



Northern Nashville Country Music Club

July 2019 Newsletter

The longest day has passed and we are still awaiting the arrival of summer in the county. Quite a few of our members have hitched up their caravans, packed their motor homes and gone in search of some sunshine!

Although the evening of our May show was very "weet", it was a brilliant show, dry and extremely warm in the RBL club! It was a delight to have our Scottish Band of the Year 2018, **Johnny Bremner** back. Johnny thanked the NNCMC for inviting him back and stated it was nice to be back in Thurso once again. "Darling, Let's Turn Back The Years", "My Heart Skips A Beat", "Tiger By The Tail" entertained us during the cabaret spot. Johnny thought the crowd was looking very serious and that there wasn't enough singing, so shouted to the barmaid to fill our glasses up; he thought we hadn't had enough drink yet! There was no mention of Johnny paying for the round though! Johnny had some CDs with him which he joked were £1, but a signed one would cost us an additional £9!

Well done to Gloria Swanson who won May's snowball and many happy returns to Sheila Sinclair and Corrine Kennedy celebrating recent birthdays. A BIG birthday poem was composed and recited by our Chairman, Alan to our club Treasurer, Willie celebrating his 50th birthday. Looking nifty at fifty Willie!

It was **Gareth Pritchard and Band's** first time in the NNCMC and to the north of Scotland. Gareth, from Tyrone had set out from home at 1am on Friday morning and arrived at our club at 4pm on Friday afternoon! It was the first cabaret spot the band had ever done and Gareth was delighted with "an excellent audience". "Rainy Days And Stormy Nights", "He Stopped Loving Her Today", "Green, Green Grass Of Home" (always makes any welsh person feel homesick!) and "Pretty Little Girl From Omagh" completed the cabaret spot. No encouragement was needed with the sale of CDs, which Gareth joked would pay for the band's boat tickets home.

Lucky raffle winners included Caroline Begg, Veronica Farquhar, Isobel Gordon, Helen Middleton, and lucky Willie Morison (x2). Billy Swanson (x2) was heckled by Sandy for the time it took poor Billy to locate his raffle tickets; reminding him that the show was finishing at 1am!

I was unavailable for the all-day June show (very bad planning!) and therefore left strict instructions for notes to be taken in my absence. Alan and Willie stepped in and provided me with the following notes.

The **Angie King Duo** unfortunately cancelled mid-afternoon due to ill health. Johnny Bremner answered our SOS; arrived, unloaded and went straight onto the stage! What a star!

It was **Border Radio's** first visit to the NNCCMC, with Big Shane on the "boxie". The fiddle added to their country sound; playing their versions of some modern country music and also some Buddy Holly!

High and Dry performed a great set which kept the dance floor busy. A special mention for Mike who performed an excellent rendition of "Tennessee Whisky".

North Star got an ovation for their instrumental "I Dream There Was No War" which was played in recognition of World Peace Day, and for all those fallen in the past wars.

Ray Murtagh's set included "Wasn't That A Party", "Liza Jane" and some great Merle Haggard and Conway Twitty covers. Ray commented on how much he was enjoying being in Thurso.

Liam Kelly finished the all-day show and demonstrated why he is currently one of the most popular young country and western artists. NNCCMC would be delighted to have Liam back for another show.

A special thanks to Robbie and Ryan Petrie for managing the sound throughout the event; to the RBL for their assistance and to Anne Farquhar for her catering.

The NNCCMC polo shirts were modelled, during the daytime show, by the gentlemen of the NNCCMC committee. They proved to be popular and are now available to purchase at £20 each.

During the show Alan announced the Northern Nashville Star Fest planned for 11 April 2020. This will be a celebration of great Caithness and Sutherland country bands and artists through the years; the intention is to have as many as we possibly can making an appearance at this event! Confirmed artists are **Silver**, for a reunion, **Keith MacLeod**, **Geordie Jack and Family**, **Manson Grant and the Dynamos** and **The Duke Boys**. Further details will follow; save the date!

The NNCCMC 2019 shows, taking us to the end of the year, are as follows:

- 26 July – **Five Star Country**, along with **Buzzard Creek**
- 30 August – **The Duke Boys**, along with **Kentucky Rain**
- 27 September – **Olivia Douglas and The Ryan Turner Band**, along with **Western Rhythm**
- 25 October – **Thomas and Fhiona**, along with **Double Trouble**
- 29 November – **Stephen Smyth Trio**, along with **David Allan**
- 20 December – **Keelan Arbuckle and The Causeways**, along with **Colin McFeat**

The remaining 2019 shows are all set to be musical extravaganzas not to be missed!

Until the next time.....

Leisa

with some help from Alan and Willie!