



### **Ciaren Ross**

Ciaren began his piping journey at five years of old, with tuition from his father, Pipe Major Gordon Ross. Building on these strong foundations, Ciaren studied under Andrew Wright and Willie McCallum, before graduating with first-class Honours from The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Ciaren, who is the piping instructor for Glasgow City High School and the High School of Glasgow, is a long-serving member of Shotts and Dykehead Caledonia, 16-time Worlds winners.

Finally, other than playing, Ciaren is known for his compositions and arrangements of bagpipe music and, during lockdown, released his own music book, 'Cross Music Vol. 1'.



### **Kerr McQuillan**

The Leading Drummer for the Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band. Kerr took over in 2022, and in his first season, led the drum corps to win the World Pipe Band Championships in 2023. Having grown up within the Boghall system, Kerr was taught by Tom Brown MBE, Gordon Brown and Stephen McQuillan. Kerr is also the current - and youngest ever - adult World Solo Drumming Champion, having previously won eight juvenile world titles in both tenor and snare drum from 2012 until 2022. Kerr holds the current record for World Solo tenor successes, even winning both the tenor and snare competition in the same day in 2016. Since his appointment as leading drummer, Kerr has accumulated the titles of 2023 and 2024 Scottish Champion, 2024 European Champion, 2024 Intercontinental Champion, to name a few. These successes, alongside his World Solo win, led to Kerr being named Pipes|Drums Drummer of the Year in 2023. Kerr spends his weekdays teaching at The High School of Glasgow, having recently guided them to their first-place success at the Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust's Scottish Schools Competition. When he is not teaching, Kerr can be found studying on the BMus Traditional Music course at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. In addition to his pipe band accomplishments, Kerr is a member of the Celtic rock band Drums n' Roses, which has taken him all over the world to perform in some of the most renowned venues, such as Sony Music Hall and Times Square. When not performing, Kerr has toured the world, teaching in places such as Brittany, the US and Israel.

### **Jill Watson**

The Leading Tenor Drummer for the Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band. Jill has had a successful start to the season, winning the British Pipe Band Championships in her first year leading the Boghall bass section. Jill also teaches tenor drumming both online and in school.

Jill started tenor drumming at age ten, quickly falling in love with pipe bands. This passion for tenor drumming is what drove Jill's ambition to climb the ranks. In 2018, Jill then joined the Grade 2 Royal Burgh of Annan Pipe Band for three successful seasons. Having always had the vision to explore tenor drumming through a different perspective, Jill sought advice in the expertise of Kerr and Stevie McQuillan. This is where she was introduced to the importance of chordal structure and melody and the nature of rhythmical patterns. More specifically, Jill became fascinated with how a tenor drummer can enhance the overall ensemble of the pipe band, through complex rudiments and rhythmical visuals. Jill has also achieved success in her solo career, winning the Juvenile 5 Section of the World Solo Tenor Drumming in 2022. More recently, Jill has become the current Scottish Adult Solo Tenor Drumming Champion, as well as the European Adult Solo Tenor Drumming Champion.