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Mar 7, 2019

Decision handed down

The membership of Pipe Bands Australia was totally betrayed by its former treasurer, a former official elected by peers who was today convicted and sentenced in the Queensland District Court.

Her illegal actions displayed total disregard for good financial management of Pipe Bands Australia and placed her own self-interests above those of members, bands and the association.

Pipe Bands Australia has been advised that Ipswich District Court handed down its decision today and the former treasurer was sentenced to four years imprisonment (suspended after 15 months) after pleading guilty to three counts of stealing property to a value over \$5000.

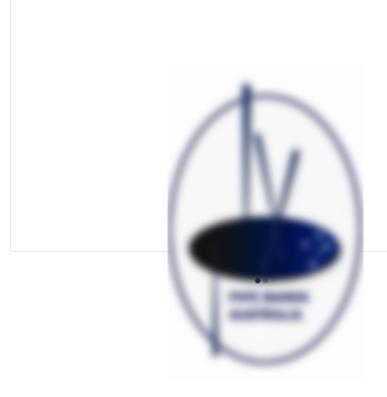
Before discovery and confirmation of the actions against Pipe Bands Australia, Pipe Bands Queensland and Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band, in January and February 2017, Pipe Bands Australia had commenced to identify improved financial reporting procedures and structures.

Those procedures and structures were implemented across the national association and its branches immediately after the national treasurer had been dismissed from the position. They now provide the level of robustness and integrity expected and required in the 21st century and monitored by new auditors.

The regular reporting within Pipe Bands Australia and branches that now takes place has improved financial communication, the appointment of a new auditor has allowed for a more professional assessment of financial management and proper budgets and financial analysis give members confidence that every item is scrutinised and member funds are allocated and spent appropriately within the national organisation and branches.

The assistance of Victorian Highland Pipe Band Association in providing a loan to Pipe Bands Australia during the difficult period is again acknowledged as it has enabled Pipe Bands Australia to continue activities and introduce new initiatives on behalf of members to strengthen the movement. This loan is on course to be fully repaid ahead of schedule.





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