

John Renton (1942 – 2025)

Glasgow dancers will remember dancing on many occasions to the wonderful music of John Renton. His band was a regular at Glasgow events from the early 1990s until John finally decided to stop playing in public in 2014.

His involvement with the Glasgow Branch and other dancing groups in the Glasgow area was extensive - branch dances, classes, the Spring Fling, the Children's Day of Dance, Westerton Summer Dancing and at many New Kilpatrick Club annual dances - his was a weel kent face.



John was self-taught and only started playing when he found his mother's accordion in the attic - he was hooked. John's band was always a pleasure to work with and he had an extensive knowledge of Scottish music and playing for dancing. I doubt that many players had such a wide range of Scottish music as John - he was constantly looking for new tunes and delving into old books sourcing historical ones and had several thousand sets of tunes. John also enjoyed composing tunes many of which have been published.

John always emphasised that it is important to remember that the traditional music of Scotland we all enjoy is first and foremost dance music and is at its most glorious when played for dancing.