

Glasgow Branch Seniors' Group - Summer Meeting

The Summer Meeting of the Seniors' Group took place on Thursday, 12 July 2018 at the Crookston Hotel on the south side of the city. Joining us on this occasion was Mrs. Margaret Sanders in her new role as Glasgow Branch Chairperson, accompanied by former Chairperson, Mrs. Muriel Bone. After a light lunch and lots of chat, we were entertained by **Mairi Callan**, a pupil at the Douglas Academy's School of Music in Milngavie. At 17 years of age, Mairi is a national Mod medal winner many times over and has many performances to her credit. Mairi is a Gaelic singer and clarsach player, and includes violin and piano among her other musical instruments. Mairi performed a varied programme of traditional arrangements by Charlotte Peterson, Rachel Hair, Saviourna Stevenson. Also included was a set of four foot-tapping Reels, and two Strathspeys, the latter arranged by Gillian Fleetwood. To finish, Mairi played the popular '*Kate Martin's Waltz*' arranged by Mary Ann Kennedy, a well-known figure in Gaelic culture. The afternoon's entertainment was enhanced by Mairi's vocal accompaniment. On leaving school next year, Mairi hopes to continue her musical studies in concert harp and voice in either Glasgow or Manchester. We wish her well for the future.



Sadly I had to announce the recent death of **Miss Eleanor McArthur**. Although Eleanor was not a 'dancer', she greatly appreciated the art form and accompanied Branch member, Agnes MacDonald, to many of the Seniors' Group Lunch Meetings. Always willing to actively participate, Eleanor wrote a number of reports on the Seniors' meetings and gave an excellent presentation and illustrated slide show entitled '*A Scottish Ramble*' at the Autumn Meeting in October 2013, which was both entertaining and informative. For a lady who professed to be an (almost) non-dancer, her breadth and depth of SCD knowledge was remarkable, especially when recalling her early participation during her school years and teacher training at Jordanhill College under Miss Jean Milligan, our illustrious co-founder. Eleanor's presence at a Seniors' lunch will be greatly missed.



Daphne Davidson, Seniors' Group Organiser