

"In addition to the classes we are developing a programme of workshops in the topics we are not offering and for more experienced musicians."

See 'Classes & Workshops 2008-2009' inside.



news naidheachd news naidheachd

the newsletter for Scottish Culture & Traditions (SC&T) issue 3 august 2008

PERFORMANCE

SC&T at



One of Aberdeen's best loved venues, The Lemon Tree, was relaunched in June and SC&T was delighted to be involved. Aberdeen Performing Arts have taken over the lease of the listed building and The Lemon Tree has entered an exciting new chapter in its history. As part of the new programme, SC&T have been hosting a series of Saturday lunchtime concerts in June and July, with a variety of guest performers appearing.



As we went to press, SC&T favourites Dick & Maggie Trickey (above) played the last lunchtime concert on Saturday 2 August. If you were inspired by that, or any of the other performances, we hope you joined us at the SC&T marquee in St Nicholas churchyard as part of Aberdeen's Tartan Day. Or, if you didn't make it, why not come along to one of our enrolment evenings on 2 & 3 September at Harlaw Academy, where you can try out an instrument, chat to tutors and find out details of our classes.

www.boxofficeaberndeen.com

Inside...

- ◆ **Common Tunes**
The SC&T tunes for this session
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Share your ideas for our lively new workshop programme
- ◆ **Review**
- ◆ **Events Calendar**
and much more...



Image: Geoff Banks www.geoffbanksphotography.co.uk

In partnership with



SC&T joins in North East festival spirit!

Singing Songs of the Sea Dance Deli Workshops Festival Ceilidh

SC&T is excited to be working in partnership with the See, Salt & Sound Festival to bring you an exciting programme of events this September, including a Festival Ceilidh, 'Dance Deli' workshops and a community singing event.

See, Salt and Sound is a cultural event showcasing the wealth of talent and expertise, in all art forms, abounding in the North-east of Scotland. Timed to coincide with major festival NEOS, and acting as the flagship for this group in

the city of Aberdeen, the project takes its inspiration from the sea.

Please contact the SC&T office for more information or visit our website.

More details are available at www.seesaltsoundsound.co.uk

Thursday 18 Sept and Saturday 20 Sept 2008 Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen

Classes 2008-09 leaflet now out!

This year's programme includes:
 accordion banjo bodhran ceilidh dance
 clarsach fiddle guitar harmonica pipes
 scottish song step dance tin whistle

See inside for details...



Seeking a tune

A recommended resource for tunes is www.nigelgatherer.com. This site has hundreds of tunes and is of particular interest to mandolin players. Nigel also publishes a guide to mandolin chords and three books with Scottish session tunes "the Joy of Sets". For singers he also has discounted copies of his book Songs and Ballads of Dundee. Samples will be available to view at Harlaw when the classes start.

SC&T also has Scots Music Group Tune books and CDs for sale. The CD for volume 3 has been recorded but not yet published.

Common tunes

The common tunes for this session are:

John Stephen of The Chance Inn (strathspey in D)

The Wind that Shakes the Barley (reel in D) - Scots Music Group Vol 2

Brenda Stubbart's Reel (reel in A minor)

Do you know about Robert Burns?

For £25 and successful completion of a CD-ROM course *Robbie Burns - Your Business!*, you can become a "tourist ambassador" in time for the 2009 Homecoming year.



Send £25 and your contact details to
Miss Margaret King
Flexible Learning Manager
SAC (Scottish Agricultural College)
Ferguson Building, Craibstone Estate,
Aberdeen AB21 9YA
to enrol on the course.

Could you contribute to SC&T by joining the Board?

SC&T is actively seeking new Board members. If you have time, enthusiasm and expertise that could benefit SC&T's activities, please talk to a Board member in the first instance.

A list of current Board members can be found on our website or by contacting the SC&T office.

Or by becoming a SC&T volunteer?

Activities in SC&T happen through the time, enthusiasm and energies of our volunteers. We always need an extra hand here and there, be it at our evening classes, end of term concerts or other events over the year. To be added to our volunteer database, please contact us in the office.

Classes 2008-09



classes workshops events performance sessions

An exciting range of classes is being offered again this year. It includes many old favourites and some new offerings, and new for this year, we're also adding a lively workshop programme and a session room!

New classes for 2008

Moothie 0/1

A beginners/improvers course on playing the 'moothie' (the focus will be on the small 10 hole diatonic harmonica commonly played in folk and blues music). The course will use traditional tunes to cover techniques for solo playing, harmonising and accompaniment, and participants will learn a unique way of writing down their moothie tunes! Students will require to bring a harmonica in the key of A. The tutor will be Dave Lorimer, a regular SC&T participant. Dave plays in a Scottish folk trio and took harmonica lessons with the legendary Spider Mackenzie.



Guitar 0

At last! After many requests we have introduced a guitar course aimed specifically at newcomers to the instrument. Participants will learn basic chords in the context of accompanying traditional Scottish tunes, tutored by Peter Saunders, a long time participant with SC&T and a regular at our Open Mic nights.

Workshops 2008-2009

We are keen to develop a lively programme of workshops this session. If you have an idea for a workshop, or if you are a past or present SC&T tutor with a workshop you would like to lead, please contact Vikki in the office.

As we have been enjoying the summer holiday period, Vikki Petrie and Lorraine Adams (who joined us in June) have been busy in the office preparing for the new class term - and working on a new web site with online purchasing. The new classes leaflet is now ready and we are looking forward to a full year of activities.



You will see that the classes programme this year is focused on levels 0 to 2 in particular. With less funding from the city, we have had to cut back on the number of classes, but I hope you will find there is something for you there. We also need there to be good take-up of each of these classes, so do spread the word to those you know. We can supply copies of the leaflet to church and community groups, offices etc - just let us know.

In addition to the classes we are developing a programme of workshops in the topics we are not offering (e.g. flute and accordion) and for experienced musicians (e.g. different styles of fiddle). If you can help in anyway in organising or supporting these workshops, please contact Vikki or Lorraine.

The other innovation we have this year is the provision of a class room every night for people to have a session in - it is up to those who use it how that develops. We have also defined three common tunes. We hope that all the classes will use one or more of these tunes during the term so that the classes can work together during the term more easily. Please do give us feedback on both of these experiments during the term.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Susan Kirkwood, SC&T Chairman

For a copy of the classes leaflet, please call 01224 591900,
email office@scottishculture.org or download a pdf version from www.scottishculture.org

REVIEW



Banchory Birl

The SC&T team braved the Scottish 'summer' to bring a taste of Scottish Culture and Traditions to this year's Banchory Birl on 14 June. SC&T hosted a series of free walk-in workshops for adult beginners in Scots song, bodhran, tin whistle and step dance, alongside playground games and songs for young people. The workshops were well attended in spite of the weather (and even more so during the frequent downpours!).

Highland Games

The weather was a bit kinder to us at the Aberdeen Highland Games the following day. In the SC&T marquee, audiences were treated to a showcase of performances from summer term classes, including a well received collaboration between the DADGAD guitar and Cape Breton Fiddle classes. Other highlights included some great sets from the SC&T tutors' band, an entertaining collection of tunes from the very hard-working song class and a lively demonstration by the Step Dance class.

A big thank you to all those involved who helped to make these events a success.

As you can see, it's been a busy summer so far! SC&T Fiddle 2 tutor, Sandy Twedde, hosted a

well-attended SC&T slow session as part of the Stonehaven Folk Festival (pictured above)... and there are yet *more* great events still to come! Aberdeen's Tartan Day celebrations will be taking place as this issue goes to press, and don't forget our fabulous fundraising festival ceilidh & workshops in September!

Banff Workshops

The workshops at Macduff were a great success, with the Song workshop almost sold out! The picturesque venue was an ideal setting for the workshops and the feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive - in particular praising the excellent tuition from Paul (fiddle), Janice (song), Pete (guitar) and Alex (whistle), not to mention the catering... Thanks to the tutors and to Pearl Acton and Madeleine Miller for their help organising this event.



The new website will be up and running soon, with an all new gallery section. If anyone has any photographs of these or other events that they would like to share, please contact Vikki or Lorraine in the office.

Meet the Board... will return in the next issue.

Autumn 2008 EVENT CALENDAR

To have an event listed in the next newsletter, please email details to editor@scottishculture.org

Traditional Music Session The Globe, North Silver Street	Tuesday Evenings, 9:30pm
Aberdeen Folk Club Blue Lamp, Gallowgate	Wednesday Evenings, 8:30pm
Traditional Music Session Newton Arms Lounge, Newtonhill	2nd Thursday of the Month 8:00pm-11:00pm
Traditional Music Session St Peters Heritage Hall, off Station Road East, Peterculter	Sunday Evenings 7:00pm-9:00pm
TMSA Session Health Service Social Club, 403 King Street, Aberdeen	3rd Tuesday of the Month 8:00pm
Cults Folk at the HUB The HUB the café at Cults Outreach Centre, 404 North Deeside Road www.cultsparishchurch.co.uk/folk.htm	2nd Friday of the Month 7:30pm-10:30pm
The Gordon Gunn Band Woodend Barn, Banchory www.woodendbarn.co.uk	22 August 2008
Folk Session Woodend Barn, Banchory www.woodendbarn.co.uk	29 August 2008
SC&T Enrolment Evenings Harlaw Academy, Aberdeen	2 & 3 September 2008 7pm-9pm
The Anna Massie Band Woodend Barn, Banchory www.woodendbarn.co.uk	6 September 2008
Kirriemuir Festival Various venues. Scottish traditional music and song. www.kirriefestival.org	5 - 7 September 2008
SC&T Autumn Term begins Harlaw Academy, Aberdeen	8 September 2008 7pm-9pm
Scottish Country Dancing Free Taster Session, 7:30 - 11:00 Ashdale Hall, Westhill	12 September 2008
SC&T Singing Songs of the Sea part of the See, Salt & Sound Festival Aberdeen Beach Ballroom, Tickets £5/£4 conc. Tickets available from SC&T, 01224 591900 www.scottishculture.org	18 September 2008
SC&T Dance Deli Workshops part of the See, Salt & Sound Festival Aberdeen Beach Ballroom, Tickets £6/£5 conc., £2.50 children Tickets available from SC&T, 01224 591900 www.scottishculture.org	20 September 2008
SC&T Ceilidh part of the See, Salt & Sound Festival Aberdeen Beach Ballroom, Tickets £10/£8 conc. Tickets available from SC&T, 01224 591900 or Aberdeen Box Office www.scottishculture.org or www.boxofficeaberdeen.com	20 September 2008
Fest 'n' Furious Dundee's festival of traditional music with workshops, masterclasses, open mic sessions, concert & ceilidh. www.festnfurious.co.uk 01382 432473	3 - 6 October 2008
The Doric Festival Various venues www.thedoricfestival.com 01771 653320	26 September - 12 October 2008

CONTACT SC&T

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Alan Finch, Winnie Middleton, Sandy Tweddle, Graham Stephen,

David Hunter and Hector Forsyth.

We are always looking for volunteers to support our activities - from helping to serve coffee or as stewards at events, to fundraising, PR or web skills. Please let us know how you would like to be involved.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Is there an upcoming event of interest to SC&T participants?
Have you written a song or a tune you want to share with SC&T?
Do you have a story for the newsletter?

We would love to hear your experiences of SC&T! If you have anything you would like to see in the newsletter, please send it to editor@scottishculture.org If we don't have room in the newsletter, we will certainly post it on the website!

SC&T is a member of SCVO - Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations
and VAS - Voluntary Arts Scotland

Scottish Charity No SCO 27559

Company limited by guarantee SC23157

Notice board



Fiddle lessons

Folk & classical; beginner to advanced; music theory and exam preparations also available.

Jani Lang (BA, MA) Tel: 07872 918829 Email: janoslang@gmail.com

Fiddle lessons

Scottish and Cape Breton styles for beginning to advanced players.

Taught by ear at your pace and according to your interests.

Carley Williams Tel: 07515 279981 Email:

carleywilliams@hotmail.com

Cello for hire

Full-size student cello, suitable for beginning adult/teenager.

Excellent condition, with soft case and bow.

Contact Vikki Petrie Tel: 01569 763714

Email: vikki.petrie@talk21.com

New Folk Programme on SHMU Radio (SHMU FM 99.8)

SHMU is the School House Media Unit based off Great Northern Road, Aberdeen.

"*getting to folk*" is a live radio broadcast hosted by Gus MacDonald on Wednesdays 3pm till 4pm.

The programme offers a wide range of world folk music, provides 'what's on' information and promotes guest performers.

If anyone has any information they wish to share with Gus about events etc, please email the address below and he may give a mention.

gettingtofolk@shmu.org.uk

SC&T instrument hire

The SC&T office currently has two sets of small pipes and one set of full Highland pipes available for hire. There are also two SC&T clarsachs and a harp from Tellynau Teifi available. Call Vikki on 01224 591900 for details or email office@scottishculture.org

Electrovoice SX200 speakers for sale

In excellent working order. 300watts RMS with peaks of up to 1200watts. Brilliant sound quality. These are pro standard speakers that would be great for a young band starting out (or anybody else). £375 ono.

Call Ian Rae on 01651 872093 for details.

Our thanks to those below and all our Friends, class participants and supporters.



Performance Opportunities

Occasionally we receive inquiries for groups to perform at local events and celebrations. If any classes or other associated groups want to take their tunes out to the public, send your contact details and a brief description of the group for the database to Vikki at office@scottishculture.org

The newsletter is produced approximately five times a year. It is distributed to everyone on our database only in August. Other editions are distributed to those attending classes and sent by post to current 'Friends'. The newsletters are available on the website.