

NAAFC HONOURS



2002

**Jimmy Yeaman
(1931 - 2009)**

Jimmy was born in a house in Rosebank Street in the Hilltown district of Dundee, only two tram stops from the Coldsides Studios whence came many of the live Scottish Dance Music programmes in those halcyon days of the late 40s and early 50s. At the age of 5 he started learning classical violin

with an eminent teacher, Mr Routledge Bell, whose studio was in Commercial Street. At the age of 9, Jimmy joined the Life Boys at his local church, "Bonnet Hill" at the same time as a certain Douglas Cargill who had a cousin, Dougie Maxwell, who lived in a house on a farm near Forganbank in Fife – his father, Douglas Snr, being the double bass player with Jimmy Shand. At 21 he joined The Olympians Dance Band. In 1964 he moved to Balloch and joined Fergie MacDonald's Band then later Bob Lillie's Kelvin Ceilidh Band where he took over the leadership after Bob's death. Jimmy was involved as compere at the local Balloch Accordion & Fiddle Club.

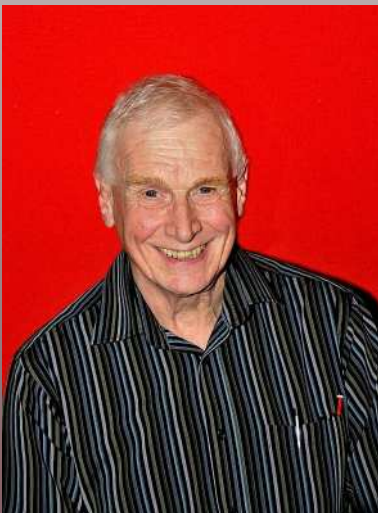


2003

Iain MacPhail

Iain hails from Kilberry, Argyllshire where his first instruments were the pipes (with Tarbert Scout Pipe Band) and the melodeon. At 16, while attending Tarbert Academy, he won two scholarships to school in Edinburgh and went to live with his grandparents whilst attending Broughton

Academy where School Secretary Dorothy Leurs and music teacher Ronald Stevenson helped shape his musical career. Not realising the difference, his grandfather bought him a piano accordion and he started lessons with a travelling teacher from Motherwell, Mr McCann, then a year later with Chrissie Leatham. He joined The Jim Nicholson Band as second accordionist, which in time evolved into The Strathedin Dance Band and finally into Iain's own band. Their first album, recorded in 1975, established a distinctive sound and swing that was to become instantly recognisable. The band's arrangements, enthusiasm and professionalism has put Iain and his band amongst the country's best since then.



2004

John Carmichael

John was born and brought up in Glasgow where he started, without enthusiasm, to learn the piano at 9 years of age. He did learn to read music and the importance of fingering but it was a friend, Ian McLean's, acquisition of an accordion that sparked his interest. Studying engineering as a late

teenager took up most of his time but he did manage to attend Archie Duncan for lessons for a time. Glasgow was full of dancing in the late 50s and hearing bands like Bobby MacLeod and Andy MacColl further fired his imagination. John won Perth Festival in 1964 and went on to play with several of the country's top bands including Andrew Rankine and Jim Johnstone. His own band's first line-up consisted of himself on lead accordion, his late brother-in-law Bobby MacNeillie on second box, David Whitehead on piano and Johnny Cooper on drums. Later bands were prominent in TV work including *Thingummyjig*, *Sounds Gaelic*, *Double Bill*, *Round at Calum's* and *Northern Nights*.



2004

**Iain Peterson
(1934 - 2006)**

Captain Iain Peterson is best remembered as a great composer, fiddler, piper, publisher and all round gentleman. Born in Leith, Iain hardly had a chance to know his Shetland born seafaring and fiddling father Laurence, who was killed in May 1940 when the *MV Abbotsford* was

torpedoed by the German submarine *U14* off Lowestoft on the Norfolk coast while making the crossing from Ghent to Grangemouth. His mum, Catherine, decided to move back to her native Ardnamurchan. Iain went to sea in 1954 as a deckhand and by 1965 had worked his way up through the ranks to obtain his "Foreign Going" Master's Certificate. In 1970 He took command of the *Cape Race*, a bulk carrier, transporting bauxite and alumina from the mines in Jamaica to the St Lawrence River in Quebec. In 1974 he transferred ashore to the Forth River Pilotage. Iain registered the *Shian Music* label in 1968 and went on over the next 35 years to publish 172 of his own compositions.

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2005

Bobby Coghill
(1934 - 2005)

Bobby was an immensely talented and versatile musician, over his lifetime playing the pipes, 3-row diatonic, drums, fiddle and 5-row Continental Chromatic. Starting with Wick Boys Brigade Pipe Band at 10 years of age, he graduated in time to be Pipe Major of Wick RBL (Scotland) Pipe Band. His

introduction to the dance band scene came in 1949 playing a Ludwig piano keyed melodeon with British chromatic action. He teamed up with accordionist Billy Munro playing in The Crown Bar, Wick. Next came The Wick Hawthorn Accordion Band which took him up to National Service in 1953. After demob he joined the highly acclaimed Wick Scottish Dance Band to play fiddle in place of Addie Harper. In 1961 Bobby won the North of Scotland Accordion Championship at The Empire Theatre, Inverness. Bobby teamed up again with Addie Harper in 1976 to play lead accordion in The Wick Band before forming his own band which performed successfully for many years.



2005

Ken Mutch

Ken Mutch was born in Aberdeenshire and spent the first four years of his life in Oldmeldrum. His family then moved to Inverurie and he lived there until he left school. During his time in Inverurie he learned to play the fiddle, but gave it up when he left school in 1969 and joined the BBC in London as a technical

operator. But it was TV shows he worked on then – radio came later. The very first show he worked on was *Blue Peter*. Other shows included *Steptoe and Son*, *Up Pompeii* and *The Sky at Night*. He worked for the BBC in Edinburgh for a while before moving to Beechgrove, Aberdeen. Ken produced around 800 *Take the Floor* programmes – of which around 250 were outside broadcasts. Due to his previous experience as a technical operator, he edited all the programmes as well as produced them, the editing process being simplified latterly by computer technology whereas in earlier days it would be done on the quarter inch tape the sessions were recorded on at the time.

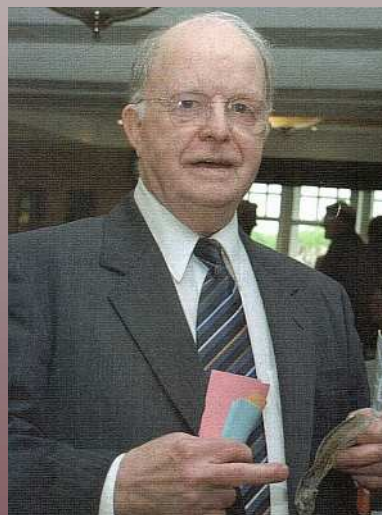


2005

Robert Whitehead

Born and bred in the beautiful border county of Northumberland, Robert has been playing the piano accordion since his schooldays and although competent in all musical styles he specialises in Scottish Dance Music. His appearances at Shetland and other major festivals, Accordion & Fiddle Clubs and radio broadcasts are

testimony to the respect he has earned in the business. He regularly features on *Take the Floor* and in 1968 became the only Englishman ever to win the All Scotland Accordion Championship. Robert is Vice-Chairman of the *Alnwick Northumbrian Gathering* which attracts musicians from far and wide to take part in concerts and competitions. As well as his own records and CDs, Robert has played accordion in several line-ups and on many professional productions, including albums by Ewan Carruthers and Jimmy Powells. Robert has a musical family, with his two sons Christopher and Graeme continuing the tradition and joining him on various projects.



2006

Jack Cooper
(1933 - 2010)

Jack, from Dundee, began his drumming career with the Boys Brigade Pipe Band at St. Andrew's Church, Dundee, and later with the Macleod Pipe Band. It wasn't long before he had adapted his style and technique to suit the growing interest in Scottish Dance Bands at the time and he soon

found himself freelancing with many bands. His first experience of a studio was as a drummer with The Betty Anderson Quartet, broadcasting on BBC's *Scottish Dance Music* programme from Coldside Studios in Dundee. It was watching dancers doing their stuff, whilst he was drumming, that gave him the desire to get involved in dancing. He formed his own team, The Gie Gordons Dancers, which appeared on many *White Heather Club* shows of which he became full time Dance Director c1960. In the early 70s he helped found the Dundee Accordion & Fiddle Club and the NAAFC. For many years Jack organised our AGM and Celebrity Luncheon at Dunblane Hydro and then Dundee.

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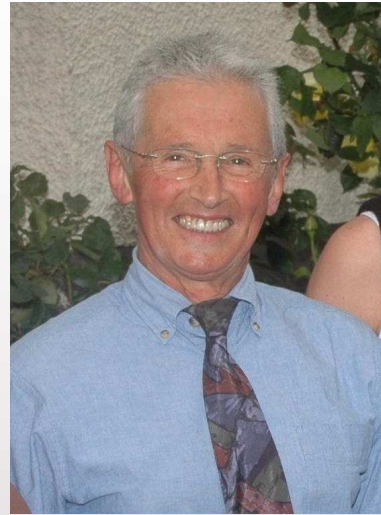


2006

Jack Delaney

Born in Inverkeithing in 1935, Jack moved with his family to Alloa when he was 10 years of age. His father ran a nursery business and it was in the greenhouses during their lunch break that 15 year old Jack and his close pal Alan Barnett taught themselves the accordion. They quickly formed The Rowan Band, with Jimmy

Scott on piano, and were soon playing regularly. When Angus Fitchet's Band played at The Cochrane Halls in Alva they performed at the interval and received many helpful tips from Angus. After two years of National Service in the Pay Corps, Jack emerged to join the band of another pal, Andrew Rankine, from 1955 - 1960. From 1960 - 1972 he played regularly with The Hamish Menzies Band in the company of 3-row box player Dochie McCallum and thereafter he formed his own band. Jack has enjoyed sitting in on second box with a variety of well known bandleaders including Jim Johnstone, Bert Shorthouse, Jimmy Shand Jnr and Alex MacArthur.



2006

David Flockhart (1938 - 2008)

David was born in Edinburgh and attended Leith Academy, being accepted there on a scholarship. He was taught classical piano, being allowed out with his friends only after half an hour's practice every evening. The first band he played with regularly was Peter Innes, and he went

on to play with many bands through the course of his life, including Bobby Crowe, Andrew Rankine, Ron Gonella, Allan McIntosh, Bobby Moore, Fergie MacDonald, Robert Macleod, Simon Howie, Calum MacLean, Anda Campbell, Hector McFadyen, John MacGregor and Andrew Stoddart & The Glenesk. The first broadcasting band he played with was Jim Johnstone and he later had a long association with The Iain MacPhail Band, playing at Edinburgh's King James Hotel for two decades. From 1982 he spent most of his time on Mull, where he farmed oysters, and maintained the physical fitness he had developed as young man in the wrestling ring, as an excellent swimmer and sub aqua diver.



2007

Jimmy Burgess

Jimmy Burgess has been playing in bands in Shetland for over 50 years, first with The Gertie Band, The Pioneers, The Milkshakes and now his own Jimmy Burgess Band. He is also one of the founder members of the Shetland Accordion & Fiddle Club (founded in 1978). Jimmy has played at every

Shetland Accordion & Fiddle Festival, and was Shetland's Guizer Jarl at the 1983 *Up Helly Aa*. Jimmy was instrumental in lobbying Shetland Islands Council to provide accordion tuition in all Shetland schools so that their music would not be lost, but would thrive and develop for many generations. In support of this, Jimmy has always encouraged young players and gives them great experience by inviting them to play in his band. Jimmy's energy and enthusiasm is still as fresh today as it always has been, earning him the affectionate title of "Shetland's Mobile Party"! In short, Jimmy is one of Shetland's best known and loved characters as a businessman, compere, musician, and bandleader.



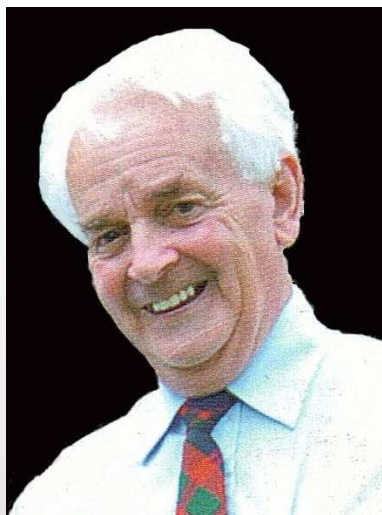
2007

Bobby Colgan

Bobby, from Tranent, East Lothian, is undoubtedly one of the great characters on the scene. Born in 1937 his musical career began in 1952 when he bought a second hand drum kit and started practising with his school-pal, accordionist Jim Johnstone. Together with Willie Donaldson they formed a trio that year

under the guidance of Jim's uncles. Both Bobby and Jim played in the early 60s with Andrew Rankine's band and when he moved south Jim re-formed his own band which first broadcast in 1965. The following year they both joined Jimmy Shand full time, then in 1967 Bobby joined Jimmy Blue's band. He also developed his skills as a singer, comedian and MC. Away from the band scene Bobby managed, amongst others, The Chase in Bonnyrigg which became famous as a venue for Scottish cabaret. Bobby continues to demonstrate his all-round skills as MC of Haddington Accordion & Fiddle Club, held in brother Hamish's premises, the *Railway Inn* in Haddington, East Lothian.

NAAFC HONOURS



2008

Bobby Harvey

Bobby, from Glasgow, and his band were resident band at the 5 Star Gleneagles Hotel for 24 years, with his lifelong friend Ivor Britton as lead accordionist. Bobby was the first fiddle player to appear as guest at The Hole in the Wa' back c1965 and was so inspired by the experience that he immediately phoned all

his Glasgow musician friends and they formed the MAFIA (Milngavie Accordion, Fiddle and Instrumental Associates), with Max Houliston as their first guest, who agreed to the fee which was "any cash in the old lum hat that had been bought at a jumble sale for a shilling". The MAFIA, in turn, was directly responsible for clubs at Perth, Beith, Galston, Balloch, Inveraray, Oban and elsewhere being formed. During his long career Bobby was renowned as a fiddler, bandleader, MC and raconteur with an endless supply of jokes and stories to captivate his audience. His greatest thrill now is hearing his son Scott Harvey, and other young musicians, following the real music of Scotland.



2008

Neil MacMillan

Neil, originally from Balmaha (Loch Lomond), received some early encouragement from Dochie McCallum of Drymen who took him to hear The Hamish Menzies Band on several occasions. Neil played drums locally with Bill Black once when he was 16 at a dance in The Balmaha Tea Room. Then at 18 Jack Delaney

gave him an opportunity to join the "Clachan Ceilidh" in Alloa, a group of youngsters Jack taught, and where Neil started by learning rhythm piano and later bass fiddle. When Hamish retired and Jack took over the band there was a vacancy for a bass player, which Neil filled. Since then he has played or guested with, amongst others, Grace MacCleave, John Renton, Derek Lawrence, Ronnie Easton, Kenny Thomson, The Lothian Dance Band, Robert Whitehead, Callum Wilson, Iain MacPhail, Robert Black, Bill Black, Colin Finlayson and The Wallochmor Ceilidh Band. Neil is involved as an organiser of the popular *Tradstyle* event held annually in Perth.



2008

Gordon Pattullo

Gordon from Tullybaccart near Coupar Angus, was something of a child protégé. He received the bulk of his musical tuition from the late Jim Marshall, with the polishing touches added by John Huband and Louis Cabrelli. At only 13 he won the Junior Traditional Section at Perth Festival. In 1977,

Jimmy Blue introduced Gordon to Andy Stewart, which led to a whole host of engagements – the first being an eight-week tour of Canada and America. His skills were such that he soon became not just Andy's accordionist, but his Musical Director. For the next ten years Gordon was involved in theatre shows almost every week. Gordon has had many engagements abroad – mostly as a solo artiste, however he had two memorable trips to Abu Dhabi with The Jim Johnstone Band and went to the Lorient Festival in France with The Angus Cameron Band. Gordon also has many fine compositions to his credit. He currently plays at the summer season at The King James Hotel in Edinburgh.



2009

Tom Alexander MBE

The accordion playing half of the Alexander Brothers was born in Cambusnethan, Wishaw in 1934. His father, Jimmy, worked in the local steel works and was the driving force behind the family. Tom's musical talent came from Mum, Helen, who sang and played the piano. He received classical tuition

at the age of 9 from various local teachers including Bill Brown, a former British Champion. In 1952 Tom won the Classical Open Solo at the NAO Championships held in Glasgow. On leaving school Tom started as an apprentice painter and decorator alongside brother Jack with "Torrance the painters" in Motherwell. His first appearance as a professional entertainer was with Jack at The Webster Theatre in Arbroath. However it took a complete change in their repertoire from light classics to Scottish before their stage act really took off. Tom has released numerous solo accordion CDs including *Airs and Graces*, *Hoots Mon!* and *Bits and Pieces*.

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2009

Rory MacLeod

Rory (well actually Ruairaidh) took up the accordion as a teenager at home near Ullapool and played at weddings and ceilidhs regularly with other local players. When Rory was working at Lochcarron he met bandleader Jim Johnstone. Their close friendship was to last for many years and Jim wrote a tune in his

honour. It was when Rory moved to Inverness where he met with many like-minded Scottish Dance Music enthusiasts, both players and listeners, that he became involved in the founding of the Highland Accordion & Fiddle Club with the late Alistair Watters on 19th November 1973 in The Cummings Hotel. Rory was MC for a long number of years and remained Chairman for almost as long. He retired as Chairman in June 2008 and was made an Honorary Life Member of the Highland Club. He produced the Club's own *Highland Showtime* at Eden Court Theatre in Inverness for a number of years. He is also a fine photographer and a regular contributor in that capacity to the *Box and Fiddle*.



2009

Andrew Knight

Andrew was born in Dundee but has long been associated with the Midlothian town of Newtongrange. He was taught classical viola by Harry C. Ogilvie in Dundee for many years, becoming involved in Dundee's annual Music Festival, the City of Dundee Orchestra, the Schools Symphony

Orchestra, the National Youth String Orchestra of Scotland and the improvised pit orchestra in The Whitehall Theatre, Dundee before a fellow 5th year pupil at Harris Academy, accordionist Sandy Nixon, introduced him to Scottish Dance Music. Andrew trained as a piano tuner at Stevenson College in Edinburgh, then, passing with flying colours, was asked to stay on as a lecturer, which he did for the next 22 years. An introduction to Iain MacPhail soon after his move to Edinburgh led in turn to him playing with Robert Baird's Border Reivers. In 1982 Andrew formed The West Telferton Caledonian SDB, demonstrating his sense of humour by naming it after an industrial estate in Portobello.



2010

John Ellis

John Ellis, fiddler and bandleader, was born in Tealing outside Dundee and brought up at Burnside of Duntrune, attending Murroes School near Kellas. Given a fiddle on his 14th birthday John was tutored initially by his uncle Dave Ellis and later by John Gall at Middleton Farm, Dundee. After four years of hard

practice he was asked to join The Blue Bonnets who passed a BBC audition in 1950. When his National Service ended in 1955 he formed The Highland Country Band which in time developed a very distinct and recognisable sound due in part to the two Ranco accordions played by Douglas Muir and Irene Dear sitting well with John's fiddle lead. When in London in the early 50s, John also took saxophone lessons from Harry Hayes (the teacher of Ronnie Scott) and he utilised this later with the band for modern ballroom numbers. John has also been involved with the Dundee Strathspey and Reel Society for many years and became Honorary Vice - President in 2001.



2010

Fraser McGlynn

Fraser, from Tarbert now Lochgilphead, started his musical life on his dad's old melodeon. At 15 his brother bought him a new 3-row with 48 bass and a local player, Donald MacKay, explained some of the intricacies e.g. that it was possible to use a combination of the three rows and thus form scales. On leaving school he

became a painter and decorator, then later a postman, but both jobs restricted his playing so the solution, in 1972, was to go self employed at his trade. He formed his own band at eighteen with himself on lead accordion, Duncan MacLean second box, Davie Scott on fiddle, Jim Flaherty on piano, Norman Smith bass and Jackie MacLeod drums. Having failed an audition in 1959, it was 1968 before they passed a second, with their first broadcast going out that year. Along the way Fraser had become one of Scotland's leading exponents of the 3-row British Chromatic accordion, winning Perth Festival in 1962 and 1966. From the early 80s, he worked mainly with a trio and guested at most Accordion & Fiddle Clubs.

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2011

Bobby Brown
(1941 - 2011)

Robert Watt Brown was born in Dennyloanhead, near Falkirk, in 1941. In 1957 he emigrated to Canada where he joined his sister Christine. There he bought an accordion, started taking lessons and met another two newly arrived Scottish musicians living in London, Ontario – Stan Hamilton and

Bobby Frew. For the next 17 years, the two Bobbies and Stan Hamilton, with an evolving back-row of bass and drum players, comprised the great band known as The Clansmen, later to become The Flying Scotsmen. In the early 70s Bobby was instrumental in the formation of The Cape Breton Symphony Fiddle, a unique group of four Nova Scotian musicians specialising in the Cape Breton style of Scottish fiddle music. In 1976 he left The Stan Hamilton Band to become a full time professional musician and formed his own band known as The Scottish Accent. The next 35 years, until his untimely death, were spent playing traditional Scottish music throughout North America and beyond.



2011

Ian Muir

Ian, who now lives in Prestwick, took accordion lessons with Jim Hutcheon of Ayr, during which time he completed the British College of Accordionists Exams to the final grade. His professional playing career started at the age of 14, when he was drafted in to replace Walter Perrie at The Gaiety

Theatre, Ayr. This was the start of his successful career in the music industry. The list of those Ian has appeared with is like a “Who’s Who” of Scottish Variety Theatre. In 1996 Ian entered the world of musical theatre when he was invited to play the part of “Le Accordeoniste” in the musical play, *PIAF*, the life story of the legendary French singer Edith Piaf. His band career started with Kenny Thomson’s Wardlaw SDB before he formed his own very successful outfit. Ian started teaching privately in 1983 and has produced numerous talented accordion players including many Scottish Champions. In 1996 he was appointed as the accordion tutor on the BA Scottish Music Degree Course at the RSAMD.



GORDON PATTULLO

would like to congratulate the National Association of Accordion & Fiddle Clubs on their Ruby Anniversary and wish them continued success for the future.

On sale in the foyer:

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Gordon Pattullo & Friends DVD 1 £15

Gordon Pattullo & Friends DVD 2 £15



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Simon Howie

