

# hands up for TRAD

ST ANDREWS DAY CELEBRATIONS – 29 – 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2003

REPORT 27/01/04

Frank McAveety, Minister for Culture, Tourism and the Arts released the following statement in support of the event:

*“Scottish traditional music and song are inextricably bound up with an appreciation of a cultural heritage and our perceptions of national identity. I think it is fitting, therefore, that St Andrew’s Day should be the focus of a series of events that provide an opportunity for the public to experience some of the finest traditional Scottish music around. Visitors and locals alike can enhance the celebration of St Andrew’s Day in a uniquely Scottish way that will provide a memorable and enjoyable experience.”*

Hands Up for Trad’s aim is simple - to increase the profile and visibility of Scottish traditional music within Scotland and the rest of the world, by putting on high profile events which will attract media attention and the public eye.

'St Andrews Day Celebrations' is a further step in raising this profile, where local promoters can 'unite' across the country to provide an exciting programme of traditional music to celebrate our national Saint. We want to make traditional music synonymous with St Andrew’s Day. We want to make this a time where visitors can be attracted to Scotland, and where domestic tourists will travel to be involved in a St Andrew's Day event.

The 2003 inaugural event was the first time there has been an attempt to bring together a national programme of traditional music throughout Scotland on St Andrew's day. We originally looked at calling it 'Trad Music Day', but soon worked out that it would be better to tag it on to the already well known Saints Day rather than define something completely new. However, although the title changed the objectives stayed the same:

- It will be an annual event
- A day where locals and visitors can check out traditional music, take part and listen to it.

We were very happy when Visit Scotland came on board as our principle sponsor as it fitted in perfectly with our objective of forming partnerships with businesses.

To make this event a success we had to make sure that all events were put on by recognized promoters (Feis, TMSA, other local experienced promoters). These promoters were chosen by Simon Thoumire because they have a proven track record. Everything had to be top quality reflecting the depth of musical traditions from Shetland & Orkney right down to the Borders and Dumfries and Galloway.

The main basis of the performances/ workshops came through the Traditional Music and Song Association (TMSA) who successfully applied to the Scottish Arts Council for money to promote 11 individual branch events. (See full list of promoters below). We ended up coordinating 32 performances and workshops’ happening from Shetland to the Scottish borders all enabling the public – visitors and locals to share in the musical culture of Scotland. We are currently in dialogue with the SAC to ringfence money for other promoters to put on gigs for November 2004 event.

Hands Up for Trad, The Sheiling, Lamington, Biggar, South Lanarkshire, Scotland  
Tel 01899 850658 Email [info@handsupfortrad.co.uk](mailto:info@handsupfortrad.co.uk) Web [www.handsupfortrad.co.uk](http://www.handsupfortrad.co.uk) page 1

We had A5 leaflets and A3 posters designed by 16K Design which looked great. The posters were based on the Blue Peter 'Bring and Buy' designed with the title at the top and lots of white space for writing. Distribution was undertaken by Area Tourist Boards and venues. We printed 20,000 A5s and 1000 posters. This amount was just about right although we expected some Area Tourist Boards to request more. They were generally well accepted by all however with an added plea for also printing A4 posters the next time that can fit in shop windows. Hopefully with an increased budget next year we can include this. All events were listed on our web site [www.handsupfortrad.co.uk](http://www.handsupfortrad.co.uk) which was also able to carry increased information and photos.

There was only one cancellation in the end which was a TMSA event in Linlithgow. This was due to poor ticket sales but I'm assured that someone was at the venue to tell people the bad news.

## GENERAL FEEDBACK

- Shetland Arts Trust: This is a great idea in general and one which I think we can build on. We had a terrific time with the young folk and the more mature musicians mixing together in a fun and informal fashion. The young folks sessions were especially great and we are now going to introduce these in the Lounge on a monthly basis, while they will close the bar for alcohol sales to attract a young audience as well.
- Stirling Tolbooth: Simon thank you for all your support It went fantastically well. The talk was a bit thin on the ground but the great young musicians loved the chance to discuss important issues. The performance was just brilliant.
- An Tobar: Good for you to get the whole idea going. The evening was really good fun - a proper ceilidh with loads of young players, a few old hands, a really good local piper and the main act being Kenny, Petrea and Marc Duff. The publicity was pretty good especially the press coverage. We thought the poster could have had a more attractive image but there was plenty of space to add in all the details. Could Visit Scotland put more money in the direction of trad music? Other than that the only thing would be to say - keep it up. Do it again next year - and insist on the event actually being on the 30th rather than the nearest weekend.
- Wee Folk Club: Next year's 30th is a Tuesday. Edinburgh Folk Club meets on Wednesdays - any chance of having a soft focus on the actual date? Or will it be strictly 30th Nov only?
- Biggar Business Group: There is a danger of doing too much too quickly and having an "over-supply" of events. As the established St Andrews day event in our area we were disappointed to have another ceilidh just down the road on the same night. Equally the TMSA appeared at the eleventh hour with a concert on the following day. Whilst the broader the pyramid, the higher the pyramid and all that - the pyramid can only be built on solid foundations. We lost money this year compared to 2002 so are not entirely happy. Our event is already booked for Saturday 27th November 2004, so please count us in with due regard to our comments in two above. Well done Hands Up for Trad.
- TMSA Aberdeen Just to let you know Aberdeen branch had a great weekend - what a great idea you wis tae celebrate St Andrew's.

Orkney: SOLD OUT. Great concert by the young fiddlers, Shoramere and Hadhiraan. Let's do it again next year, brilliant. Cheers for the encouragement Simon.

St ANDREW'S DAY CELEBRATIONS 2004

We are already looking for funding for next years event which will have to increase significantly to cover extra costs. We anticipate more performances and so the existing A5 flyer will not work. We will have to have a programme designed with extra leaflet distribution (EAE) to get better circulation around Scotland. Distribution will be at the start of October giving roughly a 2 month lead time to get to the public. It would be great if Visit Scotland came on board again.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
TMSA	868
Shetland Arts Trust	300
Douglas Montgomery	120
St Andrews Week	400
Folk at the Oak	80
Cultural Connections Ceilidh	95
Lamington ceilidh	60
Biggar Business Group	100
St Andrews in the Square	200
South Lanarkshire Council	20
Stirling Tolbooth	50
An Tobar	30
Fèis Srath Fharragaig	250
<b>Total</b>	<b>2573</b>
TMSA:	
Aberdeen	157
Bute	80
Inverness	24
Perth	40
Glasgow	12
Lanark	37
Keith	100
Angus	91
Dumfries & Galloway	47
Borders	80
Auctermuchty	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>868</b>

## LIST OF PERFORMANCES

### Shetland

#### **St Andrews Day 'On-Carry'**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup> 4pm till late @ The Lounge Bar, Lerwick

Free Entry

Tons of fiddles, accordions and all things Shetland (including a Saintry dram or two no doubt).

A'body welcome and bring your dancing boots!!!

### Orkney

#### **Concert: Hadhirgaan, Douglas Montgomery and Stewart Shearer, Shoramere**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 8pm @ The Fire Lounge (Fusion), Kirkwall.

Tickets priced £5 (£3 concessions), available from Douglas Montgomery: 07736 552056

Followed by session in the Bothy Bar, Kirkwall.

### Aberdeen and Grampian

#### **Ceilidh Dance with the Foundry Bar Band**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm @ Garlogie Public Hall, Garlogie

Tickets priced £5, available from Joyce Murison 01569 731236

Bring your own bar

#### **Open Ceilidh**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, from 2pm @ Garlogie Public Hall, Garlogie

Tickets £2 Contact: Joyce Murison 01569 731236

#### **Concert: Jim Reid and local support**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm @ The Royal Hotel, Keith

Tickets priced £5 or £7.50 per couple, available from Sandy McCombie 01542 882638

### Angus and Dundee

#### **Concert: A Musical Evening with guests including The Sangsters**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm, @ Cortachy Castle, Kirriemuir. Tickets priced £7.50 including refreshments. Contact Pat Newman 01575 540261

### Perthshire

#### **Session: with Jim Malcolm and Celine Donoghue**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup> from 1.30pm - 5pm in the Taybank Hotel, Dunkeld.

Free Entry.

For further details contact Doris Rougvie: 01738 583698

### Fife

#### **St Andrews Week Celebrations in the town of St Andrews**

##### **Street Entertainment**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 11am - 4pm, Church Street, St Andrews

Free Entry

Hands Up for Trad, The Sheiling, Lamington, Biggar, South Lanarkshire, Scotland

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Food and Drinks Fair, young accordion players, Neil Paterson and Karen Hannah, and Splash the Clown.

**Concert: Aaron Jones and Claire Mann, with Mark Laurenson, Ewan Robertson and Eddie Walker**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 8pm, @ Ardgowan Hotel, St Andrews

Tickets priced £6/£4, available from St Andrews Tourist Information Centre 01334 472021. Some tickets available at the door. Contact Ardgowan Hotel: 01334 472970

**Family Ceilidh: with the Lomond Ceilidh Band and the Orwell Ceilidh Band**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm, @ The Golf Hotel, St Andrews

Tickets priced £6/£4, available from St Andrews Tourist Information Centre 01334 472021. Some tickets available at the door.

**Angus Strathspey and Reel Society**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 11am, @ Hope Park Church, St Andrews

Free Entry

Worship with Angus Strathspey and Reel Society.

**Session**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1.30pm, Ardgowan Hotel, St Andrews

Free Entry

**St Andrews Folk Club Reunion Night**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 8pm, @ The Golf Hotel, St Andrews

Archie Fisher, John Watt, Alasdair Russell, Ishbell MacAskill, Anne Lister, Sara Grey, Sheena Wellington, Mark Laurenson, Ewan Robertson and loads more exciting people. Tickets £6, £4 from St Andrews Tourist Information Centre on 01334 472021. Some tickets may be available at the door. Contact Karen Hannah 01334 870481

Edinburgh and Lothians

**Reel Ceilidh**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm @ the Masonic Hall, The Cross, Linlithgow

Tickets priced £6 and £5 (TMSA members & concessions), available from Fiona Campbell (01506) 843376 Email: fiona@vascotland.org.uk

**Folk at the Oak with Tony McLoughlin (Singer/Songwriter)**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 8.30pm @ The Royal Oak, 1 Infirmary Street, Edinburgh. Tickets priced £3 available in advance from The Royal Oak, contact: 0131 557 2976. Tickets also available at the door.

Scottish Borders

**Ceilidh Dance and Concert with Kelso High School Celtic Group and the Small Hall Band.**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm, @ The Queen's Head, Bridge Street, Kelso

Tickets priced £3, available from Linda Kinsman-Blake Ceramics, Smailholm (01573) 460666

Dumfries and Galloway

**Wee Clanjamfrie with Jock Tamson's Bairns, Lionel McClelland, Gregor Lowrey, Mike Whellans**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 7pm @ Lockerbie Town Hall

Tickets priced £15 available online from [www.dgaa.net](http://www.dgaa.net) or contact: Susie Kelly 01387 253383.

A partnership event organised by DGAA/TMSA

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## Ayrshire and Arran

### **St. Andrews Ceilidh Dance**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm @ The Oswald Hall, Auchincruive, by Ayr  
Tickets £12 including food. Advance ticket sales only. Contact: Dave & Lorna Dewar Tel/Fax:  
01292-313205 dave@cultural-connections.co.uk  
Enjoy a ceilidh dance, and a hot supper, with the MacDonald Brothers Ceilidh Band in this  
beautifully restored Robert Adams designed mansion house.

## Glasgow and Clyde Valley

### **Multi Cultural Storytelling Workshops (North American, Asian, Scots and Irish)**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 11.30am-5pm @ Strathclyde Suite, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall,  
Glasgow

Tickets are priced: £10, £6 TMSA members. First child in each family goes free  
Available from Liz Clark 0141 429 0359

### **St Andrew's Ceilidh with Biggar Little Band**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 8pm in Lamington Hall, Lamington, Near Biggar.

Tickets priced £5/£2.50 available from Clare McLaughlin 01899 850658 or  
clare@scottishtraditionalmusic.com

Come along and have a St Andrew's Day 'hoolie' in the beautiful village of Lamington in rural  
South Lanarkshire.

### **Biggar Business Group Ceilidh with Cloud Howe Ceilidh Band**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm in Biggar Municipal Hall.

Tickets are priced £10 which includes supper.

For further information e-mail: enquiries@biggar.org.uk

### **Children's Concert: Ye Can Shove Yer Other Grannie**

Sunday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 3pm @ St Andrews in the Square, Calton, Glasgow.

Tickets are priced £5 (£3 conc) Box Office: 0141 559 5902

A joint performance of stories and songs of Glasgow from two Gallus Glaswegian Guys and some  
Calton Carollers Ewan McVicar and Mick West with Calton Schoolchildren.

### **Concert: "Na Tri Seudan", Hamish Moore and Dansa**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm @ St Andrews in the Square, Calton, Glasgow.

Tickets £8 (£5 concessions) Contact tel: 0141 559 5902

### **St Andrews Night Ceilidh – Trish Mathews and Ceilidh Band**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 8pm @ St Andrews in the Square, Calton, Glasgow.

Tickets £5 Contact tel: 0141 559 5902

### **Traditional Café Ceilidh**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 4pm @ East Kilbride Arts Centre, Old Coach Road, East Kilbride  
Free Entry

Join us in the Arts Centre café for a fun afternoon of traditional songs and tunes.

For further information contact East Kilbride Arts Centre 01355 261000

## Argyll, The Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling and Trossachs

### **Sound Tracks Presents Young Gifted and Traditional - The Talk**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 3pm @ The Tollbooth, Stirling.

Tickets £4/£2.50 available from Box Office: 01786 274000

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**Featuring** Karine Polwart, The Emily Smith Band, Gillian Frame, Scott Gardiner and others. A healthy discussion will be encouraged on how young people see their place in traditional music.

Sound Tracks Presents **Young Gifted and Traditional - The Gathering and Performance**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm @ The Tollbooth, Stirling.

Tickets £8/£5.50 available from Box Office: 01786 274000

To celebrate this wealth of new talent Sound Tracks has brought together some of the best young players and singers for a gathering of music old and new. Featuring Emily Smith Band, Gillian Frame, Sarah Hoy and Rachel Newton, Scott Gardiner and Findlay Napier.

*Joint ticket for both Sound Tracks events £10.*

**Ceilidh with Folk Rock Ceilidh Band 'Hell for Leather'**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 3pm @ The Pavilion, Rothesay, Isle of Bute

Tickets priced £3 available from Gillie Banks 01700 831614

**Ceilidh featuring Fiddler Kenny Fraser, local artists, and invited guests**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 8pm @ An Tobar, Tobermory, Isle of Mull.

Tickets priced £4 are available from An Tobar 01688 302211

Highlands

**St Andrew's Afternoon Concert with The Clach, Graham & Robbie Mackenzie, Fiona & Katy Mackenzie and Susie Simpson**

Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2pm – 5.30pm in the Redcliffe Hotel, Gordon Terrace, Inverness.

Tickets £6, £4 (TMSA members) £3 (Seniors/Under 16s). Tickets available from Alison Mackinnon 01463 239978

Price Includes finger buffet

**Fèis Srath Fharragaig presents The BIG bonfire, fireworks display and music**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 6pm - 8pm in Farr Community Hall, 8 miles from Inverness Free Entry

**Concert: featuring Dochas**

Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 8pm @ Farr Community Hall, 8 miles from Inverness

Tickets £7 (£5 conc) available from Alasdair Forbes 01808 521333 or

Alasdair.Forbes@farming.co.uk. Alternatively, they can be bought at Riverside Gallery, Bank Street, Inverness or at Inverernie Stores in Farr.

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