



CRUDEN BAY FOLK CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016 MINUTES

Location: Kilmarnock Arms Hotel **Date & Time:** Thursday 16th March 2017 7:30 p.m.

1. Attendees: Tanja Mehrer, Yvonne Bower, Angus McCurrach, Brian McAulay, Dave Dixon, Mike Bower, Russell Taylor, Scott Thomson.

Brian as Chairperson, welcomed all to the A.G.M. and began the Agenda.

2. Apologies for absence: Tansy Grahame Jill McWilliam, Gordon McKay.

3. 2015 Minutes: The minutes for the 2015 A.G.M. were read and accepted by all.

4. Chairpersons Report:

Four Years and still going strong!

Highlights of the year past:-

- Drumming workshops, courtesy of our, and Bruno Ashley, Mema Arts Zimbabwe.
- Singing Workshops, Janice Reavell, and again Bruno Ashley.
- Fantastic wedding and party in the village hall, starring our very own Angus and Tanja, family and friends.
- Halloween Ceilidh preparation only, but we'll have another go this year.
- External concerts, including Senior Citizens and Scottish Week in Peterhead.
- Debut performances from the Fonseca's and others, plus constant talented surprises throughout the year.
- Visit to Portpatrick Folk Festival in August - wonderful weekend, many thanks to Mary Doll for the hospitality.
- Excellent Christmas party and New Year singsong
- Moonshine Madness performance in January.
- Mental night of Country & Western at the village hall on February.

So much talent, of all ages, traditional and mainstream music and poetry.

Let's keep going in the same vein - we must be doing something right!

We have a healthy bank balance and we should continue to invest in equipment, underwrite the cost of some visiting talent, and coaching and tuition to all ages.

I'd like to repeat my plea from last year - I think we should be planning to spend some money on doing some recording, in the studio and/or live, to create a record for posterity of this remarkable wee village club.

None of this would be possible without a great deal of time and effort, both from the committee and the wider membership.

Particular thanks to all the committee members for all the tireless effort, to all performers, and to all the audiences - makes it all worthwhile.

I am happy to continue as chair, but equally happy to make way for anyone else to have a go.

Brian McAulay.....Chairperson 16th March 2017.

5. Treasurers Report :

Cruden Bay Folk Club Annual Treasurer's Report for the Period 1st October 2015 to 30th September 2016.

Club Treasurer, Tansy Grahame.

The annual accounts have been audited by SGG Business Services and viewed by our chairperson. They are available to view on request by any club member.

Previous club funds on 30th September 2015 = £3158.83

Monthly Folk Club

Well done, Yvonne, for keeping the average cost of the prizes below £30 per month. This is the same cost we have maintained since the club began.

Nett Profit per month (Raffle takings - raffle prize expense)

October 2015 £169.17

November £88.44

December nil

January 2016 £113.50

February £138.14

March £122.07

April £138.00

May £116.17
June £80.03
July £147.05
August £113.73
September £59.25

We held a Ceilidhoween in the village hall on October 31st 2015. This brought in a nett profit of £216.48 not including hall hire which is accounted for below.

The club spent £350 on hiring the PE village hall and St James church over the course of the year.

Our workshops made a nett loss of £65 not including hall hire. This would have been significantly greater had not Angus given his time and experience free of cost for our drumming circles.

£25.40 was spent on refreshments for our supply in the village hall and for the last AGM.

The club gave £314.91 to charity and gifts to our supporters.

The folk club spent a total of £1,110.59 buying new equipment this year, including new mics, music stands, drums etc.

Club funds on 30th September 2016 = £2794.96

6. Publicity Officer's Report :

It's been another busy year in the publicity department, our facebook, website and email distribution lists are still at the heart of promotional activities and have generally proven to be effective across all but one of our events, that being the 2016 Ceiloween Party which just didn't pick up much enthusiasm / interest this year, perhaps too many competitive Halloween themed events going on around the same time. In contrast to this the Country and Western night did seem to hit the spot and our standard marketing approach saw the event sell out with some weeks to spare.

One major change to our publicity profile has been the revamping of the folk club website, this was needed in order to ensure that the site was responsive across all viewing platforms which have become an essential requirement to maintain search engine optimisation. The site includes a more accessible archive section where archived video footage from club nights and events can be viewed.

It's probably worth reminding everyone that new followers can register to be added to the Folk Club distribution list via the home page of the website

<http://www.crudenbayfolkclub.co.uk/> please remember to share this link with anyone you think might be interested in finding out about the club.

I would also be great to add some new content to the site, so if any of you have video footage or pictures, please get them to me and I'll get them added.

So looking forward, I'm ready willing and able to unleash the Folk Club Publicity Beast as and when required, so keep all of your announcements and notices heading in this direction, and leave the rest to me.

Regards

Gordon

7. Events Co-Ordinator Report :

Cruden Bay Folk Club - Events and Workshops report - 2016/17

Introduction

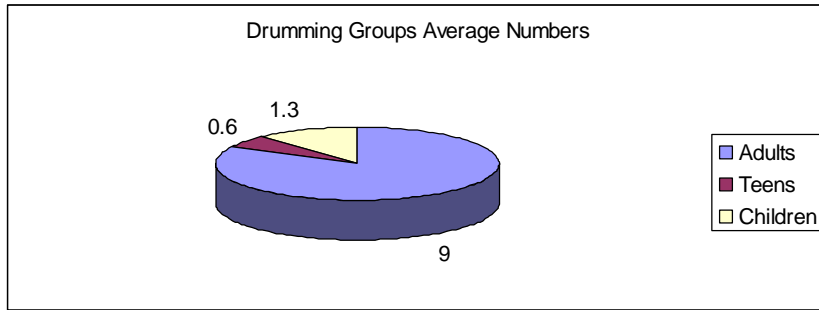
Over the past year the Club has organised and facilitated a number of musical workshops, events and outings in addition to their monthly folk nights. Club members also provided performances to a range of community groups in Aberdeenshire. The following report outlines these activities.

Workshops

The club organised 6 workshops in total, including one that is coming up on 2nd April 2017. The workshops have been well subscribed with a total of 40 community members of all ages attending. The feedback was positive throughout with 50% participants attending more than one workshop.

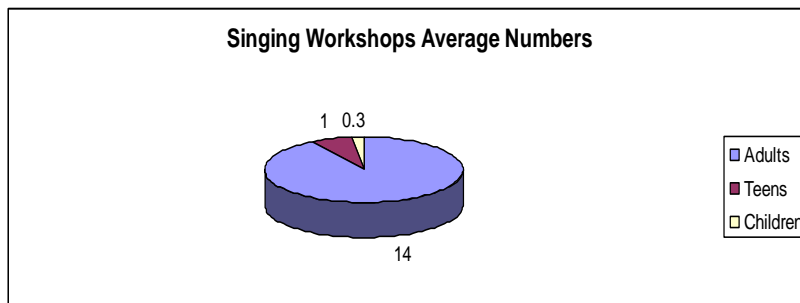
Drumming

The club hosted two drum circles and one African drumming workshop in March, May and November 2016. A total of 26 community members of all ages attended these workshops. A breakdown of average attendance in age groups is provided in the chart below. The drum circles were facilitated by committee member Angus while Bruno Ashley from Mema Arts Zimbabwe was commissioned to facilitate the African drumming. The Club had also purchased 10 Djembe drums which were provided to participants.



Singing

Two singing workshops were held in April and November 2016 and one is to be held on 2nd April 2017. We commissioned two facilitators, Janice Reavell for traditional Scottish harmony singing and Bruno Ashley for African singing. Both facilitators had been commissioned before and were asked to return by popular demand. A total of 28 community members of all ages subscribed to these workshops. A breakdown of average attendance in age groups is provided in the chart below.



With exception of the drum circles, which were facilitated by a committee member and therefore did not incur facilitator costs, all workshops were underwritten in cost by the club in order to be able to offer affordable workshops to the wider community

Events

Ceiloween

This was due to be held in October 2016 but unfortunately had to be cancelled due to lack of advanced ticket sales. This was likely due to the lateness of advertising (4 weeks prior) and to the number of other local events taking place around the same time. A big thank you goes to the commissioned bands for not charging any fees.

Christmas meal and folk night

More than 30 participants attended the Folk Club Christmas meal on 30 December and stayed on for the folk night, joined by a number of visiting artistes to the Folk session. The

night was enjoyed by all and included a wide variety of performances. However, due to the unexpectedly high number of diners, the folk night started late; it was felt an earlier dinner should be considered in future.

New Year Session

The Folk Club has been establishing this session as an annual tradition on New Year's Day and yet again it was well attended. The Killy reception area seemed to be an ideal place to hold this and should be considered again in coming years.

Country & Western Hoe Down

This event was advertised 2 months in advance and was sold out (100 tickets). With various artists and 3 bands it was regarded by all as a very enjoyable and successful night. *"The police were called by a neighbour to complain about noise levels, however this was due to a miscreant sounding the emergency fog horn and not to the band sound levels"*.

Folk nights with guest artists

June 2016 - Local newcomers The Foncescas, consisting mostly of well kent folk club members, gave a half hour special at this folk night which was well received.

January 2017 - The Folk Club commissioned Moonshine Madness, a Banffshire Bluegrass Band to provide an hour of entertainment as part of the regular folk night. Despite wide advertising attendance at this event was lower than expected, which might have been due to Burns suppers being held in the area on the same night. However, the music was superb and the audience enjoyed the band.

Club performances to community groups and events

The Folk Club was asked for musical performances at a number of community groups and events, which included:

Riggs Sheltered Housing Longside (March 2016 and Feb 2017)

Scottish Week, Peterhead (Aug 2016)

Blackhills Women's Rural (Mar 2017)

Peterhead Pensioners (Apr 2016 and planned for April 2017)

Club outing and celebrations

Invited by former committee member, Mary, 10 Club members travelled to the Port Patrick Folk Festival in September 2016 and had an enjoyable weekend with good music, good food and good friends.

Club and committee also took an active role in making the wedding day of their two committee members Tanja and Angus an unforgettable event in September 2016.

Tangus McMehrer March 2017

8. Appointment of Auditor: Sue Grosvenor MICB. CB. PM. Dip of SGG Business Services the present Auditor of accounts for the Folk Club has agreed to audit the accounts next year.
9. Elections: Angus will be taking a break from the events co-ordinator position, which along with Tanja has been brilliantly organised with innovation and dedication.

Tanja has agreed to remain as an arranger of events in so much that the actual organisation will be delegated to selected Committee Members.

Election Results as follows:

Chairperson- Brian proposed by Angus seconded by Yvonne, accepted by all

Vice Chairperson- Yvonne proposed by Brian seconded by Tanja, accepted by all

Secretary - Scott proposed by Mike seconded by Yvonne, accepted by all

Treasurer - Tansy proposed by David seconded by Tanja, accepted by all

Publicity Officer - Gordon proposed by Russell seconded by Brian, accepted by all

Committee Members: Tanya, Jill, Angus, Russell, Dave, Mike, have all offered to remain as committee members for another year.

10. AOCB:

It has been agreed to look to other regulars to the Folk Club to boost the numbers of committee members for 2017.

11. Date of next Meeting: Brian thanked all who attended and the AGM and for all their efforts in the past year, and closed the A.G.

A date will be agreed later for the 2017 A.G.M.

Scott Thomson (Secretary)