

Band bows out for season

By Brian Fraser
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DORNOCH Pipe Band's final parade of the summer took place last Saturday.

The evening's entertainment began at 8pm with the band marching along Bridge Street into the Square. After turning at the Castle Hotel, the band stopped and completed their initial set of tunes.

Waiting there to meet them were Frank Hirst, Sandie Darwen-Bradbury and Heather Clubb from the "Wee Spar" shop on Castle Street. The shop has been selling tablet made by Heather all summer in aid of pipe band funds.

Handing over a significant donation to Pipe Major Willie Fraser, Frank said: "We're very happy to support the band. The Saturday parades are an integral part of summer in Dornoch."

Thanking them for the donation, Willie stated that the band was very grateful and that the money would be put to good use.

The band struck up and marched off to the Square to form its customary circle in front of Dornoch Jail.

Following a number of rousing tunes, it was time for Mary Watt's dancers, Tain, to take to the stage, accompanied by piper Yvonne Kelman, Inverness, and a very enjoyable display of Highland Dancing was much appreciated by the large crowd.

Once the dancers had cleared the stage, young pipers Scott Murray, Tain, and Cameron Macdougall,



Frank Hirst, Sandie Darwen-Bradbury and Heather Clubb with Drum Major Bryan Fraser.

Nigg, entertained the audience with some excellent playing. Joining them on stage were Cameron's young brothers Callum and Scott who gave an excellent display of the Drummers Fanfare before wowing the assembled group by producing illuminated drumsticks and accompanying the pipers in a rousing finale.

The band struck up again under the leadership of Pipe Sergeant Charlie Ross and played a large selection while Pipe Major Fraser climbed the Castle stairs to his customary position high above the awaiting crowd where he played his traditional end of season solo before the band reformed and marched back to the band store before dismissing for the season.

Awaiting them in the band room

were friends and family who had prepared a buffet. In the absence of band chairman John Davidson, treasurer George Munro spoke on behalf of the band committee to thank everyone involved in what had been a most enjoyable season, which had included 15 Saturday parades and 14 visits to Invergordon to play for cruise liners.

Ending his speech, he called on Pipe Major Willie Fraser to present awards to two of the band's unsung heroines, collectors Mhairi Munro and Annabel Murray.

Pipe Major Fraser presented Mhairi and Annabel with silver Dornoch Pipe Band brooches and thanked them for their many years of faithful service. He hoped the band would enjoy their help for many more to come.

Royal good wishes for diamond couple

ALEX and Margaret Mackay of Dornoch are presented by Kim Tulloch, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Sutherland, with a card from Her Majesty the Queen to mark their 60th wedding anniversary, which they celebrated in the One Up, Dornoch.



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