



**MORAY CEILIDH CLUB NEWSLETTER**  
**August 2004**

Hi everyone,

I was just thinking back to Monday 21st June at about 7.00pm when there were hundreds of us queuing right down Borough Briggs Road desperate to get into Elgin City Football Club for the Moray Ceilidh Club AGM. There were so many nominations for the committee that we thought we'd be there all night proposing and seconding! The reality was that 9 of us turned up and we were all already committee members. Don't feel guilty though, we're all quite happy to stand again (for now) and we know that AGMs aren't the most exciting of occasions plus there was that football game on the telly wasn't there? We're assuming from the lack of numbers that you're all happy to leave the running of the club in our hands.

Well, here's what you missed:-

Sandy, our hard-working chairman started off by welcoming the small dribble of people who turned up - the room was just echoing with emptiness. He went on to recall June 2003 when the club was faced with many unknowns - band prices, insurance premiums, hall fees and accommodation. A lot of time was spent debating the membership and ticket prices and we feel that we have got it right charging £5.00 per ticket for members and £9.00 for non-members. Thank you Tom for keeping us right on this and for doing all those complicated figures. [Never has a wet finger been

P.T.O. for ticket order form

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Maybe more information on a band?  
Go to [www.moraycc.org](http://www.moraycc.org)

so praised! - Tom]

This year the books have balanced well to show that we're not a profit-making organisation but we have some money left over which may enable us to invest in some equipment such as lights. We started the year with a balance of £1700 and ended with £1957 although the £257 profit was used up on the Family Ceilidh.

Sandy then went on to review the Moray Ceilidh Club Year 2003/2004. In September we started strongly with 'The Goat Island Ceilidh Band'/'Daimh' a fantastic night with lots of smiling faces.

October brought 'Ceilidh Mhor' from the Aberdeen area who gave us another great night although they took 2 breaks which seemed excessive. On the bright side though, no accommodation fees were incurred.

In November we had 'Shandrix', headed by Sandy Brechin who despite starting late gave another tremendous night. They made up for the late start though by playing on. If I remember rightly, the venue was rather crowded which was a factor in our decision to avoid the New Elgin Hall for the 2004/2005 season and stick to old favourites, the Bishopmill and the Miltonduff.

'Ceilidh Minogue' performed for us in February. They were very well received and we had yet another successful night. Was that the night with the really bad snow?

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March brought The Marwicks who introduced us to lots of new dances and enjoyed us as much as we did them.

Our last band of the season, 'The Oatcakes', were good if a bit funky, hip and trendy. Unfortunately they did not appeal to many members and guests and sadly, numbers dwindled as the night went on. It highlights the pros and cons of booking bands for the first time but until we have a core of preferred bands, we may suffer some band who isn't everyone's cup of tea. Remember.....Variety is the spice of life.

Overall we had very good feedback from the bands, especially 'The Marwicks' who wrote to say that they'd had a great time and hoped to play for us again.

The prices of the bands over the year have ranged from £550 to £800; insurance is approximately £120 per year and accommodation is about £20 per head. We have negotiated a deal with Wendy Clements at 'The Pines', a Scottish Tourist Board 4 star guesthouse. We feel that providing quality accommodation for the bands is important and word gets round the circuit. Hall prices work out at about £5.00 per hour.

Each event is expensive and we normally manage to just cover our costs but we are aware that we're always only one or two ceilidhs away from financial difficulties.

Anyway, hopefully the new season will be even better than last. Euan Martin has already got most of our bands sorted out.

Tickets for the 18th are now on sale. Please complete the tear-off portion below and send it to us as normal with a cheque.

## Membership Renewals

If your membership is due for renewal you'll find 2 membership forms enclosed, one for you and one to pass to any friends who would like to join us. Please complete your form and send on to Hazel Davis before the first Ceilidh, you can include your ticket order at the same time.

For those members who joined later in the ceilidh season, don't worry, Hazel will send you a letter when it's coming near to your renewal date.

Caroline Coomber

## Future ceilidhs

Here is the plan for future events, locations, bands, etc

DATE	LOCATION & BAND
Sat 18 Sep 2004 at 20:00	Bishopmill Meantime
Sat 30 Oct 2004 at 20:00	Miltonduff Portobello Ceilidh Band
Sat 04 Dec 2004 at 20:00	Bishopmill Spagnum Moss
Sat 05 Feb 2005 at 20:00	Miltonduff Iron Broo
Sat 19 Mar 2005 at 20:00	Bishopmill Gallivanter's Ceilidh Band
Sat 23 Apr 2005 at 20:00	Miltonduff Six Foot and Ginger (TBC)

Below is a tear off to help you order your tickets.  
**Hurry, while stocks last!!!**

Due to some non-members requesting tickets, promising to pay on the door and then not turning up to a ceilidh it now has to be cheque with order for unaccompanied guests .... and remember it is always first come first served.

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### MEANTIME - BISHOPMILL HALL - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at 20:00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Member Tickets (Adult @ £5.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Member's school age kids (Free) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guests/Non-members (Adult @ £9.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Non-members school age kids (@ £1.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Send form(s), s.a.e. and cheque to Hazel Davis, Corriegarth, Boghole Cottages, Moyness, IV12 5QQ or contact Caroline Coomber (01343 541983) or Sandy Duncan (01343 860388)