



Northern Nashville Country Music Club

February 2008 Newsletter

Our first show of the year certainly helped us cope with the January blues and kicked the years entertainment off with a swing. Weather was also kind to us no snow around to stop our bands getting here, we played things safe just in case and booked "Kate Bain and The New Kate Bain Band" knowing they had only a short distance to travel if the weather was bad.

This was the launch of Kate's new line up as most of you will know young Davie Shearer has had to give up playing with the band so Kate and Richard have recruited two new band members, however only one was with her on Friday (the other was on holiday) young Andrew Polson from Wick and helping them out for the night was Keith MacLeod. Andrews uncle Adam and cousin Johnny were members of the popular local band Silver when they were around in the 80's must be in his genes. Considering this was the first time all four had played together they were excellent. Andrew introduced some new country numbers and Kate gave us well known standards but also some not so well known songs from female country stars such as Suzy Bogus, Gretchin Wilson and Lorrie Morgan.

I am looking forward to seeing them play at the festival as I'm sure the two new musicians will compliment Kate's distinctive vocals and enhance her performance.

Our star of the show a young man from Portaferry County Down in Northern Ireland Stephen Smyth, a big man with a big voice and a huge talent.

Stephen was very popular when he appeared as part of the festival in 2006 and also when he was last in the club (coincidentally Kate Bain supported him then also).

Stephen a very talented and versatile musician has gained a wealth of experience playing with Irelands best including Philomena Begley, The Indians, Dominic Kirwan and Declan Nerney can't serve a better apprenticeship than that. Stephen and his band gave the crowd exactly what they wanted, a cross section of music and non stop entertainment.

Next month sees the return of another of your favourites we get asked constantly when this guy is coming back so by popular demand we welcome back Eamon McCaan and his band. Support act for the night should have been Wood 'N Stone, however Pete has work commitments and unable to make it so instead we have a duo called Double Trouble. I know nothing about these two guys apart from the fact they are from the Aberdeen area, they come highly recommended so we look forward to hearing something new.

With Friday night being Burns night and I knew there was some of our regulars at a wedding I was expecting a fairly quiet night but we had a good crowd and nice to see some new faces who have already taken out memberships.

Looking at the list of bands already booked for this year guarantees that we are going to have some excellent nights. I am looking forward to the May show, we have a Charlie Pride tribute act who go by the name of Rudy Grant and Salt Creek, again Davie has managed to find something a bit different.

Earlier this month one of our regular club stalwarts Frank Sinclair celebrated his 70th birthday, his friends threw a surprise party for him - not sure if he had an encounter with a blow up doll this time or not!

I assume you've all heard by now that we have been lucky enough to get Moe Bandy as part of our festival. Moe will arguably be one of the biggest draws this year. I have dug out and been playing some of his music and it is better than I remembered so I'm really looking forward to seeing him live.

It was reported that last years festival was the best yet but looking down the programme for this year we definitely have another winner so who knows we might just out do last years. There is still time to get your tickets at the discounted price so give Bettine a ring on 01847 892624 to reserve yours. Plans appear to be pretty much on course, the list of tasks just seem to keep growing but we'll get through them.

Saturday 9th February is our A.G.M starts at 7.30 pm in the Legion so please come along we would welcome a good turnout of members. Sterling Silver are playing in the lounge so why not just stick around for that. Make a night of it!

We are currently in the process of having our web site revamped. Event Scotland funded this alongside the advertising for the festival. It will take a wee bit of time to get things updated and current information put on but we will get it sorted eventually, hope you manage to find your way around it.

Well I think that's about all the news for now.

Until next time

Keep it Country

Christine

Christine Gray
Chairperson NNCCMC