

Moray Ceilidh Club Ordinary General Meeting held on
Monday 30th June 2003 at 7pm in Elgin City Social Club, Boroughbriggs
Road, Elgin

Present:	Sandy Duncan	Jan Duncan	Peter Davis
	Hazel Davis	Wendy Anderson	Tom Hardie
	Linda Hardie	Caroline Coomber	Karen Ferguson
	Kenny Ferguson	Mike Pendery	Alan Clark
	Carol Clark	Marion Hay	Duncan MacCallum
	Roslynn MacCallum		

Apologies:	Steve Coomber	John McGhee	Rosemary McGhee
	Derek Murray	Audrey Murray	Mike Anderson
	Mike Dean	Caroline Dean	Kirsty Deans
	Walter Deans	Alistair Murdoch	Jenny Murdoch
	Gill MacLaren	Gordon Duncan	Ron Duncan
	Shona ?	Graham ?	

Tom Hardie opened the meeting and welcomed everyone along. He then asked Sandy Duncan to speak as Interim Chairman.

Sandy also welcomed everyone present and said that we'd had an encouraging response to keeping the ceilidh club running. He began by telling us that the Ceilidh Club had been started by Euan & Susan Martin and Kirsty and Walter Deans, mainly for friends, but it was so successful that it snowballed and became a more regular event. At it's prime it had about 150 attending dances in Bishopmill Hall – this is what we're aiming to achieve again. Now the Martins and Deans felt it was time to take a back seat and after a few months the Rescue Committee was organised by Steve Coomber. Kirsty and Euan came along to the first meeting and gave us lots of information regarding halls, bands, costs etc. We discussed a lot and agreed to continue the club, keeping the same successful formula. However now we had to become slightly more formal, what had been done by friends before now has to be more official, we need a constitution and a proper committee. He stressed that this is a necessary evil and the emphasis is still on a group of like minded folk having a good time. Ideally we will organise the band, hall and finances and on the night other members will be happy to help out with door duty, tea making, washing up, raffle etc. Sandy then handed back to Tom to take us through the proposed constitution he had prepared.

Tom went over the main points and asked for any questions or comments, but everyone was happy with the contents. The constitution was proposed by Caroline Coomber and seconded by Mike Pendery.

Tom agreed that we had had lots of offers of help so that hopefully on the night those on the committee can take a step back and leave the running of the event to others.

Elections for office bearers then took place as follows:

Chairman:	Sandy Duncan
Treasurer:	Peter Davis

Secretary: Tom Hardie
Membership Secretary: Hazel Davis
Marketing & Newsletter Editor: Caroline Coomber
Other Committee Members: Wendy Anderson
Gill MacLaren
Mike Pendery
Steve Coomber
Marion Hay

The signatories for cheques are Sandy Duncan, Peter Davis, Caroline Coomber and Wendy Anderson.

Sandy then announced our first event which is on 6th September when we are dancing to 'Daimh' (pronounced 'Dive') at Bishopmill Hall. Daimh are a first class band who have played all over the world so we are very lucky to be starting our season with such a good band. He pointed out that Euan Martin is still happy to arrange bands for us as he has very good contacts.

Sandy pointed out that each event costs approximately £1,000 as prices for quality bands are creeping up and there is usually accommodation fees in addition. Kirsty had told us that each event usually ran at a loss but the raffle helped a great deal as most prizes were donated by members on the night. We hope this will continue and propose to keep a 'bank' of suitable prizes as well.

We touched on the issue of Public Liability Insurance. Kirsty and Euan had let this lapse as the price had escalated from about £200 per annum to a new quote of over £1,000. However Mike Pendery had done some research and come up with a good quote from CIS of about £140. As CIS had told him, many insurance companies assume what a club consists of, but since our club doesn't own anything and the hall and bands will be covered by their own insurance, there isn't that much that we need to be covered for.

Sandy went on to say that membership and ticket prices had been set prior to the OGM and were based on cost of running the club. He pointed out that for a family membership the schoolchildren could attend the ceilidhs free of charge, the £1 per ticket would only be imposed on guest children. He also said that we had agreed to make the Martins and Deans honorary members.

Other dates for future events are:

4th October: band to be confirmed
22nd November: dancing to Sandy Brechin, a great favourite with the MCC. He will be playing as 'Shandrix'

Hazel Davis ventured that she had received 18 membership forms and most of them included e-mail addresses which could be very useful for future newsletters. Tom agreed as this would cut down on postage costs but that a posted newsletter may still be the best option for now. Sandy added that ceilidh tickets would not be available at the door, we would prefer to keep the same formula as before where tickets are pre-paid. We also intend to have tickets on sale at one ceilidh for the next one.

We discussed the managing of the night crew. One option is to have a list of duties by the door and folk could write their name against what they'd be happy to help with. Again we want to keep things as informal as possible and hope volunteers will spread the duties so that there is plenty of time to get dancing.

We intend to provide tea and coffee at half time. Any sort of food, even biscuits may invoke very strict Environmental Health rules and regulations.

There used to be a family ceilidh in June and an Ullapool weekend in August/September, both of which we are keen to re-introduce once we find our feet.

Inchberry Hall was suggested as a good venue to keep in mind.

There followed a fairly informal discussion about the club and it's future. So far there has been very positive feedback and we look forward to our first ceilidh. Those present were reminded to promote the club and encourage other previous members and friends to re-join.

Sandy then thanked everyone for attending and drew the meeting to a close.