



The Reel

rscds
London Branch

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MARCH TO MAY 2022

Scottish country dancing -
For fun, fitness and
friendship

London Branch Dances



COVID-19 Forecast



With the ever-changing situation regarding events being postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19, the status of London Branch events, including dances and classes, might change from those stated in *The Reel*. We therefore ask readers to check the Branch website www.rscdslondon.org.uk and the Branch's eUpdates for up to date information on all Branch classes and dances.



Celebrating the London Branch's 90th Anniversary in style at Allum Manor Hall, Elstree on Saturday 16 October 2021

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Issue 320 should be with UK based members by 28 May 2022 unless delayed in the post. However, due to the current situation with COVID-19 there may need to be a last minute change to the schedule. Please check the latest situation on the London Branch [website](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk).

Contributions for *Reel* 320 should be sent to arrive by and preferably in advance of Sunday 17 April 2022 by email to editor@rscdslondon.org.uk

The opinions expressed by contributors in *The Reel* do not necessarily reflect the official position of the RSCDS, or of the Branch.

From the Chair: Joanne Lawrence



In the last edition of *The Reel* we were celebrating a successful return to dance and looking forward with optimism to a season of reunions and renewed joy in dancing. The joy continued with a successful Day School and on into our Christmas Dance where we celebrated with energising music, courtesy of Marian Anderson and her Scottish Country Dance Band, and the perennially high standard of refreshments from Margaret Shaw and team (who deserve special mention for their innovative and delicious approach to COVID-19 secure catering).

The advent of Omicron variant tempered the joy slightly, resulting in the cancellation of our popular Burns Ceilidh and Supper Dance, however we have much to look forward to with our Winter Wednesday Dance on 16 February, AGM Dance on 11 June and a proposed Garden Dance on 2 July. The first Combined Societies' Dance for three years will take place on 2 April and promises to be a wonderful evening, hosted this year by the London Highland Club with music from Sandy Nixon and programme with contributions from London Branch, the Little Ship Club and St Columba's Dancers.

Classes are going from strength to strength, and we have been delighted to welcome many new dancers to classes in Richmond and Park Walk. The Wednesday afternoon Mixed Ability Class at St Columba's has resumed this term, with Simon Wales stepping into Jeni Rutherford's shoes for the first five sessions, to be followed by Roy Southall and Jane Rose pending the appointment of a permanent class teacher.

We have two major anniversaries approaching, bringing with them many opportunities to dance in London, to work with neighbouring groups and to develop dancing opportunities for future generations.

2022 is the 70th anniversary of HM The Queen's accession to the throne and we propose to include a Platinum Jubilee flavour to our AGM Dance and the proposed Garden Dance in July (of which more in the next *Reel*).

The RSCDS centenary in 2023 will be marked by celebrations across the world, not least the Centenary Ball in the Edinburgh Assembly Rooms on 25 March 2023. Closer to home, London Branch members have submitted an impressive number of dances for possible inclusion in RSCDS Book 53 which will be published in the centenary year. We have also held an initial meeting with other South East RSCDS Branches and Dance Groups to discuss how we may mark the centenary locally and a range of events around the region are under consideration.

Sixteen different groups, from Norwich to Eastbourne and many points in between, attended the meeting, enthusiastically sharing ideas for activities to commemorate the past and to develop the future. A small committee will progress plans for centenary celebrations and a second group will focus on youth activities, building on London's Project 23 and other local initiatives in our drive to create a new generation of Scottish country dancers in the region.

Our Annual General Meeting on 11 June will be the first since 2019 to be held in person, rather than virtually. Whilst no one would celebrate the reason so many of us developed familiarity with virtual meetings, they did show us how to extend the reach of branch events to those unable to travel to the meeting in person. We hope to maintain this level of access and are working to live stream the AGM from St Columba's. More details to follow as plans progress.

You will see elsewhere in this edition details of the AGM and call for nominations to the London Branch Committee. There is a lot going on in London and many different opportunities to become involved, whether that be promoting dances, helping out with events or participating as a committee member. If you would like to know more, please do speak to any member of the Branch Management Committee or email chair@rscdslondon.org.uk. It is interesting, it is fun, and it is making a difference to the dance community.



Branch Chair, Joanne Lawrence formally receiving her Branch Award from Vice Chair, Jim Cook at the Christmas Dance

From the Editor: Simon Wales



With six editions under my belt, it seems to be quite a good time to review how things are going. Getting to grips with the technical aspects of Microsoft Publisher (which seems to have a mind of its own!), was the first

hurdle to cross but thankfully Meryl Thomson is always ready to give advice!

I am also very grateful to Edward Bunting and Meryl for proofreading. They pick up on everything that I miss, no matter how many times I read it. Willie Lawrence is also invaluable with his help in laying out the advertisements.

I am always open to ideas and suggestions - it is your magazine after all. Just drop me a line at editor@rscdslondon.org.uk

ROYAL
SCOTTISH
COUNTRY
DANCE
SOCIETY



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Chairman: Lorna Ogilvie

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[YouTube.com/RSCDSLONDONBRANCH](https://www.youtube.com/RSCDSLONDONBRANCH)



Objects of London Branch

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

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

London Branch Matters

Membership and *The Reel* Subscription

As a member of RSCDS London Branch, you enjoy the following benefits: reduced rates at London Branch classes, dances and events; four issues per year of *The Reel*; 10% discount on items from the RSCDS online shop and two issues per year of the RSCDS magazine *Scottish Country Dancer*. Members wishing to pay by direct debit may now do so by completing a payment mandate either by clicking on the appropriate link in the table to the right of this text (for electronic *Reel* readers) or by going to www.rscdslondon.org.uk/membership-page

Membership may also be purchased by Credit/Debit Card or PayPal or by cheque payable to RSCDS London Branch by going to the same page. New members should also complete the membership application form on the London Branch website. Membership/subscription enquiries and cheque payments should be addressed to the Membership Secretary, Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood, Woking GU21 3QB, 01483 721989, membership@rscdslondon.org.uk Any reader who receives a paper issue of *The Reel* may send their email address to Gaynor Curtis and receive an electronic copy too at no extra charge. Those receiving an electronic copy are asked not to pass this on, unless it is to someone they feel might like to help support the Branch by becoming a member or subscribing.

The current rates for RSCDS membership through the London Branch are as follows:

Membership category	Junior 12-17 years	Young Adult 18-24 years	Adult 25 years +	Adult Joint (2) 25 years +	2nd Branch	<i>The Reel</i> only (subscription)
Electronic (<i>eReel</i>)	£14	£20	£24	£40	£4	£4
<i>The Reel</i> by post (UK)	£16	£22	£26	£44	£6	£6
<i>The Reel</i> by post (Europe)	£22	£28	£32	£56	£12	£12
<i>The Reel</i> by post (Rest of the World)	£25	£31	£35	£62	£15	£15

Summer Wednesday Dance

Wednesday 1 June 2022

7.00 - 10.00pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street
SW1X 0BD

David Hall

Joie de Vivre 8x32 J
The Happy Meeting..... 8x32 J
Balmoral Strathspey 4x32 S
Cramond Bridge 8x32 R
Sugar Candie 8x32 S
Flight to Melbourne Sq 4x32 R
EH3 7AF..... 8x32 J

Mrs MacLeod 8x32 R
A Capital Jig 8x32 J
Fair Donald 8x32 S
Maxwell's Rant..... 8x32 R
Neidpath Castle 3x32 S
Inchmickery 5x32 J
The Reel of the Royal Scots..... 8x32 R

Extras:

Jig to the Music..... 3x32 J
The Laird of Milton's Daughter 8x32 J
The Deil among the Tailors 8x32 R
Round Reel of Eight Sq 88 R

Admission includes light refreshments

RSCDS Members £12, non-members £14
full time students (with card) and
spectators £7
Children (under 16) free

Tickets available on the door - cash or card
All dances will be recapped/walked through

Crib available at www.rscdslondon.org.uk

The Reel Advertising Rates

In black and white, but including colour logo: £6 per column centimetre.

In full colour: £8.50 per column centimetre (three columns per page).

All advertisers receive a complimentary copy of *The Reel*.

Send Forthcoming Events adverts to
Willie Lawrence at:
danceads@rscdslondon.org.uk

Other adverts and enquiries on pricing to
the Business Editor, Jeff Robertson, at:
businesseditor@rscdslondon.org.uk

End of Season Dance

Following the Branch AGM

Saturday 11 June 2022

Doors open at 6.15pm

AGM 6.45 - 7.30pm

Dance 7.30 - 10.30pm

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

Adam Brady

The Jubilee Jig 8x32 J
The Royal Deeside Railway..... 8x32 R
The Golden Wedding Strathspey 8x40 S
The Bees of Maggie Knockater..... 4x32 J
Anniversary Reel..... 4x32 R
Wisp of Thistle..... 8x32 S
The Wild Geese 8x32 J

Miss Hadden's Reel..... 8x32 J
The Reel of the Royal Scots..... 8x32 R
The Royal Wedding..... 8x32 S
The Machine Without Horses..... 8x32 J
The Royal Patron 8x32 R
Balmoral Strathspey 4x32 S
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh 8x40 R

Extras:

The Happy Meeting..... 8x32 J
Old Nick's Lumber Room 8x32 J
West's Hornpipe 4x32 R
Round Reel of Eight Sq 88 R

Admission includes light refreshments

RSCDS Members £12, non-members £14
full time students (with card) and
spectators £7
Children (under 16) free

Tickets available on the door - cash or card
All dances will be recapped

Crib available at www.rscdslondon.org.uk

Dates for 2022 - 2023

17 September 2022 - New Season Dance

15 October 2022 - Annual Day School

26 October 2022 - Autumn Wednesday

17 December 2022 - Christmas Dance with

Robert Whitehead and the Danelaw Band

14 January 2023 - Burns Ceilidh with the

Caledonian Reelers

15 February 2023 - Winter Wednesday

31 May 2023 - Summer Wednesday

10 June 2023 - End of Season Dance

Combined Societies' Dance

Hosted by London Highland Club

Saturday 2 April 2022

7.00 - 10.30pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street
SW1X 0BD

Sandy Nixon and his Band

Hooper's Jig 8x32 J
The Belle of Bon Accord..... 4x32 S
JB Milne 8x32 R
Inchmickery..... 5x32 J
The Rose of the North 8x32 S
Scott Meikle..... 4x32 R
Les Remparts de Séville 8x32 J
The Dream Catcher 1x96 S
Red House 8x40 R
Postie's Jig..... 4x32 J

Glastonbury Tor 8x32 R
City of Belfast 3x32 S
Pelorus Jack 8x32 J
Polharrow Burn 5x32 R
The Gentleman 8x32 S
The Kelloholm Jig 8x32 J
The Byron Strathspey 3x32 S
Major Ian Stewart 8x32 J
Montparnasse 4x32 S
Mairi's Wedding 8x40 R

All dancers £13 including tea and squash

Please bring your own interval refreshments

Programmes and cribs are on the
London Highland Club website
www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk
For further details contact
peter.forrow@gmail.com

South East Dance Diary

The diary on the Branch website is regularly updated, and all societies in the South East may submit details of their functions.

For a hard copy, please send an SAE to Caroline Hamilton.

Email diary@rscdslondon.org.uk or by post to Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW.

London Branch Classes



Set yourself a fun challenge join a Scottish country dance class

We have classes for...

The London Branch runs a large number of classes throughout the year. Some of these are regular classes during term-time; others are specialist classes in advanced technique and classes for young people.

All classes are now bookable online, and credit cards are taken on the door. London Branch will be monitoring government guidance on COVID-19 and will run classes accordingly. Check www.rscdslondon.org.uk as the latest position may change.

Park Walk Primary School

Park Walk, London SW10 0AY

Summer Term 2022

Weeks 1 - 5

Wednesdays 27 April - 25 May

7.00 - 9.00pm

Beginners and Improvers

with teacher Davinia Miln

An introduction to basic steps and formations for new dancers while supporting others to develop their technique and general dancing skills

Technique Class for Intermediate and Advanced Dancers

with teacher Maureen Campbell

A technique class for dancers who have a good working knowledge of the steps and formations and who are looking to develop their technique, confidence, style and enjoyment of the dance

Half-term Wednesday 1 June

3 Summer General Classes

Wednesdays 8, 15 and 22 June

7.00 - 9.00pm

A chance for everyone to dance together, regardless of ability or experience with a different teacher each week. Come along and join in

Class fee: £7 per class for RSCDS members
£9 per class for non-RSCDS members

Underground: South Kensington, Sloane Square

Free on-street parking available after 6.30pm (Chelsea match days 10.00pm) in nearby streets

Buses: 11, 22, 19, 49, 328, 319, 345 Park Walk is in the [Ultra Low Emission Zone \(ULEZ\)](#)

No entry into the school before 6.40pm
No smoking or vaping on school premises

Contact: Jenny Kendrick:
classes@rscdslondon.org.uk

St Columba's Church

Upper Hall, Pont St, London SW1X 0BD

Summer Term 2022

Wednesdays 27 April - 29 June

2.30 - 4.30pm

Half term Wednesday 1 June

Mixed Ability

A low impact social class suitable for dancers with at least some knowledge of basic steps and formations - visitors welcome

Class fee: £10 per class to recorded music

Underground: Knightsbridge, Sloane Square

Buses: 19, 22, 137, 452, C1

Pont Street is in the [Ultra Low Emission Zone \(ULEZ\)](#)

For details contact Jenny Kendrick
classes@rscdslondon.org.uk

Richmond

Richmond Library Annexe, Quadrant Road,
Richmond TW9 1DH

Summer Term 2022

Wednesdays 27 April - 22 June

7.30 - 9.30pm

Half-term Wednesday 1 June

Beginners and Improvers

with teacher Judith Jones

An introduction to basic steps and formations for new dancers while supporting others to develop their technique and general dancing skills

Class fee: £6 per class to recorded music

Underground/Train: Richmond

Buses: H37, 65, R68, R70, 110, 190, 371, 419, 490

For details contact Jenny Kendrick
classes@rscdslondon.org.uk

Families in London Dance Scottish

The Family Class is taking a break for now. Please direct any requests for children's activities, eg birthdays/ceilidhs to Jenny: classes@rscdslondon.org.uk



Coram's Fields

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

Sundays 27 March and 8 May 2022

11.00am - 1.00pm

Technique Class for Advanced and Very Advanced Dancers



Mervyn Short
27 March



Teachers

Joan Desborough
8 May

with musician Dave Hall

A class aimed at advanced and very advanced dancers who are able to perform and execute all steps and formations to a high standard of dancing and assimilate instructions quickly

Class fee: £9 per class for RSCDS members
£10 per class for non-RSCDS members

Underground: Russell Square
Free on-street parking available
Coram's Fields is in the [Ultra Low Emission Zone \(ULEZ\)](#) and the [Congestion Charge Zone](#)

For details contact Jenny Kendrick
classes@rscdslondon.org.uk

Representing the Branch

The demonstration team will resume its activities shortly.

To this end, we are looking for more volunteers of a competent standard to join the team, benefit from superb teaching, and be prepared to volunteer for events in and around London - we even have the occasional weekend trip to festivals such as The White Rose Festival in Leeds. The class fees contribute to the costs, but expenses are available for performances.

Please contact Elaine Davies on demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk if you are interested and would like more information.

Branch Committee Report: Branch Secretary, Mel Rowland



The Committee met online on 7 January 2022 for the first Committee meeting of the new year. Chair, Joanne Lawrence, praised the great quality and atmosphere of Branch events which had taken place since

the resumption of face-to-face activities during the latter part of 2021. So, it was with real sadness that the Committee, recognising the growing concern over Omicron variant, accepted the decision to cancel the Burns Ceilidh, always a favourite in the London Branch dancing calendar. A revised version of the Branch COVID Safety Guidelines was approved.

Treasurer, Simon Wales, presented the Branch's financial status, in anticipation of preparing the end of year accounts for this year's AGM. Following a small surplus in 2020, a loss is forecast for 2022 due to lower numbers at events and the cancellation of the Burns Ceilidh. However, classes have been doing well since their resumption in September 2021 and it is hoped that attendance at dances will improve further as more people feel confident to return. The Committee agreed that the Branch should continue to plan its usual programme of events for the coming season, including the popular dancing in Kensington Gardens in August.

The Committee then turned to sub-committee convenors' reports. It confirmed that classes should go ahead as usual in January. A vote of thanks was given to Jeni Rutherford who has retired as teacher of the Mixed Ability Class after many years of enthusiastic teaching. The class will be in the capable hands of Simon Wales, Roy Southall and Jane Rose for the next term pending the identification of a permanent replacement for Jeni.

Members then turned their attention to planning Branch events for this season and beyond. It was decided that the Branch should celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the programme for the AGM dance on 11 June and with a Jubilee-themed Garden Party to take place on 2 July. Some of the committee members reflected fondly on the Street Party which had been held at Pont Street to celebrate HM The Queen's 90th birthday in 2016.

Looking further ahead, in 2023 the RSCDS will be marking its centenary. London Branch is participating in South-East England coordinating committee discussions to organise celebratory events across the region. In addition, as part of the centenary, the RSCDS will be publishing a celebration book of dances (Book 53) in 2023, containing dances submitted by RSCDS members. Our Vice Chair, Jim Cook is co-ordinating the review of dances submitted by London Branch members ahead of the Society submission deadline in February.

A project planned for 2022 is the digitising of the Branch archives. At the moment, the archives are in the safe custody of Branch President, Rachel Wilton. We hope to produce a searchable database of descriptions and digital images of our archives. This will make our archives accessible to many more people.

If anyone has any Branch memorabilia which they would like to donate to the archives, then please contact: secretary@rscdslondon.org.uk

The committee meeting ended on a note of optimism given by the Chair, that the Branch should be proud of what we have achieved during the last difficult year and with a full programme of events being planned for the rest of the season and beyond, there is plenty to celebrate.

Letter to *The Reel*

Two couple dances

Why are there so few two couple dances on programmes these days? I think it is due to the increasing average age of the dancers.

Two couple dances are, in RSCDS tradition, danced in four couple sets. This produces an attractive pattern - centre couples dance, then on alternate repeats all dance, although the fourth couple do not usually start dancing until the third repeat of the music. This alternating pattern looks good in a demonstration, and two couple dances can be a useful standby for a team. Some years ago, the London Demonstration Team was due to perform at a garden party run by one of my local clubs. One of the men picked up an injury shortly before the event and on the day, two of the ladies got stuck in a traffic jam on the M25. This rendered the planned demonstration impossible. The remaining five team members had to improvise a demo from two couple dances and Highland dances.

However, if done this way, the first three

couples have to act as dancing couple three times in a row. This may not matter in a demonstration, where the full eight repeats are not likely to be danced. It does matter for social dancing, when it may be too much for some of the participants.

This was brought home to me recently, when I could not find a partner for *The Linton Ploughman* then realised it was just as well that I could not. I think it would be sensible, when dancing socially, to do these dances in three couple sets. This would avoid couples ducking to the foot of the set after two turns as dancing couple, which makes a mess of the progression.

Elizabeth Bennett, Worcester Park

Was it not the case that some bands in the past played two couple dances nine times through so that all couples were dancing the last time through? Glasgow Highlanders for example? Did dancers have more stamina for Red House (8 x 40R), or were they just younger?!

Any comments - do get in touch...

RSCDS London Branch Annual General Meeting Saturday 11 June 2022 at 6.45pm

The Annual General Meeting of the London Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society will be held on Saturday 11 June 2022 at 6.45pm in the Upper Hall at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London, SW1X 0BD.

It will be followed by our End of Season Dance which will also take place in the Upper Hall.

Members and friends of the Branch are invited to attend both events but only members may vote at the AGM. If you cannot get to the meeting, we will still be pleased to see you at the dance.

The meeting usually lasts about 45 minutes. You will learn about the work of the Branch and our plans for the future. The Committee welcomes your comments and opinions, either through a formal motion, which must be received in writing by the Branch Secretary by 31 March 2022, or during general discussion at the meeting. The motion should be signed by the proposer and seconder, both of whom must be members of the Branch. Only motions submitted in advance and appearing on the Agenda can be voted upon.

An agenda for the meeting and a report covering the Branch's activities will be circulated with the next issue of *The Reel*.

Members are also encouraged to stand for election as an office holder or committee member. Nominees should provide the Secretary with a written nomination by 31 March 2022 signed by the nominee, a proposer and a seconder, all of whom must be Branch members. There are twelve positions in total on the Committee: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and eight ordinary members. We hope that members will step forward and join the Committee to contribute to its work and support Scottish country dancing, so please consider nominating yourself.

If there are more candidates than places, ballot papers will be issued to all Branch members with the next issue of *The Reel*. It is also possible to help with various aspects of the running of the Branch without necessarily being on the Committee.

All current Officers and members of the Committee are eligible for re-election. They are listed below with the date they joined or last re-joined the Committee:

Chair: Joanne Lawrence (2017)
Vice Chair: Jim Cook (2019)
Treasurer: Simon Wales (2003)
Secretary: Mel Rowland (2019)

Committee members

Elaine Davies (2009)
Jenny Kendrick (2015)
Margaret Moore (2020)
George Potts (2009)
Thelma-Jane Robb (2011)
Margaret Shaw (2007)
Vacancy (x 2)



CD Review: Jeremy Hill



Simmerdim

Danelaw Dance Band Favourites, Volume 1 Robert Whitehead & The Danelaw Band CD (£11.95 including UK P&P) available from

danelawdanceband.co.uk/shop.html

Sets of reels for unspecified dances (three 8x32 sets, respectively leading off with *Dirk Krommer's Reel*, *Mrs Mary Printy* and *The Sally Gardens*; 5x32, with *The Road to Holligarth*) and sets of jigs (5x32, leading with *Miss Jacqueline Dixon*; 4x32, with *Young Scotty*; 8x32, with *The Whistling Postman*), plus *Eva Three Step*, *Waltzes*, *Polkas* and *Flirtation*, *Boston* and *Gay Gordons Two Steps*.

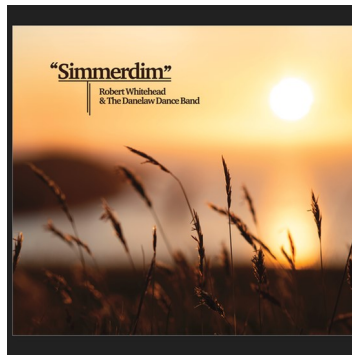
It is 52 years since Robert founded The Danelaw Dance Band, and in a typical year the band might clock up 50,000 miles, travelling around the UK for gigs, plus international trips from Uganda to the USA. All this was of course put on hold in 2020, leading to a gap of some 18 months. Eight months in, with no dancing on the horizon, the band took an opportunity to get together to record. Joining Robert is his son Graeme on second accordion (and Graeme takes the lead on three of the tracks), with Alan Brown on keyboards and David Ashbridge on drums.

With the full band only able to get together in the studio on the day of the recording, they decided to focus their varied programme on favourite tunes and sets that they would use at a mixture of Old Time and Scottish country dances. The outcome is a well-rounded package, with a strong, balanced, tight and rhythmic sound, with lots of interest across the band. I particularly enjoyed the harmonic flavour that Alan Brown's piano adds to the mix.

There's something of a theme of Shetland, where Robert's daughter lives and the band would often play. This gives rise to the title of the CD: 'Simmerdim', the Shetland name for the period around the longest day of the year, 21 June. Robert's daughter took the photos used on the cover, which were taken by her around the Simmerdim period at midnight, when the sun never sets. *Simmer Dim* is also the title of a tune by Gideon Stove, which provides the music for the *Viennese Swing* (a waltz), and it is one of several characterful Old Time tracks. There is also a tune of Robert's, *The Dancing Granny*, for Shetland's favourite dance, the *Boston Two-Step*, and dedicated to Laurence and Edith Malcolmson of Lerwick, with thanks "for their kind hospitality over the past 25+ years."

For country dancers, the sets are not for specific dances, but each combines similar tunes in a range of different styles. With varied lengths of dance, they would make good alternative sets, and all are bound to set feet tapping. My favourite was the last, all traditional tunes - *The Sally Gardens*, *The Barmaid*, *The Mason's Apron* and *Willafford* - but there are also plenty of recent composers featured.

It is good to hear from Robert that the band has been getting busy again with wedding and country dances in recent months, but also to see that this is billed as Volume 1 of band favourites - I look forward to hearing more!



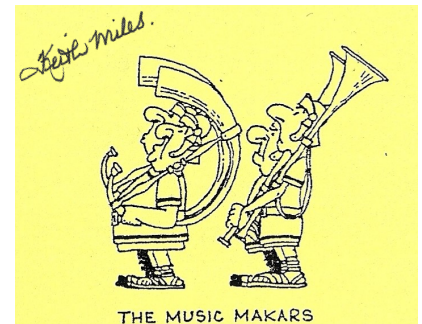
Bands

THE FRANK REID SCOTTISH DANCE BAND

For Scottish country dances, ceilidhs, weddings and reeling. Any size of band from one to five. Despite moving to Scotland, still interested in gigs in the south, particularly Friday/Saturday combinations. Tel 07860 104653 or reel@frankreid.com

CALEDONIAN REELERS

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



Where is This?

Answer to 'where is this?': on p1: *Neidpath Castle*, a dance from *RSCDS Book 22*, devised by the late Derek Haynes with the original tune *Dr and Mrs Green* by K Macaulay Jones.

Do you have any dance name related photos? Email: editor@rscdslondon.org.uk

New RSCDS Publication - available from the RSCDS shop rscds.org/shop/

SIR WALTER SCOTT

A Celebration through Scottish Music and Dance - The Heart of Mid-Lothian

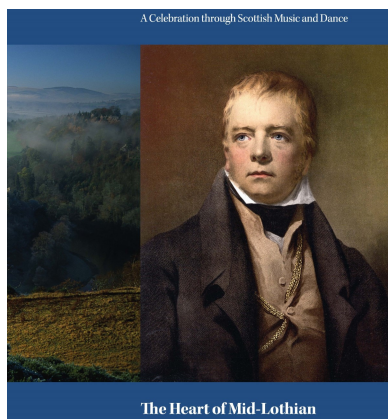
Celebrating the life of Sir Walter Scott, 250 years after his birth, this book is inspired by a leaflet originally published in 1820, entitled *The Heart of Mid-Lothian*.

Inspired by Walter Scott's novel of the same name, the original publication contained the instructions for six country dances.

However, this 2021 anniversary issue is much more than a book of dance instructions - it aims to take you on a journey through 19th century Scotland, sharing the life of Walter Scott, bringing to life the novel's characters, while helping the reader experience the Scottish dancing scene of Edinburgh in the 1820s.

Illustrations from the period sit side by side with the original dance instructions and music. Modern reconstructions and music arrangements help dancers enjoy an influential time in dancing history.

Quotations from period experts and, importantly, Scott himself give an insight to life at that time.



These dances come from an earlier era and are simpler than many of those recently devised - enjoy them for the simple pleasure of sociability and moving to music, while celebrating the life of one

of the most influential figures in Scotland's history.

Accompanied by a brand new recording from Alastair McCulloch, Andrew Forbes and Màrtainn Skene, 21st century instruments hark back to the 19th century, with arrangements reminiscent of the time.

'A fantastic lineup of musicians providing a vibrant and creative presentation of an important part of our musical history - It is a treat to listen to!'



The Story behind the Dance: Meryl Thomson



A series of articles from Meryl Thomson delving behind the history of some of our dances and their music. Under the spotlight this issue is *Lady Glasgow*.



Lady Glasgow and the musical Earl

The dance *Lady Glasgow* appears as the 27th dance in *Miss Milligan's Miscellany*. The dance deviser is unknown and the dance structure is pretty typical of dances from the eighteenth century. The tune attached to this dance is called *Lady Glasgow's Strathspey* and is attributed to the Earl of Eglinton.



Hugh Montgomerie, 12th Earl of Eglinton, c1780. Oil on canvas, by John Singleton Copley

Who was Hugh Eglinton? The Eglinton peerage was created in 1507 by James VI of Scotland for Hugh Montgomerie, third Lord Montgomerie. Hugh Eglinton was painted, having got to the rank of Major in the army by this point, in 1780 by John Singleton Copley, an American artist living in London; the painting is now in the Scottish National Gallery collection.

Hugh Montgomerie was born on 5 November 1739 in Ayrshire and died on 14 December 1819. He took a commission in the British Army in 1756 and fought in the French and Indian war, defeating the Cherokee, and in the American War of Independence.

Hugh took the title Lord Montgomerie from 1769 and became a member of Parliament for Ayrshire during the period 1780 to 1796. He married Eleanora Hamilton, daughter of Robert Hamilton and Jean Mitchell, around 3 June 1772.

They went on to have two sons and two daughters. He succeeded to the Earldom as 12th Earl of Eglinton in 1798 through his third cousin, was elected a representative peer and became a member of the House of Lords where he was later made Baron Ardrossan in 1806.

One of his notable acts was to promote and help to fund the Glasgow, Paisley and Ardrossan Canal project and the Ardrossan Railway. Sadly, the works were not finished in their entirety due to lack of financial support. His various other projects, including rebuilding Eglinton Castle and constructing Ardrossan Harbour (later completed by his son), helped contribute to the increasing family debt.

Montgomerie played the fiddle and cello and wrote music in an amateur capacity and he would apparently play in the band at Eglinton Castle on occasion. He wrote a book of tunes called *New Strathspey Reels for the Piano Forte, Violin and Violoncello Composed by a Gentleman* which was published by Nathaniel Gow in 1796. There are many tunes connected to the Earl of Eglinton, either written by him or for him - one of the best known being the tune now associated with the dance *The Montgomerie's Rant* - *Lady Mary Montgomerie's Reel*, which he wrote for the daughter of the 11th Earl of Eglinton. The tune called *Nathaniel Gow's Lament For (Hugh) Earl of Eglintoun* was written for him after his death - he was one of the Gow family's patrons and their fourth collection had been dedicated to him in 1800 (see below).



Lady Glasgow is a strathspey tune in Eglinton's 1796 collection. The title might be referring to Lady Augusta Hay who married George Boyle, fourth Earl of Glasgow on 7 March 1788 at the age of 22. George became Lord Lieutenant of Ayrshire, a role previously held by Hugh Eglinton which suggests they would have known each other and would have mixed in the same social circles. Lady Glasgow herself appears to have taken interest in social reform. There is a letter in the Scottish Records Office entitled *Suggestions [by Lady Glasgow] for various aspects of social reform including schools*, written in 1789.

Classes Roundup

Branch classes are in full swing after the Christmas break. Why not come along and enjoy the fun, there is a class to suit everyone. You can book and pay online and just turn up, or pay by card or cash on the door.



Beginners and Improvers Class at Park Walk, Chelsea



Technique Class working on double triangles in Waverley



Mixed Ability low impact class in the Upper Hall at St Columba's Church



Richmond Beginners and Improvers



MC Lindsey Rousseau with Marian Anderson and her Band on a very festive stage at St Columba's



Branch Treasurer and President reminiscing!



Aaron Smith and Joanne Lawrence change places with Marius Lorek and Davinia Miln



Joan Blake and Hamish Todd enjoy a birl, watched by Maureen Campbell



Enjoying the refreshments: Above - Lindsey Rousseau, Danielle Reinstein, Lizzy Conder and Rachel Wilton. Below: Willie Lawrence and Peter Knight



Four of the Branch's teachers: Davinia Miln, James Fairbairn, Judith Jones and Lindsey Rousseau



Welcome Bucks Fizz and COVID-19 safe plated food conjured up by Margaret Shaw and her catering team



First Couple Elle Wyatt and Rory Dyer and second couple Zoe Hill and Beth Fairbairn retire to the sidelines



Rory Dyer, Beth Fairbairn, Aaron Smith, Elle Wyatt and Marius Lorek picnicking

How We Started Dancing: Philippe and Lindsey Jane Rousseau

Continuing our occasional series with Philippe and Lindsey Jane Rousseau reliving their early dancing days.



Philippe and Lindsey Jane met on the dance floor of Younger Hall in August 1981, in Duncan Macleod's class for teachers and very advanced dancers. She wore a red frock spread with white dots. Arrogantly sure of his Gaelic charm and dancing abilities he invited her to dance and casually asked her which part of the United States she was coming from, which did not go down very well, as she immediately made clear to him in his mother tongue. After such an auspicious start under the patronage of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, they have had more than forty years to elaborate the true story of how they came to be on that floor for such a portentous occasion. This is the tale we set off to recount.

It was the first time she attended the Summer School in St Andrews. He had only missed it twice since his first visit in July 1969. As the more senior in age we shall begin with his side of the narrative.



Philippe's training began in 1962 in a small group of friends keen to learn how to dance traditional dances. They were taught by an exceptional dancing master, Dr Jean-Michel Guilcher, who was also a leading authority in the field of ethnography of French traditional communities. Dr Guilcher, who had himself been taught in France by a pupil of Cecil Sharp, Miss Pledge, did not teach them dances but first of all how to dance, how to stand, how to walk, how to properly do running steps, skipping steps, slip steps et cetera. For the first six months his pupils were only trained to keep a good posture when standing or moving, and to walk in rhythm when dancing very simple dances. They also learned the essential part of the whole thing: to enjoy the pleasure of moving as well as possible, in a group whose members are aware of each other's presence and collectively contribute to make the dance a common and successful action.

Dr Guilcher used a wide repertoire of traditional dances making use of a variety of formations and styles, borrowed from different regions of Europe. English country dance, either collected by Cecil Sharp and his pupils, or taken from Playford's successive publications, played a major part in his teaching (one of his own academic publications is on the early history of country dance).

In 1966 one of his former pupils, Liliane Chamoin, who had created in Paris a group called 'Le Chardon d'Écosse' came to his class and invited his pupils to attend a demonstration of Scottish country dances by a team of dancers

from the London area directed by Andrew Grant. That performance proved a defining moment. Dr Guilcher had neither the inclination nor the time to continue to teach his old class and a number of his pupils joined the 'Chardon d'Écosse'. At first Philippe, who had just had his first child, Antoine, and served as an officer in the army from 1967 to 1969, could not join Jacques and Liliane Chamoin's class. He started to learn Scottish dancing during the autumn of 1968 and attended his first Summer School in St Andrews in July 1969, where he followed Mrs Hill's class for advanced dancers. He then went to St Andrews every summer but in 1970 and 1976, attended a summer school near Paris taught by Bill Clement and Jennifer Wilson and annual Easter week-end schools on the continent, in Paris, The Hague, and Rechberg. This gave him the opportunity along the years to learn, from a variety of teachers, different approaches to the technique, the style, and the spirit of the dance, as well as to the way of teaching it: Andrew Gillies, Duncan Macleod, Bill Clement, Jennifer Wilson, Bill Hamilton, Mary Stoker, Bill Little, Nancy McLaren, Mary Murray, Johan Maclean, Derek Haynes, Bobby Monro, M. L. West, Bobby Watson, and above all Jean Milligan and Bill Ireland.

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At the Putney Ball, 2013

During the seventies he left the 'Chardon d'Écosse' and joined a new group who met in the American Church under the name of 'The Tartan Plaidie'. This is the associated group which later became the Paris Branch of the RSCDS. In 1977, during the last Summer School of her life, Jean Milligan, who for a few years had heavily hinted at Philippe's duty not only to enjoy dancing but to also contribute to its diffusion, firmly told him that he now had to take his certificate. He promised and held his promise in the following years.

To add a little anecdote to the story. A few years after the demonstration of Scottish country dances in Paris by Andrew Grant's team in 1966, having moved to Wimbledon with Lindsey, he took over the very advanced class in Wallington from Andrew Gillies. One evening, he was asked how, French as his idiosyncratic way of speaking English proved him to be, he had come to learn how to dance and teach Scottish country dance. When he told them about that first demonstration in Paris, there was a sudden outburst of laughter amongst them. The Wallington dancers, his class, were Andrew Grant's old demonstration team.



At the St Andrews Ball, Hurlingham, November 2019



Lindsey's entry into Scottish dancing is simple and was a long time ago. Scottish country dancing was part of primary school activity, and it was fun. With a mother who was a Macpherson, family gatherings and holidays

included an eclectic mix of dance with reels and ceilidh dances always amongst them.

The RSCDS came into her life in 1980 when, living in Maidenhead and teaching in a comprehensive school with a vibrant extra-curricular performing arts programme, she was asked to start a 'dance club'. At that time Bill Forbes was the teacher at the Maidenhead Scottish Dance Club and she went along on Tuesday evenings to learn how to dance (properly!).

She really enjoyed the dancing and the people, many of whom became real friends. The pupils at school benefited from Lindsey's learning and a number enthusiastically joined her at day schools, Polesden Lacey, Pont Street and Summer Tuesdays. Summer School at St Andrews had the reputation for a high standard of teaching and dancing so with a pupil from school, she decided, to try a week there in 1981. The rest, as they say, is history!



Epilogue:

History, of course, has a habit of repeating itself, although never in quite the same way. In the case of Philippe's experience of dance training in 1962 he was not the only member of his family to do so. His sister Mylène danced too and is still an active member of the RSCDS Paris Branch, and a beautiful dancer of Scottish, French and other traditional dances. The generations follow: Jean Hervé (Mylène's son) danced in London and still dances in France and Europe, his brother Ronan is a dance musician (and dances too!). Philippe's children are all Scottish dancers; Antoine is known internationally as a teacher, Mathilde dances in Paris and Judith in London, France and Europe. Now, the daughters of Mathilde and Judith are also enjoying their Scottish dancing in Paris. From a small beginning the auld alliance continues to grow!

Summer Tuesdays: Graham and Caroline Hamilton



After 27 years of organising the Summer Tuesday dances at St Columba's, we have decided to call time on our involvement in this most enjoyable institution which has played such a huge part in our lives.

It was in the early 1980s that Graham started dancing at Summer Tuesdays. The format was already well established, with Graham and Fay Cattell in charge and Frank Reid's Band providing the music every week. With the emphasis on enjoyable social dancing with a relaxed dress code, Tuesdays was a unique dancing experience. I soon got involved in their running, gaining some valuable MCing experience when the Cattells were away on holiday.

Caroline moved to London and took up Scottish country dancing in 1986 and it was at Tuesdays that our paths first crossed. Five years later we got engaged and married in 1992 by which time we were both heavily involved in Scottish dancing, both at our local club, the Wembley and District Scottish Association, and helping out with Tuesdays as the Cattells pursued their other hobby of sailing. It was in 1994 that they decided to take a break from dancing, and we were honoured to be asked to take on Tuesdays full time.

Frank Reid has been the resident Band from the early 1970s right up until the present day and his exciting style set the tone and musical standard for Tuesdays. When he was on holiday, Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band or Brian Hamilton's Band provided the music with Graham playing the drums and Caroline taking over the MCing duties. Other London bands who have played at Tuesdays have been Karl Sandeman and Craigievar.

On 11 August 2009, the next major development in the formula took place when Nicol McLaren flew down from Scotland to become the first Scottish based band to play at Tuesdays. He was followed by George Meikle, Jim Lindsay, Ian Muir, Marian Anderson, Iain MacPhail and Robert Whitehead, thus establishing the pattern of mixing both local and bands from the north. The quality of the music was always key to Tuesdays' success and we owe all the musicians involved an enormous debt for their enthusiasm, dedication, friendship and, of course, their amazing musical skills.



Marian Anderson playing to a packed St Columba's hall on a Tuesday in 2015

Organising Tuesdays has many advantages over running a dance club. Not many groups have a season of 12-17 weekly functions to plan every year and their regularity allowed us to rapidly develop their style and to react to changing times, enabling us to experiment with new ideas, embracing new technologies like websites, email, Facebook and Twitter. Dancers knew that they could turn up and dance without buying tickets in advance or checking to see if the event was on. This was certainly a factor in our weekly numbers remaining high, even as Scottish dancing numbers were generally falling. Indeed, our average numbers remained relatively consistent at between 100 and 120 throughout our tenure.

However, all good things come to an end and, with the last two seasons being lost to COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions, now seems the right time for us to move on. We also feel that dancing in the post-pandemic world is likely to be significantly different from before and we want to focus on Wembley and The Craigellachie Band. We look forward to many more fabulous evenings of dancing and playing across the region in the years to come.

We would like to finish by saying a huge thank you to all the dancers who have supported Summer Tuesdays over the years. Dancing for sheer pleasure is what has always inspired us and if we provided an environment for people to relax and enjoy dancing unencumbered by concerns of perceived dancing standards or being fearful of making mistakes, then we have achieved our goals.



The *Reel* has received so many tributes to Graham and Caroline, and a selection are printed below.

The *Reel* wishes Graham and Caroline well in their 'retirement' and thanks them for their commitment to dancing.

Graham and Caroline gave dancers popular dances during the summer weeks when there was a paucity of dancing. The evenings always moved along quickly as hardly any walking was done and very little calling. With seventeen dances on the programme it needed to move swiftly as most were also encored. All the dancers that have ever attended a Summer Tuesday will agree we owe a large debt of gratitude to them for giving so much of their time and effort to make them the success they surely were.

Stephen Webb

Where have the last 27 years gone? Thank you, Graham and Caroline, for making summers so special at the time of year when dancing, broadly, takes a rest. With top bands and excellent programmes, Tuesdays are the day in the week to look forward to. They will certainly be a hard act to follow!

Jim Cook, Vice Chair RSCDS London

Over the years, regardless of the outside temperature, Summer Tuesdays were always great, with Graham and Caroline a big factor in that. They put in so much work to make the events a success, especially when having guest bands and, having helped out on a couple of occasions, it was a pleasure to be part of the team.

Catriona Bennett, London Highland Club

Congratulations to Graham and Caroline for running the annual Summer Tuesdays which dancers from London and further afield so enjoy. I can understand their wish to move on to other things and I hope replacement organisers can be found.

Peter Forrow, London Highland Club

Readers are also reminded of Elizabeth Bennett's article in Reel 301 where the picture of Caroline and Graham first appeared. It is reprinted in part below:

Graham and Caroline Hamilton, who have run the Summer Tuesday dances at St Columba's Church hall for many years, celebrated their Silver Wedding on 4 July 2017. However, they accepted this demanding role before they got married and it did not occur to them that when they named the day, their special anniversary would fall on a Tuesday.

Summer Tuesdays were started by the late Jimmy McIntosh in 1958. Graham Cattell, President of the London Highland Club from 1974 - 1994, and his wife, Fay, ran them for about 20 years. Graham Hamilton, who had been Vice President of the LHC, took over the helm when the Cattells retired from their day jobs and moved to the south coast to pursue their other hobby, sailing.

Summer Tuesdays do not have a committee, so a large amount of work falls on a few people. Graham Hamilton performs most of the MC duties, and sometimes plays the drums. Caroline looks after the catering and MCs when Graham is in the band.

About 120 people came to celebrate with Graham and Caroline, a large number even for Summer Tuesdays, in spite of the fact that it was a very hot evening. Frank Reid and his band were in fine fettle, and the programme included *Anniversary Reel* and *St Columba's Strathspey*. There was a spectacular oblong cake with tartan icing to match Graham's kilt. This cake turned out to be in two halves, one sponge and the other carrot cake, so dancers could choose whichever they preferred.

Lives Remembered

Just as we go to print, we are sad to report the recent deaths of Jerry Reinstein, Branch Vice President and member of Paris Branch; Valerie Frazer, longstanding member of BHS Border Branch, and more recently a member of St Andrews Branch; and Ray Dyke member of Harlow Caledonian Society and life member of RSCDS Manchester Branch.

Full obituaries will appear in *Reel* 320.

A Ready Wit

from Rita Marlow

Gillian Russell

24 June 1937 - 27 December 2021



Gill Russell (as she was always known) was born in the Princess Beatrice Hospital, London. She had an older half-brother, Alistair, of whom she always spoke fondly, but sadly he died in 1973.

Gill spent time in Edinburgh with an aunt during the war, returned to London and eventually attended Putney High School. Although her academic achievement was not too good, she achieved above average standards in sport, and was captain of the netball, hockey and tennis teams.

She began General Nursing Training at St. George's, Hyde Park Corner, in 1955, then to Atkinson Morley for neurological and neurosurgery training, followed by midwifery with the Central Midwives Board in Scotland, where she was based in Craigton.

Her prowess at tennis followed her, because in 1958, her team from St. George's played and won at Wimbledon, in the finals of the London Nurses' Tennis Championship.

After qualifying in 1960, she decided to visit Alistair, who was then living with his family in Kenya. Her month-long visit was extended when she cashed in her return air ticket, and obtained work in a Mission Hospital, having had her qualifications verified by the Nurses and Midwives Council of Kenya.

Returning home, she added a Health Visitor's Certificate to her qualifications, while at some time in the early 1970s discovering the RSCDS London Branch, and she became an enthusiastic dancer. She did obtain her Teacher's Certificate in 1981, but after a short attempt as a class teacher, very quickly decided that teaching was not for her. Her skill was very definitely on the organising side, and she played a large part in the formation of The Cairngorm Dancers (see *Reel 280 p12*). Her sociability and sense of humour played a large part in the success of their Hogmanay and Easter house parties and Summer Balls.



Gill Russell (right) and fellow Cairngorm Judy Rambridge dancing *The Middleton Medley* at the last Midsummer Ball with The Cairngorm Dancers (24 June 2006)

A lively jig was written for her by Muriel Johnstone, aptly named, *Laughter Ben the Room*. It was played for *Major Ian Stewart*, on the CD recorded at the Cairngorm Midsummer Ball in 1998.



Rita Marlow, Stephen Webb and Gill Russell at Polesden Lacey (*Reel 313*)

Making very good use of all her skills, early in 1967 Gill joined The Queen Alexander's Royal Army Nursing Corps, Territorial Army, became matron of her unit, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, receiving the Royal Red Cross medal for her services.

She also worked full time from 1967 to 1999, as the Medical Social Advisor for Unilever. This involved working at the Head Office in central London, but also travelling many miles visiting employees and pensioners throughout the London area, and also to other sites in Port Sunlight and Suffolk.

After a severe stroke, Gill spent her last years in The Red House in Ashted. Although needing constant help with all aspects of her life, in many ways she retained her lively mind. She also kept staff in order, reminding them of the correct way to do things. Their answer was then, "Yes, matron!"

When she told them about her Scottish dancing friends, a group from the Wallington and Reigate area was invited along to entertain the residents with music and dancing for their Burns celebrations.

She, and her ready wit, will be missed by the many whose lives she touched.

An Athlete and Dancer

from Joyce Patrick

Alistair J Patrick

9 September 1942 - 17 December 2021



Alistair was born in Edinburgh where he attended George Watson's College and it was in his final years there that he learnt the basics of Scottish country dancing. At school he had shown promise as a sprinter, and this was his main interest whilst studying for an economics degree at Edinburgh University. In 1962 he equalled the University Sports Day record of 10.2 seconds for the 100 yards, which he shares with several others including the great Eric Liddell.

After graduating in 1964, Alistair went to work in London and soon became involved with St Columba's Church and occasionally went along to the Monday evening social. He continued running, and also played rugby for London Scottish - often in the same team as Bill Ireland!

A year later, he and Joyce were married, and they began dancing regularly at St Columba's on Monday evenings. Soon they were dancing several nights a week, mostly at the Royal Scottish Corporation Halls in Fetter Lane (see *Reel 318*). They became enthusiastic members of both the Reel Club and London Highland Club, and it was during this time that they made many lifetime friends. Both Alistair and Joyce attended various classes over the next few years including Bill Ireland's Advanced Class and became members of the London Branch Demonstration Team in 1969. Fraser was born in 1972 and Alan three years later. While he still fitted in his carry cot, Fraser was often asleep in the hall throughout the evening. John Laurie had an idea for a new dance around this time and named it *Fraser's Favourite*.

In 1967 Alistair went to work for BOAC doing market research into the viability of Concorde. This led to cheap travel and they both enjoyed visiting many distant places. The travel bug stuck with them, and they continued to fly around the world until Alistair could no longer cope with it.

Owing to repeated injury Alistair had to give up active athletics but became an athletics judge. Through this he became involved with the Festival of Scotland in London and in particular the Richmond Highland Gathering. He ended up organising all the heavy events, such as tossing the caber, and was also very involved with the organisation of the whole event.

In 1990 Alistair and Joyce started a Scottish country dance group in Croydon at Sanderstead URC. Come retirement in 2005 they moved back to Scotland to live in Dunbar in East Lothian. Again, they started a Scottish country dance group. Both these groups are still active today.



Alistair ready with his camera...

In retirement, Alistair enjoyed photography and expanding his stamp collection. He also spent many happy hours designing and building his model railway. He had always wanted to do this but had never previously had a house with enough room.

Alistair was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease in 2014 and had to move into a care home early in 2021. He will be greatly missed by all his friends but particularly by Joyce, Fraser and Alan.

Lives Remembered

A Lifelong Dancer

from Josephine Jones

Joy Richards née Hayzelden

30 December 1926 - 26 December 2021



Joy Hayzelden was born in Gravesend, Kent, on 30 December 1926, and spent her youth growing up at Station House, between East Farleigh Station and the lock on the Medway.

Joy attended a dance school in Maidstone where the teacher insisted on calling her Josephine (hence the name given to her only surviving daughter). She excelled in all forms of dance, and won several certificates, medals and cups including representing Kent against the rest of the UK! Dance was to remain an active interest until she required two new hips in her 80s.

After VJ day, Joy decided to train as a teacher and enrolled at Cooper's Hill Training College, overlooking Runnymede, near Egham in Surrey. Part of her training was drama, and she found herself playing Lady MacDuff and being rather attracted to a certain Kenneth Walter Richards, playing Macbeth!

They were married on 24 March 1951 at St Mary's Parish Church, East Farleigh, with Joy's brother Ray as best man, and honeymooned in Switzerland. Married life started in Earl's Court, flat-sitting for friends who managed an Indian tea plantation. Opposite was the nurses' home, and on several occasions she encountered a young Australian student serenading nurses over the road. On the occasions when nobody ventured to offer him food, Joy and Ken would invite him in to share their supper. As repayment, he painted a magnificent fresco of the Australian outback along the kitchen wall. His name was Rolf Harris.

At weekends, when Ken was acting and Joy dancing, daughter Josephine was taken to either Waterloo Station or Victoria Station, depending upon where Grandpa was based, and taken by train to East Farleigh, Kent, for the weekend.

Joy became a Life Member of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society on 7 November 1954 (so I think she got her money's worth!), and, as a member of the RSCDS London Branch Demonstration Team, got to travel to numerous places across Europe, taking Scottish country dances to festivals and special events.



Joy and her partner Ian Anderson pictured (far right) at a demonstration team performance in the late 1950s

Joy did not just dance, she also taught dance classes in the evenings, including teaching students of the Royal Ballet School at White Lodge, Richmond Park, how to do Scottish country dancing.



Joy (far right) with daughter Jo and her godmother Moyna Gilbertson, with Alex Westwood behind after rehearsing at East Farleigh prior to a fete in about 1960

When Jo married John on 30 July 1983, Joy did all the catering herself, hosting the reception at home, exactly one week after Joy and Ken both took early retirement, as the ILEA (Inner London Education Authority) was being disbanded. Ken had been missing the theatre, so they moved to the edge of Clifton Downs, Bristol, where Joy had her own patch of garden as well as the shared gardens overlooking the Avon Gorge to enjoy, complete with foxes and nesting kestrels. By now, she was enjoying sailing again with her brother, Ray and other friends. As arthritis took hold, she would end up cooking in the galley, rather than being up on deck. It was with great sadness after her second hip replacement and Ray's Parkinsons' Disease diagnosis that her share in the boat was sold.

Joy nursed Ken through his final cancer at home with great diligence and, with the arrival of Jonathan and Benjamin, had a new lease of life as 'Grandma', moving to Wells after Ken died so that she could listen to them perform Choral Evensong in the Cathedral and providing John and Jo with a base for when they were visiting them at weekends, as well as hosting chorister parties in her garden. With the advent of two new hips, she was able to walk faster than Jo, but was disappointed to have to give up both her dancing and the sailing.

On 14 October 2017, Joy was diagnosed with breast cancer as well as dementia so she moved into Torrwood Care Centre as she could no longer take responsibility for herself.

The family is eternally grateful to all those who have cared for Joy, visited her and nurtured her over the years. It took the coronavirus pandemic for her to understand that we couldn't visit in person as often as we would like, and we are thankful that grandson Jonathan and his wife Giedré were able to introduce her to her great-grandson, Arwel, in person on 7 June 2021, rather than just being in the weekly family online meetings which she enjoyed after tea on Thursdays.

Jo spent a happy week visiting Joy in October, once she had recovered from COVID-19, and parted in good spirits. The family continued to enjoy online meetings, but Joy became increasingly frail and passed away at 1.00am on 26 December 2021.

Generous, Kind and Loving

from Mervyn Short

Rosemary Anne Gurner née Short

5 September 1945 - 14 December 2021



My sister, Rosemary Gurner, passed away on 14 December 2021. Six years ago, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and since 2018 the cancer spread to the bones, liver and lungs. During the first

lockdown, she started to lose her balance and hearing, caused by cancer in her skull damaging the cranial nerves. She was rendered completely deaf at the beginning of 2021 and by the autumn, she started falling. She was admitted to hospital and from there went to a nursing home where she ended her days. It was pitiful to see Rosemary in such a state, but she never complained and remained stoical.

After leaving school, Rosemary trained as a hairdresser and during her long career managed several salons. For recreation she started ballroom dancing and encouraged me to take up dancing too. It was at dance classes that Rosemary met her friend Rowena who suggested that she should try Scottish country dancing and she agreed to go along to the Crawley Scottish Country Dance Club. Rosemary took me for moral support and we both fell in love with Scottish country dancing.

This became our main hobby and we both took medal tests. When I qualified as a teacher of Scottish country dancing, Rosemary attended my first class. Years later, I wanted to tutor a teacher training course and although Rosemary had no intention to teach, she came along to make up numbers and subsequently gained her Associate Certificate with the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing and UKADance. Throughout my adult life, Scottish country dance has played a very significant role and I have met many wonderful people, been given some amazing opportunities and have travelled the world. My great fortune is all down to Rosemary taking me to that class in Crawley many years ago; I shall always be grateful to her.

In 1999, Rosemary's life changed dramatically when she met her future husband Glyn. After their marriage, Scottish country dancing was replaced with gourmet meals, theatre trips, weekends away and numerous cruises to exotic places. Tragically, Glyn died in 2008 after only eight years of marriage. After a while, and with my encouragement, Rosemary returned to Scottish country dancing. As well as dancing in West Sussex and London, Rosemary regularly attended the class I taught in Frimley and all Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch events.

Rosemary never returned to dancing after the first lockdown, and I have found it heart-breaking to witness her decline. However, I can take comfort from knowing that she is now at peace and no longer in pain. She will always stay in my memory for her generosity, kindness, and love.

Inside the RSCDS

Management Board: Simon Wales

The Chairman, Chairman Elect, Treasurer and up to 12 Trustees form the Management Board. As directors of the corporate charitable Society it is their responsibility to lead and direct the RSCDS throughout the year. The Board's directors are responsible for, amongst other things:

- Ensuring compliance with charitable and corporate legislation
- Determining the strategy for the achievement of the charitable objectives
- Preparation of the annual financial statements and trustees report

This is the official remit of the Management Board (MB) which meets throughout the year (still not face to face), and having been elected to join the MB at the last AGM along with Andrew Nolan and Helen McGinlay, we had our first meeting of the new Board on 27 November 2021. Here are some of the highlights:

- The new marketing officer, Lyndsay Walker updated us on current activities and future plans. You may have seen some of the fruits of her labours on Facebook!
- Lizzy Conder, recently elected Treasurer, took us through her planning paper for assumptions preparing for a five year financial forecast.
- The Autumn Gathering was reviewed and the board decided to discuss sustainability issues at the next meeting in March.
- We decided to conduct a review of all governance procedures to avoid the conflict arising from appointees being answerable to the Board on which they sit.
- Planning for Winter and Summer Schools was discussed.
- There will be an Away Day in January to review all committee and working group remits, linking these to the work of our staff and Business Plan targets, so we can work more effectively together. We will also fine tune our planning for the Centenary year.

There is a lot of challenging work to be done to re-focus the Society in readiness for a post-pandemic world!

Forthcoming Events

MILTON KEYNES RSCDS

Annual Dance

Saturday 12 March 2022
7.30 - 11.30pm

Wing Village Hall, Wing,
Leighton Buzzard LU7 0NN

Ian Robertson and his Scottish Dance Band

Programme: tbc. Tickets £16

Tea and biscuits provided
bring your own picnic

Contact: Jan Jones email:
jangeverybusy@gmail.com

Forthcoming Events

RSCDS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH Annual Ball

Saturday 22 October 2022
7.30-11.30pm

Headington School, Oxford OX3 7TD
Ample free parking and on the London-Oxford bus route with stop near to school

Ian Muir and the Craiggellachie Band

Full details at a later date in
The Reel 320 or on our website

Contact: Helen Houghton-Carr
events.rscdsoxfordshire@gmail.com
or 07531 469213
www.rscdsoxfordshire.org.uk



www.rscdsoxfordshire.org

LUCY CLARK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB



Spring Dance

Saturday 9 April 2022
7.00 - 11.00pm

Wendover Memorial Hall,
Wharf Road, Wendover HP22 6HF

Ian Muir (Prestwick) and Bob Parsons

Programme: Roaring Jelly, Catch the Wind, Sands of Morar, Ray Milbourne, The Starry Eyed Lassie, MacDonald of Keppoch, Swiss Lassie, The Hazel Tree, Bauldy Bain's Fiddle, Granville Market, Glastonbury Tor, The Water of Leith, The Black Mountain Reel, Midsummer Common, The Castle of Mey, The Swan and the Tay, Links with St Petersburg, The Reel of the Royal Scots

All dances fully recapped and some walk throughs
Tickets £15
with a welcome glass of fizz and bring and share supper
(subject to COVID-19 restrictions)

Contact Ann Higginbottom on 01494 451374
or email lucyclarkscottish@gmail.com

Further information and cribs available at
www.lucyclarkscottish.org

Crib also available at
my.strathspey.org/dd/list/31738/

MacLENNAN SCOTTISH GROUP

International Day of Dance

Saturday 28 May 2022
Workshops 10.00am - 5.30pm
with international and local guests

Adults £10, Children £5
Includes tea/coffee but bring your own food

International Folk Dance

Saturday 28 May 2022 7.00 - 10.30pm
Adults £10, Children £5
Both at Walthamstow Hall
Holly Bush Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3UL
Tickets from Claire Luypaert on 07817 499172
Email: festival@msg.org.uk
Website: www.msg.org.uk



CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY Annual Ball

Saturday 7 May 2022
Reception 6.30pm
Dancing 7.00pm to 11.00pm
William Collyn Centre, Girton CB3 0GP

Danelaw Band

Programme: Pelorus Jack, Cape Breton Island, Deer Friends, Farewell to Balfour Road, Mr Iain Stuart Robertson, MacDonald of Keppoch, John Cass, Starlight, Land of the Heather Hills, Anniversary Reel, Danelaw Reel, The Phantom Piper, Schiehallion, The Zoologist, Ruby Wilkinson's Farewell to Cranshaws, Gothenburg's Welcome, The Recumbent Stone, Neidpath Tower, The Immigrant Lass, The Reel of the 51st Division

Limited tickets all in advance £18
Shared refreshments (or bring your own)

For more information contact Donald Wilson
donald@mrao.cam.ac.uk
www.camscotsoc.org.uk

RSCDS CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH



Spring Band Dance

Saturday 26 March 2022

7.00 - 11.00pm

Purley URC Hall, 906 Brighton Road,
Purley CR8 2LN

Ian and Judith Muir

Programme: Cramond Bridge, Barton Chase, Miss Milligan's Strathspey, The Falls of Rogie, The Dancing Master, Sands of Morar, Golden Croydon, Miss Eleanor, Joie de Vivre, Orpington Caledonians, Midsummer Common, Farewell to Balfour Road, The Castle of Mey, The Gardeners' Fantasia, A Tribute to Trish, Back to the Fireside, City of Belfast, The Reel of the 51st Division

Tickets: £12 (in advance preferred)
Bring your own feast - cutlery will be provided

Contact Mary Courtney 020 8651 0704
rscdscroydon.chairman@gmail.com
or Jane Wilcock
rscdscroydon.secretary@gmail.com
www.rscdscroydon.org.uk

HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY



Spring Dance

Saturday 26 March 2022

St Martin's Church Hall,
Eastcote Road, Ruislip HA4 8DG

Ian Muir (Prestwick) & Bob Parsons

Programme: Hooper's Jig, MacDonald of the Isles, John Cass, John of Bon Accord, Midsummer Common, Major Ian Stewart, Miss Johnstone of Ardrrossan, Cherrybank Gardens, The Dancing Master, The Rutland Reel, Slytherin House, Farewell to Balfour Road, Swiss Lassie, Culla Bay, Best Set in the Hall, Glastonbury Tor, City of Belfast, The Irish Rover

Tickets, including refreshments £15
Juniors and non-dancers, £7.50
Contact Mick Madigan, 07754 501590 /
020 8863 5306 or
ms_madigan@btinternet.com

Summer Dance

Wednesday 1 June 2022
St Albans Church Hall, North Harrow
www.harrowscottish.org.uk

Forthcoming Events

BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB



Platinum Anniversary Highland Ball

Saturday 21 May 2022
Reception 6.30pm, Dinner 7.00pm
Dancing 8.30pm - midnight

We hope to use
Ashlyns School, Berkhamsted,
Herts HP4 3AH
But our reserve location is:
Alum Hall, 2 Allum Lane, Elstree,
Borehamwood, Herts WD6 3PJ

Dancing to Sandy Nixon and his Band

Programme: Hooper's Jig, The College Hornpipe, The Gentleman, Best Set in the Hall, The Potton End Reel, The Robertson Rant, MacLeod's Fancy, J.B. Milne, Foursome Strathspey & Half Reel of Tulloch, St Bernard's Waltz, The Berkhamsted Medley, Jennifer's Jig, The Montgomeries' Rant, The Garry Strathspey, The First Rain of Spring, The Reel of the 51st Division, Triple Happiness, Pelorus Jack, Duke of Perth

Tickets £30 Advance booking only
Closing date for ticket sales:
Tuesday 17 May

Welcome drink and dinner included
No bar BYO wine. Soft drinks provided
For further details as they become
available consult:

www.berkhamstedreelclub.org

Bookings: event@berkhamstedreelclub.org

Platinum Anniversary Highland Ball Practice

Saturday 14 May - 10.15am - 5.15pm
Bovingdon Memorial Hall, High Street,
Bovingdon HP3 0HJ
£5 on the door

Bring packed lunch - tea and coffee
provided

**RSCDS BERKS/HANTS/SURREY
BORDER BRANCH**



Day School
Saturday 12 March 2022
with evening dance from 6.30pm
Weydon School, Weydon Lane,
Farnham GU9 8UG

Teacher: Rachel Shankland,
Class Musician: Ken Martlew
Musicians' Day School: Susan MacFadyen
Contact: Fiona Albinson
secretary@rscds-bhs.org.uk

Spring Ball
Saturday 21 May 2022 7.30 - 11.30pm
Emmbrook School, Wokingham RG41 1JP
Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band

Programme: Hooper's Jig, Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, The Water of Leith, The Chequered Court, The Westminster Reel, The Cuillins of Skye, Napier's Index, The Paisley Weavers, The Deil Amang The Tailors, Quarries' Jig, General Stuart's Reel, The Sands of Morar, Miss Allie Anderson, The Cumbrae Reel, MacDonald of Keppoch, Farewell to Balfour Road, Staffin Harvest, The Highland Rambler

Contact: Christine Knox
wednesday@rscds-bhs.org.uk

Branch Strawberry Tea

Sunday 3 July 2022 2.30pm - 5.30 pm
Normandy Village Hall, Glaziers Lane,
Normandy GU3 2DD
Ian and Judith Muir
www.rscds-bhs.org.uk

**GUILDFORD SCOTTISH
COUNTRY DANCE CLUB**



Spring Dance
Saturday 30 April 2022
7.30 - 11.30pm
Drinks reception from 7.00pm
Normandy Village Hall, Glaziers Lane,
Normandy, Surrey GU3 2DD
Marian Anderson's Scottish Dance Band

Tickets £15 Tel: 01420 362 530
email: dancer.scottish@gmail.com

LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB



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

Saturdays: Lower Hall 7.00 - 10.30pm
Unless otherwise stated

2 April 2022: Combined Societies
Sandy Nixon and his Band

7 May 2022: **Ian Muir (Prestwick)**

25 June 2022: Summer Dance
Calum Mitchell

Tea and soft drinks provided
Bring your own interval refreshments

These dances are all due to take place, but
for any developments, please check our
website: www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk

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

serTA
Dance Scottish

**South East Region
Teachers Association**

**Weekend to celebrate our
16th Anniversary**

Teacher: Jimmie Hill (Edinburgh)
**Musicians: Ian Robertson and
Ewan Galloway**

Friday 23 to Sunday 25 September 2022
at Belsey Bridge near Bungay, Suffolk

Join us for a fun weekend of dancing,
learning, socialising and networking!

Further info: www.sertascd.org
serTAsc@gmail.com
Jane Rose 01923 261167

Next workshop - 20 March 2022 - Warm ups/
cool downs plus dances from Imperial Books

Other Scottish Country Dance Organisations

To update your information in Other Scottish Country Dance Organisations contact editor@rscdslondon.org.uk
If you require your information to also be changed in the SE Classes Listing on our website please contact

Jan Collings seclasses@rscdslondon.org.uk or call on 07803 923036.

This is the final insertion of this cycle. *Reel 320* will include the invoice for *Reel 320 - 323*. If you wish to cancel, or pay by bank transfer, please contact treasurer@rscdslondon.org.uk

ABINGDON SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Dancing most Mondays,
7.45-10.00pm, Sept-June at Northcourt Centre, Abingdon, near Oxford.
All welcome. Details: secretary@ascsc.org.uk or
www.abingdonscsc.wordpress.com

ADDLESTONE & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY Meets Wednesdays
8.00-10.00pm Sept-May at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Byfleet
KT14 7NF. Details: Val Clack, 01932 845869 or
www.addlestonscottish.org.uk

BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB Meets in Potten End Village Hall,
HP4 2QG. Social dancing: Tuesdays 8.15pm Sept-May, Sat. gardens June/
July. Classes: Intermediate and Advanced Mondays 8.00pm, Beginners
Tuesdays 8.15pm. Details: Dawn Dorman, Hill End Farm, Gorhambury,
St Albans, Herts AL3 6AR, 07710 460623 or www.berkhamstedreelclub.org

BERKS/HANTS/SURREY BORDER BRANCH RSCDS Wednesday General Class:
Sept-May, 8.00-10.00pm St Mary's Church Hall, Park Road, Camberley,
Surrey GU15 2SR. Teacher: Mervyn Short. Beginners: Five Wednesdays
starting 20 October (not 10 November) at St Mary's as above. Monday
Advanced class: Sixteen Mondays from 13 Sept-April, 8.15-10.15pm at St
Sebastian's Memorial Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham Without RG40 3BA.
Details: Fiona Albinson, 01189 789181 or www.rscds-bhs.org.uk

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH RSCDS Meets at The Scottish Hall, 80/82
Shelbourne Road, Charminster, Bournemouth BH8 8QZ every Wednesday
morning, 10.00am-12 noon. Details: Margaret Robson, 24 Upper Golf Links
Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8BX, 01202 698138 or
jl.robson@ntlworld.com

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

BRIGHTON & HOVE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Meets Thursdays
7.45-10.15pm at Moulsecoomb Hall, Brighton. Details: Carol Catterall,
01273 564963 or www.bhscdc.org.uk

CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB Dancing every Tuesday 8.00pm at St Paul's Church
Hall, Church Hill, Camberley. Details: Jackie Cresswell, 01252 616289 or
info@camberleyreelclub.org.uk

CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY Scottish country dancing and other events.
Dance Circle meets every Thursday 8.00pm from Sept-June. Details:
Rachel Schicker, 01223 364557 or www.camscotsoc.org.uk

CHELTENHAM BRANCH RSCDS General class/Club Night Mondays 7.30-
9.30pm with a separate Beginners' Section fortnightly at St Luke's Church
Hall, St Luke's Place, Cheltenham GL53 7HP. Details: Lesley Taylor, 07712
578622 cheltscdssec@gmail.com

CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY Dancing Friday nights 7.30-10.00pm at
St Andrew's UR Church, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham GL50 1SP.
Details: John Marshall, duracellbunney@tiscali.co.uk
www.cheltenhamscottishsociety.org www.jockjigging.webador.co.uk

CHISWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Meets on Sundays 7.00-
9.30pm, Sept-June, in the Upper Hall at St Michael & All Angels Church,
corner of Woodstock Road and Priory Avenue, London W4 1TX (turn right
out of Turnham Green tube station, 70 yards).
Details: www.chiswickscottish.org.uk or secretary@chiswickscottish.org.uk

Other Scottish Country Dance Organisations

Continued from p15

CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH Branch class in Coulsdon: General, including Beginners with technique Fridays 7.30 -10.00pm Coulsdon Methodist Church, Brighton Road, Coulsdon CR5 2BE.

Details: Mary Courtney, 020 8651 0704 or www.rscdscroydon.org.uk

EPPING FOREST SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION Club nights: Mondays (all year) 8.00-10.00pm at Christchurch Parish Hall, Wanstead Place, Wanstead E11 7SW; Thursdays (all year) 8.00-10.00pm at St John's Parish Hall, High Road, Buckhurst Hill, IG9 5RX. Details: Angela Ross, 020 8504 3376 or angelaross87@hotmail.com or www.efsa.org.uk

EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION General dancing Mondays, 7.30-10.00pm, Tweddle Hall, St Andrew's URC, Northey Avenue, Cheam, SM2 7HF. Teacher: Pauline Cashmore, 020 8686 9362
Details: Dorothy Pearson, 01737 551724

FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB Dancing every Tuesday at 8.00pm, Sept-end of April at Memorial Hall, Babbs Mead, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7EE. Details: Anne Lester 01252 782927 or lesteranne@ymail.com or www.fscdc.co.uk

FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY Dance in Church Crookham Memorial Hall in Hampshire on alternate Saturdays from 7.30-10.00pm, Sept-May. Details: Anne Lester 01252 782927 or lesteranne@ymail.com or fleet.rscds-bhs.org.uk

GERRARDS CROSS AND CHALFONTS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Meets at Memorial Centre, East Common Road, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD on Tuesdays in term time from Sept-June, 7.30-10.00pm and also in Little Chalfont Methodist Church Hall, Chalfont Avenue, Little Chalfont HP6 6RD on Thursdays from 2.15-4.15pm. Visitors and beginners welcome. Details: Roger Stubbs 01494 873063. Website under development.

GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOC. Meets at Greenford Community Centre (Johnson Hall), 170 Oldfield Lane South, Greenford UB6 9JS. Fridays 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Janet MacPhail 020 8560 7670 or enquiries@greenfordcaledonian.net

GUILDFORD SCDC Meets at Onslow Village Hall, Wilderness Rd, Guildford GU2 7QR most Mondays at 8.00pm from Sept-June. Details: 01420 362530 or www.gscdc.org.uk

HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB Meets every Tuesday at 8.00pm at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden. Details: Val Owens, 29 Palfrey Close, St Albans, Herts AL3 5RE, 01727 863870 or HSCDC.org.uk

HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY Classes Wednesdays 8.15-10.15pm, St Albans Church Hall, Norwood Drive (off The Ridgeway), North Harrow. Also a variety of other activities. Details: Sheena Henderson, mail@harrowscottish.org.uk or 07719 985025 or www.harrowscottish.org.uk

HERTSMERE REEL CLUB Monthly dances on third Saturday (exc. Aug & Sept) 7.30-11.00pm, Tilbury Hall (URC), Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1BZ. Details: Margaret King, 0208 440 3236 or margaret.king4@hotmail.co.uk

LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB Meets regularly at St Columba's, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD. Details: www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk

LUCY CLARK SCD CLUB Meets Thursdays at the Wendover Memorial Hall, Wharf Road, Wendover HP22 6HF. Beginners' class 6.45-8.00pm, Social Dancing 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Liz Mitchell, 07947 000368 or lucyclarkscottish@gmail.com or www.lucyclarkscottish.org

MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB Meets every Tuesday 8.00pm at St Piran's School, Gringer Hill, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 7LZ. Last Tuesday in the month is Social Dancing evening. Details: Jane Courtier, 16 Ostler Gate, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6SG, 01628 628372 or maidenheadscottishdancing.org.uk

MAIDSTONE (COBTREE) SCD GROUP Meets every Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm at The Grove Green Community Hall, Maidstone. Details: Dick Barford, 55 Northumberland Road, Maidstone ME25 7JG, 01622 685984

MEDWAY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION Dancing Mondays Bredhurst Village Hall, 1.30-3.45pm; Thursdays Brompton-Westbrook School, Gillingham ME7 5DQ, 8.00-10.00pm. Beginners welcome. Details: Lyn Sutton-Jones, 07831 154038 or www.medwaycaledonians.co.uk

MID SUSSEX SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP Mixed Ability Group meets every Tuesday in Hurstpierpoint Village Centre BN6 9UY 7.45-10.30pm. Details: franbramham@hotmail.com

MILTON KEYNES BRANCH RSCDS Mixed ability class Mondays 8.00-10.00pm. Bradwell Village Hall, Milton Keynes. Details: Jan Jones, 52 Aintree Close, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 5LP, 01908 378730 or jange@verybusy.co.uk

NORWICH RSCDS Branch class in Norwich on Mondays from Sept-May/June. Beginners from 7.00-8.15pm and general dancing 8.20-9.30pm. Details: Sue Petty on 01603 741639 or secretary@rscds-norwich.org.uk

ORPINGTON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY Dancing every Thursday 8.00-10.15pm at Petts Wood Memorial Hall. Beginners'/Improvers' Class every Monday 8.00-10.15pm at St Paul's, Crofton Road, Orpington. Details: Hadyn Davies, 020 8658 9188 or hadyndavies@gmail.com or www.orpingtonscottishdancing.com

OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH RSCDS Dancing on Thursdays throughout the year in Oxford. Details: Margaret Spiceley, 07985 962781 or secretary.rscdsoxfordshire@gmail.com or www.rscdsoxfordshire.org

READING ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY Dancing at St Andrew's URC, London Road, Reading RG1 5BD from 8.00-10.00pm, Sept-May, Tuesdays (elementary), Wednesdays (general), 1st & 2nd Thursdays of each month (advanced). Details: Duncan Barnet, Flat 4, 8 Western Elms Avenue, Reading RG30 2AN 0118 956 9289 dbarnet@waitrose.com or www.scottishdancingreading.org

REIGATE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Meets most Mondays 8.15-10.15pm, Sept-May at the Redhill Methodist Church Hall, Gloucester Road, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1BP. Details: Wendy Mitton, 01737 766244 or wmitton517@btinternet.com

RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY Meets at the Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm from mid-Sept. to mid-June. Details: 07802 442435 or www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk

SANDERSTEAD URC SCOTTISH DANCE GROUP Dancing Tues 8.00pm at Sanderstead URC Hall, Sanderstead Hill, South Croydon. Details: Graeme Wood, 01883 627797 or gwood@гна.com

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD
St Columba's Dancers meet most Mondays from Oct to May, 7.15-10.00pm. Admission free except for Band Nights when a charge will be made. Details: Willie Lawrence, 07798 640551 or stcdconvenor@gmail.com or www.stcolumbasdancers.org

ST JOHN'S SDC, WOKINGHAM Meets every Thurs 8.00-10.15pm Sept-June at St Sebastian's Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham. All standards welcome. Details: Kate Thomson, 0118 9860681 sec.stjohns.scdc@gmail.com
Also Children's Class Sats 9.30-11.00am at the Parish Hall, Crowthorne. Details: Deborah Draffin, 01344 776831

SIDCUP & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION Dancing on Wednesdays from 8.00-10.15pm throughout the year at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Bexley, Kent. Details: Jenny Gavin, 48 Eastbrook Road, Blackheath SE3 8BT, 020 8856 4522

SOUTH EAST ESSEX SCOTTISH SOCIETY Dancing Fridays, 7.30-10.15pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend (near hospital). Tuition 7.30-9.00pm. Details: Graham Easton, 01702 587808 or graham.easton@btinternet.com or www.seess.org.uk

SOUTH EAST HERTS SCDS Classes for all standards, in Hertford, Tuesdays in term time. Monthly dances Sept-June, in Ware, usually second Friday. Sunday afternoon Family Dances once a term. Details: Douglas Hedley, 07980 405152 or sehscds@hotmail.com or www.sehscottishdance.org/news

SURBITON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY Dancing every Thursday at 8.00pm from Sept-June at St Mark's Church Hall, Church Hill Road, Surbiton. Details: David Horwill, 32 Wolsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx TW16 7TY or www.surbitoncaledonian.co.uk

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH RSCDS Beginners/intermediate classes on Tues 8.00-10.00pm and advanced classes Thurs 8.00-10.00pm at St Augustine's School, Wilman Rd, Tunbridge Wells TN4 9AL. Details: George Daly, 1 Broadwater Rise, Tunbridge Wells TN2 5UE, 01892 534512 or www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk

WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY Beginners/Improvers Class at Nascot Wood Recital Hall, Nascot Wood Road, Watford WD17 4YS Mondays from 8.00-9.30pm and General/Beginners Class at All Saints' Church Hall, The Green, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth WD3 3JH Thursdays from 7.30-10.00pm. Details: Stuart Krelhoff, 60 Tunnel Wood Road, Watford WD17 4GE, 01923 492475 or reel@watfordscottish.org.uk

WEMBLEY & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION Dance Class Mondays 8.00pm. The Church of the Ascension, The Avenue, Wembley, Middx. Details: Mrs Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road, Eastcote, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW, 020 8866 2378 or info@wdsa.co.uk

WEYMOUTH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Dancing at Radipole and Southill Community Centre, Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 9SS. Thursdays, 7.00-10.00pm. Details: Miss Valerie Scriven, 13 Fenway Close, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1PQ, 01305 265177

WINCHESTER BRANCH RSCDS Classes Tuesdays 7.30-9.30pm. Club nights 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm. Both evenings at St Peter's School, Oliver's Battery Road North, Winchester. Details: Wendy Mumford (teacher), 20 Blendon Drive, Andover SP10 3NQ, 01264 363293 or wendy@mumford.com

WITHAM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY Dancing every Wednesday 8.00-10.00pm. The Centre, UR Church, Witham, Essex. Details: Audrey Kennedy, 01376 513567 or amkenedy148@gmail.com

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

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