



Victorian Pipers Association Inc. A0044381Y
www.vicpipers.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2009

This season seems to have gone very quickly. It has been a year of steady memberships and performances. Whilst membership has been slightly down this year, it is very pleasing to see solo competition flourishing in Victoria.

Again we have had some challenges with finding judges this year. There do not seem to be the number of judges that there used to be and a number of senior judges have indicated that they would like to retire and hand over the reins. We notice this decline both in Pipe Band Competitions and our piping competitions, and other states seem to have the same issue.

Again, we have had to run the competitions this year without a great deal of assistance. The VPA is a voluntary organization and therefore I am grateful for all assistance I receive, however it was almost impossible to get the work done this year.

I would like to thank Malcolm Holloway and Nancy Holloway for their tireless assistance this year. They have been invaluable – even when our VPA laptop died, and we had to use Malcolm's laptop, he spent the evening before the competition installing the necessary software so that we could run the competition the next day.

Malcolm and Nancy have made themselves available at every competition and my grateful thanks are extended to them.

I also would like to thank the promoters without whom there would be no contests, for running efficient competitions. Thank you also to all band pipe majors and tutors for encouraging their students to enter solos.

Finally I must thank my wife Judy for being Treasurer and supporting the VPA and myself through out the year.

I was asked earlier this year to take on the role of Vice – Principal of Piping. This was due to health issues of the current VP - Ron Gallagher. I did consider this for a long time before committing - one of the issues was that being VP and President of the VPA would cause a conflict of interest, and another concern was the workload of trying to do both. To this end I would like to inform you all that I will not be standing for President in 2011.

I have enjoyed my time in this role, as it is not often that you can become the Founding President of an organization. I have a great deal of affection for this organization and its members. I will be sad to leave, however feel that I can be of real benefit in my new role.

I wish my successor the very best of luck.

President

Aiming to promote and develop the playing of the Great Highland Bagpipe at solo level to the highest possible standard.