



## **MORAY CEILIDH CLUB NEWSLETTER**

**February 2005**

Hi everyone,

It was very encouraging to see so many new faces at the 'Iron Broo' ceilidh at Miltonduff Hall. This was a hugely successful night and once again, all tickets were sold out!

'Iron Broo' were superb and used accordion, mandolin, fiddle and bodhran to play some wonderful music. The caller was a huge asset to the proceedings who physically sorted everybody into their sets very efficiently and those who weren't too sure about the steps didn't have to worry because they were shown exactly what to do. Again, lots of the lesser known dances were played and everybody felt really pleased with themselves when they managed to master the tricky 'Waves of Torry'! The Cumberland Reel was in as much need of a risk assessment as usual with some of the ladies spinning around precariously at head height in their 'baskets'. At one of the ceilidhs last season, a guy who shall remain nameless, who was trying the Cumberland Reel for the first time thought that he had to lift off the ground too just like the ladies. The other male in the basket was wondering why it was such hard work and didn't realise what was going on until the dance had finished!!!

Craig, we've got nothing to say about you in this newsletter except remember and let me know when the Flamenco dance classes start!!

A new idea to try out with the 'Hooligan's Jig' is to have subs! As soon as you feel at death's door just tag the next person and have a rest! It's great!

To be honest though, I don't think there's been such a fantastic response to a band for a while as we had with 'Iron Broo'. The feedback and comments were extremely encouraging and the consensus of opinion was that we should book them again. Well, great news - they're booked for March 2006 and if you can't wait until then to see them, one of our members, Wendy Clements who accomodates the bands at her guest house 'The Pines', has booked them for the opening ceremony of the Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival. This takes place on Thursday 28th April at a marquee in Aberlour and further details can be found on [www.spiritofspeyside.com](http://www.spiritofspeyside.com) or from Elgin Tourist Information Centre Tel 01343 542666.

The band have done really well out of their visit here because The Moray Council, Arts Development Team have booked them for the Royal Shakespeare Company on Friday 22nd April, Forres Town Hall, 9.00pm until late - Licensed Bar - £5 per ticket from 01343 557146 or 541983. It starts late because the RSC will be performing earlier in the evening. And as it's the night before the anniversary of Shakespeare's birth it will be called Bill's Birthday Bash. Here's your chance to mingle with the world renowned RSC and show them how to ceilidh dance?! It will also be a good way to warm up those muscles for our dance

**P.T.O. for ticket order form**

Forgotten something?

Need directions to a venue?

Maybe more information on a band?

Go to [www.moraycc.org](http://www.moraycc.org)

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the following evening at Miltonduff!

The Buckie Festival committee are also considering 'Iron Broo' for the Festival which takes place in June!

Our next ceilidh is at the Bishopmill Hall on 19th March and we look forward to welcoming 'The Gallivanter's Ceilidh Band' who hail from Perth. They are a 5 to 6 piece band with 2 accordions (both lead and harmony), guitar, fiddle, double bass (wow), mandolin and whistles who call and show the dances and have an emphasis on fun. They give a bright and vibrant yet traditional sound and some band members present programmes on local radio. Some also play in other bands, run tutoring classes in guitar and accordion and act as promoters for other musicians. Find out more from their website [www.thegallivanter's.com](http://www.thegallivanter's.com). I'm confident this will be another successful and busy night so book your tickets soon!

We had a wee bit of a problem with the light at the door at Miltonduff Hall as you probably noticed at the 'Iron Broo' gig. When we kept it on it was far too bright and when we switched it off it was far too dark. Normally it's fine to have this light on so I can only assume that the hall keeper must have put in a stronger bulb than usual. We'll get this sorted before the next ceilidh at that venue.

One of Moray Ceilidh Club's founders, Euan Martin is about to put his latest play on the road after the huge success of 'Who Bares Wins'. 'Watching Bluebottles' is about life, death and village halls and was co-written with Dave Smith. It's a one man show based on the life of a village hall keeper and will evoke the rich diversity of the village hall, situated at the heart of the community centring on the personal story of a particular hall custodian at the eve of his retirement. The piece will be relevant to audiences who regularly attend various

functions in their own local halls and although not an audience-interactive piece, the hall itself will be an integral part of the performance, conjuring up the illusion of a local story told locally. It is suitable for Age 10 plus and Moray dates are as follows:-

Saturday 12th March - Miltonduff Hall - 8pm £7.50/£5.00 (World Premier) (Tel 01343 850699)

Monday 14th March - Longmore Hall, Keith - 7.30pm £6/£4 (01542 886543)

Tuesday 15th March - Fornighty Hall, Nairn 7.30pm £5 donation (01309 651292)

Thursday 17th March - Aberlour Fleming Hall - 7.30pm £6/£4 (01340 871457)

This is not to be missed - so book your tickets soon!

Caroline Coomber

### Future ceilidhs

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

DATE	LOCATION & BAND
Sat 19 Mar 2005 at 20:00	Bishopmill Gallivanter's Ceilidh Band
Sat 23 Apr 2005 at 20:00	Miltonduff Six Foot and Ginger
Sat 18 Jun 2005 at 19:00	Miltonduff AGM (the meeting, not a band!)
Sat 18 Jun 2005 at 20:00	Miltonduff Shandrix
Sat 17 Sep 2005 at 20:00	Bishopmill Portobello Ceilidh Band
Sat 29 Oct 2005 at 20:00	Miltonduff Bella MacNab
Sat 26 Nov 2005 at 20:00	Bishopmill Spagnum Moss
Sat 28 Jan 2006 at 20:00	Miltonduff The Marwicks
Sat 18 Mar 2006 at 20:00	Bishopmill Iron Broo
Sat 22 Apr 2006 at 20:00	Miltonduff Clachan Yell

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

### **Gallivanter's Ceilidh Band - Bishopmill - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2005 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.a.e.** and **cheque** to either Caroline Coomber (01343 541983) 32 High School Drive, New Elgin, IV30 6UE or Sandy Duncan (01343 860388) Lagana, Rashcrook, Birnie. IV30 8SW