

1926 Silver and Ivory Cocus Wood Lawries

In 1926 the Australian Ladies Pipe Band conducted a world tour. An excellent tune was composed by W Fergusson to mark the occasion, and can be found on page 112 of the Scots Guards Book. Whilst in Scotland, two of the girls purchased identical sets of Silver and Ivory Cocus wood pipes from R G Lawrie in Glasgow. One of these instruments remains in absolutely immaculate condition and now belongs to Ross Campbell, one of Australia's foremost solo pipers.

Ross has won the R U Brown Gold Medal for Piobaireachd on three occasions in 1986, 1992 and 2003, being one of only three pipers to win the medal more than twice. Ross was Pipe Major of the Hawthorn City Pipe Band and later a teacher of piping at Scotch College Melbourne.

Ross was kind enough to allow us to take some pictures of his magnificent instrument whilst at the 2008 R U Brown Competition where he gained fourth place and played an excellent recital the night before.

The instrument is engraved in a zoomorphic pattern and remains as one of the most attractive instruments I have seen.







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