

## Hogmanay Dance 2016

Written by Bill Irvine

Friday, 27 January 2017 18:43 -

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### HOGMANAY DANCE 2016-17

Geilston Hall, Cardross, was the venue for the Association's final function of the year 2016. Eighty eight dancers and guests enjoyed a Hogmanay ceilidh dance until the early hours of New Year's Day to the wonderful music of the ever popular Stuart McKeown's Ceilidh Dance Band. A Group of nine younger dancers from Luss joined the assembly and contributed greatly to the jollity of the dances. As the president remarked " they lowered greatly the average age the assembled throng ".

The evening began promptly at 8pm with an introduction from President John Johnston who warmly welcomed everyone. The first one and a half hours were devoted to dancing followed by a half hour interval for refreshments and the drawing of the raffle prizes. The raffle raised the magnificent total of £185 for charity. so a big 'thank you' to everyone who donated so generously.

Two more hours of dancing took us to the end of 2016 and at the stroke of midnight, the year 2017 was ushered in. The traditional balloon free-for-all scrum ensued, interspersed with hugs and kisses all round. Eventually, normal service was resumed and the stirring sound of Pipe Sergeant Darren Lynch's bagpipes returned the dancers to some form of normal behaviour.

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A kilted figure (committee member Jim Gray) then made an appearance carrying a bottle of the national drink. He gallantly passed his whisky around the company and wished everyone a very happy New Year.

Bonhomie and alcohol then took over the proceedings and some peculiar versions of The Dashing White Sergeant were observed. There appeared to be no casualties and the final hour passed too quickly. Suddenly it was time for the votes of thanks and the president closed the evening (and morning) by thanking everyone for their attendance and in particular, the people, who had in any way, helped make the dance a resounding success.

A BIG "THANK YOU" TO EVERYONE, ESPECIALLY TO ALL THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO HAVE WORKED HARD THROUGHOUT YEAR 2016.

Please note that the next function will be the usual monthly dance on 27<sup>th</sup> January in the Osprey suite, Commodore Hotel, commencing at 8pm, when the band will be the Iain Anderson Scottish Dance Band.