



Season 2007 was another busy year for the band. LSPB performed at over 40 events.

In addition to our High Street and regular games performances, the band played at: the Caravan Club Jubilee celebrations in Onich; the ARC Wilderness Opening Ceremony in Fort William; the Three Peaks Yacht Race; the wedding of former Pipe Major, Shona Bruce, in Glenfinnan; the UCI Mountain Bike



World Championships and the Royal National Mod. The latter involved two performances: firstly at the opening ceremony and then to celebrate the



ending of the children sections of the Mod. The Three Peaks event in late June rivalled our annual remembrance parades for the coldest weather. There was fresh snow on the Ben and there was a real fear of frostbite!

The band draws most of its members from Lochaber High School and it was perhaps fitting that an article in the



Scotsman (15 May 2007) about the

school, featured a lovely photo of some of the band members with the wonderful backdrop of the Ben. We are very fortunate that we can make extensive use of the LHS facilities and appreciate the support of the teaching and janitorial staff.

Some band members took part in an activities week at Kinlochleven High School in June. This involved LSPB members teaching chanter and drumming to small groups of pupils. This was an enjoyable experience and a good way to develop interschool links.

Membership was pretty stable with Chris Ness continuing in his role as PM for a second year. We were sorry to say goodbye to Chris Grant who left the area in May. He was with us for a relatively short time but was a popular member. His parents offered to put a can for band funds in their shop and this has proved to be a useful source of additional money. Last year £331 was raised from this. The Grants have sold



Claggan Shop but thankfully the can remains!

The High Street performances continue to be our main source of income. This year we started our band performances from the Grand Hotel. Caroline Haynes kindly agreed to our Chairman's request to use their basement store and their staff were very accommodating. Band



pipers also took it in turn to play for any coach parties that were in and earn themselves some extra pocket money. Alas the hotel has now been sold and is waiting demolition (McTavish's, St Andrews's old church hall..... a pattern?) We have yet to secure a new starting venue for 2008. It was nice to again have a crowd of people waiting for us in Cameron Square and this was thanks to the Hepburn family who put out an advertising board every Tuesday and Thursday morning.

Our drumming instructor Alexis Ferguson regularly travelled from Glasgow a couple of times a month to teach the drum corps. She also found buyers for a number of our old drums. Unfortunately she has taken up a 2 year drumming post in New Zealand. She is sadly missed but perhaps she will be able to offer her services again when she returns to Scotland. Since October 2007 band member Carolyn McKee has taken on the responsibility of drumming instruction. We now have 8 regular attenders at beginner classes on a Thursday night. (& one very old member!) This will hopefully boost our snare drummer numbers in 2008/2009.



The highlight of the year for many of the band members was the trip to Fairburn in September. This was paid from band funds and a small contribution from members.

The weather was great, the camaraderie was excellent and the behaviour was exceptional. A wide range of activities were on offer including cycling, ropes course, climbing, abseiling and team work exercises. The paintballing was a joy and some were a bit zealous when it

came to firing rounds (no names, we know who you are!).



We have new leading pipers and drummers for 2007/08. Pipe Major

It was also the last time PM Chris Ness, PS Naomi Grant and DC Sarah MacKay were with the band. They had been presented with medals and quaichs by LHS rector Jim Sutherland at the final night parade in September and Fairburn was a nice, informal chance to wish them well as they leave the area to go to university in Aberdeen and Cambridge. They were highly committed and long serving members of the band and we wish them well and hope they continue to play in the future.



The band purchased new polo shirts with the bands name emblazoned on them. These can be used for more informal performances and are also in keeping with high school dress code. The band used them for the school Christmas concert performances.

Carolyn McKee, Pipe Sergeant Donnie MacDonald, Drum Sergeant Andrew Hepburn and Drum Corporal Jami lea Logan. Rebecca Leeson Payne continues in her role as Drum Major.