

OUR SCOTTISH ADVENTURE



Almost 2 years ago we met the lovely Midge Mathieson and she invited us to do a workshop with her in Inverness

By Alan Birchall & Jacqui Jax

We've had the best time ever adding some extra days before and after the event to visit The Beautiful Highlands of Scotland...

Our road trip started with a drive up the M61/M6 to Carlisle where we stayed overnight just round the corner from where my Grandparents used to live... to a nostalgic early morning walk round the area was a must before travelling a few miles further up the road to Gretna for breakfast, then onto Pitlochry via the A9 for lunch, what a beautiful place!

The A9 then took us the rest of the way to Inverness, it's a very long road with some breath taking scenery. After a warm welcome from Midge, Bill & Lesley we settled into our very comfortable B&B close to The River Ness & City Centre.

Friday night was a Social Night which became a sort of Alan Birchall (classics night!) with requests for 'Before The Devil' 'Wave On Wave' 'No More Cloudy Days'... also our 'Capital Letters' (with a very quick recap) 'Pointless' this touched my heart as did 'Texas Time' other dances were saved for the following night!

Saturday's workshop was well attended by dancers from near & far... again loads of enthusiasm to learn our new dances & one classic!

Workshop Dances in the order taught:

DRIVE - Improver - Eli Young Band

NEW LIGHT - High Intermediate/Advanced - John Mayer

THE WEIGHT IS GONE - Improver - Albin Loe Mendau

& by Special request of Midge - taught the way it was choreographed

Alan's Advanced Classic - SOMEBODY LIKE YOU - Keith Urban

After a really lovely meal we changed for the evening social night which also included recaps from the afternoon... the feedback from the dancers was amazing not only on the 'new' dances but all the classics too.

Thank you to Midge & Lesley and all the Inverness dancers for making us so welcome

The next day Midge & Bill took us to the magical fairy-tale Dunrobin Castle complete with Scottish Dancing, Bag Pipes, Falconry Display, Vintage Car Rally & Giant Rhubarb!!...

The following day while Midge was working Bill drove us to the traditional fishing port of Ullapool where Alan & Bill enjoyed Fish & Chips sat outside overlooking the port... we were treated to a couple of Sea lions who kept popping their heads up in the bay to say 'Hi'

We stayed an extra night with Midge & Bill which not only gave us time to walk round the city again but also to go for a fabulous relaxing meal together... with loads of 'blethering' (new word for me!!)

It was so sad saying goodbye... I feel like we have known each other for ever... and yes we will be back!

The next few days took us to Fort Augustus, Loch Ness, Glencoe & Tyndrum. Then onto Kirkcaldy & Edinburgh (via the new stunning Queensferry Crossing Bridge) where we were treated to 2 amazing shows at The Fringe with Lorraine Brown & an afternoon in the K107fm Studio recording a show for Raunch Dance Radio...

NEW LIGHT & DRIVE
step sheets & videos are now uploaded to
both Linedancer & Copperknob...
and also on Alan's Website:
www.alanbirchall.com

