

ISLE OF SKYE HIGHLAND GAMES

The annual Skye Gathering Piping Competitions were held on 7th and 8th August in Portree, Isle of Skye. We had a very successful two days piping with the maximum number of 25 entered for the Dunvegan Medal, forcing us to operate a waiting list.

The winner of the Highland Society of London best overall piper prize in 2018 was Simon McKerrell, whose 1st place in the Col Jock MacDonald Clasp for previous winners of the Dunvegan Medal gave him the points difference needed to give him the overall prize.

Jamie Forrester of London (a Member of the Highland Society of London) won the Dunvegan Medal for piobaireachd, against 23 other contestants. The piobaireachd events require competitors to submit from a list of compositions attributed to or closely associated with the MacCrimmon dynasty of pipers from Skye, and the judges reported a high standard throughout.



Dunvegan Medal (24 competed):

1st Jamie Forrester, London, *The Earl of Ross's March*

2nd Nick Hudson, Houston, *MacLeod of Colbeck's Lament*

3rd Cameron MacDougall, Nigg, Scotland, *Lament for the Duke of Hamilton*

4th Finlay Cameron, Fort William, Scotland, *MacLeod's Salute*

5th Andrew Hall, London, *Too Long in this Condition*

Judges: Alan Forbes, Malcolm McRae, John Wilson



A name to look out for in the future is that of 16-year-old Finlay Cameron from Roy Bridge (a previous winner of the MacGregor Memorial competition at the Argyllshire Gathering) who, from a very strong field, emerged to be placed in 4 of the 5 senior events, failing only in the 6/8 March to be in the prize list. As a result, he won the Dr Alan MacDonald Cup for best in light music.

The Finlay MacRae Trophy for best local piper was won by Darach Urquhart.

Thank you again, and to the Members and office bearers of the Highland Society of London, whose support we very much appreciate.