



Willie McCallum testing chanter reeds.

I tried a number of types of reeds and found that it seemed easy to reed and I achieved good results with almost every reed I tried. Piobaireachd G was as usual note that decided which reed went best. I found that it wanted to waver a little and double tone on Piobaireachd G at first. I lifted the reed a little and it became worse. I sunk the reed and the problem was easily resolved with G producing a nice tone with a lot of volume, like most chanter more reliable with an easier reed. The chanter seems to like the reed to be sunk quite deep into the reed seat.

Volume up the chanter scale is quite uniformed. It had a good bold top hand with a very clear high A. It is quite true, and discrepancies fixed with a little tape. These (as usual) varied between reeds. I had no urge to carve any notes, which is very unusual. High A was a little flatter than I would like but I suspect that will improve with playing and reed setting rather than carving (this has since been resolved with a different reed). High G needed a little tape with most reeds that were tried, but a lot less than most chanters usually require.

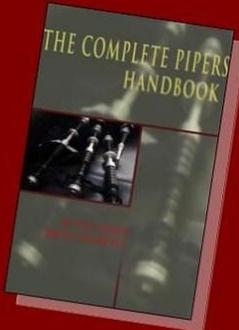
The chanter I would describe as quite bright rather than warm in tone and it produces good volume. It is a free feeling chanter that is very nice to play. This is one of the truest and nicest chanters that I have played straight out of the box. The chanter is very comfortable to play.

The chanter has now been given a few days playing and is getting better all the time. It sometimes takes a while to get used to how a new chanter behaves and true it up perfectly, but this chanter is very, very good and will definitely get a play in competition this year.

Characteristics:

- Bright.
- Good Volume.
- True scale.
- Controllable Piobaireachd G.
- Very good stability with no notable faults.
- Easy to Reed.

McCallum Bagpipes and Chanters can be purchased from the School of Piping Shop at:
http://www.schoolofpiping.com/shop/bagpipes_and_accessories.html



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