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Feb 23, 2018

Passing of Michael Stubbings

Pipe Bands Australia is saddened by the passing today of Michael Stubbings following a long illness during which he continued to attend gatherings and concerts. Michael devoted more than half a century to the movement as a drummer, drum major and administrator.

He commenced his pipe band career in 1964 at the St Mary's District Band Club Pipes and Drums and when his parents relocated to Punchbowl, joined Lakemba Caledonian Pipe Band and within two years was drum sergeant.

Michael later played snare, tenor or bass drum with Sydney Thistle, City of Blacktown No1 and St

Marys in Grade 1, Rooty Hill RSL in Grade 2, Epping Pipe Band, Sydney University Pipes & Drums and City of Blacktown No2 in Grade 3 and Blue Mountains in Grade 4, successfully competing in all disciplines as a solo competitor and bandsman winning State and Australian Championships. Michael has also tutored many individuals within the pipe band movement over the years – Liverpool City Pipes & Drums, Epping & District Scottish Society Pipe Band, The Scots School Bathurst, Rooty Hill RSL, City of Blacktown and Blue Mountains .

As an administrator Michael had over 40 years' experience as a band secretary and for many years was chairman of the NSW branch of Pipe Bands Australia and a national councillor.

Michael was a dress and drill adjudicator and contest supervisor on the Pipe Bands Australia national

panel and a drumming adjudicator on the Pipe Bands NSW Panel. He also served Vice-Principal of Rules and Administration in NSW and for a short while until health issues intervened Principal of Rules and Administration. Michael was a life member of Pipe Bands Australia as well as being inducted as A Legend of Maclean Highland Gathering.

Pipe Bands Australia extends its sympathy to Michael's wife Robyn and family on the passing of an outstanding contributor to the movement in Australia. The pipe banner awarded to the champion Grade 2 band at Australian Pipe Band Championships was be named in honour of Michael in 2016 and will again be presented at the championships in Brisbane this April. We record our appreciation for fine service by Michael and sadness at his passing.

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