

## Seniors' 20th Anniversary Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019

There was a buzz of excitement as we entered the Crookston Hotel on Thursday, 10th October. Daphne Davidson [our convenor], Katherine Morrison [her 2<sup>nd</sup> in command] and Christopher Sanders [Branch Archivist] had assembled a magnificent display of photographs of members past and present, and great fun was had as we tried to identify the people in the photographs from the archives - poor Chris trying to keep tabs on each suggestion! Once we were all assembled, Daphne welcomed Honorary Branch President **Ruth Beattie**, the initiator and convenor of the Group for many years, and invited her to open the proceedings. Ruth gave us a potted history of the beginnings of the group. The aims were to provide a regular event with entertainment of a Scottish nature and arrange transport for those who might find it difficult to attend otherwise. The late Dorothy Paterson led the group and made an arrangement with the Ewington Hotel [Queens Park] whilst Joyce Turkington took on the secretarial work, and the Seniors' Group was born. When the Ewington closed several years later, Ruth and Flora Frame found the Crookston Hotel as a replacement venue. When Dorothy moved to Inveraray and Joyce retired, Helen and Graham Murray helped Ruth continue the group, and more recently Sandy and Katherine Morrison took on that role. In 2012 Daphne Davidson took on the convenor/organiser's role assisted by Katherine Morrison. Ruth was invited to cut the celebration cake [seen here] and after Daphne's official welcome we then enjoyed an excellent meal in great company, followed by celebratory cake washed down with tea/coffee.



After a short break, we then welcomed our entertainer, **David Ross**, resplendent in his tartan trews outfit. An award-winning Scottish accordionist, popular band leader, staunch branch supporter and the only guest to have been invited back for a third visit to the Seniors' Group. David began by saying that, like us, for 50 years, he'd had a good life dominated by Scottish Country Dancing which had taken him many times round Europe and Russia. David then played sets of well-known jigs, reels, strathspeys and waltzes and gave us the opportunity to sing along and responded to our musical requests. Our other entertainer, **Helen Murray**, read an apt reflection on music in general which was well-received. Acknowledgement was given to Glasgow Branch who had contributed financially toward this event. Finally, Glasgow Branch Chairman, **Margaret Sanders**, brought greetings from the Branch Committee and gave us the latest Branch news, in the form of an anecdote! The event was rounded off with **Patrick Murray** [official photographer for the event] taking a group photo.



The next meeting of the Seniors' group will be in **December – a Festive Lunch**, date to be announced.

*Maureen Daniel, Seniors' Group Member*

