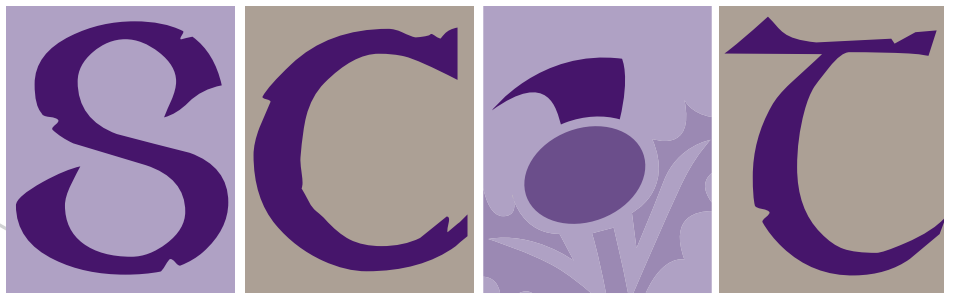


"It will be an unrivalled opportunity to experience the best in live traditional fiddle music and dance."

Ian Russell, Festival Director, NAFCo 2010



news naidheachd news naidheachd

the newsletter for Scottish Culture & Traditions (SC&T) issue 2 may 2010

Message from the chairman

Richard Ward, SC&T Chairman

Well, here we are already, half way through the summer term, but still no sign of summer.

Class numbers have held up reasonably well, and we are pleased to have been able to introduce some new classes. The summer term has traditionally been a good opportunity to try out new ideas and bring in tutors who can't commit to a full year.



We don't have an end-of-term concert, but there are performance opportunities which we would encourage you to take advantage of, including our first open mic night for some time on 27th May, pre-publicity performances for the Highland Games on 5th and 6th June, and the Games themselves on 20th June. More info elsewhere in this newsletter or from the SC&T office.

...continued on page 2

Inside...

- ◆ **More on NAFCo 2010**
Volunteers needed! Can you help?
- ◆ **Message from the Chairman**
The year ahead for SC&T
- ◆ **Review**
- ◆ **Events Calendar**
and much more...

North Atlantic Fiddle Convention Roots and Routes

14-18 July 2010



Paul Anderson and Nic Gareiss (inset).

The UK's biggest fiddle and dance festival, The North Atlantic Fiddle Convention, will take place from July 14 to 18 in Aberdeen.

Organised by the University of Aberdeen's Elphinstone Institute, in partnership with SC&T, the convention will see some of the world's finest traditional musicians gather in the North-East.

NAFCo 2010 will be headlined by award-winning duo Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas and will have a truly international flavour. The line up includes Canadian fiddle duo Kimberley Fraser and Troy MacGillivray, Sweden's Göran Premburg, Denmark's Ditte Fromseier Mortensen and from closer to home, SC&T's own NE Fiddle tutor, Paul Anderson.

Dancer Nic Gareiss of the USA will be a familiar face to those who attended our 2007 10th Anniversary festival, where his dance workshops proved extremely popular!

NAFCo will offer more than 100 workshops - in fiddle, dance, AND other instruments (cello, banjo, guitar, keyboard, and more) - so there will be something for everyone.

Other events include solo recitals, busking, demonstrations, free performances, sessions in pubs and at the Festival and Family Club at the Lemon Tree.

Tickets for all NAFCo events are available from Aberdeen Box Office, visit www.boxofficeaberndeen.com or call 01224 641122.

For further information visit the NAFCo website www.abdn.ac.uk/nafco email nafco@abdn.ac.uk or telephone 01224 272996.

Do you want to support this event?
See inside for details of how you can help.

Message from the chairman

Richard Ward, SC&T Chairman

...continued from front page

I am delighted to announce the appointment of John Carnie to the board of SC&T. John is well-known as a former SC&T tutor and a consummate singer and guitarist, but it is his work experience in community partnerships and development that will make a valuable contribution to the organisation.

Excitement is building up for NAFCo 2010 which runs from 14 to 18 July. SC&T is involved as a partner with the Elphinstone Institute and I would urge everyone to give their support by attending workshops and concerts, including the launch concert at the Lemon Tree on 29th May) and spreading the word to friends and family.

It is a huge event on the cultural calendar of Aberdeen, not just in the field of traditional music. There will be hundreds of visitors from around the world and volunteers are needed for a range of tasks, including hosting, venue management, event management, transporting. You can do as much or as little as you feel able. If you can do anything at all or just want further information, contact Jill Strachan, Convention Assistant 01224 272996 ext. 3835; email: nafco@abdn.ac.uk web: www.abdn.ac.uk/nafco

The past few months since I became chairman have been busy and a steep learning curve. I am grateful to the rest of the board for their support and all the hard, and largely unsung work that they and the office staff have put in to keep the classes and other events running smoothly. I am pleased to report that we have been given a grant by Aberdeen City for 2010-11, albeit at a slightly reduced level. We are also hoping that the Scottish Arts Council will match their grant from last year.

SC&T t-shirts still available

Our redesigned SC&T t-shirts are available in black, grey or white in unisex sizes S to XL, and also in ladies fitted sizes S to XL. Priced £10 & £12. Available at classes or from the SC&T office. They are a great way to show your support for SC&T **and** help spread the word!

SC&T on Facebook

Keep up to date with all our latest news. Visit our website and click the Facebook link to join up.

Open Mic Night **NAFCo Launch Concert** **City Centre Performances**
Music in the Marquee, Highland Games **Lunchtimes at the Lemon Tree**

SC&T Open Mic Night

Thursday 27 May 2010, Belmont Cinema Cafe Bar, Aberdeen

Our next open mic night will again be held at the Belmont Cinema Cafe Bar. Come along and join in for a tune or two afterwards. If demand is there, we'd like to make the open mic nights a regular fixture once again so, if you would like to perform, pick up an application form at Harlaw or contact the SC&T office.

This is not a ticketed event - we only ask for a donation at the door to cover costs.

NAFCo Launch Concert

Saturday 29 May, 8.00pm - 11.00pm
 £10.00 (£7.50 conc.), The Lemon Tree, Aberdeen
 The Elphinstone Institute in partnership with SC&T

The North Atlantic Fiddle Convention will be launched on Saturday 29th May with a concert at the Lemon Tree featuring Charlie McKerron and Marc Clement (*right*), Paul Anderson (*below*), plus other North-East based fiddlers.



SC&T City Centre Performances

Various locations, Aberdeen City Centre, Saturday 5 June and Sunday 6 June

SC&T tutors and performers will be out and about in force the weekend of 5 & 6 June to promote SC&T's participation in the 2010 Highland Games (see below for details). Come along to show your support (in your SC&T t-shirt if you have one!) **and** hear some fabulous tunes! Check our website or Facebook page for up to the minute info on locations and performers.

Music in the Marquee, Highland Games

11.00am - 5.00pm, Sunday 20 June, Hazlehead Park, Aberdeen



2009 was the best Highland Games yet for SC&T, with our tent being given a special mention in the local press, and we aim to improve the event for 2010!

Under our banner of "Music in the Marquee", tutors and participants will treat the audience to a mixed showcase of performances in guitar, whistle, fiddle, bodhran, song, and dance culminating in a Grand Stramash.

Lunchtimes @ the Lemon Tree

12.00pm - 2.00pm, every Saturday, The Lemon Tree, Aberdeen

Keep up to date with the latest Lemon Tree line-up for each weekend on our website or via our weekly Facebook updates. Lunch is served from 12.00pm. Free entry.

The musical performance is from 1.00pm - 2.00pm with a session afterwards - bring an instrument and join in! Children welcome.



REVIEW

Spring Sing 2010 13 February 2010

The annual Spring Sing, led this year by Yvonne Burgess, attracted another full house of people eager to sing all day.

Yvonne has been singing and playing music all her life - at home, in school and church and with friends - then later on in folk clubs and pubs, and then bands. She lived in Zimbabwe and then Malawi as a writer in the 1980s and came home with over a hundred gorgeous songs and choruses buzzing in her ears, many of which she's been teaching and singing ever since. She arranges and composes music with great enthusiasm and now runs monthly "spirituals" workshops (or "Songs of the Earth and Heart"), teaching her own chants and songs, in addition to teaching in the Fife and Edinburgh areas. Her philosophy is simply that everyone can sing.

The day proved to be an enjoyable experience for everyone as we sampled a variety of songs ranging from African to Scottish traditional. We even had the opportunity to do some free harmonising to well known songs in a "safe environment". The only downside was when we stopped singing. However, even that was not really a hardship as we sampled muffins, courtesy of Jimmy, homemade soup from David and the hospitality of Lillias who looked after us all and kept us fed and watered throughout the day.

Next year's Spring Sing is already in the SC&T calendar - to be held on 26th February, it will be led by Mairi Campbell. More to follow on that...

SC&T End of Term Concert 28 March 2010

SC&T held another well-attended end of term concert at the Lemon Tree. You can see footage and photographs of the concert using the following links:

www.myspace.com/scottishculturetraditions

www.youtube.com/user/ChimneyMan

<http://picasaweb.google.com/david.flett/SCTConcertTheLemonTree#>

Thanks to Susan Kirkwood, David Lumsden and David Flett for these and also to all the SC&T tutors, participants and volunteers who helped make the evening a success.

To catch up with all the latest news and reviews, and keep up to date with all our upcoming events, visit www.scottishculture.org

NAFCo volunteers Can you help?

The fourth North Atlantic Fiddle Convention in Aberdeen will combine a festival and an academic conference to celebrate the excellence of traditional fiddlers, fiddle music and dance from countries around the North Atlantic. To help make this event happen, NAFCo would like you to get involved!

In order to make this event as successful as the previous conventions, NAFCo and SC&T are encouraging individuals to volunteer as Stewards and Venue Co-ordinators.

Complimentary tickets will be available for our helpers. If you would like to be a part of the North Atlantic Fiddle Convention, and have the fiddle and dance experience of a lifetime, please get in touch and let us know your availability. Or if you know of someone who might be interested, please pass on our information.

You can find a volunteer form with this newsletter, download a form from the NAFCo website or contact nafco@abdn.ac.uk for more information. If your form is missing and you do not have internet access, please contact the SC&T office.

We look forward to seeing you at NAFCo 2010!

Summer 2010 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
Scotch Broth Session St Peters Heritage Hall, off Station Road East, Peterculter Contact Christine Miller Tel: 01224 730091	Sunday Evenings 7.00pm-9.00pm
Traditional Music Session Northern Vaults Bar, 9 North Esk Rd, Montrose	Sunday Evenings 8.00pm-11.00pm
Stonehaven Slow Session Stonehaven Email charlie_west@hotmail.com for more info	1st Thursday of the Month
TMSA Session The Sportsman Club, 11 Queens Road, 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
SC&T Lunchtimes @ the Lemon Tree The Lemon Tree, West North Street, Aberdeen Performance from 1.00pm - 2.00pm. Visit our website for details of performers each week. www.scottishculture.org	every Saturday 12.00pm-2.00pm
NAFCo 2010 Launch Concert The Lemon Tree, West North Street, Aberdeen Tickets £10.00 (£7.50 conc.) Available from Aberdeen Box Office, visit www.boxofficeaberdeen.com or call 01224 641122. For further information visit www.abdn.ac.uk/nafco	29 May 2010
SC&T City Centre Performances Union Square & Bon Accord Shopping Centres www.scottishculture.org	5 & 6 June 2010 1.00pm
SC&T Music in the Marquee, Highland Games Hazlehead Park, Aberdeen www.scottishculture.org	20 June 2010 11.00am-5.00pm
SC&T & You, Slow Session at Stonehaven Folk Festival Belvedere Hotel, Stonehaven www.scottishculture.org	10 July 2010 12.00pm
Stonehaven Folk Festival Stonehaven www.stonehavenfolkfestival.co.uk	8-11 July 2010
NAFCo 2010 Roots and Routes Tickets for all NAFCo events are available from Aberdeen Box Office, visit www.boxofficeaberdeen.com or call 01224 641122. For further information visit the NAFCo website www.abdn.ac.uk/nafco email nafco@abdn.ac.uk or telephone 01224 272996.	14-18 July 2010
Donald Black, Scottish Celtic Harmonica Course Sabhal Mor Ostaig Gaelic College, Sleat, Isle of Skye To book visit www.smo.uhi.ac.uk or phone 01471 888 240/246	2-6 August 2010
SC&T Enrolment Evenings Harlaw Academy, Aberdeen www.scottishculture.org	7 & 8 September 2010 7.00pm-9.00pm
SC&T Autumn Term begins Harlaw Academy, Aberdeen www.scottishculture.org	13 September 2010 7.00pm-9.00pm

CONTACT SC&T

Scottish Culture and Traditions Association (SC&T)

First Floor, 4 Bon Accord Crescent, Aberdeen AB11 6DH

Programming and Administration

Vikki Petrie, Telephone: 01224 591900

email: vikki@scottishculture.org

news: editor@scottishculture.org

Administrative Assistant

Lorraine Adams, Telephone: 01224 591900

email: lorraine@scottishculture.org

www.scottishculture.org email: office@scottishculture.org

Chairman

Richard Ward

Telephone: 01224 861343

email: chairman@scottishculture.org

Vice-Chairman

Hector Forsyth

Telephone: 01224 744229

email: vicechairman@scottishculture.org

Treasurer

Val Leel

email: treasurer@scottishculture.org

Company Secretary

Richard Ward

Other directors

Malcolm Reavell, Alan Finch, Winnie Middleton, Sandy Twedde, David Hunter, George Lane, Dr Ian Russell, Hazel Thomson and John Carnie.

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.

Performance Opportunities

We often 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

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

The newsletter is produced approximately four 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.

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

For beginners, intermediate, and advanced. Completed the tutor training course at Sabhl Mor Ostaig.

Catriona Ramsay, Tel: 07980 181599

Email: catriona.ramsay@btinternet.com

Accordion Tutor

Accordion lessons, all ages and stages, from Lewis Kane, graduate of Sgoil Chiuil na Gàidhealtachd (The National Centre of Excellence in Traditional Music). Tel: 07843757672 email lewismearns@hotmail.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 gettingtofolk@shmu.org.uk and he may give a mention.

Pathways to Performance

SC&T is introducing 'Pathways to Performance' slots during our Saturday slots at the Lemon Tree, allowing young musicians a 15 minute slot during the main lunchtime performance. If you tutor young musicians or know of any young players/singers of trad or trad style music who would enjoy a Lemon Tree 'gig', please pass info about this opportunity on to them, or call Vikki on 01224 591900 for details or email office@scottishculture.org

SC&T instrument hire

The SC&T office currently has one set of full Highland pipes, one full-size fiddle, one clarsach and one mandolin available for hire.

Call Vikki on 01224 591900 for details or email office@scottishculture.org

****To advertise here please contact the SC&T office****

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

