



# The Reel

**rscds**  
London Branch

Published by the LONDON BRANCH of the ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY  
[www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) Registered Charity number 1067690

No 299

MARCH TO MAY 2017

Scottish country dancing –  
For fun, fitness and  
friendship



## Poussettes and a party atmosphere all round

Over 120 came to St Columba's on Saturday 17 December 2016, some adding Christmas regalia to their dance attire, to celebrate the festive season in style courtesy of London Branch. Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Scottish Dance Band provided a potpourri of Christmas carols and songs alongside traditional Scottish dance tunes. Joining the band on stage to guide those present through the evening programme were Danielle Reinstein and Iain Farrell. As usual, Margaret Shaw and the catering team did not disappoint, with a splendid spread of Christmas treats. A very special and enjoyable evening, setting all up for celebrating Christmas.

Marjory Reid

## SPRING DANCE

Saturday 18 March 2017  
7.00 – 10.30pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD

**Craigievar Scottish Dance Band**

St Andrew's Fair .....	5 for 1982/2
The Royal Yacht Britannia .....	43/3
The Silver Tassie .....	Leaflet
Bill Clement MBE .....	47/1
The Ladies of Dunse .....	26/11
Autumn in Appin .....	31/5
The Starry Eyed Lassie .....	23/11
Argyll Strathspey .....	35/3
The Earl of Mansfield .....	Leaflet

Inchmickery .....	14 social for 2000/7
The College Hornpipe .....	20/12
Margaret Parker's Strathspey .....	31/1
Ladies' Fancy .....	13/12
None so Pretty (London Pride) .....	19/1
The Dream Catcher .....	45/9
The Kelloholm Jig .....	Leaflet
The Minister on the Loch .....	4 for 2008/2
The Montgomerie's Rant .....	10/1

Admission includes light refreshments  
RSCDS members £12.00, Non-members £15.00  
Full time students (with card) & spectators £6.00  
All children (under 16) free  
All tickets to be purchased (cash only) on the door  
All dances will be recapped  
Crib available at

[www.rscdslondon.org.uk/spring-dance-2017](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/spring-dance-2017)

## SUMMER WEDNESDAY DANCE

Wednesday 31 May 2017

7.00 – 10.00pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD

**Chris Oxtoby**

Jig to the Music .....	Graded 2/7
The Grassmarket Reel .....	5 Dances for 2009/2
Fair Donald .....	29/4
The Rutland Reel .....	48/2
Light and Airy .....	4/5
Midsummer Common .....	49/3
The Sailor .....	24/4

Round Reel of Eight .....	27/7
The Haar on Skye .....	Graded 3/7
Domino Five .....	Graded 2/11
John Cass .....	49/10
City of Belfast .....	48/6
The Wild Geese .....	24/3
Duke of Perth .....	1/8

*Extra:*

Catch the Wind .....	45/5
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Admission includes light refreshments  
RSCDS members £10.00, Non-members £12.00  
Full time students (with card) and spectators £5.00  
All children (under 16) free  
All tickets to be purchased (cash only) on the door  
All dances will be recapped/walked through  
Crib available at

[www.rscdslondon.org.uk/summer-wednesday-dance-2017](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/summer-wednesday-dance-2017)

## END OF SEASON DANCE following the Branch AGM

Saturday 10 June 2017

AGM 6.45 – 7.30 pm

Dancing: 7.30 – 10.30pm

Doors open at 6.15pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD

**Ian Robertson**

Granville Market .....	Graded 2/18
The Westminster Reel .....	45/1
The Banks of Clyde .....	MMM 4
The New Rigged Ship .....	9/7
Culla Bay .....	41/2
Scott Meikle .....	46/3

Miss Hadden's Reel .....	23/5
The Saltire Society Reel .....	Leaflet
The Falkirk Lass .....	Merse Collection
Sleepy Maggie .....	11/5
Scottish Reform .....	3/1
City of Belfast .....	48/6
Links with St Petersburg .....	46/10
Miss Eleanor .....	49/5
The Deil among the Tailors .....	14/7

Admission includes light refreshments  
RSCDS members: £12.00, Non-members: £15.00  
Full time students (with card) & spectators £6.00  
All children (under 16) free  
All tickets to be purchased (cash only) on the door  
All dances will be recapped  
Crib available at

[www.rscdslondon.org.uk/end-of-season-dance-2017](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/end-of-season-dance-2017)

## CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

It is hard to believe that we are now well into another year. I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas and New Year celebrations and are now looking forward to happy dancing in 2017.

We ended the year on a high note with over 120 dancers attending our Christmas Dance. Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Band provided some wonderful festive music, whilst Margaret Shaw and her team treated us all to a superb buffet – it was a truly great end to 2016 and thanks go to everyone who helped in its success.

The Burns' Supper and Ceilidh Dance was also a huge success, with record numbers attending. At this year's event, we were pleased to also welcome dancers who had attended the very successful Youth Workshop, hosted by London Branch and organised by Elaine Davies, which had taken place earlier that day (see p4). A tasty traditional supper of haggis, neaps and tatties was provided by our consistently excellent catering team, led by Margaret Shaw. The haggis was piped in by Bob Harman and Ian Rutherford addressed it with great panache, Elaine Davies provided a display of highland dancing, whilst The Caledonian Reelers were our superb band for the evening. Our thanks go to everyone who played a part in making this such a great event.



Spring is on its way, so why not say goodbye to winter, put your dancing shoes on, and come to one of the many dances and classes we organise on your behalf? By attending classes, you improve your own standard of dancing, which in turn leads to more enjoyment for everyone at dances. We have changed the name of the 'technique' class to 'advanced', to clarify the three levels of classes we have on Wednesdays at Colville Primary School: beginners, intermediate and advanced. To add to these, and our mixed ability and Richmond beginners' classes, we are reintroducing a Sunday morning class, this time for very advanced dancers. The first class will be held at Coram's Fields on Sunday 26 March, with Mervyn Short teaching and Ken Martlew playing. *Further details of all the classes can be found on p5.*

We are, unfortunately, having to temporarily suspend the Children's Class because of poor attendance. It is, however, our intention to re-launch the class in the Autumn at a new venue/location, which we hope will bring more children into the class.

From the advertisement below, you will note that we are looking for a new Editor for *The Reel*. Jeremy Hill has been an excellent Editor for several years and we are sorry to see him give up this position. We wish him well for the future.

The Branch AGM will soon be upon us (see p3). If you think you may be able to help with various aspects of the running of the Branch, without necessarily being on the Committee, please get in touch with me. My contact details are shown on the right.

Before then there is a lot to look forward to so please come along, support our classes and dances as well as supporting all those who put in so much effort on your behalf.

I look forward to seeing you on the dance floor.

Margaret Catchick

ROYAL  
SCOTTISH  
COUNTRY  
DANCE  
SOCIETY



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President: Jean Martin

Chairman: Helen Russell

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### Committee:

Elaine Davies, Jenny Kendrick, George Potts,

Jerry Reinstein, Thelma-Jane Robb,

Margaret Shaw

### Sub-Committee co-ordinators:

Classes: ..... Jenny Kendrick

Day School: ..... Margaret Catchick

Dances: ..... Margaret Shaw

Publicity: ..... Elaine Davies

Youth: ..... Elaine Davies

### Non-Executive roles:

Bookstall: ..... Daniel Capron

Hon. Archivist: ..... Rachel Wilton

Membership: ..... Gaynor Curtis

The Reel Editor: ..... Jeremy Hill

The Reel Business Editor: ..... Jeff Robertson

The Reel Assistant Editor: ..... Katy Sweetman

Subscribers: ..... Maggie Westley

Webmaster: ..... Meryl Thomson

Website: [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk)

Follow the London Branch:

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@LondonRSCDS



### Objects of London Branch

To advance the education of the public in the London area in traditional Scottish country dancing, in particular by:

- preserving and furthering the practice of traditional Scottish country dances;
- providing or assisting in providing instruction in the dancing of Scottish country dances;
- promoting the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish country dancing and music by any suitable means.

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## SEEKING A NEW EDITOR

Regrettably, due to work commitments, the current Editor will stand down from his position after *The Reel* 300. Support has been found for the design and publication requirements.

If you might be interested in taking on some or all of the editorial aspects, please contact either Margaret Catchick on 01494 772305 or at [chairman@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:chairman@rscdslondon.org.uk) or Jeremy Hill on 01582 263168 or at [editor@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:editor@rscdslondon.org.uk) to discuss the role.

### Combined Societies Dance

Hosted by London Highland Club

Saturday 1 April 2017

7.00 – 10.30pm

St. Columba's Church Hall,

Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD

Alasdair Macleod Scottish Ceilidh

Band

Programme: Good Hearted  
Glasgow, Miss Eleanor

Ramadan-ce, Macleod's Fancy, John

McAlpin, Flight to Melbourne, The

Starry Eyed Lassie, City of Belfast,

Mairi's Wedding, Postie's Jig, The

Kelloholm Jig, Miss Johnstone of

Ardrossan, Jean Martin of Aberdeen,

Hamilton House, The Reverend John

MacFarlane, Sugar Candie, Scott

Meikle, Joie de Vivre, A Trip to

Bavaria, Ian Powrie's Farewell to

Auchterarder

Tickets £12.00 on the door

Including refreshments

Dances will be recapped on request

## New RSCDS Chairman Helen Russell

Helen Russell is now Chairman of the Society until November 2018. Daniel Capron interviewed her for The Reel.

Originally from north of Aberdeen in Scotland, Helen started dancing at the age of seven by attending highland dance classes. At Summer School at St Andrews in the late 60s and early 70s she was taught by Miss Milligan and obtained her Teachers' Certificate in 1971. Since then she has taught classes wherever she has lived, from Aberdeen to Australia. In the past twenty-five years, she has delivered workshops, day schools, weekend courses, teaching skills courses and tutor training courses in the UK, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Russia, USA, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.



Since returning to Summer School in St Andrews as a teacher, she has taught a range of classes and courses in basic highland, ladies step, intermediate SCD, very advanced SCD technique, mentor training, basic SCD teaching skills, pre-candidate courses and has been a tutor for the Teaching Certificate on several occasions. She is currently an examiner for the RSCDS.

For three years she was the convenor of the RSCDS Education and Training Committee and was also involved in the editing and production of the RSCDS booklet *An introduction to warming up and cooling down for Scottish Country Dancing*, *A Second Book of Graded Dances* and, reflecting her keen interest in ladies' step dancing, she edited *The St Andrews Collection of Step Dances*. More recently she was convenor of the RSCDS Manual Working Group, which produced the Third Edition of the RSCDS *Manual of SCD*. Helen also chaired the RSCDS Curriculum for Excellence group, which produced a multi-media pack of materials, *Jigs and Reels* for primary school teachers. This work was followed by the production of a multi-media pack *Dance Trad* for secondary schools.

Helen now lives in Yorkshire. Her husband is a qualified RSCDS teacher, as is one of her two adult daughters. Two of the three grandchildren are going to Summer School this year.

As Chairman, Helen will take forward the strategies in the Society's Business Plan, recently prepared in consultation with branches. She is particularly interested in training teachers, which was also her day job, and in teacher succession – ensuring we always have enough teachers. She is also concerned that the RSCDS is sometimes seen as elitist, and wants it to be recognised as inclusive. Her ideal branch would have a children's class, a beginners' class, and a monthly ceilidh to involve the local community. She regards ceilidhs as part of our tradition. She sees new dances as part of our 'living art form', and thinks the RSCDS should continue to publish new dances as it is good at choosing dances and in particular at selecting good tunes.

Favourite dances include *The Duran Ranger* (RSCDS Book 13), *John Cass* (49), *The Braes of Breadalbane* (21) and *The Bonnie Tree* (46). She particularly likes the dance music of 18th century composers Robert Mackintosh and William Marshall. Favourite tunes are the reel *Sleepy Maggie* and the *Miss Campbell of Saddell's Strathspey*, originally chosen by the RSCDS as an alternative tune for *Keppoch's Rant* in Book 17.

Helen says she is "addicted to exercise": she goes to the gym daily; when not dancing or teaching, she enjoys hill walking, swimming and scuba diving, and also gardening and birdwatching, though she insists she is not a twitcher!

During her period in office she already has plans to visit a number of branches, especially those celebrating anniversaries. She is looking forward to coming south to lead the SERTA workshop in March, and teaching at London Branch day school in October.

Daniel Capron

## EDITORIAL

I am delighted that this issue offers several opportunities for teachers to train, discuss, learn from others and practise their teaching techniques: as well as a new Certificate Class (see p4) and SERTA events (see p13), the recently formed Edinburgh Scottish Dancers are running an event for teachers, to provide what they refer to as CPD (Continuous Professional Development), a positive influence for refreshment of technique for anyone with a professional qualification (see p11 and p12).

What I am very disappointed to find, however, is the offering at Summer School for teachers: in all four weeks, the only class offered is a Teaching Skills class, for those with or without their certificates.

Summer School has always acted as a magnet for dancers, and more recently, musicians, but a key feature, at least as I have seen it, is the opportunity for teachers, including those with a great deal of experience, to learn and discuss the newly published dances, and their particular teaching points, and to be equipped with common tools and knowledge to take back to their classes, which may be all over the world. The consistency of approach that results is fundamental to the ability to take ones shoes anywhere in the world, in the knowledge that we can join the dance with a common basis for all the dances. Why is that not available this year?



Jeremy Hill

## LONDON BRANCH AGM

Saturday 10 June 2017  
from 6.45pm

The Annual General Meeting of the London Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society will be held on Saturday 10 June 2017 at 6.45 p.m. at St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, London, SW1X 0BD. It will be followed by our End of Season Dance. Members and friends of the Branch are invited to attend both events but only members may vote at the AGM. If you cannot get to the meeting we will still be pleased to see you at the dance.

The meeting usually lasts about 45 minutes. You will learn about the work of the Branch and our plans for the future. The Committee welcomes your comments and opinions, either through a formal motion, which must be received in writing by the Branch Secretary by 31 March, or during general discussion at the meeting. The motion should be signed by the proposer and seconder both of whom must be members of the Branch. Only motions submitted in advance and appearing on the Agenda can be voted upon. An agenda for the meeting and a report covering the Branch's activities will be circulated with the next issue of *The Reel*.

Members are also encouraged to stand for election as an office holder or Committee member. Nominees should provide the Branch Secretary with a written nomination by 31 March signed by the nominee, a proposer and a seconder, all of whom must be Branch members. There are nine positions in total on the Committee: Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary and six ordinary members. If there are more candidates than places, ballot papers will be issued to all Branch members with the next issue of *The Reel*. It is also possible to help with various aspects of the running of the Branch without necessarily being on the Committee.

The current officers and members of the Committee, with the dates when they joined or last re-joined the Committee, are shown below. Apart from Ireen Goulding, who has advised that she is stepping down from the Committee, all current members are eligible for re-election at the AGM.

Chairman: Margaret Catchick (2013)

Secretary: Ireen Goulding (2014)

Treasurer: Simon Wales (2003)

Elaine Davies (2009), Jenny Kendrick (2015), George Potts (2009), Jerry Reinstein (2009), Thelma-Jane Robb (2011), and Margaret Shaw (2007)

## VERY ADVANCED SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASS Sunday 26 March 2017

Band Hall, Coram's Fields,  
93 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1DN  
11.00am – 1.00pm

Teacher: Mervyn Short

Musician: Ken Martlew

A class aimed at the Very Advanced Dancer who is able to perform and execute all steps and formations to a high standard of dancing and assimilate instructions quickly.

Cost: £9.00 (members) and £10.00 (non-members)

Nearest underground station: Russell Square

Free on-street parking available

Local establishments available for lunch

Further details from: Margaret Catchick  
[chairman@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:chairman@rscdslondon.org.uk)

or

Jenny Kendrick [classes@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:classes@rscdslondon.org.uk)

## London Branch Membership

The current cost of RSCDS membership through the London Branch is as follows:

	Aged 12-17	Aged 18-24	25 and over	Second branch member	Joint (per person)
<i>The Reel</i> electronically	£14.00	£20.00	£24.00	£4.00	£20.00
<i>The Reel</i> by post (UK)	£16.00	£22.00	£26.00	£6.00	£22.00
<i>The Reel</i> by post (Europe)	£22.00	£28.00	£32.00	£12.00	£28.00
<i>The Reel</i> by post (Rest of the World)	£25.00	£31.00	£35.00	£15.00	£31.00

London Branch membership benefits include reduced rates at Branch classes, dances and events, and receiving *The Reel*, while RSCDS membership includes the biannual publication, *Scottish Country Dancer*, and 10% discounts on items from the RSCDS shop.

Full details may be found on the Branch website at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk/category/membership](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/category/membership) and membership may be purchased at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop) with PayPal and standing order options available. Membership enquiries should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood, Woking GU21 3QB, 01483 721989 or [membership@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:membership@rscdslondon.org.uk)

### Representing the Branch

The Branch runs a monthly class on Tuesdays for advanced dancers, taught by Mervyn Short, with music provided by Sandra Smith, to work on a repertoire of dances that can be used for public displays. Classes are held from 7.00 – 9.00pm in the Upper Hall at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD.

If you have a sense of fun and the ability to reflect the joy of Scottish country dancing to the general public, do come along and give us a try. Anyone interested in joining is asked to have a good grasp of Scottish dance steps and formations. For further information please contact Elaine Davies at [demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk)

### Burns' Night Ceilidh

Where were you on 14 January 2017? If you weren't at the Branch Burns' Night Ceilidh at Pont Street, eat your heart out! You missed an event that produced a real buzz because it had all the ingredients for a memorable evening's dancing: hall packed to the gills; an open friendly atmosphere with lots of new faces; and enthusiastic dancers of all ages. The Caledonian Reelers again provided the music for this event and MC Peter Knight guided us through the dances. Margaret Shaw and her catering team rose brilliantly to the challenge of feeding the 168 people who turned up to celebrate the bard's 258th birthday.

To allow dancers the opportunity to catch their breath, Elaine Davies demonstrated a highland fling with enviable expertise. The haggis ceremony was performed by Bob Harman on the pipes, Margaret Catchick presenting the pudding and Ian Rutherford addressing it. London Branch, wake up and smell the coffee: it's clear that ceilidh dances like this are part of the future!

Marjory Reid

### Maintaining Contact Email addresses

The Branch continues to use various means to keep in touch with members, on the website, Facebook, Twitter, through *The Reel* and regular email.

If you wish to receive information by email (not more than once a month), please send your email address to Jerry Reinstine via [publicity@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:publicity@rscdslondon.org.uk) and we will add you to the list.

Note: the list is not used for any other purpose and not shared with any other organisation.

### London Youth Workshop

The RSCDS runs two workshops a year for those aged 12-35, and, after successful workshops in recent years in Cambridge and Oxford, it was London's turn to host on 14 January. The event was held in conjunction with University of London class, and took advantage of the excellent facilities at Student Central, Malet St. Andrew Nolan taught the Advanced Class, with music provided by Màrtainn Skene, and Gillian O'Dell taught the Improver/Intermediate class, accompanied by Fernando Martin-Peñasco. Some 25 dancers, covering the full age range, travelled from near and far for the event, including Katy Ellerton, who came down from Sheffield:

"On a gloomy Saturday morning in mid-January, I travelled south to attend the RSCDS Youth workshop in London. I must say, it was the most exhausting dance class I've attended for a long time – in a good way! Andrew Nolan chose an excellent selection of dances for the Advanced Class, which challenged our intellect and stamina, knowing or hoping that, as young dancers, we'd be able to keep up. We learnt how to dance a fast time pousette in 4 bars and attempted a slow jig, which was much harder than you'd imagine. By the end of the workshop I no longer felt 'youthful', but I did feel exhilarated after such an enjoyable day dancing with friends old and new!"

Jeremy Hill

### RSCDS Teaching Certificate Course

The Committee of the South East Branches RSCDS are running a course for Units 2 & 3, and also Unit 5 starting in September 2017. It will cover about five weekends, with the examination at the end of November, and will take place in Wallington, Surrey, within easy reach of public transport and the M25. These courses are hard work but enjoyable and very rewarding!

If you are interested in taking part, or would just like to talk to someone about it, please contact Pat Davoll at [patdavoll2@gmail.com](mailto:patdavoll2@gmail.com)



### Children's Class

Teachers: James Fairbairn and Jenny Kendrick

Branch Children's Classes will be held:

On 18 March at St Columba's Church Hall (see below), and on 25 March in the Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DR from 10.45 am – 12.00 pm.

Class Fee: £5.00 per child per class  
Newcomers are always welcome!

A full programme of Children's Classes is planned to resume in September. Please contact James Fairbairn (details below) if you are interested to attend.

### Family Day

Saturday 18 March 2017

St Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD

11.30am – 1.00pm Children's Class  
Followed by lunch for all children  
2.00 – 4.30pm

Dance to the music of Craigievar

**Programme:** Circassian (big) Circle (Trad/Fairbairn), Charlestown Chaser (Gr2/2), Gay Gordons (Guide to SCD), MC's Choice, The Waratah Weaver (Gr2/4), A Reel for Jeannie (40/1), The Dhoo (Ch1), The Loch Ness Monster (Gr2/1), Granville Market (Gr2/18), MC's Choice, Espie McNabb (MMM/23), The Barmkin (Gr2/6), Canadian Barn Dance (Guide to SCD), The Dashing White Sergeant (3/2).  
**Extras:** Scotch Mixer, Round Reel of Eight (27/7), Witch's Reel (English dance).

Special Day Ticket (includes class, lunch & dance): £7.00 per child

Dance Admission only: £3.50 per person

All young dancers, their families, friends and teachers are welcome. The dances in the afternoon will be talked and walked through.

For further information please contact either James Fairbairn on 07930 949599,

[childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk) or  
[youthcoordinator@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:youthcoordinator@rscdslondon.org.uk)

### WE CAN HELP YOU AFFORD IT

The RSCDS and the London Branch recognise the importance of supporting the teachers, musicians and dancers of the future. As such, scholarships are available for young people (25 and under) to attend RSCDS residential schools as a dancer or as a musician, and for any member to take the RSCDS Teaching Certificate at Summer School. Details of RSCDS scholarships are set out on the website under Courses. However, note that the deadline for RSCDS scholarships for Summer School is in November each year.

Applicants from London Branch member for scholarships should get in touch with our Secretary, Ireen Goulding, via [secretary@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rscdslondon.org.uk)

London Branch also has funds to support any event promoting Scottish country dancing among young people in the London area. We are a charity and want to help you improve your skills and enjoyment of SCD, and to support you in passing on your enthusiasm and knowledge to the next generation. This fund increased in 2016 thanks to a generous donation following the closure of the Waverley Scottish Country Dance Club, for which London Branch is very grateful.



# Set yourself a fun challenge Join a Scottish Country Dance Class

We have classes for...

Colville Primary School, Lonsdale Road,  
London W11 2DF

22 February – 29 March 2017 (Easter break)

26 April – 24 May 2017 7.00 – 9.00pm

## Basic Skills & Improvers

Teacher **Jane Rose**

**Intermediate** for dancers with at least a year's  
experience of Scottish country

dancing who want to improve their technique and  
develop their repertoire. Teachers **Ken Martlew** and (after Easter) **Gillian O'Dell**

**Advanced** for good dancers who want to develop their personal technique, improve their  
team-working skills and gain even more enjoyment from Scottish country dancing.

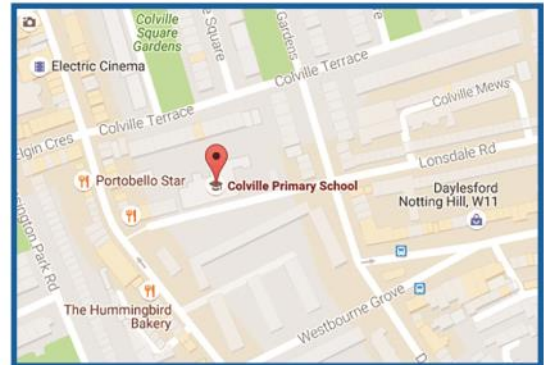
Teachers **Gillian O'Dell**

and (after Easter) **Lindsey Jane Rousseau / Maureen Campbell**

Musicians: **Sandra Smith, Ian Cutts** and **Ian Robertson**

Class Fees: £40 for a half term or £9 per night for RSCDS members,

£45 for a half term or £10 per night for non-members



**Mixed Ability Class** a social class suitable for dancers with at least some knowledge  
of basic steps and formations. Visitors welcome.

Wednesdays 2.30 – 4.30pm 22 February – 5 April 2017

3 May – 28 June 2017 (half term break 31 May)

Upper Hall at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD

Teacher **Jeni Rutherford**: [jrutherford@freeuk.com](mailto:jrutherford@freeuk.com) Fee £6 per class

**Beginners** Wednesdays 8.00 – 10.00pm 22 February – 29 March 2017 (Easter break)  
26 April – 28 June 2017 (half term break 31 May) Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond TW9 2RT  
Teacher **Judith Jones** Fee £6 per class

**Very Advanced Class** Sunday 26 March 2017 11.00am – 1.00pm

Band Hall, Coram's Fields, 93 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1DN

Teacher **Mervyn Short** Musician **Ken Martlew**

Fee £9 for members and £10 for non-members

**University of London & UCLU Folk Society** For students, staff and alumni  
of the University of London. Thursdays 6.00 – 7.30pm.

Student Central, Malet St, WC1E 7HY Term time. Fees £2 per class. Live music

Teacher **Lindsey Jane Rousseau** with **Lizzy Conder**

**For experienced dancers interested in giving demonstrations**

Email Elaine Davies at [demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk)

**Contacts for all classes Jenny** at [classes@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:classes@rscdslondon.org.uk)

# DANCING LIVES

## Alastair Aitkenhead

16 March 1921 – 27 November 2016

RSCDS past chairman Alastair Aitkenhead died peacefully on 27 November 2016 in Mossblown, Ayr. He was 95.



There are few people for whom Danielle and I would make a 24 hour trip to Scotland to attend their funeral. Alastair Aitkenhead was one of these people. Two of the many Branches who have very fond memories of him are London and Paris, and both asked us to represent them at his funeral, which we were happy to do, as we had decided to go in any case to accompany Rachel Wilton, his long-time companion and our good friend. The minister mentioned at the funeral that he was very surprised to see so many attending the funeral of someone who died at 95, but we were not at all surprised. In addition to the family, there were many friends and neighbours from Arran (where Alastair had a cottage for many years), ex-colleagues and many from the Scottish country dance world.

His training as a PE teacher at Jordanhill College, Glasgow, where he was taught by Miss Milligan, was interrupted by the war. He spent five years in the Indian Army, about which he could tell many entertaining stories! On being

demobbed, he returned to Jordanhill to complete his training. Miss Milligan then sent him home to North West Ayrshire to form an RSCDS Branch, which he did. His working life was spent in Ayrshire as a PE teacher and then an advisor but his enthusiasm for Scottish country dancing and the RSCDS never diminished.

Alastair was a well-known teacher at Summer School before we got to know him as a person shortly after we moved from Paris to London. At that time he was Chairman of the RSCDS and would come south to visit his daughter Sarah and Rachel Wilton.

What was obvious from the beginning was his enormous generosity of spirit. He made everyone feel special. He had a twinkle in his eye, which is clear from the photo. Alastair had a way with people that few have. He was always positive and full of ideas and had a great sense of humour. He very much enjoyed after dance socials, and was frequently the life and soul of the party.



North West Ayrshire Branch dancers in Saltcoats Town Hall in 1956. Alastair Aitkenhead cuts a fine figure in the *Foursome Reel* with Dorothy Johnstone (Dodo) and Dorothy Currie (facing Alastair). The other man would be Leslie Currie (also later a chairman of the RSCDS).

## Irene Edgar

24 March 1938 – 20 August 2016

Irene attended Helensburgh High School, then Secretarial College in Glasgow and danced at school and in the Girl Guides. She started working for the Prudential Insurance Company, and met Glen Edgar at the Albert Ballroom in Glasgow. They married soon after, and moved south to London, initially to Bayswater in 1967, and then, after a move to Harrow, further south to Reigate, where Irene took up Scottish country dancing once more.

After taking her Teacher's Certificate, Irene started a beginners' class, probably about 25 years ago. At that time, as many of you may remember, being at a beginners' class was like a night out in Colditz: strict, no nonsense and very few, if any, laughs! Irene's class was a revelation: fun, laughter and lots of dances. She had the knack of mixing people up and if anyone went wrong (we all did), just count yourself back in and carry on – and it worked. Her class went from strength to strength, people came from miles away, and there were often six sets dancing, all there for a good evening's dancing and a great time.

Irene retired about three years ago when she started to become unwell. She was game to the end and, as her Funeral Service sheet said, "She danced through life".

What a wonderful lady!

Alister Reid, Reigate Group

- Born in Ardrossan, attended Ardrossan Academy before applying to Jordanhill to train as a PE teacher;
- No experience of dancing before being taught by Miss Milligan at Jordanhill. Completed his preliminary teacher's certificate;
- Conscripted in 1941, joining the King's Own Scottish Borderers, where his brother was an instructor;
- Left as a Lance Corporal for Maryhill Barracks, but was then sent as a Second Lieutenant to the Nizam of Hyderabad's Regiment near Agra, the start of five and a half years in India;
- First posting to Helmand, Afghanistan, with the 6th Battalion of the Hyderabad Regiment;
- Running a PT course led to his being made Staff Officer at the Headquarters in the Himalayas;
- After the war, completed his course at Jordanhill, as well as his RSCDS full teacher's certificate;
- Sent to North Ayrshire with five primary schools to look after. In 1963, became PE Adviser to all Ayrshire schools;
- At the same time, told by Miss Milligan to form a Branch of the Society in North West Ayrshire;
- Attended Summer School from 1950, teaching over many years from 1953—one of a generation of teachers known as "Miss Milligan's boys", along with others such as Duncan Macleod and Bill Ireland;
- RSCDS Vice-Chairman from 1985, and then Chairman from 1988 to 1991, during which time he started 'Dance Around the World', with 24 hours of non-stop dancing around the world, as well as 'Dance Scottish in Schools';
- For many years, a hugely popular day and weekend school teacher, examiner and adjudicator all over the world.

When he couldn't dance any more, due to significant pain, though still attending AGM dances, he would book a lady friend for a strathspey, and use the eight or nine minutes to have a one-on-one chat.

Alastair epitomized the RSCDS motto for fun, fitness and friendship. The fitness was obvious, but what he was a master at was the fun and friendship, as attested to by the number of people at his funeral and the many others we know who would have wanted to be there but couldn't.

Who could forget his party piece *My bonnie lies over the ocean*, which made me laugh every time he did it? Like everyone who knew him, I loved the man and will miss him very much.

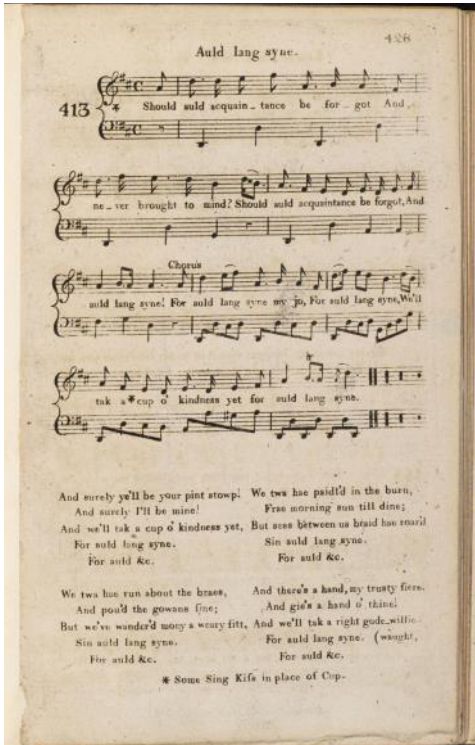
Jerry Reinstein



Irene, dancing with Tony Seddon at the Branch Dance on 23 September 2006.

## Should Auld Acquaintance be Forgot?

We might consider the period from Hogmanay to the end of January, encompassing both New Year and Burns' celebrations, prime time for renditions of *Auld Lang Syne*. Scottish dancers, familiar from the traditional end of dance singing of two verses, may gently remind their guests at parties and Burns' dinners that they should cross hands only when offered "here's a hand, my trusty friere", and only expect to make an up tempo foray into the centre of the circle in the second chorus.



*Auld Lang Syne*, as published, with its original tune, in 1793.

The sense of the poem means we may also find ourselves singing *Auld Lang Syne* at other 'concluding' events, including the Last Night of the Proms, farewells, funerals, graduations, scouting and military passing out parades.

The popularity of Burns' poetry outside Great Britain led to multiple translations: for example, a comprehensive German edition by Wilhelm Gerhard, published in 1840, inspired Robert Schumann to set a number of his poems, including *Die alte gute Zeit* as one of his *Fünf Lieder nach Robert Burns für gemischten Chor*, op 55.

Burns scholars have debated for years the extent to which the words were adapted by Burns or composed from scratch, referring to a 16th century song *Auld Kyndnes Foryett*, as well as 18th century versions by Allan Ramsay among others. Burns' story that he'd heard an old man singing it may simply have been a fabrication to create a little more

### BRANCH BOOKSTALL

#### Branch Bookstall

Books, CDs and Branch badges can be bought at the Branch dance on 18 March and other Branch events, or sent out by post. We have copies of the books and CDs enthusiastically reviewed in the last *Reel* – Sunday Class Book 2, and Excited States – recent RSCDS books and CDs, many earlier Society books at bargain prices, and other CDs by well-known bands. Current stock is listed on the Branch website, [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk). Contact Daniel with any queries or orders at [bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk) 74B Thurlow Park Road, London SE21 8HY, or on 020 8670 6918.

mystery. As with much of what has come down to us from Burns, no-one can be sure, but the end result has his unique stamp.

As for the tune, you may not know the tune we know today is not the one Burns originally had in mind for the familiar words: when Burns first submitted the words for publication, to James Johnson, he put forward a tune by the name *For old long Sine my jo*, different and slower than the one most familiar now. When associated with the full five-verse song, its more wistful mode seems highly appropriate, and it has found favour with a range of artists. This came out in 1793 (see illustration).

However, Burns expressed reservations about the tune in also talking with another publisher, George Thomson, and in 1794 he put forward the tune we now recognise, known as *The Miller's Wedding* or *The Miller's Daughter*. This is the tune published with *Auld Lang Syne* in the fifth volume of *The Scots Musical Museum* in December 1796, some five months after Burns' death.

Thomson was publishing arrangements of Burns' songs by classical composers, including Beethoven and Weber. He sent this tune to Vienna, for the Bohemian Leopold Koželuch to set it for voice, piano, violin and cello. Thus, *Auld Lang Syne* appeared in Thomson's *Select Collection of Original Scottish Airs* in 1798, to the famous tune for the first time (Beethoven did a later version for Thomson, published in 1841). It was in this guise that it quickly gained popularity, and has since been taken up in various translations and adaptations, including:

- A translation in 1927 by the Jutland poet Jeppe Aakjær from Burns' Scots dialect to his local dialect, sallingbomål, the song *Skuld gammel venskab rejn forgo*. It is an integral part of the Danish college tradition, often associated with more rural areas and old traditions;
- National anthems at some point in both The Maldives and South Korea, though the Koreans commissioned a new melody for their *Jakpyeol* ("Farewell") from 1948;
- The Dutch football song *Wij houden van Oranje* ("We love Orange");
- Finally, the Japanese use the tune for the words "Hotaru no Hikari", a graduation song also sung at New Year, but now sometimes played as background music in various bars, restaurants, or department stores in Japan to let the customers know they are about to close.

Burns' words have enduring and global appeal, and his final choice of tune has also caught the imagination of many, so don't be surprised if you find yourself humming along to some familiar music in unusual surroundings!

Jeremy Hill

## BANDS

### Soloist: PETER JENKINS

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020 8581 0359 or [peter@kafoozalum.co.uk](mailto:peter@kafoozalum.co.uk)

### THE FRANK REID SCOTTISH DANCE BAND

Broadcasting band for Scottish country dances, Reeling, Ceilidhs and Weddings. Any size of band from one to seven with PA to match from 100 to 2000 watts. Particularly interested in any ideas for expansion of ceilidh market. The Granary, Park Lane, Finchampstead, Wokingham RG40 4QL. Tel/Fax: 0118 932 8983 or [reel@frankreid.com](mailto:reel@frankreid.com)

### CALEDONIAN REELERS

Well established three-piece SCD band, consisting of accordionist, fiddler and drummer. Caller/piper can also be supplied. Available for RSCDS dances, ceilidhs, weddings, reeling. Anywhere, anytime for your function. Please contact Derek Chappell 01206 764232 / Mary Felgate 07866 757401 for further information, or [derek\\_chappell@aol.co.uk](mailto:derek_chappell@aol.co.uk)

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For Scottish country dancing at all occasions, playing as either a duo or a trio. For more information please contact Edward Bunting on 020 8883 1703, 07748 942768 or [edward.bunting@btinternet.com](mailto:edward.bunting@btinternet.com)

### KAFOOZALUM COUNTRY DANCE BAND

Music for Scottish country dancing anywhere, anytime. For further details and availability, please telephone Peter Jenkins on 020 8581 0359, [peter@kafoozalum.co.uk](mailto:peter@kafoozalum.co.uk) or our Ceilidh website at [www.kafoozalum.co.uk](http://www.kafoozalum.co.uk)

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Contact: Mike McGuinness Tel: 020 8398 6799  
or Tel/Fax: 020 8546 0075 (business hours)

## Milton Keynes Musicians' Masterclass – Keith Smith

I was delighted on 14 January to be able to attend a Class Musicians' Masterclass at Thistle Club [Milton Keynes] led by Keith Smith. His goal for the workshop was to have fun, in a relaxed atmosphere, and learn more about playing for Scottish country dance classes. We had been warned to "be prepared that individual feedback and coaching will be given for the benefit of the whole group".

Keith started by asking each participant what they wanted to get from the workshop. Everybody had some clear objectives and was keen to get feedback and guidance on how to improve their playing for a SCD class.

The first section was a very useful discussion of choice of tunes for class use, including tunes for step practice, formation practice, and putting together sets for the whole dance. We then moved onto starting tunes, with each of us having a turn at starting a tune of our choice as solo player. I had not been looking forward to solo playing in front of other musicians, knowing that criticism would be public. However, Keith's comments and helpful tips were delivered in such a constructive friendly and positive manner that my worries disappeared in a matter of seconds.

After lunch we were joined by a set of dancers from Thistle Club, who acted as guinea pigs for us to practise a number of aspects – in each case as solo musician. The dancers were patient and supportive, and gave us really useful feedback. We even got as far as practising a change of tempo from strathspey to reel, for use with medleys.

Finally, Keith wrapped up the day by reviewing each person's objectives and the progress made during the day.

Thanks to Keith Smith for his patient and supportive tutoring, Thistle Club for hosting and sponsoring the event and providing the dancers, Jan Jones for organising it, and the other musicians for support and encouragement. It was a great day and well worth the 140 mile round trip.

Colin McEwen



1. Jan & Rita's Hogmanay Dance, Great Brickhill, Saturday 31 December 2016: Jan Jones and Rita Scott, with her bouquet of thanks after 19 years of joint organizing is retiring, standing in front of the musicians for the Hogmanay dance, Chris & Julie Dewhurst from Lichfield.

2. RSCDS London Branch Burns' Night Ceilidh, St Columba's Church Lower Hall, Pont St, Saturday 14 January 2017: Come together - from the left, good friends Anna from Kettering, Carys from Basingstoke and Andrea from East Lancashire used the afternoon RSCDS Youth Workshop to meet up and here later enjoying the evening dance before going their separate ways again (see p4).

3. Chiswick SCDC 15th Anniversary evening, Sunday 22 January 2017: From left, current chairman Graham Miller, founder Kay Senior, teacher Danielle Reinstein, past chairman Nick Haimendorf and teacher Jerry Reinstein.

4. Class musicians' masterclass, The Thistle Club, Milton Keynes, Saturday 14 January 2017: As part of a day improving their technique to play for classes, all the musicians had a chance to play solo, but here Keith Smith leads the ensemble (see p7).

5. RSCDS London Branch Christmas Dance, Pont St, Saturday 17 December 2016: Christmas sparkle and colour: *It's Just For Fun* (see p1).

6. RSCDS London Branch Burns' Night Ceilidh, St Columba's Church Lower Hall, Pont St, Saturday

14 January 2017: Almost the entire Richmond beginners' class came to the Burns' ceilidh, from left to right: Stephen Tong, Jane Harrison, Anne Campbell, Elaine Davies, Hamish Todd, Melanie Rowland, Jane Jones, Judith Jones, Gillian and Keith Sandford. Behind are the Caledonian Reelers, who played for the evening (see p4).

7. London Highland Club Annual Ball, St Columba's Church Lower Hall, Pont St, Saturday 4 February 2017: The London Highland Club was honoured by visitors from Dundee, William and Mary Cant (William is now the RSCDS Treasurer), who join Michael Corcoran dancing up with Rosalind Zuridis in *The Lochalsh Reel*.

8. Berkhamsted Strathspey & Reel Club Day School, Abbot's Hill, Hemel Hempstead, Sunday 20 November 2016: Ian Robertson, Jim Lindsay and Ken Martlew provide the musical talent for the end of Day School dance.



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## When do you start dancing?

Dear Jeremy,

“When does the dancing actually begin?” was a question that came to mind when a fellow dancer said “stepping up just isn’t dancing”. I was told by Philippe Rousseau that Bill Ireland said even standing still in a set was dancing! It seems reasonable on that basis to perhaps extrapolate and suggest that dancing might even begin from the time when one decides to go to a particular event. Reading the programme, getting the ticket, learning the dances in advance, deciding what to wear and considering how to arrive in sufficient time (but not in excess) to greet friends, finding a seat and enjoying the ambience created by the organisers of the dance.

Personally, I like the preliminaries at an event when dancers are milling around (a sort of dancers’ warm-up), many pre-booking a few dances; there may be a raffle to get tickets for; an inspection of the floor (essential to choose the right dancing shoes to wear); and hearing/ watching the band warming up – finding their feet too, so to speak. Then, that first dance is all so soon upon us with the pleasure of escorting one’s partner to the first available space on the floor. Up to that point there was a kind of bubble of surrealism that is abruptly broken by the first chord and the realisation that the evening’s dance programme has begun!

But let me return to the issue that sparked off this train of thought. In the dance *Cape Town Wedding* second couple step up on bars 1-2. On bar 4, third couple finishes in second place and on bars 7-8, joining nearer hands with second couple, they step down. Some dancers consider all this stepping up and down to be unduly fussy, even unnecessary, simply not doing it. After all, there is space between dancers to squeeze in: take bars 5-6 of *Red House* the first time through, or bar 2 of *Margaret Parker’s Strathspey*. For me, just like stepping up to the music in *Gang the Same Gate* or *Mrs Stewart’s Jig*, eye contact and the crispness of step add greatly to the quality and enjoyment of dancing a dance. The idea that the finer points of the original description can be ignored or passed off with a sideways shuffle is anathema. All elements must be there to warrant that satisfied feeling of enjoyment at the end.

Given the natural care that good dancers use to execute these finer points, one wonders why stepping into the middle to join in behind a promenade, allemande, poussette, etc. is not better considered, much like it is for turning by the right hand halfway in, say, *Miss Allie Anderson* or *The Flower of Glasgow*, or left hands across in *Ladies’ Fancy*. For the half poussette in strathspey time, the latest RSCDS Manual (6.22.2) requires the joining dancers to step in on the preceding bar, but in the original description of Derek Haynes’ dance *Neidpath Castle* in Book 22 the second couple are asked to dance in on the preceding bar. Dancing in is more controlled and flows better than stepping in, which can often look untidy and result in a last moment jump or dash in – I let you judge which is better: forethought or afterthought. If the leading dancers knew that the following dancers had to dance in rather than step (or scramble) in, then more consideration would be given to leaving space for the following dancers to join naturally in below. In Philippe Rousseau’s advanced technique class, he had the joining couple using the preceding two bars to dance down to join in behind for an allemande – this was a little excessive in my view, but by this exercise the point was well made.

Might I suggest that next time you are dancing down the middle and up, you experiment with your steps by slightly lengthening them on bars 5-7 and shortening on bar 8 and if you are joining in behind then, dance (not step) in on bar 8. Check out the difference and let me know! Perhaps, together we can revive Derek’s trend of dancing flowing movements!

Stephen Webb



Stephen, with Maureen Campbell (left) and Iris Ronayne, enjoying “dancers’ warm-up” at the London Branch Christmas Dance.

## RSCDS Summer School Week 4 Social Class

Dear readers of *The Reel*,

Have you danced for years and attended several classes? Are you comfortable with your performance of the steps in reel, jig and strathspey time? Do you enjoy local dances but sometimes have a worry when a dance is recapped when the MC mentions a formation such as the rondel or tourn e? If so, the Summer School Social Class may be just what you are looking for. The aim in this class is to work on formations rather than precise footwork, and to improve the execution of these formations to a level that enables people not only to perform them competently, but also help others in their set who are less confident.

The class concentrates on getting people ready to take part in dances in social settings. One class member kept a note of what was taught each day, and the results make very interesting reading: in the six days of Summer School, the class worked on 35 dances, having first mastered the formations (and transitions between them) in each.

The class aims to help dancers in executing formations accurately, getting to the right place at the time, heading in the right direction and hopefully holding out the correct hand to the right person, having perhaps indicated to a slightly less sure person where they should be heading.

The class is strongly recommended. Why not consider a week in St Andrews in August and sign up for this class (see p11)? You will not be disappointed.

Yours faithfully  
Rona Black



The Social Class in action, trying six hands round and back in strathspey time.

## RSCDS Summer School 2017

Week 1: 16 – 23 July; Week 2: 23 – 30 July; Week 3: 30 July – 6 August; Week 4: 6 – 13 August

University Hall, St Andrews

Director: **Jim Stott**

- Attend as resident or non-resident, for any one or two weeks of the four. Residents can choose between University Hall and the Agnes Blackadder Hall;
- Morning classes at all levels, and optional afternoon classes/sessions;
- Social dancing every evening, with a ceilidh one evening each week;
- For the first time, details of all the teachers and musicians are available in advance, at [www.rscds.org/document/1368](http://www.rscds.org/document/1368). Teachers and musicians from London and the South-East are well represented among some of the best from around the world.

### Music Courses, including a New Course for Class Musicians

- There will be Music Courses run by Ian Muir in both weeks 1 and week 3 in 2017, for musicians at Grade 5/6 standard or above;
- The course in week 3 will follow a similar programme as previous years, preparing the assembled company to play for dances, including the Younger Hall on the final Saturday. Various clips are available from prior years, including this from 2016: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOLKbFLOouo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOLKbFLOouo)
- In contrast, the course in week 1 offers eight places, with the aim “to develop competent class musicians who:
  - Understand how to, and are able to, deliver music for class which has the necessary sustainability and lift to inspire dancers;
  - Use an increasing repertoire of tunes which complement and support the teaching of dancing;
  - Understand the role and impact of the class musician;
  - Are able to work sympathetically and as a team with the class teacher.”

- Full details of this new course are available at [www.rscds.org/document/1380](http://www.rscds.org/document/1380)

### A Range of Options available in Different Weeks

- Young Dancers’ Week will take place in week 3, when 12-15 year olds may attend, with a chaperone, and join in the regular classes and activities;
- Junior Summer School, for 8 - 11 year olds, which proved so popular last year, will again run in week 3 of Summer School. You can book using the main booking system, but please note that the parent/guardian of each young dancer must also fill in a separate Junior Summer School form (available at [www.rscds.org/document/1371](http://www.rscds.org/document/1371)) and email [moira.thomson@rscds.org](mailto:moira.thomson@rscds.org)
- Teachers’ Training Unit 5 will be covered in weeks 1 and 2, taught by Anne Taylor;
- Graham Donald will be teaching Unit 2 in week 3 and Unit 3 in week 4;
- Subject to sufficient numbers, classes will be offered in all four weeks at levels from Introductory level up to “Technically Skilled” level, both High and Low Impact, as well as a class for Teaching Skills. Social Dancing Skills will be available in week 4 only.

### Dancing Achievement Award

- The Dancing Achievement Award is an opportunity for dancers to work with a course tutor and concentrate on personal dancing critique. It is also a chance for those who are thinking of taking the RSCDS Teaching Qualifications to have their dancing assessed in preparation for Unit 2.
- The Dancing Achievement Award will be offered as follows:
  - Introductory: Week 2 (23 - 30 July)
  - Advanced: Week 3 (30 July - 6 August)
  - Very Advanced: Week 4 (6 - 13 August)

- The deadline for applications is 31st March, 2017

### Prices

- A range of prices is available. For RSCDS members, prices include £655, if resident at University Hall, £870 if resident at Agnes Blackadder Hall, and £300 as a non-resident;
- Discounts are available for 8-11 accompanying children (week 3), 12-15 year olds (week 3) and 16-25 year olds (all weeks);
- Other resident and non-resident options are available;
- A range of scholarships is available to enable dancers and musicians to attend Summer School and other Society events. See “*We can help you afford it*” on p4.

All classes and courses are subject to demand. Further information and online booking are available at [www.rscds.org/article/summer-school-2017](http://www.rscds.org/article/summer-school-2017) Members are required to log in to book. For log-in details, please contact Gaynor Curtis at [membership@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:membership@rscdslondon.org.uk)

## London Highland Club New Year Dance and Haggis Supper

Burns’ Night is normally held on or near the poet’s birthday, 25 January, exactly a month after Christmas, and this celebration does a great deal to brighten up a very dismal time of year. Why does the London Highland Club then serve a haggis supper at its New Year Dance at the beginning of January and not hold it nearer the usual date?

The answer is that the Club also used to hold a children’s Christmas party, and an intermediate date was chosen so that the two could be held in the afternoon and evening of the same day, which made organisation easier. Although the party was discontinued some years ago, due to falling numbers of children attending, it is not easy to change the date of a regular function as this can cause clashes with other events.

This year’s New Year Dance and Haggis Supper was held at St Columba’s Church on Saturday 7 January. There was terrific music from a 5 piece Craigievar Band – Alistair Forbes on 1st accordion, Stuart Forbes on fiddle, Ben da Souza on 2nd accordion, Anne Reid on keyboard and Bob Parsons on drums. Peter Forrow was the MC. I asked a musical friend her opinion of the music and she said:

“I thought it was a well-balanced programme with some firm favourites and some not so well-

known dances which kept us all on our toes! The band played very well, with good tunes, including traditional and some popular tunes to which we could sing along. It is always great to dance to live and lively music and the band had a fiddler, two accordionists and keyboard and drums, which is the ideal Scottish band in my view.”

For variety, Pipe Major Roger Huth played for *Festive Fling* during the first half of the evening’s dancing and *The Wild Geese* in the second half. Although it is difficult to play the pipes for dancing, he had a very good tempo and rhythm, which were superb for the dancers.

After the first half of the evening’s dancing, Roger piped in a haggis, which was carried round the hall by Catriona Bennett. Stuart Forbes ably addressed the haggis in jovial style. It was then toasted and piped back to the kitchen for serving. Alternatives to traditional haggis were provided in the form of vegetarian haggis and Frank Bennett’s speciality cheese soufflé, and there was shortbread for afters.

Dancing then continued until 11.00pm. If you missed the event, then you missed a great evening!

**Elizabeth Bennett**

## Life after Unit 5?

Teaching SCD takes a considerable amount of hard work, time and patience. For some, it makes use of a set of skills learnt during the Units of the RSCDS Teaching Certificate; for others, it may be a necessity to keep a local group going. However our teachers got into teaching, their ability to pass on their knowledge is key to the survival of our dance form. After the formal process of SCD certification, however, the opportunities for teachers to refresh and develop their skills seem to be limited to residential schools or international events such as the RSCDS AGM.

Continuing professional development (CPD) is a familiar phrase for those who teach for a living – it is key for school teachers to keep up to date with current teaching practice, to learn from other teachers and hone their skills in a variety of areas. At Edinburgh Scottish Dancers, we think that CPD is just as important for SCD teachers. As such, and thanks to a grant from Tasgadh, we will be holding a one-day teaching conference on Saturday 3 June in Edinburgh. After some research, a programme of three sessions has been crafted especially for teachers or those with an interest in teaching:

1. “Warming Up to Warm Ups” - essential parts of SCD classes, however providing safe, effective and varied warm ups week after week can become a challenge. **Mervyn Short** will provide some fresh ideas to encourage engaging and fun starts and ends to classes. Music by **Luke Brown**;
2. “Wheels and Reels” – **Malcolm Brown** shares his experience of teaching wheelchair dancing to give an informative session on how to adapt and modify SCD to accommodate dancers with varying levels of physical ability. Music by **Moir Reekie**;
3. “Merry Medleys” – displays and medleys can be an effective way of engaging, involving and retaining dancers. Whether being used as a recruitment tool, introducing SCD to the public or adding challenge to a class, **Andrew Nolan** will provide some inspiration. Music by **Robert Mackay**.

We hope that, by running this pilot with the help of the Tasgadh grant, other groups will be inspired to invest in SCD teaching and ensure that our tradition has the skills needed to stay alive well into the future.

**Garry Robertson**

See advertisement p12

## SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS from just £4.00 per annum

In addition to membership options (see p4), for £4.00 for four issues, non-members of the Branch can join as second branch members, or subscribe to *The Reel*. Electronic subscribers receive four pdf editions of *The Reel* each year, in full colour throughout.

Rates to receive four hard copies, by post, are £6.00 if resident in the UK, £12.00 for other European residents and £15.00 if resident elsewhere. There are special rates on request for bulk orders. Remittances in sterling please, payable to RSCDS (London Branch), or you can pay by PayPal via [www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop) (see p4).

All subscription requests or enquiries should be sent to Maggie Westley, 30 Stanley Road, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 4LF or [reelsubscriptions@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:reelsubscriptions@rscdslondon.org.uk)

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS



## Edinburgh Scottish Dancers

**Teaching Conference**  
Saturday 3 June 2017  
10.00am – 5.00pm

Edinburgh Tabernacle, 41-42 Ferry Road,  
Inverleith Gardens, Edinburgh, EH3 5PR

**Teachers: Mervyn Short, Malcolm Brown,  
Andrew Nolan**

**Musicians: Luke Brady, Moira Reekie,  
Robert Mackay**

£20 per person, including refreshments and lunch  
Contact: Garry Robertson, 17 Abercorn Court,  
Paisley Drive, Edinburgh, EH8 7LP or  
07482 055220

[www.edinburghscottishdancers.co.uk](http://www.edinburghscottishdancers.co.uk)  
[info@edinburghscottishdancers.co.uk](mailto:info@edinburghscottishdancers.co.uk)

With the support of TASGADH

## BOURNEMOUTH RSCDS

### Summer Dance

Saturday 10 June 2017  
7.00 – 11.00pm

Minstead Village Hall, Minstead, Nr Lyndhurst,  
Hants SO43 7FX

Dancing to recorded music

Tickets £7.00 plus picnic supper

Contact Margaret Robson, 01202 698138 or  
[margaret.brscds@ntldworld.com](mailto:margaret.brscds@ntldworld.com)

## BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB

### Spring Dance

Saturday 20 May 2017

Victoria Hall, Akeman Street, Tring HP23 6AA

### Frank Reid and His Band

Programme available on our website

Raffle, Bar, Bring & Share Buffet

Tickets £13.00

Tickets available via website using  
PayPal

Contact Dawn Dorman,  
07710 460623 or

[events@berkhamstedreelclub.org](mailto:events@berkhamstedreelclub.org)  
[www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org)



## IAN & VAL MCFARLANE

cordially invite their dancing friends to another

### Scottish / English dance

Sunday 2 July 2017

4.15 – 8.00pm

The Beaconsfield School, Wattleton Road,  
Beaconsfield, HP9 1SJ

### Rod Stradling and Stradivarius

Contact Ian and Val, 01494 672782

[www.mcf107.com](http://www.mcf107.com)

## GUILDFORD SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

### Spring Dance

Saturday 29 April 2017  
7.30 – 11.30pm

Drinks Reception from 7.00pm

Normandy Village Hall, Glaziers Lane,  
Normandy, Surrey GU3 2DT

### Nicol McLaren and The Glenraig Scottish Dance Band

Tickets £15.00

Tickets are limited and must be bought  
in advance

Contact us for full details of programme  
Contact Sheila Connell, preferably by email,  
[msconnell@btinternet.com](mailto:msconnell@btinternet.com) or 01483 456091

[www.gscdc.org.uk](http://www.gscdc.org.uk)



## Spring Charity Dance

Saturday 22 April 2017

7.30 – 11.30pm

Prestwood Village Hall Great Missenden, Bucks  
HP16 0NZ

### Ian Robertson and his Band

EH3 7AF, Castle of Mey, Weaving Together,  
The Ship in Full Sail, Miss Lucy Clark, Deer  
Friends, The Happy Weasel, The Fireworks  
Reel, Return to Shieldaig, Flight to Melbourne,  
Sugar Candie, Midnight Oil, The Falls of Rogie,  
Chasing the Eclipse, Shifftin' Bobbins, Torridon  
Lassies, Montparnasse, Pelorus Jack, Cape  
Town Wedding, The Spring Fling Reel  
Tickets £12.00

Proceeds to The Stroke Association

With a Bring and Share Supper

Contact Dick Field, 01494 562231 or

[Dickandrosief@aol.com](mailto:Dickandrosief@aol.com)

For further information and cribs visit our  
website

[www.lucyclark.org.uk](http://www.lucyclark.org.uk)

## THE ZURICH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB

will be holding a

### Weekend Course and St

### Andrew's Night Ball

Saturday 25 – Sunday 26 November 2017

Teacher: Linda Henderson

Musicians: Ian Robertson and

Muriel Johnstone

Details can be found on our website

[www.zscdc.ch/november17](http://www.zscdc.ch/november17)



## RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

### Summer Dance

Saturday 8 July 2017

6.30 – 10.30pm

St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road,  
Teddington TW11 9HF

### Ian and Judith Muir

Bring and share buffet

Further details in *The Reel* 300 and  
on our website

[www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk](http://www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk)

## ARGYLL SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP

### Day School

Saturday 22 April 2017

Edgbarrow Sports Centre,  
Crowthorne, Berks RG45 7JL

Teachers: Pat Houghton and  
Simon Wales

Musicians: Robert Mackay  
and Ian Robertson

For further details and application forms  
Contact Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood,  
St Johns, Woking Surrey GU21 3QB or

01483 721989

### Argyll Weekend at Dillington House

Friday 6 – Sunday 8 October 2017

Dancers' Weekend School

Musicians' Weekend School led by Ian Muir

For booking contact: Dillington House,

Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9DT or

01460 258613

Contact Dillington House for further  
information and brochure:

[dillington@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:dillington@somerset.gov.uk) or

[www.dillington.co.uk](http://www.dillington.co.uk)

[www.argyllscottishdancinggroup.org.uk](http://www.argyllscottishdancinggroup.org.uk)



## LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

Forthcoming dances to be held at St. Columba's  
Church Hall, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD

Saturdays: Lower Hall 7.00-  
10.30pm unless otherwise stated

Saturday 6 May: **Ian Muir**

(Prestwick)

Saturday 3 June: Summer Ball  
(see below)



### Summer Ball

Saturday 3 June 2017

7.00 – 11.00pm

**Colin Dewar**

*Programme:* The Bees of Maggieknockater, The  
Highland Rambler, Autumn in Appin, The  
Luckenbooth Brooch, The Dashing White  
Sergeant, The Silver Tassie, The Moffat  
Weavers, Duke of Perth, Ship o' Grace,  
Quarries' Jig, Dancing in the Street, Peggy's  
Wedding, The Dream Catcher, Peat Fire Flame,  
Strip the Willow, The Duchess Tree, Baldovan  
Reel, The Cooper's Wife, The Moray Rant, The  
Reel of the 51st Division.

### Ball Tickets:

Including finger buffet refreshments

\* LHC Members in advance £20.00.

\* Non Members in advance £23.00.

All classes on the door £25.00.

\* Advance booking price is only available on

orders received by midnight 31 May.

For tickets contact: Frank Bennett on

020 8715 3564 or [fb.lhc@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:fb.lhc@blueyonder.co.uk)

If you have highland dress,  
you are invited to wear it

Programmes & cribs are on our website:

[www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk](http://www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk)

For further details contact: Catriona Bennett on

020 8286 8424 or [cmb84scd@gmail.com](mailto:cmb84scd@gmail.com)

Everyone is welcome at all our functions, so  
please come along and join us for an enjoyable  
evening.

## RSCDS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH

### Annual Ball

Saturday 28 October 2017

Headington School, Oxford OX3 7TD  
Ample free parking and on the London to  
Oxford bus route

Bus stops near to the school

### Ian Muir and the Craiggellachie Band

Full details in *The Reel* 300 or on our website

Contact Trisha Rawlings, 01869 340830 or

[trish@rawlings50cc.plus.com](mailto:trish@rawlings50cc.plus.com)

[www.rscdsoxfordshire.org.uk](http://www.rscdsoxfordshire.org.uk)

## CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY

### Annual Ball

Saturday 6 May 2017

7.00 for 7.30 – 11.30pm

Impington Village College, Cambridge  
CB24 9LX

### Danelaw Dance Band

*Programme:* The Falls of Rogie, Welcome to  
Ayr, Linnea's Strathspey, The Recumbent Stone,  
Pelorus Jack, Leaving Benbecula, Ezekiel's  
Wheel, James Gray, Deer Friends, The Irish  
Rover, The Dundee City Police Jig, Swiss  
Lassie, Iona Cross, Napier's Index, Cape Breton  
Island, Scotch Mist, Nottingham Lace, Miss  
Eleanor, John Cass, Mrs MacPherson of Inveran

Tickets £15.00 Shared refreshments

Contact Donald Wilson, 01954 210683

Details on [www.camscotsoc.org.uk](http://www.camscotsoc.org.uk)

### RSCDS TUNBRIDGE WELLS Spring Dance

Saturday 29 April 2017  
7.00 – 11.00pm

Mascalls Academy, Paddock Wood, Tonbridge,  
Kent TN12 6LT

#### Craigellachie Scottish Dance Band

Programme available on our website  
Tickets £15.00 buffet supper provided  
bring your own drinks

Contact Colin Simpson, 01892 532712 or  
[socialsec@rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk](mailto:socialsec@rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk)

Last minute reminder: **Day School**

Saturday 25 March 2017  
same venue as above

**Teachers: Joan Desborough, Lindsey**

**Ibbotson, Pat Houghton**

**Musicians: Ken Martlew, Barbara Manning,  
Ian Cutts**

Three classes, comprising Improver,  
Intermediate and Advanced

For an application form please contact Pat  
Davoll, 01732 866557 or  
[patdavoll2@gmail.com](mailto:patdavoll2@gmail.com)

[www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk](http://www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk)

### RSCDS CHELTENHAM BRANCH Day School

Saturday 22 April 2017

Reddings Community Centre, Cheltenham  
GL51 6RF

**Teacher: Jane Rose**

**Musician: Keith Anderson**

Advanced, General and Beginners' classes, and  
Evening Social

#### Summer Dance

Saturday 20 May 2017

Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road,  
Churchdown GL3 2JH

**Susan MacFadyen**

More details on our website:

[www.cheltenhamrscds.btck.co.uk](http://www.cheltenhamrscds.btck.co.uk)

### REIGATE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

Saturday 11 March 2017

7.30 – 11.00pm

The Reigate School, Pendleton Road, Reigate  
Surrey RH2 7NT

#### Strathallan Scottish Dance Band

*Programme:* The Machine without Horses, The  
Wind that Shakes the Barley, The Minister on  
the Loch, The Roselath Cross, Fisherman's Reel,  
The Gentleman, The Zoologist, The Moray  
Rant, The Lochalsh Reel, The Belle of Bon  
Accord, Dancing Spirit, The Black Mountain  
Reel, The Singing Sands, The Falls of Rogie, Ian  
Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder, Miss  
Milligan's Strathspey, Inchmickery, Duke of  
Perth

Tickets £17.00 on the door

Contact Wendy Mitton, 01737 766244 or  
[wmitton517@btinternet.com](mailto:wmitton517@btinternet.com)

## SOUTH EAST DANCE DIARY

The diary is available through the Branch  
website at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) and is  
regularly updated. If you don't have internet  
access and would like a hard copy of the  
latest version please send an SAE to  
Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road,  
Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW.

All societies in the South East are  
invited to submit their functions for  
inclusion in the diary by emailing Caroline  
Hamilton at [diary@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:diary@rscdslondon.org.uk) or  
by post to the above address.

### HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

#### Spring Dance

Saturday 25 March 2017

7.00 – 11.00pm

Eastcote URC, Bridle Road, Eastcote HA5 2SH  
**Ian Muir (Prestwick) duo**

*Programme:* Welcome to Ayr, The Spring Fling  
Reel, Montparnasse, Mrs Stewart's Jig, Tam o'  
Shanter, The Silver Tassie, Cape Breton Island,  
The Swan and the Tay, The Dancing Master,  
Shifftin' Bobbins, Seton's Ceilidh Band, Burns  
Bicentenary Strathspey, John Cass, Mr Iain  
Stuart Robertson, The Dream Catcher, A Capital  
Jig, Blooms of Bon Accord, Miss Eleanor, The  
Bees of Maggieknockater, The Irish Rover

Tickets £14.00

Contact Lorraine Kent, 07951 587546 or

[lorrainekent@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lorrainekent@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.harrowscottish.org.uk](http://www.harrowscottish.org.uk)

### RSCDS BERKS/HANTS/SURREY BORDER BRANCH

#### Branch Day School

Saturday 11 March 2017

Court Moor School, Fleet

GU52 7RY

**Teacher: Pat Houghton**

**Class Musician: Ken Martlew**

**Musicians' Day School: Nicol McLaren**

with Evening Dance from 6.30pm

Contact Paul Plummer, 01252 404639

#### Ruby Anniversary Ball

Saturday 20 May 2017

Emmbrook School, Wokingham, Berks

RG41 1JP

**Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band**

*Programme:* Pelorus Jack, Anniversary Reel,  
Salute to the Borders, Inchmickery, The Ruby  
Rant, The Swan and the Tay, Neil M Grant,  
Alison Rose, Castle of Mey, Tribute to the  
Borders, Miss Eleanor, The Glenalmond  
Gamekeeper, The Gentleman, Macleod's Fancy,  
John of Bon Accord, The Dream Catcher,  
Follow me Home, Mairi's Wedding

Contact: [events@rscds-bhs.org.uk](mailto:events@rscds-bhs.org.uk)

#### Afternoon Tea Party

Sunday 2 July 2017

2.30pm – 5.30pm

Normandy Village Hall, Glazier's Lane,

Normandy GU3 2DD

**Ian and Judith Muir**

More details to follow

Contact: Deborah Draffin, 01344 776831 or

[events@rscds-bhs.org.uk](mailto:events@rscds-bhs.org.uk)

[www.rscds-bhs.org.uk](http://www.rscds-bhs.org.uk)

## CREDITS

Many thanks to all who contributed to this  
issue of *The Reel*, including the following for  
providing photos for this edition:

Jerry Reinstein: p1, p6 (AA), p8 (5)

Chris Collings: p2

Iain Russell: p3 (HR)

From Jeremy Hill: p3 (JH)

From Muriel Johnstone: p6 (Saltcoats)

Stephen Webb: p6 (IE), p8-9 (1-3, 7, 8),

p16 (MC)

Jan Jones: p9 (4)

Jenny Kendrick: p8 (6)

Matthew Goulden: p10 (above)

Rona Black: p10 (below)

Oliver Ross: p16 (above)

Thanks also to Stephen Webb for additional  
reporting and co-ordination.

### SOUTH-EAST REGION TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (SERTA)

For all who teach or lead a group of Scottish  
Country Dancers, whether RSCDS qualified,  
part qualified or not!

#### "Controlled abandon!"

How to achieve good phrasing, elegance and  
musicality without losing sociability."

Sunday 19 March 2017

Collingwood School, 3 Springfield Road,  
Wallington SM6 0BD

**Teacher: Helen Russell**, Chairman, RSCDS

**Musician: Barbara Manning**

Followed by a General Meeting of SERTA to  
elect committee and agree Constitution.

#### A dual workshop

How people learn? and Highland Steps for  
Country Dancers

Sunday 24 September 2017

Finchampstead Memorial Hall, Wokingham  
RG40 4JU

Full details and application forms available at

[www.serta.org.uk](http://www.serta.org.uk)

Contact Jane Rose, 01923 261 167 or

[serta2017@gmail.com](mailto:serta2017@gmail.com)

### CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB & BRACKNELL REEL CLUB

#### Spring Dance

Saturday 25 March 2017

7.30 – 11.00 pm

Carnation Hall, Chavey Down Road,  
Winkfield Row, Bracknell, Berks RG42 7PA

#### Strathallan Scottish Dance Band

*Programme:* Good Hearted Glasgow, Glen  
Alva, Culla Bay, The Nurseryman, John  
McAlpin, Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, The  
Dancing Master, Miss Eleanor, The Highland  
Rambler, Ian Powrie's Farewell to  
Auchterarder, Sugar Candie, Thomas Glover's  
Reel, The Flight of the Falcon, St Columba's  
Strathspey, Flight to Melbourne, The  
Zoologist, The Byron Strathspey, The Reel of  
The Royal Scots

Tickets £15.00

Please bring a plate of food to share

Cheques payable to Camberley Reel Club

Contact Isabel Black, 6 Big Barn Grove,

Warfield, Bracknell, Berks RG42 2SD,

01344 642104 or

[tickets@bracknellreelclub.org.uk](mailto:tickets@bracknellreelclub.org.uk)

[bracknellreelclub.org.uk](http://bracknellreelclub.org.uk)

### SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING HOLIDAY

#### Torquay

Monday 16 – Friday 20 October 2017

**Teacher: Mervyn Short**

**Musicians: Judith and Ian Muir**

Contact Mervyn Short,

[mervynshort@googlegmail.com](mailto:mervynshort@googlegmail.com)

### WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY

#### Caledonian Ball

Saturday 18 March 2017

7.30 – 11.30pm

Allum Hall, Allum Lane, Elstree WD6 3PJ  
**Marian Anderson and her band**

*Programme:* Please refer to *The Reel* 298 or see  
our website

Tickets £20.00 including buffet supper and  
sparkling wine reception

One of the best bands, dance on one of the best  
sprung floors – do join us!

#### Ball practice

Sunday 5 March 2017, 2.00 – 5.00pm

Recital Hall, Nascot Wood Junior School, Nascot  
Wood Road, Watford WD17 4YS

Please contact us if you wish to attend

Contact Rose Krelloff, 07880 842370

or [rkrelloff@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rkrelloff@hotmail.co.uk)

[www.watfordscottish.org.uk](http://www.watfordscottish.org.uk)

Find us on Facebook fb.me/  
WatfordScottish



## ASHDOWN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

### Charity Dance

for Community First Responders  
Weald Cottage Hospice  
Wild Life A & E  
Saturday 1 April 2017  
7.00 – 11.00pm

Beacon Academy, East Beeches Road,  
Crowborough East Sussex TN6 2AS

### Strathallan Scottish Dance Band

*Programme:* The Sailor, Pelorus Jack, Midsummer Common, Staircase in Styria, Father Connelly's Jig, Broadway, Fisherman's Reel, Torridon Lassies, Far North Queensland, The Earl of Mansfield, Equilibrium, Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, Blue Mess Jacket, Fugal Fergus, The Ruby Rant, Linnea's Strathspey, BAND SOLO, The Dancing Master, The Glengarry Homestead, Ramadan-ce, Ian Powrie's Farewell To Auchterarder

Tickets in advance only £12.00 Adults (£8.00 Children and Spectators)  
please bring a plate of food  
Contact Michael Copeman, 01892 655971 or [copemanmc67@yahoo.com](mailto:copemanmc67@yahoo.com)

Future Date:

### 40th Anniversary Ball

Saturday 16 September 2017

Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Band

Further Information to follow

## THE REEL

*The Reel* is published four times a year by the London Branch and posted free to all Branch members. *Membership options are shown on p4.* Non-members may subscribe to be on the mailing list, and clubs can negotiate bulk copies for their members. Enquiries to Maggie Westley (see advert on p11).

Articles and advertisements for *The Reel* should be sent to the Editor, address at the foot of the front page. **Advertising rates are £13.00 per column inch in black and white, £19.50 per column inch in colour.** Enquiries to the Business Editor: Jeff Robertson at [businesseditor@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:businesseditor@rscdslondon.org.uk)

## MacLENNAN SCOTTISH GROUP 36th International Folkdance and Music Festival

Friday 26 – Monday 29 May 2017

### International Folkdance

Saturday 27 May  
8.00 – 11.00pm

with our international and local guests

Tickets £7.50 Adults £6.00 Concessions £3.00

Children

### Sunday 28 May

2.00 – 5.30pm

### International Folk Dance Concert

Tickets £7.50 Adults £6.00 Concessions £3.00

Children

\*\* Venue for both events: \*\*

Please check our website for details of venue as this is not confirmed yet \*\*

Licensed bar, refreshments and stalls

Family and weekend discounts available

Contact Catriona Bennett, 020 8286 8424 or

[festival@msg.org.uk](mailto:festival@msg.org.uk)

[www.msg.org.uk](http://www.msg.org.uk)

### Milton Keynes RSCDS

#### Annual Dance

Saturday 11th March 2017

7.30-11.30pm

Old Stratford Community Hall,

Deanshanger Rd, MK19 6NL

Calum Mitchell and his Band

Tickets £18 including supper

Contact Jan Jones 07877 153259 or

[jange@verybusy.co.uk](mailto:jange@verybusy.co.uk)

Programme at [www.rscdsmk.co.uk](http://www.rscdsmk.co.uk)

### CHISWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY

#### DANCE CLUB

#### Midsummer Magic

Sunday 25 June 2017

Open-air dance at

Chiswick House & Gardens, Chiswick

W4 2QN

Details on the website in April

Tickets in advance only from:

[tickets@chiswickscottish.org.uk](mailto:tickets@chiswickscottish.org.uk)

[www.chiswickscottish.org.uk](http://www.chiswickscottish.org.uk)

### WEST MACS

#### Charity Ball

In aid of Venture Trust

Saturday 1 April 2017

Allum Hall, 2 Allum Lane, Elstree, Herts  
WD6 3PJ

### Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band

#### MC: Caroline Hamilton

*Programme:* Hooper's Jig, Shiftin' Bobbins, Kilkenny Castle, John Cass, The Piper and the Penguin, The Dundee Whaler, Best Set in the Hall, The Spring Fling Reel, Scotch Mist, Father Connelly's Jig, The Reel of the Royal Scots, The Dream Catcher, The Recumbent Stone, Napier's Index, The Plantation Reel, Culla Bay, Scott Meikle, Neidpath Castle, James Gray, The Irish Rover.

Tickets £19.00 before 25 March £20.00 thereafter

Contact Jim Henderson, 020 8954 2586 or

[jwh698@gmail.com](mailto:jwh698@gmail.com)

Cribs available from:

[www.harrowscottish.org.uk](http://www.harrowscottish.org.uk)

## RSCDS LONDON DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2017-18

The following dates have been confirmed for next season. Events take place at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD, from 7.00 – 10.30pm (doors open at 6.30pm), except where noted.

### 2017

Saturday 16 September – Opening Season

Dance to the music of **Craigellachie**

Saturday 21 October: Day School (further details to be confirmed)

Wednesday 25 October – Autumn Wednesday

Dance

Saturday 18 November – Family Day

Saturday 16 December – Christmas Dance

### 2018

Saturday 13 January – Burns' Ceilidh

Other dates are to be confirmed. For further details see future editions of *The Reel* and [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk)

## OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS

ABINGDON SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. Dancing most Mondays, 8–10.15pm, Sept–June at Northcourt Centre, Abingdon, nr Oxford. All welcome. Details: Betsy Wu, 42 Ock Bridge Place, Abingdon, OX14 5FW, [abingdonscdc@gmail.com](mailto:abingdonscdc@gmail.com) or [www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com](http://www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com)

ADDLESTONE & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY meets Wednesdays 8.15–10.15pm Sept–May at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Byfleet KT14 7NF. Details: Val Clack, 01932 845869 or [www.addlestonscottish.org.uk](http://www.addlestonscottish.org.uk)

BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB meets in Potten End Village Hall, HP4 2QG. Social dancing: Tuesdays 8.15pm Sept–May, Sat. gardens June/July. Classes: Intermediate and Advanced Mondays 8pm, Beginners Tuesdays 8.15pm. Details: Dawn Dorman, Hill End Farm, Gorbamby, St Albans, Herts AL3 6AR, 01727 853908 or [www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org)

BERKS/HANTS/SURREY BORDER BRANCH RSCDS. Technique Class, alternate Mondays, Sept–April, 8–10pm Finchampstead Memorial Hall, RG40 4JU. General Class, every Wednesday, Sept–May, 8–10pm, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church Hall, Frimley, GU16 7AA. Teacher: Mervyn Short. Details: Paul Plummer, 01252 404639 or [www.rscds-bhs.org.uk](http://www.rscds-bhs.org.uk)

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH RSCDS meets every Friday at Kinson Community Centre, Pelham's Park, Millhams Rd., Kinson, Bournemouth, BH10 7LH 7–10pm. Alternate Wednesday Technique class, by invitation. Details: Margaret Robson, 24 Upper Golf Links Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8BX, 01202 698138 or [margaret.brscds@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.brscds@ntlworld.com)

BRIGHTON BRANCH RSCDS. Classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced, country and highland, adults and children. Details: Rod Burrows, 01903 783053 or [chair@rscds-brighton.org.uk](mailto:chair@rscds-brighton.org.uk) or [www.rscds-brighton.org.uk](http://www.rscds-brighton.org.uk)

BRIGHTON & HOVE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets Thursdays 7.45-10.15pm at Moulsecomb Hall, Brighton. Details: Carol Catterall, 01273 564963 or [www.bhscdc.org.uk](http://www.bhscdc.org.uk)

CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB. Dancing every Tuesday 8pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Church Hill, Camberley. Details: Jackie Cresswell, 01252 616289 or [info@camberleyreelclub.org.uk](mailto:info@camberleyreelclub.org.uk)

CAMBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRANCH RSCDS. Classes for all grades. Details: Lindsey Ibbotson, 07977905291 or [lindsey.ibbotson@gmail.com](mailto:lindsey.ibbotson@gmail.com)

CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY Scottish country dancing and other events. Dance Circle meets every Thursday 8pm from Sept–June. Details: Rachel Schicker, 01223 364557 or [www.camscotsoc.org.uk](http://www.camscotsoc.org.uk)

CHELtenham BRANCH RSCDS Advanced class Mondays 7.45–9.45pm Reddings Community Centre, Cheltenham. General class Thursdays 7.15–9.15pm. Bettridge School, Cheltenham. Beginners' class Mondays 7.30–9.30pm, Christ Church Infants' School, Cheltenham. Details: Margaret Winterbourne, 01242 863238

CHELtenham SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Dancing most Friday nights 7.30–10pm from October to end May, at St Andrew's URC, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham. Details: Mrs Doreen Steele, 45 Dark Lane, Swindon Village, Cheltenham, GL51 9RN, 01242 528220 or [mbsteele1945@gmail.com](mailto:mbsteele1945@gmail.com)

CHISWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meet on Sundays 6–9.15pm, Sept–June, in the Upper Hall at St Michaels & All Angels Church, corner of The Avenue and Bath Road, London W4 1TX (turn right out of Turnham Green tube station, 70 yards). Check [www.chiswickscottish.org.uk](http://www.chiswickscottish.org.uk) for beginners and experienced dancers' start times and all activities. Details: Heather Nolan, 01784 256549 or [secretary@chiswickscottish.org.uk](mailto:secretary@chiswickscottish.org.uk)

CRAWLEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB meets Thursdays 8–10pm Sept–June at Milton Mount Community Hall, Milton Mount Avenue, Pound Hill, Crawley. Details: Mrs Lee Pratt 01403 269439 or [chrisp@fastnet.co.uk](mailto:chrisp@fastnet.co.uk) or [www.crawleyscdc.btck.co.uk](http://www.crawleyscdc.btck.co.uk)

CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH. Branch classes in Coulsdon: General, incl Beginners with technique (Fri); Advanced & Improvers (Wed) 8–10pm St Andrew's Church, Woodcote Grove Road, Coulsdon, CR5 2AJ. Details: Dorothy Pearson, 01737 551724 or [rscds.chairman.croydon@gmail.com](mailto:rscds.chairman.croydon@gmail.com) or [www.rscdscroydon.org.uk](http://www.rscdscroydon.org.uk)

EPPING FOREST SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION. Club night Mondays (all year) 8–10pm at Christchurch Parish Hall, Wanstead Place, Wanstead, E11 2SW. Details: Angela Ross, 020 8504 3376 or [angelaross87@hotmail.com](mailto:angelaross87@hotmail.com) or [www.efsa.org.uk](http://www.efsa.org.uk)

EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION General dancing Mondays, 7.30 – 10pm, Tweddle Hall, St Andrew's URC, Northey Avenue, Cheam, SM2 7HF. Teacher: Pauline Cashmore, 020 8686 9362. Details: Dorothy Pearson, 01737 551724

## OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS

- FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB. Dancing every Tuesday at 8pm, Sept–end of April at Weydon School, Weydon Lane, Farnham, GU9 8UG. Details: Pippa Peatman 01256 703909 or [p\\_peatman@yahoo.com](mailto:p_peatman@yahoo.com) or [www.fscdc.co.uk](http://www.fscdc.co.uk)
- FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY dance in Church Crookham Memorial Hall in Hampshire on alternate Saturdays from 7.30–10pm, Sept–May. Details: Shirley Ferguson 01276 501952 or [fergusonshirley7@gmail.com](mailto:fergusonshirley7@gmail.com) or [fleet.rscds-bhs.org.uk](http://fleet.rscds-bhs.org.uk)
- GERRARDS CROSS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets at Memorial Centre, East Common Road, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD on Tuesdays from Sept–June. Beginners 7.30pm, General 8.15pm. Details: Celia Stuart-Lee, 01753 884217 or [info@gxscottish.org](mailto:info@gxscottish.org) or [www.gxscottish.org](http://www.gxscottish.org)
- GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOC. Meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesdays 8–10pm. Details: Kate Fraser 020 8998 0571 or [enquiries@greenfordcaledonian.net](mailto:enquiries@greenfordcaledonian.net)
- GUILDFORD SCDC meets at Onslow Village Hall, Wilderness Rd, Guildford, GU2 7QR most Mondays at 8pm from Sept–June. Details: 01483 456091 or [www.gscdc.org.uk](http://www.gscdc.org.uk)
- HAMPSTEAD & DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION. Dancing on Tuesdays Sept–June from 8–10pm in The Parlour, Trinity Church, Methodist and United Reformed, 90 Hodford Road, Golders Green, London NW11 (Entrance in Rodborough Road). All welcome. Details: Miss Joan Burgess, 503A York Road, London SW18 1TF, 020 8870 6131
- HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB meets every Tuesday at 8pm at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden. Details: Val Owens, 29 Palfrey Close, St Albans, Herts AL3 5RE, 01727 863870 or [HSCDC.org.uk](http://HSCDC.org.uk)
- HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Classes Wednesdays 8.15–10.15pm, St Albans Church Hall, Norwood Drive (off The Ridgeway), North Harrow. Details: Jane Forbes, 7 Buckland Rise, Pinner, HA5 3QR, 020 8428 6055 or [www.harrowscottish.org.uk](http://www.harrowscottish.org.uk)
- HAYES & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION meets Fridays 8–10pm, Sept–July in Hayes, Middx. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. Details: Margaret Wallace, 020 8560 6160
- HERTSMERE REEL CLUB. Monthly dances on third Saturday (exc. Aug & Sept) 7.30–11pm, Tilbury Hall (URC), Darkes Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 1BZ. Details: Margaret King, 0208 440 3236 or [margaret.king4@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:margaret.king4@hotmail.co.uk)
- ISLE OF THANET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS meet Wednesdays Sept–June at Holy Trinity & St John's C. of E. Primary School, St John's Road, Margate. Beginners 7–8pm. General 8–10pm. Details: Mrs Linda McRitchie, 60 Bradstow Way, Broadstairs, Kent, 01843 869284
- JERSEY CALEDONIA SCD GROUP. Details: Joy Carry, Les Arbres, Rue des Cateaux, Trinity, JE3 5HB, 01534 862205 or [icchanjoy97@gmail.com](mailto:icchanjoy97@gmail.com)  
Alan Nicolle, 01534 484375 or [alan.nicolle88@gmail.com](mailto:alan.nicolle88@gmail.com) or Brenda Gale, 01534 862357 or [scottishcountrydancingchannelislands.blogspot.com](http://scottishcountrydancingchannelislands.blogspot.com)
- LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB meets regularly at St Columba's, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD. Details: adverts in *The Reel*, Catriona Bennett, 33 Pains Close, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 1BY, [cmb84scd@gmail.com](mailto:cmb84scd@gmail.com) or 020 8286 8424 or [www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk](http://www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk)
- LUCY CLARK SCD CLUB meets Thursdays 8pm, Oldhams Hall, Great Missenden, HP16 0BA. Details: Dick Field, Stonefield House, Clappins Lane, Naphill, Bucks HP14 4SL, 01494 562231
- MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB meets every Tuesday 8pm at St Piran's School, Gringer Hill, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 7LZ. First Tuesday in the month is Social Dancing Evening. Details: Jane Courtier, 16 Ostler Gate, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6SG, 01628 628372 or [maidenheadscottishdancing.org.uk](http://maidenheadscottishdancing.org.uk)
- MAIDSTONE (COBTREE) SCD GROUP meets every Wednesday 7.30–10pm at The Grove Green Community Hall, Maidstone. Details: Dick Barford, 55 Northumberland Road, Maidstone ME25 7JG, 01622 685984
- MEDWAY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION. Dancing Thursdays 8–10.15pm at St Mary's Island Community Centre, Chatham. Beginners welcome. Many other activities. Details: Liz Bowden, Meadow Cottage, Green Farm Lane, Lower Shorne, Gravesend, Kent DA12 3HL, 01474 822919
- MILTON KEYNES BRANCH RSCDS. Mixed ability class Mondays 8–10pm. Bradwell Village Hall, Milton Keynes. Details: Jan Jones, 52 Aintree Close, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 5LP, 01908 378730 or [jange@verybusy.co.uk](mailto:jange@verybusy.co.uk)
- NORTH HERTS REEL CLUB. Dancing most Wednesdays during school term, 8.15–10.15pm from Sept–May at St Thomas' Church Hall, Bedford Road, Letchworth, SG6 4DZ. Informal Saturday dances. Details: Mrs Jennifer Warburton, 17 Victoria Road, Shefford, Beds SG17 5AL or 01462 812691
- NORTH KENT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION. Dancing 7.45–10pm. most Wednesdays at Barnehurst Golf Club. Beginners welcome. Details: Nigel Hewitt, 227 Knights Rd, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9JN, 01634 254451
- ORPINGTON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing every Thursday 8–10.15pm at Petts Wood Memorial Hall. Beginners'/Improvers' Class every Monday 8–10.15pm at St Pauls, Crofton Road, Orpington. 'Young at Heart' class on Mondays 2–4 pm at St Johns Church Hall, Lynwood Grove, Orpington BR6 0B Details: Hadyn Davies, 020 8658 9188 or [hadyndavies@gmail.com](mailto:hadyndavies@gmail.com)
- OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH RSCDS. Dancing on Thursdays throughout the year in Oxford. Details: Patricia Rawlings, 29 Frances Road, Middle Barton, Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 7ET, 01869 340830
- READING ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY. Dancing at St Andrew's URC, London Road, Reading, RG1 5BD from 8–10pm, Sept–May, Tuesdays (elementary), Wednesdays (general), 1st & 2nd Thursdays of each month (advanced). Details: Rita Cane 0118 975 7507 or [sascdo1@gmail.com](mailto:sascdo1@gmail.com) or [www.scottishdancingreading.org](http://www.scottishdancingreading.org)
- REIGATE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets most Mondays 8.15–10.15pm, Sept–May at the Redhill Methodist Church Hall, Gloucester Road, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1BP. Details: Wendy Mitton, 01737 766244 or [wmitton517@btinternet.com](mailto:wmitton517@btinternet.com)
- RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY meets at the Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, every Wednesday evening at 8pm from mid Sept. to end of May. Details: 020 8943 3773 or [www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk](http://www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk)
- SANDERSTEAD URC SCOTTISH DANCE GROUP. Dancing Tues 8pm at Sanderstead URC Hall, Sanderstead Hill, S. Croydon. Details: Graeme Wood, 01883 627797 or [gwood@gna.co](mailto:gwood@gna.co)
- ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD. St Columba's Dancers meet most Mondays from Oct to May, 7.15–10pm. Admission free except for Band Nights when a charge will be made. Details: Valerie Strachan, 020 8693 5355 or [valeriestrachan@btinternet.com](mailto:valeriestrachan@btinternet.com) or [www.stcolumbasdancers.org](http://www.stcolumbasdancers.org)
- ST JOHN'S SDC, WOKINGHAM meet every Thurs 8–10.15pm Sept–June at St Sebastian's Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham. All standards welcome. Details: Sue Davis 2 Larkwood Dr, Crowthorne, 01344 774344 or [alan.suedavis@gmail.com](mailto:alan.suedavis@gmail.com) Also Children's Class Sats 9.30–11am at the Parish Hall, Crowthorne. Details: Deborah Draffin, 01344 776831
- SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR WALLINGTON, CARSHALTON & DISTRICT hold weekly social dance on Thursday evenings from 8–10pm at Collingwood School, Springfield Road, Wallington, SM6 0BD. Details: Maggie Westley, 020 8647 9899 or 07956 937157, or [westley.maggie14@gmail.com](mailto:westley.maggie14@gmail.com)
- SEVENOAKS REEL CLUB meets every Tuesday from Sept–May, 8–10pm at Kippington Church Centre, Kippington Rd, Sevenoaks. Details: Mrs Josephine Ellis, 26 Byng Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8EJ or [josephine@ellismp.plus.com](mailto:josephine@ellismp.plus.com)
- SHENE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP meets every Wednesday from Sept–May, 8.15–10.15pm, in Barnes. Details: Sheena Clarke, 07954 350899
- SIDCUP & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION. Dancing on Wednesdays from 8–10.15pm throughout the year at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Bexley, Kent. Details: Jenny Gavin, 48 Eastbrook Road, Blackheath SE3 8BT, 020 8856 4522
- SOUTH DORSET CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing at St Edmund's Church Hall, Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth, Dorset, Wednesday, 7.30–10pm. Details: Miss Valerie Scriven, 13 Fenway Close, Dorchester Dorset DT1 1PQ, 01305 265177
- SOUTH EAST ESSEX SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Dancing Fridays, 7.30–10.15pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend (near hospital). Tuition 7.30–9pm. Details: Graham Easton, 01702 587808 or [graham.easton@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.easton@btinternet.com) or [www.seess.org.uk](http://www.seess.org.uk)
- SOUTH EAST HERTS SCDS. Classes for all standards, in Hertford, Tuesdays in term time. Monthly dances Sept–June, in Ware, usually second Friday. Details: Ian, 07842 034890 or [sehscds@hotmail.com](mailto:sehscds@hotmail.com) or [www.sehscottishdance.org/news](http://www.sehscottishdance.org/news). For Demonstration class contact Anne Nutt 01992 550923
- SURBITON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing every Thursday at 8pm from Sept–June at St Mark's Church Hall, Church Hill Road, Surbiton. Details: David Horwill, 32 Wolsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx TW16 7TY or [www.surbitoncaledonian.co.uk](http://www.surbitoncaledonian.co.uk)
- TALLY HO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS. Thursdays, 7.45–9.45, in the hall behind Christ Church, 620 High Road, Finchley N12 0NU. Details: Lucille on 01707 691 522 or [www.tallyhodancers.org](http://www.tallyhodancers.org)
- TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH RSCDS. Beginners/intermediate classes on Tues 8–10pm and advanced classes Thurs 8–10pm at St Augustine's School, Wilman Rd, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9AL. Details: George Daly, 1 Broadwater Rise, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5UE, 01892 534512 or [www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk](http://www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk)
- WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY. General and Beginners'/Improvers' Classes at Bushey Community Centre, High Street, Bushey, WD23 1TT. Thursdays from 8–10pm. Details: Stuart Kreloff, 60 Tunnel Wood Road, Watford, WD17 4GE, 01923 492475 or [reel@WatfordScottish.org.uk](mailto:reel@WatfordScottish.org.uk)
- WELWYN GARDEN CITY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets Wednesdays 8–10pm Sept–June at Lemsford Hall, Lemsford Village, Welwyn Garden City. All welcome. Details: Douglas Wood, 01582 469928 or [welwyn.scdc@uwclub.net](mailto:welwyn.scdc@uwclub.net) or [www.sehscottishdance.org/Welwyn](http://www.sehscottishdance.org/Welwyn)
- WEMBLEY & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION. Dance Class Mondays 8pm. The Church of the Ascension, The Avenue, Wembley, Middx. Details: Mrs Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road, Eastcote, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW, 0208 866 2378 or [info@wdsa.co.uk](mailto:info@wdsa.co.uk)
- WIMBLEDON. St Andrew Society (London): Wimbledon and District Scots' Association. Dancing Tuesdays 8pm at Holy Trinity Church, 234 The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1SB. Details: Miss Alison Raffan, 2 Erridge Road, Merton Park, London SW19 3JB, 020 8540 1755 or [araffan@googlemail.com](mailto:araffan@googlemail.com) or [www.standrewsocietylondon.net/ne.net](http://www.standrewsocietylondon.net/ne.net)
- WINCHESTER BRANCH RSCDS. Classes Tuesdays 8–10pm. Club nights 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 8–10pm. Both evenings at St Peter's School, Oliver's Battery Rd North, Winchester. Details: Wendy Mumford (teacher), 20 Blendon Drive, Andover, SP10 3NQ, 01264 363293 or [wendy@mumford.com](mailto:wendy@mumford.com)
- WITHAM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing every Wednesday 8–10pm. The Centre, UR Church, Witham, Essex. Details: Alex Daniel, 01621 855548 or [alexsdaniel@aol.com](mailto:alexsdaniel@aol.com)



**Lucy Clark Scottish Country Dance Club 50th Anniversary Dance, 10 December 2016:** The club's special celebration was a sell out and 70 dancers enjoyed a wonderful evening dancing to Ian Robertson and his Band. Ann Higginbottom (Chairman) took to the floor with Robert Baker-Glenn for *Ramadan-ce*.

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Branch Chairman Margaret Catchick with her alternative badge of office, welcoming guests as President of the Wembley & District Scottish Association, at their Burns' Supper and Dance, Northwood Golf Club, Friday 27 January. How does she find the time?



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