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Issued by the LONDON BRANCH of THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY Editorial Address: 6 King's Grove, S.E.15. Price 4d. (Free to members of the Branch)

No. 77

FEBRUARY—MARCH, 1964

# MEMBERS' DANCES

The Royal Scottish Corporation Hall, Fetter Lane, E.C.4

FRIDAY, 14th FEBRUARY, 1964 McBAIN'S BAND

		S.C.D.
		Book
1.	My Love She's but a Lassie Yet	9- 4
2.	Lord Rosslyn's Fancy	15- 6
3.	The Lovers' Knot	8- 4
4.	Woo'd & Married & A'	16-12
5.	My Mother's Coming In	15- 1
6.	Peggy's Love	8- 2
7.	Kiss Me Quick My Mither's	
	Coming	12- 6
8.	The Buchan Eightsome	
9.	Foursome Reel and Reel of	
	Tulloch	
10.	Bonnie Kate of Aberdeen	17- 8
11.	None so Pretty	19- 1
12.	The Falkland Beauty	4-11
13.	She's Ower Young to Marry Yet	14- 8
14.	Ladies' Fancy	13-12
15.	A Kiss for Nothing	13- 6
16.	The Dashing White Sergeant	3- 2

# FRIDAY 24th APRIL, 1964 BOB DUNCAN and his BAND

			S.C.D.
			Book
	Middling Thank You		15- 8
2.	Donald Bane		17-12
3.	The White Cockade		5-11
4.	The New Rigged Ship		9- 7
5.	The Glasgow Highlanders		2- 3
	Sleepy Maggie		11- 5
7.	The Machine without Horses		12-12
8.	Eightsome Reel		
9.	Foursome Reel and Reel	of	
	Tulloch		
10.	The Golden Pheasant		16- 9
11.	The Shepherd's Crook		
	Cadgers in the Canongate		9-10
	Hamilton House		7-10
14.	The Camp of Pleasure		15- 4
	General Stuart's Reel		10- 3
	Circassian Circle		1- 3
	C.,	5555	_

Admittance to these dances is restricted to members of the London Branch and subscribing readers of "The Reel". To avoid overcrowding, the number of dancers will be limited to 140 and for this reason application for tickets for Members' Dances must always be accompanied by members' names where more than one ticket is required. Remittances, with a stamped, addressed envelope, should be sent to lan G. Anderson, 41 Banstead Road South, Sutton, Surrey.

Only postal applications for one dance at a time will be accepted, and then not more than two weeks ahead of the date of the dance, Telephone enquiries will not be accepted. Cheques should be made payable to The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (London Branch). Tickets 5/-, including refreshments. Time 7 to 10.30 p.m. Place: The Royal Scottish Corporation Hall, Fleur-de-Lis Court, Fetter Lane, E.C.4.

# THE ROYAL SCOTTISH **COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY** (London Branch)

# ANNUAL BALL

Quaglino's, St. James's, S.W.1 Friday, 29th May, 1964

8.30 p.m. to 2.00 a.m.

PROGRAMME

McBAIN'S BAND

Pipe-Major Peter Quinn

1. Circassian Circle.

Barley Bree.
 She's Ower Young to Marry Yet

4. Last of the Lairds.

Miss Mary Douglas
 Neidpath Castle.

Eight/Sixteensome Reel.

8. Strathspey and Reel of Tulloch.
9. Two and Two.

10. Glasgow Highlanders.

11. General Stuart's Reel.

12. Hamilton House.

13. Waverley.

14. Gates of Edinburgh.15. Balmoral Strathspey.

16. Highland Fair.

17. The Montgomeries' Rant.

18. Monymusk.

19. The Buchan Eightsome Reel.

20. White Heather Jig.

21. Cauld Kail.

22. Robertson Rant.

23. Argyll's Fancy.

24. Duke of Perth.

M.C.: JOHN ARMSTRONG

Tickets, priced £2 each (including buffet supper), from J. G. B. Anderson, 37 Rothesay Court, Harleyford Street, London, S.E.11. Please enclose a stamped addressed LABEL and mark the envelope "Ball".

### **GUEST DANCE**

Porchester Hall, W.2

FRIDAY, 20th MARCH, 1964

lim MacLeod and his Scottish Dance Band

7 to 11.30 p.m.

				S.C.D.
				Book
1.	Come Ashore Jolly Ta	r		7- 7
2.	Waverley			15-12
3.	Monymusk			11- 2
4.	Scottish Reform			3- 1
5.	None So Pretty			19- 1
6.	Haugh's o' Cromdale			4-10
7.	Eightsome Reel			2-12
8.	The New Rigged Ship			9- 7
9.	Lady Auckland's Reel			18- 2
10.	Mrs. Hepburn Belches			
11.	Foursome Reel and	Reel	of	
	Tulloch			
12.	New Scotland Straths	pey		
13.	The Duke of Perth			1- 8
14.	Lamb Skinnet			14-12
15.	Montgomeries' Rant			10- 1
16.	The Buchan Eightsome	•		
17.	Dalkeith's Strathspey			9- 6
18.	Lord Rosslyn's Fancy			15- 6
19.	General Stuart's Reel	•••		10- 3
20	Round About Hullach	an		5- 4

Tickets 8s. 6d. (Buffet available), from Mr. W. J. Ireland, 138 Burnt Ash Hill, Lee, S.E.12. Please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope. 

# THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

Patron-H.M. The Queen

# **OBJECTS**:

To preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish country dances.

To promote and encourage the formation of branches.

To provide, or assist in providing, spenducation or instruction in the practice Scottish country dances. special

To publish, or cause to be published, descriptions of Scottish country dances, with music and diagrams, in simple form and at a moderate price.

To collect books manuscripts and illustrations relating to Scottish country dances.

Generally to do such things as are considered by the Society to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects above stated or any of them.

# LONDON BRANCH

Hon. President : James Garvie

Hon. Vice-Presidents: Mrs. R. Keir Ferguson Robert S. Ferguson Miss J. Irene Stewart

Chairman:
James G. B. Anderson
37 Rothesay Court, Harleyford St., S.E.11.

Vice-Chairman:
P. Alexander Westwood
31 Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.3.

Hon. Secretary: Harry G. Draper, 43 Rochester Road, Northwood, Middlesex.

Hon. Treasurer: Norman Nicoll 57 Holders Hill Avenue, N.W.4.

# VISIT BY MISS MILLIGAN

We are pleased to announce that Miss Milligan will be visiting the London Branch on the last week-end in February.

On Friday evening, 28th February, there will be a class for Certificated Teachers commencing at 7.0 p.m. in the Rutherford School, Penfold Street, N.W.1. Fee 5/-d. There will be a Day School during the afternoon and evening of Saturday, 29th February, starting at 2.0 p.m. at the Hugh Myddelton Secondary School, Bowling Green Lane, Farringdon Road, E.C.1. Fee 10/-d. This is intended for dancers who have a good knowledge of basic steps and formations and when applying please state class at present attended. state class at present attended.

Applications should be sent immediately to:-

> John C. Appleton, 24, Brushwood Drive, CHORLEYWOOD, Herts.

enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope and the appropriate fee.

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# **EASTER WEEK-END**

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# **ENGAGEMENTS DIARY**

FEBRUARY

21st-Friday Ist—Friday

BOSTALL PARK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE

GROUP—4th Annual Dance, Crayford Town Hall,
Crayford, Kent. 8 p.m.—1 a.m. Bob Duncan's
Band. Pipe-Major Peter Quinn, M.C. Bill
Hamilton. Tickets 8/6, including buffet.
Enquiries to Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. A. Matson,
2 Marley Ave., Bexleyheath (ER 37094) or
Mr. F. P. Reid 342 Gipsy Road, Welling, Kent
(RFX 0986). (BEX 0986).

21st-Friday

ST. ANDREW SOCIETY (LONDON) ANNUAL BALL at Wimbledon Town Hall, S.W.19. Dancing to Blue Bonnets Scottish Dance Band from 7.30 to 111.30 p.m. Tickets 8s. 6d. available from the Asst. Secretary, Mrs. E. M. Stewart, 27 Keswick Ave., S.W.19. Tel.: LIB 2091.

MAIDENHEAD S.C.D. CLUB—One-day School, followed by informal dance in evening. Full details and application forms from : Miss A. Smith, 32 Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead,

MARCH

6th—Friday

n—rriday
LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION HIGHLAND BALL.
8 p.m—1 a.m. at Union Buildings. Bands:
1an Powrie, Jim Nicholson and the City of Leeds
Pipe Band. Bar and Buffet. Tickets (8/6)
from Hon. Treasurer: Mr. N. R. Jackson. Leeds
University Union, Leeds 2.

-Friday

FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB. Spring Dance at Bourne Club, Frensham Road, Farnham, McBain's Band, 8 p.m. Enquiries to Hon. Sec.: C. Lowson, 78 Lynch Road, Farnham, Surrey. Phone 6520.

-Saturday

BOURNEMOUTH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB are holding a ONE-DAY SCHOOL, Details from Hon. Sec.: Mrs. A. Timings, 24 Bury Road, Branksome Park, Poole.

APRIL 10th—Friday

BOURNEMOUTH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Spring Ball at Wick Ferry Ballroom, Christchurch with Bob Duncan's Band, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets 15/- inclusive. Further details from Hon. Secretary, Mrs. A. Timings, 24 Bury Road, Branksome Park, Poole, Dorset.

18th-Saturday

Bth—Saturday

EAST SURREY WEST KENT BRANCH —

R.S.C.D.S. Don't miss dancing to one of
Scotland's top Bands. Andrew Rankine and his
Band at the YMCA Croydon. Tickets. 7/6
members, 8/6 non-members. Further information and tickets from Hon. Sec.: Miss J. M.
Beale. 67 Bennetts Way, Shirley, Croydon,
Surrey. Phone: SPRingpark 5824.

8th—Friday

th—Friday

CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB. End of season Dance.
Agincourt Hall. Camberley. Fraser's Band.
Details from Hon. Sec.: Mrs. A. Templeton,
Hawkridge, Waverley Drive, Camberley. Tel.:

# OFFERS OF HOSPITALITY TO GERMAN DANCERS

In the late summer of 1964 a group of 20 dancers from Germany is visiting Scotland at the invitation of the Dunfermline Branch. Your London Branch Committee have offered to co-operate in providing hospitality for the night of the groups' arrival Friday, 28th August and possibly the night before their departure Monday, 7th September.

Would any members who wish to offer hospitality (probably evening meal, bed and breakfast) to one or more of the German group on either of those dates please communicate with the Hon. Secretary of the London Branch as soon as possible and not later than the end of March.

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# **BOOKSTALL**

Postage 4d. for a booklet, 6d. for other publications. Apply to Alex Westwood, 31 Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.3, and mark your envelope "Bookstall" in the top left hand corner.

Cheques or P.O.s payable to R.S.C.D.S. (London Branch).

Won't You Join the Dance? by Jean C. Postage Milligan, 6/- (paper covers).  $7\frac{1}{2}d$ .

A manual of Scottish country dancing

by the co-founder of the Society.

101 Scottish Country Dances by Jean C.

Milligan, 5/-. Postage  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. A pocketsized, illustrated handbook, including
23 hitherto unpublished dances.

R.S.C.D.S. Books 1-21, with music, 3/6 each.

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Pocket edition, without music, 1/6.
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16 Popular S.C. Dances, with music, 3/6.

This is a selection from Books 6-16.

R.S.C.D.S. Booklets, without music, 2/6 each. Each booklet covers three books, viz.: 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, 13-15, 16-18,

19-21.

Index to Books 1-21 and Border Book,

pocket size, 9d.

Four Set Dances, with music, 2/6.

The first series of dances collected in Canada. It includes Hebridean Weaving Lilt, Macdonald of Sleat, Rouken Glen and The Shepherd's Crook.

Four Traditional Scottish Dances, 2nd set,

without music, 2/6.

without music, 2/6.
Comprising Bonnie Anne, Over the Dee and over the Don, Brig o' Doon, and MacLaine of Lochbuie. No music is printed, but easily-found tunes are suggested, many of which are in Kerr's Caledonian Collection.

Three Traditional Scottish Dances, 3rd set, with music, 2/6.

Comprising the Duke of Gordon's Welcome to Aberdeen, The Earl of Errol's Reel, and Jeannie o' the Witchin' E'e.

Three Traditional Scottish Dances, 4th

set, with music, 2/6.

MacLeod of Dunvegan, Laird o' Dochert's Reel, Lamont of Inveryne.

Four Traditional Scottish Dances, 5th set, with music, 2/6.

Comprising Braes of Balquhidder, St. Andrew's Cross, The Black Mill, St. Andrew's Nicht.

Three Traditional Scottish Dances, 6th

set, with music, 2/6. Because He was a Bonnie Lad, The Royal Salute, Kelvingrove.

Three Traditional Scottish Dances, 7th set,

with music, 2/6. MacLeod of Harris, Rothesay at the Fair, Lochanside.

The Border Dance Book of Scottish country dances, with music, 3/9.

A collection of twenty-three dances (including La Russe), most of which

are not published elsewhere.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, dance with music, 2/-.

Old Scottish Music, by Annie Shand, 3/-. This useful collection contains an alter-

This useful collection contains an alternative tune for each of the dances in S.C.D. Books 1-7.

Six Scottish Country Dances, by James B. Cosh, with music and instructions, 3/-. (Includes Mairi's Wedding, Betty's Wedding, Bonnie Glenshee, etc.).

The Kendoon Set of Dances (The Kendoon Strathspey, The Clachan, The Garple Burn) by Hugh Foss, with music and instructions, 2/6. instructions, 2/6.

Eight Scottish Country Dances devised by John M. Duchie. Price 3/6 (this is a new book, and includes Ellwyns Fairy Glen, Back C' Bennachie, Gala Water, etc.).

S.C.D.'s of the 18th Century by Jack McConachie. Price 10/- (36 dances including Caberrei, Braes of Balquhidder,

Cock-a-Bendie, etc.).

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The Robertson Rant, dance with music, 2/6d.

Prince Charles of Edinburgh, dance with music 2/6d.

12 Scottish Country Dances by J. Cosh.
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# THREE NEW PUBLICATIONS:

99 More Scottish Dances by Jean C. Milligan, 5/-, postage  $7\frac{1}{2}d$ . A pocket sized, illustrated handbook, a follow-up to the successful "101 S.C.D.'s".

Book 22—Twelve Modern Scottish Country Dances in Traditional Form 4/6, postage 4d.

And for those of you who have enjoyed reading the articles in "The Reel" —

"Roll back the carpet"—Hugh Foss has produced a limited additional of the WAYERLEY FUGUES. Twelve Scottish Country Dances (diagrams and instructions). Price 2/6.

# WEMBLEY 1963

Short and tall, plump and slim; blond, brunette, auburn and grey; under twenties to glamorous grandmothers; from all parts of England and Wales they came to give displays of keep-fit exercises, skipping, dancing and rhythmic movement at the Central Council of Physical Recreation's Fourth Festival of Movement and Dance at the Empire Pool, Wembley on Saturday, November 16th.

were demonstrations Highlights gymnastics, formation ballroom dancing, International and English Folk dancing and the always popular Scottish Country Dancing. Tumultuous applause greeted Dancing. Pipe Major Bob Hill as he strode into the arena where he was joined by 24 dancers of our own Demonstration class who, in spite of many setbacks even up to the last minute, danced the intricacies of "The Last of the Lairds", "Braes of Breadalbane" and the lively "Holyrood House". The too short time allotted to them was concluded with part of an Eight-some Reel and "Round about Hullachan".

Students of the Royal Ballet School danced a beautiful, though rather long, performance of the Ballet 'Motus' to music by Benjamin Britten, and the displays ending with the pulsating rhythm of "Alabama Jubilee" played by our of "Alabama Jubilee" played by our friends McBain's Band led by Nan Fleming-Williams. The kaleidescope of colour in the finale when all 750 performers joined in Circassian Circle was a gight to be remembered. sight to be remembered.

### **BANDS**

MIKE MacNEIL AND HIS HIGHLAND DANCE BAND—69 Mount View Road, N.4 (MOU

BAND—69 Mount Yiew Road, N.4 (MOD 1348).

LOUIS DAVIDSON'S SCOTTISH DANCE BAND—Scottish Country Dances a speciality. Various combinations available for all types of functions. Enquiries: 54 Ambler Road, N.4 (HOW 3303).

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THE CRUSADERS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE BAND—David L. Thomas, Berryhill, Taplow,

Bucks.

BOB DUNCAN AND HIS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE BAND. Enquiries: 41 Carton Close, Rochester, Kent (Tel. Chatham 45354).

STAN WATTS' SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE BAND. Enquiries: 27 Field View Road, Po.ters Bar, Middx. (Tel. Potters Bar 52131).

GEORGE MILES (Accordianist) AND THE GAY GORDONS. Scottish Country Dances, Dinners and Modern Dances. Enquiries to: 55 Penton Drive, Cheshunt, Herts. Tel. Waltham Cross 25754.

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# K.A.S.S. COLUMN

Since the last issue of The Reel, the Kent Association of Scottish Societies have held their Annual General Meeting. Mrs. Stephenson, of the Scottish Heather Club Sheerness, was re-elected Chairman and Mr. John Duncan of the North Kent Scottish Association was re-elected Vice-Chairman. The Association had a very successful year and have been able to donate £25 to both the Royal Caledonian Schools and the Royal Scottish Corporation

During the year 1963-1964 there are going to be the usual two Come Dancing Days, one of which was held on the 9th November and was well attended, and the other is being held on 15th February, 1964. The One Day School for Scottish Country Dancing has been arranged for Saturday, 23rd May, 1964 as this does not seem to clash with any other function known at this time. The Annual Ball is being held at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone on Friday, 1st May, 1964 with the Blue Bonnets Scottish Country Dance Band. The Autumn Ball is being held at Tunbridge Wells on Friday, 16th October, 1964 when Jimmy Shand and his Band will be playing. Tickets are being limited and will be made available to members first.

The North Kent Scottish Association has been very active of late having organised a Hallowe'en party, visited Crown Court, held a St. Andrew's Dance and had a very enjoyable evening with the Enfield Society. Orpington and District Caledonian Society have had an informal coffee evening at which members showed their slides of Scotland. A collection was made for the Royal Caledonian Schools.

There have been two new applications for affiliation both of which have been accepted. The first was from the Ghillie Dancers of Bromley and the other was from the B.P. Club, Scottish Country Dance Section. This brings our total up to 25

Arrangements are now well in hand for the Scottish Day which is taking the form of an informal afternoon picnic with dancing and athletics at Shenstone Park, Crayford in June 1964. It is hoped that many of our members and friends as well as several visitors will combine to make a most enjoyable afternoon.

Anyone requiring any further information about any of these functions should contact:

Fred Scott, Hon. Sec., Westmoor, Rainham, Kent

Tel: Rainham 81213

# **ROLL BACK THE CARPET**

6. Joints, plain and fitted.

While good figures are meant to be displayed, good joints should be unobtrusive (I am writing about dances). In good dances, therefore, the dancer is hardly aware of how various figures are joined together, but the choreographer must know exactly what he is doing when he selects one figure to follow another. A general discussion, even if it arrives at no general conclusion, may help him.

Joints can be divided into two types, plain and fitted. With a plain joint all the dancers finsh one figure in the normal way and start the next in the normal way. With a fitted joint some modification, usually at the end of the first figure, is required. The modification varies from the hardly noticeable, such as the change of feet 1st couple need to make at bar 24 of Hamilton House to start the six hands round, to something as drastic as 1st man's two-bar sprint at bars 15-16 of Gates of Edinburgh or the acrobatic feats called for at bars 24 and 32 of The Golden Pheasant.

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16th - 23rd AUGUST

# SCOTTISH COUNTRY AND HIGHLAND DANCING

Directed by JOHN ARMSTRONG

This course which is open only to Dancers of Intermediate standard and above will cover solo and display dances in addition to those of the ballroom.

There will be a discussion and "Workshop" session for teachers of dancing during the week. Any students who have devised new dances will be given the opportunity of teaching, working on, and discussing them.

Inquiries welcome now

Copies of prospectus available on request from:

The Organisers, 20 Denmark Street, London, W.C.2

Both plain and fitted joints have their own delights, but any fitting must be tidy and not cause a strain. As he dances, a choreographer should notice which joints he likes or dislikes and, if possible, why. Here are some of my own favourites. Plain joints: The New Rigged Ship, bar 8, for 1st and 2nd men; Miss Mary Douglas, bar 32 and bar 40, for 1st couple; The Machine without Horses, bar 16, for 1st and 2nd men; The Dashing White Sergeant, bar 24; The Camp of Pleasure, bar 4, for 1st man; but, for some reason 1 can't explain, 1 am not so enthusiastic about bar 4 of Ladies' Fancy. Fitted joints: Dalkeith's Strathspey, bar 4, for 1st man; Monymusk, bar 12, for 1st couple; and, perhaps best of all, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, bars 20 and 24, for 1st couple.

A defective joint will not necessarily ruin an otherwise good dance. Major virtues will more than compensate for minor defects. There are defective joints in two very good dances, Duke of Perth and Hamilton House. The defect is physical in the first and psychological in the second.

At bar 16 of Duke of Perth 1st couple are turning by the left hand; at bar 17 they are back to back, on a diagonal, setting to first corners. In strathspey time such a joint would be perfect because the diagonal would be shown on the 4th beat of bar 16, 1st couple would approach the diagonal and hop on it before moving back the way they came. In quick time the diagonal is shown on the first beat of bar 17. 1st couple, curving left on 16, have to go a little too far, twist to the right, and then give an awkward jump back again. In strathspeys one can make a neat joint from travelling to setting whatever the direction of approach, but in quick time only if one approaches from behind or the left, e.g. by passing partner right shoulder.

One expects a choreographer to move his dancers from place to place by travelling, though there is nothing against their moving up or down, walking forward to meet their partners, or taking a short step this way or that. But it is a defect to abandon a dancer in the wrong place and make her walk to the right one, as 1st woman has to do in Hamilton House, bars 7-8.

At any joint, plain or fitted, dancers taking part may

- 1. start travelling,
- 2. stop travelling,
- 3. flow, or
- 4. pause.

By 'flow' I mean continue travelling in a straight line or smooth curve. By 'pause' I mean turn round and come back again or make some other sharp change of direction.

In strathspey time, as setting involves travelling from side to side, a start from setting to travelling or a stop from travelling to setting can often be classified as a flow or a pause. There is flow at bar 3 of Dalkeith's Strathspey and bar 3 of Strathglass House. If there wasn't the dancers could not get round in time. When about to set, a dancer coming from the right pauses, coming from the left he flows. The latter is the more difficult to phrase right.

HUGH FOSS

Next article: 7. Joints; flows and pauses.

# **ROLL BACK THE CARPET**

7. Joints: flows and pauses

At a joint between two figures, dancers, apart from starting and stopping, can either flow or pause. As I explained in the last article, by 'flow' I mean continue travelling in a straight line or smooth curve. By 'pause' I mean turn back on one's tracks or make some other sharp turn

Pauses are easier to phrase than flows. If one arrives at a pausing place too soon one can take a little longer to turn round before starting off again. In a flow one needs to be crossing a line exactly at the right beat of the right bar. Since we are none of us perfect this means that before a pause we can risk being quite a bit early without anyone noticing, but with a flow, as at the start of a yacht race, we must never be early crossing the line, though we can risk being a very little late.

Dances with plenty of flow are very enjoyable to do, though the necessity for perfect phrasing makes them difficult to demonstrate well. In a few dances 1st couple flow continuously. Strip the Willow is one. Maxwell's Rant is another. My favourite flows are 1st couple's in Duke of Perth (1-16), Mairi's Wedding (1-32, and second corners get a nice flow at bar 24), Miss Nancy Frowns (9-32), The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh (9-32), and Miss Mary Douglas (21-48). Part of the charm of the latter lies in the variations of speed required.

Flow is not the only way of maintaining continuity. The dance that sticks closest to a single idea with no padding whatsoever is The Black Dance. Yet it has a pause every fourth bar until the end. With singleminded obsession 1st man turns partner by the right hand; and left; discards partner; gets new one; turns her by the right hand; and left; discards her; takes back 1st woman, and flows into a new round.

But a flow is a very pleasant joint, particularly when all the dancers can flow from one figure to the next. In Sodger Laddie and Fiddle Faddle, Minard Castle and in Douglas Henderson's New Ashludie Rant six dancers do two reels of three in succession. All can flow smoothly, but with subtle speed variations, from one reel to the next.

Other examples of flow for everyone occur when two couples follow a hands round to the left by a half right and left (The Menzies Rant, Midlothian) or by back to back with partners (Two and Two), though, owing to the rush, the last flow is rather difficult to achieve.

Good effects can be obtained when a flowing dancer picks up a stationery one in passing. In The Nut 1st woman dances round her partner, who is balancing in line with 2nd couple, and flows down the middle, taking him with her. In My Mother's Coming In 1st couple cast off into 2nd place and flow into advance and retire, gather up their corners for

company.

There are joints, too, where some dancers can flow, though others must pause, but there is a danger that these may make a dance look unsymmetrical. In The White Cockade, for instance, 1st couple follow a hands round to the left with 3rd couple by rights and lefts with 2nd. 1st man can have a perfectly good flow, but 1st woman has to pause and come back on her tracks. For the look

of the thing, therefore, it is best for 1st man to make a 'sympathetic' pause.
In None so Pretty (bar 24) 1st couple,

In None so Pretty (bar 24) 1st couple, having danced a reel of three at the sides, end back to back facing 2nd couple in order to begin a reel of four across the dance. 1st woman and 2nd man must pause, but 1st man and 2nd woman could flow if they wished to. At an ordinary dance they would probably do so, but in a demonstration a sympathetic pause is needed for the sake of symmetry.

I end with two suggestions. The first is for a symmetrical pause-and-flow joint inspired by None so Pretty. Ist and 2nd couples, starting from the beginning, dance rights and lefts followed by a reel of four across the dance. To enter the reel the two men — and women — turn three-quarters round when they give their last left hands, letting go soon enough to allow lst woman and 2nd man to pass each other left shoulder and start the reel by giving right shoulders to partners. These two, in the middle, flow. Ist man and 2nd woman, on the outside, need to pause and turn to give right shoulders to partners. The pauses frame the flow.

In a final reel at the sides with 1st couple giving right shoulders to second corners it is usual to start from a stop or pause with, at most, 1st couple flowing. Here is a joint which lets everybody flow. On bar 22 1st couple are in 2nd place, own sides. The other two couples, 2nd at top, 3rd in 3rd place, are on the 'wrong' sides. On 23-24 the corners cross over, giving right hands to partners. Second corners make a slight curve, but first corners go straight across so as to leave room for 1st couple to turn by the right hand (or arm) just over once round. Provided the corners remember to flow (and Lot's Wife and Orpheus) they will find themselves just right for the final reel at the sides.

HUGH FOSS

Next article: 8. The dance and its tune.

Extract of letter received from :—
David Findlay and his Olympians
Broadcasting Band, 10, Mars Gdns.,
Wormit, Newport on Tay, Fife:

"May I say thank you to everyone who has supported our venture into the recording field. We have now completely sold out two issues (TI and T2) of Mairi's Wedding/White Heather Jig, and regret that no further copies will be available.

I note your record reviewers' remarks about the dances on our first record and, as we are proposing to make another in March I would be interested to learn which dances (not already available) would be most popular".

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# **EDITORIAL**

### Distribution of "The Reel"

At the time of going to press we have completed a full year under the new arrangements for the distribution of "The Reel".

Reel".

This would therefore be a good time to thank the following members who have co-operated and given their valued services by addressing, stamping and despatching "The Reel", books and bulletins.

Miss Pat Bawden
Miss K. M. L. Bruce
Mrs. Valerie Chuter
Miss Diana Day
Mrs. Theo Foster
Mr. & Mrs. L. E. Lane
Miss L. Newton
Mr. Frank Reid
Miss Margaret Simpson
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Mrs. M. White

Many thanks also to the various teachers for their help and to the members who have sent donations.

### Correspondence

There has been a dearth of correspondence recently — surely there must be something to write about—here's hoping!

Does anyone know who composed the music for "Moffat Lassies" and whether it has been published?

Editor

### **BISHAM WEEK-END**

Little did we dream as we made our various ways to Bisham on a damp November afternoon that the Autumn School was destined to co-incide with one of the most dramatic events of the century.

However, the extensive programme drawn up by the teachers left us little time to brood about world affairs and we were soon dashing from class to class, pausing only long enough to partake of enough nourishment to keep us going through the next session.

This course was attended by a high number of people who cannot attend classes in London and who voted this a most instructive and enjoyable weekend.

Our thanks must go to our tireless teachers, Moyna Gilbertson and Bill Hamilton, and to those popular wizards of the keyboard, Phyllis Draper and Jim Cooper.

# RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 1963/64 were due on 1st July, 1963 and should be sent to Mr. H. E. Shank, 541 Upper Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex. Receipts will not be issued unless specially requested.

specially requested.

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