



MORAY CEILIDH CLUB NEWSLETTER

March 2004

Well, what can I say? The bands just keep getting better don't they? What a fantastic night we had in the company of Ceilidh Minogue. Despite the atrocious weather conditions we had a great crowd who took to the floor right from the start as usual. Over 130 tickets were sold and a few new members joined up on the night after being bitten by the bug.

Apologies for the temperature of the hall at the start of the evening; the place was like a sauna after the first Gay Gordons. Apparently a temperature dial was turned in the wrong direction and instead of having the heating switched off totally, it was turned up to 70 degrees!! I wouldn't like to say who it was but you'll be glad to know that Steve now knows how to work the heating system for future ceilidhs (Oops)!

Anyway, Ceilidh Monogue loved us just as much as we loved them. They thought we were a fantastic, enthusiastic crowd and they would have no hesitation in playing for us again. I thought you might be interested to learn a wee bit about the band members:- Gregor Lowrey on accordion is one of the best known accordion players in Scotland today. He started his professional career with 'Black Eyed Biddy' in 1988 before going on tour with Ireland's Davy Arthur (of

Fureys Fame). He recently was the featured box player in the hit celtic dance show 'Sheihallion'. He has appeared on many albums, the latest of which is with the Canadian band 'Clan Terra' which was released in the summer of 2000.

Alastair Morrow on drums has played with most of Scotland's top musicians in the Jazz, Rock and Traditional music scene. He too has played all over the world at festivals in Norway, Finland, Holland, Dubai, Oman, Bahrain, Abu-Dhabi and the Sacramento Jazz Festival with Scotland's top jump-jive outfit, Fat Sams Band. He can be heard on the new album by Hunter-Innes, the 'Strange Range' and regularly works with Craig McMurdo's 'That Swing Thang'.

Bob Turner on piano started his career on accordion but in recent years has switched to piano which has put him in even more demand. He can be heard regularly with another part-time Minogue, Brian McAlpine (accordion) in I.C.C. Scotland and has worked with fiddler Bruce MacGregor and with Pete Clark in the Neil Gow Ensemble.

Gavin Marwick (fiddle) was a founder member of 'Iron Horse' but now works in various projects including 'Cantrip'.

I think that most of us lost a few pounds that night and it was a relief to get outside into the cold wintery night at times. We're sorry that the disability ramp at the front

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door was so slippery. We did attempt to brush it down and put salt on it but it was still a bit of a hazard.

It was great to see two of the founder members of the Moray Ceilidh Club, Walter and Kirsty Deans in attendance. They were disappointed to have missed the last couple of ceilidhs but were unable to attend due to other commitments.

In case anyone missed our little joke during the raffle draw, the candlelit meal for 2 was in fact a bag containing a haggis, a neep and some tatties along with a candle of course. Hope the winner wasn't too disappointed!

At this stage, I'd just like to say a big thank you to the hall caretakers that we deal with. They are always very helpful and accomodating. One though has a bit of a problem with the spelling of the word 'ceilidh' and we recently received an invoice made out to 'Moray Ceiling Club'!!

Well, well, Craig Falconer. It seems he'll do just about anything to get a mention in the newsletter. This time he ended up spread-eagled on the floor. This happens to us all occasionally when we get carried away with the music but in Craig's case it was during the walk through!

As you know, the next ceilidh is at Miltonduff Hall on Saturday 13th March. You should get your tickets ordered as soon as possible as quite a few were sold at the Ceilidh Minogue gig. We have booked a band called 'The Marwicks' who hail from Edinburgh. They are a tight, lively, working

band who are at their best playing at functions where traditional Scottish Music is required. For more information, check out their web-site - www.themarwicks.co.uk. Gavin Marwick, the fiddler at the last ceilidh, is joined by his brothers.

Look forward to seeing you all there!

Caroline C.

Future ceilidhs:

DATE	LOCATION & BAND
Sat 07 Feb 2004 at 20:00	Bishopmill Hall Ceilidh Minogue
Sat 13 Mar 2004 at 20:00	Miltonduff Hall Marwicks
Sat 24 Apr 2004 at 20:00	New Elgin Hall To be confirmed
Late June 2004 19:00 to 22:00	Proposed Junior Ceilidh
11 or 18 Sep 2004	Location, Band and Date to be confirmed
23 or 30 Oct 2004	Location, Band and Date to be confirmed
04 Dec 2004	Location, Band and Date to be confirmed

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

Due to some 11 guests requesting tickets, promising to pay on the door and then not turning up to January's ceilidh it now has to be cheque with order for unaccompanied guests and remember it is always first come first served.

You could always bring along sufficient money to each Ceilidh to buy tickets for the following one?

Name _____ Tel _____

Address _____

Member Tickets (Adult @ £5.00) _____ Member's school age kids (Free) _____

Guests/Non-members (Adult @ £9.00) _____ Non-members school age (@ £1.00) _____

Send **form, s.a.e.** and **cheque** to either Caroline Coomber (01343 541983) 32 High School Drive, New Elgin, IV30 6UE or Sandy Duncan (01343 860388) Lagana, Rashcreek, Birnie. IV30 8SW