HANLEY has been piping since the age of 15 in the Charlotte Scottish Pipe Band, where her earliest influences were Harvey Ritch and Sandy Jones. She has studied Piobaireachd for many years with Jim McIntosh and, more recently, with Donald Lindsay. She has played with the Manchester Pipe Band, the Oran Mor Pipe Band, and currently plays with the Ulster Scottish Pipe Band. She won the Nicol-Brown Chalice in 1986, and has been a successful player, teacher and adjudicator.

June is active in the EUSPBA, having served as president, executive secretary, recording secretary and currently as the Music Board chair. She is a well-known teacher and judge in the EUSPBA circuit and has judged several years on the Ontario circuit, including Maxville and Montreal. She lives in a 230-year-old stone farmhouse in Warminster, Pennsylvania, with her husband, two daughters (when they are home from college), one dog, two cats, several deer, fox and groundhogs, and a horse away at boarding school. She is a principal science and technology planner in an architectural firm.

The Competitors

KIRK BRUNSON (Haverhill, Massachusetts)

Kirk began playing the bagpipes in 2002 under the instruction of Adam Holdaway, and now studies with Willie McCallum. He is a member of the 78th Halifax Citadel Pipe Band and the Stuart Highlanders Pipe Band. Apart from the bagpipes, he is currently studying Computer Science.

ANDREW DONLON (Germantown, Maryland)

Andrew has been studying the bagpipes since 2003. His first lessons came from the Rockville High School Pipe Band, which he stayed with until his graduation from high school in 2010. During his early years, Andrew took lessons with Chris Hamilton and later Paula Glendinning. Since graduation from high school, Andrew has studied with Jon Maffett and Mike Rogers, and he has been under the tutelage of Willie McCallum since January of 2012. Andrew is currently a senior at the College of Wooster, studying Music Performance, focusing on both the bagpipes and the saxophone. In 2012, Andrew won the overall Season Championship in the EUSPBA for Grade 1, and he is currently first in the overall standings for 2013. This summer, Andrew traveled to Scotland to play with the New York Metro Pipe Band, earning 3rd place in Grade 2 with the band, and competing individually in Pipe Idol and the MacGregor Memorial Contests. This is Andrew's second year to be invited to the Nicol-Brown.

JAMES DYSON (Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia)

James is a 16-year-old grade 11 student. He took his first chanter lessons in the fall of 2008 when he was eleven. One year later, he joined the 78th Highlanders (Halifax Citadel) Grade 5 band, where he played the 2010 and 2011 competition seasons. He played in the 78th Grade 3 band for the 2012 season and spent this year playing with the 78th Highlanders Grade 1 band. James has been playing solos under the instruction of Alex Gandy since 2009. Before making it into Grade 1 solos, James has won the ACPBA's Grade 5 light music Champion Supreme in 2010, Grade 3 light music and Piobaireachd in 2011, Grade 2 light music and Piobaireachd in 2012. Also in 2012, he won the Intermediate Amateur Piobaireachd at Maxville, along with placing 2nd in Grade 2 Jig and 3rd in in Grade 2 Strathspey and Reel.

James would like to thank his family for supporting him and being positive and encouraging. He would also like to thank Alex Gandy for being an excellent teacher and motivator.

CALLUM HARPER (Bolton, Ontario)

Callum is 18 and a first-year Civil Engineering student at Ryerson University in Toronto. Callum started taking bagpipe lessons when he was 6 and received instruction from Jamie Blackloch. For the past several years he has been receiving instruction from Bob Worrall.

Callum played in his first World Pipe Championship when he was 10. He has played in several bands, which include Georgetown Pipe Band, Niagara Regional Police, Scotia-Glenville Juvenile Band (placing third in the World Championship), Penetangor,

and Peel Regional Police.

Before moving to Grade 1, Callum won Champion Supreme in Ontario in Grade 2 for both light Music and Piobaireachd. In Grade 1 he was the 2012 Champion Supreme in Ontario for Light Music and Piobaireachd and he won the George Sherriff Memorial Invitational. In 2013, Callum was Champion Supreme in Ontario for Piobaireachd.

Callum enjoys other interests such as tennis, golf, snowboarding and video games.

LIAM HILDER (Port Coquitlam, British Columbia)

Liam is 16 and has been piping since the age of 6. He is taught by his parents, David and Shaunna Hilder. Liam is also currently a member of the Dowco Triumph Street Pipe Band in his 3rd season, having competed with them in the 2012 and the 2013 World Pipe Band Championships.

Liam enjoyed a very successful and competitive solo season in 2013, winning the overall BC Pipers' Association Grade 1 Grand Aggregate. After opening the season by winning the BCPA Mini-Gathering and Annual Gathering Combined Aggregate, he also won the Piobaireachd at the 2013 BCPA Indoor Meet; travelled down to Costa Mesa winning the Silver Chanter Grade 1 Aggregate; and closed the season by winning the MacLeod/MacCrimmon Quaich for Piobaireachd at the Pacific North West Scottish Highland Games.

Outside of piping, Liam is currently in his 11th grade year at Riverside High School. He is a leadership student in the school's Rapid Change Group, who raised enough money to build a school in Ecuador this past year, and volunteers regularly with the Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver.

ANDREW MACKAY (Kitchener, Ontario)

Andrew started learning the bagpipes at the age of 9 in Hanover, Ontario under the guidance of P/M Jack Harris. He was preceded into piping by his two older sisters, Angela and Lynda Mackay, who competed in the Nicol-Brown in 1993 and 1999, respectively. He received private tuition from a few notable pipers growing up, none more entertaining or enjoyable than Ed Neigh. Andrew left piping at the Grade One level after graduating from college in 2001 in order to start a family and focus on his career in the Government of Canada. It wasn't until spring 2012, after watching his son Gavin and daughter Drew take off with their own solo careers, and joining the Paris Port Dover Pipe Band with them, that he decided to dedicate his time to piping again. He has been receiving instruction from Ed over the last two seasons and would like to thank him for picking up where they left off 11 years earlier and finally getting him into Piobaireachd. This season has been a lot of fun so far, with Andrew finishing as runner-up in Champion Supreme points in the PPBSO, and winning Piper of the Day at the Cambridge Highland Games and Piper of the Day at Maxville, with a first prize in every contest.

JORDAN PERILLO (Winnipeg, Manitoba)

Jordan was 8 years old when he joined the Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band, where he received excellent tuition from the late Pipe Major Robert Fraser and instructors Bob Stankey, John Fulton, Doug Smee, Gary MacDonald and Jock Peden. He also received solo tuition from Clarke Stockton and Pipe Major Wes Sheppard of the St. Andrew's Society Pipe Band and Chris Armstrong (Scotland). Jordan has been studying Piobaireachd for several years under the guidance of Donald F. Lindsay and is currently taking light music lessons with James P.

Troy (Victoria, BC). He is greatly influenced by the musical playing of Gordon Duncan, Gordon Walker, and Stuart Liddell. One of his favorite moments was playing Gordon Duncan's tune, "The Belly Dancer," with Stuart Liddell.

At the age of 14, Jordan was promoted to Grade 1, however due to a nerve problem affecting his left arm, hand and fingers, he was unable to play for a year, resulting in uncertainty about his piping future. During that time, he received excellent medical care and tremendous support from his family and friends, including his mentor, Donald F. Lindsay. That, combined with his determination and unwillingness to give up, enabled Jordan to return to piping for the 2013 season.

During this past season, he competed provincially and travelled to both the east and west coasts of Canada for solo competition. Jordan is the 2013 PPBAM Grade 1 Piobaireachd and light music Champion. Other notable 2013 prizes are: Antigonish Highland Games Grade 1 Piper of the Games; New Glasgow Highland Games Piper of the Day; 1st place Piobaireachd and S/R at the New Brunswick Highland Games; 3rd place S/R at Maxville; 2nd place Jig and 4th place Piobaireachd at the BC Indoor.

Jordan has grown up playing competitive youth soccer. He attends high school in the Gifted Learners Program (PGL) and Advanced Placement (AP) and was awarded Academic Honours with Distinction in the 2012/2013 school year.

AARON STONE (Sedro-Woolley, Washington)

Aaron's love of bagpipes began at the age of 10 when his grandfather started to teach him on a practice chanter. In 2006, he joined the Northwest Junior Pipe Band in Seattle, Washington under the instruction of Kevin Auld. After several years of successful band and solo competitions, he will begin his 5th season with the Dowco Triumph Street Pipe Band, and he looks forward to the continued guidance of fellow band members and band leadership. One of his favorite pipe band experiences was performing with DTSPB in the "Pipes of Peace" Concert in Glasgow in 2012.

Aaron's most recent Grade 1 solo piping accomplishments include: the 2013 BC Pipers' Association Annual Gathering Aggregate (1st place MSR, 2nd place Piobaireachd); the 2013 Victoria Highland Games Aggregate (1st place H/J); the 2013 BC Highland Games Aggregate (1st place MSR, 2nd place Piobaireachd); the 2013 Portland Highland Games Aggregate (1st place MSR, 1st place H/J); and the 2013 Seattle Highland Games Aggregate (1st place MSR, 1st place Jig).

Outside of piping, Aaron is a full-time student at Bellevue Community College where he is studying in the Digital Media Arts program. He would like to thank David and Shauna Hilder, and his family and friends for all of their support and encouragement.

CAMPBELL WEBSTER (Concord, New Hampshire)

Campbell comes by his piping through his father Pipe Major Gordon Webster, ex Scots Guards and 9th Sovereign's piper and his mother, Lezlie Webster. Through their tutelage and workshops, Campbell's love of Scottish music brings him to this point. Although his first instrument at the age of 3 was the fiddle, (and he continues to play today) he began on a chanter at the age of 4 and by ear could play competition 2/4's by age 7. Listening to his parent's students at all the Highland Games, concerts and gigs, Campbell soon used these to increase his repertoire. Now iPod and sessions with other musicians continue to inspire Campbell to learn new music and arrange tunes and harmonies. He is enjoying playing with the Stuart Highlanders Grade 2 band and helping with their music; he plays snare drum in

the New Hampshire Pipes and Drums Grade 4 band and bass drum with the Grade 5 band. He teaches several bands and competes also as a Drum Major.

JACK WILLIAMSON (Topeka, Kansas)

Jack is 16, and was originally taught to play by P/M Tom McKee and Matt Kline, both from Kansas City. He now takes lessons with Donald McBride of Overland Park, Kansas. Jack is a member of the Kansas City St. Andrew Pipes & Drums.

Jack spent the past summer in Northern Ireland and Scotland, piloting a new Young Piper Development Program run by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association's Northern Ireland branch. He won prizes at all four Juvenile contests in which he competed in Scotland, including winning the Strathspey & Reel event at Rosneath Highland Games. He was also the youngest competitor at this year's National Piping Centre Pipe Idol competition in Glasgow during World's Week.

While in Northern Ireland, Jack played with Bleary & District Pipe Band from Lurgan, County Armagh, helping them win both the Grade 2 All-Ireland and Ulster Championships as well as 6th place at the World Pipe Band Championship in Glasgow. He plans to return to Northern Ireland next summer.

Jack won the MSR event and was awarded 3rd place overall at the Balmoral Classic Junior Solo Championship in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, last November. He also competed in the invitational P/M George M. Bell Amateur Championship at the Metro Cup contest in Newark, New Jersey, earlier this year.

Jack is a third-year high school student considering attending university in Northern Ireland or Scotland after graduation. He plans on studying some combination of physics, math, Spanish and music.



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6/8 Marches

(The competitors have chosen two tunes to play in this order.)

1. **KIRK BRUNSON**
Cameron MacFadyen
The Ross Battery
2. **CAMPBELL WEBSTER**
Braemar Gathering
Duncan McGillivray, Chief Steward
3. **JAMES DYSON**
Frank Thompson
El Alamein
4. **CALLUM HARPER**
Bengullion
Miss Ishabel T. MacDonald
5. **JACK WILLIAMSON**
John Gordon of Drummuie
Jean Mauchline
6. **AARON STONE**
The MacNeils of Ugadale
Ellenorr
7. **ANDREW DONLON**
Mrs. MacDonald of Uig
Donald MacLean of Lewis
8. **LIAM HILDER**
The MacNeils of Ugadale
MacLeod of Mull
9. **JORDAN PERILLO**
Lord Macpherson of Drumochter
John Mackenzie's Farewell to Strathglass
10. **ANDREW MACKAY**
Angus MacKinnon
The MacNeils of Ugadale

Piobaireachd

(The judges have selected one tune for each competitor.)

1. **CALLUM HARPER**
Lament for the Viscount of Dundee
I Got a Kiss of the King's Hand
Lament for Captain MacDougall
2. **JACK WILLIAMSON**
Corrienessan's Salute
His Father's Lament for Donald MacKenzie
Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart's Lament #1
3. **AARON STONE**
The Park Piobaireachd #2
Sir James MacDonald of the Isles' Lament
Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart's Lament #1
4. **ANDREW DONLON**
The End of the Great Bridge
MacKintosh's Lament
Melbank's Salute
5. **LIAM HILDER**
Lament for Donald of Laggan
Lament for the Son of King Aro
Hector MacLean's Warning
6. **JORDAN PERILLO**
The King's Taxes
Lament for Donald of Laggan
The MacGregors' Salute
7. **ANDREW MACKAY**
Corrienessan's Salute
The Massacre of Glencoe
Too Long in this Condition
8. **KIRK BRUNSON**
Lament for Captain MacDougall
Too Long in This Condition
In Praise of Morag
9. **CAMPBELL WEBSTER**
Lament for the Old Sword
The MacGregors' Salute
Lady Anapool's Lament
10. **JAMES DYSON**
The MacGregors' Salute
Grain in Hides, Corn in Sacks
All the Men Paid Rent but Rory

IMPORTANT PHOTO OP

Please meet in the sanctuary immediately following the final 6/8 March performance for the official 2013 group photo of the competitors and judges. Weather permitting, outdoor photos will also be taken at this time.

Please wear your Nicol-Brown lapel pin!

March, Strathspey and Reel

(The judges have selected one set of tunes for each competitor.)

1. ANDREW DONLON

2/4 Marches: Bonnie Ann
Allan Dodd's Farewell to Scotland
Strathspeys: Caledonian Society of London
Delvinside
Reels: Alick C. MacGregor
Pretty Marion

2. LIAM HILDER

2/4 Marches: Major Manson's Farewell to Clachantrushal
John MacColl's March to Kilbowie Cottage
Strathspeys: Cabar Feidh
Delvinside
Reels: Sandy Cameron
John Morrison of Assynt House

3. JORDAN PERILLO

2/4 Marches: Edinburgh City Police
Leaving Glenurquhart
Strathspeys: Inveraray Castle
Caledonian Society of London
Reels: The Sheepwife
Gena MacLeod

4. ANDREW MACKAY

2/4 Marches: John MacColl's March to Kilbowie Cottage
Arthur Bignold of Lochrosque
Strathspeys: The Ewe with the Crooked Horn
Maggie Cameron
Reels: Bessie McIntyre
The Sound of Sleat

5. KIRK BRUNSON

2/4 Marches: Kantara to El Arish
The Pap of Glencoe
Strathspeys: The Shepherd's Crook
Susan MacLeod
Reels: Alick C. McGregor
The Sound of Sleat

6. CAMPBELL WEBSTER

2/4 Marches: Hugh Kennedy
Captain Carswell
Strathspeys: Susan MacLeod
Maggie Cameron
Reels: John Morrison of Assynt House
The Smith of Chilliechassie

7. JAMES DYSON

2/4 Marches: Jimmy Young
Pipe Major John D. Burgess
Strathspeys: Catlodge
John Roy Stewart
Reels: John MacInnes
The Rejected Suitor

8. CALLUM HARPER

2/4 Marches: Angus McKinnon of Eigg
The Pap of Glencoe
Strathspeys: Arniston Castle
Inveraray Castle
Reels: Neil Angus MacDonald
Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran

9. JACK WILLIAMSON

2/4 Marches: Hugh Kennedy
The Knightswood Ceilidh
Strathspeys: Dora MacLeod
John Roy Stewart
Reels: Capt. Lachlan MacPhail of Tiree
The Smith of Chilliechassie (W. Ross setting)

10. AARON STONE

2/4 Marches: David Ross of Rosehall
The Duke of Roxburgh's Farewell to the Blackmount Forest
Strathspeys: The Piper's Bonnet
The Top of Craigvenow
Reels: The Sheepwife
Thompson's Dirk

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www.uspipingfoundation.org





The Executive Committee of the
Eastern United States Pipe Band Association
extends a very warm welcome to
Patrick Molard and Andrew Hayes
and best wishes to all of the
Nicol-Brown Amateur Invitational Piping Competition
competitors, judges, volunteers, organizers and spectators.

This is truly one of the premier amateur piping events
in the world and it is an honor to be a sponsor.

EUSPBA Executive Committee

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Wayne Holscott, Officer-at-Large



Please join us for the 2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Saturday, November 9, 2013 — Meeting at 9 a.m.
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For more information, please contact:
Executive Secretary Sheldon Hamblin at zecsec@euspba.org

History

In recognition of the continuing development of piping standards in North America, Donald F. Lindsay and students from Williams College in Massachusetts established the First Annual Williams College Amateur Invitational Piobaireachd, where the Nicol-Brown Chalice was first presented on April 2, 1982. This special event was dedicated to Robert Brown and Robert Nicol ("The Bobs of Balmoral") who shared a deep and abiding enthusiasm for Piobaireachd. It was out of their affiliation with John MacDonald of Inverness that their life-long commitment to the teaching and perpetuation of Ceol Mor grew. As musicians and as world citizens, their lives remain an inspiration to pipers everywhere. It is upon the shoulders of these great teachers and Piobaireachd authorities that today's pipers and instructors stand.

Modeled after Scotland's Oban and Inverness competitions, the "Olympics of Piping," the Nicol-Brown Invitational provides enthu-

siastic top amateur pipers with a prestigious competition which sets a standard by which to judge their piping, and a goal to direct their hours of practice. Piobaireachd, or classical pipe music, does not always get a fair hearing due to the length, difficulty and intricacy of the tunes, but this invitational contest has become a respected place to play and listen to Piobaireachd in the United States. In order to encourage Piobaireachd of the highest standards, the top amateur Piobaireachd players from across the North American continent have been invited to compete. All competitors selected for the Nicol-Brown must be ranked at the top amateur level for both Piobaireachd and Light Music by their home associations, and must have significant results in the current season.

The Nicol-Brown has pioneered the way for elite invitational events for amateur pipers. Many former competitors and their family members return each year to volunteer their time to continue the traditions of the Nicol-Brown — a testimony to the influence that the contest has had on the lives of so many pipers.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Each competitor this year will receive an Airstream Blowpipe donated by Scott's Highland Services, Ltd., as well as a Nicol-Brown lapel pin, a Nicol-Brown towel, and a framed group photo.

DEDICATIONS

Doreen Forney's donation is given in memory of P/M Angus Macdonald.
Rick Woolard's donation is given in memory of Ronald Morrison of South Uist.
Steve Porter's donation is given in gratitude and appreciation for what Invermark has meant to him and to countless other pipers and drummers over the years. Keep making wonderful music and magical experiences!

Be a Patron of the Arts!

The Nicol-Brown Contest has provided an elite, formal, indoor event for Amateur pipers since 1982, thanks to the generous donors and volunteers who have given their time and financial support over the years. If you'd like to volunteer to help with next year's contest, please speak with one of the committee members. If you'd like to send a donation of any size, mail a check payable to the Nicol-Brown Chalice to:

Barb McCarthy ■ 5 Ascot Circle, Apt. 9 ■ Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

You may send your donation through Paypal at www.nicol-brown.org. The Nicol-Brown Chalice, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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Nicol-Brown competitors:
Stay Tuned.**

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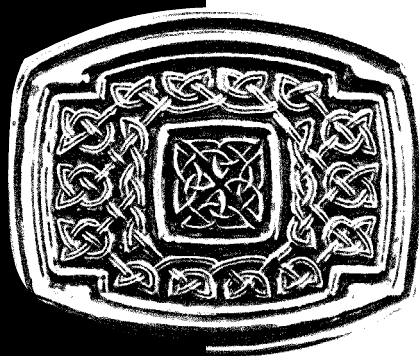
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Trophies and Prizes

In 1982, Brian Yates, an American piper and silversmith, was commissioned to craft the Nicol-Brown Chalice, with the winning Piobaireachd competitor's name to be inscribed on the base each year. Brian has described the Chalice project as a "cathedral" which would take years to complete. Stephen Walker of Walker Metalsmiths has volunteered many hours of his artistic skills to bring the cathedral closer to completion.

In 1987, the Nicol-Brown committee added a March, Strathspey and Reel contest, and commissioned Mr. Fred Graham, Scottish Celtic Armourer and Silversmith of the "Royal Mile" in Edinburgh, to make a targe in honor of P/M William Ross. The MSR winner's name is inscribed on the targe each year, along with the tunes played in the winning performance.

In 1990, a 6/8 March contest was added in honor of Donald MacLeod, with a silver buckle designed by Brian Yates to be awarded each year. In 2007, Stephen Walker designed a new edition of the buckle, to be awarded for the fourth time this year. He has done considerable research on a technique to create "chip-carving" which is how he believes many of the early medieval masterpieces of Celtic metalwork were fashioned. The method seems to have been lost about a thousand years ago, and Stephen is working on a revival.

Nicol-Brown Chalice For Piobaireachd

1982	Nancy Crutcher: "Lament for Donald Duaghal MacKay"
1983	Ian Beatty: "Black Donald's March"
1984	Robert Minnear: "Lament for Donald Duaghal MacKay"
1985	Kenneth Garson: "The Vaunting"
1986	June Potter: "The Park Piobaireachd" #2
1987	Joyce McIntosh: "The Old Men of the Shells"
1988	Daniel Whatley: "The Park Piobaireachd" #2
1989	Katy Rashid: "The MacDougalls' Gathering"
1990	Daniel Kenny: "The Desperate Battle"
1991	Skip Cleavinger: "The Earl of Seaforth's Salute"
1992	The contest was not held.
1993	Paula Glendinning: "The Desperate Battle"
1994	Andrew Hoag: "Beloved Scotland"
1995	Paula Glendinning: "The Desperate Battle"
1996	Ryan MacDonald: "Grain in Hides, Corn in Sacks"
1997	John MacPhee: "The Battle of the Pass of Crieff"
1998	Brian May: "The Prince's Salute"
1999	Maureen Connor: "The Marquis of Argyll's Salute"
2000	Erin McCarthy: "The Rout of Glenfruin"
2001	Erin McCarthy: "The Rout of Glenfruin"
2002	Jeremy Freeman: "The Old Men of the Shells"
2003	Lyric Todkill: "Lament for the Only Son"
2004	Eric Ouellette: "Scarce of Fishing"
2005	Colin Lee: "The Desperate Battle"
2006	Cameron Scott: "The Old Men of the Shells"
2007	Alastair Lee: "Melbank's Salute"
2008	Johnny Bassett: "The MacGregors' Salute"
2009	Anthony Masterson: "The Mackays' Banner"
2010	Robert Durning: "Lament for the Viscount of Dundee"
2011	Joseph Stewart: "The Red Speckled Bull"
2012	Alexander Schiele: "The King's Taxes"

The overall Nicol-Brown champion for 2013 will win round-trip airfare from a major North American airport to London to compete in the Scottish Piping Society of London competitions in November 2014. The timing of the trip will allow our winner a year to prepare to compete in the prestigious Piobaireachd and Light Music contests in London, along with the outstanding opportunity to listen to the Bratach Gorm and other events which draw the top players from around the world. Bob Brown and Bob Nicol were both featured prominently in the prize lists in London, and we are proud to connect our contest to that history. Bob Brown won the Open Piobaireachd (now called the Gillies Cup) 12 times and the Bratach Gorm (for Former Winners of the Gold Medal or Gillies Cup) three times. His last win in London was in November of 1971, just a few months before he died.



Inspired by the Ardagh Chalice, c. 800-899 AD, the Nicol-Brown Chalice was designed and created by Brian Yates as a symbol of the pursuit of excellence in Celtic art and music. Stephen Walker of Walker Metalsmiths has added his artistry to the chalice, with plans for further embellishments.

William Ross Challenge Targe for MSR

1987	Alasdair Wright	2000	Glenn Brown
1988	Daniel Whatley	2001	Lionel Tupman
1989	Ken McKeveny	2002	Lionel Tupman
1990	Robert Boyd	2003	Lyric Todkill
1991	Alan Bevan	2004	Andrew Lewis
1993	Paula Glendinning	2005	Alex Gandy
1994	Jason Briscoe	2006	Micah Babinski
1995	Michael Rogers	2007	Alastair Lee
1996	Michael Rogers	2008	John Lee
1997	Steven Tripp	2009	Anthony Masterson
1998	Andrew Douglas	2010	Glenn Walpole
1999	Glenn Brown	2011	Ursa Beckford
		2012	Alexander Schiele



Donald MacLeod Memorial 6/8 Marches

1990	P. Andrew L. Hayes	2003	Lyric Todkill
1991	Alan Bevan	2004	Robert Beaton
1993	Jamie Troy	2005	Colin Lee
1994	Ryan MacDonald	2006	Kegan Sheehan
1995	Paula Glendinning	2007	Gordon Conn
1996	Ryan MacDonald	2008	Johnny Bassett
1997	Joss Fisher	2009	Richard Gillies
1998	Andrew Douglas	2010	Chris Lee
1999	Glenn Brown	2011	Joseph Stewart
2000	Andrew J. Hayes	2012	Joseph Stewart
2001	Lionel Tupman		
2002	Lionel Tupman		

ROBERT URQUHART BROWN

Bob Brown was born in 1906 in Banchory, Scotland, of a family which had long shown a keen interest in all the music of Scotland. He received his first instruction on the bagpipes from William Fraser, a pupil of G.S. McLennan, who although suffering from a physical handicap acquired during the First World War, was still considered a fine player. Next, the young Brown went to Jonathan Ewen, an Inverness Medalist, who began for him his life-long study of Ceol Mor. Ewen was a pupil of Sandy Cameron, so it was not surprising that his young pupil began to win a number of competitions in his local area. This brought him to the attention of G.S. Allan, who took him under



his wing and accompanied him to the Argyllshire Gathering in 1925, where Brown won the junior piobaireachd. The following year he was unplaced but highly commended in the Gold Medal event.

Although he was a keen competitor and loved the excitement of the boards, Bob Brown did not always find it easy to get time off from his work—which is surprising in view of the fact that his employers have always been enthusiasts for piping. It was in fact 1931 before he was able to return to Oban, and this time he won the Gold Medal. By then, however, he was the

holder of the Inverness Medal, which he won in 1928. This was also the year when, according to Bob, there occurred the most important event in his piping life—he began to take lessons from John MacDonald. “I owe my knowledge,” said Bob Brown once, “to John MacDonald who made me the piobaireachd enthusiast that I am.” Certainly, it is partly through his long and close association with John MacDonald that he came to be looked on as a great authority, but this was also due to his own clear and reasoned expositions on this subject, and his unflinching ability to produce great music whenever he played.

His fame and standing increased as time went on. In the last decade of his life, pipers began beating a path to the door of his cottage at Balmoral and he began taking his knowledge to different parts of the world. For several years he was the instructor at the Invermark summer schools in New York state; he visited South Africa and New Zealand; and it was while he was in Australia in 1972 that the first signs came of the ailment which was to prove so quickly fatal. He was barely able to get home to his beloved Scotland before he passed away.

ROBERT BELL NICOL

Bob Nicol was born in 1905 in Durriss, Aberdeenshire, and was first taught by a piper MacKellar, a pupil of MacDougall Gillies, who was later killed in the 1914-18 war. He was then taught by one of the Ewen brothers. Another of the brothers, Jonathan Ewen, at that time was teaching the young Bob Brown who was later to become Bob Nicol's life-long friend. Bob Nicol had a successful junior career and his first piping appointment was as piper to Lord Cowdray at Dunecht. It was from here that he moved to Balmoral as King George V's piper in 1924. In 1926, when only 20 years old he had a shooting accident that resulted in the loss of his right eye. A shot from a fellow gamekeeper ricocheted off a frozen tree and hit him in the eye.

Later in 1926, King George V was anxious to have Bob given the best tuition and he consulted the factor at Balmoral, Sir Douglas

Ramsay, and Sheriff Grant, Rothiemurchus, who were both pupils of John MacDonald. As a result, Bob Nicol was sent to Inverness to study with John MacDonald for a month that same year. It was a nerve-racking time, as Bob related, “When John MacDonald came into the room he gave me a good dressing-down for a start. He said, ‘You're no use to me.’ In fact he was quite nasty to me for the whole month.” But on the completion of his course a very good report was sent to Balmoral. The following year he was accompanied by Bob Brown, and the visits continued every year until 1939.

During this period, Bob Nicol became one of the outstanding players, winning all the top honours including the Gold Medal at Inverness and Oban in 1930 and the Clasp in 1932. His medal tune at Inverness was “Lament for Donald Ban MacCrimmon,” a tune he was later to play at the graveside of both John MacDonald and Bob Brown. Throughout the 1939-45 war he served as pipe major in the 2nd Gordons and ran a piobaireachd class for the 15th Scottish Division. He also taught at schools in America and Brittany. He was a very good and firm teacher, a likeable man with a sharp wit and sense of humour. Dedicated to keeping the traditional piobaireachd alive, he was undoubtedly one of the greats and one of the most knowledgeable men of our time. Bob Nicol died in 1978.

(These bios include excerpts from Vol. 24, #10 and Vol. 30, #9 of the *Piping Times*.)

PIPE MAJOR WILLIAM ROSS

Pipe Major William Ross (1879-1965) learned his early piping from his father, mother, and his uncle, Aeneas Ross, who guided his early steps in Piobaireachd. By his own great musical ability, Pipe Major Ross rose to the top of his profession. Music flowed from William Ross's pipe and fingers with no apparent effort: “the mighty frame seemed hardly to need to blow”. It was the simplicity of the true expert—like the golf swing of a master—making it look easy until we try to do it ourselves. Unlike so many pipers, success never

spoiled him, and if ever one needed a tonic, an hour in the company of the illustrious Pipe Major would assure a cure for the ailment. He was peerless in conversation, a Prince of Storytellers. He loved human beings and was loved by them in return. In his life and work, Willie Ross was a delightful example of the perfect gentleman. By his courtesy, his modesty, and his professional ability, he left an indelible, honoured name that will live down through the ages and cheer the hearts of those who listen to the recordings of his lovely music.

He joined the Scots Guards in 1896 and from that date until his retirement in 1957 he served piping and pipers. In 1920 he was appointed Principal of the new Army School of Piping at Edinburgh Castle. After his retirement from the



Army, it was in 1921 that he became the Piobaireachd Society's tutor, and through his appointment, pipers both military and civilian were able to benefit from his tuition. His pupils are scattered throughout the world and always provided the cream of the piping world with many champions amongst them. The world of pipers has not only been made up of players, teachers, and composers; there have been those who worked to make the music of the pipe available to the piper, and those who worked to ensure that the great heritage was passed on. William Ross's collection of pipe music remains the mainstay and guide of many pipers.

(Excerpted from *Piping Times*, June 1966; *A Highlander Looks Back* by Angus MacPherson; *Scots Guards Book 1*; and *The Piper's Handbook* by Pipe Major John MacLellan.)

DONALD MACLEOD

Donald MacLeod was born in Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis on August 14, 1916. His first piping lessons were from his father, and at the age of six he came into contact with Pipe Major Willie Ross, who travelled to the Hebrides on behalf of the Piobaireachd Society. At age 11, Donald had his first lessons with John MacDonald of Inverness, and that relationship lasted for 25 years.

MacLeod joined the Seaforth Highlanders in 1937, and in 1939 went to France with the 2nd Battalion. He was taken prisoner at St. Valery, but escaped, and made his way back across Europe to re-join his regiment. MacLeod was made pipe major in 1941, and in 1944 returned to the front, where he piped his regiment across the Rhine during the last campaign of the war. Following the war, MacLeod spent a number of years at Fort George, where he tutored young pipers in the British Army.

Few competitors have won as many prizes as Donald MacLeod.

He won the Gold Medal at Inverness in 1947, and added eight Clasp between 1948 and 64. He won the Open Piobaireachd at Oban three times, and six Silver Stars for the Former Winners' MSR at Inverness. In 1959, Donald MacLeod competed only at Oban and Inverness. Of the seven events he entered, MacLeod won six first prizes, and was unplaced in the 7th event!


Donald MacLeod owned the bagpipe firm of Grainger & Campbell after leaving the army, and during those years he travelled around the world to teach and perform. He also was among the first to use recorded lessons for teaching piobaireachd, and he sent tapes to pipers around the world. Those original tapes are now being released in a comprehensive CD series available to all pipers.



MacLeod was a prolific composer with six books of light music, plus a collection of piobaireachd. Many of the tunes collected, composed and arranged for his 7th and 8th books of light music were published by the Gordon Highlanders after his death in 1982. His tunes are standard fare of both bands and soloists, and they are heard wherever the Highland bagpipe is played.

Donald MacLeod left many recordings of himself through years of BBC radio programs and solo records. After he had retired from competition he was heard on two excellent recordings, "The Piper in the Nave" and "The Piper's Ceilidh." Donald MacLeod was awarded the M.B.E. for his services to piping.

—by Iain MacDonald, Regina, Saskatchewan






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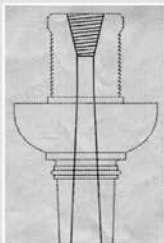
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C2

C3

C4

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C3 McCallum M•C² plastic pipe chanter

C4 McCallum M•C² blackwood pipe chanter

Our McC2 chanter was designed by Willie McCallum for his own use competing in the top solo piping competitions and he has been very successful with the chanter. It is also played by a few bands and Bagad Cap Caval became World Pipe Band Champions in Grade 2 playing this chanter.

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Results of the 30th Nicol-Brown Amateur Invitational Contest

October 6, 2012 ~::~~ Albany, New York

Judges: Willie McCallum, Nancy Tunncliffe, and Paula Glendinning

2012 OVERALL NICOL-BROWN CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Alexander Schiele (18) Airfare to London donated by the New Hampshire Highland Games in memory of Ruffin Hobbs.
2. Jamie Kubasiewicz (13) \$200 scholarship donated by Fairlie M. Sharp in memory of her parents, Bob and Annie Brown.
3. Joseph Stewart (11) \$200 scholarship donated by Doreen Forney in memory of P/M Angus Macdonald.
4. Nicholas Theriault (9) \$200 scholarship donated by Peter Kent in memory of Joan Fitch.

ROBERT NICOL-ROBERT BROWN CHALICE FOR PIOBAIREACHD

1. Alexander Schiele (9) "The King's Taxes" Prize: A bound Piobaireachd Society Collection donated by Jon Maffett from The Piper's Hut.
2. Jamie Kubasiewicz (7) "The MacLeods' Salute"
3. Nicholas Theriault (6) "Lament for the Viscount of Dundee"
4. Dylan Whittemore (5) "Black Donald's March"
5. Kirk Brunson (4) "Lament for Donald of Laggan"

WILLIAM ROSS CHALLENGE TARGE FOR MARCH, STRATHSPEY, AND REEL

1. Alexander Schiele (8) "The Knightswood Ceilidh," "The Islay Ball," and "The Grey Bob"
Prize: An McC² blackwood pipe chanter donated by McCallum Bagpipes.
2. Jamie Kubasiewicz (6) "Abercairney Highlanders," "John Roy Stewart" and "Ca' the Ewes"
3. Joseph Stewart (5) "Abercairney Highlanders," "The Shepherd's Crook," and "The Brown Haired Maid"
4. Daniel Pisowloski (4) "The Glengarry Gathering," "Dora MacLeod," and "Miss Proud"
5. Callum Harper (3) "The Pap of Glencoe," "Doune of Invernochty" and "Neil Angus MacDonald"

DONALD MACLEOD MEMORIAL 6/8 MARCHES

1. Joseph Stewart (6) "Ellenorr" and "Dornkop" Prizes: The Donald MacLeod Memorial Silver Buckle created and donated by Stephen Walker; and a copy of *Along the Road* donated by Iain MacDonald.
2. Andrew Donlon (4) "The British Legion" and "The MacNeils of Ugadale"
3. Nicholas Theriault (3) "Donald MacLean of Lewis" and "John D. Burgess"
4. Callum Harper (2) "Bengullion" and "Miss Ishabel T. MacDonald"
5. Alexander Schiele (1) "MacLeod of Mull" and "Invercharron Highland Gathering"

DRESS AND DEPARTMENT (judged by Eric MacNeill)

1. Joseph Stewart Prize: Hand-crafted cherry pipe case from Rad Pipers, donated by David Rennie.



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The Nicol-Brown committee would like to thank the organizers of the New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival for their continued support of Amateur piping through a major contribution to our prize list.

The trip to compete in London is an outstanding opportunity for the Nicol-Brown Champion each year. This prize is made possible by the generosity of the New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival.

An invitation to the Nicol-Brown is held each year for the Amateur Grade One Piper of the Day at the New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival, provided that piper has also played in the Grade One Piobaireachd event that day.



Results of the 31st Nicol-Brown Amateur Invitational Contest

October 12, 2013 ~::~~ Albany, New York

Judges: Patrick Molard, Andrew Hayes, and June Hanley

Events and Winners

Prizes

2013 OVERALL NICOL-BROWN CHAMPIONSHIP

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. ANDREW MACKAY (12 points) | Airfare to London donated by the New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival and by Steve Porter; and an McC ² blackwood pipe chanter with a custom-designed sole donated by McCallum Bagpipes. |
| 2. AARON STONE (12 points) | A Peter Henderson Blackwood Pipe Chanter donated by Henderson's Ltd. |
| 3. JACK WILLIAMSON (12 points) | An R. G. Hardie Piper Flight Case donated by R. G. Hardie & Co. Ltd. |
| 4. LIAM HILDER (10 points) | \$150 piping scholarship donated by Doreen Forney in memory of P/M Angus Macdonald. |

(Points for overall champion)

ROBERT NICOL-ROBERT BROWN CHALICE FOR PIOBAIREACHD

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------|--|
| (9) | 1. ANDREW MACKAY | A bound Piobaireachd Society Collection donated by Jon Maffett from The Piper's Hut. |
| (7) | 2. AARON STONE | A McCallum practice chanter donated by McCallum Bagpipes. |
| (6) | 3. JACK WILLIAMSON | The Masters of Piobaireachd CDs, Volume 1-6, donated by Joseph Stewart and Family. |
| (5) | 4. JAMES DYSON | <i>Donald MacDonald's Collection of Piobaireachd</i> , Volume 1, donated by the Spicer Family; and <i>The Waking of the Bridegroom</i> CD donated by Charlie and Paula Glendinning. |
| (4) | 5. JORDAN PERILLO | Hugh Cheape's book, <i>Bagpipes: A National Collection of a National Treasure</i> , donated by JoAnn Scott; and <i>The Waking of the Bridegroom</i> CD donated by Charlie and Paula Glendinning. |

WILLIAM ROSS CHALLENGE TARGE FOR MARCH, STRATHSPEY, AND REEL

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|--|
| (8) | 1. LIAM HILDER | A bound William Ross Collection donated by Steve Porter; and a tshirt and cap donated by R. G. Hardie & Co. Ltd. |
| (6) | 2. KIRK BRUNSON | <i>The Gordon Highlanders Pipe Music Collection</i> , Vol. 1 donated by Bruce and Betsy Douglas; and a tshirt and cap donated by R. G. Hardie & Co. Ltd. |
| (5) | 3. CALLUM HARPER | <i>Scots Guards</i> , Volume 2 donated by Doreen Forney; and a tshirt and cap donated by R. G. Hardie & Co. Ltd. |
| (4) | 4. AARON STONE | <i>Scots Guards</i> , Volume 1 donated by Doreen Forney; and a tshirt and cap donated by R. G. Hardie & Co. Ltd. |
| (3) | 5. ANDREW MACKAY | <i>The Masters' Collection: Rarities of Highland Bagpipe Music</i> donated by Scott's Highland Services; and a cap donated by R. G. Hardie & Co. Ltd. |

DONALD MACLEOD MEMORIAL 6/8 MARCHES

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------|--|
| (6) | 1. JACK WILLIAMSON | The Donald MacLeod Memorial Silver Buckle created and donated by Stephen Walker of Walker Metalsmiths; and a copy of Chris Armstrong's <i>Re:Tradition</i> digital collection on USB drive donated by Reelpipes.com. |
| (4) | 2. KIRK BRUNSON | Piper's Pal Reed Case and Reed Protector donated by Duncan's Highland Supply; and Chris Armstrong's <i>Re:Tradition</i> digital collection on USB drive donated by Reelpipes.com. |
| (3) | 3. JAMES DYSON | Chris Armstrong's <i>Re:Tradition</i> digital collection donated by Reelpipes.com; and <i>Harlaw</i> Double CD donated by Charlie and Paula Glendinning. |
| (2) | 4. LIAM HILDER | Chris Armstrong's <i>Re:Tradition</i> digital collection donated by Reelpipes.com; and <i>Pipers of the Canadian Regular Army</i> donated by Scott's Highland Services. |
| (1) | 5. AARON STONE | Chris Armstrong's <i>Re:Tradition</i> digital collection donated by Reelpipes.com. |

DRESS AND DEPARTMENT (judged by Eric MacNeill)

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. CAMPBELL WEBSTER | Kilt pin designed after the Bird of Friendship from the Book of Kells. |
|---------------------|--|

Save the Date! ■ **October 11, 2014**

The Nicol-Brown Contest is on Columbus Day Weekend/Canadian Thanksgiving Weekend.



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