



Girls Pipe Band celebrates St. Andrew's Day

Piping is their "bag"

Twenty-three Cinderellas turned into pipers at midnight Saturday to entertain their guests at the Georgetown Girls Pipe Band's annual St. Andrew's Ball.

These enterprising girls also cooked and served a buffet supper to over 200 relatives and friends who crowded into St. George's Anglican Church Parish Hall to help the girls celebrate the feast of their patron saint.

During the festivities the

girls surprised Virginia Hulme, with flowers and a gold charm marking her 20 years of dedication to the band.

Ginny Hulme, a native of Toronto who joined the band when she came to Georgetown in 1954, has given free bagpipe lessons to members since she took over the band seventeen years ago. The ambitious mother of two now has a total of 22 pipers to her credit, as well as ten drummers.

The band, operating on an

annual grant of \$1,500 supplies the kilts, accessories, the drums and replacement parts for the bagpipes. But each piper is required to buy her own personal instrument, the main reason being hygiene. Membership however, is free and financial problems should not be a deterrent to new members.

The band will buy the bagpipes, which can be repaid in small installments at no interest.

Formed in 1942 by Mary Patterson, the Georgetown

Girls Pipe Band has carried Georgetown's name to various parts of Ontario and Quebec for 32 years. This past year they have made 27 appearances sometimes as many as three in one day, throughout Ontario, as far north as Sudbury. Their final 1974 performance will be this Saturday when they lead old St. Nick through the streets of Georgetown where thousands of eager youngsters will wave with delight.

Besides playing at local and

out-of-town parades and functions the girls are invited to take part in pipe-band competitions throughout the province, and have shown themselves well. In the 1973 Canadian National Exhibition Pipe Band contest they tied for fifth place out of 32 entries.

The money from parades goes towards transportation and meals. The remainder helps subsidize the annual grant. Other money comes from various fund-raising

activities including the dance. Music for the dance Saturday night was supplied by a group of local musicians, a band with no name. The freelance artists are headed by organist, Ralph Ursel who brings his own organ. The drummer, Roy Cox, is the Girls Pipe Band drum instructor, and saxophonist John Brown. Granting many popular requests was Brenda McNeil. After an evening of waltzes, polkas, jitterbug and rock 'n' roll the musicians and dancers were treated to a medley of Scottish tunes by the Girls Pipe Band.



THE GEORGETOWN GIRLS Pipe Band carries Georgetown's name to all parts of Southern Ontario, and this year have made 27 public appearances. The 23rd and final one is coming up this Saturday when they will lead the Sata Parade through the streets of Georgetown.

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