



Who was Graeme Johnston?

Firstly he was dad to both me (Ross) and Colin Johnston.

Although he didn't play the pipes or drums – he was one of these guys who worked tirelessly in the background to make things happen. Always had time for everyone.

He was the captain of the 4th Paisley Boys Brigade, when Sam Black started teaching pipes and Matthew Connell on drums back in the 1970s.

The band had no uniforms – so he worked at raising funds to buy the Blue Ramsay kilts and band jackets. He even made sporrans, belts, drum slings, Pipe bags and Pipe bag covers for the band as it expanded. He made sure that every young player was fully kitted out. Having a N/J, Juvenile and Grade 3 bands to look after.

Subsequently he became very involved for many years a member of the RSPBA and the GWOS branch holding various committee positions along with his 'side-kick' Matthew Connell. He was often a steward at various local and Major competitions.

Without his work and support in the background, 4th Paisley pipe band, Renfrew and District pipe band and Paisley pipe band, GWOS branch would not have grown and impacted so many young players life's.

Final note – you don't have to be a player to have a big impact in the pipe band world.

Thanks Dad
Ross and Colin Johnston