

2012

1) Review of the 2012 October Folk Night

Raffle: It was agreed by all that the raffle was a resounding success raising a total of £95 for Club Funds and a huge thank you goes to the sisters in the committee for all their hard work.

It was also agreed that in order to speed up the time taken for the raffle that the prizes should be pre-selected by ourselves prior to the drawing of the ticket. and that perhaps the bar staff could help in relaying the winning numbers to the bar rather than having to run back and forward each time.

It was agreed that 50% of the funds received would be used to purchase prizes for the following month's Folk Night.

2) Format of the Evening: It was observed by all that the session time seemed a little too short therefore the following times are to be tried out for the November Folk Night

Open Mike-----9:00 until 10:15

Raffle-----10:15 until 10:45

Session-----10:45 until 12:00

It was hoped to set up the sound system and play area as early as practicable to allow a start dead on 9:00 clock.

Review of the 2012 November Folk Night

Prompt start: The difficulty of starting sharp at nine was discussed especially where the corner table is being used for meals. It was agreed that a reserved notice requesting that the table be vacated for 08:45 as would be required for the C.B Folk Club could be placed on the table

Action...Gordon

Raffle: The following points were agreed unanimously
That a limit of 10 prizes should be put in place thus reducing the time spent on the raffle with the understanding that at least two of the prizes would be top drawer.
It is hoped that the donation of a bottle of spirits from the Kilmarnock Arms would be a regular part of the raffle
To inform the Bar of when the raffle is about to be drawn to allow customers to come into the lounge for the draw.
If a ticket is not claimed it should be taped to the prize and put behind the bar for collection by the winner, if still unclaimed at the next Folk Night the prize would go back into the raffle prize stock.
As this stock has increased over the last two months the original decision to take 50% of the raffle takings into the prize fund should be rescinded and the decision on the requirement for prizes be left to Tansy to evaluate. **All Above Actions** : Tansy

Review of December 2012 Folk Night The following points were agreed unanimously

The Folk Night was again well attended especially for the time of year with perhaps fewer players than November due to other commitments at that time of year.

Dianna the Storyteller was great success with everyone enthralled by her tale of the Wooden Sword, it is hoped that this will become a regular part of the folk night.

The club anthem "Cruden Water" was played and sung by all to bring the evening to a close, this worked well and will be carried on to all club nights.

2013

4.1 Review of January 2013 Burns Night: It was agreed by all that, even with the attendance being down slightly on the previous month, it was another great club night. Special thanks to Lucy and Martin who provide little Burns night Tasters for everyone, the haggis was superb. Also to Gordon for his rendition of Tam' o Shanter and finally to Ewan on his debut with the cello at the Folk Club.

4.1 Review of February 2013 Valentines Theme Night: The attendance was slightly down by average but this was put down to time of year and the last Friday not being at the end of the month which resulted in a few people missing the Folk Night, thinking it was the following week. It was discussed and agreed that an E-Mail be sent out on a regular basis the week before the Club Night to all on the Club Mailing List. **Action..Brian**

4.1 Review of March 2013 Irish Theme Night: A very successful night with the numbers well up on last month. The choir "One Voice" are to be congratulated on the performance of the evening with the song "Parting Glass"

It was agreed that the raffle went well especially the sales in the bar with Jim and Brian selling the tickets there, a new selection of volunteers will be made for the March Folk night

There was less time to sell raffle tickets due to the first half running overtime, but efforts will be made to allow enough time for this in the future.

4.1 Review of April 2013 Folk Night : Another successful night , particularly the session providing a lively entertainment, comments from the Norwegian guests at the hotel were that it was a fantastic evening's entertainment and **FREE!!**

It was agreed that the raffle went well especially the sales in the bar with Jim and Brian selling the tickets there, it is hoped to continue this.

4.1 Review of May 2013 Folk Night : Another brilliant night , with a wide range of music and performers our thanks to all, particularly the performance from Ailsa of "Herrin's Heids " and the songs by Judge John Quinn one of the American guests staying at the hotel, hats off to our house band for providing the backing music on this one.

It was agreed that the raffle went well especially the sales in the bar with Jim and Dave Cherry selling the tickets there, it is hoped to continue this for the June Folk Night, Gordon has volunteered to draw the raffle and has offered to bring along a tombola type wheel to assist in this.

As we had a slightly later start to the Folk Night requested by Lucy due to the hotel being very busy with meals it was agreed by all that the club should be flexible in starting and finishing times dependent on how busy the hotel is on the evening.

4.1 Review of June 2013 Folk Night: With the theme of summertime another successful club night with a few people coming in from the bar to the lounge to listen to the music. There are still problems with the sound around the lounge area but hopefully this will be addressed prior to the July folk club night. It is planned to rig up another speaker to cover the far end of the lounge **Action...Gordon, Dave Cherry**

4.1 Review of July 2013 Folk Night: Another very busy night at the club with unfortunately many of the performers unavailable due to holidays and other commitments. Well done to those who kept the night going and especially to our resident Bass Player(Kenny) and Drummer (Angus) who played non- stop the whole night. Gordon did an excellent job at drawing the raffle and has agreed to continue with this for the near future.

4.1 Review of August 2013 Folk Night: This was an exceptionally busy night probably due to the theme of the **Beatles**. There were a few problems with the staff of the hotel trying to serve food and drinks due to the number of people in the lounge. It has been suggested by the Hotel (Lucy) that we consider using the Dining Room if these numbers of people were encountered again. It was agreed by all to carry out a review of this after four Folk Nights to ascertain whether it was a one off or would be a regular occurrence. This would be an agenda item for the January meeting.

It was put forward by Gordon that there are three bedrooms directly above the Dining Room and that we also may lose some of the buzz that the Folk Club has at the present time **Action....All**

The night itself was a resounding success with very good feedback from the audience and record raffle takings.

4.1 Review of September 2013 Folk Night: Another great night with a few Self- Penned songs and a variety of performers. The Open Mike session unfortunately again ran into the time allotted for the Group Session which a few people have commented on including committee members. At present we are monitoring the Folk Nights with regard to the numbers attending and the actual room available to have a full Group Session involving all the players and the audience at the same time. The option of relocating to the Dining Room will be considered if it is feasible to do so as this would provide more space.

Gordon and Brian will discuss this with Lucy and Martin to ascertain their point of view on this then we can go forward from there.

Another idea put forward was to have the committee meeting on the second Friday of the month at 7:30 followed by a group session in the lounge starting again at 9:00 this to be discussed.

4.1 Review of October 2013 Folk Night: A great Halloween night with a variety of performers. The Open Mike session took up the allotted time and a fine wee session was held afterwards. Special mention of the witches performance and Davy's Green lady - both first class.

Gordon and Brian will discuss this with Lucy and Martin to ascertain their point of view on this then we can go forward from there. **(Outstanding)**

Another idea put forward was to have the committee meeting on the second Friday of the month at 7:30 followed by a group session in the lounge starting again at 9:00 this to be discussed. **(Outstanding)**

4.2 Review of November 2013 Folk Night: A very Cosmopolitan and successful night with songs from around the world along with a good turn out on a winters night, It was great to hear a bit of Jazz music from Michael on Keyboard, Kenny on Bass and Angus on Drum also a highlight of the night was Luke with his original material. This all furthers the aim of the Club to develop various types of music for all to enjoy.

4.5 Review of December 2013 Folk Night: A great turn out on the night with standing room only which always adds to the atmosphere in the room. A first for the Club was Chris on the Saxophone and another excellent voice, his daughter Jaz accompanied by another Chris on guitar. Also a first was our own Ewan on Cello accompanied by two lovely young ladies Fiona McLachlan and Caitlin Davies both on violin, we also had wonderful rendition of "The Arcadian Love Song" by the choir and the star of the night was Gordon's grand-daughter Layla who sang " Twas on a Starry Night " Where else could such a variety of music be found

Thanks go to all those who donated raffle prizes and sold tickets for the special Christmas raffle, the returns to be donated to " Peterhead Aged and Infirm "

2014

4.2 Review of January 2014 Folk Night: In spite of the terrible weather the lounge was full once again and with the addition of " Haggis bites", "Tam-o-Shanter" and a " Full Blown Scottish Piper" what more could anyone desire.

Thanks go to Gordon for being the "Master of Ceremonies" on the night and to all who took part.

4.2 Review of February 2014 Folk Night: A great debt is owed to the few players who kept the Folk Night going, as due to varying circumstances there were only these few players available, a massive thank you to Brian, Gordon, Dave Cherry for organising the night and Andy Clucas who despite a heavy cold gave support, also to all in the audience who helped by coming forward to sing, Elaine and Co.

It was discussed as to what should be done if again there is a night with very little performers available, Scott proposed that the live performance time be shortened and that a selection of Folk music be played through the P.A. system, (or the Hotel's own system if the P.A. was not available.) More time for chatting and having a social drink. This was agreed by all.

The sound levels of our own P.A. system are to be monitored during the Folk Night and every effort made to balance out the volume such that it can be heard at the bar but not deafen the members sitting in the vicinity of the speakers. **Action..Gordon**

4.3 Review of March 2014 Folk Night: A Bob Dylan night to remember with a large audience enjoying a tribute to the master. The choir once again were brilliant with their rendition of "Blowing in the Wind."

The restrictions imposed by the size and layout of the lounge along with the sound problems in the room were discussed at length and a unanimous decision taken that the Folk Club should move into the Killie Dining Room from October to May (when the requirement for meals from hotel guests would be reduced from the summer months) This would give much more space for performers, guests, and audience alike and a far better session with more of the audience involved. This has still to be finalised with Martin and Lucy but they had agreed in principal to the planned move.

4.4 Review of April 2014 Folk Night: A great comedy night with songs and poems on the lighter side of life. The stars of the evening were surely Pinky and Perky on the Ukes with the " tickle" song and Yvonne's ode to the hedgehog.

4.4 Review of May 2014 Folk Night: One of the most variety filled folk nights to date with many different performances from Blues to many favourite movie songs, another very busy night with an extension to the Open Mike session due to the number of Performers.

4.4 Review of June / July 2014 Folk Nights: A great audience turn out for two summer months when there are lots of things on the go, we really have a good audience base now. The June night with it's **Songs from Scotland** theme and the **Trains, Planes and Automobiles** of the July night were equally a great entertainment and enjoyment for all, players and audience alike.

4.1 Review of the August 2014 Folk night: There was a smaller audience on the night as compared to recent club nights, but was another brilliant evening with a special welcome to the return of Nigel, who played a great set with brother Mark. Also the song writing and performance of Luke on his guitar. The committee all agreed that the Club Night Themes

should be left for a while to give free reign to the performers on the evening.

4.1 Review of the September 2014 Folk night: There was a smaller audience on the night as compared to recent club nights, but was another very enjoyable evening, with some interesting performances. The committee all agreed that the Club Night Themes should be left for a while to give free reign to the performers on the evening.

On the running order of the evening, Tansy asked if we could schedule the performers so that there is some space between the acapella performances.

Also it was requested that the Raffle be held earlier, ie start 10.15, finish 10.30.

4.1 Review of the October (1st Nov) 2014 Folk night: This was the first Club night in the Dining Room, and although a slightly later start due to meals being served in room, (Hopefully this will be addressed in future by politely requesting to anyone in the Dining Room that we start the club at the normal time of nine- o clock.)

The night itself had many benefits of being in the dining room

- More space and seating.
- Better and Clearer sound quality.
- The meeting of some of the diners who are going to return for the Club night.

It is planned, as we now have the space available in the Dining Room ,to have Michaels Jazz Band perform at the November Folk Night for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to $\frac{3}{4}$ hour depending on time. The normal Club night will continue from nine until the raffle when the band can set up and then the fun begin, these guys are brilliant and will knock your socks off.

4.1 Review of the November 2014 Folk night: Everyone agreed that this was indeed one of the best nights ever held at the Killie, we even had dancing in the foyer. A huge thanks goes out to all the Performers who seemed to step up a gear on the night, including a welcome visit from Nadia with her Russian songs and stories, it is hoped that Nadia may become a regular performer at the Club in the future. A special thanks also to the "Port Errol Jazz Crew" Michael, Bruce, Charlie and Kenny for a brilliant session to close the night.

The November Raffle was in aid of the charity "CAIR Scotland " and a cheque for the sum of £150 was presented and received with many thanks by the charity.

4.1 Review of the December 2015 Folk night: Despite the low attendance good fun. We'll decide next year what should be done at the festive season.

2015

4.1 Review of the January 2015 Folk night: A brilliant turn out on what was a wild winter night, with a great variety in Performers. There were a couple of points raised which need to be addressed.

- The time between performances has to be much Quicker/Slicker especially where instruments and sound equipment are being set up. It is hoped to plan better on the night to solve this...**Action All.**
- There was a bit of unwanted chatter during performances coming from the alcove part of the Dining Room. Scott as M.C. to monitor this in the future and request order for the performers if required...**Action Scott**

4.1 Review of the February 2015 Folk night: Another very successful night, with many performers, including Mike's debut performance on Vocals and Mandolin. There were some problems regarding the sound system during the night, but this is hoped to be rectified for the next Folk Night in March.

There also appears to be an influx of new faces in the audience, make no mistake this is becoming the place to go.

4.1 Review of the March 2015 Folk night: There were quite a few guests in the Dining Room as the season kicks in and the golfers return, the golfers from Germany thoroughly enjoyed the evening and took part themselves later on in the evening. This will be the last Club night in the Dining Room for the summer and the Folk Club will return back to the Lounge for the April night.

4.1 Review of the April 2015 Folk night: Back to the Lounge for the summer and all agreed the atmosphere was brilliant, bringing back the buzz that the Folk Club produces every time. Roll on the May Folk Night.

4.1 Review of the May 2015 Folk night: There again seems to be the same old problem with noise in the lounge during performances, where the P.A. has to be turned up and people talk louder and so on. It was agreed that small cards politely requesting a bit of hush for the performers be spread about the tables and bar. Scott, as Master of Ceremonies, will endeavour to maintain a bit of decorum during performances. ...Action Scott.

It is also planned to return to the unplugged session after the raffle, with maybe one microphone for voice only.

4.1 Review of the June 2015 Folk night: There again seems to be the same old problem with noise in the lounge during performances, where the whole P.A. has to be turned up. It was propped by Scott to look into putting a Stand Alone speaker (Solo Control) into the Bar Area of the Lounge whereby the Volume on this one speaker could be raised without raising the volume of the system Brian and Gordon to see if it can be done...Action Brian, Gordon

4.1 Review of the July 2015 Folk night: A great night with visitors from the Stonehaven Folk Club, as there Club Night is on the same as ours ,but they take a break for a couple of months in the summer.

4.1 Review of the August 2015 Folk night: Great to be back in the Dining Room. With some Swedish visitors along with a good turnout of our regulars. It would be a great help if we could all assist in returning the equipment back up the stairs at the end of the evening, rather than being left to the same limited number of people.



Thanks in advance.

4.1 Review of the September 2015 Folk night: An excellent night with many players and audience, Neil and Donald made a welcome return as did Rodriguez it is hoped that they will both be a regular spot every month. Michael and Kenny also performed a great set, roll on the next Folk Night.

4.1 Review of the October 2015 Folk night: An excellent night with many players and audience, Neil and Donald made a welcome return as did Rodriguez it is hoped that they will both be a regular spot every month. Michael and Kenny also performed a great set, roll on the next Folk Night.

4.1 Review of the November 2015 Folk night: Slow to start, but picked up well, with a variety of performances from fiddle and drum- jigs and reels from young Shannon and her friend Carla to some very moving poetry for Dawn, written by her Mother and from young Christopher. It is a great boost for the Folk Club that young people are attending in ever greater numbers.

The session was a great success and will continue for the time being. Tanja enquired as to the progress of the Song Book which could be used in the sessions....Action Gordon

Author Yvonne

Review of December 2015 Folk Club Night – it was the night of the Christmas Meal and 15 people were there. The meal was good and the evening was musical and good fun. It was agreed by those attending the Dave’s son, Marcus, is a talented poet and should be encouraged to perform on Folk Club nights. Angus’ Hawaiian song was great!

New Year’s Day session – enjoyed by all those who attended.

January Folk Club – Tansy mentioned that there would be several ladies singing in addition to the choir, so she suggested that when planning the order of performances, Scott should not let them perform one after the other with other folk inbetween.

Choir – x1; Tansy, Tanja and Corine – x1; Tansy, Janet and Alison – x2

Brian suggested that a Country and Western theme for a future Clun night – all agreed but no month was set. Action – Brian and Tansy

2016

4.5 Review of the January 2016 Folk night: Down in numbers from the usual turn-out but a most enjoyable evening once more the session worked well. It was discussed at the meeting the singing to pre-recorded backing tracks (a kind of "Karaoke" if you like or do not like!) Yvonne has offered to have a quiet word with Alex who we all would like to keep on performing but with backing from the other club members, as took place in the session.

4.4 Review of the February 2016 Folk Night: A very busy Folk Club and still a little rowdy through in the vestibule part of the Dining Room. Gordon plans set up an extra speaker there, for the next Folk Night, to carry the sound through and maybe reduce the chatter a bit...**Action Gordon**

4.2 Review of the March 2016 Folk Night: A very quiet night due to it being the Easter Weekend. Well done to the few players who held the night together.

It was also agreed that each member should bring a **Song to the Session** to help the session part of the night kick off.

The extra speaker in the vestibule was a great success, well done Gordon.

4.2 Review of the April 2016 Folk Night: A brilliant night with Shetland Fiddle tunes from Drew and Classical fiddle by Shannon along with the variety of musicians including a debut visit from The Fonsecas with Jazz, Michael, Andy and Kenny. It was good to also see Donald and Neil return and Brian with trumpet accompaniment from Louise. There

was also a lovely duet from our very own Tansy and Yvonne, wouldn't all that make anyone want to come along to the Folk Night.

There was still a wee bit of chat /hilarity in the foyer during the performances , regrettably the speaker sited there was giving feedback and could not be used as before.

On the whole another great night and, in my humble opinion, the best session yet!!

4.1 Review of the May 2016 Folk Night: A Very, Very busy night with lots of meals in the Dining Room making it hard to set up and play, but we managed. Discussion has taken place again regarding the Karaoke type stuff being performed at the Folk Club, this in future will be not be encouraged and Alex persuaded to engage with the Club Players for backing music....**Action Scott.**

4.1 Review of the June 2016 Folk Night: An evening filled with lots of talent, from the 20 minute session from visiting American singer songwriter Graham Pearson of the band "Power Section", to the 30 minute session from the Fonsecas and of course all of our home grown club performers especially The Choir, Tansy and Yvonne, Janet and Scarlet, Janet and Graham also Ailsa, along with a couple of brilliant songs from Chris. Then our dynamic duo Donald and Neil, also Luke...WHAT A NIGHT!!

The audience numbers were just about right to allow a bit of movement in the Dining Room.

4.1 Review of the July 2016 Folk Night: another successful night with a visit from the Stonehaven Folk club as last year (Their own folk club lands on the same night as ours, but they have a summer break).

No record for the August Folk Night

4.1 Review of the September 2016 Folk Night: A quiet night but most enjoyable with a fair crowd and enough players to keep the evening going strong.

4.1 Review of the October 2016 Folk Night: A good night with a few visitors / performers to the club, a bit rowdy through the back, but probably due to the speaker there not in operation, this will be rectified at the November folk night. Well done to the raffle sales and organisation team what a result, see below.

4.1 Review of the November 2016 Folk Night: A most enjoyable night and a good session at the end of the evening, Mike has volunteered to hand out the song books at the next folk night prior to the session. Again, we had a very good "folk singer" visitor / performer to the club and the hope is as the word gets around there will be more.

4.1 Review of the December 2016 Folk Night: A great Christmas Meal for the committee and guests then on to a cracking bursting at the seams Folk night with a great variety of performers even fiddlers yeah!

The New Year's Day session in the afternoon was another well attended musical bash, with all having fun and a song, looks like a fixture for the Folk Club.

2017

4.1 Review of the January 2017 Folk Night: A brilliant night with "Moonshine Madness stealing the show with variety of their set and the standard of musicianship. Enjoyed by all, and maybe should be repeated, to be discussed.

4.1 Review of the February 2017 Folk Night: A quiet night due to the time of year, but roll on the spring.

4.1 Review of the March and April 2017 Folk Night : Numbers picking up as the summer and the hotel guests appear, the pool of performers is ever growing, the P.A. playing up a bit, but should be solved with the plan to purchase a new P.A. system.

4.1 Review of the May 2017 Folk Night : New P.A. system in place and producing a great sound, a wonderful addition to the Folk Club, well done again to Brian and Gordon on all their efforts in procuring a brilliant system at a brilliant price. The third speaker and cables have also been purchased and will be available for the June Folk Night.

The putting away of the P.A. after the raffle had a few problems and disruptions to the audience, therefore it was agreed to leave it in situ until the end of the evening.

4.1 Review of the June 2017 Folk Night: Due to the Dining Room being full with people making merry (nothing wrong with that by the way!) it was decided to revert back to the lounge for a session rather than the usual Folk Club Night, luckily the lounge was quite empty allowing us to do this, once settled in it was a very enjoyable evening. This may occur again over the summer months and will have to be dealt with at the time, Brian is to ask Lucy if it would be possible to have prior notice of large bookings on the Folk Club night to assist us in planning the evening ...Action Brian

4.1 Review of the July 2017 Folk Night: The Theme night Bobs and Robbers was a great success, with a good crowd enjoying the music. There was a bit of a problem trying to move extra chairs from upstairs once the night has started and as the crowd grows. Brian has offered to ask Martin if we can store some chairs in the ladies loo at the foot of the stairs as an interim solution...Action Brian.It was agreed to have a theme every second month and as it would be the Folk Clubs 5th year anniversary in October, which is "WOOD" it was agreed by all the theme would be "WOOD".

4.1 Review of the August 2017 Folk Night: Concerns were raised as to the few numbers of committee members at the Folk Club night and a fear that if the numbers dwindle any further there may not be a Folk Night, all efforts should be made by all members to try and attend the Folk Nights to maintain a high standard of numbers of performers and helpers on the night.

4.1: Review of the September 2017 Folk Night: A concern was raised by Scott as to the lay out of the tables on the folk night, as it left little room for our members with what seemed to be less chairs, which in turn affects the ambiance of the evening. Brian is to mention this to the staff to see if we can have a few more chairs in the dining room on the club night or an idea as to location if we require them.

4.1 Review of the October 2017 Folk Night: Again a concern was raised as to the lay out of the tables on the folk night, as it left little room for our members with what seemed to be less chairs, which in turn resulted in a session by the fire in the foyer, which was quite good but not the usual Folk Club, the raffle was also abandoned for the evening.

Brian has discussed our concerns with Martin who has agreed that a couple of benches and more chairs will be set out on the 24th November and any diners will be made aware that the Folk Club is on from 9:00 pm in the Dining Room. We also have the Silver City Singers performing this month, so we really want things to go well on the night.

4.1 Review of the December 2017 Folk Night: The December Folk Night was cancelled due to the dreaded Influenza Bug that is going round and knocked out almost all the performers

2018

4.1 Review of the January 2018 Folk Night: A good turnout in regard to audience but due to whatever circumstances there were only a few performers on the night, that said, the evening was a success, a special thanks goes to Dave Cherry for performing and wife Jean who delivered his guitar to the Killie. That in itself shows the spirit we have at the Folk Club.

4.1 Review of the February 2018 Folk Night: Due to bookings in the Dining Room on the Friday and Saturday nights it was decided to hold the Folk Night on the Saturday night. As the dining room was still busy on arrival it was agreed to have a "Session by the Fire" in the foyer of the hotel, then once the Dining Room was clear we set up in there, thanks goes to all who helped set up. All in all a very good evening with a mix of session and open mike. The Friday evening is however the preference of the Folk Club and the Hotel Management as the Dining Room will be busier on the Saturday nights during the summer months (golfers and holidaymakers).

4.1 Review of the March 2018 Folk Night: A cracking night with a whole lot of audience and a whole lot of performers, a most enjoyable evening with new, young, and old performers giving it their very best.

4.1 Review of the April 2018 Folk Night: A great launch of the Fonseca's new album *Where the River meets the Sea* with many performers and a great to hear Sax and Trombone taking part in the music. A few complaints were forthcoming in regard to the number of audience and the blocking of entrances to the Dining Room but what can we do, if it is busy, it is busy. The set up in the far right hand side of the Dining Room worked really well, the sound and vision a lot better facing down the Dining Room rather than across it, Brian to discuss with Lucy and Martin the continued use of the corner as the set up area for Open Mike at the future Folk Nights....Action Brian.

4.1 Review of the May 2018 Folk Night: A few problems were encountered with setting up in the corner of the Dining Room where the speaker cables cross a doorway and need to be over the door or taped to the floor, this can be addressed at the June Folk Night. There was also a large table of Icelandic hotel guests set up right in front of the stage area which encountered a few complaints from them when the setting up of the equipment was ongoing. It was a wee bit of a "guddle" setting it all up, but we did our best and that's what counts at the end of the day.

4.1 Review of the June 2018 Folk Night: A slow start to the Northern Soul Themed Folk Night but picked up later in the evening and was an enjoyable night. It is hoped to set up the P.A. in the far right hand side corner of the Dining Room for the July Folk Night, this will negate the cable run problems and allow the hotel to set up any required large tables on the right hand side on the Dining Room. Brian to check the proposal with Martin and LucyAction Brian.

4.1 Review of the July 2018 Folk Night: Albeit a wild weather night the dining room was fully booked with no room for setting up the PA. The Foyer Fireside Folk Club was once again called into action. Thanks go out to performers Brian, Mark, Nigel and the big bloke with the beard from Hatton, (Tansy's description!), for their sterling efforts in keeping the

night going. Also thanks to Michael for the procurement of chairs for the 30 people that turned up on the night, more of a JAM session than a jam session. The Committee agreed that this is a recognised fall back situation for the Folk Club and may have to be used when circumstances demand it.

4.1 Review of the August 2018 Folk Night: Started off slowly at first but picked up as the night went on, then a great session at the end of the night what more could you want.

4.1 Review of the September 2018 Folk Night: Another very successful evening with a visit from a few of the Silver City Singers from Aberdeen who provided great harmonies in their set. Also a visit from Michael and the Double Bass....Magic Stuff!

4.1 Review of the October 2018 Folk Night: A quieter than normal folk night but enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to Angus for stepping up as compere for the night and to some of our regular performers including The Choir, Dave Cherry and Yvonne, Michael Hendry and Guitarman Kris from New Deer for keeping the evening flowing until midnight. No raffle was held.

4.1 Review of the November 2018 Folk Night: A great evening of entertainment with an amazing variety of music and song. From the Fonsecas full band sound to the lilting songs of the choir. With a host of others in between, especially Kris on the Cigar Box Guitar. The evening finished off with an brilliant session, what more would you want for free

4.1 Review of the December 2018 Folk Night: Although quiet to start off, the evening was another successful Folk Night as can be seen from the raffle takings (well done to Brian -Master Ticket Salesman and to all

who assisted in running the raffle) A special thanks to the Fonsecas and their contribution to the evening's entertainment. Well done to all the performers and thanks to the audience for attending

2019

4.1 Review of the January 2019 Folk Night: A quiet night due to the Burns events ongoing at the same time, being the 25th January. It was good to see a mix of performers on the night especially Lyndsay (Uke Player) who came up from Brechin with her little dog. The highlight of the evening being Brian and Dave's tribute to Windsor Davies by performing *Whispering Grass* in full costumes. A well done also to Dregan for his Doric poem at the start of the performances. Due to the small turnout it was decided to leave the raffle until the February Folk Night.

4.1 Review of the Febtuary 2019 Folk Night: Well done to all the performers especially to Sue on saxophone, Michael for his blues numbers and of course the Fonsecas (Reggie Man!), roll on the end of March.

4.1 Review of the March 2019 Folk Night: A very busy Folk Night with just enough time to accommodate all the performers, a wide range of Songs and Instruments and a bit of Romeo and Juliet with the Fonsecas finishing off in style, all in all a great night.

4.1 Review of the April 2019 Folk Night: Due to the Dining Room being very busy with meals starting at 9pm it was agreed by all to relocate to the Lounge where an unplugged informal sing-around and session was held which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. This arrangement has proved fairly satisfactory as a fall back if required in the future.

4.1 Review of the May 2019 Folk Night: Quite a few new faces amongst the performers namely Hilary and Colin, John, and Alistair,

hopefully they will be back to play at the June Folk Night. The night went well with a fine session to finish.

4.1 Review of the June 2019 Folk Night: Another lively night with plenty of performers both young and not so young. It is good to see a mixture of ages in the Folk Club, well done to Layla on her first performance at the club and to her accompanist Grandad Gordon (a place has been booked for Gordon at the workshop in August). There was also another fine session at the end of the night.

4.1 Review of the July 2019 Folk Night: A cracker of a night, chaotic at times with a large table of diners but what a mix of music and performers. There were a few problems with the sound system, but hopefully that will now be fixed (see New Business)

4.1 Review of the August 2019 Folk Night: A Very, Very busy night with lots of performers, a few problems again with the P.A. system which will be addressed prior to the next Folk Night, but all in all a superb night of variety and musical craft.

4.1 Review of the September 2019 Folk Night: Due to faults with the P.A. system, it was decided to go unplugged for the evening, the two outstanding performers of the evening were " Treblesome" the barber shop quartet with their magnificent harmonies and our very own "Fierry Deemes" with (don't sit under the apple tree and a cowboy compilation). Tansy raised the point that we did overrun by 30 minutes on the night (agreement is midnight finish) Scott to give a reminder at the next Folk Night that we should finish at the agreed time and request that for the benefit of the residents above the Dining Room that we all leave in a quiet and orderly fashion.

4.1 Review of the October 2019 Folk Night: Happy to report that the P.A. system worked a treat, a big thank you to all who assisted in the Fault Finding and Checking, especially Tansy who found the fault. As winter is on its way, it was a quieter night than in the past few months but still a good few players and audience helped make it another most enjoyable Folk Night with quite a lively session at the end of the evening.

4.1 Review of the November 2019 Folk Night: A quiet night as expected in the winter months with a few late diners in the Dining Room, but still an enjoyable evening with a variety of performers and a good session at the end.

4.1 Review of the December 2019 Folk Night: The P.A. system worked well with the new speakers now fitted to the existing stands, after a most enjoyable Christmas Meal and the tables and seats arranged, the evening commenced. Due to the time of year the numbers of performers and audience were down on the usual turnout but never the less another brilliant night.

2020

4.1 Review of the January 2020 Folk Night: Due to the time of year and the cold weather there were fewer audience than normal although we had a great turn out of performers on the evening resulting in another fine evening of music and song. Hilary made her debut singing and playing the Clarsach which went down a treat. A big thank you to Brian and Mike for their efforts in selling the Raffle Tickets on the night.

4.1 Review of the March 2020 Folk Night: Tribute Many have commented on the introduction to the Virtual Folk Night that Gordon had put together incorporating the tribute to our dear departed friend Dave Dixon, well done Gordon, you're a star. Internet Issues There were some Synchronisation Issues with Visuals and Sound, Gordon explained that

these are caused by the actual Internet Connectivity and speed at each viewer's home and therefore no easy fix. There were also many comments on the very good standard of the videos being played, this is mainly due to the song being pre-recorded by the performer as opposed to a live performance, with very few mistakes /bloopers. Gordon has suggested that some of the outtakes be sent to him so he can put them up at the end on the Folk Night (Bloopers - Time!!!). Gareth, who is a Sound Engineer, has volunteered to balance out the sound on the various recordings to give an even sound across the piece, Gordon to action this. It was also discussed the possibility of having the audience applaud at the end of a performance, Gordon explained that it would mean un-muting everyone for the applause, then muting them all again all of which takes time and could end up with a multitude of voices until re-muted. Another option would be to insert "canned" applause at the end of each performance, Gordon to check with Gareth if this is a possibility.....Action Gordon.

Folk Club Legacy With the rising numbers on the mailing list which has more than doubled from 84 to 180 in total and the fact that 96% of the E-Mails sent out are opened and a great many actioned it all adds to the Folk Club legacy along with our connection to the Doric TV Channel which provides us an outlet to reach more of the public (a big thank you to Jill and Gordon for this) we are forming a history of the club online for all to see. Gordon commented that it may be as late as October until the return of the Folk Club to the Killie and we would have amassed around 100 recordings by then as Folk Club Legacy. Headwear Competition Tansy suggested a "Best Headwear" prize to encourage a bit of audience participation, this was agreed by all to be a really good idea, Tansy will judge the competition and there will be a £10 voucher to the winner. The Raffle Tansy has also volunteered to run the raffle on the night and to organise the 1st -£20 the 2nd £10 and the third £10 vouchers by E-Mail to the winners, the number generator will be used to generate the winners as before. Gordon will supply a list of the participant's names for Tansy.....Action Gordon and Tansy

It was also agreed by all to keep the raffle free for all to enjoy. Jill enquired as to folk who are not involved with the club sending in videos as performers, it was decided that as the two hours is felt to be a good length of time for the event which gives about 15 people on the night giving a two set performance. It was decided

that "first dibs" should be given to Folk Club regulars maybe with only one performance to allow others, out with the Folk Club to take part on the night. Next Virtual Folk Club This is planned for Friday 28th May 2021, Gordon to EMail out details and invites for recordings.....Action Gordon.

4.1 Review of the May 2020 Folk Night: A resounding success was the view of all the committee with very good performances and a playlist of 34 songs which also adds to the Folk Club Archive. With Gordon putting the various individual pieces together on one video, it made for a much smoother running of the evening. The Best Hat prize worked well and another of the same thing but different may happen at a later date.

2021

4.1 Review of the Open Air Folk Club Gathering at the Killie Saturday 21st August 2021: What beautiful day to be back playing to an audience again, sunny and bright and a good turnout of performers especially the guys from Aberdeen that came up. Also a good many in the audience which all added to a great day

4.1 Review of the Virtual Folk Night on Friday 10th December 2021: Another great evening with 56 registered and 32 actually signed in on the night including many brilliant performers including two from Canada, Graham Donachie and Larry Forsyth. We also were shown by Gareth James what you can do on a guitar with a bit of skill, brilliant playing ! The Spotlight section on Davie Speirs was excellent and well introduced by Dave Cherry along with Gordon's magic touch showing the famous performers of that era. It is planned to continue with the spotlight section with various people giving the introduction an album or a band from the selection on the Folk Club Website. The whole evening ran very smoothly thanks again to Gordon at the controls. Roll on the next one. It

is hoped to limit the time spent on the raffle where a lot of numbers come up for those not attending but who are registered. Gordon had a couple of ideas whereby a spreadsheet could be used detailing those attending only and their numbers would go into the raffle, this could be done during the first half of the club night prior to the raffle. Anyone wishing to participate in the raffle would therefore have to be attending prior to the spreadsheet being made up. Gordon to discuss with Tansy on her return at the end of January...Action Gordon.

2022

4.1 Review of Robert Burns Themed Virtual Folk Night on Friday 28th

January 2022: Another great night of entertainment where all of the performances reached the highest standard yet with Tam 'O Shanter being a classic performance from Gordon, and where many classic ballads from our nation's bard's collection were sung or recited, from home and abroad.

4.1 Review of the Virtual Folk Night on Friday 25th March 2022:

A very good Folk Night with a strange twist, with a few of the Scottish performers singing American style songs and the Americans and Canadians singing Scottish Songs, a magic mix. A good size audience on the night with the only problem being a couple of second lapse between the Visual and Audio on the screen depending on how good the Broadband Signal is in the viewers area. Gordon is looking into ways of improving this, for all to have a better enjoyment of the performances.

4.1 Review of the Zoom Folk Night on Friday 27th May 2022:

A late surge of performers videos arriving on Gordon's computer helped fill in a few spaces on the night. Another great selection of performers with a very entertaining debut by Dave Lorimer (Lisa Buchan's guitar tutor) who gave a couple of Pipe tunes on Guitar and Harmonica. We also had our very own Brian McAulay in the Clutha Bar in Glasgow with some

good ol country rock. It was great to hear the Fearie Deames back in action with Wild Mountainside and a blast from the past from the archives with "OLDER LADIES" magic. But in my modest opinion the stars of the show were Dave Cherry and Sandy Flett who definitely sounded akin to a great American country singer Johnny Cash. Another brilliant night.

4.1 Review of the first Live Folk Night in the Cruden Bay Hall on Friday 24th June 2022:

A good turn of performers and audience of about 20, not a bad number considering a few of the Folk Club regulars couldn't make it along due to other commitments and some of the Fairy Deames were down with the dreaded Covid. It was a great night where a large circle was formed and a sing-around format employed, with the excellent acoustics in the hall there was not a requirement for P.A. The tables and chairs were easily put out and away again at the end of the evening, no hassle at all.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night in the Cruden Bay Hall on Friday 29th July 2022:

A few less performers and audience than last month, but overall another great night of music, good to see Kris and Alan in attendance. Gordon took some video footage from the table in front of the performer and as can be seen on the Folk Club Web Page, where Gordon has added the videos from the night, the sound is much improved. Well done to Gordon for all his hard work in setting this up and finalising the result.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night back in the Kilmarnock Arms on Friday 30th September 2022.:

Great to be back in the Killie was the resounding comment from all who attended the evening. And a great evening it was with excellent performances all round. The one song circuit, going round twice, worked

well and everyone was given the opportunity to play, unfortunately time did not allow for a session at the end of night. With the bar now closing at 11pm, and a 9pm start, an allowance was made for the Folk Club to play to 11:30 finish time. The Killie mentioned that an earlier start would be possible where diners not particularly wanting musical accompaniment could be served meals in the Lounge. After discussion it was decided that on Friday night we would arrive at 8pm and get tuned up and ready just to check out the practicalities. If all is well an 8pm start would be advised by E-Mail and on the Website for the November Folk Night where a session at the end would be possible.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 28th October 2022:

A very busy night with lots of performers and a good crowd in the Dining Room, with Witches and Scary Songs in abundance for the Halloween theme. The two song, one visit, format was back in play, to save time on the changeovers and worked better for all. Everyone played well individually, but regrettably we did not have time for a wee session at the end. We are planning to start at 8:30pm for the November folk night on the 25th and hopefully have time at the end for a session. Gordon to send out an E-Mail to all on the list to inform them of the earlier start...Action Gordon.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 25th November 2022:

Another brilliant night of music and fun, the 8:30pm start work well with the performers having a mini-session at the start of the night to allow people to get settled in. This also allowed us to have a proper session at the end of the individual performances. With Shannon and Ian both wonderful fiddle players, along with our regular performers it was a night to remember. Also Luke accompanied by Sue on Saxophone doing "You can't always get what you want" well we certainly did on the night well done to all. The only concern we had was that the session at the end of the night carried over the agreed 11:30pm time limit with the hotel,

Scott will again remind everyone of the 11:30 pm finish at the start of the December Folk Night on the 30th...Action Scott.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 30th December 2022:

A quiet night probably due to the time of year but another enjoyable evening all the same with everyone giving their best to make it special as always. Great raffle sales from all at the Killie and a well deserved thanks to all those involved in making the raffle a very special part of the Folk Night. The early start seems to be working, giving us time for a session at the end of the night.

2023

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 27th January 2023:

The first of the year Folk Night was another great night with many Robert Burns songs being sung and a special rendition of Tam 'o Shanter by our very own Gordon, what a tribute to the Bard. A little piece entitled "Willie Brewed a Peck o' Maut" with Dave, Gordon, Russell and Scott brought the light hearted side of Burns to the proceedings. There were also a few newcomers to the Folk Club with Jason playing Guitar and Adrian on Trombone along with a debut performance from Joe who all helped to make it a most enjoyable evening, finishing off with another great session.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 24th February 2023:

A quiet night due to the inclement weather, but an enjoyable one. The normal 2 song set pieces went well, with a really good session at the end to finish off the evening.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 31st March 2023:

What a night!!, It seemed that everyone stepped up a rung on the performance ladder and our special guests the Sir Reel Clarks Band were brilliant, looking forward to a return visit from them sometime in the future. It was great to again see the lounge packed with supporters and performers. It might be a thought to repeat the guest spot on a regular basis (to be further discussed)

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 28th April 2023:

A great John Prine tribute night with many of his songs performed by the Folk Club as homage to John as a talented singer songwriter for many years. A great turn out on the night and a lively session to end the evening

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 26th May 2023:

Another brilliant evening of music and fun with something new and refreshing in the singing of Alisha alongside Luke, also a brilliant session to end the night. Well done to all the performers. It was great to see another good turn out on the night. The only downer from the evening was the spread of the corona virus which a few of the Fearie Deames and others from the night caught, It was agreed by all that better ventilation should be a requirement on the night which could be provided by wedging open both access doors to the Dining Room. It was also agreed the purchase of disposable Microphone Covers, Brian has offered to obtain these for the June Folk Night...Action Brian.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 30th June 2023:

A great turn out for the evening with quite a few new faces, Connor gave us a bit of his Irish heritage along with a couple of Scottish songs, It was great to see John from Huntly visit the Folk Club again and a to hear brothers Gareth and Robbie perform together, Ken kept up our traditions with a couple of Doric songs. Kris brought along Laurence, a student from

Canada, she and Kris sang a couple of songs together, great harmonies. The Fearie Deames gave a brilliant unforgettable rendition of the lullaby "Candle Spell Dunvegan" and our wee group of Brian, Dave, Gordon and Kenny gave an excellent performance. Scott and Russell did a tribute to Tina Turner which led on to a great little session to finish. All in all another very enjoyable evening.

Review of the Beatles Theme Folk Night on Friday 28th July 2023:

One of the best theme nights ever with the Dining Room full by 8:30 pm. Brilliant performances from all taking part, a huge thanks goes to Gordon who organised the "WhatsApp" page so we all could claim our songs without repetition and to all who got involved. It is planned to have another themed Folk Night soon, as it galvanises everyone into delivering brilliant performances. Great set by our very own Baytles.

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 25th August 2023:

Another busy folk night great to see so many coming along and making it a thoroughly enjoyable evening. The tribute song for Graham Donachie "The road and the miles to Dundee" worked very well, a huge thank you goes out to all those who took part. Graham's family in Arbroath loved the video which brought fond memories of their dad. It always has been a custom of the folk club not to try and play along with any performers for the following reasons:- 1) Not knowing the correct phrasing of the song. 2) Not knowing the correct chords or key for the song. 3) Most times is totally unwelcomed by the performer (off-putting) 4) The session at the end of the night is for that purpose. This occurred during a performance on the night, but Gordon had a quiet word in regard to this, below is an extract from the "House Rules"

4.1 Review of the Folk Night on Friday 29th September 2023:

Yet another great turn out of Performers and Audience, we are gradually getting back to the numbers pre-Covid. The event was again videoed for the Folk Club Web Site and the Archives, well done to all involved in

making it a successful evening. A well done also goes to Euly and Joe on organising their first Folk Club Raffle with great success. There was a small glitch with one of the LEKATO - XLR Microphone Transmitters during the evening, apologies to Donald who was performing at the time. It was quickly checked out by Gordon and exchanged for a cable which worked ok proving the desk was alright. Gordon plans to have a couple of stand-by cables ready in case of repetition. The system to be monitored throughout the October Folk Night. With a full house, seating again becomes a problem, Jane asked if seats could be kept/reserved for late arrivals, it was agreed that a couple of seats could be reserved with prior notice of the requirement. If we run out extra seating would have to be brought down from up the stairs as required. With a full complement of performers to get through in the allocated time, it leaves little or no time at all for a session at the end of the evening, it was suggested by Brian that as there seems to be fewer meals in the Dining Room on the Folk Night that an earlier start could be planned say 8-o-clock, to allow time for a session. Brian has agreed to check with the Killie on the status of evening meals in the Dining Room on a Folk Night...Action Brian.

4.1 Review of the November Folk Night on Friday 24th November 2023:

A quieter Folk night, (time of year, lead up to Christmas) but still a good few performers and audience to produce another great night and a good session to finish.

2024

4.1 Review of the January (Burns Theme) Folk Night on Friday 26th January 2024:

Thanks again goes to Gordon for all his work on providing and keeping up to date the WhatsApp page for performer's selections of Burn's songs to

minimise the chance of repetition on the night. It evening was well attended with a host of various Burns songs and poems, the classic being once more Gordon's rendition of Tam 'o Shanter.

Review of the February Folk Night on Friday 23rd February 2024:

A really great turn-out on what was a very cold night. A good many performers also, but managed to give them all time for their performances and still had time for a short session at the end of the night. A new record was set for the raffle takings with proceeds of £262 a huge well done to all those involved with the raffle especially Brian, Eulyn and Joe - well done indeed. Also a special thanks goes to Gordon, as Sound Engineer, with a few equipment problems on the night well handled.