

**Minutes of:  
New Edinburgh Folk Club – Annual General Meeting  
Held on April 1, 2007 at Lochinvars, 7:30 P.M**

**Present:**

Kathryn Olcott, Richard Dingwall, Bernadette Moroney, Mike Moroney, Chris Ingle, Keith Tonkin, Faye Searle, Peter Mason, Steve Barkman, Neil Copeland, Stephanie du Fresne, Ivan Booth, John Egenes, Phil Corfield, Damon Simpson, Kathryn Saunders, Lindsey Shields, Sean Manning, Hugh Dingwall

Richard called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees

**Agenda:**

**Apologies:**

Marvin Hubbard, Janie Ingle, Jane Campbell, Siobhan Moroney, Louise Frampton

**Approval of Last Year's Minutes:**

Richard read last years AGM minutes (attached)

Matters Arising:

Peter Mason continues to be an asset in getting stage to concerts and events

Keith is still providing storage for the stage

Moved for acceptance by Sean Manning/Stephanie du Fresne

**President's Report:**

Richard Read President's Report (attached)

Additional thanks to Lindsay and Sheila for their help and support

Moved for acceptance by Sean Manning/Hugh Dingwall

**Financial Report:**

Chris Ingle presented the unaudited accounts for the 12-month period ending 28 February 2007 .

[The latest audited accounts are available to members on application in writing to the committee].

Chris thanked local artists for contributing their time

He noted there was additional income from Regent ticket sales for the Andy Irvine concerts

Richard commented that our cash balance is sufficient to cover our exposure for our future festivals in 2007. The outside concerts we took on in short notice were not as successful as ones that we prepared for.

Mike asked about audited accounts – Chris stated that last year they were not done due to Geoff’s death and the death of our auditor’s brother. Chris will give the auditors the past 2 years accounts in May. There was a discussion about the need to provide audited accounts for grant applications.

Moved for acceptance by Mike Moroney/Lindsey Shields

**Festival Director’s Report:**

Bernadette Moroney gave the Festival Directors Report (attached)

She added that Keith and Robin would continue to organise Whitestone

Moved for acceptance by Neil Copeland/Damon Simpson

**Election of Officers:**

4 Statuary Positions all with no opposing nominations

President – Richard Dingwall

Secretary – Kathryn Olcott

Treasurer – Chris Ingle

Festival Director – Bernadette Moroney

Moved for acceptance by Lindsey Shields/ Stephanie du Fresne

**Committee Members-** Keith Tonkin, Marvin Hubbard, Mike Moroney, Lindsey Shields, Neil Copeland, Louise Frampton (Clarion Editor)

Moved for acceptance by Damon Simpson/Neil Copeland

**General Business:**

Keith and Richard are working on “Tull Years” and invited expressions of interest for content and distribution

Richard commented that the committee is working on defining committee responsibilities and roles

Phil asked about a new location- there was a welcome for suggestions and that we are looking for alternatives. We will be leaving Lochinvars on July 1

There was a reminder that the Annual subs are due

Richard closed the meeting at 8:05

## **President's Report New Edinburgh Folk Club 2006 - 2007**

Last year I noted that the New Edinburgh Folk club is a remarkable organisation. We promote over fifty musical events a year both in club nights and at in concerts at outside venues. Furthermore we are responsible for three festivals. Whare Flat, Whitestone and the Dunedin Celtic Arts Festival. In addition, in our wider constituency there are contra-dance groups and a Morris team and there are musical sessions. These last are by no means official club activities but they are signs of a powerful community of interest.

In July last year we suffered the great shock and loss of our friend and host Geoff Simpson. It seemed as if one of the pillars of our organisation had been ripped away. For years we had been beholden to the hospitality of Geoff and Lois Simpson the proprietors of Tull who provided a home for our club nights and a de facto office for our activities. We are fortunate that Lindsay and Sheelagh here at the Station Bar readily offered their premises for our Sunday nights activities and have regularly made Lochinvar's next door available for our larger promotions. Sadly this will end at the end of June this year and the committee are currently reviewing where we might meet in the future. I would like to thank them for their help and friendship.

We have made no determination to change our membership fees nor raise our base charges for club night. So a single membership remains at \$20 and a family membership \$30. On an ordinary club night admission will only be \$2. A remarkable price for an evening's entertainment. We try hard to book a variety of artists that will meet the wide definition of folk music that we hold. I can promise that we have an interesting line-up for you this year as well.

Late last year we revived the tradition of a club "raid" on our neighbours in Christchurch. This was a successful and popular event. Christchurch are making a return trip on May 19, a Saturday, so I would ask you all to put that in your diaries. I am not yet sure how many "raiders" are coming but we may need billets for two dozen people.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the out-going committee of Bernadette Berry, Chris Ingle, Kathryn Olcott, Keith Tonkin, Marvin Hubbard and Mike Moroney, Neil Copeland and Lindsey Shields. This team has worked very hard over the past year to make sure that things run smoothly. Please join with me in showing your appreciation for the hard work they put in every week and every month.

Richard Dingwall  
1 April, 2007

## **Festival Director's Report 2007**

There are only two festivals to report on this year as the Festival of Celtic Arts is biennial and therefore did not happen in 2006.

The Whitestone Winter festival was organised once again by Keith Tonkin and Robyn McKay. A few changes were made looking into improving the lighting for concerts and supplying heating for the hall used for children's activities which cost a little extra money but overall a small profit was still made for the festival.

The Santa Parade has become a regular part of the club end of year activities and we use it to advertise Whare Flat. The float was themed this year (the Wizard of Oz) and we took the opportunity to advertise the children's programme at the festival. This appeared to work well and we have decided to continue the idea of using a theme for this coming year's float.

As you were told by the treasurer, Whare Flat made a profit of \$8,500 this year. This was probably the result of two factors:

- 1) Prior to the festival we applied for two grants from two separate areas of the DCC grants committees. We were extremely delighted and grateful to be awarded \$2000 from each of these committees.
- 2) The other factor is probably the increased emphasis we have placed on promotion. The Santa Parade float makes us noticeable; the web site gets a huge number of hits in the months preceding the festival (many from overseas) and the posters and pamphlets are more noticeable as they are no longer the budget productions they once were. The ODT is also giving us better press coverage than they used to.

We are delighted to have made the profit of \$8.5 thousand to put back into extending this coming year's festival. In the past we have capped our guest budget at four thousand. This last year we allocated six thousand to guests and this coming year we intend to put our profit back into guests and will aim to spend around eight thousand. We also wish to extend the children's programme and the dance programme.

The biggest hurdle we had to overcome this last year was the sudden death of Geoff Simpson. Together he and Lois have operated the area of the kitchen catering for guests and crew and nothing was ever a problem for them. This year Penny kindly leapt into the breach and was the overseer for the kitchen and the café.

Overall the Whare Flat team are what makes the festival work. Sean (in charge of the bar and barbecue), Penny (kitchen and café) and Imogen (camp mother) have all decided to stand down this coming year and I would like to take this opportunity to have you join me in thanking them sincerely for all the work they have put in over the years. I hope they are all only taking a break and will be back to pick up the reins again in the future.

Bernadette Moroney