

## **Dec 31 - New Years Eve Dance**

Our New Year's Eve dance was memorable indeed. 209 people were in attendance to ring out the old and chime in the New Year. Members and guests were pleasantly surprised by the sheer luxury, style and elegance of The Markham Event Centre. Kudos to our Social Secretary Fatima Lawson for finding this gem - so spacious with lots of elbow room between tables and so conveniently located for most of our members. Cocktails and mingling began amidst chatter and laughter and gracious hostesses served delectable hors d'oeuvres.

Emcee Hubert Pereira introduced Sylvia and Tony Pinto to say the Grace before we sat down to a full course, sit-down dinner with red and white wine followed by dessert and a hot brew of coffee and tea. After dinner President Joachim Menezes' welcomed everyone and introduced his energetic Executive Committee followed by the members of the sub-committees.

The super surprise of the evening was the cabaret show performed by a trio of young ladies. Beautifully dressed, they delighted the audience with a medley of floor shows featuring dances and costumes from different countries.

Emcee Hubert Pereira was his usual, exuberant self, peppering us with hilarious jokes and keeping us entertained throughout the evening. Numerous prizes were given out throughout the night and winners were happy with their booty. Music, courtesy of the band - the Marawders, had everyone on the floor dancing to old hit songs and new favorites interspersed with jive, cha-cha and even line dancing.

Twas soon time for the countdown to midnight and saying goodbye to the old Year. Everyone adorned with colorful hats and whistles were on the floor singing old favorites until the final countdown to 0 and the ever popular Auld Lang Syne got everyone singing out aloud and everyone hugged and wished each other well for the New Year. 2013 was brought in with the good old bubbly and a sweet table laden with fruit and goodies and a fresh round of coffee and tea.

All good things come to an end and the New Year's dance ended at 1:30 a.m. Hats off to the tireless efforts of the organizers, particularly Fatima, as we would say in our original vernacular - '*shabash*' for a job well done.

Let's extend our sincere thanks to Social Secretary Fatima Lawson, Cultural Secretary Dora Noronha, Trips Coordinator George Fernandes and Bowling Coordinator Charles Fernandes and their sub-committees who work so hard to provide you a great experience and ensure all events run smoothly.