

Pipes can be heard at sunset

In memory of pioneer piper

The sound of the bagpipes will carry along Kincardine's shoreline at dusk on many a summer evening during July and August.

The pipe band has decided to have a piper play from atop the Kincardine lighthouse at sunset to honour the memory of an early Kincardine piper, Donald Sinclair. The story has apparently been passed along through the generations by word of mouth.

THE LEGEND OF

DONALD SINCLAIR

Back in 1856, on a cold October day, a small vessel left the Port of Goderich carrying a family from the Isle of Skye, Scotland. It was the last leg of a journey for the immigrant family which intended to farm at Penetangore.

The weather was cloudy with a light breeze out of the southwest when the vessel left Goderich, goes the story. But as the boat approached Point Clark, the sky turned black and a cold wind started to blow out of the west, making for heavier and heavier seas.

As the vessel slowly beat its way north, late afternoon turned to dusk and the captain feared he would not find Penetangore in the dark.

Donald Sinclair, fearing for his family, went down into the hold and fetched his pipes. He prayed for safe passage and then played a lament. The sound of the pipes carried across the water to Penetangore where another piper heard the rich sound. The settler

on shore retrieved his pipes and played another lament in return, just as the sky suddenly cleared in the west and the sun set beneath the cold waters.

The captain, knowing he had to be near Penetangore, headed for the drone of the bagpipes and eventually made his way into the harbour.

For many years after the narrow escape, Donald Sinclair often went down to the harbour to play the pipes at dusk. They say it was a way to remember his good fortune and to remind others of the power of the pipes.

And it's in the memory of Donald Sinclair that the Kincardine Scottish have decided to play at dusk atop the lighthouse on sunny summer evenings.



Kincardine pipers will be playing from atop the lighthouse at sunset during the summer months. 1996



Members of 'The World's' best bass drum section returned home from the The World Pipeband Championships held in Glasgow, Scotland on Sunday. The four are from the front left, Craig Colquhoun, bass drum, Kincardine; Yvan Gagne, tenor drum, Waterloo; back left, Reagan Jones, tenor drum, Kincardine and Tyler Fry, flourishing tenor, Kincardine. The four are members of the 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipeband. The drummers won the championship last Saturday, Aug. 17.



Drummer Duncan Campbell keeps the beat with about 50 other drummers during the 13th annual massed band parade Saturday night. Organizers have heard only positive comments about the day's activities.