

Fundraiser for St Columba's – Vegas style

A Vegas themed dinner held at Prestonfield House Hotel has raised £93,000 for hospice care at St Columba's.

The event was organised by the hospice and hosted by Grant Stott who kept the audience bidding in the post dinner auction. There was also some casino style fun for the 300 guests to enjoy.

But there was a sombre side to the evening, remembering the vital work that the hospice undertakes for those who require end of life care. Holly Smith (25) spoke about her mother Maxine Simpson-Smith who died only last month from cancer. Holly talked of the compassionate care and support St Columba's offers patients and their families.

Jon Heggie, Director of Income Generation at St Columba's Hospice Care, said: "We're absolutely thrilled by the generosity of our supporters, whose kindness has helped us raise an incredible £93,000. Every penny will go towards ensuring we can continue providing expert, compassionate care to those who need it most. Events like this not only raise essential funds but also bring people together to celebrate life, love, and the impact of hospice care. We are deeply grateful to everyone who attended, donated, and made the evening so special."

Beginning with a dazzling performance of "Viva Las Vegas" by **GPRO Performing Arts** and **GAMTA**, featuring Elvis, glamorous

showgirls and high-energy choreography, the evening also included singing by **Elyssa Tait**, a semi-finalist in The Voice Kids 2023.

Elyssa captivated the audience with her singing, before Scottish band **Bleeker** kept the dance floor packed into the wee small hours with a mix of current and classic hits.



L-R Emily Smith (21), Grant Stott and Holly Smith(25). Sisters Holly and Emily attended the St Columba's Hospice Care Vegas dinner in memory of their mum Maxine who died last month.