



# *Major Sinclair Memorial Pipe Band*

## **Ballyclare**

Registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104129

Major Sinclair Memorial Pipe Band Trustees  
Torrens Memorial Hall  
Main Street Doagh  
Ballyclare

Trustee's annual report. 26th September 2023

2023 has been the bands first season in grade 3A. With some notable successes, namely 3<sup>rd</sup> in the European Championship at Lurgan Park in a grade of 13 bands and qualifying at the worlds final and finishing just outside the prizes.

We produced 17 competition performances across grades 4B, 3A & 2.

The band took part in the Belfast International Tattoo which was an opportunity open to the whole membership. It was a very successful and enjoyable experience for all involved. We are delighted to be asked to play in the Viginia Tattoo in 2025 which we will need to plan this year to be ready.

Membership in the grade 3 band has again grown although we do face challenges recruiting for the grade 4 band as players progress to the grade 3 band.

We held a full year's schedule of practice nights for both the grade 4 and grade 3 bands and added a few additional nights before the major contests.

Musically we continue to be led by Nigel O'Neill (Pipes) and Mark Armstrong (Drums) as we continue on our program of continuous improvement.

The role of treasurer is now occupied by Adam Fittis who is a mathematics teacher at Carrickfergus grammar school and has been a lifelong member of the band

On the financial front we managed to finish just slightly down on last year despite continued investment. The look ahead is challenging as we improve the uniform and welcome more members but this will be met with our usual robust prudent management.

In summary We the Trustees are satisfied that the organization is well run a and has shown real musical improvement building on previous years work.

John Fittis

On Behalf of Major Sinclair Memorial Pipe Band.