

# CGA Pipes and Drums goes Celtic



Garrison Artillery Pipes and Drums on stage at the 'Celtic Rhythm' performance.  
[Photograph by Regine Lord]

Celtic Rhythm, presented by the Cape Garrison Artillery Pipes and Drums at Springfield Convent in Wynberg on Saturday 13 May 2017, was an absolutely marvellous concert – hopefully the first of many for Pipe Major Tony Reis and his talented band. We particularly enjoyed the fact that there was such a wide variety of acts, alternating between fast-paced foot-tapping jigs and reels and more laid-back and melancholic tunes, with the Master of Ceremonies of the event Tiernan Shields weaving together all the pieces.

The Pipe Band opened the concert with the fitting 'Call to the Gathering', which was followed by a selection of popular piping tunes, with the hall reverberating to the rattle and thump of the drums.

Cameron Bruce who stood alone on stage with only his acoustic guitar, singing 'Caledonia' and 'Loch Lomond', was especially good. The Celtic Dance Tapestry had us spell-bound with their synchronised dance routines in 'Lord of the Dance' and the 'Cry of the Celts'. The Lucas Celtic Dance Studio, consisting of only three dancers (two girls, one boy), performed four pieces, each of them completely unique and wearing different costumes each time.



Solo piper Craig Johnston played us two pieces on the short folk pipes, which is not an instrument I had seen before – it has a very distinctive sound.



The Pipes and Drums returned to the stage for the finale, to perform an unusual and haunting version of Leonard Cohen's classic hit 'Hallelujah', which Tony dedicated to everyone at the concert who had recently lost someone close to them. But prior to that, a trio of pipers, Pipe Major Tony Reis, Pipe Sgt. Mogamat Opperman and Piper Niki Cilliers, bass guitarist Keith Kerchoff, keyboardist Kerry Tracey, guitarist James Mitchell and kit drummer John van Niekerk paid tribute to Sergeant Philip John Marwick, the drum major and long-time member of the Cape Garrison Artillery Pipes and Drums, who passed away just a few weeks ago, with another haunting tune called 'The Battle of Loos'.

The evening ended with the traditional 'Auld Lang Syne', sung by Cameron Bruce and accompanied by the CGA Pipes and Drums, as all the performers returned to the stage one final time.  
(by Regine Lord)

Left, 1st: Cameron Bruce.  
Left, 2nd: Celtic Dance Tapestry.  
Above, 1st: a trio.  
Above, 2nd: Craig Johnston.  
[Photographs by Regine Lord]

## obituaries



It was with great sadness that the Regiment marked the passing on to Higher Service of one of its stalwarts: **Sergeant Philip John Marwick** on Tuesday, 25 April 2017.

Sgt. Marwick was a long serving member of the Cape Town Caledonian Pipe Band and one of the founder members of the Cape Garrison Artillery Pipe and Drums. He served as Drum Major but also on occasion as Bass or Tenor Drummer.



Sgt. Marwick was sent off by the Regiment, family and friends at a Requiem Mass held on Friday, 5 May 2017, at the Holy Cross Catholic Church in District Six.

**Our sincere condolences to the Marwick family.**



CONGRATULATIONS  
...to Lt. Col. and Mrs Visser on the marriage of their daughter, Jonita, to Ruan van der Zandt, on 29 April 2017.

