



the reel

issued by the LONDON BRANCH of THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
Price £1.60 per year including postage (Free to Members of the Branch)

No. 165

AUGUST—SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 1983

Issue No. 166 will appear in November. Material for it should be sent to Mr. A. M. Brown, 55c Stapleton Hall Road, London N4 3QF, to arrive by 10th September.

BRANCH DANCES

Saturday, 17th September, 1983

Robin Ellis' Band

West's Hornpipe	1965
The Machine Without Horses	12-12
The Lea Rig	21-5
Fidget	16-1
The Frisky	26-10
Drumelzier	
Mrs. MacLeod	6-2
The Happy Meeting	29-9
Monymusk	11-2
The Hamilton Rant	22-2
The Flowers of Edinburgh	1-6
Baldovan Reel	Henderson
Staffin Harvest	1978
General Stuart's Reel	10-3
Bonnie Anne	MacNab
Dalkeith's Strathspey	9-6
The Wild Geese	24-3
The Duke of Perth	1-8

Saturday, 1st October, 1983

Caber Feidh Band

Hooper's Jig	Misc 2
The Reel of the 51st Division	13-10
The Balmoral Strathspey	22-3
The Starry-Eyed Lassie	23-11
Cramond Bridge	London
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	1973
The Duke of Atholl's Reel	16-3
The Reel of the Royal Scots	1983
Macdonald of the Isles	Haynes
Muirland Willie	21-9
The Blooms of Bon Accord	Drewry
St. Andrew's Fair	1982
The Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord	Drewry
The Gates of Edinburgh	15-5
Airie Bennan	Foss
The Royal Wedding	1982
Jennifer's Jig	Drewry
Mairi's Wedding	Cosh

BRANCH CEILIDH

Saturday, 5th November, 1983

See separate announcement—inside this issue.

BRANCH DANCE

10th December, 1983

Programme in next issue.

Branch Dances and the Ceilidh are at St. Columba's Church of Scotland Hall, Pont Street, London SW1.

7.00 to 10.30 p.m.

Admission £1.50 at the door.

N.B. At the time of going to press dates are provisional.

NEW YEAR DANCE

FRIDAY, 6th JANUARY, 1984

PORCHESTER HALL, W.2

7.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.

McBAIN'S BAND

Hamilton House	7-10
Maxwell's Rant	18-10
The Braes of Breadalbane	21-7
The Fyket	1965
The Sailor	24-4
The Garry Strathspey	Cosh
Newton Park	London
Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran	Drewry
The Ennismore Strathspey	London
St. Andrew's Fair	1982
The Hamilton Rant	22-2
Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder	
The Reel of the 51st Division	13-10
Margaret Parker's Strathspey	31-3
Haddington Assembly	
Earlstoun Loch	Foss
The Silver Tassie	Drewry
Miss Allie Anderson	1981
Cadgers in the Canongate	9-10
The Robertson Rant	
MacDonald of Sleat	MacNab
The Duke of Perth	1-8

Tickets £3.00 available from W. J. Ireland, 6 Tansley Court, 194 Woodcote Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 0PQ, or at Branch functions.

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Postal orders and cheques payable to RSCDS (London Branch).

SPRING DANCE

Saturday, 25th February, 1984

Kenny Thomson and the
Wardlaw Band

Full details in next issue.

HEADQUARTERS A.G.M.

The A.G.M. will be held on 5th November, 1983 in Troon. Members wishing for details should apply to John Laurie, 10 Westbourne Park Villas, London W2 5EA without delay. Please enclose a s.a.e.

TEACHERS' EVENING

Holders of the Society's Teacher's Certificate and those people who have passed the Preliminary Test are invited to attend Rutherford School, Penfold Street, N.W.1, at 7.00 p.m. on Friday, 16th September to go through the dances in Book 31. Admission £1.

LONDON BRANCH

Patron — H.M. The Queen

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BRANCH COMMITTEE 1983/84

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Miss Sue Yarnold

DID YOU RE-MEMBER?

Our new dancing year started on 1st July, and all annual subscriptions for the previous year expired on 30th June. Many annual members have already renewed their subscriptions, and to them a big THANK YOU. To the others, a final plea to renew your subscriptions before you get "struck off".

This issue of the Reel, with its accompanying subscription issue dance book No. 31, is being sent to all who were members at 30th June. If you have received a subscription issue book and have not yet paid your subscription, will you please, PLEASE, either pay up now, or return the book to the address below (or to any member of the committee.)

The annual membership subscription is still only £2, for the year ending 30th June, 1984, and PERIOD membership £20 for a limited period of 15 years.

Send remittances to: Mr. H. Booth, 1 Bridle Road, Claygate, Esher, Surrey.

Receipts/Membership cards will only be sent on request with s.a.e.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS should be notified to Mr. Booth at the earliest opportunity to avoid issues going astray.

If you are not a member of the London Branch, order your copy of The Reel from Mrs. Pat Brown, 95 Kinfauns Road, Goodmayes, Essex. £1.60 per year. Cheques, etc. payable to RSCDS (London Branch).

HUGH FOSS (FORMBY)

On July 23rd, 1983 the business known as Hugh Foss (Forby) was taken over by the Scottish National Dance Company.

Hugh Foss (Formby) has grown considerably under the guidance of Mamie Donald, at 50 Wicks Crescent, Formby, Liverpool, since she took over from the widow of Hugh Foss of Glandarroch, some 10 years ago. The business now owns copyright of many Scottish dance publications, which are distributed world wide. The complete stock, accounts and copyrights will be transferred to the Scottish National Dance Company to complement its already extensive but mainly Highland dance out-put.

A new and comprehensive catalogue, containing in excess of 470 items of printed and recorded Scottish dance and accessories, will be available from Scottish National Dance Company, 1 Lakeside, Earley, Reading, RG6 2PG, U.K., as of 1st September, 1983. To this address, all existing and new customers are invited to write, by Colin Robertson and Lewis Innes, partners.

Scottish Dance Archives, which is run by Mamie's husband Bob Donald is not affected by this acquisition.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING IN THE BORDERS

at Y.M.C.A., Wiston Lodge, Biggar

14th-16th October, 1983. £33. Instructors—Derek Haynes and Roy Clowes.

9th-11th March, 1984. £34.50. Instructors—Derek Haynes and Stanley Wilkie.

19th-23rd April, 1984 (Easter) £65.00. Instructors—Derek Haynes and Ian Barbour.

Details from Mrs. Isobel Taylor, Y.M.C.A., Wiston Lodge, Biggar, Lanarkshire ML12 6HT. Telephone: Lamington (08995) 228 (day-time only).

THE SCOTTISH REEL CLUB

1983/84 SEASON

All dances are at St. Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, SW1, unless otherwise stated. 7.00 to 10.30 p.m.

1983

- Sep. 3 Frank Reid's Band.
- Oct. 8 The Trossachs Band.
- Oct. 17 Monday—A.G.M.
- Nov. 12 Band to be announced.
- Dec. 17 Christmas Dance—Frank Reid's Band.
- Dec. 31 Hogmanay Dance—Robin Ellis' Band.

1984

- Jan. 7 New Year Dance—Kafoozalum Band.
- Feb. 11 Silver Cross Band.
- Mar. 17 Annual Ball at Porchester Hall—The Danelaw Band.
- Apr. 7 Robin Ellis' Band.
- May 26 Frank Reid's Band.
- June 16 McBain's Band.
- July 28 Frank Reid's Band.

All dates are provisional at the time of going to press.

Enquiries to:— The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Rhona Snowsill, 49 Wieland Road, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 3QX. Telephone: Northwood (65) 26318.

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY CROYDON AND DISTRICT BRANCH 30th ANNIVERSARY BALL

SATURDAY, 5th NOVEMBER, 1983

at SELSDON HALL, SOUTH CROYDON

Dancing to Robin Ellis and the
Caledonian Country Band
Buffet Supper

Further details from:—

Miss Rita Quirk (Tel. 660 2644)
Miss Joyce Martin (Tel. 681 3968)

RSCDS

COMBINED EAST ANGLIAN BRANCHES 60th ANNIVERSARY DINNER AND DANCE

SATURDAY, 12th NOVEMBER, 1983

THE MALTINGS, ELY
DINNER 6.30 for 7.00 p.m.
DANCE 8.30 to Midnight
The Silver Cross Band
Price £8.00 inclusive.

Tickets from:— Cambridge and District Branch, Peterborough Branch, or Mr. G. Butcher, 200 Unthank Road, Norwich.

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ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch
AUTUMN DANCE

with Competition

SATURDAY, 22nd OCTOBER, 1983

MEDWAY HALL, ANGEL CENTRE,

TONBRIDGE, KENT

7.30 p.m. to 11.45 p.m.

Competition Dance

Argyll's Fancy.

Further details from:— Mrs. A. C. Morris, 35 Greenleas, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4NS. Tel. Pembury 2709.

THE LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

Forthcoming dances to be held at St. Columba's, Pont Street, London S.W.1. 7.00 to 10.30 p.m. (unless otherwise stated).

August

Every Saturday evening 6.30—10.00 p.m. Open-Air dancing in Paternoster Square, London E.C.4.

September

Saturday 10th Dance. CaberFeidh Band.

Saturday 24th Dance.

October

Saturday 15th Diamond Jubilee Dance.

Frank Reid's Band.

Advance Notice

Saturday, 19th November. Grand Autumn Dance at Porchester Hall. The Lothian Band.

Non-members are very welcome at all our functions. Come along and join us. Enquiries: Acting Hon. Sec. Claire Condon, 155 Wendover Court, Chiltern Street, W.1. Tel. 01-486 2194 or telephone Graham Cattell, Epsom 27206 (evenings) or if urgent Leatherhead 375841 (office hours).

Note: At the time of going to press our dates at St. Columba's are provisional only. Confirmation is usually received towards the end of August and it is suggested a check be made with Graham Cattell, 75 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey. Tel. Epsom 27206— at that time.

GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S BALL

Saturday, 15th October, 1983

Greenford Hall, Ruislip Road, Greenford.

Dancing to: The Silver Cross Band

from 7.45—11.45 p.m.

Price £3.75 inclusive. Tickets from Mrs. K. J. White. Tel. Harefield 2114.

Waltz, Montgomeries Rant, Luckenbooth Brooch, Duchess Tree, J. B. Milne, Bees of Maggie Knockater, Pretty Ladies, HISCD, Rothesay Rant, Johnnie Walker, Blooms of Bon Accord, Hot Punch, Macdonald of the Isles, Bonnie Strathdee, Pines of Pitlochry, Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord, Angus MacLeod, My Heather Hills, Schiehallion, Baldovan Reel, Irish Rover.

HAMPSTEAD AND DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION

1983-1984 SEASON

All dances, except the Annual Ball, are held at Golders Green Parish Church Hall, N.W.11. (opp. Golders Green Bus Station) from 7.30—11.00 p.m. Details can be obtained from Miss Jane Chaplin, 5 Holly Mansions, Fortune Green Road, N.W.6. Tel. 01-435 5152 (p.m.)

1983

PRESIDENT'S NIGHT—Saturday, 8th October. Silver Cross Band.

ANNUAL BALL—Saturday, 3rd December

Porchester Hall, 7.30—11.30 p.m.

McBain's Band.

Further details will be given in the next 'Reel'.

1984

BURNS' NIGHT—Tuesday, 24th January

Brian Hamilton's Band 8—11 p.m.

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THE CONCERT

To paraphrase our co-founder: Scottish Country Dancing encompasses the ballroom and the barn. Certainly the Branch's stage celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the RSCDS exemplified that statement with a nineteenth century drawing room being juxtaposed with a contemporary ceilidh.

The Jubilee Concert was a joy to watch and, I am sure, was as much appreciated by the artistes as by the audience. Indeed in recollecting the second half of the concert I am not sure who was watching and who was participating. Dancers leapt on and off the stage, ticket holders were asked to make music and everyone in the cosy Stanhope Theatre felt involved in the ceilidh. That surely is how to celebrate Scottish Dancing—everybody joining in together.

I was entranced throughout; from the first skirl o' Charlie Galloway's pipes to the last chord from Richard Smith's Band. The music, singing, dancing and speaking were all executed with great professionalism and with either grace or vivacity as the occasion demanded.

Our guest artistes did us proud. Marion Dodd, with her rich alto voice sang a delightful selection of Scottish songs. As always Burns was not forgotten and in the ceilidh we had a bonus—not one, but two songs from her own beloved Border country. Richard Craddock gave us mature renditions of such classics as "Dark Lochnagar" and "MacGregor's Gathering" in a way which belied his youthful (my wife thought handsome) appearance. His final song, the evocative "Song of the Sea" was ringing in my ears as I made my way home. Both Marion and Richard were accompanied by Aline Wilson at the piano. Marigold Verity presented two very pleasing interludes accompanying herself on the clarsach.

The backbone of the concert was our own Demonstration Team. Its members passed with remarkable ease from the refined civility of the Victorian gentry to the spirited vigour of modern Country and Highland Dancing. All the dances were performed with precision and character, and the dancers were a credit to their teacher, Bill Ireland. They must have been rehearsing for weeks. ("We had!" I hear them cry.)

In the first half we were invited into a Victorian soirée. Eric Lindsay set the scene and the dancers and singers appeared in some marvellous period costumes. We were treated to a display of Scottish Dancing as it might have been done about a century ago; very genteel and mannered but with footwork to make a present day RSCDS teacher fume. After the interval we enjoyed the ceilidh which was full of vitality and humour. I was particularly amused by John McDonald's excuses for getting "oot o' the hoose". I was fascinated and intri-

gued as, first the dancers, and then the Band joined in while Marion and Richard sang "The Wee Cooper o' Fife". Make no mistake, the cold tea on stage was fairly flowing by now! I was perhaps jealous that I was not on the stage myself. By the end my feet were tapping and my heart was singing thanks to the splendid music of the Band. I left the theatre in eager anticipation of the next sixty years of the RSCDS.

My regrets? Only that the house was not full on either night. What a shame that so many RSCDS members missed such a super celebration of their Society. Even so the applause from those of us there was resounding. Well done Alex, Ully and the rest of London Branch. I am proud to be a member.

LONDON BRANCH WEEKEND SCHOOL

10th-12th February, 1984

Easthampstead Park,
Wokingham, Berks.

Mary Stoker—Tom Steele
Phyllis Draper—Robert Mackay

Please send s.a.e. for details to: Margaret Shaw, Thistleworth Marine, RAILHEAD Road, Isleworth, TW7 7BY.

BANDS

ANDREW RANKINE now available for Scottish Country Dancing. Band or Solo as required.

Contact: 4 Gifford Close, Leicester LE5 6FG.
Telephone: Leicester (0533) 730385

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BOB MURPHY AND HIS CALEDONIAN DANCE BAND

Professional musicians available for Scottish/Ballroom Dancing. 97 Erskine Road, Sutton, Surrey. Tel: 01-644 4744 (24 hrs.) 01-641 4135.

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ENGAGEMENTS DIARY

OCTOBER

Saturday 22nd

CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT BRANCH RSCDS.
Annual Ball, The Manor Centre, Cambridge.
Bobby Crowe's Band. Tickets £3.50 from Miss M. Hamon, 25 Derwent Close, Cambridge.

Saturday 29th

THE LUCY CLARK S.C.D. CLUB, Autumn Dance with McBain's Band, 8 p.m. Royal British Legion Hall, Old Amersham. Tickets, including refreshments, £2.50 from Barbara Taylor, 8 South Drive, Beaconsfield. Tel. 3922.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY!

(well almost)

FOR PIANISTS

We need pianists for our reserve list for RSCDS classes for occasional evenings. Some regular work will be available in the near future. ILEA evening class rates of pay. Some training can be supplied.

For more information contact: A. M. Brown, 55c Stapleton Hall Road, Finsbury Park, London N4 3QF. Tel.: 01-272 2151.

AN INTRODUCTION TO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING by Sylvia Edie, R.S.C.D.S. full Certificate M.I.S.T.D. on Saturday September 24th 1983, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at St. John's Church Hall, Upper Selsdon Road, Selsdon. Fee for the Day, Adults - £2, Children £1. Numbers Limited. Write NOW for further details and application form to — Mrs. Sylvia Edie, 9 Langley Road, Selsdon, Surrey CR2 8ND or phone 01 - 657 4370.

AN EVENING OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING AND ENTERTAINMENT

at

St. John's Church Hall, Upper Selsdon Road, Selsdon

on

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22nd 1983

from 7.30 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.

Tickets £1.50 including Refreshments. Children admitted at half price. Proceeds in aid of Cancer Research.

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REEL OF THE 51st DIVISION

by MICHAEL YOUNG

On 12 June 1940, the 51st Highland Division, last remnants of the British Expeditionary Force in France, surrendered to superior German armoured forces surrounding them at St Valery-en-Caux. In this small fishing port, Major General Victor Fortune surrendered to Major General Erwin Rommel, who was to gain much fame later in the Western Desert campaign in North Africa.

Although part of the Division escaped by various means back to England, the great majority—some thousands of men, the pride of the Highlands—marched off into captivity, from which only the end of the war in 1945 released them.

Among the 51st Division prisoners was Lieutenant J. E. M. (Jimmy) Atkinson of the 7th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who had been captured a week before St Valery soon after the German break-through. He had done a little country dancing in his home town of Alloa before the war and as he was trudging along the dusty roads of Holland, he occupied his mind occasionally by thinking of Scottish country dancing.

The seed of an idea came to him and he formulated the basic outline of a dance, the centrepiece of which was balancing in line diagonally; this represented the St Andrew's Cross, which members of the division wore on their uniforms. (The famous IID flask had been removed for security reasons before going to France to join the rest of the B.E.F. The diagonal movement was merely a variation of the opening bars of "Scottish Reform", and the circle which followed it was straight out of "Hamilton House".

After several weeks of weary travel through France and Belgium the prisoners arrived at Wesel, on the Rhine, and they were sorted and sent by train to a variety of prisoner of war camps in Bavaria, Poland and Germany. With a number of other POWs from the Highland



Group taken at POW Camp in August 1941. Back row, second from left is Jimmy Atkinson. Front row on left is Peter Oliver.

Division, Jimmy Atkinson eventually arrived at Laufen in Bavaria, near the border at Salzburg. This was OFLAG VIIC, their home for some months.

Shortly after their arrival, Lieut. A. P. J. (Peter) Oliver of the 4th Seaforth (ex London Scottish) started up a Highland dancing class, which Jimmy Atkinson rather nervously joined and, although their detailed knowledge of Scottish country dancing was limited, together they formed a reel club. They were well supported and the club continued through the five years of captivity, even though the leading characters were moved between the different POW camps.

In Laufen, dancing took place on the top landing of the prison hospital block; this was the only decent area away from the overcrowded areas of the rest of the prison. Officers met after lunch, normally three times a week, and although the poor prison diet limited attendance at first, about 20 appeared regularly after the Red Cross food parcels started arriving.

All musical instruments had been captured or destroyed by the Germans, so the leader either called out the tempo of the dance, or whistled the tune, not always accurately. When they were at Posen in Poland, chanters came through the Red Cross, and at Biberach a squeeze-box appeared, which greatly improved the musical accompaniment.

In 1940 it was a major problem to remember the steps of all the different country dances, and although the more standard dances were well known, some improvisation used to take place. To obviate any possible criticism of inaccuracies, it seemed to the POWs that it would be a good idea to write their own dances. Later in the war of course, S.C.D.S. books were sent by post and the problem was solved.

About November 1940, Jimmy Atkinson put his ideas for the dance to Peter Oliver,



The Schloss (Castle) in Laufen, Bavaria where *The Reel of the 51st* was born. Taken by Michael Young in 1980.

and together they worked it out on paper. A trial run was carried out by the club members, with some success, on the concrete floor of the prison block.

By chance Atkinson and Oliver discovered among senior prisoners was a Lieutenant Colonel Tom Harris Hunter who had been the Commander Royal Army Service Corps (CRASC) of the 51st Highland Division until the Division was captured. Before the war he had been Chairman of the Perth Branch of the Society, and during the war his wife, an enthusiastic dancer and organiser, was Secretary of the same Branch.

Lt. Col. Harris Hunter willingly joined the Club, but because the steps for the opening eight bars did not accord with S.C.D.S. custom he suggested casting off three couples (because of the five-couple set) and leading up to corners, patterned after the first eight bars of "Lady Susan Stewart's Reel". This appeared to be the best start for the dance and it was written in.

Hector Ross (4th Seaforths) who was both the piper and leader of the camp mouth organ band, composed a 6/8 tune for the dance, but this has unfortunately been lost. Dugald Stewart (8th Argylls) also composed a tune for the dance at the end of 1944, but it arrived back in the U.K. in 1945 too late to be accepted.

Just as the reel club was polishing up the dance, and learning quite a number of others under the knowledgeable tuition of Lt. Col. Harris Hunter, most of the junior officers in Laufen were sent to Stalag XXID at Posen in Poland, and later to Biberach in Bavaria. They eventually rejoined each other in the autumn of 1941 in OFLAG VIIB at Warburg in Westphalia.

At Halloween, the dance was demonstrated to Major General Victor Fortune in the No. 2 Dining Hall. That was its first public performance, as a mark of esteem and affection felt by the Highland Division POWs for all the selfless work done by him on their behalf. The GOC approved the dance and its name, "The 51st Country Dance (Laufen Reel)".

Both Harris Hunter and Jimmy Atkinson sent details of the dance to Scotland, one to his wife in Perth and the other to his fiancée in Easter Ross. It was clear from the absence of comment in letters from home that the letters had not arrived and on investigation it was discovered that the German censor had delayed them, believing the hieroglyphics to be a cunningly coded message.

As Harris Hunter was "paymaster" for the POWs he took advantage of his contacts and arranged for a demonstration of the dance to be given to the German security officer. Jimmy Atkinson's letter never reached home, but Harris Hunter's reached Perth safely.

Mrs Harris Hunter, assisted by Miss M. M. Scrimgeour, worked out the dance with their members in the small wartime club in Perth. Mrs Hunter had a number of copies printed and distributed and to her astonishment she began to receive requests for particulars from all over the country, even as far south as London. The sale of copies by Miss Milligan raised over one hundred and fifty pounds for the Red Cross, of which sixty pounds went to Mrs Hunter who sent gramophones, etc., out to the prisoners.

It was about this time that the title of the dance was changed, and it now seems impossible to define details exactly. It is known that letters from Perth talked about "The St Valery Reel", which probably sounded a more marketable name than the rather unwieldy "51st Country Dance (Laufen Reel)". For certain a wartime Blue Label record was produced which referred to the "St Valery Reel".

5th set. 51 DIVISION

Bar 1-4 First couple set + cast off 3 places.

5-8 Lead up to top to corners.

9-12 First couple set to first corner, linkmen, by right

13-14. First couple, second man + third lady balance on diagonal line (S. corner to N. corner)

15-16. First couple turn left hand to second corner.

17-20 First couple set + turn corners by right hand.

21-22. First couple, third man + second lady balance on diagonal line (S. corner to N. corner)

23-24 First couple turn to own side, same place.

25-28 Six Hands round.

29-32 Back again.

Repeat.

{ A.P.H. Oliver, Seaforths. London Scot.
J.M. Atkinson, Argylls.

Yorkshire
- in Red. Maori

A reproduction of Harris Hunter's notes on the dance written on a scruffy piece of paper when he was a prisoner of war.

It is equally known that the POWs did not wish a defeat to be recorded in the title of their dance, but they felt that the 51st Division would never be forgotten. It is therefore likely that when Miss Milligan wrote to Harris Hunter to ask him what he wanted it called, the view was that it should be called the "Reel of the 51st Division". This was certainly a more proper name for a dance written by soldiers for soldiers.

To begin with, the SCDS would not accept the dance, but the dance received a lot of press publicity. It is commonly believed that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, now Queen Mother, saw the reel danced and that, being interested in the reel and its stark but romantic origins, she expressed the hope that the Society would incorporate it in their next book. Unfortunately it is not now possible to confirm the authenticity of this belief any more than it is that the dance was demonstrated before Her Majesty in the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The Queen Mother was approached in 1980 on these matters but she cannot recall any personal involvement.

The executive committee felt that, in victory year it was most appropriate to include the dance in their book (the 13th). It was at this time that the decision was made to bring the dance into line with SCD custom, and it was adapted for a four-couple set. No longer did the dancers cast off three places.

In the same way as the title changed several times, the tune also changed. As has been mentioned, Hector Ross composed the first tune and towards the end of the war Dugald Stewart composed another which has never really been used. For most of the time the POWs danced the reel to "My Love she's but a Lassie Yet!" The tune which has become associated with the dance, however, is "The Drunken Piper", which almost certainly was the one used by the Perth Branch during the war, and is now the "recognised" tune for the "Reel of the 51st Division".

EDITORS NOTE

We are grateful to Michael Young for this interesting article. It has previously appeared in the New Zealand Scottish Country Dancer and in Tactalk—the Bulletin of the Teachers' Association in Canada.

An article by Jimmy Atkinson himself appeared in "The Reel" in 1954 but a new generation of dancers has come along since then and we hope they find this historical article of interest.

Michael Young is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Corps of Transport currently serving in Germany. His main interests are history and Scottish dancing and it was while he was researching the history of his regiment that he came across the link with his predecessor of 1938-40 (Lt. Col. Harris Hunter) and the dance.

RECORD REVIEW

Music for Eight Scottish Country Dances Book 31. Rob Gordon and His Band. RSCDS 12.

All the dances in Book 31. (All full length.)

Music for Eight Scottish Country Dances. The Ron Gonnella Quartet. RSCDS 13.

Five Scottish Country Dances 1982, The Ladies of Dingwall, Bonnie Kitty, The Reel of the Royal Scots. (All full length.)

The Scottish Dance Masters. Andrew Rankine and Ron Gonnella. ART 305.

Mr. Wilson's Hornpipe, Ladies' Fancy, Peggy's Love, Lady Harriet Hope's Reel, The Fireside Reel, The River Cree, The Duchess of Atholl's Slipper, Merrily Danced the Quaker's Wife. (All full length.)

With a general decline in the release of records for dancers it is great to suddenly have music, all full length too, for 24 dances. Some very old and some so new that, at the time of writing, they haven't yet been taught at Summer School. All three records are, in a word, excellent. The two issued by the Society are so different in sound that it is difficult to make comparisons. (Oops! I nearly wrote the wrong name then and realised that by an amazing coincidence both Band leaders have the initials R.G. In both cases it could stand for Really Good) Rob Gordon is on accordion with Ron Kerr on violin, Hamish Smith on second accordion, Peter Straughan on Piano, Dave Barclay on Bass and Stan Peacock on Drums. A solid six piece with lots of body to it. On the other hand with only a quartet the Ron Gonnella band sounds much more delicate but nevertheless exciting and with lots of lift. The quartet is made up of Ron on violin, Iain MacPhail on accordion, David Flockhart on piano and, on bass, Stan Saunders. N.B.—no drummer. I grieve to hear Scott Skinner's pastoral air "The Highland Queen" (for "The Royal Wedding") altered into Strathspey rhythm. It sounds, to me at least, quite dreadful. In my view if we must use such tunes for strathspeys the only way to play them is as pastorals in strathspey tempo but not in strathspey rhythm. I wonder what Ron's own view on the matter is.

Rob Gordon seems to have "got away with it" and plays Charlie Hunter's beautiful air "The Hills of Lorne" (for the dance Autumn in Appin) as a slow air. In complete contrast Rob plays four real strathspey tunes for the dance "Margaret Parker's Strathspey" and they sound tremendous. In fact this is probably the best 8×32 set of Strathspeys recorded for many a long day. The second accordion is quite superb but (and herein lies the secret of good second box playing) he does not destroy the strong melody line of first box and fiddle. Those of us who do like to hear a strong melody line will perhaps prefer the Gonnella rather than the Gordon record; but I dunno; my advice to readers is buy them both. It will only cost you about £9 and you will not be disappointed. I ought to make mention of the fact that on RSCDS 13, The Reel of the Royal Scots is played, not by the quartet, but by Pipers

and Drummers from The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) under the direction of Pipe Major C. T. Clark.

On now to another great duo—Rankine and Gonnella. On some tracks we have "double tracking" with Ron playing both fiddle and piano, while on others we hear another King of the Keyboards—Bill Hendry from Dundee. This record too is great stuff with lots of lift and some very useful dances. I ought to remind readers that "Lady Harriet Hope's Reel" is also the original tune for "Mrs. Stewart of Fasnacloich".

In our last review we mentioned in passing Ron Gonnella's record on the Ross Record label. I have had to buy another copy because the friend who pinched the first one I had has played it so much it is worn out. I am not surprised. The record No. is WGR 028 and on it Ron actually plays the personal violins once owned and played by Niel Gow (1727-1807), William Marshall (1748-1833) and J. Scott Skinner (1843-1927). The latter being a "Stroh" fiddle with a solid, cylindrical, wooden body, metal diaphragm and aluminium amplifying horn. It was invented and developed by the Stroh family in London about 1900 specially for acoustical gramophone recording. Ron plays all three fiddles in his usual unique style and, of course, plays tunes by the original owners. He also plays a few of his own compositions. Some very sympathetic accompaniment comes from Iain MacPhail on accordion, John Gibson on piano and Graham Robb on double bass.

"Hop Scotch" on TC 1008 features the Band of John Carmichael who takes us through a lively selection of jigs, reels, polkas, etc. To quote from the sleeve "This album was put together as a result of the Accordion Bonanza series . . . and features Duncan Findlay on guitar and banjo on a number of the tracks . . . and that's exciting". I would not disagree; to hear Duncan Findlay on guitar, as some of us did when he accompanied Alasdair Fraser at the Mermaid Theatre last November, is indeed exciting.

We have enthused in earlier reviews about pianist John Gibson. He has now taken Pam Brough's place in the Highland Country Band led by fiddler John Ellis; and while we are talking about good second accordionists let's mention Irene Dear who perfectly complements the playing of John Ellis and first accordionist Douglas Muir. This Band's latest record is called "A Reel Kick" and it is LILP 5120 on the Lismor label. As ever was from this Band a very tight sound and some really great pipe tunes. Perhaps they could be persuaded to do a dancers' record.

On cassette only (MMCS 5001) the aforementioned Bill Hendry and his Band play with great verve and exceeding great competence a selection of Scottish Dance Music including 4×32 of Hooper's Jig, College Hornpipe, Ladies' Fancy, Jessie's Hornpipe, White Cockade and Bottom of the Punchbowl. I heard this Band at the Society's A.G.M. Dance in Dundee last year and was much taken by their playing.

Freeland Barbour is, of course, now well known as producer of Radio Scotland's "Take the Floor" and "Reel Blend" and much of his success as such can be attributed to the fact that he is himself an accordionist in the Scottish music scene. He and his colleagues who make up the Wallochmor Ceilidh Band entertain us right well on their latest LP, called "Full Throttle" on Lapwing Records, LAP 106. It is at full throttle all right with an 8×32 set of jigs in just over 4 minutes! But its another record well worth listening to with a goodly selection of tunes old and new. I particularly like their Eva Three-step and a favourite of mine, Angus Fitchett's "New Ashludie Rant".

It will be 50 years in November since Jimmy Shand made his first record. A set of Reels on a Parlophone 78. Now to honour this half century of recording, EMI have issued a compilation album on MFP 5613 containing recordings originally issued on various records between 1968 and 1973. The dances include The Cumberland Reel (4×32), Miss Hadden's Reel (8×32), Grosvenor House Strathspey (80 Bars) and Queen's Bridge (4×40). It is unfortunate that the chord at the beginning of Queen's Bridge has been obliterated.

Happily, Jimmy Shand is still recording and his latest record is The Auchtermuchty Ceilidh on Ross Records WGR 042. Guests at the ceilidh include his son Jimmy junior on second accordion, his grand-daughter Diane Shand who sings sweetly; also Jimmy Urquhart and the ubiquitous Robbie Shepherd who sings as well as talks.

Another ceilidh record is Caledonian Ceilidh (on JDM 200) with our good friend Jim MacLeod at the helm, complete with his usual line up, plus Ron Gonnella, Moira Kerr, Jimmy Urquhart (who seems to be making a come back), and the Pipes and Drums of British Caledonian Airways.

Finally, EMI have just issued on MFP 5614, another new LP by Jim MacLeod and His Band. A new record by this Band always contains some good new tunes composed by members of the Band, and this one is no exception. Worthy of particular mention is Tommy Ford's "Dunblane Hydro March" and Jim Cleland's "Forth Valley Polka". We have heard "John Worth's Jig" by Jim MacLeod before and I hope we hear it again (and again). On this record it is neatly and beautifully sandwiched between Donald Iain Rankine (by Andrew Rankine) and Welcome to Coylumbridge (by Tommy Ford). Throw in a few songs from Jim himself and you have yet another first-class album from this world famous Band. Incidentally we have an extra wee bonus on this record. In addition to Messrs. MacLeod, Ford, Cleland, Sinton and Doig we have Duncan Findlay on guitar. If you are holidaying in Central Scotland you might like to know that Jim and the Band will be playing for Scottish Country Dancing at Dunblane Hydro Hotel every Monday until 19th September.

I am now gathering together the latest batch of records of Scottish songs and hope to let you have details of some of them in November.

The format for the classes for this coming season is the same as for the last except that the Demonstration class is now at a school in Swiss Cottage. But there have been some changes in personnel. Unfortunately Bill Hamilton has had to give up the Monday Advanced class and we welcome Rita Marlow in his place. Joan Gilbert has been forced to retire by ILEA after many years work as a pianist for which we thank her. Luckily we can still use her as a substitute when other pianists are unavailable.

Good news on the fees front—the fee for “non ILEA residents” is still at a reasonable level (£24.00 for Beginners and Intermediates for the session; £31.50 for Advanced for the session). So perhaps we can tempt back some of you who withdrew when the fees soared in 1980.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

After the success of last season's children's dance the Branch is organising two dances especially for children during the coming year. These are:—

Saturday, 10th December, 2 p.m.: St. James's Church Hall, Gloucester Terrace, W2 (where last year's dance was held). Robin Ellis and his Band.

Saturday, 10th March, 2 p.m.: Venue will be announced in a later edition of “The Reel”. Brian Hamilton and his Band.

The programme for the December dance will be available in September and can be obtained from Mr. and Mrs. A. Kellett, 2 Arundel Court, Crook Log, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 8DZ (01-301 1403). It will also be published in the next edition of “The Reel”.

The Branch regularly receives requests for information about children's Scottish Country Dance classes in all parts of the London area. Sometimes we are able to help, but on other occasions we do not know of a class in a particular district. We should therefore like to compile a list of children's classes in London and the Home Counties. If you know of such a class please let us have the details. It may well mean that the class acquires extra members. Please send details to Mr. and Mrs. Kellett (address above).



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A light application of this powder will render the most treacherous floor safe for Highland and Country dancing. It will not scratch the floor nor clog the shoes.

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R.S.C.D.S. Headquarters and Branches.

THE CLASSES SYLLABUS 1983/84

Central Institute

Day	Standard	Place	Teacher	Pianist	Time
Monday	Beginners Intermediate Advanced	Central Inst. HQ. Central Inst. HQ. Central Y.W.C.A.	Miss Anne Large Miss Anne Large Miss Rita Marlow	Miss Jean Harrison Miss Jean Harrison Mrs. Phyllis Draper	6.15 to 7.45 p.m. 8.00 to 9.30 p.m. 7.15 to 9.15 p.m.

Central Institute Headquarters is in Longford Street, NW1 near Hampstead Road, Warren Street Station. Central Y.W.C.A. is in Great Russell Street, near Tottenham Court Road Station.

Chelsea-Westminster Institute

Wednesday	Beginners Intermediate Advanced	Marlborough School Marlborough School Marlborough School	Mr. Owen Meyer Mr. Owen Meyer Mr. William Ireland	To be appointed To be appointed Mr. Robert Duncan	6.30 to 8.00 p.m. 8.15 to 9.45 p.m. 7.00 to 9.00 p.m.
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Marlborough School is in Sloane Avenue, off King's Road SW3, near Sloane Square and South Kensington Stations.

Marylebone-Paddington Institute

Tuesday	Advanced	Quintin School	Mrs. Mary Stoker	Mrs. Phyllis Draper	7.15 to 9.15 p.m.
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Quintin School is in Marlborough Hill NW8, off Finchley Road, near St. John's Wood Station.

Tuesday	Demonstration	F.D. Roosevelt School	Mr. William Ireland	Mr. Robin Ellis	7.15 to 9.15 p.m.
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F.D. Roosevelt School is in Avenue Road, N.W.3 and near Swiss Cottage Station.

Fees: (inclusive of the Institute fee):

For ILEA residents: Beginners and Intermediate classes £16.50 per session; Advanced classes £21.50 per session. Autumn or Spring Term only: Beginners and Intermediate classes £7.50; Advanced classes £9.50. Summer Term only: Beginners and Intermediate classes £4.50; Advanced classes £5.50. Senior citizens £1.00.

For those resident outside the ILEA area: Beginners and Intermediate classes £24.00 per session; Advanced classes £31.50 per session. Autumn or Spring term only: Beginners and Intermediate classes £10.50. Advanced classes £13.50. Summer Term only: Beginners and Intermediate classes £6.00; Advanced classes £7.50. No concessionary fees.

Autumn Term 26th September to 16th December 1983

Spring Term 9th January to 6th April 1984

Summer Term 30th April to 1st June 1984

NOTES ON THE STANDARD OF CLASSES *Beginners*: For those with little or no knowledge of Scottish Country Dancing. *Intermediate*: A good knowledge of steps and formations is required. *Advanced*: A good standard of dancing and a thorough knowledge of formations.

General enquiries to Mr. A. M. Brown, 55c Stapleton Hall Road, Finsbury Park, London, N4 3QF.

BRANCH CEILIDH

at St. Columba's Church of Scotland,
Pont Street, SW1

Saturday, 5th November, 1983

7—10.30 p.m.

Stan Watts' Band, pipers, guests and YOU.

We are having a ceilidh and we need our members to be involved. We require all manner of party pieces to make a success of this venture from the aesthetic to the downright silly. Unfortunately with a Branch the size of ours we cannot leave to chance that it will be alright on the night, so if you would like to regale your fellow dancers with some hidden talent please tell Andrew Kellett (01-301 1403) before 1st November and he will try to slot you into the programme. There will of course be lots of dancing and the programme will include such favourites as:—

- J. B. Milne
- The Wild Geese
- The Robertson Rant
- The Sailor
- The Round Reel of Eight
- The Ennismore Strathspey
- Bonnie Anne
- Neidpath Castle
- The Duke of Perth

and a couple of novelties (I shudder to think what, knowing young Kellett).

So, remember, remember the fifth of November—Branch Ceilidh.

TEACHING CERTIFICATE

Congratulations to the following who successfully gained the full Teaching Certificate of the Society at an examination held at the end of May:

- Mrs. Jo Gibbs, Miss Barbara Preston,
- Mrs. Margaret Shaw, Mrs. Emmie Warrior,
- Mr. Peter Knight and Mr. George Potts.

NACTON HALL

40 bar reel for three couples in a 4 couple longwise set.

Bars

1-4 1st couple set to each other and cast one place.

5-8 1st couple, passing each other by the left, dance round their 1st corner (right shoulder) and finish facing 1st corner.

9-16 1st couple dance “Hello, goodbye” setting, finish facing 1st corners again, who are now on their opposite sides; meanwhile 2nd and 3rd couples set facing diagonally inwards, then give right hands to partners to change sides, set diagonally inwards again, and give right hands to change places on the side lines.

17-24 1st couple turn 1st corner right hand, pass partner right shoulder, and turn 2nd corner also by the right hand, to finish on the side lines between corners (corners dance four bars).

25-32 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples advance for two steps, and retire for two, then all turn partners right hand, 1st couple 1½ times, to finish facing down, ready for ...

33-40 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples dance the Knot.

Dance devised by Judy Dix.

Editor's Note: Nacton Hall is a village hall in Suffolk where local dancers regularly meet for classes.

A tune for this dance has been composed by David Hall (no relation to Nacton—but a son of Ian and Heulwen!) and copies are available, 30p including postage from Mrs. Judy Dix, Ashfield, 3 Red Rose Close, Alderton, Woodbridge, Suffolk. Profits to Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

ALDRINGTON (HOVE) SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP (Affiliated to R.S.C.D.S.)—Meets every Tuesday, 8.15 p.m.—10.30 p.m., September to June. New members and visitors welcome. Further details from Hon. Sec.: J. P. R. Steer, 15 Carlton Terrace, Portlade, Brighton, Sussex, BN4 1XF. Tel.: Brighton 416893.

BRACKNELL REEL CLUB meets every Thursday from 8—10 p.m. at Birch Hill Community Centre from September to end of May. Instruction alternate weeks. Beginners welcome. Sec: Mrs. Kit Ross, 125 Viking, Bracknell. Tel: 26072.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB—Meets on Thursdays at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church Hall, 7.30-10 p.m. September-May. Hon. Sec.: Miss M. Howland, 4 Goldsmid Road, Hove, 2. Tel.: Brighton 777868.

CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB—Dancing every Tuesday, 8 p.m., at St. Pauls Church Hall, Church Hill, Camberley. Beginners welcome. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. J. M. Adams, 1 Rosemary Gardens, Blackwater, Camberley. Tel.: Camberley 35198.

CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. meets every Tuesday during school terms at the Manor Centre, Arbury Road, Cambridge at 7.30 p.m. Hon. Sec. Miss Maureen Hamon, 25 Derwent Close, Cambridge. Tel. 0223 245820.

CHELSEA REEL CLUB meets most Thursdays, late September to early April, St. Saviours Church Hall, Walton Street, London SW3, 8.15-10.30 p.m. For information about attendance and membership, please contact the Secretary, Miss Maureen Bebb, 3, Queens Gate Place, London SW7. Tel: 01-589 0230.

CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY—Scottish country dancing most Friday evenings October to May. St. Andrew's United Reformed Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. Enquiries about this and other activities to Mr. J. Scott, 8a Lears Drive, Bishop's Cleeve, Cheltenham. Tel: 024 267 3763.

CRAWLEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets Thursday 8-10 p.m. September to Whitsun at Gossons Green Junior School. Beginners welcome. Details from Miss P. Johnston, 19 Burleigh Way, Crawley Down, West Sussex, RH10 4UA. Tel.: Copthorne (0342) 714451.

CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Details from Miss J. Martin, 19 Garrick Crescent, Croydon. (Tel.: 681 3968). Classes in Reigate (General—Mon.); Purley (General—alt. Tues.); Taunton Manor (Inter—Wed.); Selsdon (General—Thurs.); Croydon (Adv—alt. Thurs.); West Wickham (General—Fridays).

EALING SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. Thursdays 8-10 p.m. September to April. One hour tuition, by Miss Stamp, followed by social dancing. St. Andrews United Reform Church Hall, Mount Park Road, Ealing, W.5. For details contact the Secretary, Mrs. Jo Gibbs 8 Ravenscourt Square, London W6. Tel: 01-748 4666 ext. 298.

EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION (Affiliated to the R.S.C.D.S.)—Classes in Scottish country dancing. (September to March). Many other activities including informal Saturday dances. Enquiries to: Hon. Sec., Jack Phillips, 20 Clandon Close, Ewell, Surrey KT17 2NH. Tel.: 01-393 9397.

FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Dancing every Tuesday at 8 p.m., September to May at the Memorial Hall, West Street, Farnham, Surrey. Instruction once per month. Hon. Sec.: Miss Joan Deayn, 18 Howards Lane, Holybourne, Alton, Hants. Tel: Alton 83288.

FESTIVAL OF SCOTLAND IN LONDON. Highland Gathering 19th May, 1984, CLAPHAM COMMON. Festival Dance 14th April, 1984, St. Columba's Church, Pont Street, S.W.1. For further details of these events and of Society and individual membership write to Hon. Sec. Miss Sheena W. Dallas, 29 Queen's Court, Hampstead Way, London NW11 7TN. Tel: 01-455 9096 (preferably at weekends) or President Mr. Iain Windsor 01-554 9413.

FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY meets on alternate Saturdays for dancing at St. Philip and James Church Hall, Kings Road, Fleet, Hants., at 7.30 p.m. Details from Mrs. H. L. Pease. Tel: Fleet 4395.

GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesday, 8 p.m.—10.30 p.m. Contact Mrs. Merrick, 2 Hillbeck Way, Greenford. Tel. 578 3458.

HAMPSTEAD AND DISTRICT SCOTS ASSOCIATION—S.C. Dancing on Tuesdays (Mid-Sept—End June) from 8-10.30 p.m. at Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, N.W.11. Dance instruction given. All welcome. Children's dancing S.C. tuition on Tues. 6.30-7.45 p.m.—6 years upwards. Enquiries for classes to Miss Jane Chaplin, 5 Holly Mansions, Fortune Green Road, London NW6 1UB. Tel. 01-435 5152.

HATCHEND SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ASSOCIATION meets fortnightly on Saturdays Hatch End Free Church Hall, Rowlands Avenue, Hatch End from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Further information from Mr. E. K. Burt. Tel. 01-428 1049.

HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB meets every Tuesday at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden, from 8—10.30 p.m. A warm welcome will be given to beginners and experts. Hon. Sec.: Ken Brown, 32 Wordsworth Road, Harpenden, Herts. AL5 4AF. Tel. Harpenden 67808.

HORSHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets Mondays, September to May at Trafalgar Road School. Qualified Instructors. Adults 7.30-9.30 p.m. preceded by children's Country and Highland classes. Beginners and visitors welcome. Secretary: Mrs. P. Hyatt, 2 Blackbridge Lane, Horsham, West Sussex. Tel.: Horsham (0403) 63187.

LEICESTER BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. meets at The Holy Cross Centre, Wellington Street, Leicester, every Thursday. 3 classes in separate halls 7.30-8.45 p.m. Social dancing 9-10 p.m. Visitors welcome. Sec. Mr. R. E. T. Noden, Whiteaks Road, Oadby, Leics. Tel. 0533 717001.

LEIGH-ON-SEA CALEDONIAN DANCERS—Dancing every Monday from 8 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. at St. James's Church Hall, Elmsleigh Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. Everyone welcome. For full details please apply to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. D. Swinney, 87 Louis Drive, Rayleigh, Essex. Tel. Rayleigh 776549.

THE LONDON CHA CLUB SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING GROUP: The class meets most Wednesdays, September-June, at the London CHA Club, 153 Drummond Street, London NW1 2PB; 7 p.m.—admission 40p (members), 60p (non-members)—professional tuition. Dances once a month on Saturdays. For further details ring Mr. or Mrs. R. A. Francois 01-888 5185.

THE LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB meets at St. Columba's Church of Scotland Hall, Pont Street, London, S.W.1, for regular Club Nights and Dances. Some major functions are held at other venues in London. The Club also produces records designed specially for the Scottish Country Dancer. For further details, see notices in "The Reel" or contact Graham L. Cattell, 75 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey. Tel.: Epsom 27206.

THE LUCY CLARK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets every Thursday 8 p.m., Royal British Legion Hall, Old Amersham. Quarterly dances with McBain's Band. Enquiries to: Mr. William Lawrie, Crofters, Mill Lane, Amersham. Tel. 3478.

MILTON KEYNES BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Meets Monday evenings. Details from Secretary, R. B. Osborne, 37 Silver Street, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes MK11 1JS. Tel: 0908 564890.

NORTH HERTS REEL CLUB (Affiliated to the R.S.C.D.S.)—Dancing most Wednesdays 8-10 p.m. from September to May at Roeroft School, Stotfold. New members and visitors welcome. Other activities include informal Saturday Dances and Highland Ball. Enquiries to Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Jennifer Warburton, 17 Victoria Road, Shefford, Beds. SG17 5AL. Tel.: Hitchin 812691.

READING ST. ANDREWS SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY. Dancing Wednesdays 8.00—10 p.m. from 8th September to end April at St. Andrews United Reformed Church, London Road, Reading. Secretary, Mr. T. M. Bateman, Bramley, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End, Reading. Tel: 723789.

RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Dancing and instruction at Richmond Green U.R. Church Hall, Quadrant Road, Richmond, every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. from mid-September until the end of May. All are welcome. Hon. Sec. Mrs. J. MacNaughton, 28 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey. Tel. 01-948 1553.

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. meets every Tuesday 8 p.m.—10 p.m., at St. Augustine's School, Wilman Road, Tunbridge Wells. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. A. C. Morris, 35 Greenleas, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4NS. Tel.: Pembury 2709.

ST. ANDREW SOCIETY (LONDON)—The Wimbleton and District Scots' Association (affiliated to R.S.C.D.S.) Dancing every other Tuesday, 8 p.m., at Wimbleton Community Centre, St. George's Road, Wimbleton, SW19. Full details from Miss A. J. Watson, 1 Ulva Road, Putney, SW15 6AP. Tel. 01-788 0889.

THE SCOTTISH CLANS' ASSOCIATION OF LONDON. Meets on Tuesdays October to end of May in the upper hall St. Columba's Church, Pont Street, S.W.1. Instruction given before general Country Dancing. 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Enquiries on Clans' functions to: May Holmes, 15 Apollo House, 14 Broadlands Road, Highgate N6 4AT. Tel: 01-348 5637.

SHENE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP (Affiliated to R.S.C.D.S.) Meets every Thursday from September to June 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., with teacher at Barnes Methodist Church Hall, Sheen Road, SW13. Details from Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Brenda Morris, 5 Longfield Drive, London SW14 7AU. Tel. 01-876 2037.

SOUTH DORSET CALEDONIAN SOCIETY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP—WEYMOUTH—Dancing at St. Edmund's Church Hall, Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth, Dorset. Wednesday, 7.30—10 p.m. Hon. Sec.: Miss Joan Warren, The Trossachs, Littlemoor Road, Broadway, Weymouth. Tel. Upover 2579.

SOUTH EAST ESSEX SCOTTISH SOCIETY'S REEL CLUB (open to non-members) meets every Friday, September to end of May from 8 to 10.15 p.m. at Crowstone St. George's United Reformed Church (Upper Hall), King's Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. K. M. Juddins, 23 Stirling Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 3PP. Tel.: 75143.

SOUTH-EAST HERTS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY—Dancing in Hertford, monthly September to May. Fridays 7.45 to 10.45 p.m. Classes: Beginners—Thurs.; Int.—Tues.; Adv.—alt. Mondays; All in Hertford 7.45 p.m. Children—Wednesdays in Hoddesdon 6.30 p.m. New members and beginners welcome. Details from Nigel Pollard, 72 Rib Vale, Bengoe, Hertford, SG14 3LF. Tel. Hertford 53186.

SURBITON AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY—Scottish country dancing every Thursday at 8 p.m. mid-September to mid-May at St. Mark's Church Hall, Church Hill Road, Surbiton. Instruction given. Beginners welcome. Hon. Sec.: Lewis Morris, 245 Raeburn Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey KT5 9DF. Tel. 01-399 0373.

WALLINGTON—SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR WALLINGTON, CARSHALTON & DISTRICT hold weekly Scottish Country Dance Classes—Adults: Beginners' Class; Intermediate Class; Advanced Class. Children's Class on Saturday mornings. For further information apply to: Mrs. Agnes Dell, 20 St. Georges Road, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 0AS (Tel.: 01-647 1690).

WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY—Adult dancing class in St. Michael's Church Hall, Durban Road West, Watford, 8.00—10.00 p.m. every Tuesday from September until June. Details from Hon. Sec. Stanley Fraser, 79 Killy Close, Watford. Tel. Garston 72664. Details of children's classes from Miss Debbie Cooper. Tel. Watford 42586.

WEMBLEY & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION meets on Mondays at 8 p.m. for Scottish Country Dance Class and on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. for Ladies Choir at Wembley Institute, London Road, Wembley. Newcomers Welcome. Contact Secretary, Mrs. Pam Crisp, 19 Compton Place, Watford WD1 5HP. Tel: 01-421 0470.

WEST SURREY SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP. Meeting in Guildford on Monday Evenings September-Easter. Enquiries to: W. F. McLaren, 2 Churchfields, Horsell Park, Woking, Surrey. Tel. Woking 72299.

WITHAM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY—Dancing every Wednesday 8 p.m.—10 p.m. Howbridge School, Witham, Essex. Instruction on first Wednesday of the month. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Sheila Withnell, Heron Cottage, Station Road, White Notley, Witham, Essex. Tel.: Silverend 83772.

YEOVIL: ST. MICHAEL'S SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB—Thursdays 8.00 to 10.30 p.m. mid September to May at St. Michael's Hall, St. Michael's Road, Yeovil. Hon. Sec. Mrs. Joy Newman, Cheriton, Milborne Port, DT9 5BA. Tel. Milborne Port 250226.