

Patricia (Pat) Batt



A life remembered The Reel

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Pat's initial introduction to the Country Dance scene was through an English country dancing class in Harrogate where she lived during the war.

In the early 1950s, when she had returned to London she began Scottish Country Dancing. Later she joined three groups, Tally Ho, Silver Cross and Hertsmere. From 1991 she ran a class in New Barnet. Here she especially enjoyed sharing the history or story behind a dance before teaching it. She also went on many Scottish dancing holidays where she made friends from all over the country.

She enjoyed writing topical poems for ceilidhs and was persuaded to publish her 'party pieces' in small volumes. Through their sale she raised over two and a half thousand pounds for the North London Hospice. She received requests for her poems from all over the world including New Zealand, Canada and Saudi Arabia. Indeed if you 'google' Pat Batt, Scottish dancing on the internet you get a number of 'hits' for her poems!

Derek Haynes wrote a dance for her called 'Two up, two down'.

In her later years she ran Scottish dances to celebrate her 70th, 75th, 80th and most recently her 85th birthday at the end of January 2006.

Pat enjoyed life. She had a positive attitude to everything and had the ability to transmit her enthusiasm and zest for life to those she met. Young children especially were drawn to her as she had a curiosity and interest in things that matched their own.

She died peacefully at the Marie Curie Hospice in London. Her funeral at Hendon on May 2nd was a celebration of her life. Her daughter Jo read a poem and whilst nephew Stephen Lloyd read a tribute that truly captured that essential 'Pat Batt' spirit. To date friends and family have donated over £600 to Marie Curie Cancer care.

Jo Chima (Pat Batt's daughter)