



the reel

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INTRODUCING MARY MURRAY

London Branch is pleased to welcome teacher Mary Murray all the way from Vancouver to their Summer Dancing Weekend, 25th-27th August, which is taking place near Watford as this issue is being distributed. Mary introduces herself ...

LET ME start by saying that I am delighted to be invited to make a return visit to participate in the London Branch Dance Weekend during the Millennium Year 2000.

A brief history of my involvement in the Scottish Country Dance scene:

Prior to departure from Scotland, I was a member of the Falkirk Branch of the Society under the tutelage of Mrs. Nancy McLaren, and was invited to dance with the demonstration group there, and was also fortunate enough to be a member of a team of dancers who participated in a few European music and dance festivals held in Sicily, Germany, Belgium and France. Later, when my husband and I moved to Edinburgh, we immediately joined the Edinburgh Branch and became members of the demonstration group where we spent a few very happy years.

Since my husband (Jim) and I came to live in Vancouver in 1966, we have seen many changes evolve in Canada and the U.K., both in the Scottish Country Dance world as well as the socio-economic aspects of these environments. The initial intention of our sojourn to Vancouver was to spend a year with the idea that if we liked what we saw then we would extend our stay..... 34 years later we are still domiciled in Vancouver, which has steadily developed into a very cosmopolitan city. However, there is still a considerable British influence in the Province of British Columbia, as evidenced by the long established local association of Welsh, Irish, Scottish and English populations, which is known as the WISE Club. The Scots have always accounted for a large number of the pioneers in Western Canada, and for the past three years, the City has officially declared the last week of June "Scottish Heritage Week", culminating in the B.C. Highland Games Day, which attracts a large number of expatriate Scots, as well as those who claim "Scottish heritage", and those who are quite willing to enter into the "spirit" and become Scottish for the day - either by adoption or absorption (which may be accomplished at the whisky-tasting tent or beer garden)! Last year I had the honour of bearing the exalted title of "Chieftain" for this special day, and certainly used the occasion as an opportunity to promote the R.S.C.D.S. and Scottish Country Dancing in general.

When we arrived here, Scottish Country Dancing was already well established, the Vancouver Branch having been formed in 1964, and so we were very fortunate to be able to join a

ready-made group of keen dancers. Scottish Country Dancing has, in fact, been an ongoing activity since 1929, when dance classes were initiated by the late Mrs. Bingham, who came to Vancouver from Scotland with her husband in the early 1920s. Around the same time, the late Mary Isdal MacNab was also very actively involved in teaching Highland Dancing, as well as Scottish Country Dancing in the Vancouver area and, of course, was also recognised as a collector of dances which had been lost to Scotland and rediscovered from various sources in North America. Many of the dances from the MacNab collection have now been copyrighted and published in two volumes by the R.S.C.D.S.



Since the formation of the Vancouver Branch of the Society, numerous groups have blossomed all over the Province of British Columbia. Branch classes meet each Monday evening during the dance season at the Scottish Cultural Centre - a suite of halls built by the United Scottish Cultural Societies, of which the Vancouver Branch is a significant and founding shareholder. During the summer months, under the auspices of the Vancouver Parks Board, the Branch organises Monday evening outdoor dance sessions in Stanley Park, one of the many famous landmarks in Vancouver. This has been a regular summer venue for the past 40 years, attracts numerous spectators and provides us with the opportunity to gain some new "recruits" to Scottish Country Dancing.

Apart from S.C.D., there is great interest in the (Robert) Burns Club of Vancouver, of which my husband, Jim, is the current President. Along with this association is the recently established Centre for Scottish Studies, initiated by Simon Fraser University, which is garnering enthusiastic support from within the University as well as the broader community.

On a more personal basis, I have been teaching for the Vancouver Branch for many years at all levels, including demonstration team and teacher candidate classes. I have also been fortunate to have received invitations to teach extensively throughout the North American continent, as well as various overseas venues, including Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Denmark, Germany, France and, of course, the U.K, where it has been my privilege to have served on the teaching staff at the annual St. Andrews Summer School.

Mary Murray

WELCOME TO A NEW SEASON OF CLASSES

SOME changes have been made this season. Simon Wales has completed a successful three years of teaching the Intermediate Class. Thank you, Simon, for your hard work. In his place we are very pleased to welcome Gaynor Curtis.

The Country Dancing Class at Cecil Sharp House has been closed for the moment but the Highland Class is transferring there. We are very pleased to maintain links with the Headquarters of the English Folk Song & Dance Society.

The General Class In Blackheath is moving halls across the railway line to become the Greenwich class.

We are very sorry to be closing, for the time being, the well established General Class on Wednesday afternoons at Pont Street. Helen Brown has decided to take a break and we thank her very much for the enthusiasm and energy she has put into this very enjoyable class.

We would like to thank all our teachers and musicians for their work and commitment and we are confident that classes will once again provide opportunity to make new friends, improve your dancing and, above all, enjoy yourselves!

Dances Sub-Committee

[See page 9 for full details of this season's classes. Ed]

WIN A CD COMPETITION

A BIG thank you to all those many readers from London to Wellington N.Z. who entered the competition in the last issue of "The Reel". You were asked to tell me who will be appearing at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday 16th September. The answer was given in the advertisement on page 3 of the last issue, namely "The Scottish Fiddle Orchestra".

The winner, drawn out of the hat by Sue Gane of Southfields after the competition closed, is Evelyn Bremner, New Malden, Surrey. Your prize, the new 21-track CD by the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra entitled "The Fiddler's dance", is on its way. Well done.

If you lost, do not despair. See the SFO in Concert, as advertised on page 5, or look out for their CD!

HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR "REEL"?

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

WANTED

Prince Charlie or Montrose Jacket, Chest 42".
Tel: 020 8761 6608

BRANCH MATTERS

A NEW SEASON is upon us, with some new faces on the Committee already working hard for the Branch. We welcome our new Treasurer, Daniel Capron, and new committee members, Davinia Miln, Pam Ray and Angela Young as well as Margaret Shaw in her new role as Secretary.

The summer saw the very successful South-east Millennium Festival at Hove with many groups and individual members taking part in a celebration of Scottish dance by the sea! Unfortunately, for the third year in a row, Polesden Lacey had to take place indoors due to rain, but our new venue could not have been more welcoming.

The final outdoor events are still to come with the three sessions of dancing in Kensington Gardens. So pack up a picnic and bring your friends to these fun afternoons. You could always nip along to the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra concert in the Royal Albert Hall in the evening of the 16th September after dancing in the park!

All the Branch activities will shortly be getting underway - children's events, classes, the Day School and dances at St Columba's and a return to Wandsworth in February 2001. We also welcome Ian Muir from Prestwick in December. We have a haggis supper at our January dance and ceilidh dancing in November. Please come along and support as much as you can.

The demonstration team will be performing at its usual wide range of events flushed with the success of their trip to Canada, with another performance at the Royal Albert Hall on 30 September at the Dance Fest organised by the Central Council for Physical Recreation. You can also see them at various Branch events - open air dancing, children's dances and the occasional Branch dance.

You will have read about the event in the Dome. It will be taking place on December 2nd where we will be attempting to break the record for the largest number of people dancing Eightsome Reels together. Time constraints caused by the other activities in the Dome mean that we only have a couple of hours in the late afternoon for this record attempt, but there will be plenty of time for dancing in the evening afterwards. The Dome will be charging a reduced fee permitting entry for the whole day. Register for more information if you have not already done so - see the advertisement on page 8.

It promises to be a busy and varied programme for the year, so dust off your shoes and get dancing!

Simon Wales

OPEN HOUSE REUNION

Saturday 17th June 2000

Nearly fifty guests came from far and wide to St. Columba's for the Branch Reunion, for example, Phyllis Draper from Inverness, Howard and Stella Booth from the Lake District, Judy Dix from South Devon and Pat Bawden from North Norfolk. Whether mentioned or not, thank you one and all for coming and helping, make the event such a great success. Here are Pat Bawden's impressions of the occasion...

IT WAS the hottest of days, so why travel to London? We might have been sitting in the shade in our gardens.

We came because we were drawn by the prospect of meeting old friends - to talk and enjoy each other's company once again. There was a sea of familiar faces at first, and then the names came flooding back. In between the greetings and conversation, the viewing of old photos and the taking of new ones to mark the occasion, we were treated to tea - the best "cup of kindness" on a hot summer's afternoon. The entertainment displayed the many and diverse talents always found in the Branch - dancing, singing, the playing of the

clarsach, recitation. All gave pleasure, especially Wendy Kellett's delightful young dancers, whose obvious enjoyment of dancing augurs so well for the future. Who knows? Perhaps when all their studying is over maybe they'll find time to come back to us. Let's hope so, for they are our future.

Simon Wales thanked three long-serving members of the Committee who had stood down at the last Branch AGM, Bill Ireland, Helen Brown and Peter Luke, with Mary Stoker presenting well earned gifts. All in all, it was a most happy occasion and our thanks are due to all the members of the Branch, both "front of house" and "backstage", who worked so hard to make it so. And we should not forget that it is thanks to the bounty of our old friend Alex Westwood that we had this opportunity of renewing the bonds of "auld acquaintance".

Pat Bawden

[The Branch's special thanks for the entertainment go to Helen McIvor (recitation of Tam O'Shanter), Norma Ritchie (songs and clarsach), the Branch Demonstration Team (with Charlie Galloway on pipes) and to the Upland Dancers trained by Wendy Kellett with Dave Hall providing their music. Many thanks to those members of the Branch Committee who provided the refreshments and a very big thank you to Peter Luke who coordinated the event. Well done. Ed.]

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

13th May 2000

FOR THOSE unable to attend the Branch AGM here are the main points of the RSCDS Executive Council (EC) meeting held in Edinburgh.

- The inaugural Winter School was a great success. Linda Gaul will direct the Winter School in 2001.
- Despite a forecast deficit for 2001-2002 there will be no increase in annual subscriptions, but new long term memberships cannot be taken out pending the outcome of the Management and Membership Review (see below).
- Minor changes in the examinations system were approved. Preliminary Test and Teachers' Certificate courses should run for 40 hours, with candidates attending for a minimum of 30 hours.
- A code of practice for running children's events was adopted as a model for Branches to follow.
- Over the last year membership of the Society has fallen, three Branches have disbanded and there has been a net loss of five affiliated groups.
- There was no progress on the implementation of the Strategic Plan's recommendations regarding the Society's management structure. The Management and Membership Review team are linking the formation of a smaller, streamlined EC with a fundamental reappraisal of the terms of membership, including a proposal for two tiers of membership. An upper level would pay for the privilege of voting at Society AGMs and receiving subscription copies of new dances, and a lower level who, rather dismissively, are thought "just to want to dance", would pay a minimal subscription but receive no tangible benefit.

The last point attracted much adverse comment at our Branch AGM and the Branch Committee has written to Headquarters expressing opposition to the two tiers of membership while urging the Review team to press on with proposals for a smaller EC. As the May EC went on for over seven hours in an hotel basement and some members spent their entire lunchbreak queuing, unsuccessfully as it turned out, for food, I sympathise. As soon as the EC is small enough to sit round a table at Headquarters the better.

Rachel Wilton

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY



Patron - H.M. The Queen

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LONDON BRANCH

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STRUCTURE OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Children: Angela Young, Margaret Shaw,
Alexander McClintock.

Classes: Rachel Wilton, Jenny Greene,
David Hall, Owen Meyer, Pam Ray.

Dances: Simon Wales, Jim Cook, Jenny
Greene, Davinia Miln.

Demonstrations: David Hall, Judy Berry,
Caroline Sloan, Mairi Scanlan*.

Publicity: Jim Cook, Alexander
McClintock, Jeff Robertson,
Rita Marlow*.

Membership:Owen Meyer

Bookstall: Ian Anderson*

Branch Rep. to Headquarters: Rachel Wilton

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Marie Jamieson*

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

Southeast Group:..... Simon Wales

Combined Societies:..... Simon Wales

*Indicates a non-Executive Committee member.

Branch Web Site
www.scldlondon.freeseerve.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society and the London Branch costs £12.00 per annum for UK based members (£12.50 for Europe; £14.50 elsewhere). Current members of other Branches can join London Branch for £4.00 per annum if they live in the UK (£4.50 in Europe and £6.50 elsewhere). Please note that Long Term Membership was suspended until further notice at an Executive Meeting held in May 2000. London Branch membership brings benefits including "The Reel", while Society membership includes the annual dance publication, Bulletin and Newsletters.

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

BRANCH COMMITTEE CHANGES

AT the Branch AGM in May, our Secretary Helen Brown, Treasurer Peter Luke and Committee Members Bill Ireland and Catriona Stewart stood down from the Committee after their many years of service – a sterling 51 years in the case of Bill! Our thanks go to them all and we now welcome our new additions who hereby introduce themselves. Congratulations also to Margaret Shaw who steps up into the shoes of Secretary.



Daniel Capron (Treasurer)

My name, Daniel Capron, rhymes with apron. I have been an active Scottish Country Dancer since I attended Owen Meyer's beginners' class in the early 1970s. I then joined the Chelsea Reel Club, and was for five years their Treasurer. I am now regularly to be seen at St Columba's on winter Mondays and summer Tuesdays. I have also danced with many other groups in and around London, and in Botswana, France, Germany, Scotland, Swaziland and Sweden.

I am partly Scottish, being descended from Daniel Duff, a schoolmaster of Elgin, who moved to Islington in about 1785.

Angela Young

Since a very young age I have been involved with Scottish Country Dancing as a dancer, musician and teacher. At the age of 17 I attended the RSCDS Musician's Course and have subsequently played at Summer School, Day Schools and classes throughout the country. Since moving to London, I have played regularly for the Advanced Class and am pleased to dance as a member of the Demonstration Team.

I also represent Hamilton, Ontario on the RSCDS Executive Committee and have been an active member of Publications Committee for the last few years. I look forward to a busy year on the London Branch Committee.



Davinia Miln

Whilst bopping the night away in a disco on a Greek island some years ago, a friend said "You must come Scottish dancing – you'd love it!" Now 15 years later, I am still here, having travelled hundreds of miles across various dance floors from as far afield as Vancouver BC to Sydney – not to mention Weekend Schools "sur le continent."

It was only after about eight of those years that my teacher came up to me and said "You'd better go to class to learn where to put your feet!" I was most upset as, having conquered Postie's Jig, I thought I had really mastered the art of Scottish Country Dancing! Little did I realise there was another whole world out there, not to mention several thousand more dances other than the eight I knew.

In my professional life to train as a teacher, I studied dance to degree level and dance on a social level has always been an important part of my life. It is a wonderful antidote to a long, hard day (latterly as a children's and families' social worker).

I still love to dance with lots of different groups with different styles and hope some of my contribution to the Committee will be to link in other dancers to the finer points of Scottish Country Dancing.

Alternatively, I'd be more than happy to pass on my sandwich and cake-making abilities ...



Pamela Ray

I had wanted to Scottish Dance for some time before I actually found a class and joined. I had a good teacher and it was a good class but it was not really a lot of fun and I was not sure that it was for me. Then came the invitation to join Marie Jamieson's class for a Burns celebration. Marie warmly welcomed us, whisky bottle in hand and the fun began. I have enjoyed dancing for 13 years, during which time I have regularly attended Branch Classes, Weekend Schools and Summer School at St. Andrews.

TEACHING CERTIFICATE SUCCESS

THANKS to all those who volunteered to be taught by the candidates at the exams on 21st May. It was hard work and their constant cheerfulness was much appreciated. Special thanks to Jim Cook who marshalled the volunteers so efficiently, Helen Brown and Caroline Sloan who kept everyone fed and watered and, of course, Jean Harrison who played all day and Jenny Greene who taught the whole course. The successful candidates were:

PRELIMINARY: Angela Campbell and Mike Gould (Tunbridge Wells & London Branches), Tiny Pot (Delft), Peter Forrow, Mary Quinton and Margaret-Anne Robertson (London), FULL: Mary Robertson (Brighton). Well done all.

Rachel Wilton

TEACHING CERTIFICATE CLASSES

The London Branch were pleased to welcome candidates from all over the south east to the recent series of classes which they ran in Greenwich, culminating in the practical and teaching examinations on 21st May. However the Branch were particularly pleased to welcome Tiny Pot who commuted, as often as she could, from Roosendaal, a town in Holland near the Belgian border. Here is her story:

I WAS very pleased when I heard that London Branch had organised a Preliminary Class otherwise I would have had to go to St. Andrews again to do a re-sit.

Nine of us studied for the Preliminary and one, Mary Robertson, studied for the Final Teacher's Certificate. The courses which took place on Sundays at the Halstow School, Greenwich were organised by Rachel Wilton who kindly accommodated me at her house during the four weekends that I came. I travelled from Roosendaal via Brussels and the Eurostar train on Saturdays and thus could join in any dancing in London on Saturday evenings.

Jenny Greene's teaching was very clear, learning from her experience and getting new ideas of how to explain dances. For me it was good to come to Greenwich because I had more time to think about the classes and work out what I had learned with intervals of some weeks. This differs from St. Andrews where the classes are intensive, being concentrated into two weeks. But, on the other hand, at St. Andrews you have the possibility to have more contact with the other students, to exchange ideas or just have social talk or activities with many people after the classes.

I travelled to Greenwich for two Sunday classes. Then it became serious. On 7th May I came over to take the written examination. On the day of the practical exam, 21st May, we started early at 08.30 with a warm-up in a relaxed atmosphere, and with coffee and little things to eat. Together with the volunteer "stooges" we had a group of about 30 people. The examiners, Johan Maclean and Bruce Frazer, also had a long and intensive day. They did very well and tried to make everybody feel at ease during the exam.

I was very happy when, two weeks later, I received my pass result. I wish to congratulate all who passed the exam and also encourage the ones who failed (I know what it feels like) to give it another try.

I thank the London Branch for the warm welcome and the nice time during my four weekends in London. I met a lot of nice people and I look forward to meeting everybody again somewhere.

Tiny Pot

[Tiny moved to Roosendaal a couple of years ago, a town with no Scottish Dancing. Tiny put Roosendaal on the Scottish Dance map by successfully starting a weekly (Tuesday) class from scratch. With her group, now called the 'Schiehallion' dancers, Tiny has since organised a number of successful combined Saturday afternoon schools followed by evening dances, attracting dancers from Holland and neighbouring countries... including London Branch sometimes. Two more are planned for 9th December 2000 and 7th April 2001. See latest 'Euronews' or 'Celtic Circle' or contact me for details. Ed.]

REEL FRIENDS – BOOK 2

Following on from the success of "Reel Friends", Ann Dix has just published "Reel Friends – Book 2" containing 13 new Scottish Country Dances. An accompanying CD has been recorded by David Hall and his Band. John Laurie interviewed Ann and David for "The Reel".

J.L. Ann, when did you devise your first dance?

A.D. The first dance I devised was in 1974 when I was expecting my elder son, Simon, and was at the suggestion of the late Bobby Munro.

J.L. Which dance was it and has it been published?

A.D. The dance is called Chippy's Rant (which was also Bobby's suggestion since Simon's father was rather partial to chips at the time). It was published in The Burnham Set booklet.

J.L. What inspires you?

A.D. A figure or movement is generally the catalyst and I then build a dance around it. Inspiration is usually strongest on the rare occasions when I am able to relax in the bath with a glass of sherry!

J.L. Some dancers now say that with over 7,000 dances in the repertoire enough is enough unless a dance has a good new figure or special feature. Have you tried to achieve this?

A.D. I have certainly tried to do so. I believe very strongly that there are two very important factors to consider: firstly dancing is for fun, and secondly, we are dancing *with* others in the set, not independently dancing the same figure during the same bars of music. Eye contact is of paramount importance and covering only slightly less so. I should like to think that my dances encourage people to dance as an integrated set and I hope they will enjoy the flow of the dance whilst doing so. As far as "enough is enough" is concerned, I don't think anyone would suggest there are enough novels already and that no more should be written, although I realise that this is probably not the best comparison to make. I consider it is a way for one person to show their appreciation of their friends, a particular piece of music or in celebration of a particular event.

J.L. Your dances have been dedicated to personal friends. Have you been conscious of an individual's personality while devising?

A.D. Yes. I always try to include figures I know they like and a tempo I believe they would choose for themselves.

J.L. Have you catered for all tastes – from easy to advanced?

A.D. I hope I have catered for all tastes and levels of experience. "Welcome Aboard" is probably the most 'advanced', but it is not really difficult, just wordy! I pay particular attention to the link between the end of the dance and the beginning of the repeat.

J.L. I imagine that when devising a strathspey you have that tempo in mind but how do you decide whether a dance should be a reel or a jig?

A.D. This is a difficult one! Up to a point my choice is still by association with the person(s) for whom I am writing, but quite often it is just how I feel about it when it is complete. I don't think I can be any more discerning than that.

J.L. Most of your dances have specially composed originals. Do you devise the dance to fit the tune, or do you let the composer see the dance instructions and ask him/her for a suitable tune?

A.D. I am conscious that many, many tunes are already associated with specific dances and since my knowledge of the existing tunes used by other recent devisors is very limited, I generally feel it is safer to use a new original. I usually write the dance first then discuss its contents with the composer, though occasionally a composer will have one or two unpublished tunes already written and I will be given the choice.

J.L. I see you have used Neil Barron's tune "Inchmickery" as an original. This tune has already entered the repertoire and been recorded as

an alternative by several bands. What made you decide to adopt it as an original?

A.D. Neil sent me a tape with about four tunes on it and offered me the choice of any of them although they were already in common use. I chose Inchmickery because it fits the dance, Kings Croft, beautifully.

J.L. Which is your favourite dance in this new book and why?

A.D. I'm not sure I have an absolute favourite, but perhaps three equal favourites: The Jackdaw, Brunette d'Ecosse and The Tri-Mariner. They seem to flow and there is a good opportunity to cover well with the other dancers. Time will tell which one will become most popular.

J.L. Thanks very much, Ann, for taking time out to talk with me. Now it's Dave's turn in the hot seat.

J.L. Dave, you formed your first band at the early age of 15. In a word, why?

D.H. My parents (Ian and Heulwen) and my uncle Tom had been involved with Scottish music for many years and I had always taken an interest. When I was about 12 I started to play my father's accordion and gradually got more and more engrossed in playing for dancing. A group of us, including my parents, started playing for smaller functions around Manchester and the band formed almost by chance from this.

J.L. You have maintained a steady line-up over many years. Can you explain this and maybe introduce the band?

D.H. I think stability of line-up is essential but the chemistry between us runs much deeper and we enjoy each others company as well as playing together. In addition to my parents (now in semi-retirement in Scotland) Tom Mullen has played drums since the Band's inception. He also plays the pipes. Stuart Duff moved to Manchester from Glasgow in 1986 and plays second accordion. Our fiddle player, Judith Smith, was introduced to me by your good self soon after I moved to London in 1994. The most recent member is pianist Gillian Cummins who joined us in 1996.

J.L. Did you have a classical training?

D.H. Yes. I learnt to play piano at school and still enjoy playing classical music. I play piano duets with Gillian and with Judith. We find it very relaxing and do not have to worry about strict tempo!

J.L. This is now your fourth recording. In the first three you were able, as a Band, to decide which dances and tunes to include but on this one you were presented (for most dances) with originals already decided. Did this cause you any problems?

D.H. Not really. In many ways it is much easier to put together simply a series of full length dance sets. The more varied programme including "listening" tracks requires much more rehearsal time and researching.

J.L. How do you go about choosing alternative tunes?

D.H. The essential issues here are tunes that are good to play and whether people will enjoy dancing to them. It is also necessary to match the character of the alternative tunes with that of the original. There is, of course, room for personal taste here and it should always be remembered that music is a form of artistic expression. This is sometimes forgotten by the more vocal members of the dancing public.

J.L. Why do bands rarely play consecutive tunes in the same key?

D.H. It is important to maintain lift and impetus throughout the whole dance. Variety of key is an

important and useful tool for achieving this.

J.L. For a few of the dances Ann did not specify an original. How did you decide which tunes to use?

D.H. To be brutally honest I chose tunes that I like to play and thought were good to dance to. I then discussed them with Ann to ensure that they fitted in with her perception of the character and phrasing of the dance.

J.L. Many dances maintain that bands should always finish as well as start with the original. In general you do not do so. Any comments?

D.H. This is an issue on which I have strong views and my earlier comments about alternative tunes are very pertinent. Whether or not I choose to play the original depends on the dance, the set of tunes, the mood or whatever else. As a band leader I am receptive to the wishes of the dance organisers but to suggest that the issue is bound by a strict rule is somewhat narrow-minded. Furthermore the dancers should respect the musicality, experience and expression of the musicians. There is room for more than one view and the exchange of ideas and feelings can be most valuable. There should be a much more broad-minded dialogue on this and, perhaps, other issues between musicians and dancers.

J.L. Thanks, Dave. Maybe your reply to my final question will spark off some correspondence in the next Reel.

If I dare, I will add a further morsel. Some originals, particularly in the earlier Society books, are quite brilliant (e.g. Meg Merrilees, Roxburgh Castle and Linton Ploughman) but some are a bit weak and uninspiring. I remember some years ago the late Andrew Rankin was playing to a packed floor in Porchester Hall. Late in the evening we were dancing an 8x48 Jig and beginning to flag. For the final tune Andrew bounced into his own great composition "Donald Iain Rankine" and the atmosphere became electric. It just lifted everyone's spirits and we finished elated rather than weary.

John Laurie

Copies of the book and CD can be obtained at a special discounted rate from Ann Dix, 305 Dedworth Road, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 4JS. Book at £2.50; CD at £10; (packing and postage £1.50). John Laurie will also have them available at St. Columba's. [The CD was unavailable for review at the time of going to press but it will be reviewed in the next issue of "The Reel". Ed.]

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NEW RECORDINGS

Gang on the Same Gate - Green Ginger (KSCD004, CD only)

The Reel of the Gordon Highlanders, Mr Marison, Lady Lucy Ramsay, Set of Jigs (4x32), Shiftn' Bobbins, Set of Strathspey Airs (4x32), West's Hornpipe, Mrs Stewart's Jig, The Triumph, Gang the Same Gate, The Old Spedling Castle's Ghost's Dance, Not I, Leith Country Dance, Set of Reels (5x32) and two listening tracks.

Dance to the Pipes - Bill Clement (ABC101, CD only)

MacDonald of Sleat, Shepherd's Crook, Bonnie Aileen's Reel*, East of Yeadon*, Happy Returns, The Piper's Glen*, Honour the Piper, Reel of the 51st Division, Duke of Atholl's Reel, Monymusk, The Montgomerie's Rant, Cauld Kail, Foursome Reel (32S, 32R + half Tulloch).

Piper's Choice - Bill Clement with Muriel Johnstone's Band (ABC102, CD Only)

The Saltire Society Reel, Major Ian Stewart, Mr Yasumuro's Strathspey*, Highland Schottisch/Barn Dance, Atsuko's Wedding*, Joe MacDiarmid's Jig, Duchess of Atholl's Slipper, Blue Bonnets Over the Border (Ladies Step - 6 steps), Reel of the Royal Scots, Waltz, The Earl of Mansfield, The Colonel is a Lady*, Eightsome Reel, two listening tracks and two tracks of church music.

Country Dances are all full length. For those marked * full dance instructions are given in the liner notes. (The Colonel in question is Muriel Gibson).

GREEN Ginger are Ian and Meryl Thomson on fiddle with Cas Sloan on piano. Whence the name? Rumour has it that both ladies like cooking with ginger and are heavily into re-cycling; so the ginger had to be green. The CD title also needs some explanation. The cover displays a delightful photograph of the three of them - the "gang" leaning on an old fashioned wooden gate in the Lake District. Clearly, a gang with a sense of humour who are not afraid to ginger things up a bit. If I dare add my touch of humour I should say that, for the most part, Meryl plays "second fiddle" to her husband with some very nice harmonies as a result. The playing is obviously different from that of most bands who employ at least one accordion. It is lively and refreshing, and will surely appeal to dancers and listeners alike. Tempo is nice and steady with the strathspeys the way we like them nowadays (sorry if this remark is lost on new readers). Some of the tunes are worthy of special mention. They have dug deep into the archives and searched out tunes by the great Scottish fiddlers of the 17th and 18th centuries. There are also a few modern tunes; some by Cas and Meryl, one by Jeremy Hill from the London Branch Book, and some by that great contemporary Scottish fiddler Ian Hardie. My favourite track is Shiftn' Bobbins where they follow the original with some catchy American type reels. All in all, this is a compulsory addition to any enthusiast's collection of CDs.

A reading of the dance titles on Dance to the Pipes may ring a few bells in the memories of folk of a certain age. Indeed this CD is a re-issue of tracks from two recordings by Bill Clement about 30 years ago and issued on LP and cassette. Bill is without doubt one of the best pipers around and this is stunning stuff. Tempo is somewhat brisker than that which is currently in vogue but it's none the worse for that! As many readers will know the pipe scale extends to only nine notes which means that some dance tunes (notably The Montgomerie's Rant here) cannot be played on the pipes. So the set titled as The Montgomerie's Rant can be used for any 8x32 dance which needs "any good reel". Let this not deter you; this CD contains some cracking good pipe tunes. Nancy Dickson adds a bit of sparkle playing piano on some tracks. On a few others there is an anonymous drummer.

Bill's Piper's Choice is a recent recording with Muriel Johnstone's Band. If any reader is sceptical about pipes and band playing together (and I know some people are) listen to this CD and you will doubt no more. The sound they make is tremendous and the rapport between Bill and Muriel is just amazing. The band can do so much to add to the overall sound with Marian Anderson on accordion and Keith Smith on fiddle sometimes playing the melody and sometimes harmony. Keith is fairly rolling along on top in The Earl of Mansfield. The co-ordination between Bill and Muriel in Mr Yosumuro's Strathspey makes me

run out of superlatives. I am not saying co-ordination is not good on every track; far from it, but this one has something special which I cannot define. But, wait for it, the original tune for Major Ian Stewart (The Scottish Horse) is one of my absolute favourite 6/8s. Second time through Muriel bursts into the melody - yes, yes, it is FANTASTIC. All four tunes for the Colonel is a Lady (a jig) were composed by Bill himself and will, I think, be soon picked up and played by other bands. There are no problems with originals on this CD - most of them being tunes composed for the pipes. While applauding the front row it must not be forgotten that a full band needs a good rhythm section and they do not come much better than Ronnie Currie on bass and Gordon Smith on drums. Finally, tempo is, give or take a few seconds here and there, that currently favoured by the Society.

But I cannot leave this recording without mentioning the two tracks of church music. They consist of 6 tunes played by Bill and organist Tom Carrick with a verse of a hymn or psalm sung by baritone Robert Lind. Perhaps a long way from the dance floor but nevertheless a part of our Scottish heritage. Bill is an elder in Closeburn Parish Church in Dumfriesshire.

John Laurie

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LETTERS TO

Thank you all for your letters. Unfortunately this time I have received far too many and cannot include them all. Please accept my apologies if your letter has been omitted. As I am not usually in this position, do please keep your letters rolling in!

Here are some of the responses to my letter in the last issue about Pilling, the dancing of the Birks Of Invermay, and the comparison with the Duke Of Atholl's Reel, and ballroom etiquette...

Dingwall, Ross-Shire

Dear Jim,

Perhaps someone who was at St. Andrews when Book 16 was the new book can help. Bars 17-24 in the Birks of Invermay was taught as a different figure to bars 17-24 in the Duke Of Atholl's Reel. The first dance is a strathspey, the second a jig and the phrasing is different to suit the character of the dance. In Birks it is an 8 bar continual movement and in Duke Of Atholl the phrase is '4+4'. This is clear from the original publication. Had it been intended that the two figures be the same (as suggested by Pilling) they would have had identical wording in the instructions.

In Birks, the first couple meet in the middle by the end of bar 4 (of the phrase) and face up to follow the instructions in the Society's publication. Otherwise an essential character of the dance is lost. I always move up on bars 3 & 4 in the jig and on bars 7 & 8 in the strathspey irrespective of other dancers. My partner never quarrelled with me. All members of the Society should dance according to the original instructions and show others the error of their ways.

I never use Pilling, finding the full text easier.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Ellen Garvie

Ascot, Berks

Dear Jim,

When one sees an aberration during a dance, should one object or acquiesce?

I think it depends on the circumstances. In a class, one should take it up with the teacher, afterwards. Even RSCDS teachers may make mistakes, and, of course, one might be wrong oneself. However, a ball is hardly the place to start an argument, it only causes bad feeling and embarrassment to others. A dance may still be enjoyed, even when it is not due to perfection.

An aberration that forced itself on my attention at a ball recently occurred in Mrs. Stewart's Jig. The instructions say that the 2s move up on bars 7 and 8. Two sets, mainly from the same group of dancers, had the 2s and 3s moving up on bars 3 and 4, and the 3s stepping down again on bars 7 and 8. I was in one set as 3rd couple. My partner and I were hauled up on bars 3 and 4 and pushed down again on bars 7 and 8. So what should I do? Like you, I acquiesced. The movement has its points in a crowded ballroom (although it was not crowded on this occasion).

With all good wishes,

Eugene Burden,

Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks

Dear Jim

Your comments on The Birks of Invermay have probably struck a chord with many readers. Another example is Baldovan Reel in which bars 1 and 2 are rarely danced according to the instructions. The deviser, Douglas Henderson, probably realised that the entry into crown triangles is more easily accomplished if first couple merely pass right shoulders but, as first man, I can hardly ignore my partner's hand if it is offered.

Why does it happen? Well, it is not just the dancers who do not refer to the original publications. There are a lot of clubs and societies in the London area where even the teachers rely on cribs (and even Pilling, itself). Perhaps this has something to do with it.

Does it matter? On the whole, probably not, but take Bonnie Anne for example. I am quite happy to finish the dance with an ordinary poussette if my partner or the adjacent couple prefer to do so, but why should it be regarded as foolhardy to embark on an all-round poussette without first consulting the other members of the set? Even then, it is quite likely that first couple will cause further disruption by trying to poussette to fourth place!

What can we do about it? Returning to my first point, perhaps the Branch could organise a workshop for all the dedicated teachers who encourage the members of their local clubs, but do not aspire to RSCDS certification. This would provide the teachers with an opportunity to share their experiences and exchange ideas, but might also be used by the Branch to underline the essentials of good teaching practice.

Regards,

Andrew Patterson

Kawasaki, Japan

Dear Jim,

In Japan, the majority of dancers do not have a huge repertoire of dances. At dances, MCs usually give a walk-through of each dance before the recorded music starts. MCs come to each event suitably prepared according to RSCDS Books and Pilling. Almost all dances are danced in the correct way. When an MC wrongly interprets a dance, people dance it in accordance with the given instructions but the MC will be exposed to a shower of severe criticism by experienced dancers after the event is over.

The score is Pilling 1 – RSCDS 2,

Yours sincerely,

Tom Toriyama

Thank you for your feedback on Rosalind Zuridis' thoughts on the choreography of dances in the eyes of a new dancer in the last issue. Here is a selection:

Reading, Berks

Dear Jim

It was a thrill to read Rosalind Zuridis' article. It brought back memories of dancing in the late 40s and early 50s, and for a few more decades at some rare venues where dancing continued to be a light hearted pursuit. Dancing now seems to be treated as a religion with individuals dancing joined up phrases of 4 or 8 bars instead of whole dances danced by a set dancing together as one.

I always teach the first 16 Bars of John of Bon Accord as 'The 1st Couple dancing two continuous reels of three with the members of the 2nd and 3rd couples slipping in and out of the 3rd place in sequence every 4 Bars. Rosalind's description of sinuous reels drawing the others into the reels as they go illustrates the spirit so much better. Both descriptions indicate a continuous flowing movement that helps to prevent the dancers suddenly starting to go down the set on reaching the sides.

Back to the article, her spirit of the dance came over so well that I hope she takes up teaching and does not let the strict 'you must not do that' attitudes get her down.

I have been writing a series of articles in the Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch Newsletter to try and revive the spirit of my early days and Rosalind did it with one simple glorious article.

Thank you Rosalind for a wonderful article You expressed the feelings I have of Scottish Dancing in a manner I could never have done but try to in both words and directions.

Yours in dancing.

Douglas Dean
Dancing since 1947

Burgess Hill, Sussex

Dear Jim,

I'm rather glad I no longer dance. Were one to meet Rosalind in a set, would one be expected to do one or more of weave, canter, orbit, loop, curve, be pulled, swoop, curl, ripple, drive, bound, manoeuvre, set off, dart, be plastic, be sinuous, explode in a physical encounter (!), have sober grace (no pre-dance visits to the pub!), be calm, be intimate, be dynamic, change, mutate, be involved in linear drama, transform a static set into a sparkling chain reaction, dive, land explosively, have triggered alchemy, experience magnetic pull, be without teapots (in addition to the sober grace!), be part of a linear centred entwined quality, partake in anarchic chase, furl, gallop, promenade in a courtly fashion, dance a demur allemande, and partake in blithe simplicity? Have I missed anything? It was nice to learn too that strathspeys are slower than reels and jigs. I used to find it difficult enough just to be in the right place at the right time.

Nice try, Rosalind, but what a load of balderdash!

Yours sincerely,

Donald Barratt

On the topic of high altitude dancing...

Dulwich

Dear Jim,

Further to your request for altitude data in the last issue:

Pikes Peak	4,303m	14,110ft
Everest Base Camp	5,340m	17,500ft
Tibetan Plateau	4,500m	14,750ft

Dr Carol Darwin

Thus the San Diego Team, which included Cy Chadley (who wrote in the last issue), that danced on Mt. Whitney at nearly 15,000ft seems to have beaten the previous record set by the Colorado set on Pike's Peak – a mere 14,110ft. But what about the claim in issue 229 of "The Reel" of a British group who trekked through the high plateau of Nepal to the Everest Base Camp (17,500ft)? Read on...

Brockenhurst, Hants

Dear Jim,

Cy Chadley may relax. The article in issue 229 quotes the Scottish lawyer playing his tapes in the back of a Landcruiser to the benefit of 'our guides and drivers'. That was no mountaineering reeler. Everest base camp lies at the foot of the Khumbu icefall, at 17,575ft, at least two weeks trek from the nearest roadhead. It is much polluted by Himalayan expeditions, but not by Landcruisers!

Last Spring a 'set' from the Little Ship Club and New Forest SCD trekked to the Khumbu where we devised and performed 'Jim & Rachel's Wedding' to Sherpa and western guests at the bonding of the resident doctors at the Edmund Hillary hospital (12,600 ft) above Namche Bazaar. We had no tape recorder but having hummed the tune were ably accompanied by Rachel on her three-string Nepali fiddle to the strains of Mairi's Wedding. The Sherpas joined in the repeat and demonstrated much potential for the Society!

Those of us who struggled to the summit of Kala Pattar at 18,450ft were unable to locate enough▶

THE EDITOR

> level ground or the energy for a gentle strathspey, let alone a reel. Cy may keep his record!

Yours sincerely,

Robert Morgan

[So I hereby declare that the San Diego Team, with Cy Chadley, holds the world altitude record for Scottish Dancing at nearly 15,000ft (4,570m) on Mt. Whitney....unless you know better! Ed.]

Hutton, Essex

Dear Jim,

I would like to thank London Branch and especially Rachel Wilton for running the recent technique classes. As a teacher I feel the need to improve my knowledge whenever possible and other than Day Schools there are little opportunities for this.

However, there seem few who consider it necessary as the classes have been poorly attended. They were open to all and based in Central London in easy reach of many. So what is going wrong, does no one wish to learn any more? I feel this is a sad reflection on the definite drop in standards over the last few years. Do teachers really feel that a piece of paper marked Full Certificate means one knows all there is to know about SCD and where were all the other dancers?

Basic steps have certainly disappeared as I was taught them, mainly because they are no longer taught at social classes and Saturday dances have become a general free-for-all with most members of the set either relying on recaps or someone in the set who has bothered to do their 'homework' if recaps are not available.

Yes dancing should be fun and friendly but surely the more one knows the easier it becomes and a reasonable standard must be more satisfying than just an ungainly romp.

Yours sincerely,

Daphne Baker

Reading, Berks

Dear Jim,

We are wondering whether attendance at classes is being influenced by the current 'fashion' of spending an inordinate amount of time 'warming up' before the real dancing starts. It is claimed that this is necessary because people lead more sedentary lives than in the past, and use wheels rather than legs to travel. We have danced for 50 years without the benefit of this type of warming up and, dare we say it, without obvious signs of damage to the limbs.

Having sat in a car for half an hour or more we do not wish to forego any of the precious two hours dancing time by being glued to one spot in a circle of people to perform various arm and leg exercises which do not have a great deal of bearing on what is to follow later in the class.

On one occasion having supposedly "warmed up" and "stretched" one of us sustained, in the course of the first dance, the worst muscle injury she'd ever experienced. On another occasion our feet were still cold after the half hour so-called warm up period and only when we started dancing did the blood flow.

We would rather participate in a simple dance by walking it rhythmically, and many dances can be done in this way, gradually building up into an easy flowing step. (Many dancers find it difficult to walk rhythmically so this in itself is a good exercise.) Technique can be introduced as required during the next part of the session depending on the ability of the dancers and the type of class.

Outwith the Scottish Country Dance circuit, one of us attends a dance exercise class where we expect to do exercises. It is very thorough but even here the initial warming up session does not consist of static movements.

It is interesting to note that warming up is considered necessary at the start of a class but at dances it is up to the individual and very few injuries seem to occur.

Are we alone in our dislike of the current trend?

Yours sincerely,

Jean and Wilson Nicol

London

Dear Jim,

I often hear of dancers who, like me, really enjoy Scottish dancing but are plagued by cramps and tight muscles after dances. Probably like you I have also met several who have had hip replacements.

Although I have only been a member of the RSCDS for a few years, I have never seen any correspondence in "The Reel", nor in the RSCDS Bulletin basically about how to take care of your feet nor any advice about suitable 'footwear' nor about 'in-soles' for footwear. One does not even hear of guidance to newcomers, that during cold weather they should spend a few minutes 'warming-up', to prevent possible foot injury. While most of us usually dance on wooden surfaces there are occasions, even at St. Andrews, when the floor provides no give whatsoever.

In almost every other leisure activity and sport in which I have participated - potholing, swimming, riding, dinghy sailing, cross-country running, squash, gliding, flying, etc., there is at some time mention of how to take care of your body to prevent injury. Even those entering marathons are provided with a wealth of information about suitable footwear and how best to take care of their feet.

Since our feet are probably one of the most important parts of our body during Scottish Dancing, I would like to hear from my 'grand fathers and grand mothers' why this subject appears to be taboo?

Yours sincerely,

Freddie Marsh

[Is there a qualified reader who would like to help prepare such an article? If so, do please contact me. Ed.]

Worcester Park, Surrey

Dear Jim,

What happened to the National Anthem at the end of the April Branch dance? We are the ROYAL Scottish Country Dance Society and the Queen is our Patron!

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Bennett

Following on from John Reeve's letter in issue 230 about joint problems....

Dear Jim,

As an experienced vet specialising in orthopaedic injuries, I am a strong advocate of feeding supplements to promote joint function.

I have spent many years studying joint disease, and my PhD was in biochemistry investigating arthritis. As a result of my clinical and research work, I am convinced that food supplements can influence and improve joint function in all species.

These supplements are known as chondro-protective products and two of the most well-known compounds which are receiving considerable publicity are glucosamine and chondroitin sulphate.

Both compounds have been shown to stimulate the cells in damaged joint tissue to promote a repair response. Several studies have demonstrated that both glucosamine and chondroitin can be absorbed from the gut and can reach all the joints in the body, and maximum effect is achieved when both are fed together.

Joint supplements are not to be taken as a panacea for all joint problems but they are valuable as an aid to reduce the effects of joint stiffness and arthritis.

Yours sincerely,

David Platt

BVSc, PhD, DEO, FRCVS

On this subject of joint supplements, Harry MacFadyen of Wylye Valley Pharmaceuticals, Codford, Wiltshire has written to me regarding Corta-Flex as advertised on page 10. Harry has offered me some free samples to make available to some of our members. Do please contact me if you wish to avail yourself of this offer. Ed.

THE REEL

IF YOU are not a member of the London Branch order your copy of "The Reel" from Rita Marlow, 17 West Farm Close, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2LH.

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Saturday 23rd September 2000

7.00 - 10.30 p.m.

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The Craigellachie Band

The Happy Meeting.....	29 - 9
Milton's Welcome.....	33 - 8
Miss Gibson's Strathspey.....	Leaflet
Last of the Lairds.....	22 - 5
Culla Bay.....	41
Petronella.....	1-1
Major Ian Stewart.....	35 - 4
Ennismore Strathspey.....	London
Earl of Mansfield.....	Leaflet
Quarries' Jig.....	36 - 3
Glasgow Highlanders.....	2 - 3
Crossing the Line.....	Drewry
Gang the Same Gate.....	36 - 4
The Machine Without Horses.....	12 - 12
Lady Susan Stewart's Reel.....	5 - 9
The Belle of Bon Accord.....	Drewry
Follow Me Home.....	38 - 6
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.....	39 - 7

Admission: RSCDS members £5.00, non-members £6.00, children £2.00, but members' children admitted free. Refreshments included in the price.

Saturday 11th November 2000

7.00 - 10.30 p.m.

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

Joie de Vivre.....	39 - 2
Inverness Reel.....	MMM 1
Dalkeith's Strathspey.....	9 - 6
The Duke of Atholl's Reel.....	16 - 3
Miss Ogilvie's Fancy.....	20 - 8
Nice to See You.....	40 - 3
Quarries' Jig.....	36 - 3
The Birks of Invermay.....	16 - 2
The Round Reel of Eight.....	27 - 7
The Frisky.....	26 - 10
General Stuart's Reel.....	10 - 3
Drumelzier.....	Newc.
The Laird of Milton's Daughter.....	22 - 10
The Sailor.....	24 - 4
Balquidder Strathspey.....	24 - 2
Barley Bree.....	13 - 4
The Silver Tassie.....	Leaf 1
J B Milne.....	Foss

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Saturday 16th December 2000

7.00 - 11.30 p.m.

St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, SW1.
Ian Muir (Prestwick)

Hooper' Jig.....	MMM II
De'il amang the Tailors.....	14 - 7
The Lea Rig.....	21 - 5
Georgie's Jig.....	Leaflet 32
Blooms of Bon Accord.....	Drewry
Fair Donald.....	29 - 4
Scottish Reform.....	3 - 1
McLeod's Fancy.....	33 - 3
Braes of Breadalbane.....	21 - 7
Wicked Willy.....	Ways
The Montgomeries' Rant.....	10 - 1
Miss Allie Anderson.....	Leaflet
Mrs Macleod.....	6 - 11
Foursome Reel and Half Tulloch.....	3 - 11
Miss Hadden's Reel.....	23 - 5
Kingussie Flower.....	21 - 6
Balmoral Strathspey.....	22 - 3
St Andrew's Fair.....	5 for 82
John of Bon Accord.....	33 - 5
The Gentleman.....	35 - 5
Bees of Maggielknockater.....	Drewry
Mairi's Wedding.....	Cosh

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Admission: In advance: RSCDS members £8.00, non-members £10.00. On door: Members £10.00, non-members £12.00. Refreshments and welcome drink included in the price. Those with Highland/ evening wear are encouraged to wear it.

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20th January 2001.....	Lilian Linden Burns Supper and Peter Macfarlane
24th February 2001.....	David Hall and his Band Spring Ball at Wandsworth Civic Suite
24th March 2001.....	Robin Ellis Children's and Evening Dances
21st April 2001.....	Brian Hamilton
19th May 2001.....	Kafoozalum
16th June 2001.....	Sound Company
14th July 2001.....	Craigellachie at Polesden Lacey

CEILIDH DANCING

Saturday 25th November 2000

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7.00 - 11.00 p.m.

Kafoozalum

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As well as taking part in the world record-breaking attempt, you will also be helping to raise funds for Scottish charities.

For more information on the event, a registration form as well as details on the charity, contact either of the following:

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14 Blakes Green, West Wickham, Kent, BR40RA
Tel: 020 8777 8915
Email: simon-wales@talk21.com

CLASSES

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INTERMEDIATE I	Wednesday	7.30 - 9.15	Marlborough School, Sloane Avenue, SW3	Owen Meyer / Gaynor Curtis / Jean Harrison
INTERMEDIATE II	Wednesday	8.15 - 9.45	Marlborough School, Sloane Avenue, SW3	Gaynor Curtis / Jean Harrison
ADVANCED	Wednesday	7.30 - 9.30	St. Barnabas' & St. Phillip's School, Pembroke Mews, W8	Ann Dix / Angela Young
DEMONSTRATION	Tuesday	7.15 - 9.15	For details contact David Hall, 020 8390 7829	David Hall / Sandra Smith
GENERAL (Greenwich)	Thursday	7.30 - 9.30	Halstow School, Kemsing Road, SE10	Rachel Wilton / Fiona Steedman

The autumn term commences in the week beginning 25th September. The half term break will be in the week beginning 23rd October. The term ends in the week beginning 4th December. All enquiries about classes to Rachel Wilton on 020 8858 7729.

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Thursdays 12th October, 9th November
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NEW BOOK 41 CLASS

Saturday 23rd September 2000
3.00 - 5.30 p.m.

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

Book 41 is a collection of dances devised within
the last five years and submitted by Branches.

Teacher: **Jenny Greene**
Musician: **Gillian Cummins**

The Class is open to everyone who holds a
Preliminary or Full Teacher's Certificate
or who teaches a regular class.
Tea will be served after the class.

Further details: Rachel Wilton, Tel: 020 8858 7729.

TEACHERS WORKSHOP

Sunday 17th September 2000
10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, NW1.

Tutor: **Graham Donald**
Musician: **Gillian Cummins**

For an application form, send a stamped s.a.e. to
Rachel Wilton,
31 Kemsing Road, London SE10 0LL.

SUNDAY TECHNIQUE CLASSES

Sundays 12th November and 10th December 2000
11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Coram's Fields Band Hall, 93 Guilford Street, WC1.
These classes are for dancers wishing to improve
their dancing. Further details from Rachel Wilton,
Tel: 020 8858 7729.

LADIES' STEP DANCING CLASS

Saturday 18th November 2000
11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. and 2.00 - 3.30 p.m.
Trinity Church Hall, Hill Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Teacher: **Jenny Greene**
Musician: **Marion Walsh**

Further details from Jenny Greene,
Tel: 020 8642 5008.

DAY SCHOOL

Country Dance Classes (Basic to Advanced), Highland and Ceilidh Classes and Children's Class
plus Musician's Workshop
Saturday 14th October 2000
Sutton High School, Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Teachers: **Patrick Chamoin, Fay Golding, Jimmie Hill, Sheila Gardiner**
Musicians: **Jeremy Hill, Doreen Thom, Angela Young, Catherine Lowe**

Cost: RSCDS members: £16.00 full day, £8.00 morning, £10.00 afternoon. Non-members:
£18.00 full day, £9.00 morning, £11.00 afternoon. Children's Class £4.00.
This includes all refreshments except lunch

Classes a.m. Basic, Intermediate, Advanced Country Dance Classes

Classes p.m. Basic, Intermediate, Advanced Country Dance Classes, then optional choice of Highland
or Ceilidh Classes or a talk on the music of Scottish Country Dancing, "Tae gar ye loup"
by Wilson Nicol.

Crèche: Available all day for non-dancing children. There is no charge but parents will be asked
to supervise on a rota basis.

Lunch: A two-course lunch will be available on the premises for £6.00. You are also free to bring
your own packed lunch or make use of nearby cafés and eateries.

To apply: For an application form, please send a s.a.e. to Judy Berry, 24 Somerton Avenue,
Richmond, London TW9 4QP. Tel: 020 8876 2209, e-mail: berry_judith@hotmail.com.
Forms will also be available at Branch Dances and Classes.

Musician's Workshop: Led by Maureen Rutherford (from Neil Copeland's Band). To apply, please send
s.a.e. to Caroline Sloan, 16 Broomfield Park, Westcott, Surrey RH4 3QQ. Tel: 01306 885331.

CEILIDH

6.30 - 9.30 p.m. following the day School at Sutton High School.
Green Ginger

Admission to the Ceilidh: RSCDS members: £5.00, non-members £6.00, children £2.00
(members' children are admitted free). Refreshments included in the price.

RSCDS WINTER SCHOOL

Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, 22nd - 27th February 2001

FULLY booked this year, application forms are now available for next year's Winter School from our
branch Secretary, Margaret Shaw (Please send stamped s.a.e.). Completed forms need to be received by HQ
with a £45 deposit by 18th September. The total cost of £250 includes dinners, B&B, course fees, transfer
(by bus) and ticket for a ball at Blair Castle. Do act quickly if you are interested!

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

Children's Dance
St Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street SW1
Saturday 25th November 2000
2.00 - 4.30 p.m.

Kafoozalum

Programme: Cumberland Reel, A Jig for Mrs
Dunn, De'il Among the Tailors, Linton
Ploughman, Nice to See You, Espie McNabb,
Machine Without Horses, Eightsome Reel,
Petronella, Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel
(Graded), The Dhoon, Wild Geese, Johnny
Groat's House, Airyhall Delight, Dashing White
Sergeant.

All dances will be called. Admission £1.50
(adults and children alike). Refreshments and
souvenirs will be on sale. During the interval
there will be a display by the Branch
Demonstration Team.

**SOUTH EAST BRANCHES
MILLENNIUM FESTIVAL**
30th June - 2nd July 2000



FRIDAY afternoon; weather good. I've arrived in Hove ready to start my personal task: fixing faces to forms, phone calls and e-mails. The map is excellent – no trouble finding the venue for the evening dance. Feet and faces continue to arrive all evening – drawn by the magnetic music of the Craigievar Band. The ceilidh of simple dances (Clutha?) is a perfect way to start the Millennium Festival. I fail my task half way through the evening:

"I must find Pat Davoll," I say to someone.
"But I *am* Pat Davoll."

Saturday morning; rain. By ten o' clock the sky, though overcast, is dry. The country dance class, run by Linda Gaul, is a most enjoyable session and ably accompanied by Gillian Cummins. Gillian playing upper and David Hall lower clef provides an intriguing ending. Linda paces the morning excellently, but the biggest cheer still goes to Andrew Kellett, when he announces the Festival will go ahead – outside!

The Grand March, led by our assembled pipers and drummers and the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Councillor Andy Durr, heralds the start of the afternoon Festival. Frank Reid and his Band provides the music and everyone, from tiny tots to teenagers to too old to mention (but not to dance) is represented in the varied programme of dances and demonstrations.

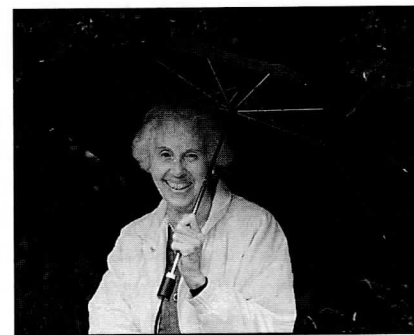
The evening swings into action with David Hall and his Band playing for the Family Dance. Many of us relish the superb supper (provided by Annie Hill and her team) whilst watching the youngsters putting their parents through their paces on the dance floor. The evening culminates with Frank Reid providing yet more foot tapping music for the

pink-faced dancers. (How many forgot the sun cream?)

Sunday sorts out the stalwarts. Mervyn Short, accompanied by David Hall runs a faultless Highland class. Jenny Greene, accompanied by David Hall, follows with an equally good session of Ladies Step, but I have to admit I am secretly relieved to discover there is a dearth of ladies in Andrew Kellett's ceilidh class with Angela Young accompaniment. It is such a fun end to the weekend – when and where is the next one; any suggestions?

Wendy Mumford

[Thank you, Wendy and so many others, for organising such a splendid event. Ed.]



Valerie Twining smiles in the face of adversity at Polesden Lacey

Trust admittance, and then found the event was on the move, were given refunds if they asked, but the timing of the rain, mid-picnic in many cases, could not have been worse. However, 130 dancers clearly enjoyed the playing of Tom Hall's Rattray Band with only one dance on the programme having to be sacrificed by our MCs Andrew Kellett and Mary Stoker as a consequence of the subsequent late start. Thus success was plucked from the jaws of failure!

Jim Cook

[At the Howard of Effingham School, did you mislay a bag containing a pair of pink, a pair of red and three pairs of black ballet shoes plus four pairs of black ghillies? If so Jenny Greene has them; Tel: 020 8642 5008. Ed.]

**POLESDEN LACEY
DANCE**

Saturday 8th July 2000

AFTER TWO consecutive years of being rained off in June, would the gods be kind to us if we moved the date of the open air dance at Polesden Lacey to July? On the Saturday morning, we took the bull by the horns and decided to 'go for it'. The Band were all ready for a 2.00 p.m. start but, by 'ten to', rain had set in and we had to repack and move the event to the splendid indoor facilities of the nearby Howard of Effingham School. Fortunately, late arrivals who paid their National

Come and enjoy
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ABOUT

TARTAN JIGSAW SUMMER MILLENNIUM BALL

THE LONG heralded Summer Millennium Ball, the first major event undertaken by the eight separate groups who have banded together to form THE TARTAN JIGSAW, took place on the 15th July at The Trinity School, Croydon. It was a resounding success, attended by about 140 dancers including visitors from Oxford, the Southwest and from Holland, and provided a welcome opportunity for the large representation from the member groups to meet and mingle.

The extensive hall had been tastefully decorated with tartan and jigsaw motifs, and arrivals were greeted by a piper who later led us all in the Grand March. Then it was on with the dancing to the beat of Robert Whitehead and the Danelaw Band – a delight to dance to – under the encouraging and watchful eye of our MC, Andrew Kellett.

Although unseasonal, the cooler weather was a bonus, ensuring that the temperature remained pleasant throughout the evening.

At the interval we all repaired to the Dining Room where a glass of wine and a sumptuous buffet meal awaited us on tables continuing the tartan and jigsaw motifs.

The rest of the evening passed all too quickly, the band continuing to play with a freshness and verve that gave no indication that they had travelled down from Newcastle to be with us, and the dancers clamouring for a repeat next year.

If this epitomises the friendliness and cordiality of the first co-operative venture, may there be many more in store for us.

'THE ARGYLLS' IN ARGYLL 9 - 11th JUNE

'THE ARGYLLS' are a long established SCD Group based to the west of London. Nowadays, they are probably best known for their Day School in the Spring and their Weekend School in the Autumn. Like many groups, they sought a unique way of celebrating the Millennium, and like many, they succeeded, although theirs was more ambitious than most – to hold a Weekend in Argyll! Despite the difficulties – Argyll is more than 400 miles from London – the committee carried it through, and are to be warmly congratulated on the success of their endeavours.

Three sets congregated at the Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray in early June. The hotel proved an ideal choice, and the staff contributed greatly to the success of the weekend. The main focus was the three evening events. The group was invited to a Ceilidh in Strachur Memorial Hall – visible across the loch but 22 miles each way by road! Here, dancing was interspersed with items, all of them provided by members of local groups. They proved to be a very talented community. The cynosure of all Southern eyes was the magnificence of the hall, and its dance floor, putting to shame almost anything used for SCD in England. 'Locals' and 'Argylls' mixed well together, proving once again the worldwide family nature of SCD.

On the second night, the Millennium Dance was held in Inveraray Community Centre, to the music of London's own David Hall. Father and son set excellent tempi from the stage, and both home and away teams were soon happily mixed around the hall. The latter proved a contrast to Strachur. Although apparently opened as recently as 1971, it

might have been 1871 from the 'RULES' that greeted every dancer. The least draconian was probably number 5, "No Smoking While Dancing". It also featured a central pillar, padded like a goal post at Murrayfield! But it all added to a wonderful evening's dancing, and the hospitality from South Argyll, Mid-Argyll, Lorn and Helensburgh & District Branches will long be remembered.

On the third night, The Argylls withdrew to the privacy of The Club Room – made available to them by the hotel – for an impromptu Ceilidh. Almost everyone contributed something to this, and three hours flashed by. Although Argyll is a big county, with many possibilities, Inveraray proved an inspired choice for the weekend for, apart from the Castle, there is much else to see and do. Most Argylls made their way to the NTS Garden at Crarae – and its midges – while a few reached the Duke of Argyll's folly, Dun na Cuaiche, for a panoramic view of the district. This sort of enterprise is probably best reserved for special occasions, or it loses its impact. A suitable one might be the Argylls' 50th Anniversary?

John M Sturrock

[The Argyll Committee would like to thank all the dancers in Argyll who welcomed the group, especially Jessie Harper of South Argyll Branch for all her help and support. Rachel Wilton]

RSCDS AGM

This year's AGM will be held in the Municipal Halls Complex, Troon at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday 4th November 2000.

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OBITUARIES

Laurie Roy Leavett Brown, 1921 -2000

IT IS with great sadness that the death is reported of Laurie Roy Leavett Brown on 30th March 2000 after a short illness. Laurie had been a life member of the London Branch since October 1964, but his interest in Scottish Country Dancing took hold in the early 1950's, when with his wife Pam, he was persuaded to try out the local SCD club which was starting up in his home village of Charing, Kent. He took a great deal of persuading (never having danced anything but a waltz in his life), but once hooked there was no stopping him. He attended every class that he could get to, every day school, weekend school and social dance, often being asked to be the Master of Ceremonies for prestigious formal occasions. He was a familiar face on the Kentish dance scene for many years.

Laurie and Pam gained their Teacher's Certificates after attending classes at Bolt Court under the watchful eye of Frances Stamp. He went on to form the Charing Eight Scottish Country Dance Group, affiliated to KASS, which held classes in towns and villages across Kent. He led troops of dancers on international tours participating in folk festivals where they won many awards. In 1962, he took on one of his biggest challenges – the Kent International Festival of Dance and Song which he nurtured from an idea to a truly memorable week of entertainment, hospitality and friendship – a tremendous success borne out of determination and hard work.

A number of dances of Laurie's devising proved popular on the dance floor and in April 1964 he published a 'little blue book' of strathspeys – his favourite dance tempo. He particularly enjoyed finding out about the history of the dance and would often relate a little anecdote to his class, making it all the more memorable. Once, at a class he was teaching in Canterbury, a white-haired gentleman appeared for the first time and asked if he could join the class. As he looked a little frail and none too nimble, Laurie asked him whether he

thought he was up to it. He said he was. To Laurie's great relief the gentleman managed to do all that was asked of him in the first half of the class, so during the refreshment break he summoned the courage to ask the man exactly how old he was. "I'm 92" he said, "and I thought I'd better start dancing now before it's too late!"

Laurie's love of dancing and all things Scottish was inspirational, and many new dancers and dance teachers owe their beginnings in dancing to him, not least his daughter and son-in-law who now teach for the RSCDS in Cambridge. Pam and Laurie shared a very special relationship, and Pam wishes to express her thanks to the many dancing friends who have sent condolences at her loss.

L.C. Garrick

Susan Nedderman

IT IS with very great personal sadness that I record the recent death of Susan Nedderman, a friend and teacher to so many dancers. For many years the driving force of Scottish Country Dancing in the Cambridge area, she brought on countless generations of young dancers at the University and served on the Cambridge & District Branch Committee from its formation.

Susan's many talents will be sorely missed in Cambridge and throughout the Scottish Country Dancing world. Never one to push herself forward, she never attained the heights in the RSCDS for which she was so well qualified, but was the Branch representative on the Executive Council and served on the Summer School committee.

Susan's real talent lay in her ability to express the spirit of the dance, whether in the advanced class she taught for so many years or in her expert preparation of candidates for the preliminary test and teaching certificate. She always had a firm grasp of the detail, but was not a dogmatic teacher - candidates prepared by her were encouraged to find their own style of teaching.

Along with her husband Ron and family, Susan always made her home a welcoming place for any dancer – for many students it was a halfway house in the process of leaving home, and always a comforting place to return to. No matter how far away one had been, or for how long, the welcome was always just as warm and open.

No matter how great the sense of loss amongst the family of dancers may be, the greatest loss is to Susan's family. Our sincerest condolences go to Ron, Jenny and Angus and the grandchildren with thanks for being prepared to share her with us.

Simon Wales

JENKINS FOR INSURANCE

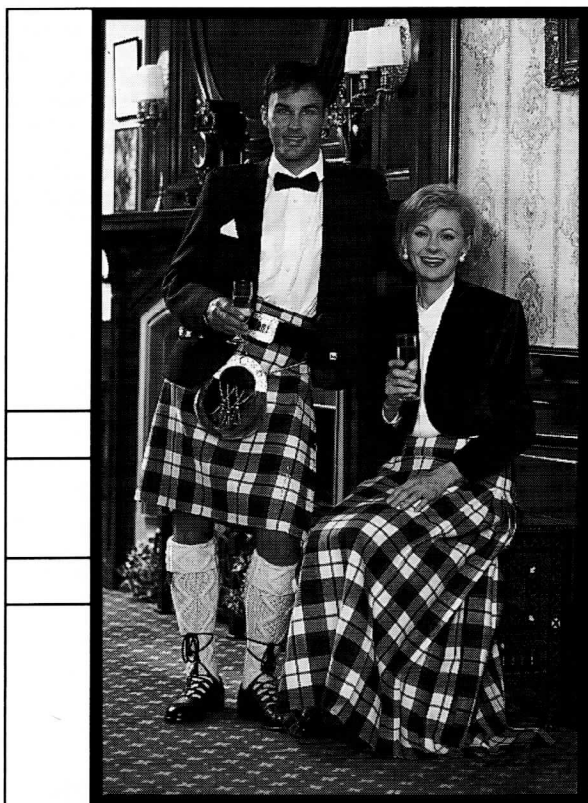
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DANCE EVENTS

ADDESTONE & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY

Autumn Dance

Saturday 18th November 2000

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Addlestone Community Centre, near J11, M25.

Craigellachie Band

Tickets £11.50 (incl. light supper and refreshments)

Contact: Helen Parvin, Tel: 01276 857929

John Ross, Tel: 01483 825181

INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND COURSE

Budapest, Hungary

Friday 4th May - Sunday 6th May 2001

Teacher: **Christine Mair**

Musicians: **Muriel Johnstone** (piano)
Keith Smith (fiddle)

Further details and application forms available soon from Jim Cook, 59 Larkfield Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2PG (with stamped s.a.e. if possible)

[To make the trip even more worthwhile, please note this event follows the Vienna Workshop (27/4/01-1/5/01) advertised on page 15 of the last issue of "The Reel". Ed.]



RSCDS CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Annual Dance

Saturday 28th October 2000

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Long Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge.

Keith Smith and Green Ginger

Tickets £9.00 including buffet supper.

Details from Barbara Wood, Tel: 01223 358368.

RSCDS CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB

Commemoration Ball for Mrs Susan Nedderman

Saturday 20th January 2001

St Ivo Centre, St Ives

Tickets £16.00 including buffet supper.

Further details and tickets from Dr Ron Nedderman, 17 Clarkson Road, Cambridge, CB3 0EH Tel: 01223 353869.

HAMPSTEAD & DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION

President's Night Dance

Saturday 28th October 2000

7.30 - 10.45 p.m.

St. Andrew's United Reformed Church Hall,

Frogna Lane, Finchley Road, London NW3.

(entrance up steps in Frogna Lane)

Silver Cross Band

Admission £8.00 including refreshments.

Programme available from Joan Burgess from mid-September, Tel: 020 8870 6131.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel our Christmas Dance scheduled for Saturday 2nd December; instead we plan to hold a Christmas Party on Tuesday 5th December, 7.30 - 10.30 p.m. Venue as for President's Night above.

Admission £5.00. There will be recorded music, refreshments, dancing, etc. We hope you will come along and help us get the festive season off to a good start. Details will be available nearer the date from Joan Burgess, Tel: 020 8870 6131.

DANCE EVENTS

RSCDS SOMERSET BRANCH

Day School

Saturday 3rd March 2001

Keinton Mandeville Village Hall

Teachers:..... **Mervyn Short, Ann Dix,**
Sheila Barnes

Musicians:..... **Norman & Jane Bett,**
Ken Martlew, Brian Heaton

Summer Ball

Saturday 2nd June 2001

Wells Town Hall

David Cunningham's Band

Details of both the above from:
Sheila Barnes, Tel: 01458 223596.



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Forthcoming functions to be held at St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont St., SW1.

Fridays, Upper Hall..... 7.30 - 10.30 p.m.

Saturdays, Lower Hall 7.00 - 10.30 p.m.
unless otherwise stated

Saturday 16th September..... **Brian Hamilton**

Saturday 7th October..... **Sound Company**

PRESIDENT'S NIGHT *Jacket Potato Supper*

Friday 27th October *Hallowe'en Party Night*

Saturday 18th November **Caber Feidh**

Friday 8th December AGM

Friday 22nd December **Frank Reid**

Christmas Dance *Lower Hall, 7.30 - 11.00 p.m.*

Further details from Frank Bennett on 020 8715

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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 for an enjoyable evening.

SOUTH EAST HERTS

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

Annual Ball

Saturday 18th November 2000

8.00 p.m. - midnight

Castle Hall, Hertford.

David Cunningham and his Band

Tickets £12.50 (including supper) from:
Peter and Betty Allen, Tel: 01279 303095.

FELTHAM & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

Autumn Ball

Saturday 7th October 2000

7.15 for 7.30 - 11.00 p.m.

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

Brian Hamilton and his Band

Tickets (including supper) £10.00.

Details from Alma Redding, Tel: 020 8891 5691.

RSCDS BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH

Christmas Dance

Saturday 9th December 2000

David Hall and his Band

American Supper. Tickets £7.50

Annual Ball

Saturday 10th February 2001

Sound Company

Tickets £12.00 including supper.

Venue for both events: Bournemouth School for

Girls, Castle Lane, Bournemouth.

Details: Margaret Robson, Tel: 01202 698138.



RSCDS BERKS/HANTS/SURREY BORDERS BRANCH

Autumn Social

Saturday 14th October 2000

8.00 p.m.

New Haw Community Centre

Woodham Lane, New Haw.

RSCDS £2.50; non-RSCDS £3.00

Bring a plate of food for the shared supper.

Programme: De'il Amang the Tailors, The Starry Eyed Lassie, The Birks of Invermay, West's Hornpipe, Haste to the Wedding, Staffin Harvest, Pelorus Jack, The Flowers of Edinburgh, Silver Tassie, The Nurseryman, The Saltire Society Reel, Autumn in Appin, Kendall's Hornpipe, The Duke of Perth. *Extras:* Caddam Wood, La Flora, Minister on the Loch.

Contact: Paul Plummer, Tel: 01483 236946

Christmas Social

Thursday 28th December 2000

Finchampstead Memorial Hall

Bring a plate of food for the shared supper.

Contact: Peter Stogden, Tel: 01483 236213.

Day School

Saturday 10th March 2001

Dancers: Teachers and musicians t.b.a.

Musicians' Day School led by **Nicol McLaren**

Contact: Marjorie Eves, Tel: 01276 677922.

CANDIDATES' COURSE

The Branch is considering the possibility of running another Candidates Course for both Full and Preliminary Certificates. This is subject to numbers and all other considerations making this a feasible proposal. If you are interested in taking either of the certificates please contact us as soon as possible, preferably before our next committee meeting on 17th September. Contact: Anne Whillis, Tel: 01252 673301, e-mail: whillis@web-hq.com

SOUTHWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

Annual Dance

Saturday 4th November 2000

7.00 - 11.00 p.m.

Kings Manor School, Kingston Lane, Shoreham, West Sussex.

Sandy Nixon and his Band

Programme: The Dashing White Sergeant, The Music Makars, The Nurseryman, The Belle of Bon Accord, The Cooper's Wife, Ray Milbourne, St. Columba's Strathspey, The Dancing Master, Shakin' the Bottle, The Gentleman, Bauldy Bain's Fiddle, Macdonald of the Isles, Bonnie Anne, The Woodland Assembly, The Flying Spur, Culla Bay, Quarries' Jig, Angus Macleod, The Swelkie, Trip to Bavaria, Shiftin' Bobbins, Bratach Bana. *Extras:* The Wind on Loch Fyne, Plantation Reel, The Reel of the Royal Scots.

Tickets (in advance only, numbers limited) £11.00, including refreshments, from: Mrs Brenda Hinton, 5 Colebrook Road, Southwick, W. Sussex BN42 4AL, or telephone 01273 595017.

SANDERSTEAD URC SCOTTISH DANCERS

St. Andrew's Dance

Saturday 25th November 2000

7.30 - 11.00 p.m.

Sanderstead URC Hall,

Sanderstead Hill, South Croydon.

Robin Ellis and his Band

Tickets £10.00 (including supper with wine)

Details and tickets from Joyce Patrick,

Tel: 020 8657 6138.

Dance Events (continued)

ST. JOHN'S SCOTTISH DANCE CLUB

Annual Ball

Saturday 18th November 2000

7.30 - 11.45 p.m.

Emmbrook School, Wokingham.

Sound Company

Programme: Maxwell's Rant, Miss Hadden's Reel, Culla Bay, Cadgers in the Canongate, Major Ian Stewart, Miss Milligan's Strathspey, Blackwater Reel, MacLeod's Fancy, Neidpath Castle, Sapphire Wedding Anniversary, Follow Me Home, Lothian Lads, Muirland Willie, Gang the Same Gate, Anniversary Reel, On Suilven in Summer, The Silver Tassie, The Earl of Mansfield, The Starry Eyed Lassie, The Royal Deeside Railway, Quarries' Jig, The Montgomeries' Rant. *Extras:* West's Hornpipe, Argyll's Fancy.

Tickets £13.00 (s.a.e. please) from Sue Davis, 2 Larkwood Drive, Crowthorne, Berks RG45 6RL. Tel: 01344 774344.

HAYES AND DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

Annual Ball

Saturday 4th November 2000

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Vyners School, Warren Road, Ickenham.

Brian Hamilton and his Band

Programme: Bratach Bana, Jennifer's Jig, The Rose of the North, The Music Makars, The Hazel Tree, Autumn in Appin, The Queen's View, The Jubilee Jig, Bonnie Stronshiray, Fisherman's Reel, Company at the Manor, St. Columba's Strathspey, The Peat Fire Flame, Joie de Vivre, Foxhill Court, West's Hornpipe, The Dancing Master, The Byron Strathspey, The Highland Rambler, The Cooper's Wife, Mrs Milne of Kinneff, Mairi's Wedding, The Bees of Maggielknockater, The Sailor.

Tickets £10.00 including buffet from Margaret Wallace, Tel: 020 8560 6160.

HIGH WYCOMBE AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Annual Ball

Saturday 2nd December 2000

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Wycombe High School, Marlow Road, High Wycombe.

Brian Hamilton and his Band

Further information from:

Val Waldron, Tel: 01494 715936.

RSCDS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH

Annual Ball

Saturday 28th October 2000

Milham Ford School

Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band

Details: Diana Tucker, Pond Farm, Leys Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QF. Tel: 01865 863427.

Day School and Dance

Saturday 17th February 2001

Craigellachie Band

RSCDS TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH

Autumn Dance

Saturday 21st October 2000

Weald of Kent Grammar School, Tudeley Lane, Tonbridge.

David Hall and his Band

Tickets £7.50 plus plate of food:

Apply Colin Simpson, 62 Silverdale Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9HZ, or phone Eileen Orr, Tel: 01892 864531.

ASHDOWN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

Charity Dance

For voluntary work by Beacon Community College in the Gambia

Saturday 16th September 2000

7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Beacon Community College, North Beeches, Crowborough.

Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band

Programme: The Society Piper, Luckenbooth Brooch, Culla Bay, Seton's Ceilidh Band, John of Bon Accord, Flower of the Quern, The Cuckoo Clock, Quarries' Jig, Kilkenny Castle, The Midnight Oil, Nottingham Lace, The Phantom Piper, Anniversary Reel, The Cooper's Wife, Scotch Mist, Pelorus Jack, *Band's Choice*, Fisherman's Reel, The Garry Strathspey, Gothenburg's Welcome, The Belle of Bon Accord, Mrs Stuart Linnell, The Bees of Maggielknockater.

Tickets - in advance only, please, £8.00

(child/spectator £5.00) plus bring a plate of food.

Contact: Michael Copeman, Tel: 01892 655971.

e-mail michaelcopeman@cs.com

RSCDS BRIGHTON BRANCH

Annual Ball

Saturday 14th October 2000

Hove Town Hall

Frank Reid and his Band

Tickets £12.50 from Jackie Paris,

Tel: 01273 501716.

ARGYLL SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP

Weekend School

6th - 8th October 2000

Maryland College, Woburn, Bedfordshire.

Teacher:..... Roy Goldring

Musician:..... Robert Mackay

A few non-resident places still available

Day School

Saturday 28th April 2001

The Holt School, Wokingham.

For further details and application forms contact:

Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood, St. Johns, Woking, Surrey GU21 3QB. Tel: 01483 721989.

READING ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY

Afternoon School

Saturday 4th November 2000 at 2.00 p.m.

St Andrew's Hall, Albert Road, Caversham

Teacher:..... Joan Desborough

Musician:..... George McLennan

followed by an evening dance to recorded music.

Details: Claire McWilliam, Tel: 0118 948 1751.

Annual Ball

Saturday 3rd February 2001

The Abbey School, Reading

David Hall and his Band

Details: Claire McWilliam, Tel: 0118 948 1751.

VIDEO OF BOOK 40

A VIDEO of Book 40 (PAL format only), as danced at Summer School 1999, has been made available to the Society by the generosity of Malcolm Brown. These can be ordered from Malcolm at 8 Copper Beech Close, Dunnington, York, YO19 5PY. The price is £7.50 each and includes postage and packing.

BANDS

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. E-mail frankreidsdb@cs.com.

Tel/Fax: 0118 932 8983.

PETER MACFARLANE (fiddle) and LILIAN LINDEN (piano)

Scottish Dance Band (2- or 3-piece) for Dances, Ceilidhs, Reels, Weddings, etc. Contact Lilian Linden on 01252 629178, NEW Mobile 07879 633766, e-mail: lilian.linden@virgin.net.

THE HIGHLANDERS

Scottish Country Dance band plus self-contained P.A. Sound System. Particularly suitable for weddings and social functions. Also solo accordionist. References available. Please contact: Donald Ross. Tel: 020 8203 0626 or 020 8203 5076.

SCOTCH MIST CEILIDH BAND

An established professional line-up of musicians available to play traditional highland tunes or ballroom for you at home or abroad. Suitable for weddings, club dances, highland balls, ceilidhs or Scottish flavoured barn dances. Five musicians available with sound and lighting engineer for a top quality performance to suit any size of hall or outside function. An M.C. can be provided. For further details phone Chris Ransom on 01843 821446.

REEL TYME CEILIDH BAND

Scottish Dances, Weddings, Barn Dances. Callers and PA available. Telephone Harvie Sharp on 01983 864193.

BRIAN HAMILTON'S SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE BAND

Available for Scottish Dances, Balls, Weddings and Banquets, etc. Programmes can include some modern and old-time dances as required. Contact Brian or Pat Hamilton on 020 8866 2841 during the day or evening, or write to 7 Boldmere Road, Eastcote, Pinner, Middx. HA5 1PJ.

KAFOOZALUM COUNTRY DANCE BAND

Music for Scottish Country Dancing anywhere, anytime. For further details and availability, please telephone Peter Jenkins. Office: 01895 431448, Home: 020 8581 2921.

BOB MURPHY AND HIS CALEDONIAN DANCE BAND

Professional musicians available for Scottish/Ballroom Dancing. 97 Erskine Road, Sutton, Surrey. Tel: 020 8644 4744 (24 hrs) or 020 8641 4135.

SOLOISTS

PETER JENKINS

Solo accordion for workshops, classes, day schools and 'smaller functions'. Please phone 01895 431448 (office hours).

KEN MARTLEW

Pianist for Dances, Day Schools, etc.

Live music on a budget

Have piano/amplification. Tel: 01442 261525.

COMPOSER

New music for that new dance?

Contact Marion Robertson. Tel: 020 8874 6375.

OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS

ADDLESTONE & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY meets Wednesdays 8.15 p.m. to 10.15 p.m. September to May at Abraham Cowley Hall, St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey. Details from Mrs H. Parvin, Tel: 01276 857929.

ALDRINGTON (HOVE) SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP meet every Tuesday 8.15 p.m. to 10.30 p.m., September to June. Details from John Steer, 57 Hangleton Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 7GH. Tel: 01273 416893.

AMERSHAM: THE LUCY CLARK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets Thursdays 8.00 p.m. Royal British Legion Hall, Old Amersham. Quarterly dances with McBain's Band. Details: Dick Field, Stonefield House, Clappins Lane, Naphill, Bucks HP14 4SL. Tel: 01494 562231.

BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB meets Tuesday evenings, September to May. Garden dances June and July. Contact: Carole Ross, Tel: 01442 211728.

BOGNOR REGIS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. General Class Tuesdays 7.30 p.m. in Bognor Regis Community College. Beginners/Intermediate Class Wednesdays 2.00 pm in Willowhale Community Centre. Details from Valerie Dane, 225 Chichester Road, Bognor Regis, W. Sussex PO2 5AQ. Tel: 01243 827330.

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. meets every Friday at St. Mark's New Church Hall, Wallisdown Road, Talbot Village, Bournemouth. Newcomers and Beginners 7.15 to 8.45 p.m. Improvers/Advanced 9.00 to 10.30 p.m. Weekly children's classes. Technique class by invitation - alternate Wednesdays. Details from Margaret Robson, 24 Upper Golf Links Rd, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8BX. Tel: 01202 698138.

BRIGHTON BRANCH RSCDS. Classes:- Country: Monday, Tuesday and Friday; Highland: Saturday and Sunday. Contact Jackie Paris, 01273 501716 or Fran Whyatt, 01342 324764. Beginners Class Thursday, contact Jimmie Hill, 01273 775965.

CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB. Dancing every Tuesday 8 p.m. at St. Paul's Church Hall, Church Hill, Camberley. Details from Sue Wood, 5 Windermere Walk, Camberley, Surrey GU15 1RP. Tel: 01276 683044.

CAMBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Classes for all grades. Details from Miss Barbara Wood, 131 Hazelwood Close, Histon Road, Cambridge CB4 3SP. Tel: 01223 358368.

CHELSEA REEL CLUB meets twice a month from October to March in St. Columba's Church (Upper Hall), Pont Street, SW1. Beginners welcome. Instruction given. Dancing to live music. Details from Ruth Hewlett, Tel: 020 8749 5471.

CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Dancing most Friday evenings October to May. St. Andrew's U.R.C. Hall at 7.30 p.m. Details from Denham Russell-Smith, 36 Priory Street, Cheltenham, Glos. GL52 6DG. Tel: 01242 532111.

CRANLEIGH SCOTTISH DANCE SOCIETY meets Wednesdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. in St. Nicholas Church Rooms, Cranleigh. Details from Sue Allan, Timber Lodge, The Ridgeway, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 7HR. Tel: 01483 273434.

CRAWLEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB meets Thursdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to June at Milton Mount Community Hall, Milton Mount Avenue, Pound Hill, Crawley. Details from: Dick Gray, 6 Bunting Close, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5PA. Tel: 01403 264071.

CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Branch beginners class: Purley (Fri). Other classes in the area: Beginners: Reigate & Selsdon (Tues). Gen: Reigate (Mon), Purley (Alt. Tues), West Wickham (Fri). Advance: Coulsdon (Wed), Reigate (Thurs). Further details, Tel: 020 8777 5363.

EALING SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. Thursdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to June. Tuition and social dancing. St Andrew's URC Hall, Mount Park Road, Ealing, W5. Details from Jo Wilson, 18 Kilpatrick Way, Yeading, Hayes, Middx. UB4 9SX. Tel: 020 8841 3788.

EPPING FOREST SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION meets every Wednesday, 8.00 pm at Warren Hall, Wanstead, London E11, from September to May. Details from John Tanner, Tel: 020 8504 1632.

EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION. Dance classes, including beginners, (September to March). Many other activities including frequent informal dances. Details from Mrs Carol Burgess, 72 Seymour Avenue, Ewell, Surrey KT17 2RR. Tel: 020 8786 7452.

FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB. Dancing every Tuesday at 8.00 p.m., September to May at the Memorial Hall, West Street, Farnham, Surrey. Details from Moira Bawn, 36 Highfield Gardens, Aldershot, Hants GU11 3DE. Tel: 01252 659527.

FELTHAM & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION meets Tuesdays 8.00 p.m. September to mid July at the White House Community Centre, The Avenue, Hampton. Instruction by Mrs Margaret Henderson. Details from Mrs Pamela Black, Tel: 020 8894 9399.

FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY dance on alternate Saturdays at various venues in the Fleet, Hampshire area, from 7.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. September to May. Full details from Michael Ferguson, 4 Lendore Road, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey GU16 5EJ. Tel: 01276 501952.

GERRARDS CROSS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets at the Memorial Centre, East Common Road, Gerrards Cross on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in term time. Teacher, Joan Desborough. Details from Mrs Pauline Smith, Plum Tree Cottage, Oxford Road, Gerrards Cross. Tel: 01753 884605.

GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesdays 8.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Details from Mrs N. Merrick, 2 Hillbeck Way, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8LT.

HAMPSTEAD & DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION Dancing on Tuesdays Sept. - June from 8.00 - 10.30 p.m. at St. Andrews United Reformed Church, Frogmal Lane, Finchley Road NW3. Beginners and intermediates welcome. Details from Miss Joan Burgess, 503A York Road, London, SW18 1TF. Tel: 020 8870 6131.

HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB meets every Tuesday at 8.00 p.m. at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden. Classes on Thursdays from 8.00 p.m. Details from Peter George, 120 Clarence Road, St. Albans, Herts. AL1 4NW. Tel: 01727 843001.

HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Classes Wednesdays, children 7.00 to 8.00 p.m. (from 11 Oct), adults 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. (from 20 September), Kenton Methodist Church Hall, Woodgrange Avenue, Kenton. Details of these and other activities from Jane Forbes, 7 Buckland Rise, Pinner, HA5 3QR. Tel: 020 8428 6055.

HAYES & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION meets Fridays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., September to July, St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Hayes. Details: Margaret Wallace, Tel: 020 8560 6160.

HERTSMERE REEL CLUB. Monthly dances to records on third Saturday (excluding Aug. and Sept.), 7.30 to 11.00 p.m. King Charles the Martyr Hall, Dugdale Hill Lane off Mutton Lane, Potters Bar. Details: Mary Fouracre, 171 Dunraven Drive, Enfield, EN2 8LN. Tel: 020 8367 4201.

HESTON & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION. Thursdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to July, tuition followed by social dancing. Also monthly Saturday dances and ceilidhs. All at Heston Methodist Church Hall. Details from Mrs Rosemary Mitchell, Tel: 01784 254401.

HORSHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets Mondays, September to May at Trafalgar School, Victory Road, Adults 7.45 p.m. to 9.45 p.m. preceded by children's Country and Highland classes. Details from Mrs P. Hyatt, 2 Blackbridge Lane, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1RP. Tel: 01403 263187.

ISLE OF THANET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS meet Wednesdays September to June at Holy Trinity & St. John's C. of E. Primary School, St. John's Road, Margate. Beginners 7.00 to 8.00 p.m. General 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. Details from Mrs Linda Cross, 60 Bradstow Way, Broadstairs, Kent. Tel: 01843 861850.

LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB meets regularly at St. Columba's, Pont Street, SW1. Some major functions held at other venues in London. For details see adverts in The Reel or contact Frank Bennett, 12 Lingfield Road, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 8TG. Tel: 0181 715 3564. Dial-a-programme service: 020 8763 8096.

MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB meets every Tuesday 8.00 p.m. at St. Mary's R.C. School, Cookham Road, Maidenhead. First Tuesday in the month Social Dancing Evening. Details from Anne Montminy, 233 St. Leonard's Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 3DR. Tel: 01753 852874. Website: WWW.HOSKINSP.CLARA.NET.

MAIDSTONE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP meets every Wednesday 8.15 - 10.15 p.m. at The Grove Green Community Hall, District Centre, Grove Green, Maidstone. Details from Peter Green, 65 Willington Street, Beardsd, Maidstone ME15 8JR. Tel: -01622 737649.

MEDWAY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION. Dancing Thursdays 8.00 to 10.30 p.m. at Upchurch Village Hall, Upchurch, Kent. Beginners welcome. Many other activities. Details from Tim Law, 44 Haig Ave, Chatham. Tel: 01634 409976.

MILTON KEYNES BRANCH RSCDS. Mixed ability class Mondays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. Bradwell Village Hall, Milton Keynes. Details from Janice Jones, 10 Corrigan Close, Bletchley, MK3 6BP. Tel: 01908 372595.

NORTH HERTS REEL CLUB. Dancing most Wednesdays 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. from September to May at Rocoft School, Stotfold. Informal Saturday Dances. Details from Mrs Jennifer Warburton, 17 Victoria Road, Shefford, Beds. SG17 5AL. Tel: 01462 812691.

ORPINGTON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing every Thursday 7.45 to 10.15 p.m. at Petts Wood Memorial Hall. Classes held Monday evenings at Chislehurst Village Hall. Details from Mrs V.J. Vincent, 2 Keith Cottages, Luxted Road, Downe, Orpington, Kent BR6 7JY. Tel/Fax: 01959 575750.

OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Dancing on Thursdays throughout the year in Oxford. Details from Diana Tucker, Pond Farm, 32 Leys Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QF. Tel: 01865 863427.

READING ST. ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY. Dancing at St. Andrew's URC, London Road, Reading from 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. September to May. Tuesdays (elementary) and Wednesdays (general). Details: Rita Cane, 45 Beech Lane, Earley, Reading RG6 5PT. Tel: 0118 975 7507.

RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY meets at the Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, every Wednesday evening at 8.00 p.m. from mid September to end of May. All welcome. Details from John Frith, 70 Clarence Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 0BW. Tel: 020 8977 6195.

ST. ALBANS & MID HERTS CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing most Fridays from October to March. Group meets at Homewood Road U.R. Church Hall, Sandpit Lane, St. Albans at 8.00 p.m. Details from Mrs Bridget Provan, 5 Woodstock Road North, St. Albans. Tel: 01727 858285.

ST. ANDREW SOCIETY (LONDON) - The Wimbledon and District Scots' Association. Dancing Tuesdays 8.00 p.m. at Wimbledon Community Centre, St. Georges Road, Wimbledon, SW19. Details: Miss Alison Raffan, 2 Erridge Road, Merton Park, London, SW19 3JB. Tel: 020 8540 1755.

ST. JOHN'S SCD WOKINGHAM meet every Thursday 8.00 - 10.15 p.m. Sept to May at St. Sebastian's Memorial Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham. Also children's class on Saturday mornings in Crowthorne. Details from Sue Davis, 2 Larkwood Drive, Crowthorne, Berks. Tel: 01344 774344.

THE SCOTTISH CLANS ASSOCIATION OF LONDON meets at St. Columba's Church, Pont Street, London SW1, every Tuesday from October to end of May for Scottish Country Dancing, 7.00 to 10.00 p.m. Details from Tom Symington. Tel: 020 7834 7151 or 020 7828 6792.

SEVENOAKS REEL CLUB meets every Tuesday from September to May, 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. at Kippington Church Centre, Kippington Road, Sevenoaks. Details from Pauline Honey, 2 Hunsdon Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3AX. Tel: 01732 455872.

SHENE SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP meets every Wednesday from September to May 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., at the Sheen Lane Centre, SW14. Details from Brian Cresswell, 16 Cole Rd, Twickenham, Middx TW1 1EZ. Tel: 020 8892 0471.

SIDCUP & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION. Dancing on Wednesdays from 8.00 to 10.15 p.m. throughout the year at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Sidcup, Kent. Details from Terry Boorman, 15 Old Farm Road West, Sidcup, DA15 8AG. Tel: 020 8302 2974.

SOMERSET BRANCH RSCDS. Classes for Beginners/Improvers Mon. 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Experienced dancers Tues. 7.45 - 9.45 p.m. Both classes held in Montecleafe School, Somerton. General classes fortnightly in Edington Village Hall. Ladies' Step Classes monthly, Thurs. 8 - 10 p.m., Charlton Mackrell. Details from Sheila Barnes, Tel: 01458 223596.

SOMERSET: ST. MICHAEL'S SCD CLUB meets every Thursday 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. in the Upper School Hall, Westfield School, Stiby Road, Yeovil. Details of this and other local classes from Margaret Bezzant, 01458 272955.

SOUTH DORSET CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing at St. Edmund's Church Hall, Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth, Dorset, Wednesday, 7.30 to 10.00 p.m. Details from Mrs Marion Mitchell, 57 Manor Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 2AZ. Tel: 01305 263505.

SOUTH EAST ESSEX SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Dancing Fridays, 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. St. Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove (near the hospital). Tuition 7.30 to 9.00 p.m. Details from Mrs Anne Chandler. Tel: 01702 294645.

SOUTH EAST HERTS SCDS. Classes: in Hertford, Technique Monday, Inter/Adv Tuesday, Beginners Thursday, Children Saturday a.m. (Great Amwell). Monthly dances in Hertford September to June. Details from Chay Smith, Tel: 01992 442154.

SOUTHWICK SCD CLUB meets Thursdays 8.15 to 10.15 p.m. at Southwick Community Centre, Southwick, W. Sussex. Details from Brenda Hinton, Tel: 01273 595017.

SURBITON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing every Thursday at 8 p.m. September to mid June at St. Mark's Church Hall, Church Hill Road, Surbiton. Details from David Horwill, 64 Catherine Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx TW16 7TG. Tel: 01932 784866.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Beginners, General and Advanced classes on Mon, Tues, Thurs, 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., at St. Augustine's School, Wilman Road, Tunbridge Wells. Details from Mrs Eileen Orr, 10 Oaklands Road, Groombridge, TN3 9SB. Tel: 01892 864531.

WALLINGTON: SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR WALLINGTON, CARSHALTON & DISTRICT hold weekly adult Classes for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced levels on Mon. and Tues. evenings. Details from Mrs Jeannie Nicholls, Longfields, Coulsdon Lane, Chipstead, Surrey CR5 3QG. Tel/fax: 01737 557 693.

WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Adult Dancing Class September to June, at St. Thomas' U.R.C., Langley Road, Watford. Thursdays from 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., Details from Stuart Krelloff, 60, Tunnel Wood Road, Watford, Herts WD1 3GE. Tel: 01923 492475.

WEMBLEY & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION Mondays 8.00 p.m. Dance Class. Kenton Methodist Church, Woodgrange Avenue, Kenton. Details from Mrs Pam Crisp, 19 Compton Place, Watford. WD1 5HF. Tel: 020 8421 0470.

WHITE HEATHER SCOTTISH DANCE CLUB meets Wednesdays 8.00 - 10.00 p.m. at the Methodist Church Hall, Winchester Road, Highams Park, London E4. All grades from beginners upwards. Details: Brian Baker, 39 Burnham Rd, Chingford, London E4 8PD. Tel: 020 8529 5121.

WINCHESTER BRANCH RSCDS Club night (all abilities) Wednesday 8.00 - 10.00 p.m., Weeke Community Centre. Classes Tuesdays 8.00 - 10.00 p.m., St Paul's Church Hall. Details from Mrs Vera Hogg, 41 Byron Avenue, Winchester, SO22 5AT. Tel: 01962 865317.

WITHAM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing every Wednesday 8.00 to 10.00 p.m., The Centre, URC Church, Witham, Essex. Details from John Gorrie, 14 Coleridge Rd, Maldon, Essex CM9 6DH. Tel: 01621 854006.

ADVERTISING YOUR DANCE?

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