

## **Pipers Trail Application 2020**

### **Pipe Major - Alisdair McLaren**

Applications to be part of Pipers Trail 2020 are now being accepted.

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is seeking talented volunteer musicians to form three files of pipers and drummers who will join the Massed Pipes and Drums of over 250 musicians on the iconic Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle. They will perform each evening in front of a live international audience of 8,800 - a total of 220,000 during the season.

Since its inception in 1950, The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo has raised over £12m for charitable causes, including funds to bolster traditional Scottish music and dance across Scotland. The Tattoo is proud of its ambition to raise £1m each year going forward. Celebrating our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020, we are delighted to welcome applications from both new and returning volunteers to help us celebrate this momentous event and achieve this ambition.

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo will take place from 7-29 August 2020. Successful applicants must arrive in Edinburgh no later than Friday 31 July 2020 for rehearsals prior to performances commencing.

#### **Who Should Apply**

Applicants must be 18 years or over as at 31 July 2020 and must be of at least RSPBA Grade 3 Standard (ideally Grade 2) with the ability to read, play and memorise written music quickly and accurately. Show music will be sent out in advance and must be learned prior to arrival in Edinburgh.

#### **What Would Be Required**

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is a unique event, and an icon in the British events calendar, performing 25 shows across August. Therefore, most importantly, we're looking for individuals who have a positive attitude and are willing to commit to the full period required.

Pipers must be able to set up, tune and produce a solid sound on a well maintained instrument. Drummers will be provided with drums and will be expected to look after and maintain the instrument.

We are looking for individuals with excellent dress, deportment, marching in time, personal administration, punctuality and reliability in order to fulfil the requirements of the performance standard and the demands of the period of extensive rehearsals (often 12 hour days across the first week), invites to ad hoc events during the day and maintaining excellent standards throughout the 25 show run (evenings of around 6 hours).

Pipers and drummers may take part in other activity and work during the Tattoo but priority must be

given to the Tattoo by arriving on time for both rehearsals and performances. Therefore, participants must be prepared to give up other obligations, including external Pipe Band and/or Solo Competitions, if necessary to be available / flexible to attend extra rehearsals or performances during the period.

All members will be responsible for all travel costs both to and from Edinburgh. For those who are coming from farther afield, accommodation and meals will be provided for the duration of the Tattoo including rehearsals. Airport transfers will be provided where possible for overseas dancers arriving on Friday 31 July and departing on Sunday 30 August. If accommodation is not required then travel expenses incurred as part of your participation may also be claimed.

Pipers Trail members will be under the direction of Alisdair McLaren, Pipers Trail Pipe Major for The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

### **How To Apply**

Completed application forms should be submitted to [piperstrail@edintattoo.co.uk](mailto:piperstrail@edintattoo.co.uk) no later than **Sunday 19 January 2020**. If you have any questions at all – relating to required performance standard, commitment required etc - please contact us on the above email address to discuss.

After the application/registration period successful applicants will then be invited to submit a video audition, for which details will be promulgated in due course. This is likely to consist of a 10 minute performance of applicants own choice music, but to include a few prescribed tunes. You will be asked to submit a recent full-length photograph in your current kilt/uniform at the same time.

# Pipers Trail Application Form 2020

<b>Applying as</b> <i>(Instrument / Role)</i>	
<b>Title</b>	
<b>Forename</b>	
<b>Surname</b>	
<b>Home Address</b>	
<b>Contact Telephone Number</b> <i>(Home and Mobile)</i>	
<b>E-mail Address</b>	
<b>Current Teacher</b>	
<b>Current Band</b>	
<b>Previous Bands</b> <i>(with dates)</i>	
<b>Details of previous musical experience</b>  <i>(Notable events, achievements, experiences, qualifications)</i>	
<b>Why do you want to be a member of Pipers Trail? (Max 200 words)</b>	

Please send your completed application form to [piperstrail@edintattoo.co.uk](mailto:piperstrail@edintattoo.co.uk) by 15 December 2019