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## Euroceltes 2006

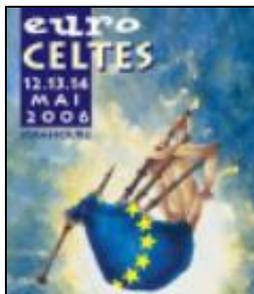
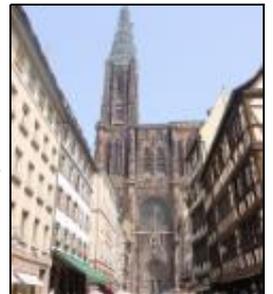


This, a first of it's kind for Strasbourg, festival celebrating Celtic music where various musicians, groups and bands from all over Europe were invited to perform at the weekend fair took place between the 12-14 May, 2006.



The bands' duties at the festival kicked off with them playing outside the European Council building. It started very formally with the band marching up and down in front of the impressive building, underneath an array of flying flags from all the member states. As the band were just about to start their third set, the heavens opened with a torrential downpour and all had to scramble up the steps where they quickly reformed to carry on with their performance, beneath the canopy of the main entrance, leaving just enough room for the hundreds of spectators that came out to see them.

Later that day, after the thunder and lightening had passed, the band, together with all the other participating groups, paraded through the narrow and crowded streets of Strasbourg stopping outside the immense Cathedral that towers 142m above the city, where en-mass everyone played the tune "Tom Bale 67" (a short piece of music composed especially as the theme for the whole festival). Leading the parade off again through the cities streets they stopped outside the Mayor's House where all participants lined up and played the festival's theme tune again. A few of the bands were then chosen to play a tune for the Mayor and after the band played their own piece that was them complete for the day.



The next day the band played a short concert in the main auditorium of the hall used as the base for the festival. This was the climax to the whole event, packed out with hundreds of spectators and participants from the whole festival. With the Pipe Major and Leading Drummer also judging some of the bands in the open competition, it made for a varied weekend of music and everyone will have the sound of the bombards ringing in their ears for days to come. Throughout the whole stay the band was looked after very well and would like to thank the organisers - Hervé Estner (President Euroceltes 2006) and Alan who looked after us. Thanks again!

## Peebles Solo Drumming Competition