



Northern Nashville Country Music Club

July 2012 Newsletter

Back to reality with a bang after three brilliant weeks in Texas; we had a ball - lots of memories never to be forgotten... or repeated!

I won't bore those of you who don't want to hear about it in the newsletter, but as Brigitte has asked me to write a piece for the CMDS I am in the process of scribbling something so will put a copy on the web site along with some photos, for those of you who haven't seen Darryn's ones on FaceBook.

We landed back in this country on Friday 22nd June and were all set to go to the Legion on the Saturday night to see George Malcolm, however by tea time I was flagging and jet lag had set in, when I went upstairs to shower and dress I had decided there was nothing for it but to put my pyjamas on instead. I heard he got a good crowd and it was a super night, Auntie Jessie was with him and did her thing again - vexed I missed it but I did apologise to him.

By the club on the Friday we had our time clocks and sleep pattern sorted and were looking forward to a night out, to be entertained by Gary Gamble and Buzzard Creek. However it turned out that a leaving do arranged by my work (sorry old work) for Saturday had been changed to Friday so I was away to Wick at 5.00pm. Since I was driving the plan was that I would have my dinner and be back in the Legion. Well the best laid plans - it was not so easy to get away so I was like Cinderella running in the door to beat the clock. Since I wasn't around all night I can only report on what I saw when I got there and what the others told me. The place was heaving when I opened the door and I could see that everyone was thoroughly enjoying themselves, which by all reports they did. I knew that some of our regulars were away but we had some visitors with us which made up for that.

Buzzard Creek from Falkirk are one of the most popular acts on the central belt country circuit and Billy was telling me they are also busy with bookings over the border. It's obvious why they are in demand; they put on a great show catering for all types of dances and tastes in music. The duo are certainly very versatile, playing current favourites like *People Are Crazy* to classics like *Louisiana Saturday Night* and some great Eagles numbers. Their CD is very aptly named *Pure Country* which is certainly what you get from these two really nice guys and great singers. The members said they played some new material which they enjoyed and comments I heard at the end of the night was 'An excellent duo; let's have them back again soon'.

I missed Gary Gamble's first two spots but again everything I heard was very favourable he rattled through his hits such as the *Night Of The Mardi Gras & Somewhere Between*, he also featured some Irish songs and up tempo dance tunes to keep the dancers on the floor. For his last spot he came on doing his Daniel O Donnell tribute - he really does look and sound like the man himself. Gary gave us a medley of Daniel's well known numbers and told some great jokes. Gary always goes down well in the club and this time was no exception...he certainly pleased all his fans and I'm sure made many more, he is a very friendly sociable guy who takes the time to chat to everyone. One thing puzzling me and I didn't ask him why he didn't have on the white trousers to match his jacket, no I'm not even going to suggest that they maybe don't fit any more!!!

On Saturday Billy from Buzzard Creek phoned to say that they were getting ready to play in Stonehaven when they discovered they had left all their shirts in the Legion dressing room. The poor guys had to rush out to buy a couple of shirts, and the others were duly posted back to them.

I had another night out on Saturday night and we ended up in the Legion caught up with Ian & Jacquie. Not a big crowd but certainly a good atmosphere, the duo went through their full repertoire covering all kinds of music. They were looking all tanned after just flying back from Turkey, not sure what they had been up to but Ian was limping and Jacquie had sore feet.

Some people must be making too much money; I was reading that young country diva Taylor Swift had donated 4 million dollars to the Country Music Hall of Fame and museum. It was very generous of her and one way of making sure you get inducted.

I noticed that she has again added another trophy to add to her extensive collection as she won The Entertainer of The Year at the country music awards in Las Vegas.

Wonder what Carrie Underwood will be doing with her money its reported that she was earning \$16,000 as a waitress in 2004 and now \$20 million... oh how the other half lives.

Jim Marshall mentioned recently in his newsletter that a movie called The Last Ride is due for release; the film is a factual account telling the story of the last few days of Hank Williams' life.

The sound track contains some of his best known material alongside some new pieces written especially for the movie. It will be screened soon in the USA and by 2013 will be available on DVD.

Was speaking to Nicky James who confirmed that Will Banister will be playing in the Invergordon Sports & Social Club on Tuesday the 25th September. One not to be missed by all you country fans.

Whilst in Texas we just happened to be in Wal Mart the day Alan Jacksons latest CD was released so several copies were purchased - it's called *Thirty Miles West* and all the tracks are brilliant. It features his latest single entitled *So You Don't Have To Love Me Anymore* and, as you can imagine, it was well played during our travels and in late night 'room' parties.

Speaking of Alan Jackson I read that he will receive the Jim Reeves International Award for outstanding contributions to country music throughout the world. The award will be presented to him at the Honours event at the end of September in Nashville.

I also noticed that Joey and Rory have made a new CD which will be released at the end of July - another one to add to my collection.

Next Friday we are having our Festival committee night out. We usually try and get together after the Festival but thought we would wait until there was something on that most of us can manage to get to. We are going to the Triple C club night in Wick to see Thomas Maguire & Fhiona Ennis, so can't fail but to have a good night.

Off on our travels tomorrow again with Darryn & Jenny really have no idea where we are going - a place called Watton which is about 60 miles from Luton. We fly from Inverness in the morning (if the mist clears) and are going to see Jerry Kilgore, Gene Watson and Lisa McHugh in concert, arranged by Nicky James. Brilliant to see them all again especially Jerry you know how much I raved about him at our Festival. Going by the weather they have been having it might be better taking wellies not cowboy boots - oh yes this retirement's great!!

I was saddened to read recently that all does not appear to be well with George Jones and daughter Georgette... he is upset as she is allegedly spreading negative comments about him.

He says "I would like to apologise for my daughter and her new husband for putting bad things about me on FaceBook". He claims none of these things are true - its all about money and he says he is tired of giving out.

Georgette says she is devastated and all she wants is for her and her Dad to have a relationship and hoped they could have resolved things privately.

What a shame. George is still having health issues and had another spell in hospital with respiratory problems.

Anyway I think that's about it for now better get organised for tomorrow.

Until Next Time

Keep it Country

Christine

Christine Gray
Chairperson NNCCMC