

VIRTUAL BURNS NIGHT 23rd JANUARY 2021

Following on from the success of the Hogmanay Ceilidh, it was decided to hold a Virtual Burns Night. Our Chairman, asked for willing participants to partake with a song or verse and there was no cajoling needed. It was surprising the amount of hidden talent which came to the fore, having been hidden under a bushel for so long!!

As this was a Virtual Burns, the proceedings were modified, but nobody minded. The evening commenced with a welcome address by Debbie. It was then into the formalities.

Alison Harries gave us the Selkirk Grace. Then the Address to the Haggis undertaken by four of our members, Elisabeth, Marilyn, Neil and Douglas.

Then came some fine fiddling (of the musical kind) by the maestro herself, Debbie. Val provided us with the well known monologue, which is always associated with Stanley Holloway, Albert and the Lion which had everybody laughing.

Sheffield Swans and Cygnets, a group that had been put together since lock down began, gave us a demonstration of "The Thistle" step dance, beautifully executed and with accompaniment from David Queen.

Our Treasurer, Mr. Douglas Thomson, who was in fine voice and accompanied by Katrin, gave us an excellent rendition of the folk song, "Rattlin' Roarin' Willie".

Our Chairman, Mr. Ian Dall, provided us with a hilarious piece about the "The Transverse Rotational Knot" which, when I first saw the title, I thought was a little known Boy Scout knot, but, no, it was about how to end up in a tangle when executing a new formation. Hilarious.

As we were nearing the end of the formal part of the evening our one and only delightful Janet Beddus sang, "Ye Banks and Braes" which brought a tear to many an eye.

The Toast to the Lassies, a traditional part of a Burns Evening did have a twist to it. It was a "Toast to the Non-Dancers". A sort of thank you to partners, husbands/wives, children for their understanding while we partake in our passion.



After a short interval to enable us to refresh our glasses and the ladies to powder their noses, it was on with the jigging, initially to the sound of Richard Steele and his accordion, then recorded dance music and finishing with Richard, a delightful mix.

As usual we were joined by invited guests from far and wide.

Thanks were given to Debbie for putting all this together and to her able assistant for the evening, Simon.

We look forward to the next Virtual Dance together, which I believe is the end of February when it is Rotherham SCD Social, and Martainn Skene will be playing, live.

Thanks to everybody who joined us, for without you these virtual dances, classes, would not take place.
