



# The Reel

Published by the LONDON BRANCH of the ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY  
www.rscdslondon.org.uk  
Registered Charity number 1067690

No 277

SEPTEMBER to NOVEMBER 2011



## 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE REEL



New Chairman Angela Young is briefed by past Chairman Jeff Robertson

### EDITORIAL

*The Reel* is 60 this month! Issue No 1 came out in September 1951 – the year of the Festival of Britain and when the Branch was just a sweet 21. Since then it has set a high standard and is the longest running Branch magazine in the RSCDS. The editorial staff is well aware that time does not stand still and so *The Reel* has changed with the times. It is the Branch magazine and its content reflects what you want, need, and contribute. Please send us your interesting stories and reports and of course photos too.

We welcome back former editor Andrew Kellett, to the Committee this time as Secretary. Please read his excellent re-introduction on page 2.



### What's Inside

4-5	Classes/Day School
6	Youth and SERTA
8	Music
10-12	Photos
14	Letters
16-17	Dance Events
20	Photographs



Blake all ready in his kilt to attend Summer School

Stephen Webb



### THE REEL ANNIVERSARY

Saturday 17 September 2011  
7.00 - 10.30pm  
St Columba's Church,  
Pont Street, SW1 0BD

#### Jim Lindsay and his Scottish Dance Band

Miss Allie Anderson .....	Leaflet
Jessie's Hornpipe .....	8/9
The Bonnie Tree .....	46/6
Napier's Index .....	45/8
Portnacraig .....	36/1
Neidpath Castle .....	22/9
Joe MacDiarmid's Jig .....	5 for 1982/3
The College Hornpipe .....	20/12
The Braes of Tulliemet .....	7/12
Macleod's Fancy .....	33/3
The Music Makars .....	33/1
Miss Milligan's Strathspey .....	Leaflet
The Starry Eyed Lassie .....	23/11
Sueno's Stone .....	4 for 2008/3
Bridge of Naim .....	13/11
Follow Me Home .....	38/3
Autumn in Appin .....	31/5
General Stuart's Reel .....	10/3

Members £9.50, non-members £11.00,  
children £2.50, members' children free.

### DANCE SCOTTISH

Saturday 26 November 2011  
7.00 - 10.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1 0BD  
**Dancing to the music of Kafoozalum**

*This year the RSCDS is celebrating Dance Scottish from its AGM in November to the first weekend in December.*

London Branch's Dance Scottish events will focus around our family day on Saturday 26 November with our St Andrew's Dance-for-all that evening.

Suitable for all ages and abilities, the evening programme will include ceilidh dances and "old favourites" such as:

The Flowers of Edinburgh .....	1/6
Light and Airy .....	4/5
The White Cockade .....	5/11
The Braes of Tulliemet .....	7/12
The Montgomeries' Rant .....	10/1
Monymusk .....	11/2
The Reel of the 51st Division .....	13/10
The Deil amang the Tailors .....	14/7
Neidpath Castle .....	22/9

All dances will be called and walked.  
Welcome drink and hot refreshments provided.  
Scottish food, Scottish music,  
Scottish DANCING  
Admission £9.50 members,  
£11.00 non-members

### CHRISTMAS DANCE

Saturday 17 December 2011  
7.00 - 10.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1 0BD  
**James Coutts and his Scottish Dance Band**

It's Just for Fun .....	33/6
Red House .....	7/2
Wisp of Thistle .....	37/4
Major Ian Stewart .....	35/4
The Black Mountain Reel .....	Camforth III
The Silver Tassie .....	Leaflet
Muirland Willie .....	21/9
Culla Bay .....	41/2
The Reel of the 51st Division .....	13/10
Best Set in the Hall .....	46/7
The Reverend John Macfarlane .....	37/1
Altshellach .....	23/2
The Chequered Court .....	42/3
Back to the Fireside .....	38/4
The Lea Rig .....	21/5
The Nurseryman .....	37/7
S-Locomotion .....	41/8
The Duke of Perth .....	1/8

Members £17.00, non-members £18.00  
Reception drink and refreshments provided  
Those with Highland / Evening Dress are  
encouraged to wear it.

Issue No 278 will be with UK based members by 3 December 2011 unless delayed in the post. Contributions for that issue should be sent preferably by email to editor@rscdslondon.org.uk. Postal contributions should be sent to Wilson Nicol, 14 Great Woodcote Park, Purley, Surrey CR8 3QS to arrive by 5 November 2011. (Issue No 279 will arrive by 11 February 2012).

The opinions expressed by contributors in *The Reel* do not necessarily reflect the official position of the RSCDS, nor of the Branch.

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

My first Chairman's section in *The Reel* – and the question of what to write?

As some of you know this is a challenging time personally for me to become Chairman as my job moves to Salford – however also a proud one as I become Chairman of a Branch which I have been involved with for the last 21 years as dancer, demonstration team member, committee member, teacher and musician.

When I moved from Aberdeen and agreed to play for Tom Steele on a Tuesday evening, little did I know how much London Branch would become part of my life – and just how many friends I would make because of it. So as Chairman, I can promise you I will always be working, as all the Committee are, to ensure that the Branch we care about is in the best shape possible for the challenges it faces in the 21st Century. Currently, for us that means looking at our Committee structure to check that we are working efficiently, with sub-committees that deal with the right areas.

Additionally, we are focusing on classes: how do we attract new dancers and work with them to develop good technique? Equally how do we encourage more Branch members to our weekly and monthly classes – as well as to our regular Branch events?

So we want to hear from you – send your thoughts by email to me or any of the committee. We presently have a classes working

group and all ideas are welcome to our frank discussions.

Thanks to Jeff, Rachel, Stewart, Gillian and Margaret for all their hard work on the committee.

Welcome to Thelma, and welcome back to Pam and Andrew – I'm looking forward to working with them and the rest of the committee over the coming seasons.

With our Day School in October, Dance Scottish at the end of November and classes throughout the term in our new venues, it will certainly be a busy autumn.

So we all look forward to seeing you and starting the new term in style at our Branch dance on Saturday 17 September. Dancing to the music of Jim Lindsay and his Band, when we will be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of *The Reel* with good music, good dancing, good company and cake!

What better way to start the 2011/2012 season.

**Angela Young**

## COMMITTEE AFFAIRS

During the coming Quarter, The London Branch Committee will meet on 16 September, 7 October and 25 November. Suggestions for items to be discussed should be sent to the Secretary at least two weeks if possible before the dates of the meetings.

ROYAL SCOTTISH  
COUNTRY DANCE  
SOCIETY

Patron  
H.M. The Queen



President – Dr Alastair MacFadyen  
Chairman – Ruth Beattie

### HEADQUARTERS:

12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 7AF  
Tel: 0131 225 3854; Fax: 0131 225 7783,  
email: info@rscds.org.  
www.rscds.org.

### LONDON BRANCH

#### Hon. President:

Mary Stoker

#### Hon. Vice-Presidents:

Mary Barker, Jenny Greene, John Laurie,  
Owen Meyer, Rosemary Tilden.

#### Chairman:

Angela Young,  
75 Studland Road, Hanwell,  
London, W7 3QU.  
email: aady@mac.com

#### Vice-Chairmen:

Pam Ellam,  
10 The Drive, London W3 6AA.  
email: lonsec@yahoo.co.uk  
Marjory Reid,  
20 Hopwood Close,  
London SW17 0AG.  
email: marjoryreid@yahoo.co.uk

#### Hon. Secretary:

Andrew Kellett,  
22 Chestnut Drive,  
Bexleyheath, Kent, DA7 4EN.  
Tel: 0208 301 1403  
email: andrew.kellett600@btinternet.com

#### Hon. Treasurer:

Simon Wales,  
Flat 6, 86 Worcester Rd, Sutton,  
Surrey SM2 6QQ.  
Tel: 020 8643 0952.  
email: treasurer@rscdslondon.org.uk

### SUB-COMMITTEES

*Under Review: will be confirmed in the next Reel*

**Youth:** ..... Angela Young, Elaine Davies.

**Classes:** ..... Margaret Catchick\*, Pam Ellam,  
George Potts, Lena Robinson, Margaret Shaw  
Elaine Wilde.

**Dances:** ..... Angela Young, George Potts,  
Marjory Reid, Lena Robinson, Margaret Shaw,.

**Demonstrations:** Elaine Wilde, Paul Plummer\*

**Publicity:** ... Wilson Nicol (Reel), Janet Rudge\*  
(Reel Distribution), Meryl Thomson\*(website)

**Open-air & Picnic Dances:** .....  
James Fairbairn\*, Jerry Reinstein

**Membership:** ..... Gaynor Curtis\*

**Bookstall:** ..... Ian Anderson\*

**CCPR:** ..... Simon Wales.

**Hon Archivist:** ..... Iris Anderson\*

**SE Branches:** ..... Simon Wales

**Combined Societies:** ..... Angela Young

\*Indicates a non-Executive Committee member.

**Website:** www.rscdslondon.org.uk

### 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.

## NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Pam Ellam & Andrew Kellett

We welcome back two well-known members to the Committee: Pam Ellam in the role as Vice-Chairman and Andrew Kellett as Hon. Secretary. Andrew has this to say:

'My time as Editor of the Society's magazine, *Scottish Country Dancer*, is coming to an end so I have volunteered for a fourth stint on the London Branch Committee. Why? Like most readers of *The Reel* I owe a lot to Scottish country dancing and the RSCDS in particular. I have travelled the world, met some of

my closest friends, including (sorry, *especially*) my wife, experienced wonderful music and camaraderie all through the agency of SCD. It's a cliché, but I do want to put something back. Having sat on the Society's Management Board and other Coates Crescent committees, I have realised that what happens locally is what really counts for the future of Scottish country dancing. It's a community activity, enjoyed mostly in school and parish halls. The big 'do's' and Summer School and trips to far away festivals are great for re-charging batteries, but the main business of the Society, teaching people to dance and the regular diet of "fun, fitness and friendship" happens at Branch level. Finally, I cannot put it off. Nothing has gone wrong with Scottish country dancing, my colleagues on the Committee are working extremely hard and London Branch still organises fantastic events (witness last year's 80th Anniversary Ball) but we have to face facts: membership is falling, attendance at classes and dances are declining and standards are not what they were. True, things never do seem as good as they were, but we have reached a point where some things have to be done differently if we are to celebrate rather than mourn the Branch's centenary.'

### Thelma-Jane Robb

Although from Aberdeen, I did not begin Scottish country dancing until just over five years ago. It happened to be in the Lloyds Bank in Chiswick one day when I was asked "Do I detect a Scottish accent? We have a Scottish country dancing group – why don't you come along?" Well, I did and loved it! Scottish country dancing is such fun – often wonder how I spent my time before dancing! Have also met lots of welcoming and lovely people. As the RSCDS slogan says:- "Scottish Country Dancing For Fun, Fitness and Friends", is true. My mission as a member of the Committee will be to encourage people to dance and enjoy their dancing. I look forward to seeing you on the dance floor.



Left to right: Thelma-Jane Robb, Andrew Kellett and Pam Ellam

Stephen Webb

**When dancing was dancing**

An old Deeside man: "To go over twenty couples in The Merry Lads of Ayr without a stop made one feel very comfortable." *Aberdeen paper 1881.*

**American Enthusiasm**

"Ninety two gentlemen and ladies attended and danced ninety two jigs, fifty two contra dances, forty five minuets and seventeen hornpipes" *From The Yankees of Connecticut describing a wedding in1769*



Angela Young

**Message from our President**

Pinewood Lodge,  
Oxhey Drive,  
Northwood WD19 7DE.  
Tel: 020 842 17900

Dear Jeff,

I have to send my apologies to the AGM but I also want to take this opportunity to say how happy I am to receive *The Reel* and to be able to read of all the activities of the Branch, particularly in our 80th anniversary year.

The photographs are very good and entertaining, and it's nice to see so many people that I know. The many interesting articles, often by very old friends – or about them – give me lots of pleasure and bring back lots of happy memories.

It's good to know that Branch members are helping in many ways to show how enjoyable SCD is and, from my own experience, I can assure you that you will receive a warm welcome from other members of our very large family at Branches all over the world

If any of you are in this area (vicinity of Carpenders Park) I should be happy to see you.

I send the Branch every good wish for another successful year and my regards and thanks to the Committee for all their hard work in looking after the health and wealth of the Branch.

Kind Regards

Mary Stoker

**Mary Stoker**

In May, Christine and I called to see Mary Stoker on her birthday. We joined Margaret Shaw and George Potts.

Mary looked very well and was in good spirits. It was fun reminiscing about the good old days, the people we used to know and what fun we all had in her classes.

Owen Meyer

**ACCOUNTS 2010 - 2011**

As promised at the recent AGM, here are my comments on the accounts, with apologies once again that the tight timescales and Reel publication dates make it impossible to circulate these to all members before the AGM. Members were asked to email me if they wanted a set prior to the meeting, and both those who did were emailed a copy. This is a 100% increase on last year.

The accounts show a net outgoing resource figure of £8,258 – but £3,181 was as a result of writing off some of the stock of Anniversary CDs, leaving the operating loss at £5,077.

The recovery in the stock market seems to have slowed, but at least there was a small unrealised gain in our investments this year.

The accounts are constructed in such a way as to make it easier to work out how each area of Branch activity has done – classes, young dancers, dances, publicity, bookstall and demonstration team – you just have to subtract the costs from the income.

**Classes**

Fees, less hire of halls, less teachers and musicians expenses: £13,050 - £7,423 - £7,666 = £2,039 deficit. This is better than last year, but still almost double their budget, but it shows that the remedial steps we have been taking are starting to work. The Highland and Ladies' Step classes have been combined and take place three times a year. The Day School remained in profit, but only just!

**Youth Activities**

Income less expenditure: £736 - £1,987 = £1,251 deficit, with the children's class subsidised by £829 from the Telfer donation. The costs reflect the support from the Branch for the two dances. A planned expense and well worth it.

**Dances**

Income less expenditure: £9,060 - £8,199 = £861 surplus thanks to good turnout at the Christmas and Burns' Night dances but there was poor attendance at the rest. Regretfully, the price of dance tickets has had to increase to cover the rising cost of halls.

**Publicity and The Reel**

The net cost of publicity this year was £826 – however, transfers from the Westwood fund of £980 towards the cost of the Open Air Dancing and £1,775 from the Pat Bawden fund to pay for the Open House at Dance Scottish Week, and £824 from the Pat Bawden Fund towards the cost of the CCPR show were on top of that. The Reel made a loss of £722 as there were fewer subscribers and the Life and Long Term Members appeal fund has been exhausted. It has been decided to increase the cost of subscription copies to cover the rising postal costs.

**Bookstall and other trading**

This generated a surplus of £413 thanks to the efforts of Ian Anderson on the bookstall - sales of the Branch CD and book were almost nil.

**Demonstration team**

This appears as "fundraising activities" ie £ 3,575 - £ 5,723 = £2,148 deficit reflecting the promotional work done on behalf of the Branch by the Team. The new Convenor will be tasked with finding more ways to increase income and reduce costs. The extra five weeks of the summer term will be self-financing to reduce costs.

**Anniversary Events**

These events were kept to a cost to the Branch of just £659 (£23,391 - £24,050) thanks largely to the Anniversary Weekend School making a healthy surplus. The Tea Party had no income and cost nearly £900, and there was also a deficit on the Ball.

**Administration Costs**

The only other figure to comment on is the admin costs (£557) – slightly up on last year. This is made up as follows:

Membership Expenses .....	£211	Insurance .....	£ 65
Postage .....	£ 56	AGM expenses .....	£ 144
PAT testing .....	£ 20	EFDSS Insurance.....	£ 61

The meeting expenses of £479 reflect the small subsidy to travel paid to delegates attending the Society AGM (£25 per head) and meeting rooms at St Columba's.

We are very fortunate to have the various bequests which enable us to tackle projects in the knowledge that we have sufficient funds to back them up. We made one grants from the Bill Ireland fund. Open Air dancing in Kensington Gardens, Dance Scottish Week and the Youth class have been the main beneficiaries of these funds.

Membership numbers are undoubtedly down, but we are now researching the reasons for this and have procedures in place to follow up lapsed members.

Investment income was down as was bank interest, but still contributed a total of £1,649.

The launch of the 80th Anniversary appeal to train teachers to take dancing to young people has been quite successful with £1,305 included in these accounts and the fund now stands at £1,680.

I would like to express my thanks to my fellow officers and convenors, who are always on top of their paperwork and enable me to keep the accounts on the straight and narrow. Also to Lena Robinson who acts as classes cashier and is the most conscientious in her banking. As ever, the biggest thanks are due to Robert Elliott, the independent examiner, who does so much to pull these accounts together.

Simon Wales, Branch Treasurer, 1 June 2011

**WE CAN HELP YOU AFFORD IT!**

The RSCDS and the London Branch offer scholarships mostly to young people (up to 25 years) to attend RSCDS Residential Schools as a dancer or as a prospective teacher or as a musician. In addition, any member can apply for a scholarship to attend Summer School with a view to taking the RSCDS Teaching Certificate. London Branch also has funds available to give support to any event promoting Scottish country dancing among young people.

Don't be shy about asking for assistance. We are a charity and we are here to help you improve your skills and enjoyment of Scottish country dancing, and to support you in passing on your enthusiasm and knowledge to the next generation. If you think you might benefit from a scholarship pick up the phone or drop an email to any member of the Branch Committee, or you could start with our Secretary: [andrew.kellett600@btinternet.com](mailto:andrew.kellett600@btinternet.com) or [youthcoordinator@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:youthcoordinator@rscdslondon.org.uk).

There are events happening all year round such as Spring Fling, Winter and Summer Schools.

**Think about it.**

**We want to help**

**FORTHCOMING BRANCH DANCES**

Saturday 14 January ..... **Strathallan**  
Wednesday 15 February ..... **Karl Sandeman**

# BRANCH CLASSES

Try the new Classes and have fun!

Class	Day	Time	Location	Teacher / Musician
BASIC SKILLS	Wednesday	7.00 - 9.00	Park Walk, King's Road, Chelsea, London SW10 0AY	Teachers Davinia Miln and Rachel Wilton / Musicians Jane Ng and Ian Cutts
ADVANCED TECHNIQUE	Wednesday	7.00 - 9.00	Park Walk, King's Road, Chelsea, London SW10 0AY	Teacher Pat Davoll Musician Ken Martlew
GENERAL DEMONSTRATION	Wednesday Tuesday	2.30 - 4.30	St Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD <i>For details contact Elaine Wilde 01582 834815</i>	Teacher Jeni Rutherford Teacher Paul Plummer Musician Sandra Smith

Classes Start on Tuesday 20 September and Wednesday 21 September.

Half term will be on Wednesday 26 October 2011. In addition to the ten week term there will be a Christmas party class on Wednesday 7 December 2011. Wednesday evening classes cost £65.00 for ten week term (£60.00 for Branch members). For members and non-members each half term costs £35.00. The cost per session is £8.00.

The term for the Wednesday afternoon class begins on Wednesday 21 September 2011 and will end on Wednesday 14 December 2011. For further details regarding the Wednesday afternoon class please contact Jeni Rutherford email jrutherford@freeuk.com.

This year, due to changes at Marlborough School, we need to find a new venue for our Wednesday evening classes and the Branch are taking this as a good opportunity to look at the classes we provide, how they are performing, whether they cater to enough Branch members, and how we can work over the next year to attract new dancers.

Therefore we really do want your feedback – where do you think we need to concentrate our efforts? What classes would you like to see the Branch provide? Please email your thoughts.

Additionally we want to compile a thorough database – to be maintained annually – of teachers and musicians. Enclosed in this copy of the Reel is a questionnaire regarding availability and experience.

Yes, we've sent out questionnaires before and you might think we know what you can do, but have we got the right information? Did you take your certificate years before you moved to London? Have you secretly been practising playing the piano and are now ready to take on a class? Please respond so that the Committee can make informed decisions working with current

and relevant information at the same time as making sure that the Branch really does draw on the talents within it.

Wednesday evenings will have a new format at our new venue – Park Walk, Kensington SW10 0AY. We will be running a Basic Skills class – for beginners and intermediate dancers from 7pm to 9pm. This will be taught by both Rachel Wilton and Davinia Miln, working together to introduce new dancers to basic steps and formations while supporting others to develop their technique and general dancing skills.

Alongside this we will be running an Advanced Technique class – for those wishing to develop their RSCDS technique skills in steps and formations, again from 7pm to 9pm. The class teacher will make Branch decisions as to the suitability of dancers for this class. We are delighted that Pat Davoll is going to teach this class.

We are aware that we will be in both a new venue and working in a different way, so please keep us up to date with your thoughts on how this goes, and we will review the situation throughout this term.

If you cannot manage a Wednesday, then why not try out one of the other Branch classes?

The Sunday Advanced Technique classes are for all who wish to improve their RSCDS technique with steps, formations and demanding dances. Come along, improve your dancing and socialise afterwards in the local pub.

We will be running Ladies' Step and Highland workshop days – try something different, improve your footwork, and challenge yourself physically and mentally. These classes provide the opportunity for all to try out a variety of solo dances and maintain a tradition which the RSCDS has supported, researched and promoted for years.

The Demonstration class is made up of very experienced RSCDS dancers and auditions are held regularly. However, if you have recently moved to the London area please get in touch as the team are always ready to welcome dancers with a high standard of technique who are ready to absorb new dances and displays.

*What else? Where else? When else?*

*Let us know – and we'll see what we can do.*

Angela Young

## HIGHLAND/STEP ONE DAY WORKSHOP

Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, TW9 2RT (minutes from Richmond Station)

Sundays: 4 December 2011, 19 February 2012 and 1 April 2012

We will again be running a series of three one day workshops incorporating Highland Dancing in the morning and Ladies' Step in the afternoon.

The first of these Workshops, which will take place on Sunday 4 December 2011, will be taught by:

Highland: ..... **David Hall**

Ladies' Step: ..... **Joan Desborough**

All those attending the Workshop are welcome to stay for the whole day or come for either the morning or afternoon sessions.

The cost will be:

Full day (RSCDS member)	£18.00
(non-RSCDS member)	£20.00
Half-day (RSCDS member)	£9.00
(non-RSCDS member)	£10.00

The Highland class will commence at 10.30am and run till 12.30 p.m. (morning coffee at 10.00am). The Ladies' Step class will commence at 2.00pm and run till 4.00pm.

There are local establishments nearby for lunch. Contact Margaret Shaw on 020 7329 2847 or email: classes@rscdslondon.org.uk

## SUNDAY ADVANCED TECHNIQUE CLASSES

Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, TW9 2RT (minutes from Richmond Station)

(PLEASE NOTE – NEW VENUE)  
11.00am-1.00pm

Sunday 30 October 2011

Teacher ..... **Philippe & Lindsey Rousseau**  
Musicians ..... **Barbara Manning**

Sunday 15 January 2012

Teacher ..... **Philippe & Lindsey Rousseau**  
Musicians ..... **Ian Thomson**

Sunday 25 March 2012

Teachers ..... **Philippe & Lindsey Rousseau**  
Musician ..... **Angela Young**

Cost: £8.00 per session

Local establishments available for lunch  
Further details from Margaret Shaw on 020 7329 2847 or email: classes@rscdslondon.org.uk

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the RSCDS and London Branch costs £19.50 per annum for UK based members (£20.00 for Europe; £22.50 elsewhere). There is a discount of £3 for members aged 18 to 25 and for each of two members living at the same address. For members aged 12-17 there is a discount of £7.50. Current members of other Branches can join London Branch for £4.50 per annum if they live in the UK (£5.00 in Europe and £7.50 elsewhere).

London Branch membership brings benefits including *The Reel*, while Society membership includes the bi-annual dance publication, *Scottish Country Dancer*.

Membership applications and enquiries should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood, St. Johns, Woking GU21 3QB, tel: 01483 721989.

## Meryl Thomson

Meryl, the Branch webmaster, has recently undergone a back operation and is recovering nicely. However she will be out of action as webmaster for a month or two.

Ian, her husband, will provide a skeleton service to keep the site up to date.

We wish Meryl a speedy recovery.

# RSCDS LONDON BRANCH DAY SCHOOL

## Step out together with the Music

Saturday, 15 October, 2011

Paddington Academy, Marylands Road, London, W9 2DR

This year the classes will be Very Advanced, Advanced, Mixed Ability and Improvers levels.

**Morning:** 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Very Advanced :** (*Applicants must be able to perform and execute all steps & formations to a high standard of dancing*)

Teacher: **Helen Russell** Musician: **Jeremy Hill**

**Advanced:** (*Applicants must be good dancers with a sound knowledge of all steps and formations*)

Teacher: **Paul Plummer** Musician: **Keith Anderson**

**Mixed Ability:** (*suitable for those with a good standard of dancing & a sound knowledge of steps & formations*)

Teacher: **David Queen** Musician: **Barbara Manning**

**Newcomers & Improvers** (*suitable for those with some knowledge of basic steps and formations*)

Teacher: **Deb Lees** Musician: **Phil Jones**

**Lunch:** 12.30 - 2.00pm

A cold boxed lunch may be purchased. Alternatively there are facilities for packed lunches or pubs and cafes in the local area.

**Afternoon** 2.00 - 4.00pm

**Very Advanced :** (*Applicants must be able to perform and execute all steps & formations to a high standard of dancing*)

Teacher: **Paul Plummer** Musician: **Keith Anderson**

**Advanced:** (*Applicants must be good dancers with a sound knowledge of all steps and formations*)

Teacher: **Helen Russell** Musician: **Jeremy Hill**

**Mixed Ability:** (*suitable for those with a good standard of dancing & a sound knowledge of steps & formations*)

Teacher: **Deb Lees** Musician: **Phil Jones**

**Newcomers & Improvers** (*suitable for those with some knowledge of basic steps and formations*)

Teacher: **David Queen** Musician: **Barbara Manning**

**Optional Extras:** 4.30 - 5.30pm

After tea, served from 4.00pm there will be three optional classes to choose from. These are:

**Dances from the Scottish Isles:**

Teachers: **Helen Russell & Paul Plummer** Musician: **Phil Jones**

**Highland/Step:** Teachers: **David Queen & Deb Lees** Musician: **Jeremy Hill**

**Musical Talk & Discussion:** **Ian Muir**

If you do not wish to do anything too active you may prefer to enjoy some free time before the evening ceilidh. The choice is yours.

**Musicians' Workshop**

Led by **Ian Muir (Prestwick)** this will take place in both the morning and afternoon. This year the course will concentrate on:

- Set building – the importance of making 2nd, 3rd and 4th tunes compatible to the original
- Giving each band member a role to play
- General dance playing technique

Although there will not be an opportunity to play for the evening dancing, everyone is welcome to stay and contribute a ceilidh item.

**Evening Ceilidh:** 6.00 - 9.00pm

This will follow the Day School and once again we anticipate much fun and entertainment. Dancing will be to **Ian Muir**. Tickets are available in advance from Margaret Catchick and on the door.

For an application form containing further details for both the Day School and the Musicians Workshop, please contact Margaret Catchick, 251 Botley Road, Ley Hill, Chesham, Bucks, HP5 1YD, enclosing a stamped s.a.e. Tel: 01494 772305, or e-mail: margaret-catchick@hotmail.com. Application forms are also obtainable on the London Branch website, the Branch dance, or from your class teacher.

**CLASSES TO SUIT EVERYONE**

**DON'T MISS IT!!**

## SOUTH EAST DANCE DIARY AND CLASSES LIST

Subsequent to the announcement in the last Reel, it was decided at the May meeting of the Committee NOT to print either of these lists but to maintain them on the Branch website. In this way it will be possible to maintain an up to date record of dances and Classes incorporating later changes beyond the Summer deadlines indicated in Reel 276. Organisers are urged to keep their entries updated through the dance list coordinator Caroline Hamilton, diary@rscdslondon.org.uk and the classes list coordinator Lena Robinson at lena.robinson456@btinternet.com.

Now that the diary is updated throughout the year the hard copy was almost immediately out of date and also was restricted to functions in the next 12 months. Focussing purely on the internet version will ensure that everyone will see up to date and complete information.

Please visit the London Branch website: <http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/> for full details.

### More details on the Dance Diary

Of course, we are very aware that there are a number of members who do not have access to the internet and we are committed to ensuring that they are still able to benefit from the diary. Therefore we invite anyone who would like a printed copy to send a stamped addressed envelope to: Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW and you will receive an up to date version by return.

Ever since the diary was devised by Anne King, it has been getting more and more popular and the diary page now gets the most "hits" of the entire Branch website. To keep this momentum going, we would like the diary to become the first document that every Scottish dancer in the South-East refers to when looking for a local function to attend. This of course means that we need every Scottish Dance, Dinner, Ball, or Social in the diary and we therefore ask that any reader who thinks their society is not represented to invite their secretary to get in touch with us. In this way all branches and societies will be encouraged to use this resource when planning future events thereby avoiding unnecessary clashes.

We would also like to take this opportunity to mention another advertising channel that Graham Hamilton organises. This is the Email-a-Programme service which is available to any dancer with email and invites all societies to submit details of a forthcoming event for circulation. Full details can be found at <http://www.summertuesdays.co.uk/email-a-programme.htm>

Together, we think that the diary and Email-a-Programme services can make a major contribution to boosting attendance at events across the region provided that the whole dancing community uses them and we therefore ask that everyone spreads the word amongst dancers and clubs alike to maximise their usage.

If you would like to contact Caroline or Graham about any aspect of the diary or Email-a-Programme services please email [diary@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:diary@rscdslondon.org.uk) or telephone on 020 8866 2378

**Caroline Hamilton**

### VIEWPOINT

Some bands when playing for dancing have the irritating habit of suddenly changing from full band to single instrumentalist for eight bars or so. It is very destabilising for dancers concentrating on the sequence of figures thinking that the musicians have lost their place. Such part playing is all right for listening to but not for dancing to. We know our musicians are very good but they don't have to show off in this disturbing way in the middle of a dance.

**Terpsichore irata**

## FOCUS ON YOUTH

The London Branch children's class continues to attract new dancers each month including visitors from the UK and abroad. However the core members of the class thoroughly enjoy dancing together on a Saturday morning and are continually learning new dances. The older children help the younger members of the class to master formations and progressions, while the younger dancers show just how much energy they have while working hard at mastering their steps. Additionally, we often have an extra set of mums, dads, grannies and grandpas who can't resist having the chance of a dance. And the class always ends with our own version of "The Dhooon" – or as it's become known "The Sausage Dance" – with everyone who's there joining together in one big set!

A few weeks ago the class undertook the RSCDS Medal Tests – Introductory and Grade 1 Levels. At this stage we're still awaiting the results but understand that all have successfully passed. They have

worked extremely hard together to master the dances – especially the younger children who stepped in to complete the set for Grade 1.

Very excitingly our first class member is attending the RSCDS Summer School in St Andrews. We're exceptionally proud of Blake, pictured appropriately on the front page, and look forward to hearing how he got on when he's back at class in September – ready to help as he regularly does on a Saturday morning.

Hopefully here we are nurturing Branch members and dancers of the future – we can only hope they have as much fun and friendship as I've found in Scottish country dancing.

The first Branch class of the new season is on:  
Saturday 17 September 2011  
10.15 - 11.30am

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

**Teacher: Angela Young**

**Pianist: Graham Berry**

Newcomers are always welcome!

For more details please contact Angela –  
aady@mac.com / 07976 353608

## FAMILY DAY

Saturday 26 November 2011

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

11.30am - 1.00pm Children's Class  
followed by lunch for all dancers

2.00 - 4.30pm Dance to the music of

### Kafoozalum

The programme will include dances from: The Barmkin (Graded Book 2), Cumberland Reel, The Dashing White Sergeant, The Dhooon, Espie McNabb, The Flying Scotsman, Galloway House, The Honeymoon, A Jig for Mrs Dunn (Graded Book 2), Jig to the Music, Johnny Groat's House, The Loch Ness Monster (Graded Book 2), The Merry Reapers, Petronella, Rabbie's Reel, A Reel for Jeannie, Round Reel of Eight, The White Cockade, The Wild Geese.

Everyone is welcome for all or part of the day, and the dances in the afternoon will be talked through.

For more details please contact  
Angela Young on 07976 353608.



## DEMONSTRATION TEAM UPDATE

The demonstration team will give their last displays of dancing under the able direction of Angela Young, our teacher for the last seven years, on the 3, 10 and 17 September, the first two dates being the free open air dances in Kensington Gardens (all are welcome) and the 17 being the Branch Dance .....enjoy.

We welcome Paul Plummer as the new teacher for the demonstration team classes as the new term starts on 20 September, with a team that is slowly increasing again in numbers, and with the possibility of more joining/being confirmed in the coming months. Currently the team members are: David Ambrose, Catriona Bennett, Elaine Davies, Kirsty Fairhead, David Hall, Yoshimi Kuroda, Ken Martlew, Ian McKenzie, Marian Morris, Margaret Plummer, Marjory Reid, Jan Rudge, Catriona Stewart, Alice Stainer, Kate Sweeney, Anna Twinn, Elaine Wilde and Esther Wilkinson, a very talented group of dancers.

Although Paul and I are always on the lookout for potential new members please feel free to approach either of us if you would like to know more about the team/be considered, or contact me on 07779 202529  
or demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk

**Elaine Wilde**

### Paul Plummer

London Branch is very pleased to welcome Paul Plummer as the new teacher for the demonstration class/team, from 20 September 2011.

Paul started dancing aged 8, joining Manchester Branch, St Johns Club, Wokingham, (secretary for several years), and later Berks/Hants/Surrey Borders Branch (chairman for three years in the 1980's) and London Branch (joined the dem team in 1981) following Bill Ireland in teaching the class/team from 1989-1992. In addition he has taught a children's class for ten years, taught at Summer School in St Andrew's, has started a Scottish country dancing class through Adult Education in Guildford and taught other classes in the area as well as teaching day and weekend schools in the UK and abroad.

The demonstration team are looking forward to Paul's wealth of experience, vast skill base, energy and enthusiasm as the new term starts.

**Elaine Wilde,**  
demonstration class convenor.

## TEACHERS' EXAM SUCCESSES

At the examinations held in June in the Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch, the examiners were Marilyn Watson and Andrew McConnell. Those passing the final (Unit 5) were Catriona Bennett, Alex Harvey, Peter Loveland and Mary Thomas.

We wish them every success in spreading the Scottish country dancing gospel.

**James Fairbairn**



Two of the successful candidates  
Catriona Bennett and Peter Loveland

Stephen Webb (both pictures)

## South East Region Teachers' Association

The South East Region Teachers' Association (SERTA) organises workshops for Scottish dance teachers. It is open to anyone who leads an SCD group, whether qualified or not, those with a dance teaching qualification and those taking teaching courses or interested in doing so. If you wish to join the mailing list or have any queries, please contact me at mikejohnson@waitrose.com, at 4 Gatehampton Cottages, Gatehampton Road, Goring, Reading RG8 9LX or on 01491 873 026.

The next workshop will be on 25 September in Hemel Hempstead. The morning session will be led by Marilyn Watson and covers teaching SCD to children and young people. Anyone involved with students up to university level would be most welcome to this session. Robert Mackay will play for Marilyn and in the afternoon will give a talk on music in Scottish country dancing and the history of dancing and dances. Both of these sessions have been postponed from earlier workshops. The following meeting will be in Purley on Sunday 18 March 2012, led by Anne Smyth from Fort William, with more details in the next issue of *The Reel*.

**Mike Johnson**

## KENSINGTON GARDENS

Although our extended season last year in Kensington Gardens was very well supported, we have had to curtail the activity as the Royal Parks are now charging for our open air dancing by the bandstand, which is of course free and open to all comers. We will be dancing on Saturdays 3 and 10 September.

The timing is from two till four o'clock each afternoon when we will have music from Kafoozalum (the 3rd) and Dave Hall (the 10th), and a friendly caller to guide everyone through the dances. We hope that veterans recalling past pleasures will want to support the events again. If you have not been before then it is a lovely way to spend a couple of hours on a sunny afternoon, alone or *en famille*, possibly sampling some of the other features of the park as well, such as Kensington Palace, the Diana memorial playground with its café, the Albert Memorial, the Italian Gardens, the Round Pond and the Serpentine Gallery.

There are trees for shade and lots of grassy space on which to establish camp. Do remember to bring your own water and refreshments and even a sun hat or parasol. There are loos quite close by at Palace Gate. You can park on meters in nearby streets and tube access is from High Street Kensington, Gloucester Road, Queensway or Bayswater stations.

## BRANCH BADGES

The Branch badge is based on the rectangular Reel masthead logo which first appeared on issue no. 40, December 1957 - January 1958 when the annual subscription was 5/- and life membership was a mere £3 3s 0d.

These elegant badges are available in a smart enamel and polished finish and are modestly priced at £4.00. They are available from Jeff

Robertson on 01903 245718 or  
architecture@robertsonbrown.co  
or from Ian Anderson at the Branch Bookstall on  
01420 84599 or bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk .  
Please continue to support your Branch.

**Jeff Robertson**

## RSCDS

### MANAGEMENT BOARD

This report highlights only a few topics that have been discussed by the Management Board and the committees, but hopefully it gives a flavour of their work.

There have been two normal Management Board meetings since the last report, and a special Strategy meeting, called to discuss the structure of the Society. A great deal of time at this meeting was spent on trying to decide whether we should change to a "Company Limited by Guarantee" or to a new legal form for Scottish Charities, a "SCIO". Both of these would provide better financial protection for the members of the Board, who are the Trustees of the Society.

The trustees Annual Report and Accounts were discussed at the last Board, where a net income of over £50,000 was reported for the year to 31 March 2011. (The full report can be seen on the Society's website, in the July mailing section). A balanced Budget has been put forward for the current year, and it is not proposed to ask for an increase to subscriptions at this year's AGM.

At the last AGM it was agreed that we put £100,000 aside into a Development Fund, to pay for development projects outside of our normal work, and guidelines have now been agreed to enable this to move forward.

At the May meeting we received a presentation relating to the Society's media resources, both audio and video, and production arrangements for future media projects. It was decided to appoint a Media Development Officer, initially for a period of three months.

A small working group has been set up to develop better methods of communicating with the branches and their members, looking at ways of making use of the internet and the website. Another group is working on how to involve more people in Scottish dancing by emphasising the health benefits, (and posters will soon be available.)

A review and update of the Manual is currently underway, involving people from overseas, with the aim of making it available both as a printed version and on the website.

To illustrate the variety of topics discussed, at the last Board the Chairman gave a report of her recent visit with the Chairman Elect to the International Branch weekend in Prague. Before the official start of the weekend the Chairman and Chairman Elect gave a presentation at an Open Forum to over 50 people, explaining the work currently undertaken by the various committees, along with plans for the future.

**Malcolm Brown**

### *Jig Rant Reel Strathspey*

What is the odd one out in this group? Yes, you are correct, three of them are types of Scottish dances but a rant according to the Scots Dictionary is 'a romp, boisterous or riotous merrymaking; a festive gathering with music and dancing; a lively tune or song especially one suitable for an energetic dance – frequently in titles of dance tunes'

In the titles of dances it is applied to all three of reels, jigs and strathspeys: Minicrib lists 62 of them. Well-known reels are *The Montgomeries' Rant* and *Maxwell's Rant*. Well known strathspeys are *The Robertson Rant* and *Grant's Rant*. Amongst the jigs there are *The New Ashludie Rant* and *The Rothesay Rant*, while there are even medleys – *The Oregon Rant* and *The Tulloch Rant*.

It is noticeable, though, that older rants are usually reels with a smattering of strathspeys while all of the jig rants are modern.

**The Editor**

## DISCUSSION

*There has not been much discussion in The Reel lately. So to get the membership thinking and feeding back their views, we have commissioned a provocative article to start the ball rolling.*

### TIME TO REORGANISE THE RSCDS

Despite all the efforts at HQ the membership of the Society is falling as the membership average age rises. Some Branches which of course is where the heart of the Society resides are successful in youth activities but in general very few youngsters are attracted. Branches are in competition with other SCD clubs whose members are not burdened with the mandatory subscription to HQ that Branch members suffer.

The time has come to analyse critically the role of HQ. Researching old dances is no longer an activity worth pursuing and indeed there are only three worthwhile operations: first the maintenance of standards through teachers' examinations, secondly the organisation of Summer and Winter schools, and thirdly the publication of books and recordings.

There is no getting away from the fact that HQ is a quango in need of surgery. Once an establishment has been created it has to be serviced and the incumbents look for ways to increase their activity and self-preservation. Pruning is overdue.

I propose that there should be no membership fee to be paid to HQ but that Society accredited teachers should pay an annual fee of say £20 to remain RSCDS accredited. HQ should maintain a staff commensurate with the ESSENTIAL roles of organising examinations and maintaining standards, publishing books and recordings and other profitable commercial and social activities, and running the Summer and Winter Schools. Additionally it should provide space for the archives. The *Scottish Country Dancer* should be freely available on the internet and at a subscription for those who wish to have a hard copy. As much of the work as possible should be done voluntarily and in the Branches.

**Auld Nick**

### WINTER SCHOOL 2012

Winter School is based in the Atholl Palace Hotel in Pitlochry. Students attend Scottish country dance classes every morning with optional activities in the afternoon and social dancing in the evening. The highlight of Winter School is a ball in the spectacular Ballroom at Blair Castle, dancing to the music of one of the best dance bands in the country.

Most of the accommodation offered in the hotel is shared in either twin beds or double bed, or in a family room, sleeping three. There are a very limited number of single occupancy rooms, supplement payable, and these are allocated on a 'first come first served basis'.

#### Course 1

Sun 19 to Fri 24 February 2012

Teachers: ..... **Alasdair Brown, Eric Finley, Sue Porter**  
Musicians: ..... **Bill Ewan, George Meikle, Gordon Simpson**

#### Course 2

Sun 26 February to Fri 2 March 2012

Teachers: ..... **Patrick Chamoin, Janet Johnston, Sue Porter**  
Musicians: ..... **Andrew Lyon, Rodger McAndrew, Frank Thomson**

Applications open 1 September 2011. See the RSCDS website: [www.rscds.org.uk](http://www.rscds.org.uk)

## RSCDS

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE WEEKEND & AGM

Glasgow 4 - 6 November 2011

The AGM & Annual Conference Weekend 2011 will take place in The Kelvin Hall, Glasgow from Friday 4 to Sunday 6 November 2011. The London Branch elected its representatives at the Branch AGM on 17 June. Check the RSCDS website [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org) for details of the events during the weekend and to find application forms for function tickets. This is a great opportunity to meet dancers from all over the world, to attend two wonderful dances and to see the Society at work

#### **Friday**

Ball: **The Ian Muir Sound**

#### **Saturday**

PR workshop

Question Time

General Class: **Teacher: Margie Stevenson**

**Music: Andrew Nolan**

AGM

Dance: **The Lothian Band**

#### **Sunday**

Workshop – The Music will tell you

Youth Forum

### IT'S A ROYAL 'ROMANCE IN ST ANDREWS' FOR TORONTO DANCERS

During the Royal Wedding celebrations in the University quad early on 29 April, The RSCDS St Andrews Branch gave the debut of a new country dance called *Romance in St Andrews* devised by Canadian Shelley McElney. See photo back page.

Along with leading the demonstration team and designing both the dance and the women's vibrant blue and red outfits, Shelley is Vice-Chairman of the Branch, teaches a beginners class and maintains the Branch website. Dancing alongside her in the team was fellow Canadian Fiona Collinson. While the dance was written to mark the occasion of the Royal marriage, it also celebrates Shelley and Fiona's own romantic association with the town. It was here that they both met their future Scottish husbands, fell in love, got married and eventually settled in the town.

At the Royal Wedding breakfast the demonstration team (including former London Dem team member David Cordes) performed the jig *St Andrews Fair* and the reel *Mairi's Wedding*. The tempo relaxed during *Romance in St Andrews*. "It's a 3-couple strathspey representing the union of my husband Rab and me; Fiona and her husband Alex; and of course William and Kate," Shelley said. "There's a section representing the wedding ceremony; another depicts one's journey through life; and at the end the dancers have to act as one, with intricate footwork and a precise relationship with other couples – like married life?" Shelley suggests.

It was Scottish country dancing that first brought Shelley and Fiona to St Andrews over a decade ago. As experienced dancers in Toronto they came to St Andrews to attend the Summer School. So there is more to Summer School than just dancing!!

Shelley now teaches a country dancing class in the Town Hall – the same venue where she and Rab wed seven years ago. "I took up dancing because I was looking for a form of exercise that would be more interesting than jogging or going to the gym" Shelley said. "I've met so many people and made so many friends through dancing, but little did I know what a huge impact it would have on my life."

*Abstracted from St Andrews in Focus July/Aug 2011.*

Those of us who attended the Branch 80th Anniversary Ball in Hammersmith last October were thrilled to be dancing to the superb music of Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band. Now we can hear that same six-piece band on a CD recorded to accompany a book of 12 new dances produced by BHS Border Branch, (Three Hands Across – CBCD09)

A number of tunes including some originals have been composed by members of the Band: accordionists Ian Muir and John Browne, pianist Judith Muir, fiddle players Keith Anderson and Micah Thompson. Other well-known composers on the CD who live in this part of the UK are Jeremy Hill, Alastair Forbes and Ian Robertson.

I am sometimes asked if I know the origins of tunes with unusual names. Well, here we have The Kintbury Breakfast by Micah. The Muirs live in Kintbury and Micah sometimes spends the night there on a Saturday after a dance. On Sunday morning Ian cooks a 'full English' which helps to set Micah on his homeward way. This tune is the original for the Burntisland Jig (5x32) with which I can connect as my younger sister lives in Burntisland and enjoys our kind of music. Other notable originals are Bruce Frazer's Jig and Valerie Frazer both by Ian.

There are 58 tunes on the CD with a good mix of contemporary and traditional.

The music itself is in one word – superb. It is played, on some tracks just a wee bit faster than we have become accustomed to in recent years; but not as fast as McBain's (whom we loved) played some 40 or 50 years ago. There is certainly an extra zip in the reels and jigs.

My best recommendation is that I keep listening to the whole CD over and over again. In addition to the 12 dances in the BHS book, there is a fine set of Shetland waltzes and a slow air with Micah on the fiddle. Finally, we must not forget the drummer, Graham Hamilton. Buy the book, buy the CD – for details see the advert on page 17.

I am gathering a few more CDs together for your Christmas shopping list – see the next Reel!

**John Laurie**

## THE FORCE IS STRONG

### The Gordon Shand Collection.

I first came across the music of Gordon Shand on purchasing a cassette with a very young looking button box player sitting on a very old car (it was a little while ago now) and I was immediately struck by the lively nature and high quality technical playing of this new band. Subsequent exposure to Gordon's music has only served to reinforce this very positive initial impression. It was the quality of his own playing and the distinctive sound and imaginative rhythmic interpretation of the Scottish music by his band that have marked out Gordon Shand as special for me.

Now we have a collection of his tunes, and the musicality noted above springs out from the pages. There's a great variety of tunes to select from, but they all abound with interesting rhythms, pleasing harmonic structure and a crafty innovation that is the mark of the talented composer. Graham Berry has done the arrangements, which guarantees interest and challenge but also helps to draw out to a maximum the potential of these compositions. Although quite a number of these tunes require a fair degree of ability to play well, there is certainly something for everyone with some lovely waltzes and marches that are more accessible to a broader range of ability. The tunes also span the range of Scottish music idiom, with the bagpipe genre particularly well represented.

**David Hall**

## BRANCH MUSICIANS' DAY

On Saturday 14 May a variety of boxes, buttons, fiddles and keyboards arrived at St Columba's for the musicians' day which was led this year by our own Vice-Chairman (now Chairman) Angela Young. Some had travelled a considerable distance for this now annual event with a violin from Rotherham and even a keyboard from Jersey. The day provides the opportunity for musicians of differing ability to participate in a master class with a top musician, playing for Scottish country dancing and furthermore the real thrill of playing for the dance in the evening – with live dancers!

With 18 dances in differing, but strict, tempos and styles on the programme preparing and playing for an evening's dancing is quite a challenge, but with Angela driving us we soon became a well-knit band.

It was a long and enjoyable day for us, but even longer for Angela and all the committee and helpers that prepared for the day and looked after us so well - thanks to you all.

**Brian Pierson**

## Shielburn Associates

For ALL Scottish recordings –

*At bargain prices!*

**10 CDs for £100 (post free - UK)**

**email: shielburn@aol.com**

Tel: 0118 969 4135 Fax 0118 962 8968

**1 Renault Road, Woodley**

**Reading RG5 4EY**

**Just listen to our own label releases!**

<http://www.shielburn.co.uk>



## BANDS



### KEN MARTLEW

**Solo pianist / RSCDS teacher / MC  
or Duo with BARBARA MANNING**

(violin/piano)

A highly-experienced, versatile combination for your Day School / Dance.

European languages, will travel anywhere.

Enquiries: 01442 261525 [kenmartlew@aol.com](mailto:kenmartlew@aol.com).

### REELTYME CEILIDH BAND

Weddings, Corporate Functions, RSCDS, Scottish, English, Irish, and American Reels. Caller available. Tel: Harvie Sharp on 01983 864193, mobile 07811 933 761 [harvie@reeltime.co.uk](mailto:harvie@reeltime.co.uk) [www.reeltime.co.uk](http://www.reeltime.co.uk)

### THE HIGHLANDERS

Scottish Ceilidh and Reeling band consisting of professional musicians; includes PA sound system with monitors, etc. Musical line-ups: From 3-piece to 8-piece, with MC/Caller available whenever required. Recommended for Reeling, Balls and Ceilidh Events such as weddings, private and corporate parties, etc. Excellent client references. Please contact Bandleader: Donald Ross, 020 8203 0626 or 020 8203 5076, e-mail: [info@LawsonRoss.co.uk](mailto:info@LawsonRoss.co.uk) [www.thehighlanders.co.uk](http://www.thehighlanders.co.uk)

### KAFOOZALUM COUNTRY DANCE BAND

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

### THE FRANK REID SCOTTISH DANCE BAND

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

### THE INVERCAULD SCOTTISH DANCE BAND

Scottish Dance Band for Dances, Balls, Ceilidhs and Weddings in Jersey, Channel Islands and in the UK. Please contact **Lilian Linden** on Tel: 01534 789817, mobile 07829 722446. email: [lilian.linden@virgin.net](mailto:lilian.linden@virgin.net) [www.invercauldband.com](http://www.invercauldband.com). CDs £12 each (+£1.00 p&p in UK).

### CALEDONIAN REELERS

Well established 3-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 email [Derekdexie@aol.com](mailto:Derekdexie@aol.com).

M	C	Scottish	N	S
Country	B	A	I	Dance
M	C	Band	N	S

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

### Soloist: PETER JENKINS

Solo accordion for workshops, classes, day schools and 'smaller functions'. Tel: 020 8581 0359, e-mail [peter@kafoozalum.co.uk](mailto:peter@kafoozalum.co.uk)

## MUSICIANS INSURANCE SERVICES

(incorporating PETER JENKINS & CO)

**A special 'ALL RISKS' policy to cover all 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.

**Musicians Insurance Services  
PO Box 12122, Cannogate House,  
Firs Parade, Matlock,  
Derbyshire DE4 3RU.**

Tel: 01629 760101 or 0845 345 7529

Fax: 0870 365 7529

[admin@musiciansinsurance.co.uk](mailto:admin@musiciansinsurance.co.uk)

Authorised and regulated by the FSA



## Summer Wooing

My wife is addicted to Scottish country dancing and has been for decades. I have kept my distance for almost as long. It is too late now to catch up with her standard and I do not aspire to do that but I take in the occasional dance at Pont Street and the Summer Wooing dance in June was one of these occasions.



Nobody wants to make a fool of themselves so I am always careful to study the crib in advance and trace some desultory steps around the dining room. I do this on my own now since my wife and I could never agree where the band was. Four consecutive dances in the first half made me wonder whether I was going to be up to the evening and two of them, *Barbara's Strathspey* and *Best Set in the Hall*, were incomprehensible even on a second read through. YouTube.com, though, has videos of both of these and after watching them two or three times I began to feel I had a pretty good idea of what they were about.

Come the evening, Ian Robertson and his Band were on top form and the talk-throughs given by both Catriona Bennett and Jeff Robertson were exactly geared to my needs – neither too much nor too little. *Barbara's Strathspey* turned out to be a doddle and even *Best Set in the Hall* went off well despite an ungainly last-second leap to the ladies' side before the chase. It was good to hear that we were not the only set whispering "behind you, behind you" by way of encouragement. And when the dance is over there is that moment when everybody realises that it has worked and we break out into a smile, a self satisfied one. I

think that is the bit I like best about the dancing experience.

Supper to the usual high standard followed and the second half seemed to speed by. Soon the last two dances were in sight and then it was all over. I had a Saturday night out, supper and wine, physical and mental exercise and a huge amount of enjoyment, all for £8.50.

A man could get addicted to this dancing business if he was not very careful indeed.

**Ian Strachan**

## MAGICAL MAY

Dancers were once again treated to an evening's dancing with music provided by enthusiastic musicians who had been practising all day, working their way through a programme carefully chosen to provide the musicians with a range of tune types but also to provide the dancers with a range of dances, some to appeal to the less experienced and some to challenge the more experienced together with some old favourites that everyone loves, not an easy task but successfully achieved by Angela Young who led the group during the day and led the evening band together with Graham Berry, four hands on the piano providing such an accurate and appropriate tempo – what a treat for us all! A joyful atmosphere was created by the enthusiasm of the musicians uniting with the pleasure and energy of the dancers; just before the interval the band were given the opportunity to dance which some of them did with gusto, but went back to the stage willingly for the second half.

Dancers were guided through the programme by very well prepared, clear recaps from Gaynor Curtis and Jim Cook.

Excellent refreshments were provided by the Marlborough classes and the hardworking team in the kitchen and we were delighted to meet dancers visiting from Canada, South Africa and Madrid.

How fortunate we are to be involved in such a wonderful activity!

**Rachel Wilton**

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE REEL

If you are not a member of the London Branch order your copy of *The Reel* from  
Janet Rudge  
9 Wattleton Road  
Beaconsfield, HP9 1TT  
email: reelsubscriptions@hotmail.co.uk

The annual cost for individual subscribers is £5.00 if resident in the UK, £6.00 for other European residents and £8.50 if resident elsewhere. There are special rates for bulk orders. Remittances in sterling please, payable to RSCDS (London Branch).

## MUNRO COMPETITION SHOES

For Quality and Value

Designed by a Dancer for a Dancer  
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING SHOES  
HIGHLAND DANCING SHOES  
LADIES COUNTRY DANCING SHOES  
NON-SLIP SOLES AVAILABLE

Leaflets and Prices available from

**MARIE CHAPLIN-GARRETT**  
20 WOODHALL CLOSE,  
CUCKFIELD, Nr HAYWARDS HEATH,  
WEST SUSSEX RH17 5HJ

Telephone: 01444 456807

### Reporting Oban's gala day in the Oban Times some decades ago:

'Highlight of a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was the exhibition by Farlane MacKenzie, Cuilfail Hotel, who played "Over the Sea to Skye" on the bagpipes while skiing behind a speedboat.'

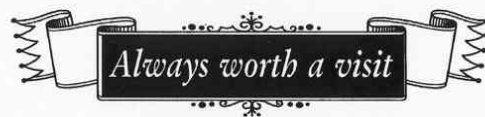


*Macnaughtons of Pitlochry*  
is delighted to support, and to continue its long  
association with, the  
*Royal Scottish Country Dance Society*

Full Highland wear range and accessories  
**Finest quality kilts from a  
huge selection of tartans**

Shawls, sashes, cummerbunds, scarves, ties  
**Ladies made-to-measure skirts and kilted  
skirts in all tartans and tweeds**  
Quality Scottish gifts and jewellery

Worldwide ordering and sales service available



www.macnaughtonsofpitlochry.com • sales@macnaughtonsofpitlochry.com



Established 1835



**Macnaughtons  
of Pitlochry**  
Station Road, Pitlochry  
**01796 472722**



1



2

# PICTURE PAGES



3



4



6



7



5

## Branch Dance 14 May

1. Newcomer Nicola Middleton with regulars, dance the petronella figure in *Back to the Fireside*.
2. The musicians under Angela's leadership rehearsed all day to be the band for the evening – these talented musicians rightly take a bow for an excellent evening's playing.
3. Blake leads Margaret Catchick in the allemande in *Adieu mon Ami* followed by Caroline Allcock with Alan Martin.
4. Roger Wilson and Gaynor Curtis lead the promenade in the strathspey *Up in the Air*.
5. Branch Archivist, Iris with her husband, Branch Bookstall Manager Ian Anderson; take a break between dances.
6. The then Branch Chairman Jeff with 1<sup>st</sup> half MC Gaynor Curtis and music workshop leader Angela with 2<sup>nd</sup> half MC Jim Cook.
7. Alvin Tan birls with friend Nicola in *Mrs Stewart's Jig* (Photo by Jerry Reinstein).

## London Branch AGM June 2011

8. Mary Barker always ready to help and the excellent pre-AGM tea that the Vice-Presidents annually provide (with fairy cakes from George Potts in the foreground).
9. Branch Chairmen: Marjory Reid (Vice), Angela Young and Pamela Ellam (Vice).

## Childrens' Class

10. Emily trying out her new skirt and top before her Introductory Medal Test (Photo by Margaret Peters)



8



9



10



**Branch Dance June 2011**

- 11. Rosy Le Good fiddle with Tom Robertson drums, Ann and band leader Ian Robertson at the interval.
- 12. Catriona, Danielle and Jeff ponder over the *Monster* error discovered in the programme. (The crib was for that other '*Loch Ness Monster*' dance!)
- 13. Iris Ronayne and Ian Cutts dance the knot in *Miss Gibson's Strathspey*.
- 14. Hilary, Mike, Brian, Jerry, Valerie and Mary dance the unusual six hands across in jig *The Gilly Flower*.

**Children's Class**

- 15. The children's class waiting patiently for their turn to dance in the medal test (see page 18) (photo by Angela Young).
- 16. Week 2 St Andrews Summer School Tea Party to commemorate 80 years of Summer School.

Pictures by Stephen Webb  
except where stated





**PHOTOGRAPHS OVER THE LAST 60 YEARS OF THE REEL**



- 1 Ball - early 1950s
- 2 London Branch Golden Jubilee Ball 1990
- 3 10th Anniversary D-Day
- 4 Last Dance at Porchester Hall, May 1991
- 5 Publicity Photo 1955
- 6 Dem Class 1977
- 7 London Branch Golden Jubilee, Porchester Hall Feb 1990
- 8 50th Anniversary of *The Reel*, former Editors 2001 (photo Stephen Webb)
- 9 Garden Party 1960
- 10 80th RSCDS Anniversary Ball 2003, Watford Colosseum

Pictures courtesy of  
Iris Anderson,  
Branch Archivist



## Former Editors Reminisce



### Sir William Nicoll OLD MEN DON'T ALWAYS FORGET

The Editor tells me that I have the distinction of being the oldest surviving editor (1954-55). I like the second epithet, but less the

first. This was the year in which the revised editions of Books I, II and III was published. Long time ago.

The roots go back 25 years more. To our youthful disgust we (wee) laddies at my primary school in Dundee were made to dance, with girls, something like Petronella for a Parents Day. It could have induced a permanent scanner, but all changed when I came to the Big City and...but enough reminiscence already.

*The Reel* which I knew was a four page fold-over. All print. If anybody had sent in a photograph I would not have known what to do with it. I read in the current issue that the abiding problem is fitting a quart into a pint pot. (Note: under EU rules, Imperial measures of liquid capacity are permissible). So was it in my time, but happily the printer was tolerant. Less so the advertisers whose money we had taken but whom I failed to find space for. I am no cruciverbalist (a constructor of crosswords) but laboured to compose a Reel-relevant puzzle for each of my issues. The pain which went into the products must have made them, well, challenging.

The contemporary *Reel* is by comparison a work of art, professional, well laid out, bursting with content. In the Deep South I had no idea that the Scottish dance was going so strong. I recently on request organised a dance among neighbours. I congratulated them on their performance of a 6¼-some Reel.

It remains only to wish *The Reel*, its editors, its readers and the Dancers it chronicles all enjoyment and success until the next significant milestone comes along. Keep dancing!!

---

### Jimmy Anderson

We have a letter of best wishes from nonagenarian **Jimmy Anderson** who edited *The Reel* from 1955 to 1960. Thanks to Lindsey Jane Rousseau for locating him.

---

### Rita Marlow May 1973 to August 1978

I joined London Branch in the early 1960s, becoming a 3-guinea life member in 1966. Early in 1973, I was asked to stand for the Branch Committee. Thinking that it was time to "put something back" after enjoying dancing with the Society, within a few weeks I found myself Editor of *The Reel*, the previous editor feeling that work was becoming too pressured to continue in the role. I have a memory that he was heavily involved with the construction of the Channel Tunnel at the time. Handing over the papers, he said that it would not be a problem for me, because I was a schoolteacher.

At that time, the Editor was not named in the publication, and looking back, reports about weekend schools, dance trips, etc. were written anonymously, or occasionally with initials. Letters, of course, were printed under the authors' names, and some of the same writers are

still contributing their thoughts.

Any items sent for publication had to be checked for accuracy, including spelling errors, and perhaps edited for length. Sometimes, items had to be typed because the handwriting was not easily legible or there were too many spelling errors. Very few of us had any means of mechanical letter writing, and the spell checker was in the future. I had an old typewriter, which was brought into regular use. (When I had no further use for it, I handed it on to Ruth Redfern, so that she could continue writing her "Real Reel", an act that was considered traitorous by some on the Committee!)

Perhaps the biggest change in the production of our magazine is the use of modern technology. For many years, Swan & Atkins printed *The Reel* at the rear of 140/148, Borough High Street, SE1. All copy had to be presented to the printers as typed sheets if possible, but clear handwriting was acceptable, and then they set everything by hand. This was a lengthy task, and it was fascinating to watch them in their workshop tucked away behind the busy thoroughfare.

The Reels were generally two sides of a sheet of folded A4 paper, giving details of Branch events and classes, with advertisements from Other Organisations, as well as the regular notices on the back page – in essence, very much the current pattern. However, the biggest difference was the lack of any illustration. If any one wished to use a logo, they had to provide the die – for a long time, the SNDC Celtic snake was the sole emblem. I decided to include a crossword in two issues, but I had to draw the grid by hand and write the figures very neatly in the squares. A note in *The Reel* said that you could copy the grid if you did not wish to spoil your issue – not a photocopier in sight!

In order to make some issues look a little different, they were printed in royal blue. I found that a green-coloured issue was not a popular experiment, and there were complaints about how difficult it was to read. However, our readers persevered, and attendance at Branch functions was not diminished.

By the end of my time as editor, *The Reel* frequently had an inside page, but as ever, there were regular appeals to write articles and letters for publication. Some things never change! The baton was duly passed on, but that was not the end of my time on the Committee, as I remained there until 1986.

---

### John Laurie

John has the honour of being the longest serving editor of *The Reel* covering 52 issues over 13 years. John took over *The Reel* when the membership of the Branch was nearly twice its present strength, and when the magazine was typeset at a traditional printers in Borough High Street near London Bridge Station. John's first issue contained a letter from Bill Forbes, about whom you can read in the next issue. In those days there was still a weekend school at Bisham Abbey and regular Balls at Porchester Hall, with classes still under the aegis of LCC Institutes. The Garden dance at Polesden Lacey was started during John's reign as Editor, and many controversial issues aired in its pages.

---

### Andrew Kellett

Looking back I don't know how I did it. It was a world without email and digital cameras. Cut and paste meant exactly that. Scissors and glue, coloured pens and paper were essential equipment in the editor's toolbox when I took over from John Laurie in 1991. Early in my term

I had the privilege of editing the 200th issue. It was an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of my predecessors and single out for particular praise Hugh Foss, the visionary who created *The Reel*.

In 1993 Stephen Webb introduced me to John Reeve, and recruiting John as graphic designer was the most significant development for *The Reel* during my seven years as editor. We now had on board someone who could do the clever stuff with the emerging computer technology, had good contacts into the printing industry and, most importantly, understood SCD. He knew where to put the apostrophe in *The Montgomeries' Rant*.

Previously I had handed the raw material for each issue to the printer and in return got one chance to edit a proof copy. Now I could interact with John in a more dynamic process, as we jointly caressed each issue into life via a temperamental fax link, trying out one idea after another before we were satisfied that *The Reel* had reached the standard our members had come to expect. John was also able to keep the costs down so we could expand to at least twelve pages and include photographs (black and white of course) on a regular basis. The extra space allowed me to go hunting for copy: Simon Wales was dispatched to Scone Palace to interview The Earl of Mansfield, President of the RSCDS at the time; the late Professor Michael Argyle explained why happiness is Scottish country dancing; and we ran a picture quiz (probably the second best achievement of my editorship).

It was hard work and involved long hours, but it was worth it thanks to the positive feedback and encouragement from members. Even the complaints were delivered with good grace and an appreciation that the editorial team was doing its best. I am proud to have been associated with *The Reel*, a jewel in the London Branch crown, and not yet surpassed by any other RSCDS Branch publication.

---

### Jim Cook

Have ten years passed already since I was honoured to be Editor at the time of *The Reel's* 50th Anniversary? I reflect on how I made my mark on *The Reel* in my first issue. The front page used to be dedicated to advertising Branch events without a picture in sight, let alone the superb colour pics of today. I muse on my nervousness at changing this tradition in favour of a front page article which might hopefully appeal to the worldwide readership, the local adverts moving inside. Would I cause controversy which would fill the "Letters to the Editor" page? But this change proceeded without comment and I settled down to enjoy my three year term, a small contribution in *The Reel's* illustrious history.

---

### Daniel Capron

*The Reel* burst out in colour! That was a highlight of my time as Editor (2002-05). At the end of 2004 *The Reel* no 250 came out and at the same time the Branch was celebrating its 75th anniversary. To mark this double occasion I arranged for the front and back pages to be in colour. With the help of John Reeve I redesigned the masthead, and the thistle at the top left corner of page 1 appeared in colour for the first time. There had just been an anniversary ball at Hurlingham and pictures of dancers in their finery filled the front page, with chairman Owen Meyer in party spirit at the centre. Thus colour came to *The Reel* after 249 monochrome issues.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Oxford

**John Dickson**

Dear Wilson,

You are such a stalwart for the London Branch! Harking back to John Dickson's time in London is stretching my memory somewhat, but I have been able to turn up a photo of a demonstration of *The Hebridean Weaving Lilt* in the Central Hall Westminster including John and myself in the foreground (*picture on left*). The music was being provided by none other than Jimmy Shand! This was undoubtedly around 1950 when John was in London for a short time. I remember him as being reliable and hard-working and I used him several times for dems and shows in the London area.

As chance would have it, many years later we met John and his wife Christina at Neidpath Castle to the west of Peebles where they were resident stewards for the owner, the Earl of Wemyss! (The Earl's heir takes his courtesy title Lord Neidpath.)

Christina still lives in Edinburgh.

**John Armstrong**

(Editor's note: John was for many years a kenspeckle figure in SCD circles in London)



Annual Event Accordion Day circa 1956 at Central Hall Westminster with Jimmy Shand (*far left*) Dancers *from the left*: John Armstrong, Chris Maclellan (crouching), Joanne Wells and John Dickson Dancing *The Hebridean Weaving lilt*

London

## Music for Strathspeys.

Dear Wilson,

Three years ago there was some correspondence in *The Reel* on the pros and cons of Strathspeys. While I like Strathspeys, many of the new ones have boring tunes in a minor key – a serious detraction. May I request through *The Reel* that our talented musicians compose some new tunes in major keys with a delightful lilt, which is the characteristic of the true Strathspey?

The melodies for the *Cape Town Wedding* are lovely. The tune usually played for *The Robertson Rant* has the pleasant feature that it modulates from a minor key into the major at the grand chain near the end.

**Bernard R. Bligh**

Watford

## Footwork

Dear Mr Nicol,

I have just read Mr Webb's article in *The Reel* issue number 276 and would like to respond on behalf of many dancers in my position on his remarks

About 40 years ago, my two daughters joined a highland dancing school, which got me interested in learning Scottish country dancing, and enrolled in an adult education evening class to learn all the basic movements and how steps should be performed, and met the late Gillian Collis, who persuaded me to join her Society. For many years I was able to learn many dances and perform all the steps in the correct manner. Now being a senior citizen and suffering from arthritis and lower back pain I am unable to point my toes and hold the correct position in hands round movements etc. I am not the only one in this position. We do not cause any trouble in a dance as we do manage to keep up with everyone else from start to finish. Are we now expected to give up altogether?

I would agree that if one is in a demonstration team, the standard must be the highest. There are not many younger people in my area coming into Scottish dancing and would like to say that we senior citizens are the backbone of many local Societies.

Finally I suggest that Mr Webb might like to look at his own style of dancing as it has been said on many occasions that his spinning at every opportunity is rather excessive, with kilt flying high!

**P F Crisp**

Worcester Park

## Foot positions

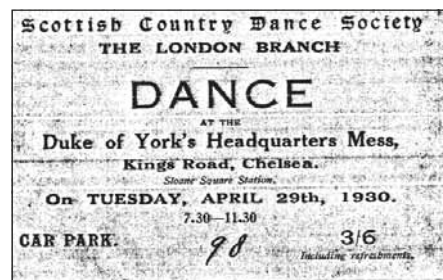
Dear Wilson,

I do not entirely agree with Steve Webb's article on foot positions. Yes, they are important if you wish to dance elegantly, if you are a demonstration dancer, or if you are a teacher. However, the turned out foot position is not natural. I believe it originated in the 17th century, when high, wide-topped boots were fashionable for men. Anyone wearing these would have to swing the feet out in order to walk. The 21st century does not have a monopoly of inconvenient fashion footwear.

Older dancers and those with medical problems may not be able to maintain a high standard of footwork. Beginners have more than enough to think about without worrying about their feet. The important thing is to keep in time with the music, and be in the right place at the right time, and in the majority of dances it is possible to walk and still do this. The result otherwise can be collisions, particularly in dances with "meanwhile bits" such as *The Luckenbooth Brooch*.

I also think there are more essential points to consider for ordinary social dancing. I am particularly concerned by incorrect giving of hands, which can be dangerous. If you do not have a proper handshake grip when turning another dancer you may not be able to save them if they slip. Elbow grip is used for tight turns, but can cause bruising if the thumb is not kept at the back of the other dancer's arm. If the thumb is at the front it may press on the brachial pressure point, which is where an artery runs close to the bone, and this can cause discomfort. It is also important to give hands at the correct height. This is normally shoulder height, unless there is a large discrepancy in height between dancers, in which case it should be shoulder height of the shorter dancer. I am about 5 feet tall. If I am dancing with a 6 foot partner his shoulder height will be in the vicinity of the top of my head. I remember an occasion when I was dancing with my daughter, Catriona, who was about 10 years old at the time and small for her age. We had to dance right hands across with two much taller dancers, who unthinkingly gave hands so high that Catriona could not reach the centre of the star.

This is not to say that we should not try to improve our footwork. Accurate steps are a ▶



Alton

## Early Branch Dance

Dear Wilson,

In her article on the formation of the London Branch (Reel 276 page 17 towards the bottom of the first column), Marilyn Healy comments that a Dance was held after Easter to raise funds for the Branch. Readers might be interested to know that a copy of the programme and ticket for this Dance is held in the Branch Archives.

It took place on Tuesday 29th April 1930 at the Duke of York's Headquarters in Kings Road Chelsea. The programme consisted of Ballroom dances, mostly waltzes and foxtrots alternating with Scottish Dances from Books 1-3. The M.C. was Tom Bazalgette, who was a founder member of the Branch. There is no mention of a Band. Tickets (including refreshments) were 3s. 6d. The ticket is number 98, so there were obviously a considerable number of people who attended this function.

**Iris Anderson**  
Hon. Branch Archivist

▶ distinctive feature of Scottish country dancing. Many years ago I went to a Playford Ball. One of the dances on the programme included a figure similar to rights and lefts. The caller instructed the dancers to take two or three small steps to change places. Scottish Dancing is never that vague. It lays down the exact number of steps for each figure, and even the exact foot position on each beat of the music. If you watch the demonstration team in action you will see this to perfection. However, those of us who cannot achieve such high standards can still enjoy our dancing, even if the dirty marks are not in the right place on our socks!

**Elizabeth Bennett**

## OLIM BRANCH VICE-PRESIDENTS



Stephen Webb

### STELLA BOOTH

Stella, was born in Didsbury and grew up in North Wales. She came to London and worked for the Inland Revenue where she met Howard. They were married in 1956 and made their home in Claygate near Epsom.

They were both keen country dancers and became Life Members of the RSCDS through the London Branch in 1964. Along with Howard, Stella served on the Branch Committee for 12 years, 1973-85 during which time she ran the Bookstall. As well as the mail order side, Stella took the Bookstall to numerous events in the London area – quite an arduous task which Ian and Iris the current Bookstall custodians will agree. Stella also initiated and ran the Annual Open-air Dance for the Branch on finding the ideal site on the croquet lawn in the National Trust, Polesden Lacey grounds between Dorking and Leatherhead.

For their services to Scottish country dancing Stella and Howard were awarded a Society Scroll in 1987.

Stella and Howard were keen walkers so it was no surprise when in their retirement they moved to live in Burneside near Kendal. Stella was also a keen gardener and a member of the Royal Horticultural Society, as well as of the National Trust for whom she was a volunteer at Townend near Ambleside. She was a good cook and loved to entertain. Many of our members will remember the great parties at her home in Claygate.

Howard and Stella became Branch Vice-Presidents in 1987 and maintained a continuing interest in the Branch from up north even after Howard's death in 2003. Only two years ago at the age of 90 she was dancing *Cadgers in the Canongate* at a Branch function. Stella died on 15 April at the age of 92.

Jenny Greene

#### Letter from the family

When a few months ago we heard that our Vice President, Stella Booth was very ill, the Committee resolved to send her some flowers. Unfortunately, Stella died before the flowers reached her so instead we decided to send a donation for her family to give to a charity. Here is the reply our treasurer received.

Dear Simon,

*On behalf of the family I write to thank you for the charity donation you sent in memory of my dear aunt, Stella Booth. We chose Langdale and Ambleside Mountain Rescue as one of the charities in memory of Stella as she and Howard loved walking in the hills of the Lake District; their favourite walks being in the Langdale area. We ourselves appreciated the beauty of the area when scattered Stella's ashes near Rossett Pike, where she'd scattered Howard's ashes eight years ago.*

*The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society was*

*always a big part of Stella's life and she used to tell us of the many good friends she made there. My mother, Howard's sister, tells me that Stella really brought Howard out of his shell, and Mum couldn't believe it when Stella got him Scottish dancing, something he'd never have dreamt of doing before he met Stella. Scottish dancing became a big part of his life too. It was lovely to hear of how much they were both very much involved with the London Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.*

*Thank you again for the donation in Stella's memory.*

*Yours sincerely, Anne*

### MARIE JAMIESON

Marie Jamieson passed away very peacefully at the Whittington Hospital on the 12 July.

Educated in Edinburgh, Marie attended George Watson's Ladies College and proceeded to take a BSc at Edinburgh University followed by a qualification in dietetics.

In 1954 Marie arrived in London to work at the Ministry of Food's "experimental kitchen". By the end of 1956, Marie joined the congregation of St Columba's in Pont St which over the years became an important part of Marie's life in London, amongst other things getting involved with Scottish country dancing on Monday evenings there. Marie loved Scottish country dancing: whether it was an elegant display on the croquet lawn at Polesden Lacey with the London Branch, or the more robust style of ceilidh dancing that is practised in the lower hall at Pont Street. Whatever the style, Marie moved gracefully on her feet. She shared her passion by teaching Scottish country dancing, having acquired her teaching certificate in February 1958. She regularly took Branch classes starting in 1958 at Buckingham Gate and subsequently at Morley College. She was for many years in the Branch Demonstration class

A member of the Royal Horticultural Society, Marie was a keen gardener and regular volunteer at the Garden Museum by Lambeth Bridge. Marie also took great pleasure in music and drama attending concerts at St John's Smith Square.

However, she will be best known for her regular tardiness and her stock idiom, "C'mon, dearie!" (we were all "dearie" to Marie!).

We all know that Marie loved parties and outings, so it was not surprising that she had parties for her 60th, 70th and 80th birthdays to name but a few!

Marie's cheerfulness was seemingly innate and remained with her even during her periods of illness in the hospital oncology ward.

Based on the tribute at her funeral

**Andrew Cockett** writes wearing his Argyll Scottish Dancing Group hat.....

'When the Argyll Scottish Dancing Group decided to introduce guest teachers to its weekends at Easthampstead Park in the 1970s, Marie Jamieson was among the first to be invited. Her distinctive style and good humour – we were all addressed as "dearie" – made her very popular and she returned frequently. In recognition of her contribution to The Argylls we invited her to teach at our special anniversary weekend in 1986.'

**Marjory Reid** writes:

'When I returned from an overseas posting, I attended Marie's class for a couple of years. I remember going to class one night and informing Marie that I had been to a ceilidh on the Saturday at Pont Street. She went very quiet and enquired



Stephen Webb

if I had picked up any other information while I had been there. I said that I had about RSCDS London Branch and there appeared to be lots going on. Marie looked at me and said she had never told me about any of the other classes, etc, as she feared I would stop coming to Morley. Marie was right. I finished the term at Morley and then went to Marlborough! At the Branch Christmas dance about two years ago, Marie was there and after I had finished participating in the demonstration team display, she came up to me and said that she could not believe that someone she had taught at Morley had got into the dem team. She appeared chuffed at that!

**Gill Russell and Rita Marlow** write:

'Bill Ireland named Marie "The Late Miss Jamieson", and throughout most of her life within the RSCDS she was notorious for only just making it to classes and demonstrations. Her arrival was announced by her distinctive voice saying, "But dearie....", followed by her reasons.'

On one occasion, Marie's mother was serving her tea in the garden in her Edinburgh house, when a plane passed overhead. "Aren't you supposed to be flying out today with the International Team, dear?" The answer was in the affirmative, and special arrangements had to be made for Marie to join them.

Much more recently, Marie offered to provide the steaks for lunch with friends at their house. Knowing her reputation, extra steaks were bought, "Just in case". Two hours after the agreed time, the group were at lunch when Marie's mini drew up outside. Before anyone could open the door, there was a thud and the packet of steak landed on the step, while the car sped away with a roar.

Despite this, once she had arrived Marie was good company, with strong views on the RSCDS and Scottish dancing, and an interest in all things Scottish.'

### BRANCH BOOKSTALL

*At your service*

*Books and CDs for Scottish Dancers*

Mail order from Ian Anderson,  
104 Whitedown Lane, Alton,  
Hants GU34 1QR  
Tel: 01420 84599

email: [bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk).

10% reduction on RSCDS publications and recordings bought by members. Please state your Branch when ordering.

**N.B.: The Bookstall Stocklist is available on the Branch Website.**

**Want to Advertise in The Reel?**

Contact the Business Manager, Jeff Robertson,  
Tel 01903 245718. or  
email: [businessmanager@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:businessmanager@rscdslondon.org.uk).

**ASHDOWN SCOTTISH COUNTRY  
DANCE CLUB**

*Charity Dance for  
Parkinson's Disease Society  
Crowborough Branch and local Charities*  
Saturday 17 September 2011

7.30 - 11.30pm

Beacon Community College, North Beeches,  
Crowborough, East Sussex, TN6 2AS

**Craigievar Scottish Dance Band  
and Guest Sandy Nixon**

*Programme: Joie de Vivre, Shiftin' Bobbins,  
The Cashmere Shawl, Miss Johnstone of  
Ardrossan, The Luckenbooth Brooch, Gang the  
Same Gate, The Irish Rover, Father Connelly's  
Jig, Kinfauns Castle, Scott Meikle, Quarries' Jig,  
A Trip to Bavaria, Ray Milbourne, Muirland  
Willie, St Columba's Strathspey, Nottingham  
Lace, Band Solo, The Blue Mess Jacket, The  
Recumbent Stone, The Flying Spur, The  
Minister on the Loch, Napier's Index, Mairi's  
Wedding*

Tickets, in advance only please, £12.00  
(child/ spectators £6.00)

plus please bring a plate of food

Contact Michael Copeman Tel: 01892 655971

Email: [michaelc.copeman@btinternet.com](mailto:michaelc.copeman@btinternet.com).



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

**Advanced Class – alternate  
Mondays**

Starting on Monday 5 September 2011  
Finchampstead Memorial Hall, RG40 4JU  
8.00 - 10.00pm

Contact: Shirley Ferguson 01276 501952

**General Class – Every Wednesday**

Starting on 21 September 2011  
Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church Hall  
Frimley GU16 7AA 8.00 - 10.00pm

*Teacher: Mervyn Short*

Contact: May Sloan 01428 604868

**Beginners Class**

Starting on Thursday 22 September 2011  
All Saints Church Hall, Farnborough GU14 9EW  
at 8.15pm.

*Teacher: Anne Whillis; 01252 673301*

**Autumn Social - 8 October 2011**

Carnation Hall, Winkfield RG42 7PA  
Dancing to recorded music from 7.45 - 10.45pm  
Bring and share refreshments.

Contact: Annette Owen 01256 959097

**Christmas Social – 29 December 2011**

St Paul's Parish Rooms, Wokingham RG41 1EH  
Dancing to recorded music from 7.45 - 10.45pm  
Bring and share refreshments.

Contact: Colin Duncan 01932 241615

**Day School – 10 March 2012**

Contact:

*Dancers: Peter Loveland 07747 112720*

*Musicians: Shirley Ferguson 01276 501952*

*Visit our website on [www.rscds.bhs.org.uk](http://www.rscds.bhs.org.uk)*

**RSCDS CAMBRIDGE BRANCH**

**Annual Dance**

Chesterton Community College,  
Cambridge CB4 3NY

Saturday 15 October 2011

7.30 - 11.30pm

**Keith Smith and Peter Shand**

Details: [www.rscds-cambridge.org](http://www.rscds-cambridge.org)

## DANCE EVENTS

**CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL SPRING DANCE**

Saturday 25 February 2012

7.30 - 11.30pm

Pittville School, Albert Road,  
Cheltenham, GL52 3JD

**Iain MacPhail and his SCD Band**

*Programme: Grand March to the Pipes, Clutha,  
Pines of Pitlochry, Kilkenny Castle, Broadford  
Bay, Macleod's Fancy, The Minister on the  
Loch, General Stuart's Reel, The Cooper's Wife,  
The Dream Catcher, Fidget, \* Johnnie Walker,  
Blooms of Bon Accord, Silver Strathspey, The  
Nurseryman, Mrs Stuart Linnell, The Singing  
Sands, Postie's Jig, Shiftin' Bobbins, Gang the  
Same Gate, Father Connelly's Jig.*

Tickets £14 from John Marshall, 17 Gratton  
Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 2BT.

[duracellbunney@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:duracellbunney@tiscali.co.uk) Cheques to  
"Cheltenham Scottish Society" with SAE please.

**CHICHESTER AND DISTRICT  
CALEDONIAN SOCIETY**

**St Andrew's Dance**

Saturday 19 November 2011

6.30pm for 7.00 until 10.30pm

Jubilee Hall, Oving, Nr Chichester, PO20 2DN

**Strathallan Scottish Country Dance Band**

*Programme: Mrs Stewart's Jig, Cramond Bridge,  
St Columba's Strathspey, The Dancing Master,  
Hamilton House, Foxhill Court, James Gray,  
Jean Martin of Aberdeen, Quarries' Jig, Spiffin',  
Luckenbooth Brooch, The Wee Cooper of Fife,  
The Gardeners' Fantasia, A Reel for Alice, Fugal  
Fergus, Mrs Milne of Kinneff, Let's Have a  
Ceilidh, City of Belfast, The Irish Rover*

Tickets £11 members, £13 non-members  
American Supper

(Ample parking available)

Apply for tickets, with s.a.e., to Margaret Linton,  
79 Portchester Road, Fareham, Hants. PO16 8AP  
Tel. 01329 280095

Email [margretlinton@btinternet.com](mailto:margretlinton@btinternet.com)

Information is also available on our website  
[www.chicalesoc.co.uk](http://www.chicalesoc.co.uk)

**CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH RSCDS**

**Annual Weekend School**

Friday 11 to Sunday 13 November 2011

The Cumberland Hotel, Eastbourne, BN21 3YT

*Teacher: .....Rachel Wilton*

Applications forms available from

Pauline Cashmore 0208 686 9362

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



**RICHMOND CALEDONIAN  
SOCIETY**

**75th Anniversary Ball**

Saturday 18 February 2012

7.30 - 11.30pm

Hampton School, Hampton, TW12 3HD

**Marian Anderson and her band**

*Programme: Bratach Bana, The Flying Spur,  
Kilkenny Castle, James Gray, JB Milne, The  
Gardeners' Fantasia, The Best Set in the Hall,  
The Recumbent Stone, Rose of the North,  
Anniversary Reel, Ian Powrie's Farewell to  
Auchterarder, Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, Wee  
Cooper of Fife, Cape Town Wedding, Mrs Stuart  
Linnell, Scott Meikle, Gang the Same Gate, The  
Lochalsh Reel, The Hazel Tree, The Robertson  
Rant, Major Ian Stewart, The Duke of Perth.*

Tickets, to include supper and soft drinks, £20

Contact: Frances Campbell Colquhoun,  
020 8943 3773 [francc@btinternet.com](mailto:francc@btinternet.com)

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

**ST NINIAN'S SCOTTISH DANCERS**

**Annual Dance**

Saturday 12 November 2011

7.30 pm.

St Albans Girls' School, Sandridgebury Lane,  
St Albans AL3 6DB

**Craigievar**

For programme please see our website

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

TICKETS £16.50 inc Buffet

CONTACTS: Ted Andrews 01582 508580

sae please to: 19 Barnfield Avenue, Luton,  
LU2 7AS or email Sarah Kelsall-Patel at  
[shpatel@supanet.com](mailto:shpatel@supanet.com)

**HARROW & DISTRICT  
CALEDONIAN SOCIETY**

**Autumn Dance**

Saturday 22 October 2011

7.00 - 11.00pm

St Andrew's URC Hall, Eastcote, HA5 2SH

**The Silver Cross Band**

Tickets: £12

from Jim Henderson 020 8954 2586,

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

**Annual Ball**

Friday 6 January 2012

7.30 - 11.30pm

Allum Hall, Elstree, WD6 3PJ

**The Frank Reid Scottish Dance Band**

Programme in the next issue.

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

**HAYES & DISTRICT SCOTTISH  
ASSOCIATION MIDDLESEX**

**Annual Ball**

Saturday 12 November 2011

Brentside High School, Greenford Ave, W7 1JJ

**George Meikle & the Lothian SD Band**

7.30 - 11.30pm

*Programme: Bratach Bana, The Belle of Bon  
Accord, A Capital Jig, The Reverend John  
MacFarlane, The Gentleman, Aird of Coigach,  
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle, Kinfauns Castle, Spiffin',  
The Gardeners' Fantasia, Swiss Lassie, John of  
Bon Accord, The Flying Spur, Falls of Bracklinn,  
The Recumbent Stone, James Gray, The  
Cashmere Shawl, Scott Meikle, The Dancing  
Master, The Minister on the Loch, The Bees of  
Maggielknocker, The Irish Rover.*

Tickets £17 [incl. Buffet] from Margaret Wallace  
tel: 020 8560 6160

e-mail: [margaret@ianwallace.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:margaret@ianwallace.fsnet.co.uk)

or Mary Barry, tel: 020 8998 0667

Cribs available on website

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

**OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE  
HIGHLAND BALL**

Saturday 25 February 2012

7.00 - 11.30pm

Chesterton Community College,  
Gilbert Road, Cambridge CB4 3NY

**Green Ginger**

*Programme: Hooper's Jig, General Stuart's Reel,  
The Braes of Breadalbane, Do Not Apologise,  
Uncle Isaac, Cape Town Wedding, Petronella,  
The Flower of Glasgow, The Weathercock, The  
Nor' Loch. The Duke & Duchess of Edinburgh,  
Gothenburg's Welcome, Chesterton, The  
Clansman, The Campbells are Coming, Gang the  
Same Gate, The Nurseryman, Mairi's Wedding*

Tickets: £16 (£12.50 student) before 1 January

2012, £17.50 (£14) thereafter. Supper provided,  
bring dessert to share. Contact Edmund Croft,

Churchill College, Cambridge

[ewc20@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ewc20@cam.ac.uk)

07837 648 198.



## DANCE EVENTS (continued)



### LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

Forthcoming attractions  
to be held at St. Columba's  
Church Hall, Pont Street,  
London SW1 0BD

Fridays: Upper Hall 7.30 - 10.30pm  
Saturdays: Lower Hall 7.00 - 10.30pm  
unless otherwise stated

Saturday 10 September..... **David Hall**  
President's Night .....Jacket potato supper  
Saturday 1 October.....**Craigievar**  
Friday 28 October.....Hallowe'en  
Saturday 19 November.....**Lochnagar**  
St Andrew's Night  
Saturday 10 December.....**Frank Reid**  
Christmas Dance 7.30 - 11.00 pm

For further details contact: Frank Bennett on 020 8715 3564, email fb.lhc@blueyonder.co.uk, 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. Everyone is welcome at all our functions, so please come along and join us for an enjoyable evening.

### ST JOHNS SCOTTISH DANCE CLUB

Annual Ball

Saturday 26 November 2011

7.30 - 11.45pm

Emmbrook School, Wokingham RG41 1JP

**Nicol McLaren**

#### & The Glencraig Scottish Dance Band

*Programme:* Mrs McPherson of Inveran, Best Set in the Hall, The Reverend John MacFarlane, The Royal Wedding, The Blackwater Reel, James Gray, Schiehallion, Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich, St Columba's Strathspey, Craigmin Brig, None So Pretty, The Dancing Man, The Zoologist, Culla Bay, Reels of Dunans, Old Nick's Lumber Room, The Gentleman, Glen Alva, Major Ian Stewart, Jean Martin of Aberdeen, The Queen's View, The Starry Eyed Lassie. Extras: Macleod's Fancy, Anniversary Reel.

Tickets: £20 from Sue Davis, 2 Larkswood Drive, Crowthorne, RG45 6RL s.a.e. please or tel: 01344 774344 or e-mail alan.suedavis@gmail.com To reserve

### GERRARDS CROSS

#### SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB

New Year Ball and Dinner

Saturday 7 January 2012

7.00 for 7.30 to 11.45pm

Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre, SL9 7AD

#### Strathallan

*Programme:* The Happy Meeting, The Reel of the Royal Scots, The Quaich, Scott Meikle, Best Set in the Hall, The Moray Rant, Catch the Wind, Bonnie Anne, Lammermuir Hills, Blooms of Bon Accord, Waltz Country Dance, The Queen's View, The Dundee City Police Jig, Ray Milbourne, The Duchess Tree, The Immigrant Lass, Bratach Bana, The Belle of Bon Accord, Major Ian Stewart, Mairi's Wedding

Tickets £22

email: tickets@gxscottish.org.uk

Celia Stuart-Lee, tel. 01753 884217

www.gxscottish.org.uk

### RSCDS BATH BRANCH

Annual Ball

Saturday 11 February 2012

The Guildhall, Bath BA1 1LZ

#### Strathallan Scottish Country Dance Band

Tickets £25 from June Hall

Top Flat 141 Wells Rd, Bath BA2 3AL.

Tel: 01225 318906.

### BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH RSCDS

Christmas American Supper Dance

Saturday 10 December 2011

7.30 - 11.15pm

#### Strathallan S.C.D. Band

Tickets: £12 plus contribution to supper.

Annual Ball

Saturday 11 February 2012. 7.00 - 11.15pm

#### Craigellachie S.C.D. Band

Tickets: £16 including supper.

Venue for both events:

Corfe Mullen Village Hall. BH21 3UA

Details: Margaret Robson 01202 698138

margaret.brs cds@ntlworld.com

### RSCDS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH

Annual Ball

Saturday 22 October 2011

Headington School, Oxford, OX3 7TD

#### Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band

*Programme:* Maxwell's Rant, The Wild Geese, Sugar Candie, The Black Black Oil, Miss Allie Anderson, 1314, Flowers of Edinburgh, Napier's Index, Staffin Harvest, The Starry Eyed Lassie, Round Reel of Eight, The Snake Pass, The Flower of Glasgow, Ladies of Dunse, The Argyll Square, Miss Milligan's Strathspey, The Dancing Man, The Byron Strathspey, James Gray, The Reel of The Royal Scots. *Extras:* West's Hornpipe, Neidpath Castle.

Ample free parking. On the London to Oxford bus route. Bus stops right outside the school.

Tickets £15 (spectators £7.50) including supper.

Contact: Jean Drummond, tel. 01608 652999

email: jmdrummond@waitrose.com

#### Advance Notice

Burns' Night Supper & Dance

21 January 2012

Benson, OX10 6LZ

#### Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band.

### RSCDS TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH

Autumn Dance

Saturday 22 October 2011

7.00 - 11.00pm

Mascalls School, Maidstone Rd,

Paddock Wood, Tonbridge, TN12 6LT

#### The Strathallan Band

Tickets: £11 on/before 15 Oct;

£13 on/after 16 Oct

plus a plate of food to share at a sit down buffet.

Contact George Daly, tel: 01892 534512 or

email: socialsec@rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk

website: rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk.

### SOUTH EAST HERTFORDSHIRE SCDS

ANNUAL BALL

Saturday 19 November 2011

7.30 - 11.30pm

De Havilland Sports & Social Club,

De Havilland Campus,

University of Hertfordshire, AL10 9EU

#### Ian Muir and The Craigellachie Band

*Programme:* Maxwell's Rant, A Capital Jig, City of Belfast, Australian Ladies, James Gray, The Dundee Whaler, The Royal Yacht Britannia, Muirland Willie, Sugar Candie, West's Hornpipe, John of Bon Accord, Inchmickery, Monymusk, The Reel of the 51st Division, The Bees of Maggieknockater, Culla Bay, The Highland Rambler, Follow me Home, The Byron Strathspey, Mrs. McPherson of Inveran.

Tickets £18.00 including supper

Excellent parking/Licensed Bar

Enquiries: Peter Dixon 01920 462213

www.sehscottishdance.org

### REIGATE SCOTTISH COUNTRY

DANCE CLUB

Formal Dance & Buffet

Saturday 19 November 2011

7.30 - 11.00 pm

Reigate School, Pendleton Road,

Reigate RH2 7NT

#### Green Ginger

*Programme:* Catch the Wind, Mrs Stewart's Jig, Rose of the North, Bratach Bana, Diamond Jubilee, Foxhill Court, Trip to Bavaria, The Minister on the Loch, Follow me Home, Gang the Same Gate, The Dancing Master, Mrs Macleod, Kilkenny Castle, The Black Mountain Reel, The Chequered Court, St Columba's Strathspey, Postie's Jig, The Sailor.

Tickets £13.50,

Enquiries to Wendy Mitton 01737 766244.

### HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY

DANCING CLUB

Annual Ball

Saturday 3 March 2012

Harpenden Public Halls, Harpenden, AL5 1PD.

#### The Frank Reid Scottish Dance Band

Programme and other details in the next issue

Enquiries to Val Owens 01727 863870.

Website: www.HSCDC.org.uk.



A special date for your diary

BERKHAMSTED

#### STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB

Diamond Highland Ball

Saturday 11 February 2012

7.30pm to midnight

Ashlyns School, Berkhamsted, HP4 3AH

#### Sandy Nixon and his Scottish Dance Band

Details: Janet Halse, tel: 01442 246381.

Book Early - Details in *The Reel* No. 278

and website www.berkhamstedreelclub.org



&



### Three Hands Across

A book containing 12 dances written by members of the Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch.

The accompanying CD by Craigellachie contains music for all the dances, including some original tunes by members of the band, as well as 2 extra tracks.

Book £5, CD £12 or both for £15, plus Post and Packing £2 (UK only)

By post with cheque payable to RSCDS BHS Border Branch to: Judith Muir, 31 Church Street, Kintbury, Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 9TR

By email/pay by PayPal:

Judith.robertson3@btinternet.com

# CHILDREN'S MEDAL TEST RESULTS

Congratulations to all the children from **The Upland Dancers, Bexleyheath** who entered the RSCDS Medal Test in July. Everyone passed either with a credit (\*) or a distinction (#) thanks to Wendy Kellett's intensive teaching.

Introductory Grade	Grade 1	Grade 2	
Olivia Camm*	Holly Bolan#	Elena Anderson*	Megan Powell#
Emily Furze#	Zoe Edwards#	Maisie Bevan#	Megan Stockbridge#
Jessica Goodes#	Emily Furze*	Holly Bolan*	<b>Grade 3</b>
Olivia Harker#	Emily Humphrey#	Marina Chen*	Charley Griffin*
Daisy Johnson*	Sasha McGillicuddy*	Molly Down#	Feyi Kadri*
Holly McGillicuddy#	Amy MacKenzie#	Abbie Edwards*	<b>Grade 4</b>
Sasha McGillicuddy#	Chloe Moleenont#	Holly Jay*	Evie Booker#
Bethany Orchard#	Louise Ruddell*	Moyo Kadri*	Tom Booker#
			Lucy Cutting#

## BOBBY BROWN

In the last issue of *The Reel* we mentioned that Bobby Brown was this year's Box and Fiddle Guest of Honour. Sadly Bobby did not survive cancer to make the journey. Here is an extract from Keith Bark's mark of respect for the great bandsman:

You cannot have danced in Toronto without knowing of Bobby Brown and the Scottish Accent. They have been a part of RSCDS Toronto's history since 1977. Their leader Bobby Brown, or to give his full name, Robert Watt Brown, was born in Dennyloanhead, Scotland in 1941.

Bobby grew up in a family devoted to the field of Scottish musical entertainment. His mother, Jean Day, was widely known throughout Scotland as a concert soprano, often performing with Harry Lauder and Will Fyffe. His father was a fiddler, and several uncles were pipers and drummers. It was not until he went to Canada in 1957 that he could afford to buy an accordion that he learned to play – mainly self-taught.

He joined Stan Hamilton and Bobby Frew also new immigrants from Scotland to play for SCD in Hamilton. For the next seventeen years, they were known as "The Clansman" becoming later "The Flying Scotsmen". Despite a full-time career Bobby maintained a gruelling schedule as an individual performer and as a key member of one of North America's most respected bands. This band made appearances at the New York World's Fair, Grand Bahamas hotel, Scottish

Country Dance functions, Burns Suppers, Highland Games, Celtic heritage festivals across Canada and USA and on national television.

He was instrumental in forming the Cape Breton Symphony Fiddlers and the Scottish Accent Band at that time. He also worked on stage with many Scottish and Canadian performers such as Moira Anderson, Andy Stewart, Hamish Imlach, Robin Brock, Alex Beaton, Peter Glen, John Carmichael, Billy Meek, Rita MacNeil, Edith Butler, Rankins, Ashley MacIsaac and appeared on numerous television and radio broadcasts. A few years ago, Toronto Branch was involved in Take the Floor with Robbie Shepherd when Bobby's Scottish Accent broadcast live from Toronto.

It has been a great privilege for Toronto to have Bobby as a resident of our area. He will be sorely missed.

## A Pat on the Back for Jo!

Pat Batt is a name that most of our readers will recognise as being synonymous with incisive, humorous poetry centred on Scottish country dancing. Her ditties are based on personal experiences and observation of human life in SCD and then put into rhyme for her and our pleasure. She often is found making a pithy point through fun, this probably being the best way to do it! Go to a dance party, tea party or ceilidh and you will invariably hear one of her poems recited or simply read out. Teachers use them in

part to illustrate a point or to give their class a sideways look into our world. Phrases like When I was one and twenty..., I'm a two-sex Scottish dancer ..., I joined a Scottish dancing class ... come to mind when thinking of her poems.

I knew Pat; she was a cheeky mischievous person with a twinkle in her eye which I always see in my mind when I read her works. Reading one of her poems daily is like taking a tonic and this is a compliment I am sure she would have loved to hear. The London Branch has been given special permission by her daughter Jo Chima, to whom we are indebted and thank heartily, to show all 33 of her poems, from her five volumes, on the Noticeboard, on our website starting with the six already published in *The Reel* since 1987. London Branch hopes their readers enjoy this treat over the coming years and will avail themselves of Pat's daily tonic for life.

(Pat passed away at the age of 85 in 2006 and her obit. can be found in Reel 257, through the sales of her poems she was able to make generous donations to The North London Hospice)

Stephen Webb

## DRUMMING UP IN PONT STREET

Taking the opportunity in the light spring evening, Mike Hanson and I took the Branch keyboard and stand out through the rear entrance of St Columba's Church to my parked car. As we were negotiating this rather large but obvious object into the boot and lowered rear seat, a couple came around the corner of the church. In London seeing celebrities on a regular basis is almost commonplace. This diminutive man, who was dressed in black, said in a distinctive regional accent with a hint of expectation, 'Going to a gig?' I replied recognising him, 'We need a drummer!' With a wry smile, Ringo went on his way! For me it was a full circle as in 1964 I saw The Beatles at the Royal Albert Hall (when The Rolling Stones were a mere supporting act in the first half!) and here I was again seeing a Beatle in Knightsbridge, just a stone's throw away from that first time!

Stephen Webb

## OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS

**ABINGDON SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** Dancing most Mondays, 8.00 - 10.15pm, Sept to June at Northcourt Centre, Abingdon, nr Oxford. All welcome. Details: [www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com](http://www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com) or Carol Gibbins 01235 527211 [cjgibbins60@hotmail.com](mailto:cjgibbins60@hotmail.com)

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

**ALDRINGTON (HOVE) SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP** meet every Tuesday 8.15-10.30pm, September to June. Details from John Steer, 57 Hangleton Rd, Hove, E. Sussex BN3 7GH. Tel: 01273 416893.

**BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB** meets in Potten End Village Hall. Social dancing: Tuesdays 8.15 September to May, Sat. gardens June/July. Classes: Mondays 8pm: Intermediate and Advanced, Tuesdays 8.15: Beginners. Contact: Judy Roythorne, 1, Pine Close, North Road, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3BZ Tel. 01442 875496 [www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org).

**BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH RSCDS** meets every Friday at St Mark's New Church Hall, Wallisdown Road, Talbot Village, Bournemouth 7.30 - 10pm. 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 from Rod Burrows on 01908 783053 or [chair@rscds-brighton.org.uk](mailto:chair@rscds-brighton.org.uk) [www.rscds-brighton.org.uk/](http://www.rscds-brighton.org.uk/)

**BRIGHTON & HOVE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets

Thursdays 7.30-10pm at Balfour Junior School, Balfour Road, Brighton. Details from Carol Catterall, 01273 564963.

**CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB.** Dancing every Tuesday 8pm at St. Paul's Church Hall, Church Hill, Camberley. Details from Rhoda Finch, 20 Redcrest Gardens, Camberley, Surrey GU15 2DU. Tel: 01276 681820.

**CAMBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRANCH RSCDS.** Classes for all grades. Details: Jacqui Brocker, 24 Hemingford Rd, Cambridge, CB1 3BZ. Tel. 07916 892611, [jacqui\\_brocker@yahoo.com](mailto:jacqui_brocker@yahoo.com).

**CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY** ScottishCountry Dancing and other events. Dance Circle meets every Thursday 8pm from Sept to June. Details [www.camscotsoc.org.uk](http://www.camscotsoc.org.uk) or Rachel Schicker 01223 364557.

**CHELTENHAM BRANCH RSCDS** Advanced class Mondays 7.30-9.30pm. General class Thursdays 7.30-9.30pm. Bettridge School, Cheltenham. Also a Beginners class. Details: Margaret Winterbourne, 01242 863238.

**CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY.** Dancing most Friday nights 7.30 to 10.30pm from October to end May, at The Reddings Community Centre, The Reddings, Cheltenham. Details: Mrs Doreen Steele, 45 Dark Lane, Swindon Village, Cheltenham, GL51 9RN. Tel:01242 528220, [mbsteele45@aol.com](mailto:mbsteele45@aol.com).

**CHELMSFORD: SANDON SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets on Monday evenings 8-10pm at Springfield Park Baptist Church, Springfield Park Road, Chelmsford, CM2 6EB. Beginners welcome. Details from Esther Wilkinson, email: [ewilkin@gmail.com](mailto:ewilkin@gmail.com) or tel. 01206 240132. [www.sandonscotdance.org.uk](http://www.sandonscotdance.org.uk)

**CHISWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB.** Upper Hall at St Michael's & All Angels' church, corner of The Avenue and Bath Road (turn right out of Turnham Green tube) W4.

Sundays from 27 Sep till 4 July with Xmas and Easter breaks. Midsummer Magic open air evening dance in Chiswick House grounds 11 July. Beginners class at 6.00 till 7.10. General class 7.15 till 9.20. Advanced dancers evenings with musicians twice each term. Tel 020 8743 9385 (afternoons only) / [www.chiswickscottish.org.uk](http://www.chiswickscottish.org.uk).

**CIRENCESTER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets most Wednesdays 8:00 - 10:00pm September to end June at the Bingham Hall, King Street, Cirencester. Details: Mrs Val Williams, Leaholme, Broadway Lane, South Cerney, Glos. Tel 01285 860660. [williams147@btinternet.com](mailto:williams147@btinternet.com)

**CRAWLEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB** meets Thursdays 8.00 to 10.00pm September to June at Milton Mount Community Hall, Milton Mount Avenue, Pound Hill, Crawley. Details: Mrs Pip Graham, 57 Milton Mount Ave, Pound Hill, Crawley, W. Sussex RH10 3DP, tel: 01293 882173.

**CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH:** Branch classes:- General, incl Beginners with technique Coulsdon (Fri). Advanced (Wed) Coulsdon. Details: Sue Hassanein 01737 358401 [www.rscdscroydon.org.uk](http://www.rscdscroydon.org.uk)

**EPPING FOREST SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** Club night Mondays (all year) 8-10 pm at Woodford Green Prep School, Glengall Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0BZ. Details: [www.efsa.org.uk](http://www.efsa.org.uk) or Angela Ross, 02085043376, [angelaross87@hotmail.com](mailto:angelaross87@hotmail.com).

**EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION.** holds weekly adult dance classes for beginners and intermediate/advanced levels, (September to March), including informal dances. Details from Dorothy Pearson, 366 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon CR5 3BF. Tel 01737 551724.

## OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS (continued from previous page)

- FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB.** Dancing every Tuesday at 8.00pm, September to May at the Memorial Hall, West Street, Farnham, Surrey. Details from Mrs Annette Owen, 47 Beauclerk Green, Winchfield, Hants RG27 8BF. Tel: 01252 845187.
- FELTHAM & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** meets Tuesdays 8.00pm, September to mid-July at the White House Community Centre, The Avenue, Hampton. Details from Ann or Paul Brown, tel: 01784 462456 or mobile 07801 160643. Email: p@ulfbrown.co.uk
- FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY** dance in Church Crookham Memorial Hall in Hampshire on alternate Saturdays from 7.30-10.30pm, September to May. Full details from Vikki Spencer, 24 Park Hill, Church Crookham, Fleet GU52 6PW. Tel: 01252 691922.
- GERRARDS CROSS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets at Memorial Centre, East Common Road, Gerrards Cross on Tuesdays from September to June. Beginners 7.30pm, General 8.15pm. Details from Jeanette Patterson: 01753 890591; info@gxscottish.org.uk; www.gxscottish.org.uk.
- GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOC.** meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesdays 8.00 to 10.30 p.m. Details from Mrs P. Crisp, 19 Compton Place, Watford, Herts WD19 5HF. Tel: 0203 078 0018.
- GUILDFORD SCDC** meets at Onslow Village Hall, Wilderness Rd, Guildford GU2 7QR most Mondays at 8.00pm from September to June. www.gscdc.org.uk or tel 01483 502422.
- HAMPSTEAD & DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION** Dancing on Tuesdays Sept.-June from 8.00-10.00pm in Elderkin Hall, Trinity Church, Methodist and United Reformed, 90 Hodford Road, Golders Green, London NW11 (Entrance in Rodborough Road). All welcome. Details: Miss Joan Burgess, 503A York Road, London SW18 1TF. 020 8870 6131.
- HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday at 8.00pm at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden. Classes on Thursdays from 8.00 pm. Details from Val Owens, 29 Palfrey Close, St Albans, Herts, AL3 5RE. Tel 01727 863870.
- HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Classes Wednesdays 8.15-10.15pm, St.Albans Church Hall, Norwood Drive (off The Ridgeway), North Harrow. Details of these and other activities from Jane Forbes, 7 Buckland Rise, Pinner HA5 3QR. Tel: 020 8428 6055. www.harrowscottish.org.uk.
- HAYES & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** meets Fridays 8-10pm, September to July in Hayes, Middx. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. Details: Margaret Wallace, Tel: 020 8560 6160.
- HEREFORDSHIRE BRANCH RSCDS:** Dancing in this beautiful holiday area every week of the year. Visitors always welcome. Contact Brian on 01568 615470 email brianraasay@btinternet.com
- HERTSMERE REEL CLUB.** Monthly dances on third Saturday (exc. Aug & Sept) 7.30-11.00pm, Tilbury Hall (17C), Darkes Lane, Poiters Bar. Details: Mary Fouracre, 171 Dunraven Drive, Enfield, EN2 8LN. Tel: 020 8367 4201.
- HESTON & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.** Thursdays 8.15 to 10.15pm. 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: 01483 202386.
- JERSEY CALEDONIA SCD GROUP.** Contacts: Helen McGugan, La Pelotte, La Rue a Don, Grouville, Jersey JE3 9GB Tel/Fax 01534 854459; Alan Nicolle 01534 484375, alan.nicolle88@googlemail.com; or Brenda Gale 01534 862357. See www.scottishcountrydancingjersey.blogspot.com.
- 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 7.00-8.00pm. General 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Mrs Linda McRitchie, 60 Bradstow Way, Broadstairs, Kent. 01843 869284.
- LEICESTER BRANCH RSCDS** meets Thursdays, Holy Cross Centre, Wellington St., Leicester. 4 classes – Beginners, Intermediates, Social, Advanced. 7.30-8.30p.m., followed by Social dancing until 10p.m. Also Tuesdays 1.30-3.45p.m. General class at same venue. Contact: Mrs. Pamela Hood 0016 2753886, jdjimps@talktalk.net.
- LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB** meets regularly at St. Columba's, Pont Street, SW1. Some major functions held at other London venues. Details: adverts in *The Reel* or contact Frank Bennett, 12 Lingfield Road, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 8TG. 020 8715 3564. Dial-a-programme service: 020 8763 8096. www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk
- LUCY CLARK SCD CLUB** meets Thursdays 8.00pm, Oldhams Hall, Great Missenden. Details: Dick Field, Stonefield House, Clapping Lane, Naphill, Bucks HP14 4SL. Tel: 01494 562231
- MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday 8.00pm at St. Mary's R.C. School, Cookham Road, Maidenhead. First Tuesday in the month is Social Dancing Evening. Details: Jane Courtier, 16 Ostler Gate, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6SG, 01628 628372. maidenheadsottishdancing.org.uk.
- MAIDSTONE (COBTREE) SCD GROUP** meets every Wednesday 7.30-10pm at The Grove Green Community Hall, Maidstone. Details from Jane Masters, 251 Robin Hood Lane, Blue Bell Hill, Chatham, Kent ME5 9QU. Tel. 01634 864007.
- MARKET HARBOROUGH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.** Dancing at Fairfield Road School, Fairfield Road, Market Harborough. Tuesday 7.30-10.00pm. Details: Mrs Connie Elphick, "Lazonby", 9 Little Lunnon, Dunton Bassett, Lutterworth, Leics LE17 5JR. 01455 209446.
- MEDWAY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION.** Dancing Thursdays 8.00-10.15pm at St. Mary's Island Community Centre, Chatham. Beginners welcome. Many other activities. Details: Liz Bowden, Meadow Cottage, Green Farm Lane, Lower Shorne, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 3HL. tel 01474 822919.
- MEOPHAM SCD CLUB** meets every Monday evening from September - June at 8.15-10.15pm at the Village Hall Meopham. Details from Mrs Jane Whittington. 5 Coldharbour Rd. Northfleet.Kent.DA11 8AE, 01474 359018.
- MILTON KEYNES BRANCH RSCDS.** Mixed ability class Mondays 8.00-10.00pm. Bradwell Village Hall, Milton Keynes. Details: Jan Jones, 52 Aintree Close, Blechley, Milton Keynes. MK3 5LP. 01908 378730, jange@verybusy.co.uk
- NORTH HERTS REEL CLUB.** Dancing most Wednesdays 8.00-10.00pm. from September to May at Roecroft School, Stotford. Informal Saturday Dances. Details: Mrs Jennifer Warburton, 17 Victoria Road, Shefford, Beds. SG17 5AL. Tel: 01462 812691.
- NORTH KENT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.** Dancing 7.45-10.00pm. most Wednesdays at Barnehurst Golf Club. Beginners welcome. Details: Nigel Hewitt, 227 Knights Rd, Hoo, Rochester, Kent, ME3 9JN. Tel. 01634 254451.
- 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. Pauls, Crofton Road, Orpington. Details: Pam. French, 20 Beaumont Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent, BR5 1JN. 01689 873511.
- OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH RSCDS.** Dancing on Thursdays throughout the year in Oxford. Details: Patricia Rawlings, 29 Frances Road, Middle Barton, Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 7ET. Tel: 01869 340830.
- READING ST. ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY.** Dancing at St. Andrew's URC, London Road, Reading from 8.00-10.00pm. 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 8.00pm from mid Sept. to end of May. For information contact Marshall Christie 020 8977 5237 or www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk.
- SANDERSTEAD URC SCOTTISH DANCE GROUP.** Dancing Tues 8.00pm Sanderstead URC Hall, Sanderstead Hill, S. Croydon. Details: Graeme Wood, 01883 627797 or gwood@gna.cc.
- ST ANDREW SOCIETY (LONDON).** Wimbledon and District Scots' Association. Dancing Tuesdays 8.00pm at Wimbledon Community Centre, St. Georges Road, Wimbledon, SW19. Details: Miss Alison Raffan, 2 Erridge Road, Merton Park, London, SW19 3JB, 020 8540 1755, araffan@googlemail.com.
- ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,** Pont Street. Scottish Country Dancing most Mondays from Oct to May, 7.15-10pm. Admission free except for six Band and Burns Nights' when a charge will be made. Beginners welcome and there is a step practice usually on the third Monday of the month. Further details: Denise Haugh 020 8392 2920, email dhaugh200@btinternet.com.
- ST JOHN'S'S SDC WOKINGHAM:** meet every Thurs 8-10.15pm Sept to June at St. Sebastian's Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham. All standards welcome. Sue Davis 01344 774344, 2 Larkswood Dr, Crowthorne, alan.suedavis@gmail.com. Also Childrens' Class Sats. 9.30 - 11.00am at the Parish Hall, Crowthorne, Deborah Draffin 01344 776831.
- ST NINIAN'S SCOTTISH DANCERS,** Luton meet every Wednesday, September to July 8.00-10.00pm at St. Ninian's UR Church, Villa Road,Luton, Beds. Contact: Pat Hamilton, 01462 671156 or Sheila Harris, 01525 875060.
- SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR WALLINGTON, CARSHALTON & DISTRICT** Hold weekly classes for all levels of dancers on Monday evenings from 7.30-9.30pm at Collingwood School, Springfield Road, Wallington SM6 OBD. Details from Maggie Westley; 020 8647 9899 or 07956 937157. maggie.westley@rmh.nhs.uk.
- SEVENOAKS REEL CLUB** meets every Tuesday from September to May, 8.00-10.00pm at Kippington Church Centre, Kippington Rd, Sevenoaks. Details: Rebecca Evans, 2 Vestry Cottages, Old Otford Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 5EH 01732 456382 beccab31@hotmail.com .
- SHENE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP** meets every Wednesday from mid-September to May 8.30-10.30pm, in Barnes. Further info: Further info: Denise Haugh, 6 Medcroft Gardens, East Sheen, SW14 7RN, 020 8392 2920, email dhaugh200@btinternet.com..
- SIDCUP & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION.** Dancing on Wednesdays from 8.00-10.15pm throughout the year at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Sidcup, Kent. Details: Pauline Cameron, 7 Wayne Close, Orpington, Kent BR6 9TS. Tel 01689 838395.
- SOUTH DORSET CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Dancing at St. Edmund's Church Hall, Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth, Dorset, Wednesday, 7.30-10.00pm. 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 10.30pm, St. Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend (near hospital). Tuition 7.30-9.00pm. Details Mrs Edna Carroll, 01702 428974.
- SOUTH EAST HERTS SCDS.** Classes in Hertford, Sept to May: Inter/Adv Tues 7.45pm, Bengoe School, Hertford: Beginners Thurs 7.30pm. Millmead School, Hertford. Demonstration Alt. Mons 8.0pm. St John's Hall, Hertford. Details: Chay Smith 01992 442154.
- SOUTHWICK SCD CLUB** meets Thursdays 8.00-10.15pm at Southwick Community Centre, Southwick, W. Sussex. Details: Martin Heath, 01273 478069, m.j.heath@talk21.com.
- SURBITON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** dancing every Thursday at 8pm from September to June at St Matthew's School, Langley Road, Surbiton KT6 6LW. Details: David Horwill, 32 Wolsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx, TW16 7TY. http://www.surbitoncaledonian.co.uk.
- 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, 7.00-10.00pm. Details: Tom Symington, 020 7834 7151 or 020 7828 6792.
- THE SCOTS SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW SLOUGH & DISTRICT** meets every Wednesday (September to May) 8.00 to 10.15pm at Trinity ERC Hall, Windsor Rd, Slough SL1 2JA. Scottish Dancing and other social events. Details from the Sec: Carol Berry, tel:01628 620 072 or 01771 223 8165.
- TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH RSCDS.** Beginners/intermediate classes on Tues 8-10pm and advanced classes Thurs 8-10pm at St Augustine's School, Wilman Rd, Tunbridge Wells. TN4 9AL, Details: George Daly, 1 Broadwater Rise, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5UE. Tel: 01892 534512 www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk.
- WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY.** General and Beginners/Improvers Classes at Bushey Community Centre, High Street, Bushey WD23 1TT. Thursdays from 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Stuart Krelloff, 60, Tunnel Wood Road, Watford WD17 4GE. 01923 492475, reel@WatfordScottish.org.uk.
- WAVERLEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Winchester, every Thursday from Sept to the end of June, 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Mrs Pat Mumford, 02380 252570.
- WELWYN GARDEN CITY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets Wednesdays 8 to 10 pm September to June at Lemsford Hall, Lemsford Village, Welwyn Garden City. All welcome. email welwyn.scdc@ntlworld.com or telephone Douglas Wood 01582 469928.
- WEMBLEY & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** Mondays 8.00pm. Dance Class. The Church of the Ascension, The Avenue, Wembley, Middx. Details: Mrs Pam Crisp, 19 Compton Place, Watford. WD19 5HF. Tel: 0203 078 0018.
- WINCHESTER BRANCH RSCDS** Classes Tuesdays 8.00-10.00pm. Club nights 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 8.00-10.00pm. Both evenings take place at St. Peter's School, Oliver's Battery Rd North, Winchester. Details: Wendy Mumford (teacher), 20 Blendon Drive, Andover, SP10 3NQ. 01264 363293, wendy@mumford.com.
- WITHAM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Dancing every Wednesday 8.00-10.00pm. The Centre, UR Church, Witham, Essex. Details from Beryl Munro, tel 01621 850838 or email: beryl.munro@btinternet.com .



Luke Brady plays for the St Andrew's Branch demonstration team dance at the Royal Wedding Breakfast on 29 April in the University Quad including ex-London Dem Dancer, David Cordes. (story page 7)

## Scottish Dance Socks & Kilt Hose

Quality Hose and Socks chosen by dancers for dancers.

Visit our website to see our wide range of patterned and coloured socks.

[www.ferrislayrose.com](http://www.ferrislayrose.com)  
07901 791 975

## KILTS & ALL LONDON

All Tartans All Prices

Kilts & Clothing for Men, Women & Children  
Accessories, Repairs, Alterations, New Design  
Footwear, Headwear, Plaids, Brooches, Sashes  
At our or your locations by appointment mainly in  
London and mail order. [allhighland@hotmail.com](mailto:allhighland@hotmail.com)

[www.albionhighland.com](http://www.albionhighland.com) Tel: 0207 735 2255

**House of Tartans**  
Kiltmakers to Scotland  
**HAND MADE KILTS  
AND OUTFITS  
QUICKLY**

**Repairs and Alterations**

Visits by appointment  
89 Alexandra Road  
Peterborough, PE1 3DG

Tel: 01733 310628  
[enquiries@houseoftartans.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@houseoftartans.co.uk)



Manufacturers and suppliers of superior quality Scottish dance pumps and ghillies, with a padded insole for extra comfort!

**Speedy, reliable, friendly service**

Scottish Dance Shoe Company, 17 Hallmark Trading Estate  
Fourth Way, Wembley, HA9 0LB. T: 0208 902 0150 F: 0208 903 9451  
Email: [sales@scottishdancecompany.co.uk](mailto:sales@scottishdancecompany.co.uk)  
Website: [www.scottishdanceshoecompany.com](http://www.scottishdanceshoecompany.com)

Announcing...



The  
Berkhamsted  
Diamond Collection

CD recorded by  
Sandy Nixon  
& His Scottish Dance Band

A  
Book  
of 17 Dances  
&  
accompanying  
CD

Available from  
18 October 2011

Reserve your copy now  
& pay online in the Autumn.

Visit [www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org)  
or phone (0044) 1923 261 167