



the reel

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TREASURES UNCOVERED AT 12 COATES CRESCENT!

Rosalind Zuridis visits the RSCDS archives at Edinburgh HQ

"It'll be chilly down there" I was advised as, in mid-July, I started down the steps to the basement where the RSCDS archives are stored. Indeed it was and before I could start my researches I had to leave the massed grey ranks of filing cabinets to go and buy a cosy tartan scarf. I hesitated over a pair of matching earmuffs but preferred not to look ridiculous...

The archives, which contain material dating back to the early years of the 20th century, were brought to 12 Coates Crescent in 1951, having previously been looked after by one of the Society's early members, Miss Muriel Hadden. In 1979 the Publications and Research Committee, headed by Alastair Macfadyen, brought out a paper detailing how the archives should be classified and settled on the categories of:

- Items relating to Scottish Country Dances.
- Items relating to the history of the RSCDS.
- A library of secondary works dealing with the traditional dances and music of Scotland.

Since then the archives have continued to grow and so the material surrounding me in the basement was both daunting and exhilarating... a treasury of over 900 items including letters, photographs, collections of songs and dance music, correspondence, dance descriptions, newspaper and magazine articles. A paper ocean to trawl through!

One of the very first items I alighted upon caused the present archivist, Jim Healy, and myself, great excitement... a letter penned by Robbie Burns dated 1796, glued into a 1st edition volume of old Scottish songs. Excitedly, we studied the flowing script on the brown and fragile paper. Had we stumbled on an unknown treasure?

Sadly, our letter turned out to be a photocopy, but I was not deterred for long: the archives are a cornucopia spilling over with interesting morsels. I could consult the programme for an Eightsome Reel Ball at Blair Castle in 1986, peruse photographs of Summer School going back to the 1920s or mull over Miss Milligan's 'Confetti Dances'. I could dip into a 'Collection of Country Dances written for the Duke of Perth' in the mid-18th century or even read about a Caledonian Ball in Melbourne in 1886, a glamorous affair attended by the cream of Melbourne society, where one lady dancer is described as wearing 'buttercup yellow satin, the back falling in waterfall style'.

Overwhelmed and increasingly unsure of the direction I should take, I ploughed doggedly on. How about a 1978 letter from the Society to the Inland Revenue, putting the case for non-payment of VAT? The Perth Branch's first cash book, dated 23rd February 1925? Or even Miss Milligan's handbag (black, formidable and



Elspeth Grey standing in front of a portrait of Miss Milligan holds her handbag

impeccable)?

Enough of browsing! It was time for me to come to grips with the material and to identify for my readers the most striking impressions which the archives made upon me.

The earlier section of the archives contains many old volumes of music and song dating mostly from the mid-18th century onwards. There are volumes of 'Ballads and Ballad Airs' and 'Lays and Lyrics', books of Burns's songs and poems, and collection after collection of music. Some of these titles are powerfully evocative: thus a collection by Robert Millar of 'Pibroachs, Laments, Salutes, Marches, Reels and Strathspeys, adapted for the Great Highland Bagpipes' or William Marshall's turn-of-the-century 'Scottish airs, Melodies, Strathspeys, Reels etc. for Pianoforte, Harp, Violin and Violincello'.

Many commentators in the 18th century reported with amazement on the great hold which

music and song had over the Scots, permeating their lives and conversation; this abundant archive material is an echo of those extraordinarily musical times.

Up until the 1730s tunes and dances were passed on from performer to performer with personal variations inevitably creeping in. However from the 1730s onwards written manuscripts of tunes were produced and in the 1750s the first printed collections of instrumental dance music started appearing and found great favour. The archives have some of these publications, in particular the famous 'Repository' of music for strathspeys and dances by the great fiddler/composer Niel Gow, printed in 1799. Niel and his son Nathaniel were at the centre of the musical and dancing ferment of the time, in great demand at balls, bridals and assemblies and each of their new music collections was awaited with bated breath.

Works such as the Gows' with their dedications to duchesses and marchionesses, and their long lists of dances named for the aristocracy, give a clear picture of how these musicians, of relatively humble birth, mingled with the highest echelons of society. Music and dance spanned the Scottish class divide.

A later powerful musical influence was the celebrated fiddler and composer James Scott Skinner, often dubbed the 'Strathspey King'. Born in 1843 he was to live for 84 years and to write over 600 tunes. He was a legend in his time and an embodiment of the Scots' love of music and song. The archives have much material on Scott Skinner, including an album of his tunes, consisting of 'Strathspeys, Reels, Pibrochs, Marches, Hornpipes, Pastoral airs, Violin Solos, Slow Airs etc.'

The way in which dances such as strathspeys and reels are listed with all the other musical forms shows us that song, concert music and dancing music were interwoven at that time. Musical gatherings of that time must have been wonderfully rich in variety.

Moving on to look at material relating more specifically to dances and dancing, I swiftly found rich pickings. One of the earliest documents relating to dancing is a leather bound, rectangular little book entitled the 'Second Book of the Compleat Country Dancing Master'. Published in 1719, it was a forerunner of the great 18th century vogue for dancing books.

(Continued on page 2)

**RSCDS 80th ANNIVERSARY
SOUTHEAST BALL**

At Watford

On Saturday 5th April 2003

Get your tickets now — see page 6

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There is one dance per page and the pages are invariably headed 'Longwise for as many as will.' One such dance starts with the instruction: 'The first Man settis to the 2d Wo' and ends with 'then right and left quite round'.

These dances were performed 'at Court, the Theatres and publick Balls' and the tunes were 'fitted to the Violin or Hautboy, and most of 'em within the compass of the Flute'.

Knowledge of fashionable dances in both England and Scotland was clearly important in early dancing society as evidenced by the numerous items which lists fashionable dances: thus I found collections of the very latest dances for 1750, 1787, 1792, 1796, 1804 and 1816. I recognised very few of these early dances, but 'Monymusk' and 'The Lassie wi' the Yellow Coatie' were two such.

18th and 19th century books on ballroom etiquette and manners also abound in the archives. Elegant behaviour in assembly rooms was clearly an important part of the dancing experience.

The popularity and social importance of Scottish Country Dancing reached its apogee around the end of the 18th century. Although it continued to be danced, especially in the countryside, it was gradually eclipsed by ballroom dancing. By the beginning of the 20th century many of the old Scottish dances were sinking into oblivion. Much has already been written about the Misses Milligan and Stewart's contribution to saving these traditional dances so I steered away from that area.

However, as I continued to delve into the files I began to register the names of two personalities previously unknown to me who seem to have made remarkable contributions to Scottish dancing in the 20th century. These were Isobel Cramb of Aberdeen and Mary MacNab of Vancouver, Canada.

Isobel Cramb was vouchsafed a view of the 'Hill Manuscript', a little volume of 'Frederick Hill's Book of Quadrilles and Country Dances' dated March 22nd 1841. In this book she found notations for dances which she transcribed and then taught in the 1940s and 50s. They became the first step dances for ladies as we know them today. Perusal of old documents would suggest that step dances, almost certainly for ladies, did exist in the 18th and 19th centuries — thus an 1812 music collection mentions dances such as 'Pas seul for Miss Jane Forbes' — but these curiosities had certainly been lost at the beginning of the 20th century. Isobel Cramb proves to have been the principal pioneer and champion of this revived dance form and her advocacy of step dance being performed in a soft balletic style was an important artistic contribution.

I first noticed the name of Mrs MacNab when I picked out a 1948 RSCDS pamphlet of four of her dances, and saw that at least two of these dances were ones which I find enthralling and highly unusual: 'The Shepherd's Crook' and 'The Hebridean Weaving Lilt'. She also introduced other richly original dances such as 'Bonnie Anne' and 'Macdonald of Sleat'. My curiosity was aroused and I read on...

Mrs MacNab was a highly talented Highland dance teacher and collector of dances in Vancouver. Having emigrated there in 1907 and finding herself surrounded by many other Highland Scots, she formed a Highland dance school, gave spectacular, highly theatrical dancing concerts and was active in all aspects of Scottish culture in Vancouver. Most interesting for me is her profound interest in old dances and her gathering of these from Scottish émigrés in

Canada. Her outstanding collection includes dramatic sword dances, solo step dances for ladies and men, trios, country dances and miming dances.

As with any collection of old songs or dances, one could debate at length as to how much of her wonderfully theatrical repertoire is true to the past and how much is her interpretation. However, faced with such brilliance and originality, this debate seems rather stale; her contribution to Scottish dancing culture seems outstanding.

My visit to the archives threw light on many issues and people, but in the end, the great day to day reward for me is that as I stand in line waiting for the music to start, I will now see the bare bones of dances fleshed out by people, places and events.

Thus 'Miss Allie Anderson'. Now I know about the real Miss Allie Anderson: very active in the early years of the RSCDS, she regularly wrote newspaper articles on dancing. Also, in 1948, along with Florence Lesslie, she devised the immensely popular 'Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh'.

Or let us consider 'The Duchess Tree' by John Drewry. I first saw the tune of this name whilst leafing through a volume of the music of James Scott Skinner. In a collaboration across the centuries John Drewry was inspired to devise a most beautiful strathspey to this music handed down by the 'Strathspey King'. The Eightsome Reel? I discovered that it was almost certainly created in the 1870s by combining a threesome reel with an old ring dance, and that there are local variations of it, such as the Skye Eightsome. I could go on...

With thanks to Jim Healy, Alastair Macfadyen, Jenny Greene and Bill Ireland, and to Elspeth Grey and Eileen Watt at Headquarters.

Rosalind Zuridis

MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE

Please note that the Society Membership fee was increased by £2 from 1st July 2002 as passed at the last Society AGM. From this date, membership of the RSCDS and London Branch costs £14.00 per annum for UK based members (£14.50 for Europe; £16.50 elsewhere). Otherwise, current members of other Branches can join London Branch for £4.00 per annum if they live in the UK (£4.50 in Europe and £6.50 elsewhere). These rates are unchanged. Long Term Membership was suspended until further notice at an Executive Meeting held in May 2000. London Branch membership brings benefits including *The Reel*, while Society membership includes the annual dance publication, Bulletin and Newsletters.

Membership applications and enquiries should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Owen Meyer, 50 Bunby Road, Stoke Poges, Bucks SL2 4BP. Tel: 01753 643461.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR REEL?

If you ever fail to receive your issue of *The Reel*, please advise our Membership Secretary, Owen Meyer, 50 Bunby Road, Stoke Poges, Bucks SL2 4BP, Tel: 01753 643461, so that the matter can be investigated and rectified. Thanks.

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY



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SUB-COMMITTEES

Children: Owen Meyer, Angela Young
Classes: Rachel Wilton, David Hall,
Owen Meyer, Pam Ray,
Caroline Sloan.
Dances: Peter Knight, David Hall,
Davinia Miln.
Demonstrations: David Hall, Rachel Wilton,
Catriona Stewart*
Publicity: Daniel Capron, Alexander
McClintock, Jeff Robertson,
Rita Marlow*.

Membership: Owen Meyer
Bookstall: Ian Anderson*
Branch Rep. to Headquarters: .. Rachel Wilton
Central Council of Physical Recreation:
Marie Jamieson*
Hon. Archivist: Iris Anderson*
Southeast Group: Peter Knight
Combined Societies: Peter Knight, Owen Meyer

*Indicates a non-Executive Committee member.

Branch Web Site

www.scdlondon.freemove.co.uk.

Objects of the Society

- To preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish Country Dances.
- To promote and encourage the formation of Branches.
- To provide, or assist in providing, special education or instruction in the practice of Scottish Country Dances.
- To promote/publish by all available means information and music relating to Scottish Country Dancing and in particular to publish, or cause to be published, descriptions of Scottish Country Dances with music and diagrams in simple form and at moderate price.
- To collect books, manuscripts, illustrations and other memorabilia relating to Scottish Country Dancing and to the Society.
- Generally, to do such other things as are or may be considered by the Society to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects above stated or any of them.

CHANGE AT THE TOP

At the Branch AGM on 21st June, Owen Meyer was elected Chairman in place of Simon Wales. Rachel Wilton takes Owen's place as Vice-Chairman. Helen Brown was elected Treasurer. Margaret Shaw remains Secretary, and the following were also re-elected to the Committee: Daniel Capron (*The Reel* Editor), David Hall, Peter Knight, Alexander McClintock, Davinia Miln, Pam Ray, Jeff Robertson, Caroline Sloan and Angela Young.

BRANCH MATTERS

With the start of the new season, we bid farewell to Jim Cook, who was an excellent Editor and took *The Reel* to new heights for the past four years, and to Simon Wales, whom we hope is only having a sabbatical from the Committee. Also thanks to Peter Knight for starting the Popular Dances class in South Kensington.

Unfortunately for the fifth year in a row the dance scheduled for Polesden Lacey took place indoors due to rain, though we nearly succeeded in having it outdoors this time. A great deal of heart searching is going on regarding this event.

Outdoor events, weather permitting, are two dances in Kensington Gardens on the 7th and 14th September. Please bring your friends along for these fun afternoons.

All the regular Branch activities will soon be underway with Children's events, classes, the Day School (please note the change of venue) and the dances at Pont Street. We start the season proper with a Branch Dance at Pont Street on the 21st September with David Cunningham and his Band from Scotland. Make this special event a good start to the season. Please bring your friends and come and support us.

We have a busy programme this year, so after a good rest, get out your dancing shoes and be raring to go.

Owen Meyer

RSCDS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORT

The penultimate meeting of dancers representing Branches all over the world took place in Edinburgh in May 2002. The major business of the meeting was to accept the final proposals from the General Purposes Committee for the new management structure to be put to the Annual General Meeting in November. The Council acknowledged the amount of work done by the members of the Committee and voted acceptance. Detailed information of the proposals can be found in Newsbrief 9, being circulated with this issue of *The Reel*.

Accounts: Lord Mansfield, the Society's President, made a special appearance to reconvene the 2001 Annual General Meeting to accept the now audited accounts. Branch delegates joined the meeting for this part and it was once again emphasised that the issue was only about how the accounts were presented, with no suggestion that funds had been misappropriated.

Subscriptions: There will be no increase asked for in 2003/4.

Summer School: A piano has been purchased to be used for classes with money raised by Summer and Winter schools. Pianists and dancers will be very pleased!

Winter School was once again enjoyed by dancers from many parts of the world.

Publications & Research Members of the

Committee and others have been working on a 'warm-up' booklet which is near completion; it will be welcomed by teachers and dancers.

Recordings: Money allocated by the Finance Committee will be used to re-record the music of some of the Society's books, possibly including an overseas band.

Youth: The Dance Scottish pack for schools has been very well received, with a good review in the Times Educational Supplement. The Youth Committee are considering the development of Society children's tests, aiming to encourage children to dance by recognising achievement.

The children's event in 2003 will be Dance Scottish for Children (Save the Children).

The Committee are also considering ways of offering information and assistance to people wishing to teach children in out of school classes.

There will be a discussion group for teachers and would be teachers in Aberdeen during the Annual General Meeting weekend.

The final Executive Council Meeting will be held in Aberdeen to ratify the latest standing committee minutes, before the Annual General Meeting. We look ahead with confidence to the Society moving forward with its new management structure in place.

Rachel Wilton

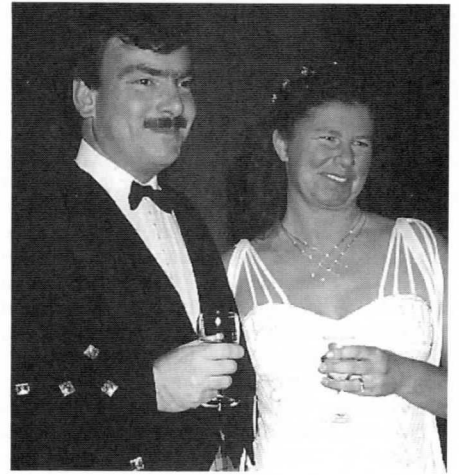
THOUGHTS OF A RETIRING CHAIRMAN...

It hardly seems possible that, as I hand over the post of Chairman of the London Branch to Owen Meyer, I do so as the longest continuous serving Committee member, having only joined the Committee in 1992.

In those ten years, beginning under the Chairmanship of Andrew Cockett, succeeded by Wilson Nicol and then Andrew Kellett, the Branch Committee has seen the departure of a number of the stalwarts who have successfully guided the Branch through many years. John Laurie, Bill Ireland, Peter Luke, Helen Brown and Jenny Greene contributed so much to the working of the Branch and helped numerous Chairmen through difficult times. The Branch suffered a severe blow with the death of the President, Alex Westwood, but Mary Stoker has filled that role with her usual vigour and has been a valued support to the Chairman and the Committee. Thanks are due to the many others who have served shorter terms on the Committee but have still contributed greatly.

The most dramatic changes to have occurred to the Branch and Society over these ten years have been the achievement of charitable status following the changes in Scottish charity law, and the change in structure and composition of the Management Committee. Both will have had little impact on the average dancing member of the Society, but both have necessitated many long meetings and arduous discussions. The first change has put a greater responsibility on the officers and Committee as they are now trustees covered by charity law, and the second change will have far-reaching impact on the management of the Society. It is hoped that the streamlined Executive Committee will be more responsive to changes, be more approachable by the members and will be able to drive the Society forward in the 21st century.

The most enjoyable part of being Chairman has been the opportunity to meet so many fellow Scottish country dancers all over London and the Southeast of England. It has been as Treasurer of the Southeast Jubilee Committee that I have been involved with the two festivals and the arrangements for the ball at Watford to celebrate



Simon and Gillian Wales

the 75th anniversary in 1998. You will be pleased to hear that the arrangements for the 2003 Ball are well under way, and details of how to apply for tickets appear elsewhere in this issue of *The Reel*.

The biggest disappointment has got to be the abortive attempts to organise an event at the Dome to celebrate the Millennium. It still rankles that we missed the opportunity to dance there, and still more that the Dome missed the opportunity to show that it wasn't so much the white elephant that we all thought it was!

Looking to the future, there is one main cause for concern: the ageing membership and the inevitable decline in numbers. We have seen attendances at Branch functions fall steadily over the past 10 years, and we have been unable to attract new young blood. We really must start to do this or the Branch, like so many others, will be unable to carry on.

I wish my successor, Owen Meyer and his Vice-Chairman, Rachel Wilton, all the best for their years in office. It will be a rewarding time, but only those who have been through it (and their families!) know what hard work it really is! Without the support of my wife, Gillian, it would have been impossible to have remained on the Committee for so long, let alone have been Chairman.

The greatest thing about being involved in a Society like the RSCDS, and particularly a Branch like London, is that all human life is there! It is like a large family, with its births, marriages, and sadly deaths. It has been a great privilege to be at the head of this family in London and I look forward to many more happy years of association with it.

Simon Wales

...AND OF A NEWLY ELECTED TREASURER

It's nice being back on the Committee to help out (once again) as Treasurer!

With the new season about to begin I am looking forward to dancing and meeting lots of friends at dances and hopefully making some new ones. If you are new to London, or visiting, please make yourself known to any member of the Committee so we can make you welcome.

I shall try to keep our accounts in a healthy condition and you will make my job so much easier if you attend classes, day school and dances! You are the life's blood of the Branch so we need you! Enjoy your dancing!

Helen Brown

Helen Brown was previously on the Committee from 1976 to 1980, and from 1984 to 2000, being Treasurer 1984-93 and Secretary 1995-2000.

ROUND AND ABOUT

18-30 EASTER SCHOOL, STIRLING

On 3rd April 2002, 36 18-30's (and some young at heart) descended on Stirling for the first ever Youth Easter School organised by the RSCDS. Dancers came from as far afield as Australia, USA, Austria, France, Norway and from all over the UK, including three young dancers from London Branch – Liz Green, Robyn Kirk and Heather Battson. The setting for the school was beautiful, with the youth hostel and dance hall situated just 2 minutes from Stirling Castle.

Our days began with a three-hour mixed-ability country class, which was excellently taught by Anita McKenzie. These classes appealed to everyone with a mixture of easy, fun dances and some more technically challenging, and we were all impressed with the way Anita managed to provide something for all the abilities present, which ranged from absolute beginners to one fully certificated dancer. Intermediate and/or advanced Highland classes, taught by Gillan Anderson, were an optional extra after lunch and Gillan's inspiring and enthusiastic approach to teaching several traditional Highland dances ensured that many of the group, Robyn included, ignored their sore legs to attend not just one but both classes. Others (Heather and Liz included) took the opportunity to see some of the sights of Stirling in the afternoons. Local girl Seonaid Gent arranged trips to Stirling Castle and the Old Jail, surprising some tourists with impromptu performances of Mairi's Wedding and the Shepherd's Crook, and several dancers made the trip out to the Wallace Monument. Surprisingly enough everyone managed to find the energy to dance in the evenings and then partake of a light beverage in local establishments. Music for all classes and social dancing was magnificently provided by James Gray on keyboard and Phil Jones on accordion.

The school culminated in an Easter Ball in the Golden Lion Hotel. Although numbers were slightly fewer than had been hoped, this did not dampen spirits, and meant that there was plenty of room to stretch our legs. James and Phil were joined for the occasion by a Mystery Fiddler (aka Peter Clark) to form 'James Gray's Surprise Trio' who entertained us throughout the evening. Another highlight of the week was a fancy dress evening with some wonderful costumes, including the obligatory cross-dressing with one young man as the Immigrant Lass, and some truly horrendous visual puns – a costume consisting of some coat hangers and cotton wool clouds representing Angus McLeod. Prizes were awarded to The De'il Amang the Tailors (Philippa Revill), The Moulin Rouge (Lynne and Alaina Armour) and Wisp of Thistle (Seonaid Gent).

Many thanks go to James Gray and his committee for organising such a successful inaugural event, and the RSCDS for their



Our President, Mary Stoker, at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh, before going on to the Royal Garden Party at the Palace of Holyrood House on 25th May. Mary was nominated by London Branch as one of sixteen members of the Society invited by the Palace.

support and hard work. We all felt that it was a fantastic opportunity not only to have some excellent teaching and wonderful music, but also to meet and socialise with other young people in a dancing environment – not always the easiest thing to do! Final thanks also go to London Branch for their enthusiasm and financial support, which enabled the three of us to make the trip. All three will definitely try our best to attend next year's event, and if there are any other young people hiding away in the area (especially men!) we would love you to join us.

Heather Battson, Robyn Kirk and Liz Green

There will be an 18-30 Easter School at Stirling from 2nd to 6th April 2003. Details and application forms are available from the Branch Secretary, Margaret Shaw (please send stamped s.a.e.) The closing date for applications is 30th January. The London Branch Committee may again give financial help from the Alex Westwood Legacy Fund. Contact a Committee member if you wish to be considered for this.

JINX BROKEN AT POLESDEN LACEY ... STARTING NEXT YEAR?

Dancers gathered hopefully at Polesden Lacey on Saturday 8th June for the 23rd Garden Dance, dancing to David Hall and his Band. It is not known why the clouds always seem to open at two p.m., the time of the dance's commencement on such occasions, but I can only assume that the Gods read *The Reel*. Thus a forecast made at 10.30 a.m., when the decision had to be made as to whether the dance be held indoors or outdoors, unfortunately proved to be overoptimistic.

A quick move to the nearby Howard of Effingham School Sports Hall enabled the dance to proceed and over a hundred dancers enjoyed the afternoon, with interrupted picnics able to be resumed in an adjacent hall. Andrew Kellett and Simon Wales were our MCs.

I admit that for each year since 1998, when we have had a run of years with wet weather, I have had a responsibility for co-ordinating the ticket sales. As I am obviously the jinx, that task will be passed on to someone else next year and the

new Committee will be deciding whether or not to continue with Polesden Lacey as the venue for next year's Garden Dance. Success is surely assured for 2003?

Jim Cook

LONDON GARDEN SQUARES

Sunday 9th June 2002

For the second year we danced in two London squares as part of their Open Day. 73 squares participated this year by opening to the public. The squares are across London from Greenwich through Belgravia to Hammersmith. We danced in the morning in Edwardes Square, W8 and members of the public were invited to join in. The Demonstration team danced in a different square in SW7 in the afternoon.

Although this year we again had some rain it was not torrential like last year and the music was a good draw to both young and old. It was also an honour to have our own President, Mary Stoker, visiting the morning square.

Davinia Miln

TARTAN JIGSAW SUMMER BALL

Summer, after many false starts, seemed to settle down to a brilliant day on Saturday 13th July in time for the Summer Ball, held in the Trinity School, Croydon by The Tartan Jigsaw, the young umbrella organisation for eight groups who have banded together for mutual support in the furtherance of SCD.

There were no false starts, however, for the dancers. A piper led us in the Grand March, then 'I'll be ready for my supper after this' and 'What a great way to meet friends' were just two of the many remarks exchanged as we continually moved through the sets and careered up and down the hall during 'La Tempête' – and that was just the opening dance in the programme!

After welcoming the many visitors, members of the eight groups were reminded at the outset that they were members of The Tartan Jigsaw Clan and as such exhorted to be 'Clannish' throughout the evening and dance with fellow members, the visitors being made honorary clan members for the evening. No further reminders were necessary! The happy, joyful atmosphere with which the evening started seemed to be a continuation of that engendered at the previous Millennium Ball – even to the excellent music of Robert Whitehead and the Danelaw Band. (Was it really *two* years ago?). Jim Winter was our MC and did a superb job. Only when he left at nearly midnight did we learn that he was on breakfast duty at St. Andrews the following day at 9.30. (Did you make it, Jim?)

The hall had been suitably decorated for the evening with Tartan and Jigsaw motifs, as had the dining room and tables to which we all repaired at the interval for a very well prepared and much appreciated meal and glass of wine.

Very much thought and effort had gone into the whole event and this received many appreciative comments. It was encouraging to meet and make so many new friends from other groups – and all from an 8-piece jigsaw.

£200 was raised in the raffle for the Marie Curie Centre at Caterham.

NEW GROUP

Chiswick Scottish Dancing Club

This Club was launched with a bang (and quite a bit of mulled wine) on Sunday 20th January 2002. They have several traditions already – including the fact that they take a new partner for every dance and finish with the Gay Gordons. They invite everyone to come along and join the fun. Details on the back page.

NEW RECORDINGS

Marian Anderson and her Band - Music for Book 42 (RSCDS CD029).

Kenny Thomson and the Wardlaw Band - Music for Book 5 (RSCDS CD030).

John Renton and his Band - Music for Book 21 (RSCDS CD027).

Bobby Crowe and his Band - Music for Book 29 (RSCDS - CD031).

Muriel Johnstone's Band and Colin Dewar's Band - Music for A Skye Collection. Muriel plays for Book 1 and Colin for Book 2. (RSCDS Skye Branch CD001).

The Ian Muir Sound (of Prestwick) - Mairi's Wedding, Happy Meeting, Cadgers in the Canongate, Airie Bennan, Scotland's Gardens, The Robertson Rant, Blooms of Bon Accord, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder, The Sailor, Jubilee Jig, The Irish Rover, Set of 8x32 Jigs, The Summer Assembly.

Music for Book 42 is Marian's first recording with her own band for the Society; she has previously played with Muriel Johnstone. There is a good selection of tunes well played with lots of enthusiasm and a good degree of *joie de vivre*. Marian plays lead accordion with Judith Linton in fine form on fiddle. Graham Bell's second accordion is unobtrusive while Isobelle Hodgson's piano playing adds an interesting flourish here and there. Indeed I would have preferred a bit more piano and less bass (Mark MacDougall) coming through the texture. Max Ketchin's drumming is in the 'back row'. Tempo for dancing is just the speed we like it here in London. All in all one of this year's best buys.

The recordings for Books 5, 21 and 29 were originally issued on LP/cassette and no doubt many readers will already have them in these formats. But the sounds are much enhanced on CD. I have been looking back to see what I said when they first came out. So, here are a few snippets: "Kenny Thomson's Band is one of the very best in the business" (November 1986). "John Renton's is very steady and Gordon Simpson's fiddle playing is an enhancement. I must confess I find some of the strathspeys are a bit dull... but taken as a whole the recording is more than adequate" (December 1997). "The Society have again employed the highly talented Bobby Crowe... an excellent record immaculately played" (February 1980). Sadly Bobby's talented fiddler Angus Fitchett and pianist Peter Straughan are no longer with us.

Muriel Johnstone's half of the Skye CD was issued on cassette a few years ago with the aforementioned Marian on accordion and Keith Smith on fiddle and I said then it was "fantastic". It still is! The second half of this CD by Colin Dewar is equally fantastic. There are eight dances in each book and some of them will I am sure catch on.

The Ian Muir Sound is himself on accordion and

Derek Hamilton on piano and drums. It is without doubt a great sound and perfect for dancing, recorded in 1994 but only recently available on CD. One small criticism - the names of the tunes are not listed.

Some of the Society's recordings are not suitable for transfer to CD and are being re-done - sometimes by different bands. By the time you read this Iain MacPhail will have recorded Books 36 and 37. More about them in due course. Back in 1984 the late Rob Gordon recorded 12 dances from the Graded Book and a fine recording it is. Happily it will be transferred to CD later this year while David Cunningham will record the other 12 to complete the task begun some 18 years ago! This will mean that, at last, ALL the Society's dances will be available in at least one of the three formats.

I do not always rush to buy CDs by ceilidh bands but I was told that one by the Clyde Valley Ceilidh Band (Light Reflections - CVCB102) was more like a 'conventional' country dance band. I have a copy now and I am at a loss as to why the call themselves a "ceilidh band"! There is a fine 8x32 set of jigs by Lindsay Ross and reels for the Isle of Skye at a very steady tempo; and four sets of marches. The two 6/8s are pure magic; waltzes and slow airs abound, and there are a couple of up-tempo reels from USA and Canada. All in all - dare I use the word again - "fantastic".

A flavour of Scotland (CDTS104) is Jim MacLeod's latest CD and it has a great mix of tunes (not all Scottish) of the kind that have become the hallmarks of this Band in an incredible career of over 40 years. Jim has been unwell recently and we wish him a full recovery.

There are a lot more CDs of the listening variety waiting in the wings, not least some vintage Jimmy Shand and Jim Cameron. I hope to tell you about them in the next issue.

John Laurie

SUBSCRIBE TO THE REEL

If you are not a member of the London Branch order your copy of *The Reel* from Rita Marlow, 17 West Farm Close, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2LH, tel: 01372 812821.

The annual cost for individual sub-scribers is £4.00 if resident in the UK, £4.50 for other European residents and £6.50 if resident elsewhere. There are special rates for bulk orders. Remittances in sterling please, payable to RSCDS (London Branch).

DEMONSTRATION TEAM

The team has just come to the end of another busy summer term. It began back in April when we took part in the third Scottish Tattoo at the Royal Albert Hall. This was a very enjoyable day and gave us the opportunity to meet old friends from other groups in the Southeast. In May, as has become tradition, we spent an evening with Richmond Caledonian Club. We are always made very welcome here and enjoy joining the Club members for supper and some social dancing after our demonstration. June was very busy and the team was out and about at a wide range of different events including Jubilee celebration parties at various care centres. A highlight was the very pleasant evening at the Caledonian Club providing the entertainment for their Summer Barbecue, and an end-of-conference dinner in Blackheath. We weren't too lucky with the weather at Polesden Lacey and London Squares Day but the team enjoyed both events nevertheless. The sun did, however, shine for us when we took part in the Bedford Park Festival in the middle of the month. We welcomed back two of our old members (figuratively speaking of course!) to the team for this event when Jerry and Danielle Reinstein joined us, and it was lovely to be able to catch up with them.

The team finished the term with its usual end-of-season dinner. It was particularly enjoyable on this occasion as we were joined again by Jerry and Danielle and also by several of our other former members including Heather Holmes, Jeremy and Grace Hill, and Gareth and Jane Hobby. Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to Liz Green as she is moving to Edinburgh after having successfully completed her music degree. We will certainly miss Liz but wish her well for the future.

The team is looking forward to performing at the Epsom Caledonian Club Garden Party in August and will also be helping at the dancing in Kensington Gardens in September. The new season of classes begins in September and we are always keen to welcome dancers of an advanced standard. Anyone interested in joining the team please get in touch with David Hall, either tel: 020 8390 7829 or email hallscdb@aol.com.

David Hall
and Catriona Stewart

Come Scottish Dancing

with

Robin Ellis and his band

Costa de la Luz, Spain

16th - 23rd February 2003

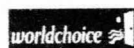
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BRANCH DANCES

OPEN AIR DANCING

Saturday 7th September 2002 - Kafoozalum
Saturday 14th September 2002 - David Hall
 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
 Kensington Gardens
 (by the bandstand, near the Round Pond)
 Nearest underground stations:
 Queensway and High Street Kensington.
 Admission is free.

Each afternoon we will have live music and an MC to guide us through a programme containing a mixture of popular dances and easier dances for beginners and children.

Everyone welcome.
 Come along and bring your friends.

BRANCH DANCE

Saturday 21st September 2002
 7.00 p.m. for 7.15 - 11.00 p.m.

St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, SW1.
David Cunningham and his Band

Jennifer's Jig.....	Drewry
Maxwell's Rant.....	18-10
Argyll Strathspey.....	35-3
The Nurseryman.....	37-7
The Clansman.....	32-8
Miss Milligan's Strathspey.....	Leaflet 20
Major Ian Stewart.....	35-4
John of Bon Accord.....	33-5
Up In The Air.....	20-2
Miss Mary Douglas.....	10-11
Clutha.....	31-2
Ladies' Fancy.....	13-12
Wisp of Thistle.....	37-4
London Pride (None So Pretty).....	19-1
Laird of Milton's Daughter.....	22-10
The Gentleman.....	35-5
Pelorus Jack.....	41-1
Follow Me Home.....	38-6
The Belle of Bon Accord.....	Drewry
The Reel of The Royal Scots.....	Leaflet 7

Admission: RSCDS members £9.50, non-members £10.50, children £2.00 but members' children admitted free. Refreshments and reception drink included in the price. Those with Highland/evening dress are encouraged to wear it.

BRANCH DANCE

Saturday 23rd November 2002
 7.00 - 10.30 p.m.

St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, SW1.
Kafoozalum

The Happy Meeting.....	29-9
Petronella.....	1-1
Dalkeith's Strathspey.....	9-6
The Wild Geese.....	24-3
Bratach Bana.....	Drewry
Gang the Same Gate.....	36-4
Airie Bannan.....	Foss
Staffin Harvest.....	1978
Cadgers in the Canongate.....	9-10
Tribute to the Borders.....	Leaflet 11
Fair Donald.....	29-4
The Earl of Mansfield.....	Leaflet 15
Miss Nancy Frowns.....	14-5
Mrs Milne of Kinneff.....	Leaflet 32
The Red House.....	7-2
The Robertson Rant.....	39-8
J.B. Milne.....	Foss

Admission: RSCDS members £6.50, non-members £7.50, children £2.00, but members' children admitted free.

CHRISTMAS DANCE

Saturday 14th December 2002
 7.00 for 7.15 - 11.00 p.m.

St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, SW1.

David Hall and his Band

St. Andrew's Fair.....	1982
Corn Riggs.....	4-12
Monymusk.....	11-2
Quarries' Jig.....	36-3
Gates of Edinburgh.....	15-5
Culla Bay.....	41-2
Miss Hadden's Reel.....	23-5
Flowers of Edinburgh.....	1-6
Glasgow Country Dance.....	23-6
The Laird of Milton's Daughter.....	2-10
Duke of Atholl's Reel.....	16-3
Round Reel of Eight.....	27-7
Foursome Reel.....	3-11
Starry Eyed Lassie.....	23-11
West's Hornpipe.....	1965-3
Seann Truibhas Willichan.....	27-9
Luckenbooth Brooch.....	Dickson
The Reel of the 51st Division.....	13-10
Wind on Loch Fyne.....	Dunedin
The Montgomerie's Rant.....	10-1

Admission: RSCDS members £9.00, non-members £10.00, children £2.00, but members' children admitted free.

Refreshments and a glass of wine included in the price.

ADVANCE NOTICE

BRANCH DANCES 2003

At St. Columba's unless otherwise stated.

11th January.....	Frank Reid
	Burns Night Ceilidh Dancing
8th March.....	David Hall
	Children's Dance
8th March.....	Craigellachie
	Evening Dance
24th May.....	Green Ginger
14th June.....	Craigellachie
	Garden Dance. <i>Venue to be confirmed.</i>

CEILIDH

Saturday 12th October 2002
 6.30 - 9.00 p.m.

Lady Margaret School, Parsons Green, SW6.

Green Ginger

After the Day School (see opposite)

ST. ANDREWS ACCORDION CLUB

(Walton-on-Thames)

Playing together for pleasure. The club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Scottish, folk and other traditions. All standards welcome.

Contact: Anna Crawford, Tel: 01932 244466.

Refreshments at Dances

All the delicious food you eat during the intervals at dances is traditionally prepared by the classes, the Committee, the Vice-Presidents, ex-Committee members... These can often be the same people preparing the same cakes and sandwiches. If you would like to help in any way, setting out cups and food, clearing up, making cakes and sandwiches - full refund available for expenses - please contact me (details on page 2). There are easy recipes available for those who would like to extend their skills.

Rachel Wilton

SCDS 80th ANNIVERSARY SOUTHEAST BALL

Saturday 5th April 2003
 Watford Colosseum

7.15 for 7.45 p.m. Carriages 1.00 a.m.

Sound Company

Tickets £29.50 (including reception and supper)
 Evening dress only Licensed bar

Five years on from the success of the 75th Anniversary Ball the Southeast Branches are combining again to host a Ball to celebrate the Society's 80th Anniversary. It is sure to be another memorable occasion. Sound Company, appearing as a five-piece band for the night, will provide the music, and revised catering arrangements will reduce the queues for supper.

Tickets are strictly limited. London Branch members should apply on a first come first served basis to Owen Meyer, 50 Bunby Road, Stoke Poges, Bucks SL2 4BP with a cheque payable to "RSCDS SOUTHEAST JUBILEE ACCOUNT" and enclosing an A5 s.a.e. Individual members may request any number of tickets.

PROGRAMME

Grand March / Buchan Eightsome Reel.....	21-8
Mrs Stewart's Jig.....	35-1
Miss Milligan's Strathspey.....	Leaflet 20
The Reel of the 51st Division.....	13-10
Pelorus Jack.....	41-1
Neidpath Castle.....	22-9
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.....	39-7
Major Ian Stewart.....	35-4
The Earl of Mansfield.....	Leaflet 15
Fair Donald.....	29-4
MacLeod's Fancy.....	33-3
The Montgomerie's Rant.....	10-1
Mrs Milne of Kinneff.....	Leaflet 32
Cadgers in the Canongate.....	9-10
The Reel of the Royal Scots.....	Leaflet 7
The Last of the Lairds.....	22-5
Scotch Mist.....	Drewry
John of Bon Accord.....	33-5
Frae A' The Airts.....	Leaflet 8
Quarries' Jig.....	36-3
The Saltire Society Reel.....	Leaflet 9
Autumn in Appin.....	31-5
Joie de Vivre.....	39-2
Duke of Perth.....	1-8

CHILDREN'S DANCE

Saturday 23rd November 2002
 2.00 - 4.30 p.m.

St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, SW1.

Green Ginger

Cumberland Reel.....	1-11
Espie McNabb.....	MMM1
Long Live the Queen.....	MMM1
Galloway House.....	Gr 5
A Jig for Mrs Dunn.....	Ch 3
Barley Bree.....	13-4
Jessie's Hornpipe.....	8-9
The Dhoon.....	Ch 1
The White Cockade.....	5-11
St. Andrew's Fair.....	1982
The Old Man of Storr.....	Ch 6
Kendall's Hornpipe.....	Gr 22
The Barmkin.....	Goldring
Flowers of Edinburgh.....	1-6
Bonnie Geordie's Wig.....	MMM II
The Dashing White Sergeant.....	3-2

Admission: £1.50 at the door. Refreshments and souvenirs on sale. Parents and teachers welcome.

CLASSES

Join a class, make new friends, meet old friends, improve your dancing and enjoy yourself.

Class	Day	Time	Location	Teacher / Musician
ELEMENTARY	Wednesday	6.30 - 8.00	Marlborough School, Sloane Avenue, SW3	Gaynor Curtis/Jean Harrison
POPULAR S.C. DANCES	Wednesday	8.15 - 9.45	Marlborough School, Sloane Avenue, SW3	Lindsey Rousseau
TECHNIQUE	Wednesday	7.30 - 9.30	St. Barnabas' & St. Phillip's School, Pembroke Mews, W8	Angela Young / Ken Martlew
DEMONSTRATION	Tuesday	7.15 - 9.15	For details contact David Hall, 020 8390 7829	David Hall / Sandra Smith
GENERAL (Central)	Wednesday	2.30 - 4.30	St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, SW1	Jennifer and Ian Rutherford
GENERAL (Greenwich)	Thursday	7.30 - 9.30	Halstow School, Kemsing Road, SE10	Rachel Wilton / Catherine Lowe

**The autumn term starts in the week beginning 23rd September 2002 and ends in the week beginning 2nd December 2002.
The half term break is the week beginning 21st October. All enquiries about classes to Rachel Wilton on 020 8858 7729.**

CLASSES

Welcome to a new dancing year! We have some changes: Ann Dix has completed three very successful years teaching the Earls Court class and Angela Young has been delighting the class with her lovely music for at least 11 years. This class is having a change of title and of staff, and is the place for you if you wish to develop your dancing technique; we welcome Angela in a different role as teacher, and Ken Martlew, a dancer and musician familiar to the Branch, to play. At almost the same time, at Marlborough School, those who wish to concentrate more on learning dances, with some technique included, will be taught by Lindsey Rousseau, another familiar dancer. Peter Knight set this class off to a very good start last year. Many thanks to Ann, Angela and Peter for the enthusiasm and work they put into these two very enjoyable classes.

Highland and Ladies' step classes (men and women are very welcome at both classes!) will be held as usual; Sunday technique classes are running again with a range of experienced teachers and musicians – easy parking, close to public transport, attractive hall, pub lunch afterwards, an excellent way to spend a Sunday morning. Teachers will be assembling in September to begin the new year to refresh their skills, question, discuss and learn with RSCDS examiner, tutor and Summer School teacher Helen Frame.

Our Day School, in its new location, is a must for all who enjoy music and dancing.

Happy dancing!

The Classes Subcommittee

DANCING PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

Do you want to improve your dancing and therefore your pleasure? Get together with a group, a teacher and a musician and work towards this Assessment - it could be fun!

Further info: Rachel Wilton, details on page 2.

FREE ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS?

There is dancing in the upper hall at St. Columba's almost every Wednesday afternoon. This enthusiastic group of dancers has not been at all deterred by the organisational difficulties that have occurred during the last two years. Now on an even keel, it has Jennifer and Ian Rutherford sharing the teaching and a new CD player for the music. Pont Street is easy to get to on public transport: have a look round Harrods first, visit the museums just down the road and then come and join them doing what we all love – DANCING. Further details tel: 020 8295 1273.

HIGHLAND CLASSES

Thursdays 10th October, 14th November and 5th December 2002.

7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

Essex Hall, 1-6 Essex Street, London WC2.

Teacher:David Hall

Musician:Judith Smith

£5.00 per class or £12.00 for all three.

Further details: David Hall, tel.020 8390 7829 or email hallscdb@aol.com

LADIES' STEP DANCING CLASS

Saturday 16th November 2002.

11 a.m.-12.45 p.m., 2.00 - 3.45 p.m.

Tweddle Hall, St. Andrew's Church, Northey Avenue, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey.

Teacher:Jenny Greene

Musician:Marion Walsh

Further details: Jenny Greene, tel. 020 8642 5008

SUNDAY TECHNIQUE CLASSES

27th October, 1st December 2002,
26th January, 2nd and 30th March 2003.

11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Band Hall, Coram's Fields, 93 Guilford St, WC2.

Teachers:Joan Desborough, Ann Dix,

Jenny Greene, David Hall,

Philippe Rousseau

Musicians:Peter Jenkins,

Ken Martlew, Caroline Sloan,

Judith Smith, Ian & Meryl Thomson

These classes are for anyone who wishes to develop their dancing technique.

NB: there are places locally for lunch.

Further info: Rachel Wilton, details on page 2.

CERTIFICATE CLASS

A number of dancers expressed an interest in being part of a class working towards the RSCDS Preliminary and Full Teaching Certificate last year but not enough to make it viable. The Branch is considering organising a class in 2003 if sufficient people are interested.

Please contact Rachel Wilton, details page 2.

THE RSCDS NEW BOOK 42

Would anyone who teaches a class and would be interested in participating in a class learning the New Book dances, please contact me (details page 2).

Rachel Wilton

RSCDS LONDON BRANCH DAY SCHOOL

More Steps Forward In Scottish Country Dancing

Saturday October 12th 2002

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE

This year it is to be held at Lady Margaret School, Parsons Green, SW6.

Teachers:Deb Lees, Jimmie Hill (morning)

Philippe Rousseau (afternoon)

Musicians: Maureen Rutherford, Peter Shand

Musicians' Workshop:Neil Copland

Evening Ceilidh: Green Ginger

Classes to suit everyone - Scottish Country Dancing, Quadrilles, Musicians concert, Videos

DON'T MISS IT

Application forms available at the Branch dance, at classes or from Rachel Wilton (details page 2).

CLASSES

Looking for the links - using the body and the music to link different elements of a dance - suitable for a range of ability.

Phrasing, style and movement - suitable for more experienced dancers.

More than feet - focussing on use of hands, arms and body language to promote teamwork - suitable for more experienced dancers.

Are you on the right foot? - we have all found ourselves on the 'wrong foot' at some time. In this class we shall practise getting onto the correct foot and dances where being on the correct foot is important.

TEACHERS' WORKSHOP

Sunday 15th September 2002

10.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m.

Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Rd., NW1.

Teacher:Helen Frame

Musician:Ken Martlew

Sandwich lunch available

The workshop is open to anyone who teaches a class or would like to teach a class. Application forms from Rachel Wilton (details page 2).

COOK'S TOURS – How to go dancing in Europe

Having passed the editorship of *The Reel* onto Daniel, people now speak to me without that hunted look in their eye as if I might ask them to write an article. Daniel pounced on me when my guard was down, asking me to write an article about my dancing trips to Europe and gave me a deadline. Hoist by my own petard!

But how do I find out what is going on in Europe? Apart from word of mouth, I use two main sources, Euronews and Celtic Circle.

Euronews

Its editor, Aad Boode, describes its background.

I published the first edition in October 1971, supported morally, and also financially, by the St. Andrew's Society of Delft which became the Delft Branch of the RSCDS in 1979. The purpose was twofold: to inform dancers of the various events (mainly on the Continent) and to publicise our own events. It has now been published every second month for over 30 years.

During the 1971-2 season, there were in total 27 different entries (17 on the continent and 10 in England and Scotland). This compares with a record 328 entries in 2002-3 (93 on the continent and 235 in the UK, Ireland and the Channel Islands.) Also the June 2002 edition listed "Dancing during the Summer" in 28 places in the UK. The August edition covers the whole of the year to come with a maximum of 176 entries – all I can put on 12 pages.

For entries, I rely on what is directly sent to me by subscribing Branches and groups, although I may include some information from other sources.

The annual subscription is currently £3.50 for individuals and £5.25 for Branches and groups; for the Branches and groups there is no additional charge for having their events listed. Payment by cheque in £, drawn on a UK bank, is easiest as cross-border payments in the Eurozone still face bank charges higher than the cost of the subscription. Payment in cash in Euros seems the best alternative.

Old editions of Euronews suggest that the first SCD bands to play on the Continent were Robin Ellis (Delft, 1977 & 1978), the Danelaw Band (Copenhagen, 1978) and Frank Reid (Luxembourg, 1979). Nowadays many social dances and balls have either a UK or local band.

When I moved to Dublin five years ago, I continued publishing Euronews for the Delft Branch. I enjoy doing it. It is interesting to receive all the information and share it with other dancers. With their cheque, people often include a note saying "A very useful publication" or "Keep up the good work". I hope to be able to do this for a few more years to come.

And I concur with these last sentences. For more information, Aad's address is 113 The Sweepstakes, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Eire.

Celtic Circle

And now, over to Volker Wörtmann and the other members of the Celtic Circle team, Annette Wörtmann and Peter Wöll.

Scottish Country Dancing is like living in a big family. You may wish to visit faraway brothers and sisters, having heard that some family members live there but you have no address or phone number. You ask around and after a struggle you get the address, but the big event was yesterday. Confronted with that situation, I heard about a small magazine, Celtic Circle. Founded in the mid 1980s, it contained information about Celtic traditions and history; a calendar of events in Germany, Switzerland and Austria, as well as some contact addresses of the groups who paid a subscription of 0.75 Euro (50 pence) in January 1992. Just then it ceased to exist.

Together with Lilo from the old team (a big thanks for the support in the beginning), Celtic Circle was resurrected in summer 1993, but with some changes, and after processing a big questionnaire:

- ◆ It is now without charge – many people pay what they think it is worth to them (thus covering about 3/4 of expenses, the rest is hobby).
- ◆ The "information" part was cut out (I am not really a writer).
- ◆ Via the questionnaire, contact was made with groups in the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Brussels, Prague and Turin.
- ◆ There were only three issues a year instead of four (it was not my intention to finance the German Post), and at least every dancing group must get a copy.
- ◆ As there was, unfortunately, little interest in Irish events and addresses, I cut them out in 1995.

The aim is to spread information about:

- ◆ events, balls and courses, so that more people know the basic details in advance and can organise other events so as not to clash.
 - ◆ the groups with their regular (e.g. weekly) dance/class times and whom to contact. Thus you can visit that group if you are on vacation, have just moved there, or have a business meeting etc.
- A map will sometimes be helpful. People may readily know where to find Copenhagen, Vienna and Amsterdam, but do you know Roosendaal or Backnang?

Then many people asked for Internet, email, as well as contact to groups and events in other European countries. Together with Annette (my wife) and Peter (with the right feel for computers), as the new team, we tried our best. Now you will find Celtic Circle as:

- ◆ a paper version (with group addresses, a list of events, a map for all SCD Groups on continental Europe) with 3 issues a year – easy to open out and take with you on holiday.
- ◆ an email version, without a map, mailed to registered people, with 9 updates a year.
- ◆ a website with a map and different links, but for security reasons without addresses (but of course with email addresses), with 9 updates a year.

But all this would not be possible without the tremendous support of dancers and groups in the UK and all over Europe, sending new or updated information of all kinds by mail, postcard, email or phone (and sometimes a little bit for the expenses).

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to look us up at www.celtic-circle.de, or by email to info@celtic-circle.de. For those without electronic facilities our current address is Annette & Volker Wörtmann, Schlossbergstr. 8, D-74257 Untereisesheim, Germany (Tel: +49 (0) 7132 43562) but BEWARE this address/phone number may CHANGE from OCTOBER.

There is already a link to the Celtic Circle web site from the London Branch web site www.scdlondon.freemove.co.uk.

Cook's Tours

I owe a lot to these two publications. The weekly class information in Celtic Circle has been particularly useful in planning trips with dancing on weekdays culminating in a weekend ball or course.

My silliest trip to date involved 14 days of travelling with 12 dance sessions en route. I started in Grenoble (2 dance sessions), then travelling by train to dances or classes in Lausanne, Geneva, Bern, Zürich (Geroldswil), Zürich (Bassersdorf), Friedrichshafen, Ravensburg, Vienna and Budapest (2 dance sessions). (My Budapest exploits appeared in issue 228 of *The Reel*.)

During that trip, I twice danced in two

countries on the same day. A morning class in Grenoble, followed by an early afternoon train to Switzerland, easily enabled me to dance in Lausanne the same evening. Later, an afternoon class at Zürich (Bassersdorf) followed by a local train to Winterthur, a main line train to Romanshorn and a ferry across Lake Constance, enabled me to dance in Germany in Friedrichshafen the same evening.

I must particularly thank Celtic Circle for the success of my latest trip, as I spotted an entry for the Scots Bonnet group near Lannion in Brittany, who were having an end-of-season ball on June 29th last. This clashed with the Karlsruhe Ball but I opted for Brittany as somewhere new to dance. (This puts into context the problem when a dance at Pont Street clashes with a dance in the suburbs!) I have heard people moan when an event in Northern Germany clashes with an event in Italy! Brittany is so far from its nearest dance groups in France that they have struck up friendships with their nearest groups geographically, namely in Bridport, Guernsey and Jersey, all of whom were represented. I can only thank Celtic Circle for leading me to a weekend of Breton Dancing, the Scottish Dance Ball, a barbecue, galettes and pancakes and coastal walks. Thank you to all of the Scots Bonnet dancers for all their hospitality.

How excellent it would be if Euronews and Celtic Circle could truly be the definitive documents for all continental European dancing activities! (Indeed the dancing in Krasnodar, Russia is now included: see issue 240 of *The Reel*.) They are now on the way to achieving this, but I know of groups meeting regularly whose weekly classes are still not mentioned in Celtic Circle for example. I have torn my hair out when discovering that an event unadvertised in Euronews or Celtic Circle had occurred in a locality where I had been.

So a message to those unconverted groups on the continent: when finalising your weekly classes or annual special events, please think Euronews and think Celtic Circle. The earlier things are advertised, the better chance of them finding their ways into the diaries of people who plan long distance journeys in advance, and avoiding clashes.

Thank you, Aad and Volker, for all your help with this article.

Jim Cook

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GETTING BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS (from La Mure)

One of the must-sees for any visitor to Lyon is the equestrian statue of Louis XIV in the middle of Place Bellecour in the centre of the city. The Scotsman from Kirkcaldy on holiday in Lyon for the first time got a shock on Saturday 8th June when he got that far on his tour. Not only was the weather just like home (cool and wet) but the skirl of the pipes was drifting through the pouring rain and a group of kilted and sashed Scottish country dancers were scurrying about, muttering about getting their pumps wet, where the top of the dance should be, who would face Louis XIV... The unsuspecting tourist had arrived in time for the *Fêtes Consulaires*, held this year on the second weekend in June when all the countries represented by a Consulate in Lyon have a small marquee each, adorned with their national flag and displaying some wares from their homeland, plus documentation, and are invited to take part in the *animation* (entertainment for the crowds – well, that is “crowds” when the weather is fine!) The SCD group in Lyon a.k.a. *La Chanterelle Danses Ecossaises* had been contacted by the British Consulate General and had agreed to take part. After all, which other member country of the UK could produce such a stunning display? A splendid piper had been brought down from Paris and the local Lyon talent was to provide the dancing. Sadly, the Lyon group was momentarily short of available male dancers with kilts so our fellows who dance ordinarily in la Mure (nearer Grenoble than Lyon) sent up reinforcements in the shape of two very acceptable men!

The event began for us with a meal in a restaurant (*noblesse oblige* in France’s gastronomic capital). This particular *crêperie* had been cunningly chosen because it was in an *impasse* with no through traffic so that, after lunch, we could do a rapid walk-through between the pot plants and hanging baskets much to the bewilderment of the clients in the hairdresser’s opposite and the occasional passer-by.

In true French fashion, the gap between what was officially planned and what actually happened was *énorme*. Given the teeming rain, we were relieved to find the stage on Place Bellecour was covered, but the edge of the awning leaked and the area totally dry and safe to dance on seemed to shrink as the afternoon wore on. There were indeed small tents to use as changing rooms, in theory one for men and one for women... in theory, of course... everything rapidly turning into unisex! And although we had been told we’d have the slot between 3 and 4 pm, 3 o’clock came and went while the crowd watched with great delight a group of scantily clad youngsters from Madagascar who displayed expanses of swarthy skin and performed with much pelvic movement to the infectious beat of their local music. This had been preceded by a fashion show with long-legged beauties parading back and forth in what could have been termed trousers if they hadn’t been split up the side from bottom to... bottom... (It soon became clear why one of our la Mure men had a dazed grin on his face every time he came out of the changing tent). As we huddled under our umbrellas drawing up a new strategy to take into account the puddles round the edges, the cables running every which way and the fact that we’d have to dance with our backs to poor King Louis, our



From left to right: Pierre Vernay, Christiane Orgeret, Thierry Manna, Maguy Paillet, Michel Monfroy, Nicole Michon, Jacques Arnoux, Diana Sarran.

hearts sank lower and lower. However, as the curvaceous lovelies from warmer climes finally slipped from sight, they were replaced by Scotland’s greatest export – men in kilts! As it was World Cup season again, perhaps there were some lingering memories of all those much-loved Scottish supporters who swarmed around France four years ago. The Scots have, in fact, been much appreciated in France for centuries since the days when King Charles VII, after Joan of Arc was helped by the Scots to kick the English out of France, first employed the doughty Scots as his bodyguard. This tradition was perpetuated by subsequent French kings and Louis XIV’s bronze heart on place Bellecour surely warmed to what must have been familiar sights and sounds rising from our little platform.

Christiane Orgeret who runs our group took the mike to explain to the audience that we were amateurs and danced for our pleasure, not as a folk group giving displays. She warmly invited anyone enjoying our performance to join us on a Friday evening and learn more. We took our orders from Maguy Paillet (the same Maguy Paillet who created the painting ‘The Blue Lady’ for the 75th Anniversary of the RSCDS in 1998) who had master-minded our demonstration and soon marshalled her troops into position for the first skirmish... er, dance. But even the most battle-scarred general can’t think of every eventuality and we soon discovered that the sound engineer to whom we had entrusted our CDs could not even see us from his (dry)

position inside one of the marquees. So the music for Diamond Jubilee set off before we were ready. The message was eventually relayed to him to stop, but when he started the music up again he started from where he’d left off at about bar 9, so our bowing and curtseying were thwarted again. Third time lucky, the music and the dancers got it together and off we went. Our programme also included Rakish Highlandman, Culla Bay, Pelorus Jack, Summer Assembly, Mairi’s Wedding and The Montgomerie’s Rant, all chosen for the variety of figures they display – and for the pleasure we have dancing them. Perhaps *The Reel* is not the best place to mention that there were a few minor “amendments” or “embellishments” in places which the RSCDS has never thought of, in particular the new Lyon version of

Mairi’s Wedding which has the second couple second time round forgetting to do the reels of three but going straight into the six hands round. Once the realisation dawned, there was nothing for it but to fill up the music by doing the circle twice. Meanwhile, couple three who were due to start killed time by doing simultaneously an extra right hand turn. By the time we took our final bow we felt quite proud of our propensity for rapid correction and split-second improvisation. At no point did our performance fall apart. The crowd of increasingly damp spectators were very appreciative – and we just trusted that no RSCDS official was lurking under an umbrella noting our names with a view to some sort of court-martial when we arrived at Summer School this year.

As for us (Christiane Orgeret, Maguy Paillet, Nicole Michon, Diana Sarran (the only true Scot in the team), Pierre Vernay, Thierry Manna, Michel Monfroy, Jacques Arnoux), we had a whale of a time (and not just because of the quantity of water that was around). And we enjoy ourselves at our regular Friday lessons too. Anyone passing through Lyon and wanting to dance is sure of a warm welcome and should get in touch with Christiane.

Even better, why not get your diaries out now and make a note of the weekend of **8th to 10th November 2002**? We may be small in numbers but we’re big in enthusiasm and can promise you a wonderful weekend. Friday 8th: Ceilidh with music by the Hall family; Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th: workshops (including a Highland class) and on Saturday evening a Grand Ball again with music from the Hall family. Sunday afternoon will be devoted to refreshment in the form of a visit to the Beaujolais. We’ll even point you in the right direction if you want to visit Place Bellecour and ask King Louis up there on his horse what he thought of our dancing! And Monday 11th November is a public holiday here so there will be plenty of time to recover. Book now to be sure of a place: Christiane Orgeret, 32 avenue du Château, 69003 Lyon, France, Tel & Fax 00 33 (0)4 72 34 66 03 or email chorgeret@aol.com.

See you there!

Diana Sarran

RSCDS WINTER SCHOOL

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20-25th February 2003

Application forms are now available for next year’s Winter School from our Branch Secretary, Margaret Shaw (Please send stamped s.a.e.). Complete forms need to be received by HQ with a £50 deposit by 30th September. The total cost of £280 includes dinners, B&B, course fees, transfer (by bus) and ticket for a Ball at Blair Castle. Act quickly if you are interested.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir Jimmy Shand Sculpture Project

Cupar, Fife

Dear Daniel,

As a result of the Sir Jimmy Shand Sculpture Project being included in issues 239 and 240 of *The Reel* a considerable number of donations were received. I am delighted to inform your readers that, because of the tremendous generosity of several Dance Bands, Entertainers, Branches of the RSCDS, Accordion and Fiddle Clubs, various Organisations and many individual Shand lovers, there is now almost sufficient money to fund a completed Project with still some organised Project fund raising functions to take place. Consequently, the Project Working Group have commissioned sculptor David Annand of Kilmany, Fife, to create a life-sized bronze of Sir Jimmy and we intend in the near future to hold discussions with appropriate local officials regarding a suitable site for it in Auchtermuchty, Fife. When a date and site for unveiling are known, I will inform your readers.

I would like to thank you and your readers most sincerely for helping to make this Project successful.

Kindest regards to all your readers from Scotland.

Yours sincerely,

John Thomson,
Secretary,

Dancing in the Land of the Cossacks

Richmond, Surrey.

Dear Daniel,

Further to the appeal in the last issue of *The Reel* for kilts, dancing shoes and accessories to help the dancing group in Krasnodar, Russia, the response has been overwhelming and has kept me busy whizzing around the country picking up contributions. At the time of writing, Fiona Grant (Bristol Branch) is preparing to convey contributions personally to Russia where there is eager anticipation.

On behalf of Ilona Gumenyuk, and of all the dancers in Krasnodar, thank you very much indeed for all your help. Your contributions will be well received.

Do sample the group's enthusiasm at the 2003 dancing holiday week, in and around Krasnodar and the Black Sea, mentioned in the last issue. To bring you up to date, the dates currently proposed are from the evening of Friday 5/9/03 to Sunday 14/9/03. The teachers are currently being finalised and Scottish Measure will provide the music. *Do svidaniya.*

Yours sincerely,

Jim Cook

Bristol

Dear Daniel,

Members of RSCDS Bristol Branch were extremely interested to read Ilona Gunemyuk's article in No.240 of *The Reel*.

As Ilona mentioned, her teaching and dancing in Bristol was the starting point of her association with Scottish Country Dancing, and we have continued to support her and the Kuban Scottish Dancers over the years.

We were disappointed that the General Purposes Committee rejected our application to the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund in April for a grant for sound equipment and dance shoes for this group.

We are grateful, however, that the Committee agreed to donate RSCDS CDs, and are pleased to see that Jim Cook has asked for further contributions to address the critical needs of this group, which has almost no fund-raising ability

of its own.

We wish Ilona and the Kuban Scottish Dancers success for their International Scottish Country Dance Holiday in Russia in September 2003.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Terry

Secretary, RSCDS Bristol

Covering in Reels of Three

Hemel Hempstead

Dear Editor,

I am most interested in what Douglas Dean and Daphne Baker had to say (issues 239 & 240) about covering in reels of three with corners. I too learned much of my dancing from ISTD teachers, Will and Kathleen Raffan. When I joined my present club, more RSCDS-oriented, I was nonplussed to find the corners covering their partners, while the first couple ignored each other. The difference is between dancing the reels at an even pace so as to preserve the initial irregular spacing, and adjusting the pace to make the spacing even. One is clockwork dancing, the other is natural. Hugh Foss discussed even

spacing and even spacing, and evidently favoured the latter, in his article "The reel of three perplexes me" (originally in *The Reel*, republished in his *We Agree to Differ*, together with *Roll Back the Carpet*). Traditionally, dancers seem to have spaced evenly, as is shown by diagram 6.5 of the Threesome Reel, in Dr & Mrs Flett's *Traditional Dancing in Scotland*.

It also seems unnatural to classify reels of three by the figures which precede them, rather than by the ways in which they can be paired. Neglecting all variants, and regardless of whether the reels are longwise or across, and of which places are occupied by which dancers, six different pairings are possible (plus two which are only trivially different). The six are given by the alternatives "head-by-head" or "head-by-tail"; parallel or mirror; and outwards or inwards at the ends of mirror reels. The Manual shows three of these pairings (one in crossing reels), with five entries for a single pairing, "head-by-tail, mirror, outwards".

Yours sincerely,

Ian Galbraith

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DANCING WITH KIWIS

Scottish Dancing experiences in New Zealand

Alas, there is no equivalent to "Summer Tuesdays" in New Zealand. I arrived on 2nd February, the equivalent of our August, and so in mid-summer. Classes apparently resumed everywhere on 1st March so I faced a *whole month* without dancing!

At the beginning of March I found myself in Wellington and attended several groups (there are a lot to choose from). My favourite was "Island Bay" where I was 'adopted' by a super dancer, Marjorie Finn, who kindly gave me accommodation and entertained me with endless dancing gossip.

Island Bay manages to get only about four sets but there is an enthusiasm and fervour among New Zealand dancers that intensifies your enjoyment. I was talking to an imposing middle-aged gentleman with bright twinkling blue eyes and an alluring smile when suddenly the clouds of time rolled away and I recognised him. When he was a young man I had danced with him at Lower Hutt when I lived in NZ in the '60s. I remembered him to be Ian Boyd, but only now did I discover as we chatted, that he had written "The Meeting of the Waters". (Not only that but also the delicious, and 'newly baked', "Nut Loaf" which we danced many times. I find this a fascinating dance and am pleased that *The Reel* saw fit to print it at Ian's request in the spring issue of this year). I am now the proud owner of several books of dances written by Ian, and several books by members of Island Bay and other NZ dance groups. There is great respect for new dances and authors in NZ and anyone can achieve more success than in the UK; there is greater ease of encouragement, publication and seeing your dances danced. Why is that original writing is so repressed and new dances are so undanced in Britain? (I danced Steve Webb's delightful "Anniversary Medley" recently at a Berkhamsted Club dance and wonder if and when I will ever dance it again).

During a punishing tour of the South Island, seeing all the sights and being involved in a near-

fatal coach crash, I managed to achieve Karma, dancing with the Southern Cross SCD club in Dunedin. A very warm welcome was waiting for me under the impressive leadership of Jan Idour who has written a prize-winning dance, a simple but beautiful and flowing strathspey to the memory of "The Reverend Thomas Burns" (nephew of the Great Man) who was the first Presbyterian minister of the province of Otago and the first Chancellor of its university.

The highlight of my trip was the Easter Scottish Dance weekend (now autumn in NZ) in Kaikoura, a small beautiful South Island town set between mountains and rough seas where dolphin and whale watching is the main pursuit. It was organised by the Christchurch group under the able directorship of David Williamson whose fine Scots accent is as fresh as if he had just stepped off the plane from Scotland. There were well over 100 of us for the long weekend and the majority of us were in the class held in the big Memorial Hall under the watchful eyes (and ears) of Marjorie Crawford. (I say this advisedly as she appeared on Easter morning sporting a huge pair of pink bunny's ears). Our tuition was simply superb, particularly amazing as Marjorie (another 'real' Scot) had to replace the originally chosen tutor with very little notice. Almost effortlessly my set learned from her the intriguing "New Scotia Quadrille" and duly danced it as a 'demo'. As Marjorie said, from simple figures this unique dance emerges, the axis of the dance changing from one diagonal to another. Not for the faint-hearted - unless Marjorie is in control.

Whatever may be our fears about Scottish dancing losing its support among adults and appeal among the young, rest assured: young New Zealanders are keeping the tradition thriving. NZ adolescents are less anxious than ours about being 'cool'; every New Zealander is his or her own person and luckily Scottish dancing appeals enormously. I was impressed at the dances to see so many very young people



Dorothy Wilson's car numberplate

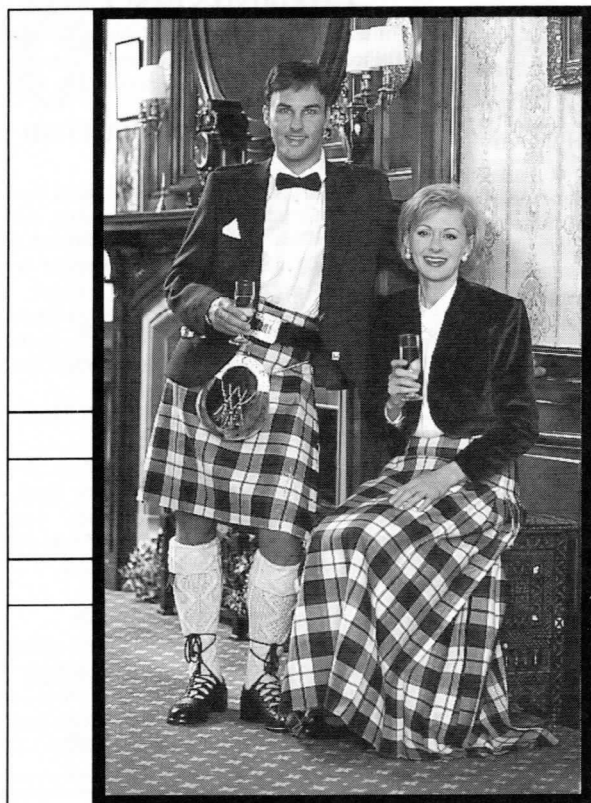
(even seven years of age!) bobbing rhythmically within the sets.

The culmination of the weekend was the Ceilidh on Sunday night. I don't know what Miss Milligan would have thought but dances were liberally interspersed with 'gigs' from young people: miming, 'showgirl' dancing, singing, playing instruments and all with such panache. My favourite bit, though, was the 'excuse me' Scottish dance where you could tap just anyone on the shoulder and replace them. This had hilarious consequences: men dancing with men and 'feuds' where wives ousted forward female interlopers so as to reclaim their husbands. Also I noticed the previously perfect NZ footwork suffered considerably in this dance.

One of the Kaikoura participants was Dorothy Wilson who runs the South Island RSCDS shop. As you can see by the photograph no further devotion to Scottish Dancing could possibly be demonstrated.

If anyone should contemplate going to New Zealand hesitate no more. You are assured of a very warm welcome, a refreshingly wide repertoire of dances and some frighteningly good dancing; but keep away in January and February when effectively the Dance Scene closes down like a hermetically sealed box. Despite NZ's enormous imagination and originality "Summer Tuesdays" have yet to make the long journey Down Under to rescue Kiwis from the long dancing drought.

Elizabeth Woodman



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ROYAL FOR FIFTY YEARS –An RSCDS Anniversary

Reading the early issues of *The Reel*, I discovered that 2002 is the 50th anniversary not only of the Queen's accession but also of the RSCDS becoming 'Royal'. It is not too late to celebrate this, if only with a short article.

In *Reel* no 4, for January-February 1952, it was announced that 'His Majesty the King has graciously permitted the prefix "Royal" to be applied to the Scottish Country Dance Society'. The heading 'Issued by the London Branch of the Scottish Country Dance Society', which had been at the top of each issue from no 1 (September 1951), was changed to '...Royal Scottish Country Dance Society'. This must have been one of the last acts of King George VI, who sadly died during the currency of that issue, on 6th February 1952.

The heading 'Patroness: H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth', which also had appeared from issue number 1, was after an interval replaced by 'Patron - H.M. The Queen', which of course is still in each issue today - see page 2. The Queen has been our Patron, or Patroness, for even longer than the 50 years that she has been Queen, and that we have been Royal.

Daniel Capron



All ages celebrating the Jubilee at the Highland Club Ball in June.
Left: Jimmy McIntosh; Right: James Edward Hamilton

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Saturday 28th December 2002
Finchampstead Memorial Hall, Near Wokingham
Bring a plate of food for the shared supper.
Contact: Jan Douglas, Tel. 0118 978 1125

Day School for Dancers and Musicians
Saturday 8th March 2003

Court Moor School, Springwoods, Fleet.
Teacher for Musicians: Nicol McLaren
Musicians will include Robert Mackay
Followed by an evening social.

Contact: Valerie Frazer, Tel. 01252 843001.



LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

Forthcoming attractions
to be held at

St. Columba's Church Hall,
Pont Street, London SW1.

Fridays: Upper Hall 7.30 - 10.30 p.m.
Saturdays: Lower Hall 7.00 - 10.30 p.m.
Unless otherwise stated

Saturday 7th September **Craigievar**
PRESIDENT'S NIGHT *Jacket Potato Supper*
Saturday 5th October **Sound Company**
Friday 25th October Hallowe'en Party Night
Saturday 16th November **Caber Feidh**
Friday 29th November St Andrew's Night
Saturday 21st December **Frank Reid**
Christmas Dance 7.30 - 11.00 pm
Saturday 4th January Childrens Party 3.00 pm
New Years dance **Hands Three** 7.00 pm
Friday 10th January ...AGM followed by dancing
Saturday 1st February **David Cunningham**
Annual Ball 7.00 - 11.30 p.m.

For further details contact: Frank Bennett on 020 8715 3564, e-mail fb.lhc@blueyonder, or Roger Waterson on 020 8660 5017. You can also telephone our "Dial-a-Programme" service on 020 8763 8096 to hear our programme, or leave a message. Visit our new website at www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk. Everyone is welcome at all our functions, so please come along and join us for an enjoyable evening.

Advance Notice

HESTON & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

70th Anniversary Grand Highland Ball
10th May 2003

George Meikle and the Lothian SCD Band will be joining us from Scotland to play for the event. Tickets (£12.50/£7.50) will be limited. We hope our neighbouring Associations will reserve this date and help us to celebrate our Jubilee. Further information will appear on our website.



FELTHAM & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

Autumn Ball
Saturday 9th November 2002
7.30 - 11.00 p.m.

White House Community
Centre, The Avenue,
(off Buckingham Road), Hampton.

Sound Company

Tickets (including supper) £11.00.
Details from Heather Nolan, Tel: 01784 256549.
heather@nolan75.freemove.co.uk
www.felthamscottish.fsnet.co.uk.

ASHDOWN

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

*Charity Dance jointly for the Red Cross and
The Hospice in the Weald Appeal*
Saturday 21st September 2002

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Beacon Community College,
North Beeches Road, Crowborough.

Sandy Nixon and his Scottish Dance Band

Programme: Wild Geese, Polharrow Burn, Sugar Candie, The Midnight Oil, Mrs Stuart Linnell, Culla Bay, Equilibrium, Bauldy Bain's Fiddle, The Belle of Bon Accord, Miss Hadden's Reel, The Cuckoo Clock, MacLeod's Fancy, The Earl of Mansfield, Pelorus Jack, Kilkenny Castle, Gavin's Reel, *Band's Choice*, Autumn in Appin, J.B. Milne, St Columba's Strathspey, The Bees of Maggiecknockater, Mairi's Wedding.

Tickets, in advance only please, £9.00 (children/
spectators £5.00) plus a plate of food. Contact
Michael Copeman, Tel: 01892 655971, email:
michaelcopeman@aol.com

Advance Notice

Saturday 5th April 2003

Annual Spring Ball

Beacon Community College, Crowborough.

Ian Muir and the Craiggellachie Band

RSCDS TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH

Autumn Dance

Saturday 19th October 2002

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Weald of Kent Grammar School,
Tudeley Lane, Tonbridge.

David Hall and his Band

Tickets £10, including supper. Apply:
Sandra Ranson, 11 Hill Crest, Southborough.
Tel: 01892 52400, or telephone Eileen Orr on
01892 864531.

SANDERSTEAD SCOTTISH DANCERS

St Andrew's Dance

Saturday 30th November 2002

7.30 - 11.00 p.m.

Sanderstead URC Hall,
Sanderstead Hill, South Croydon.

Robin Ellis and his Band

Tickets £12.00 (including supper and wine).
Details and tickets from Joyce Patrick,
Tel: 020 8657 6138.

SOUTH EAST HERTS SCD SOCIETY

Annual Ball

Saturday 16th November 2002

Castle Hall, Hertford.

Ian Muir of Prestwick

Tickets £15.00 (cribs included with tickets).
Contact: Mrs Jane Ritchie, Tel: 01438 812025.

HAMPSTEAD & DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION

President's Night Dance

Saturday 26th October 2002

7.30 - 10.45 p.m.

Silver Cross

St. Andrew's URC Hall, Froggnal Lane,
Finchley Road, London NW3.

(entrance up steps in Froggnal Lane).

Admission £7.00, including refreshments.
Programme available now from Joan Burgess,
Tel: 020 8870 6131.

Reminder!

Our Burns' Night Supper and Dance for 2003
will be on Saturday 25th January.
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY.

ST JOHNS COUNTRY DANCING CLUB

Annual Ball

Saturday 23rd November 2002

7.30 - 11.45 p.m.

Emmbrook School, Wokingham.

Ian Muir and the Craiggellachie Band

Programme: Swiss Lassic, Mrs Stewart's Jig, Anniversary Reel, Kilkenny Strathspey, Dance from New Book, Major Ian Stewart, Culla Bay, Blackwater Reel, The Ship in Full Sail, John of Bon Accord, The Dancing Man, Quarries' Jig, Miss Milligan's Strathspey, The Earl of Mansfield, Ladies' Fancy, Anna Holden's Strathspey, Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich, MacLeod's Fancy, Gang the Same Gate, Follow Me Home, The Montgomerie's Rant. *Extras:* West's Hornpipe, Farewell to Cruimlin.

Tickets £14.00 from Sue Davis, 2 Larkswood
Drive, Crowthorne, Berks RG45 6RL. s.a.e.,
please. Tel: 01344 774344.

BROADWAY (SOMERSET) SCOTTISH DANCERS

Christmas Dinner and Dance

Tuesday 17th December 2002

7.00 - 11.30 p.m.

The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster.

Tickets £17.50

Burns Night Supper and Dance

Saturday 25th January 2003

Broadway Village Hall, Ilminster.

Tickets £7.50.

Tickets for both events from M.C. Cross,

Tel: 01458 252001.

Come and enjoy
a glorious celebration of
Scotland's music, dance and song.

'A Measure of Scotch'

This will be the eleventh show
produced by the Hiel'and Toe Club
of Harpenden.

Also taking part will be
The Harpenden Pipes and Drums
and Harry's Band.

Performances: 3.00 and 7.30 p.m.

On Saturday 12th October 2002

At The Alban Arena, St Albans

In aid of the Ataxia Telangiectasia Society,
a registered charity

For bookings and information,
phone 01582 769607

DANCE EVENTS (continued)

RSCDS CAMBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRANCH

Annual Dance

Saturday 26th October 2002

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Long Road Sixth Form College

Keith Smith and Green Ginger

Programme: The De'il Amang the Tailors, Luckenbooth Brooch, The Silver Tassie, Corn Rigs, The Bees of Maggieknockater, Donald Bane, The Express, Swiss Lassie, Up in the Air, Peggy Dewar, Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich, The Gentleman, The Dancing Master, Jessie's Hornpipe, S-Locomotion, Muirland Willie, The Duran Ranger, Wisp of Thistle, The Round Reel of Eight, The Montgomerie's Rant.

Tickets £8, shared refreshments. Apply Roderick McLachlan, address below.

Day School for Dancers and Musicians

Saturday 8th February 2003

Chesterton Community College,

Gilbert Road, Cambridge.

Teachers: **Anita McKenzie,**

Janet Johnston (Ladies Step),

John Wilkinson (Highland)

Teacher (Music): **Keith Smith**

Musicians: **Jack Judson,**

Ken Martlew, Sheena Sturrock

The Day School will finish with an Evening Dance at Long Road Sixth Form College. Full details and application forms from: Roderick McLachlan, 32 New Road, Sawston, Cambridge CD2 4BW. Tel: 01223 834163, email: rmclachan@waitrose.com.

HAYES AND DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

Annual Ball

Saturday 2nd November 2002

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Vyners School, Warren Road, Ickenham.

McBain's Band

Programme: Bratach Bana, Bonnie Stronshiray, Ray Milbourne, The Jubilee Jig, Culla Bay, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, The Nurseryman, Autumn in Appin, Polharrow Burn, The Dancing Master, Fisherman's Reel, Foxhill Court, Follow Me Home, The Earl of Mansfield, The Moray Rant, A Trip to Bavaria, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder, Kilkenny Castle, Pelorus Jack, The Sailor. *Extras:* The Byron Strathspey, The Montgomerie's Rant, Joie de Vivre.

Tickets £12 including buffet from Margaret Wallace. Tel: 0208 560 6160.

HIGH WYCOMBE AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Annual St Andrew's Ball

Saturday 7th December 2002

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Wycombe High School, Marlow Road,

High Wycombe.

The Invercauld Scottish Dance Band

(Lilian Linden, Peter Macfarlane and others)

Further information from Val Waldron,

Tel: 01494 715936.

READING ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY

Day School

Saturday 9th November 2002 at 2.00 p.m.

Thameside School, Reading.

Teacher: **Gaynor Curtis**

Followed by an evening dance to recorded music.

Details: Janet Wright, Tel: 0118 972 2945.

www.scottishdancingreading.org

RSCDS BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH

Christmas Dance

Saturday 14th December 2002

Sound Company

Tickets £8.50. American supper.

Annual Ball

Saturday 8th February 2003

Craigellachie

Tickets £13.50, including supper.

Venue for both events: Bournemouth School for

Girls, Castle Lane, Bournemouth. Details:

Margaret Robson, Tel: 01202 698138.

RSCDS BRISTOL

Weekend School with

Ron Wallace, USA

Saturday & Sunday 23rd/24th November 2002

Saturday Evening Dance

Hugh Ferguson and the Dalriada

Scottish Country Dance Band

Details: Christine Napier, 3 Crofton Avenue, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 0BP. Tel: 0117 9514374.

ST NINIAN'S SCOTTISH DANCERS

Annual Dance

Saturday 9th November 2002

7.30 p.m.

Icknield School, Luton.

Sandy Nixon's Band

Details: Maggie Garrett, Tel: 01582 665526.

LADIES STEP DANCE DAY

Sunday 6th October 2002

Teacher: **Jenny Greene**

Musician: **Jean Harrison**

Application forms and further information from

Pam Johnston,

54 Massetts Road, Horley, Surrey

RH6 7DS. Tel: 01293 775091.

BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY AND REEL CLUB

51st Highland Ball

Saturday 18th January 2003

7.30 p.m. - midnight

Ashlyns School, Berkhamsted.

Sound Company

Further details and programme will be in the next issue of *The Reel*.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

Christmas Dance

Saturday 14th December 2002

7.30 - 11.00 p.m.

Balfour Junior School, Balfour Road, Brighton.

Admission £3 on the door. Please bring a plate.

Further details: Carol Catterall,

Tel: 01273 564963.

RSCDS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH

Annual Ball

Saturday 26th October 2002

Oxford Brookes University

Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band

Details: Gordon Lloyd, 47 Begbroke Crescent,

Begbroke, Oxford OX5 1RW.

Tel: 01865 375799.

Also

Day School and Dance

Saturday 15th February 2003

Craigellachie Band

RSCDS BRIGHTON BRANCH

Saturday 23rd November 2002

7.00 - 11.30 p.m.

Hove Town Hall (Lower),

Norton Road, Hove.

Green Ginger

MCs: Rodney Burrows, Jimmie Hill

Programme: Jubilee Jig, Machine Without Horses, The Garry Strathspey, The Nurseryman, Quadrille Country Dance, Sugar Candie, Cramond Bridge, Glasgow Country Dance, St. Andrews of Brampton, The Barmkin, Butterscotch and Honey, Pelorus Jack, Ray Milbourne, Monymusk, Summer Assembly, Light and Airy, Neidpath Castle, Over the Water to Charlie, Wicked Willy, The Laird of Milton's Daughter. *Extras:* Round Reel of Eight, The Bees of Maggieknockater.

Tickets: £13.00 (non-dancer £6.00) including supper (BYOB) from: Carol Knights, Flat 2, 78 Rowlands Road, Worthing, BN11 3JU.

Tel: 01903 207493.

email: secretary@rscds-brighton.org.uk.

ADVERTISING YOUR DANCE?

Send details of forthcoming events to the Editor. After publication you will be invoiced at £10 per column inch (fractions *pro rata*), perhaps the cost of one ticket!

PROFESSIONAL ACCORDION TUITION

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Telephone: 020 8398 6799**



JENKINS FOR INSURANCE

A special 'ALL RISKS' policy to cover instruments, P.A., Records, tapes, etc., Available to RSCDS members and non-members alike.

Public liability insurance arranged for bands and individual musicians, dance clubs, classes and teachers

Travel insurance for dancers and musicians

Please phone for a quotation - you may be pleasantly surprised.

**P.J. Jenkins & Company,
312 High Street, Harlington,
Hayes, UB3 4BT.**

Tel: 0845 345 7529 or 0845 345 PLAY

Fax: 020 8564 9063

enquiries@musiciansinsurance.co.uk

OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS

- ADDESTONE & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY** meets Wednesday 8.15 - 10.15 p.m. September to May at Abraham Wesley Unit Hall, St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey. Details from Jane Warner, Tel. 01483 763606
- ALDRINGTON (HOVE) SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP** meet every Tuesday 8.15 p.m. to 10.30 p.m., September to June. Details from John Steer, 57 Hangleton Road, Hove, E Sussex BN3 7GH Tel. 01273 416893
- AMERSHAM THE LUCY CLARK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets Thursdays 8.00 p.m. Royal British Legion Hall, Old Amersham. Quarterly dances with McBain's Band. Details: Dick Field, Stonfield House, Clappins Lane, Naphill, Bucks HP14 4SL. Tel. 01494 562231.
- BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB** meets Tuesday evenings, September to May. Garden dances June and July. Contact: Flora MacGregor, 28 St Albans Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4BD. Tel. 01442 268624
- BOGNOR REGIS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB**. General Class Tuesdays 7.30 p.m. in Bognor Regis Community College. Beginners/Intermediate Class Wednesdays 2.00 pm in Willowhale Community Centre. Details from Valerie Dane, 225 Chichester Road, Bognor Regis, W Sussex PO2 5AQ Tel. 01243 827330
- BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH RSCDS** meets every Friday at St Mark's New Church Hall, Wallisdown Road, Talbot Village. Bournemouth Newcomers and Beginners 7.15 to 8.45 p.m. Improvers/Advanced 9.00 to 10.30 p.m. Weekly children's classes. Technique class by invitation - alternate Wednesdays. Details from Margaret Robson, 24 Upper Golf Links Rd, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8BX. Tel. 01202 698138
- BRIGHTON BRANCH RSCDS** Classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced, country and highland, adults and children. Details James on 01273 737498 or Carol on 01903 207493. Ebsiste www.rscds-brighton.org.uk
- CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB** Dancing every Tuesday 8 p.m. at St Paul's Church Hall, Church Hill, Camberley. Details from Sue Wood, 5 Windermere Walk, Camberley, Surrey GU15 1RP. Tel. 01276 683044
- CAMBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRANCH RSCDS** Classes for all grades. Details from Roderick McLachlan, 32 New Road, Sawton, Cambridge CB2 4BW. Tel. 01223 834163
- CHELSEA REEL CLUB** meets twice a month from October to March in St. Columba's Church (Upper Hall), Pont Street, SW1. Beginners welcome. Instruction given. Dancing to live music. Details from Ruth Hewlett, Tel. 020 8749 5471
- CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY** Dancing most Friday nights 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. from 4th October 2002 to 30th May 2003, at St Andrew's Church Hall, Cheltenham. Details: Mrs Doreen Steele, 45 Dark Lane, Swindon Village, Cheltenham, GL51 9RN. Tel. 01242 528220, email mbsteele45@aol.com
- CHISWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING** in the Upper Hall at St Michael & All Angels Church nr Tunham Green Station, Sundays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. Details Tel. 020 8995 6663 (afternoons)
- CRANLEIGH SCOTTISH DANCE SOCIETY** meets Wednesdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. in St. Nicholas Church Rooms, Cranleigh. Details from Sue Allan, Timber Lodge, The Ridgeway, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 7HR. Tel: 01483 273434
- CRAWLEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB** meets Thursdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to June at Milton Mount Community Hall, Milton Mount Avenue, Pound Hill, Crawley. Details from Dick Gray, 6 Bunting Close, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 5PA. Tel. 01403 264071
- CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH RSCDS** Branch class - all grades, incl. beginners, with technique. Purley (Fri). Other classes in the area. Beginners Reigate & Selsdon (Tues), Gen Reigate (Mon), Purley (Alt Tues), West Wickham (Fri). Advance. Coulsdon (Wed), Reigate (Thurs) Further details, Tel. 020 8660 9773
- EALING SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** Thursdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to June. Tuition and social dancing. St Andrew's URC Hall, Mount Park Road, Ealing, W5. Details from Jo Wilson, 18 Kilpatrick Way, Yeading, Hayes, Middx UB4 9SX. Tel. 020 8841 3788
- EPPING FOREST SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** meets every Wednesday, 8.00 pm at Warren Hall, Wanstead, London E11, from September to May. Details from John Tanner, Tel. 020 8504 1632. www.efsa.org.uk. Email john@efsa.org.uk
- EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION** Dance classes, including beginners, (September to March). Many other activities including frequent informal dances. Details from Mrs Doreen Kirk, 149 Great Tattenhams, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5RA. Tel. 01737 354229
- FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB** Dancing every Tuesday at 8.00 p.m., September to May at the Memorial Hall, West Street, Farnham, Surrey. Details from Mrs Annette Owen, 47 Beauclerk Green, Winchfield, Hook, Hants RG27 8BF. Tel. 01252 845187
- FELTHAM & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** meets Thursdays 8.00 p.m. September to mid July at the White House Community Centre, The Avenue, Hampton. Instruction by Mrs Margaret Henderson. Details from Heather Nolan. Tel/Fax: 01784 256549. Email: Heather@nolan75.freeserve.co.uk. Website: www.felthamscottish.fsnet.co.uk
- FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY** dance on alternate Saturdays at various venues in the Fleet, Hampshire area, from 7.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. September to May. Full details from Earl Spencer, 24 Park Hill, Church Crookham, Fleet, Hants GU52 6PW. Tel. 01252 691922
- GERRARDS CROSS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets at the Memorial Centre, East Common Road, Gerrards Cross on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in term time. Details from Mrs Angela Vince, Rose Cottage, 20 Wilton Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2BS. Tel. 01494 681642
- GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOC.** meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesdays 8.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Details from Mrs N Merrick, 2 Hillbeck Way, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8LT
- HAMPSTEAD & DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION** Dancing on Tuesdays Sept - June from 8.00 - 10.00 p.m. in the Elderkin Hall, Trinity Church, Methodist and United Reformed, 90 Hodford Road, Golders Green, London NW11 (Entrance in Rodborough Road) All welcome. Details from Miss Joan Burgess, 503A York Road, London SW18 1TF. Tel. 020 8870 6131
- HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday at 8.00 p.m. at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden. Classes on Thursdays from 8.00 p.m. Details from Peter George, 120 Clarence Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4NW. Tel. 01272 843001
- HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** Classes Wednesdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., Kenton Methodist Church Hall, Woodgrange Avenue, Kenton. Details of these and other activities from Sheena Henderson, 92a Kenton Road, Kenton HA3 8AE. Tel. 020 8907 6581
- HAYES & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** meets Fridays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., September to July, St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Hayes, Middx. Details: Margaret Wallace, Tel. 020 8560 6160
- HERTSMERE REEL CLUB** Monthly dances on third Saturday 7.30 to 11.00 p.m. Elm Court, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar. Details Mary Fouracre, 171 Dunraven Drive, Enfield, EN2 8LN. Tel. 020 8367 4201
- HESTON & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** Thursdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to July, tuition followed by social dancing. Also monthly Saturday dances and ceilidhs. All at Heston Methodist Church Hall. Details from Mrs Rosemary Mitchell, Tel. 01784 254401
- HORSHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets Mondays, September to May at Millenium Hall, Roffey, Horsham, 8.00 - 10 p.m. Details from Mrs P Hyatt, 2 Blackbridge Lane, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1RP. Tel. 01403 263187
- ISLE OF THANET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS** meet Wednesdays September to June at Holy Trinity & St John's C. of E. Primary School, St John's Road, Margate. Beginners 7.00 to 8.00 p.m. General 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. Details from Mrs Linda Cross, 60 Bradstow Way, Broadstairs, Kent. Tel. 01843 869284
- LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB** meets regularly at St Columba's, Pont Street, SW1. Some major functions held at other venues in London. For details see adverts in The Reel or contact Frank Bennett, 12 Lingfield Road, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 8TG. Tel. 020 8715 3564. Dial-a-programme service: 020 8763 8096
- MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday 8.00 p.m. at St Mary's R.C. School, Cookham Road, Maidenhead. First Tuesday in the month is Social Dancing Evening. Details: Frances Granshaw, 20 Byron Close, Twyford, Berks RG10 0BG. Tel. 0118 375 4422. www.maidenheadscottishdancing.org.uk
- MAIDSTONE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP** meets every Wednesday 8.15 - 10.15 p.m. at The Grove Green Community Hall, District Centre, Grove Green, Maidstone. Details from Peter Green, 65 Willington Street, Bearsted, Maidstone ME15 8JR. Tel. 01622 737649
- MARKET HARBOUROUGH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY** Dancing at Fairfield Road School, Fairfield Road, Market Harborough. Tuesday 7.30 - 10.00 p.m. Details: Mrs Connie Elphick, "Lazonby", 9 Little Lunnon, Dunton Bassett, Lutterworth, Leics LE17 5JR. Tel. 01455 209446
- MEDWAY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION** Dancing Thursdays 8.00 to 10.30 p.m. at Upchurch Village Hall, Upchurch, Kent. Beginners welcome. Many other activities. Details: Tim Law, 44 Haig Ave, Chatham. Tel. 01634 409976
- MID SUSSEX CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** Events throughout the year at various venues. Members of SASS Classes held before St. Andrews/Burns. Contact Lis Perrin, 45 Lyndhurst Close, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 8AR. Tel. 01293 413720
- MILTON KEYNES BRANCH RSCDS** Mixed ability class Mondays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. Bradwell Village Hall, Milton Keynes. Details from Janice Jones, 10 Corrigan Close, Blechley, MK3 6BP. Tel. 01908 372595
- NORTH HERTS REEL CLUB** Dancing most Wednesdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. from September to May at Roecroft School, Stotfold. Informal Saturday Dances. Details: Mrs Jennifer Warburton, 17 Victoria Road, Shefford, Beds SG17 5AL. Tel. 01462 812691
- NORTH KENT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** Dancing 7.45 - 10.00 p.m. most Wednesdays at Methodist Church Hall, Crayford. Beginners welcome. Details: Bill MacFarlane, 26 Lewis Road, Istead Rise, Northfleet, Kent DA13 9JD. Tel. 01474 832801
- ORPINGTON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** Dancing every Thursday 7.45 to 10.15 p.m. at Petts Wood Memorial Hall. Classes Monday evenings at Chislehurst Village Hall. Details from Mrs V.J. Vincent, 2 Keith Cottages, Luxted Road, Downe, Orpington, Kent BR6 7JY. Tel/Fax: 01959 575750
- OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH RSCDS** Dancing on Thursdays throughout the year in Oxford. Details: Gordon Lloyd, 47 Begbroke Crescent, Begbroke, Oxford OX5 1RW. Tel. 01865 375799
- READING ST. ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY** Dancing at St. Andrew's URC, London Road, Reading from 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to May, Tuesdays (elementary) and Wednesdays (general). Details: Rita Cane, 45 Beech Lane, Earley, Reading RG6 5PT. Tel. 0118 975 7507. www.scottishdancingreading.org
- RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** meets at the Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, every Wednesday evening at 8.00 p.m. from mid September to end of May. All welcome. Details from Marshall Christie, 42 King Edward's Grove, Teddington, TW11 9LU. Tel: 020 8977 5237
- ST ALBANS & MID HERTS CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** Dancing most Fridays from October to March. Group meets at Homewood Road U.R. Church Hall, Sandpit Lane, St Albans at 8.00 p.m. Details from Mrs I. Smallwood, 26 Gresford Cl. St. Albans, AL4 0UB. Tel. 01727 760878
- ST. ANDREW SOCIETY (LONDON)** - The Wimbledon and District Scots' Association. Dancing Tuesdays 8.00 p.m. at Wimbledon Community Centre, St. Georges Road, Wimbledon, SW19. Details: Miss Alison Raffan, 2 Erridge Road, Merton Park, London, SW19 3JB. Tel. 020 8540 1755
- ST. JOHN'S SCD WOKINGHAM** meet every Thursday 8.00 - 10.15 p.m. Sept to May at St. Sebastian's Memorial Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham. Also children's class on Saturday mornings in Crowthorne. Details from Sue Davis, 2 Larkswood Drive, Crowthorne, Berks. Tel. 01344 774344
- THE SCOTTISH CLANS ASSOCIATION OF LONDON** meets at St. Columba's Church, Pont Street, London SW1, every Tuesday from October to end of May for Scottish Country Dancing, 7.00 to 10.00 p.m. Details from Tom Symington. Tel. 020 7834 7151 or 020 7828 6792
- SEVENOAKS REEL CLUB** meets every Tuesday from September to May, 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. at the dance Studio, West Heath New School, Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3AX. Details: Pauline Honey, 2 Hunsdon Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3AX. Tel. 01732 455872
- SHENE SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP** meets every Wednesday from September to May 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., at the Sheen Lane Centre, SW14. Details from Brian Cresswell, 16 Cole Rd, Twickenham, Middx TW1 1EZ. Tel. 020 8892 0471
- SIDCUP & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION** Dancing on Wednesdays from 8.00 to 10.15 p.m. throughout the year at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Sidcup, Kent. Details from Terry Boorman, 15 Old Farm Road West, Sidcup, DA15 8AG. Tel. 020 8302 2974
- SOMERSET BROADWAY SCOTTISH DANCERS** meet on Sundays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. at Broadway Village Hall, Nr Ilminster. Social dances January, June, September, November, December. Details from Michael Cross, Tel. 01458 252001
- SOMERSET BRANCH RSCDS** Classes for Beginners/ Improvers Mon 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Experienced dancers Tues. 7.45 - 9.45 p.m. Both classes held in Montecleafe School, Somerton. Ladies' Step Classes monthly, Thursday 8 - 10 p.m., Charlton Mackrell. Details: Sheila Barnes, Tel. 01458 223596
- SOUTH DORSET CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** Dancing at St. Edmund's Church Hall, Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth, Dorset, Wednesday, 7.30 to 10.00 p.m. Details from Miss Valerie Scriven, 13 Fenway Close, Dorchester Dorset DT1 1PQ. Tel. 01305 265177
- SOUTH EAST ESSEX SCOTTISH SOCIETY** Dancing Fridays, 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend (near the hospital). Tuition 7.30 to 9.00 p.m. Details from Mrs Anne Chandler. Tel. 01702 294645
- SOUTH EAST HERTS SCDs** Classes in Hertford, Sept to May. Technique/Demonstration (alternate) Mon, Inter/Adv Tuesday, Beginners Thursday, Children Saturday a.m. (Great Amwell). Dances 2nd Friday of each month 7.45 - 10.45 p.m. Details: John Brace, Tel. 01438 717420
- SOUTHWICK SCD CLUB** meets Thursdays 8.15 to 10.15 p.m. at Southwick Community Centre, Southwick, W. Sussex. Details from Brenda Hinton. Tel. 01273 595017
- SURBITON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** Dancing every Thursday at 8 p.m. September to mid June at St. Mark's Church Hall, Church Hill Road, Surbiton. Details from David Horwill, 64 Catherine Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx TW16 7TG. Tel. 01932 784866
- TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH RSCDS** Beginners, General and Advanced classes on Mon, Tues, Thurs, 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., at St. Augustine's School, Wilman Road, Tunbridge Wells. Details from Mrs Eileen Orr, 10 Oaklands Road, Groombridge, TN3 9SB. Tel. 01892 864531
- WALLINGTON SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR WALLINGTON, CARSHALTON & DISTRICT** hold weekly adult classes for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced levels on Monday evenings. Details from Mrs Maggie Westley, 56 Mount Park, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 4PS. Tel/Fax: 020 8647 9899, email dmwestley@btinternet.com
- WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY** Dancing Class at Bushey Community Centre, High Street, Bushey (adjacent to Bushey Golf and Country Club). Thursdays from 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., Details from Stuart Krelloff, 60, Tunnel Wood Road, Watford, Herts WD17 4GE. Tel. 01923 492475
- WEMBLEY & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** Mondays 8.00 p.m. Dance Class. The Church of the Ascension, The Avenue, Wembley, Middx. Details from Mrs Pam Crisp, 19 Compton Place, Watford WD19 5HF. Tel. 020 8421 0470
- WINCHESTER BRANCH RSCDS** Club night (all abilities) Wednesday 8.00 - 10.00 p.m., Weeke Community Centre. Classes Tuesdays 8.00 - 10.00 p.m., St Paul's Church Hall. Details from Katherine Clow, 8 Windermere Gardens, Alresford, Hants SO24 9NL. Tel. 01962 733253. email: katherine.clow@virgin.net
- WITHAM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** Dancing every Wednesday 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., The Centre, UR Church, Witham, Essex. Details from Christine Erskine, 58 Hurst Green, Brightlingsea, Essex CO7 0EH. Tel. 01206 303375.

Would you like to advertise your Society here?
Contact Jeff Robertson, Tel: 01903 530750