

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

TAKING CARE OF YOUR BAGPIPE



THE SHEPHERD WAY

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Congratulations on your purchase of the Shepherd Highland Bagpipe. This instrument has been handcrafted using the finest raw materials available. The craftsmen involved take great pride in their work.

Before dispatch each instrument is assembled with the choice of the Canmore Bag as standard or the Shepherd Regulator Bag. The Pipe Chanter is either Blackwood or Polypenco depending on the model of the Bagpipe. Both chanters are currently used by many of the worlds leading solo pipers and pipe bands.

After assembly the instrument is reeded with the Shepherd Distinctive Pipe Reed and the world renowned SM90 Drone Reeds and extensively test blown by our resident Pipe Major.

Your Shepherd Bagpipe is an instrument that will last at least a lifetime with reasonable care and maintenance.



P/M R T SHEPHERD MBE

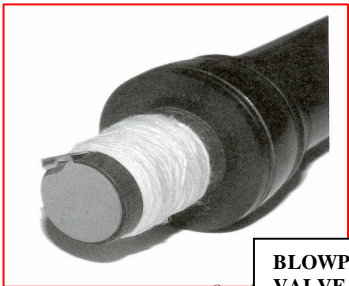
YOU SHOULD FAMILIARIZE YOUR SELF WITH ALL THE PARTS OF THE BAGPIPE.



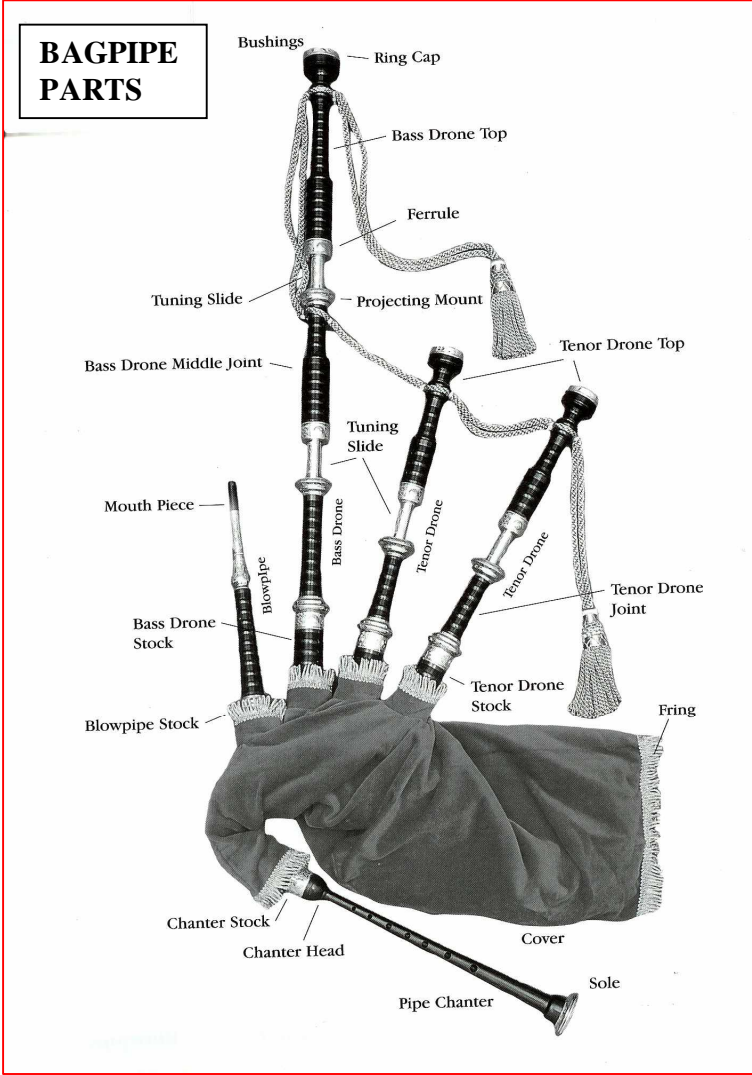
PIPE CHANTER REED



SM 90 DRONE REEDS



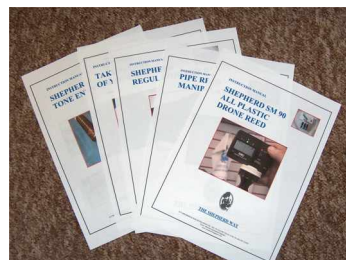
BLOWPIPE VALVE



SHEPHERD BAGPIPE.

With the bagpipe there should be

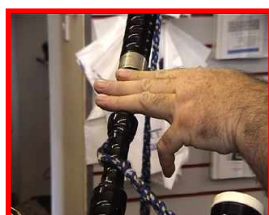
1. **INSTRUCTION MANUALS FOR REED MANIPULATION, SM 90 DRONE REEDS, PIPE BAG, TONE ENHANCERS AND PRACTICE AND POSTURE INSTRUCTION**
2. **A COMPLETE SET OF REEDS.**



YOU SHOULD VIEW THE MANUALS AND ACQUAINT YOURSELF OF THEIR CONTENT ALSO ASCERTAIN IF REEDS ARE PROPERLY SEATED AND HAVE NOT WORKED FREE DURING TRANSIT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT REEDS MAKE AN AIRTIGHT SEAL IN THEIR RESPECTIVE REED SEATS. IT IS ALSO GOOD PRACTICE TO BLOW PIPE REED AND TEST FOR STRENGTH AS PER THE REED MANIPULATION MANUAL.



ASSEMBLE THE BASS DRONE AND ENSURE BASS AND TENOR DRONES ARE POSITIONED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE TUNING SLIDES AS SUGGESTED IN THE SM 90 INSTRUCTION MANUAL.



IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST SET, OR IF YOU ARE IN THE INITIAL STAGES OF LEARNING, YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL HAVE TOLD YOU THE IMPORTANCE OF ADOPTING A RELAXED POSTURE. THE LENGTH OF BLOWPIPE AND MOUTHPIECE IN COMBINATION WITH THE SIZE OF PIPE BAG IS IMPORTANT FACTORS. PLEASE REMEMBER THESE ITEMS CAN BE SUPPLIED IN VARIOUS SIZES...



GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

TO ENSURE A GOOD SET OF PIPES LASTS WELL INTO ITS NATURAL OLD AGE USE

1. COMMON SENSE
2. CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPERTIES OF THE MATERIALS WHICH COMPRISE THE BAGPIPE.

WOOD, IN ITS NATURAL STATE, IS FULL OF MOISTURE. AS THE MOISTURE IS TAKEN FROM THE WOOD, IT LOSES SOME OF ITS STRENGTH AND BECOMES BRITTLE. TO DECREASE DRYNESS IN THE DRONES, AND CHANTER THE PIPES SHOULD BE STORED IN A RELATIVELY HUMID ENVIRONMENT ALWAYS AVOIDING EXTREME CHANGES IN TEMPERATURE. ALWAYS ENSURE THAT YOUR BAGPIPE IS CORRECTLY STORED IN PIPE CASE ESPECIALLY THE PIPE CHANTER.



IT IS GOOD PRACTICE TO REMOVE THE PIPE CHANTER AND WITH THE USE OF A REED PROTECTOR, PROTECT THE REED; THIS PREVENTS THE REED FROM ABSORBING MOISTURE FROM THE PIPE BAG WHEN NOT BEING PLAYED. IF YOU HAVE A WOOD PIPE CHANTER MAKE SURE YOU GRASP THE CHANTER ABOVE THE "A" HOLE AT THE THICKER PART OF THE CHANTER AND TWISTING GENTLY TAKING CARE NOT TO DAMAGE THE REED.



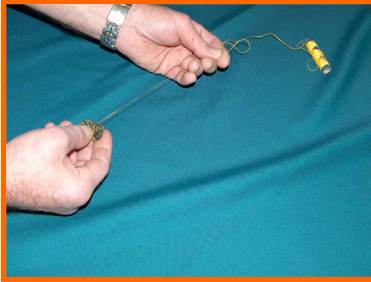
AS THE FERRULES ARE MOUNTED BY FRICTION IT IS POSSIBLE AND NATURAL FOR THEM TO WORK LOOSE AFTER THE BAGPIPE IS EXPOSED TO ITS NEW ENVIRONMENT. THEY CAN BE REPOSITIONED USING "SUPER GLUE".



OPERATIONAL MAINTENANCE

THE BEST MAINTENANCE FOR THE BAGPIPE IS REGULAR PLAYING. THIS PREVENTS JOINTS FROM DRYING, AND BECOMING SLACK AND ILL-FITTING.

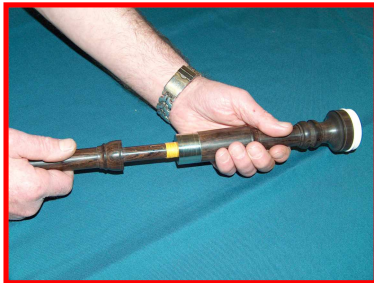
THE PIPE BAG USED TO BE A MAJOR PROBLEM, HENCE THE REASON FOR R T SHEPHERD & SON ADOPTING THE POLICY OF ONLY SUPPLYING SYNTHETIC BAGS.



IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT ONLY STANDARD YELLOW HEMP IS USED ON ALL JOINTS AND SLIDES. Its NATURAL PROPERTIES INCLUDE THE ABILITY TO ABSORB MOISTURE AND EXPAND TO ALLOW A BETTER SEAL TO COMPENSATE FOR ANY MOVEMENT IN THE WOOD.



IT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT ALL HEMPED JOINTS ARE CAREFULLY AND EVENLY WRAPPED. EACH OF THESE PARTS SHOULD BE TIGHT ENOUGH TO BE COMPLETELY AIRTIGHT, YET LOOSE ENOUGH TO ALLOW EASY REMOVAL.



THE DRONE TUNING SLIDES MUST ALSO BE AIRTIGHT YET LOOSE ENOUGH TO ALLOW TUNING WITH ONE HAND. THIS CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED IF THE HEMP IS WRAPPED TIGHTLY AND EVENLY. THIS CAN ALSO BE HELPED BY SMEARING A SOFT WAX SUCH AS HEMP GRIP TO THE HEMPED PARTS.



IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THE VALVE IS MAKING A SEAL AND NOT LEAKING.

PERIODICAL MAINTENANCE

DEPENDING ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AND USAGE THE INSIDE BORES OF THE DRONES CAN BE CLEANED AND OILED.

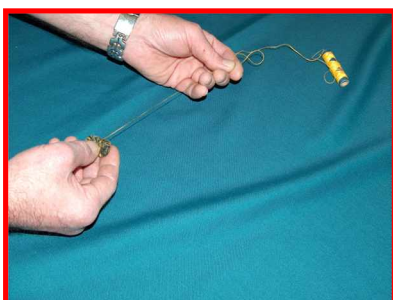
HOW OFTEN, AS SUGGESTED WOULD DEPEND ON THE NATURAL CLIMATE CONDITIONS, BUT WOULD CERTAINLY BE ADVANTAGEOUS IF THE INSTRUMENT HAS TO BE STORED FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME.

THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED SIMILARLY AS YOU WOULD CLEAN AND OIL A RIFLE BORE. THERE IS PROPRIETARY OIL AVAILABLE, BUT YOU CAN USE ALMOND OR ANY SIMILAR OIL.

BEFORE COMMENCING OILING IT IS ADVISABLE TO BRUSH THE BORES WITH A STIFF BRUSH. THESE BRUSHES CAN BE OBTAINED IN DIFFERENT SIZES TO SUIT THE VARIOUS BORE SIZES.





PARTICULAR CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN CLEANING THE PIPE CHANTER BY VIRTUE OF ITS NARROW RESTRICTION AT THE NECK. A FEATHER OR A VERY SMALL PULL THROUGH SHOULD BE USED.



WHEN IT IS NECESSARY TO RE-HEMP THE INSTRUMENT START BY WAXING THE FIRST FEW INCHES OF THE HEMP THIS WILL GIVE A BETTER BOND TO THE WOOD SURFACE. REMEMBER TO TAKE CARE AND CREATE AN EVEN WRAP.



TROUBLESHOOTING

FAULT	CAUSE	REMEDY
DRONES STOPPING	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UNSTEADY BLOWING 2. CHANTER REED TOO STRONG 3. DRONE REED BLADES LOSING MEMORY 	<p style="text-align: center;">REFER TO PRACTICE AND POSTURE OR CHECK FOR LEAKS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REFER TO REED MANIPULATION MANUAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REFER TO SM 90 MANUAL</p>
SINGLE DRONE STOPPING	TONGUE LOSING MEMORY	SPRING BLADE AS PER SM 90 MANUAL
DRONES FAILING TO TUNE AT RECOMMENDED POSITIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PIPE REED EITHER SHARP/FLAT 2. DRONE REED SETTING HAS BEEN DISTURBED 	<p style="text-align: center;">REFER TO REED MANIPULATION MANUAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REFER TO SM 90 MANUAL</p>
REEDS WITH EXTENSIVE MOISTURE PROBLEMS	WET BLOWER AND/OR CLIMATIC CONDITIONS	<p style="text-align: center;">IF USING THE SHEPHERD BAG REFER TO MANUAL NOTES ON USE OF THE MOISTURE CONTROL SYSTEM</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="font-size: small;"> <p style="text-align: center;">IF USING THE CANMORE BAG FIT A WATER TRAP WITH THE END UNCORKED THUS ALLOWING THE MOISTURE TO BE DIRECTED TO THE BACK OF THE BAG</p> </div> </div>
PIPE BAG NOT TIGHT OR FEELS "SPONGY"	<p style="text-align: center;">JOINTS NOT AIRTIGHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VALVE LEAKING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REEDS TAKING TO MUCH AIR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PIPE BAG LEAKING</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CHECK HEMPING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHECK IF SEALING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REFER TO REED MANUAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CORK STOCKS AND CHECK</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>