

Glasgow Music Festival 2020

The Festival, now in its 108th year, was held in Renfield Church Centre in Bath Street Glasgow. There was “fun, fitness and friendship” in abundance throughout the day with children`s teams supporting each other, by lending a dancer to another team, where parents had withdrawn a dancer at short notice, due to the current crisis.

The lively atmosphere in the morning started well with young dancers from Pollokshields Primary School showing their new skills, followed by Competitive teams from Alba Scottish Dance Group and St Andrew`s Primary from Falkirk. Dancing “The Brudenell Jig”, St Andrew`s Primary were awarded the Marion B Hamilton Certificate with a superb mark of 90.

The next Class for pupils aged 12 and under, displayed a high level of skill and concentration, with teams from Comely Park Primary, St. Ninian`s Primary, Drymen Primary, Alba Dancers and Dalriada Dancers all competing well.

The morning finished with a very competent display from Alba Dancers, aged 15 and under, of The White Cockade.

The afternoon had displays from adult dancers who performed with great enthusiasm, skill and high levels of fitness!! Glasgow Dancers and New Scotland (Edinburgh) recorded very high scores as they performed in the Ladies, then Mixed, then Open Classes. The highlights being “Delvine Side” by New Scotland and “The Tey Medley” by Glasgow Dancers. The final scores were only separated by 1 point, with the RSCDS Quaich being awarded to Glasgow Dancers.

Friendly and constructive feedback was given to all participants through out the day by the adjudicator Jimmie Hill. All the dancers appreciated the fine tunes and commitment from the accordionist Màrtainn Skene. Maureen Daniels worked tirelessly to scribe the Adjudicator's remarks.

The event was brought to an end with an impromptu dance of “Mairi's Wedding” with all teams dancing together. It was a splendid way to end a very busy but enjoyable day. (Thanks to New Scotland for this suggestion which we aim to incorporate next year!)

My thanks go to all teachers, pupils, adjudicator, scribe , musician , GMF Committee and of course the wonderful volunteers from Glasgow Branch who acted as Stewards and supported my first time as Dance Administrator.

Report by Susan Ewington