

Glasgow Branch Seniors' Group – Summer Meeting July 2019

Player of the Scottish Small Pipe and the Northumbrian Small Pipe, **Mr. Richard Maudsley** of Helensburgh (seen here) along with his wife, Marion, was the invited, after-lunch musical guest at the summer meeting of the Seniors' Group on Thursday, 11 July 2019 at the Crookston Hotel. Because the summer meeting coincides with the July holiday month the numbers are fewer, but this didn't dampen the enthusiasm with which Richard addressed the assembled group, initially explaining the intricacies of the Scottish Small Pipe and playing a few 'taster' tunes such as *Robin Adair*, *The Nut-brown Maiden* and *Over the Water*. In contrast, Richard then took up the Northumbrian Small Pipe which has a much bigger range of notes and proceeded to repeat the process playing another couple of 'taster' tunes such as *Isle of Mull* and *Comin' thro' the Rye*, drawing our attention to the sound differences between the two instruments. The Scottish Small Pipe being the nearest in sound to the traditional Scottish Bagpipes.



Returning to the Scottish Small Pipe (shown here), Richard played tunes from Scotland - *Highland Laddie*, *Mingulay Boat song*, *Cock of the North*, *Road to the Isles*, *Leezie Lindsay*, *Bonny Strathyre* and *Jenny's Bawbee* to name a few. Throughout his performance, we were encouraged to sing along as most of the tunes were familiar to us. However, it was a different story when it came to actually naming them, and this caused a lot of humorous interaction between Richard and his audience. A rather nice touch was Richard's finale which included tunes on the Scottish Small Pipe firstly from England – *Lovely Joan*, *The Keel Row*, *Dance to Your Daddy*, *Blow the Wind Southerly*, then from Wales – *The Ash Grove*, *Land of my Fathers* and finally from Ireland – *The Sallee Gardens*, *My Lodging is on the Cold Ground*, thus all four nations got a mention. Well done, Richard!



Sharing lunch and the afternoon of musical entertainment was our Branch Chair, **Mrs Margaret Sanders**, who addressed the group and announced the news that Glasgow Branch will be hosting the 100th Annual Gathering in 2023. Initiated in 1999 by Mrs. Ruth Beattie now Hon Branch President, the **Seniors' Group** will be celebrating its **20th Anniversary** on **Thursday 10 October 2019**.

Daphne Davidson, Seniors' Group Organiser