



the reel

issued by the LONDON BRANCH of THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

Price 25p (Free to Members of the Branch)

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 1979—JANUARY 1980

Issue No. 151 will appear in February. Material for it should be sent to Mr. John Laurie, 10 Westbourne Park Villas, London W2 5EA, to arrive by 4th January.

NEW YEAR DANCE

FRIDAY, 11th JANUARY, 1980

PORCHESTER HALL, W.2

7.30 p.m.—11.30 p.m.
McBain's Band

Hooper's Jig	99 More
Round Reel of Eight	27-7
Auld Lang Syne	27-12
Jennifer's Jig	Drewry
Mairrit Man's Favourite	24-12
The Lea Rig	21-5
Argyll's Fancy	Gr-23
Bratach Bana	Drewry
Sugar Candie	26-9
Newton Park	London
La Russe	B. B.
None so Pretty	19-1
The Quail	Drewry
Miss Cahoon's Reel	13-2
The Shepherd's Crook	Mc Nab
Minard Castle	22-8
Bonnie Anne	Mc Nab
Sloane Square	London
Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh	—
Drumelzier	—
Airie Bannan	Foss
Mairi's Wedding	Cosh

Tickets £2.00

SPRING DANCE

FRIDAY, 29th February, 1980

PORCHESTER HALL, W.2

7.30 p.m.—11.30 p.m.

Jim MacLeod's Band

Leap Year	Gr-1
Maxwell's Rant	18-10
Braes of Breadalbane	21-7
Machine Without Horses	12-12
Earlstoun Loch	Foss
Staffin Harvest	1978
Starry-Eyed-Lassie	23-11
J. B. Milne	Foss
Balmoral Strathspey	22-3
Newton Park	London
Mrs Mac Pherson of Inveran	Drewry
College Hornpipe	20-12
The Ennismore Strathspey	London
The Swilcan	23-8
Cramond Bridge	London
The Duchess Tree	Drewry
Miss Hadden's Reel	23-5
Fraser's Favourite	1976
Neidpath Castle	22-9
Ladies' Fancy	13-12
Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh	—

Tickets £2.50 — Numbers limited to 300

Tickets for both Porchester Hall Dances available from W. J. Ireland, 6 Tansley Court, 194 Woodcote Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 0PU, or at Branch functions.

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

JUBILEE BALL

BLOOMSBURY CENTRE HOTEL

SATURDAY 28th JUNE, 1980

8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

McBain's Band

The Wild Geese	24-3
Maxwell's Rant	18-10
John McAlpin	Foss
Jubilee Jig	Jubilee
The Montgomerie's Rant	10-1
Scotch Mist	Drewry
Muirland Willie	21-9
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	Jubilee
Reel of the 51st Division	13-10
The Ennismore Strathspey	London
Just as I was in the Morning	19-3
The Round Reel of Eight	27-7
The Machine Without Horses	12-12
None So Pretty	19-1
The Silver Tassie	Drewry
Miss Hadden's Reel	23-5
Blooms of Bon Accord	Drewry
The Cuillins of Skye	1978
The Swilcan	23-8
Cramond Bridge	London
1314	Drewry
Hamilton House	7-10
Neidpath Castle	22-9
Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran	Drewry
Braes of Breadalbane	21-7
Argyll's Fancy	Gr-23
Duke of Perth	1-8

Tickets £10. Numbers limited.

Apply early (and avoid disappointment) to Mr. John McDonald, The Shielling, Thistleworth Marine, Railhead Road, Isleworth, Middx. Cheques payable to "RSCDS (London Branch)". Enclose large SAE.

TEACHING CERTIFICATE

The Committee offer their congratulations to the following who successfully gained the full Teaching Certificate of the Society at an examination arranged by the London Branch at the beginning of July:

Miss Helen Erskine, Miss Jenny Greene, Mrs Margaret Jepson, Mr Ian and Mrs Morag Lithgow, Miss Rita Marlow and Mrs Claire Warren.

Would any members wishing to attend a Teachers Certificate course in London please contact Mrs H. U. Brown, 6 Wells Drive, London NW9 8DD enclosing a s.a.e.

BRANCH ACCOUNTS

The audited accounts for the year ended 30 June 1979 are now available. Anyone wishing to have a copy is asked to send a Stamped Addressed Envelope to Miss Mary Barker Flat 26, 74, Shepherds Hill, London N.6.

Patron — H.M. The Queen

LONDON BRANCH

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STRUCTURE OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Membership Secretary: Howard Booth

Branch Representative to Headquarters: John Laurie
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Rita Marlow.

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Alex Westwood, John McDonald.

Day School: Jenny Greene, Peter Knapman

Publicity: John Laurie, Peter Knapman, Andrew
Cockett

Dances: Bill Ireland, John Laurie, Peter Knapman
Demonstrations: Bill Ireland, Jenny Greene, Rita
Marlow

Bookstall: Stella Booth

Open Air Dancing: Alex Westwood

Jubilee Committee: John McDonald, John Laurie,
Andrew Cockett, Mary Barker, Stella Booth.

John Laurie and Peter Knapman are Branch
Representatives on the Central Committee of the
Combined Scottish Societies in London.

Howard Booth is the Branch Representative on
the Festival of Scotland in London Committee,
which organises a Highland Gathering and Festival
Ball, proceeds from which go to charity.

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions were due on 1st July. Annual membership is £1 and PERIOD membership £10 for a limited period of 15 years, both fees being subject to revision.

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 London Branch, order your copy of "The Reel" from Miss Rita Marlow, 71 Connell Crescent, London W5. £1.00 per annum.

BRANCH DANCES

SATURDAY, 15th DECEMBER, 1980
THE CABER FEIDH BAND

New Waterloo Reel	26-12
Laird of Milton's Daughter ...	22-10
John McAlpin	Foss
Trip to Bavaria	—
The Hollin Buss	24-8
Up in the Air	20-2
Earlstoun Loch	Foss
New Scotland Strathspey	—
Just as I was in the Morning...	19-3
West's Hornpipe	5-Trad
Miss Hadden's Reel	23-5
Reel of the 51st Division	13-10
Madge Wildfire's Strathspey ...	9-9
Scottish Reform	3-1
Salute to Miss Milligan	Reel 134
Miss Milligan's Strathspey ...	Jubilee
The Frisky	26-10
The Irish Rover	Cosh

SATURDAY

SATURDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY, 1980
BRIAN HAMILTON'S BAND

Duke of Atholl's Reel	16-3
Sleepy Maggie	11-5
Dalkeith's Strathspey	9-6
Petronella	1-1
The Wild Geese	24-3
The Ennismore Strathspey ...	London
The Peat Fire Flame	Drewry
The Lea Rig	21-5
Hamilton House	7-10
Mrs MacLeod	6-11
Haddington Assembly	—
The College Hornpipe	20-12
Monymusk	11-2
Miss Mary Douglas	10-11
The Montgomerie's Rant ...	10-1
The Winding Road	Cosh
The New Rigged Ship	9-7
The Duke of Perth	1-8

Branch Dances are held at St. Columba's Church of Scotland Hall, Pont Street SW1. Tickets £1 at the door.

BAND

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BOOKSTALL

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THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY



please note changes of date and venue.

SCOTTISH DANCE DAY SCHOOL

February 1980—London.

HIGHLAND DANCE COMPETITION

May 10th 1980—Reading.

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The 'Burnham Set'

Five new Scottish Country Dances with record by Frank Reid. £2.00 for booklet & record plus 20p. carriage per order.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1979:

15th December: Dance at St Columba's, Caberfeidh Band.

1980:

11th January: Dance at Porchester Hall, McBain's Band.

15th to 17th February: Weekend School at Easthampstead Park.

23rd February: Dance at St Columba's, Brian Hamilton's Band.

29th February: Dance at Porchester Hall, Jim MacLeod's Band.

13th and 14th March: Jubilee Concert (see separate announcement).

22nd March: Dance at St Columba's, McBain's Band.

26th April: Day School and Dance. (Details in next "Reel".)

31st May: Open Air Dance at Polesden Lacey in the afternoon. McBain's Band.

21st June: Dance at St Columba's, Caledonian Country Band.

28th June: Jubilee Ball at Bloomsbury Centre Hotel, McBain's Band.

12th July: Dance at St Columba's, Frank Reid's Band.

EASTHAMPESTEAD PARK

WEEKEND SCHOOL

Date:

Dinner on Friday, 15th February—Tea on Sunday, 17th February, 1980.

Place:

Easthampstead Park, Wokingham, Berks.

Teachers:

Mary Stoker and Ian Hall.

Pianists:

Phyllis Draper and Robert Mackay.

Cost:

£24.00 inclusive of full board, tuition and gratuities. Please do not send this until a letter of acceptance has been received.

Please apply to:

Miss Rosemary Tilden,
7, Lorelei, 31 Avenue Road,
Highgate, London N6 5DG

enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope and giving details of the class you attend.

R.S.C.D.S. LONDON BRANCH

JUBILEE CONCERT

THURSDAY, 13th MARCH, 1980

and

FRIDAY, 14th MARCH, 1980

EDWARD LEWIS THEATRE
(Middlesex Hospital Medical School,
Mortimer Street, London, W.1.)

Robin Ellis and His Band
Branch Demonstration Team
Guest Artistes

Further details in separate leaflet

enclosed with this issue.

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HESTON & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL BALL

March 8th 1980

8 p.m. to Midnight

HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL

KING STREET W6

BOBBY CROWE AND HIS BAND

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14 Shelley Crescent, Hounslow TW5 9BJ

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Please send us your name and address and favourite shopping centre(s) and we will let you have the name and address of the retailer(s) we serve

Enquiries to :

GANDOLFI

36 Mark Road,

Hemel Hempstead, HP2 7DT

Well, here we are at a milestone in our publication; a double milestone, in fact, because apart from being our 150th issue we are also celebrating the Branch's Golden Jubilee.

Thanks to all who have contributed, particularly to our President Dr Ellen Garvie. As many readers know Ellen's father, the late Mr James Garvie, was a leading light in the Branch for many years and we are glad that his photograph appears in this issue.

If you look at the earlier (R)SCDS books, published in the 1920s, early 1930s, you will see that the music was arranged by Mr J. Michael Diack. It is therefore fitting that Mr Diack's grandson James, a Director of Paterson's Publications, has been responsible for the printing of our booklet of new dances. James has taken a real and personal interest in our venture. He has as they say "gone beyond the call of duty" and we owe him our grateful thanks. Thanks too to Joan Gilbert who helped with proof checking of the music.

Grateful thanks must also go to Jim MacLeod and his Band. Tommy Ford, Hebbie Gray, John Sinton, Alex Doig and, of course, Jim himself have by their interest and involvement ensured that "our" record is of a very high musical standard. Thanks too to Producer Ray Horricks, Recording Engineer Martin Smith and his assistant Craig Thomson; also to Decca head office staff Colin Borland and Alan Ould, not forgetting the youngest "girl" and "boy" in the Demonstration Class, Janet Fenningworth and Andrew Kellett who are in the sleeve photograph.

Finally, a word of thanks to Swan and Atkins who print "The Reel" with such care and help, and who added a Professional touch to our publication.

Greetings and congratulations from the Berks, Hants, Surrey Border Branch on the occasion of the London Branch Golden Jubilee.

This branch is a strapping two-year-old compared with your magnificent fifty, and its nature is unusual compared with most branches of the R.S.C.D.S. Let me explain. When this branch was formed there were already in existence four affiliated societies, seven other clubs and nine classes. So in addition to the aims of the R.S.C.D.S. as a whole our object is to assist the existing organizations with information and to complement their activities. This we are doing with additional regular classes of special groups, teaching evenings and one-day schools. Like other branches we have our dancing addicts who travel the Ball circuit but we also have those who for various reasons do not get beyond their own clubs or classes, these we try to visit to reduce any feeling of isolation. It is proving most stimulating and rewarding.

As we are in the commuter belt some of our members will be known to you personally having attended your classes and balls, while we have been happy to welcome some of you to our functions and hope to see more of you in the future. Perhaps at Polesden Lacey or The Wyne, Basingstoke on July 5th?

Enid R. Woollett

Chairman

Berks, Hants, Surrey Border Branch

FUTURE PERFECT OR PAST DEFINITE?

The Golden Jubilee of London Branch is a welcome event and it is fitting that this article, written in celebration of fifty years of Scottish Dancing in London, be concerned with its future world wide. In 1972, when Roy Clowes and I founded Scottish Dance Archives, there was in our minds a conviction that something needed to be done about the spate of new dances which were being devised. We regarded the situation as profoundly unhealthy since the circulation of dances for which no proper text can be obtained leads to many pressures on and problems for teachers and dancers alike. When a dance is popular and the teacher is besieged with requests to teach it, to leave the teacher to fill in the gaps in the inevitably sketchy version is to ensure that different teachers do things differently. This weakens the standing and authority of teachers since "if they can't agree, what are we to believe?"

There is another problem. Dances which are not properly circulated are not exposed to that informed and constructive criticism which is necessary to keep new dances true to the tradition. Devisors can, quite unwittingly, introduce distortions and changes of direction into dancing. An example of this is the way in which most modern devisors produce dances with a strong emphasis on "flow". This does make them popular since they are easier to dance, especially for those who either do not care too much for basic dancing technique or who cannot master it. As a consequence, the pas-de-basque is becoming rarer, and so the basic step patterns are changing. The point here is that this is a real problem. It has to be faced since to ignore it is to hand over the future to others. I say this as someone who, though not a member of the Society, recognises both that the dancing I so much enjoy would not exist but for the RSCDS, and that they are the only conceivable body to control its future.

Archives was set up to provide a route by which dances could be assessed, published and distributed. We hoped to make some contribution to solving the above problem as well as giving the more promising new dances a chance to make their mark outside of their own locality.

And so, seven years on, what now? For me the time demands that we all look seriously and honestly at where we are. The new dances are still with us, and they have a strong hold on many social dance programmes. Do not misunderstand me, I am for new dances and enjoy them. They have their place, but I repeat what was said earlier that the hold that the newer dances have, needs to be faced and understood. Already there are considerable differences in attitudes and in use of the newer dances between different parts of the world, for example between England and North America. Such divisive effects are unhealthy, as is the problem posed for beginners by the in general more complicated nature of these dances and their domination of many social programmes.

Furthermore, I see a divided community. The best estimate I can make of the number of Scottish Dancers in the world is about 50,000 of which some 23,000 are RSCDS members. There are about 15,000 members in affiliated groups and my experience is that there is little contact or community between Branches and Affiliated Groups and less between Branches and groups not linked at all to the RSCDS. Scottish Dancing has spread world wide and I am sure that it cannot survive as we know it unless some way can be found to bring together again the disparate strands that exist today. If not I predict that the dancing world will eventually fragment and that the fragments will go their own way, developing separately and differently so that in the end the world wide character will be lost. The time scale for this may be

relatively long, but the danger is there. There has to be, in a world wide situation, a central authority and that there cannot be when there are deep divisions in the dancing community. As an example, I ask you to consider the effects on world cricket of the quarrel between Kerry Packer and the established order of the day.

And so I urge everyone who values our dancing and who wishes to pass on what they have enjoyed to future generations, to try to close the gap. From whichever side of the divide you stand, try to make contact with those on the other side; try to appreciate what is important to them; let those who worry about the standard of dancing today try to understand and sympathise with those who fear the loss of the very real enjoyment they have from their own approach, and conversely let them in return understand the legitimate fears of those who see the decreasing interest in good dancing leading to eventual disaster.

Such attempts need to start at the local level. Central guidance is only effective when there is a degree of general agreement on the purposes and direction of the common interest. The creation of such a consensus will not be easy. It will require a degree of humility on all sides that is hard to maintain, but none of us has a monopoly of truth, or insight, or integrity, or vision. As someone whose attitudes have changed over the years, who came into dancing not by the Society route, but who appreciates and values what the Society has achieved, I see an overriding need for mutual tolerance and respect. Do not be afraid to make a move from your entrenched position, whatever it may be. Those who deride the effort to bring us back together are poor servants of the cause they profess to advance.

Robert Donald

RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

DANCE

Saturday 23rd February 1980
8.00 to 11.30 pm.

SHEEN LANE CENTRE, SHEEN SW14

STAN WATTS' BAND

Reel of the 51st Division, The Sailor, Alison Rose, Irish Rover, Rothesay Rant, The Duchess Tree, J. B. Milne, Bratach Bana, Silver Tassie, New Virginia Reel, Montgomeries' Rant, McDonald of the Isles, Hooper's Jig, Haddington Assembly, Belle of Bon Accord, Mairi's Wedding, Bees of Maggieknockater, Robertson Rant, Luckenbooth Brooch, Trip to Bavaria.

Tickets £2 including refreshments, available from Mrs. F. Hyde, 25 Fellbrook, Ham, Richmond.

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HARROW AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

NEW YEAR BALL

BRENT TOWN HALL, WEMBLEY

Friday 4th January 1980

7-30 PM — 1 AM

FRANK REID'S BAND

TICKETS £2.00 in advance from:
J. Clark, 24, Rowe Walk, South Harrow,
Middlesex, Tel. 864 9287.

Dear Sir:

When Rita Marlow was Editor of The Reel, I promised to record my observations about branches of the RSCDS on both sides of the Atlantic. Most comments relate to the London and San Francisco branches, although I have also danced with the groups in Washington, D.C., Alexandria, Virginia, and New York City.

The uniqueness of the RSCDS is readily apparent when the characteristics, common to all branches, are noted. These also testify to the soundness of thinking and vision of the Society's founders and organizers.

Each branch has a graded class structure. However, the London Branch has a total of 8 classes all within a relatively small geographic area, whereas the San Francisco Branch spans an area about 160 miles across and holds classes in 13 different cities. This geographic orientation usually means that each city group has its own beginning, intermediate, and advanced classes meeting the same night of the week, frequently in different rooms at the one location. After an hour of separate classes the beginners join the others for social dancing. The Berkeley classes, for example, meet in 2 schools and a church on Fridays at 8:00 pm. After an hour of class work the beginners and advanced people join the intermediates at All Souls' Church for tea and refreshments and social dancing until 11:00 pm.

A significant difference between the two branches' classes exists. The London classes each have a pianist, whereas teaching throughout the United States relies on records for music.

Londoners probably do not realize their good fortune in being able to dance to live music at monthly dances, balls, and dances sponsored by other organizations. The San Francisco dancers perform to records except for special functions such as Balls.

The number of live bands in the United States and Canada can probably be numbered on the fingers of one hand (and not use all the fingers). The San Francisco Branch had its own live music resource (the Berkeley Players Cabbage Band) which played for a number of functions. However, this group, which varied from 9-15 players, disbanded at the end of 1978. The band nearest to the San Francisco Branch now is 400 miles away in Los Angeles. Cabbage Band records are available.

Total membership of the San Francisco Branch now exceeds 250, compared with the London number of over 1,000. However, despite the smaller numbers to draw from, the San Francisco monthly dances typically attract between 100 and 120, which is not so different from Pont Street. The Asilomar (California coastal State Park and Meeting Center) live-in weekend attracts 150 each year with attendees last October from as far afield as Canada (Manitoba), Arizona, Utah, and Ohio. This year, the Asilomar weekend will have John Drewry as one of the instructors, which will make it a little more special.

The London Branch emphasizes the social side of dancing to a greater degree than San Francisco. Owen Meyer encourages his beginners to go to dances from the first lesson onwards, and this is commendable. As a raw beginner I was led, pushed, pulled and guided through countless dances by people who were always encouraging. To them I will be forever grateful. The San Francisco members are not quite so tolerant of the person who needs lots of help in a set. When my wife began dancing in January 1978, it was suggested that she would probably be "ready" for the June Ball. Too frequently, beginners at dances are discour-

aged by invitations couched "Do you know this dance?" rather than "Would you care to do this dance?"

This last year, the San Francisco Branch teachers, who select the dance programs, agreed on a policy of having a dance appear on three consecutive monthly programs. Stated differently, one third of each program will be dances not included on the previous two programs. As an aid to learning, especially the new dances, this is a good idea.

Each Branch has its favorite dances, although there is a considerable degree of overlap in repertoires. For instance, both groups are currently doing Staffin Harvest, while Sailor, Hamilton Rant and Montgomerie Rant are common favorites. However, I have yet to dance Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder or Schiehallion in the United States. In a year of San Francisco Branch monthly dances and balls, Irish Rover did not appear on a single program out of 16, although it was danced as a requested extra on a couple of occasions.

As with the Pont Street dances, the San Francisco dances are catered for by the classes in turn.

Teaching standards are high everywhere and the Society should be proud of these people. One finds excellence, be it at the Gateway School, the Central Y.W.C.A., or elsewhere in London, or in Berkeley, San Jose, Palo Alto, or Lafayette in California, in Alexandria, Virginia, or in the Y.M.C.A. in Downtown New York or the Presbyterian Church on 55th Street and 5th Avenue.

The San Francisco Branch has a demonstration group "The Red Thistles," similar to the London Branch's demonstration class. The group is limited to about 20 people and performs some 10-12 times a year.

The RSCDS is an international family, and the branches and classes welcome one and all, especially the visitor. For those who travel, a pair of ghillies in their luggage is not only a "must," but a guarantee of fun and fellowship.

Hopefully, this letter is not too rambling and may be of interest to members. With best wishes to all my old dancing friends,

Yours sincerely,

Doug McConnell

THE SCOTTISH REEL CLUB

Saturday dances at St. Columba's Church Hall,
Pont Street, S.W.1. 7.00 to 10.30 p.m.

29th December 1979 FRANK REID'S BAND
5th January 1980 CALEDONIAN COUNTRY
BAND

16th February CABER FEIDH
8th March BRIAN HAMILTON'S BAND

15th MARCH — ANNUAL BALL at
PORCHESTER HALL - DANELAW BAND
Full details in the next edition of the Reel.

12th APRIL STAN WATTS' BAND
3rd MAY CALEDONIAN COUNTRY BAND
7th JUNE STAN WATTS' BAND
5th JULY McBAINS' BAND
26th JULY — END OF SEASON DANCE —
FRANK REID'S BAND

Admission (including refreshments) —
except for the Ball
85p Members : £1.00 Non-members : Membership
Fee 75p.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. A. H. Snowsill
49 Wieland Road, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6
3QX. Telephone: 65-26318

N. B. The Annual General Meeting will be held
at St. Columba's, in the Committee Room,
at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, 12th November
1979.

AN EDINBURGH FANCY

Edinburgh Branch of the RSCDS have recently produced a record containing excerpts from the 1979 "An Edinburgh Fancy". The record's sleeve notes written by Graham Bell, Chairman of the Branch read as follows:—

"AN EDINBURGH FANCY was first presented by the Edinburgh Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society in 1954, in the hall of Royal High School. The Branch continued to produce An Edinburgh Fancy in that setting for twenty years. These productions were staged each year during the first week of the international Festival and soon became a firm favourite with visitors to the Festival and natives of the city.

The distinctive features of the Royal High provided an intimate arena for the miscellany of Scots dance, song, verse and music. It was therefore a great disappointment when the doors of Royal High were closed and the Branch could no longer stage An Edinburgh Fancy there. It seemed that the show which had been held in such high affection and regard by its audiences over the years was doomed to extinction.

After a break of two years The Branch found a new home for An Edinburgh Fancy in the George Square Theatre. Although we have lost the central stage which was a hallmark of the earlier productions the George Square Theatre has proved an ideal substitute where intimacy with the audience has been retained. This record contains a selection of the items from the 25th production. Albert Black who produced some of the Royal High productions and several of those in George Square has again brought his particular style and flair to this very special occasion. Michael Elder, our verse speaker is an artist who has contributed to many previous productions and is joined by firm favourites in Kathleen Livingstone and Neil Mackie. The fiddle is in the capable hands of Yla Stevens and the dance music provided by John Ainslie and his Scottish Country Dance Band.

The dancers of the Edinburgh Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society have always been the 'stars' of the show and we hope this record will remind the listeners of many happy evenings at An Edinburgh Fancy."

Our Record Reviewer writes:—

I have seen "An Edinburgh Fancy" a couple of times in recent years and on both occasions I have been much impressed by its freshness. A similar format and the same artistes appearing over the years have in no way made the show appear to be "mixture as before". Long may it flourish. The show's refreshing quality has very successfully been transferred to disc. I always enjoy Yla Stevens' fiddle playing, and I like the sound of John Ainslie's Band, Michael Elder's monologues are pleasing to the ear, but if I may be allowed to single (or double) out, my vote goes to Neil Mackie and his charming wife Kathleen Livingstone. I just love their singing. Kathleen's rendering of "Bothwell Bank", Neil's careful handling of the rather emotional "Afton Water" and their duet of the stirring "Johnnie Cope" are, to me personally, the highlights of this very fine record. Congratulation to Edinburgh Branch.

GOLDEN HARVEST

Dance devised by John Drewry for London Branch's Golden Jubilee.

Strathspey — 4 couples — 32 bars.

Tune— Golden Harvest by Angus Fitchett (Newcastle Collection Page 4.)

In this dance 3rd and 4th couples start on wrong sides.

BARS

1-2 1st couple, giving right hands in passing, cross over towards second place on wrong sides, while 4th couple, similarly, cross over towards third place on own sides. 1st man and 4th lady, and 1st lady and 4th man join left hands and lead out through the side lines (between 2nd couple and 3rd couple) with each lady crossing in front of the man.

3-4 1st couple cast off to fourth place on wrong sides, while 4th couple cast up to top place on own sides.

5-6 4th couple half-turn by the right hand into promenade hold facing down the centre of the dance, while 1st couple half-turn by the right hand into promenade hold facing up the centre of the dance. (2nd couple step up, 3rd down)

7-8 4th couple, retaining promenade hold, dance down, while 1st couple dance up, the ladies passing the another by the right.

9-12 1st couple, dropping left hands, dance right hands across with 2nd lady, while 4th couple, similarly, dance right hands across with 3rd lady.

13-16 1st couple dance left hands across with 2nd man, while 4th couple dance left hands across with 3rd man.

At the end 1st man turns towards his partner to rejoin hands in promenade hold facing 2nd lady, while 4th man, similarly rejoins hands with his partner facing 3rd lady.

(N.B. 1st and 4th men precede their partners in the wheels Bars 9-16)

17-20 1st couple, dancing together, start a reel of three across the dance with 2nd couple — passing 2nd lady by the right.

4th couple, similarly, start a reel of three across the dance with 3rd couple — passing 3rd lady by the right

When 1st and 4th couples meet in the centre of the dance, they drop hands with partners and rejoin hands with the opposite partner— 1st lady and 4th man are facing up, while 1st man and 4th lady are facing down.

21-24 1st lady and 4th man, dancing together, continue the reel of three across the dance with 2nd couple (left shoulder to 2nd lady) and finish on the men's side of the dance.

1st man and 4th lady, similarly, continue the reel across the dance with 3rd couple and finish on the ladies' side.

(4th couple are now in second place on own sides, while 1st couple are in third place on wrong sides)

25-26 4th couple turn one another with both hands to finish in the centre facing down—while 1st couple turn with both hands to face up.

27-28 4th couple set to 1st couple.

29 2nd couple dance in to join inside hands facing down (very briefly) 1st lady and 4th man, joining inside hands dance out to the men's side and stay facing out

1st man and 4th lady, similarly, dance out to the ladies' side. 3rd couple dance to join nearer hands facing up.

30-32 2nd and 4th men, and 1st and 3rd men turn one another by the right hand, while 2nd and 4th ladies, and 1st and 3rd ladies turn by the left.

All finish in the side lines in the order 2,4,1,3 with 1st and 3rd couples on wrong sides.

Repeat from new positions.

BOOKSTALL

(Superseding list in issue No. 145)
Packing and postage 10p for all publications except where otherwise stated.

Apply to Mrs. Stella Booth, 1 Bridle Road, Claygate, Surrey and mark your envelope "Book-stall" in top left hand corner. Cheques or P.O.s payable to R.S.C.D.S. (London Branch). Please enclose a S.A.E. when making general enquiries. R.S.C.D.S. Books with music, 1-14; 16-19; 21; 27-29, 50p each. 15; 20; 22-26, 35p each. Postage 15p.

Index to Books 1-29, 15p.
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Won't You Join the Dance, by Dr. Milligan. The Scottish Country Dance Manual, £1.50, Postage 15p.

Miss Milligan's Miscellany, Vol. 1 and Vol. 2, 50p each, postage 15p.

Graded Book of Scottish Country Dances, with music, 50p, postage 15p—arranged for children and beginners.

5 Traditional S.C. Dances, with music, 25p.
R.S.C.D.S. Leaflets, MacNab Set Dances, Books 1 & 4, 15p each.

R.S.C.D.S. Jubilee Leaflet 1973, 5p.

R.S.C.D.S. 1976 Leaflet, 25p.

R.S.C.D.S. 4 S.C. Dances for 1978, 25p.

24 Favourite S.C. Dances, instructions only, 25p.

The Speyside Collection of Scottish Dance Music, Books 1 & 2, 25p each, postage 15p.

Kerr's Collection of S.C. Dance Music, 60p, postage 15p.

Kerr's Caledonian Collection of S.C.D. Music, 60p, postage 15p.

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Scottish Violinist (J. Scott Skinner), 60p, postage 15p.

Allan's Reels and Strathspeys, 65p, postage 15p.

Alternative Tunes to Books 8-16 (Winifred Bird Matthew), 35p, postage 15p.

Newcastle Collection, £1.20, postage 15p.

Imperial Book of S.C. Dances (instructions only) Vol. 1, £1, Vol. 2, 50p, Vol. 3, £1, Postage 15p.

Ormskirk Collection No. 2, 4, 5, 25p each.

Scottish C.D.s of the 18th Century (Jack McConnachie), £1.50, postage 15p.

Pilling, S.C. Dances in Diagrams, 60p, postage 15p.

Schiehallion (Hugh Thurston), 8p.

Loreburn Book No. 2 (Jackie Johnstone), 55p, postage 15p.

Whetherly Collection (John Mitchell) Book 1, 25p. Books 2 & 3, 50p, each, postage 10p; Book 4, £1, postage 15p.

John Drewry Collection:

Rondel Book, 50p, postage 15p.

Bon Accord Book, £1.20, postage 15p.

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R.S.C.D.S. Records; No. 1 to Book 27; No. 2 to Book 28; No. 3 to 4 New Dances 1978, £2.65 each; No. 4 to Book 29, £2.90. Postage on records; 1-40p; 2-65p; 3-80p; 4-£1.05.

R.S.C.D.S. London Branch Jubilee Record £3.50. Postage 40p.

R.S.C.D.S. London Branch Jubilee Book 40p. Postage 15p.

Combined postage on Record and Book—45p.

THE JUBILEE LINE

Dance devised by John Drewry for London Branch's Golden Jubilee.

Reel — 3 couples — 48 bars.

Tune— The Westwood Reel (Newcastle Collection, page 17)

BARS

1-8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides of the dance.

To begin:- 1st couple dance in and down; 2nd couple dance out and up; 3rd couple dance in and up.

At the end:- 2nd couple stay facing out.

9-10 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over to face out in second place on wrong sides, while 2nd couple dance out and up into top place on own sides.

11-14 1st couple turn their second corners by the left hand (4 steps).

15-16 1st couple half-turn by the right hand and retain hold of hands. (1st lady is above her partner)

17-20 1st couple dance right hands across with 3rd lady.

21-24 1st couple dance left hands across with 2nd man and finish back to back in the centre with 1st lady facing 2nd lady and 1st man facing 3rd man. (i.e. 1st couple are facing partner's second corner)

25-28 1st couple dance half a diagonal reel of four with second corners—at the end 1st couple pass one another by the right to face own first corners.

29-32 1st couple dance half a diagonal reel of four with first corners. At the end 1st couple half-turn one another by the right hand and retain hold of hands. (1st lady is below her partner)

33-36 1st couple dance right hands across with 2nd lady, who is in third place on the men's side.

37-40 1st couple dance left hands across with 3rd man, who is in top place on the ladies' side, and 1st couple finish back to back in the centre facing own first corners. (3rd lady is in top place on the men's side and 2nd man is in third place on the ladies' side)

41-44 1st couple dance half a diagonal reel of four with their first corners—at the end 1st couple pass one another by the right to face own second corners, who have have changed places.

45-48 1st couple dance half a diagonal reel of four with their second corners and finish in second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

At the end of the second turn, 1st and 4th men change places on the sides giving right hands, while 1st and 4th ladies change places giving left hands—this brings 4th couple up to third place ready to dance in and up when the new top couple start dancing.



*First Annual Ball 12th May, 1950. Hyde Park Hotel.
Bill Ireland and Stella Shank going down the middle.*



A group at the Tenth Annual Ball who had also been at the First one. Hyde Park Hotel, May 1959. Includes our President Ellen Garvie and (seated) her late father James; also Elma Taylor, Irene Stewart, Stella Shank, Bill Ireland, John Armstrong, Peter Quinn, Alistair Ross and others.



Demonstration Class Rehearsal, about 1950. Leading man is the late Hugh Foss.



EFDSS Festival at The Royal Albert Hall, 1974. Includes, among others, Rita Marlow lately Editor of "The Reel" and Valerie Farr who composed two of our Jubilee dances.

EDITORIAL

The Committee have decided that this season Members shall receive notices of the Branch's doings and intentions in a periodical publication.

This is it.

"The Reel" will appear six times in the season at about six-weekly intervals. It will be distributed free to all Members of the Branch, and complimentary copies will be sent to Secretaries of other branches of the Scottish Country Dance Society and also to Secretaries of societies and clubs in London whose members we think may be interested in Scottish Country Dancing. We believe that many Branch Members will like to hear of forthcoming dances in and around London organised by these societies and clubs, and we are ready to print (without charge to the organisers, and subject to space being available) notices of their dances in "The Reel." We will normally only have room to give the names of the organisers, date, time and place of the dance, the price of the tickets, and what to wear, but would be glad if the organisers would send us other particulars also, such as the name of the band and the names of the Scottish dances in the programme, which information we will include if we can.

Much of our space will be taken up with official items about the Branch's General Meetings, dances, classes, demonstrations, and so forth, but we hope there will be some left over for correspondence, articles, fiction, verse or anything else about Scottish Country Dancing that will interest you, our readers.

To save ourselves trouble we will not say who we are, except to make clear that "we" in this column will mean we, the editor(s), and not the Committee, the Branch, the Society, the Scots, or every thinking man. When you want to write to us, send your letter to the Secretary of the Propaganda Sub-Committee, and she will see that we get it.

And on you, our readers, we rely for supplying all the correspondence, articles, fiction, verse, and so forth that will make "The Reel" what it will be. So write something and send it to us. The Branch can't afford to pay you for it, but we guarantee to read it. We may publish it—even if we (and the Committee, and the Branch, and the Society, and the Scots) disagree with you.

Write about something connected with Scottish Country Dancing, Highland Dancing, or, if the comparison is interesting, other dancing. But don't assume our readers will understand or be amused by obscure "family" jokes or oblique references to Members of the Branch. Imagine as your reader a newcomer to the Branch, or even a member of another branch.

So seize this opportunity to show that you can write as well as dance.

HOLLAND PARK

Dancing in Holland Park is now such an established part of the London scene that we sometimes feel as if it has always been with us. This is not so. It began as recently as 1963 and an article about it appeared in what we could (at this juncture) call our half-way mark; i.e. in 'Reel' No. 75, published in October of that year. The article is as follows:

"HOLLAND PARK: July 1963

The open-air dancing in Holland Park held on the five Wednesday evenings in July was an almost unqualified success. The only fly in the ointment was the weather

which, while not downright obstructive, remained coyly unco-operative until the last evening. But on that last evening it did us proud: so much, if not all, is forgiven.

The experiment of holding these open-air dances was undertaken, at the invitation of the London County Council, with much cautious optimism, but at the same time with certain misgivings. Would the London public stand for this attempted imposition of an alien culture? Would anyone at all come except those of our own classes who had been more or less dragooned into promising they would? Would there—horrid thought!—be rowdy elements who might spread chaos and disorder among the ranks of the faithful (there had been rumour of such happenings in Another Place)?

All these worries for nothing. In the event, the London public loved it, alien or not. They came first in their tens, then in their hundreds; many to enjoy the spectacle from the touchlines, but many also to dance and, we hope, some at least to become converts with all the passionate fervour of the newly converted. Time will show!

Of course there were many things in our favour. First the dances themselves which, especially when offered with the tantalising bait of Bob Duncan's music—or Peter's pipes—were hard to resist. Then the M.C.s. who did their job not only efficiently but with a friendliness and good humour which added to the evenings' enjoyment and, incidentally, must have enhanced the Society's reputation. Thirdly, there were the pleasant surroundings in one of London's most delightful small parks; and for that we must thank the London County Council very warmly indeed. We hope they liked it all as much as we did. We hope they will invite us to come again!"

THE DEMONSTRATION TEAM—

A MEMBER'S VIEW

However or wherever we dance we cannot forget that Scottish Country Dancing is a marvellous social activity. Most of us cannot imagine what we did with our spare time until we began dancing. We have met many of our closest friends on the dance floor. Through Scottish Dancing we have travelled throughout the country and sometimes abroad making new acquaintances and receiving warm hospitality. Dancing has given us all tremendous fun and enjoyment. Surely then we should want to share our faith and encourage others to join the dance. Certainly that is the *raison d'être* of any RSCDS Branch demonstration team, and London's is no exception.

Over the last fifty years our demonstration team has entertained audiences in countless places: from salubrious West End hotels to wind-swept garden fêtes, from Iron Curtain countries to stockbroker belt suburbia, from the tumult of international festivals to the tranquility of senior citizens' tea parties. Yet always the aim has been the same: to show that ordinary folk, without any special skills and with the average number of physical deficiencies, can have a thoroughly enjoyable time Scottish Country Dancing. No doubt on numerous occasions the team has failed to impress, but whenever spectators have shown interest in sharing the team's enjoyment they have been pointed to a class and wished every happiness in their dancing.

Probably many of you remain sceptical. How can anyone possibly enjoy demonstration dancing? There you are dressed up to the nines, concentrating on foot positions and worrying over what someone is doing at the other end of the set. Where is the pleasure in that? However, it is only when this last point is given full consideration that country dancing becomes truly social. We do not dance alone or just with a partner, but with a set, a team. Dancing with the demonstration group one may not sense a high level of personal artistic achievement but one is certainly aware of an *esprit de corps*, even though team spirit is usually at its height during the consumption of bitter ale and malt whisky which must inevitably follow a session of Bill Ireland's tuition. Like any other dancers those in a demonstration team dance with a particular group because that is where they find their friends.

Of course, there is also much satisfaction in dancing before an audience and, hopefully, being applauded at the conclusion of a good performance, but these rewards are secondary. The principal aim of the team is to promote Scottish Dancing for its own sake.

We now celebrate the Branch's Golden Jubilee. For fifty years the RSCDS has brought enjoyment to thousands of Londoners. Clearly then this is a time for self-congratulations, but not one for introspection. Let us continue to enjoy ourselves, but let us also encourage others to share our music and laughter by inviting them to join the dance. That is not just a task for the demonstration team but one in which we can all play a part. If we are successful we shall have many more adherents when we celebrate our centenary.

A. M. K.

CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY

JUBILEE YEAR

28, Charlton Close

Cheltenham

The Editor

The Reel

Phone: 0242 24704

Dear Sir,

It was noted in your Issue No. 148 that this is your Jubilee Year and it so happens that this is also the Jubilee Year of the Cheltenham Scottish Society. All functions this year will have a special Jubilee character but the main event for our dancing fraternity will be the Jubilee Highland Ball which will be held in the Cheltenham Town Hall on Friday 21st March 1980.

Dancing will be to The Thistle Scottish Dance Band starting at 8.00 p.m. and will continue until 1.00 a.m. on Saturday 22nd March. The programme will be chosen from our favourites over the past 50 years but we do hope to introduce a new dance called CLATTERIN' O' CHELTENHAM to commemorate the event.

Yours sincerely

GORDON AITKENHEAD

FOR SALE

BELL 80 Bass Accordion. Tel. Northwood 25655.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
from all at
S. N. D. C.

Distaff Side

First impressions may sometimes be wrong but they are invariably lasting, so firmly imprinted on the mind are they. Branch dances for me still evoke memories of the Royal Scottish Corporation Hall and, even now, it requires a conscious effort not to say, "See you at Fetter Lane!" At any rate, my first visit there, even my very first dance there, come vividly to mind. Clearly, when one is young, one is also impressionable!

I had come by myself, and the dance had already begun. I approached the door of the hall from which the sounds of music floated, with some hesitation. I was very much a novice but had been assured by well-meaning friends that there would be many dances I could do—people were always very helpful—and I could skip the dances I didn't know. Now these friends were absent. In any case, there are times in life when one must swim in the sea alone, and I had decided that this was one. Now that I had arrived, I wasn't so sure!

A gentleman, dressed, not in the kilt, but in a dark suit was seated beside the door. A large man, in fact more of a mountain than a man, or so he appeared to me. (Some kind of 'bouncer', I wondered?) Timidly, I held out my ticket. The mountain gave a friendly nod and waved a hand towards the door. My lack of assurance must have been apparent, for he called after me, "Is this your first time here?" I affirmed. "Then let me take you in," he said. "I'll introduce you to a good dancer who'll look after you." And in we went! Quickly he surveyed the scene. It seemed most of the likely lads were busy. Then his eye lighted on one who "would do." Over we went and the introduction was quickly made. The young man's face expressed some surprise but he accepted the assignment cheerfully enough—at any rate, he was clearly not disposed to argue with "the mountain," who quickly disappeared. He was, of course, the late Ronald Ryall, whose kindness to me on this occasion I remember with gratitude.

My selected partner did not wear the kilt either, preferring grey flannel trousers. He wore grey socks under his ghillies and into the tops of these he had tucked his trousers. This gave him the appearance of having arrived by bicycle and of not having removed his cycling clips. Scarcely had we had time to make acquaintance when the next dance was announced. He promptly and courteously—as in duty bound—asked me to dance. I felt obliged to accept: in the circumstances to have refused would have been doubly discourteous, but I realized all too well that this was a dance I did not know and had thought to sit out. In response to my anguished plea, I was assured I'd be pulled through it. It was Montgomerie's Rant, not a difficult dance once you've done it, but horror of horrors, we were top couple! Crossing and casting, reels of three, one can make a stab at these, but the type of setting peculiar to this dance I had not then encountered—indeed, I'd never even seen it! True to his word, I found myself twisted this way and that by my partner, receiving a firm tug of the wrist whenever I became too wayward. My beginner's luck helped me through the first time, but did not extend to the second time through. Bewildered as I was, I decided I must make some effort. I concentrated madly on setting to everyone in turn, or so it seemed to me, and inevitably turned the wrong way: the tugs at my wrist became more and more insistent, the reels were a disaster—32 bars can seem a terribly long time!—and I wasn't sorry when it was all over. My partner was a very pleasant young man, and tolerant, for he did, in fact, dance with me again—though not immediately! His name now escapes me and he lingers in my memory simply as "Bicycle clips."

Midway through the proceedings came the refreshments. Suddenly the floor cleared and, right on cue, two large and rather antiquated trolleys rolled into the middle and were immediately submerged beneath a host of kilted men, all bent on securing plates of food to hand round: trays of tea appeared and worked their way round the hall. I duly received a cup, but food was still a long way off. The crowd dispersed and the trolleys came back into view, now somewhat denuded of plates. Women's Lib was not yet "in" but, spying one or two other females near the trolleys I decided I should remedy the situation before it was too late. As I hovered in the wake of the remaining acolytes, a voice said, "You look as if you might be wanting something to eat. Will you take this?" The strong accent, proclaiming his origin, momentarily startled me. Later, in fact, I was to be in his class for many years and still, on occasion, had difficulty in following what he said!

I accepted the plate gladly and sat down to eat and reflected that it was all very civilized and that the Scots were indeed a very courteous race.

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH RSCDS

DAY SCHOOL Saturday 22nd March, 1980,
Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced Classes.
Teachers: Dr. McFadyen, Mrs. Vera Sim, Mrs. Christine Meyer.

Pianist: Robert Mackay, Robin Ellis, Kitty McLachlan.

ANNUAL BALL Saturday 19th April, 1980.
Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

DANELAW BAND
Further details and bookings from:
Hon. Sec. Mrs. B. Morris.

35 Greenleas, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
Pembury 2709. (Evenings).

Dancing every Tuesday—8.00 pm. Wilman Road School, Tunbridge Wells.

From the Editor of "BOX AND FIDDLE"

To the readers of "The Reel", "Box and Fiddle" sends its warmest regards and congratulates "The Reel" on reaching its 150th issue. Much praise must go to the editor and, most important, to all those who contributed over the years with information and items of interest.

"The Reel" is the vital line of communication whereby everyone is kept up to date with what is going on. Having survived for so long is proof that the efforts of those concerned has been appreciated and there is no doubt whatsoever that "The Reel" will continue to go forward into the future with confidence.

"Box and Fiddle" is a very young newspaper, three years' old. It belongs to the National Association of Accordion and Fiddle Clubs. These clubs stretch from The Shetlands to Consett in Co. Durham. They meet once a month from October to April where the musical culture is kept alive and where the encouragement of youngsters is of paramount importance.

Although we have never met we are on the same wavelength, that is, to foster our national culture and heritage. Also on the same parallel lines are Folk Clubs, Strathspey and Reel Societies and a host of other associations. We are indeed fortunate.

As to the future, we have a tremendous lot of brilliant young players coming along; each one eager, able and willing to play the music for your young dancers to display their grace, agility and competence. In keeping with this bright future will be "The Reel".

Long may "The Reel" flourish.

Yours aye,
Ian Smith.

Note: Any of our readers who are interested in subscribing to "Box and Fiddle" are asked to write direct to Mr Ian L. Smith, 50 Mount Vernon Road, Stranraer, Wigtownshire.

A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DR. ELLEN GARVIE

Dear Members,

Fifty years is a long time in a human span and while my memory does not reach back to the London Branch in 1930, I first knew of its existence in 1932 or 33. I was allowed to go to my first Branch dance probably in 1934. Seen through schoolgirl's eyes the dance appeared different from those held today but I wonder if it really was.

We have a Branch of which we can be proud and this is due to the unflinching work of the many people who have served on the committee, taught classes and provided music. However, an organisation gets the workers it deserves and the workers get the support they deserve. We all make the Whole. The active organisers have gauged the mood of members, made experiments, discarded the unsuccessful, retained the successful. Some things have come and gone; our Annual Ball, first suggested on a District Line train between South Kensington and Victoria in the spring of 1938; Arran holidays. Others have come and stayed; weekend schools and summer dancing in the parks despite a move to August and the London summers.

I will not mention anyone by name, the list would be too long and to select unfair. Unfortunately, the names of several active in the 1930s are remembered by only three or four and no written record exists. This is sad, and in this Jubilee Year, I would tell again what happened. The original minute book was kept by Mrs. Law, secretary from 1931 until her death in the early years of the War. When her possessions were sorted SCDS matters were packed in a box but owing to war time conditions not unpacked by the Branch for some considerable time. When inspected the minute book was missing. Her friends searched high and low but the book was never found.

This brings me to the start of the Branch. We can never know the exact date but my father, who did the research to establish our origin, concluded that it was 1930. He was always insistent on accuracy and I accept his conclusion.

At one time, when we were the only branch outside Scotland we felt a little isolated but we have always kept in touch with HQ and felt to be part of a larger whole.

When I thought of writing for the 150th Reel I considered a potted history—but even potted it would be too long. Maybe I will leave that for later years when I can sift through 150 plus copies of The Reel.

Since the Jubilee in 1973, several Branches have celebrated their Silver Jubilee. London never gave 1955 a thought; perhaps we were confident that we would still be active in 1980.

And so to conclude, I wish you all a Golden Jubilee which will leave many happy memories and hope that some of our younger members will still be there to celebrate the Centenary and say "I remember the fun we had in 1980".

Yours sincerely,
Ellen.

WHO IS A SQUARE?

16 Beaufort Gardens,
London SW3.

Sir,

As a dancer since childhood I have long been familiar with the symbols in the RSCDS instructional booklets, and accepted that I am "a square". Imagine then how disconcerted I was, as a medical editor, to learn that in genetics it is the men who are the squares. Did Miss Milligan choose these symbols by accident, or was it an unfortunate—and irritating—case of misinformation?

A pity she never knew that square pegs fit into round holes.

Mary Bramwell.

DIRECTIVES

In a breezy yet emphatic speech to the S.C.D.S. Summer School at St. Andrews, Miss Milligan said:

"In the skip-change-of-step, the foot must not go under, but it *must* close."

"There must be no two-beat pas de basque . . . the jeté must *not* go out to the side or to the back."

The travelling strathspey begins with a long slide, *not* a hop."

Our mentor led up to these remarks by saying she was perturbed by the things she had seen and heard in her peregrinations among the Branches. There should be less quarrelsome or petulant discussion over slight variations or differences of style; the Society is now so big, *all* can't be of a pattern.

Although standards must be set—and the present basic technique was as it had existed for 150 to 200 years—no one was entitled to say whether a thing was right or wrong, except where it departed from the basic: one might only state one's preferences.

Miss Milligan began her speech with a serious exhortation, repeated later, that "the Society's first object is social."

Editor's comment:

There are still people who *insist* that the teacher ought to be able to say *exactly* where one should be and in which direction one should be facing at Bar 6½ of any given figure.

I well remember, 25 years on from 1951, early in 1976 Miss Milligan reminding the Publications Committee that one danced in eight bar phrases—not 2+2+4 or 4+2+2. (Perhaps we could all bear this in mind as we dance Bars 1 to 8 of "Newton Park" from our new booklet). Miss Milligan went further. If the dance is one where first couple are dancing all the time they dance a 32-bar phrase; or even a 48 one! How many of us have to stop and hop on the spot at Bars 15/16 of Maxwell's Rant before we cross and cast, or when we come up the middle before we cast at Bars 24/25 of Miss Mary Douglas?

30 Alexandra Grove
Finsbury Park,
London N4 2LF.

Dear John,

A short while ago I came across a photograph in a book showing Laurel and Hardy posing with Sir Harry Lauder. They visited him on a trip to Britain, and all three were in Highland dress with Stan Laurel having appropriated one of Sir Harry's wiggly walking sticks.

It got me thinking whimsically that if Stan and Olly were around today they might have a go at Scottish dancing, and after the inevitable chaos Olly could turn to Stan and say "Another Fife Ness you've got me in".

Regards,

Gerald Hitchcock.

THE LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

BALL

with

Bobby Crowe

and his Scottish Country Dance Band

Saturday, 2nd February, 1980

at

Porchester Hall, London, W2

7.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.

Programme:

The Irish Rover, Hamilton House, Angus McLeod, The Birks of Invermay, General Stuart's Reel, The Blacksmith of Elgin, The Winding Road, Airie Bennan, The Flowers of Edinburgh, Welcome to Queen's Cross, Grand March and Eightsome Reel.

The Sailor, Peggy's Wedding, The Bonnie Lass o' Bon Accord, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, The Foursome Reel, The White Heather Jig, La Russe, The Duchess Tree, Polharrow Burn, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder. Mrs MacPherson of Inveran.

Admission £2.50

Numbers will be strictly limited and tickets available in advance only. Tickets from the Treasurer at our regular dances (see separate announcement) or from Mrs Fay Cattell, 75 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey (Tel: Epsom 27206). S.A.E. please—cheques payable to the London Highland Club.)

THE LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

Unless otherwise stated, dances are held at St. Columba's Pont Street, London SW1.

7.00 to 10.30 p.m.

November

Fri. 2nd Club Night
Sat. 10th Dance—Brian Hamilton's Band
Sat. 17th Grand Autumn Dance at Porchester Hall with John Macgregor and his Band (see separate announcement)
Fri. 30th Club Night

December

Fris. 7th and 14th Club Nights
Sat. 22nd Grand Christmas Dance—Frank Reid and his Band (N.B. At St. Columba's this year).
Mon. 31st "Last Dance of the Decade"—Hogmanay Club Night and Dance.

January

Fris. 4th and 18th Club Nights
Sat. 12th Afternoon—Children's Party
Evening—Burns' Night Dance including Haggis Supper — Caber Feidh Band.

February

Sat. 2nd Highland Ball at Porchester Hall — see separate announcement.

TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY.

Fris. 15th & 22nd Club Nights

Enquiries: Acting Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Margaret Tate,
42 Stafford Road, Caterham
Tel. Caterham 46220

or telephone Graham Cattell, Epsom, 27206
(evenings) — if urgent — Leatherhead 75841
(office hours).

EARLY DAYS AT THE

ST. ANDREW'S SUMMER SCHOOL

I wonder how many of the older branch members can recall the early days, about 1946/7: about six or eight men to perhaps 200 (or more) ladies. The men fussed over by Miss Milligan and in great demand by some ladies. Among the teachers, Mrs Florence Lesslie, Miss Allie Anderson, Winnie Richardson now Mrs Wadsworth, Miss Collie (Peterhead) as well, of course, Miss Milligan (in the days when she could be persuaded to dance) and the formidable Miss Ross. One of the halls of residence being St. Regulas way up off South St. where much fun was had away from the eyes of the Senior teachers.

In the later years many of the London Branch members were put up at the Guest House in South Street. On one occasion perhaps some can recall a peculiar smell emanating from the Sitting Room. A fishy smell, not discovered for some time. Someone had paid a visit to the fishmongers and lost the fish behind a piece of furniture! That was the last time the Society used the Guest House to put up members! I recall the meetings of the S. A. Secret Society and its ceremonies and the trepidation of the new to be initiated members. Memories too of the parties (not Ceilidhs in those days), John Corbett's (Newcastle) imitation of a gracious lady, the music, the special dance teams and the recitations ('My Baby'). Later on in years I recall the christening of an ancient motor car belonging to John Armstrong. The certificate classes taught by the veteran teachers and passed out by Miss Milligan, who on the occasion of my passing revived me with strong drink (unusual). In those days outside halls such as the Younger Hall were not available for social dances. All we had was the piano with Kitty MacLachlan and a packed house at the Hall later on to be viewed on the balcony (?) by Mrs McNab and other notables, including Gen. Ord Wingate's widow. The dancing on the Forth Ferry after a visit to the Edinburgh Tattoo and Fish and Chips on the return journeys from Demonstrations at Crieff, Aberfeldy, Perth etc. (Dancing to Jim Cameron's Band plus trumpet.)

Happy Days, wonderful memories. I haven't been to St. Andrew's for many years, save to visit Miss Milligan, I suppose the fun and frolic as well as the companionship must continue, or it wouldn't be the Society's Summer School?

EDGAR COLLINS

ENGAGEMENTS DIARY

DECEMBER

Saturday 22nd—The London Highland Club—Grand Christmas Dance at St. Columba's, Pont Street, SW1. Frank Reid's Band. Tickets (including refreshments)—Members £1.25, Non-members £1.50, OAPs 75p.

Please note: Tickets will be available both in advance and at the door.

s.a.e. for programme etc.—Mrs. Fay Cattell, 75 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey. (Telephone: Epsom 27206).

Monday 31st—The London Highland Club—"Last Dance of the Decade"—Hogmanay Club Night and Dance at St. Columba's, Pont Street, SW1.

Admission (including refreshments)—Members 80p. Non-members £1.00.

Please note: All tickets will be available at the door on the night.

s.a.e. for programme etc.—Mrs. Fay Cattell, 75 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey. (Telephone: Epsom 27206).

JANUARY

Saturday 12th—The London Highland Club—Burns' Supper Dance. Caber Feidh Band. Admission (including Haggis Supper)—Members £1.25, Non-members £1.50, OAPs 75p.

Please note: All tickets will be available at the door on the night.

s.a.e. for programme etc.—Mrs. Fay Cattell, 75 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey. (Telephone: Epsom 27206).

Saturday 12th

Milton Keynes R.S.C.D.S. Annual Ball. McBains Band. Enquiries Miss M. E. Nicholson, 82 Wolverton Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. Phone Newport Pagnell (0908) 610659.

Saturday 12th

Goldsmith's College. Annual Scottish Country Dance. With Frank Reid and his Band. 7.30-11 p.m. Tickets £1.25, including refreshments. In advance please, from School of Adult & Social Studies, Goldsmith's College, Lewisham Way, New Cross, London, SE14 6NW. Tel. day 01-692 7171. After 5.30 p.m. 01-692 4398.

APRIL

Saturday 19th

Milton Keynes R.S.C.D.S. Day School. Milton Keynes College of Education. Derek Haynes, Robert and Hilary Warburton. Enquiries Mrs. D. R. Warburton, 6 Akerman Close, Greenleys, Milton Keynes, MK12 6AA.

THE LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

GRAND AUTUMN DANCE WITH

JOHN MacGREGOR AND HIS BAND

Saturday 17th November at Porchester Hall, W2.

7.00 to 11.30 p.m.

Programme

The Montgomeries' Rant, The Starry Eyed Lassie, Polharrow Burn, Cannon Hill Assembly, The Hamilton Rant, Twa Roguish E'en, The LHC's Farewell to Fetter Lane, The Duchess Tree, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, The White Heather Jig, The Bonnie Lass o' Bon Accord, Bratach Bana, Schiehallion/Thirteen Fourteen, A Scottish Waltz, The Irish Rover, Welcome to Queen's Cross, Airie Bannan, The Sailor.

Extras: A Trip to Bavaria, The Baldovan Reel, Neidpath Castle, Bonnie Ann.

Admission: In advance £2.00 At Door £2.25

Tickets available from the Treasurer at our regular dances (see separate announcement) or from Mrs. Fay Cattell, 75 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey. (Tel. Epsom 27206). S.A.E. please—cheques payable to the London Highland Club).

THE CLASSES SYLLABUS 1979/80

Central London Institute

Day Standard

Monday Advanced

Tuesday Intermediate

The Central Y.W.C.A. is in Great Russell Street and near Tottenham Court Road Station.

Applications and enrolment fees to Mrs. Pat Brown, 95 Kinfauns Road, Goodmayes, Essex.

Place

Central Y.W.C.A.

Central Y.W.C.A.

Marlborough School

Marlborough School

Marlborough School

Teacher

Mr. Alex Westwood

Miss Marie Jamieson

Mr. Owen Meyer

Mr. Owen Meyer

Mr. William Ireland

Pianist

Miss Gertrude Stewart

Miss Angela Stafford

Mrs. Joan Gilbert

Mrs. Joan Gilbert

Mrs. Phyllis Draper

Time

7.15 to 9.15 p.m.

7.15 to 9.15 p.m.

6.30 to 8.00 p.m.

8.15 to 9.45 p.m.

7.00 to 9.00 p.m.

Chelsea-Westminster Institute

Wednesday

Beginners

Intermediate

Advanced

Marlborough School

Marlborough School

Marlborough School

Mr. Owen Meyer

Mr. Owen Meyer

Mr. William Ireland

Mrs. Joan Gilbert

Mrs. Joan Gilbert

Mrs. Phyllis Draper

Marlborough School is in Sloane Avenue, off King's Road, S.W.3, and is near Sloane Square and South Kensington Stations. Applications and enrolment fees to Mr. John McDonald, The Shielling, Thistleworth Marine, Railshead Road, Isleworth, Middx.

Marylebone Institute

Tuesday

Advanced

Demonstration

Thursday

Beginners

Quintin School

Rutherford School

Gateway School

Mrs. Mary Stoker

Mr. William Ireland

Mrs. Alison Ferguson

Mrs. Phyllis Draper

Miss Gertrude Stewart

Miss Gertrude Stewart

7.15 to 9.15 p.m.

7.15 to 9.15 p.m.

7.15 to 9.15 p.m.

Quintin School is in Marlborough Hill, N.W.8 off Finchley Road and near St. John's Wood Station. Rutherford School is in Penfold Street, N.W.1 (off Bell Street) and near Edgware Road and Marylebone Stations. Gateway School is in Capland Street, N.W.8 (off Frampton Street) and near Edgware Road Station. Applications and enrolment fees to Mrs. H. U. Brown, 6 Wells Drive, N.W.9. Advanced Class. Miss Rita Marlow, 71 Connell Crescent, Ealing, W5 3BL—Beginners Class.

Terms : Autumn ... 17th September to 14th December 1979

Spring ... 7th January to 30th March 1980

Summer ... 21st April to 27th June 1980

Fees : (inclusive of the Institute fee) Beginners Class : £9.50 per session; or £4.00 per term. All other Classes: £10.00 per session; or £4.50 per term. Cheques payable to R.S.C.D.S. (London Branch).

ALL ENQUIRIES REGARDING CLASSES should be sent to Mrs. H. U. Brown, 6 Wells Drive, N.W.9

NOTES ON THE STANDARD OF CLASSES *Beginners* For those who have 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.

THE LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB BALL

with

Bobby Crowe and his Scottish Country Dance Band

Saturday 2nd February 1980

at Porchester Hall, London W2

7.00 to 11.30 p.m.

PROGRAMME

The Irish Rover, Hamilton House, Angus McLeod, The Birks of Invermay, General Stuart's Reel, The Blacksmith of Elgin, The Winding Road, Airie Bannan, The Flowers of Edinburgh, Welcome to Queen's Cross, Grand March and Eightsome Reel.

The Sailor, Peggy's Wedding, The Bonnie Lass o' Bon Accord, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, The Foursome Reel, The White Heather Jig, La Russe, The Duchess Tree, Polharrow Burn, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder, Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran.

Admission £2.50

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From "Reel" No. 11, March, 1953

DIFFERENT

"NOW do remember to smile at your partner. Look as though you enjoyed dancing with her. Come along, you two. You can do better than that."

"This is different. We're merrier."

WHERE AND OH WHERE

"FACE first corners. No! No! First corners. We spent half an hour on this last week. Now, Mrs Macgregor, who is your first corner?"

"It's Mr Mackay. But he's not here the night."

EFDSS FOLK FESTIVAL

The London Branch Demonstration Team will be taking part in the English Folk Dance and Song Society's Festival at the Royal Albert Hall on 22nd and 23rd February 1980.

RECORD REVIEW

It is regretted that the Record Review has had to be held over. It will appear in Reel No. 151.

"THE CARSWELLIAN"

"The Carswellian" is a Scottish Country Dancing bulletin covering Avon, Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall. There are six issues per year and the editor is Mr E. C. Hutchings, 11 Fore Street, Kingskerswell, Newton Abbott, South Devon.

Mr Hutchings, in a recent letter, congratulates London Branch on attaining its Golden Jubilee and also the 150th issue of "The Reel", and says "Long may both continue."

The following article, from a recent issue of "The Carswellian", is reproduced with permission.

"HAVE KILT—WILL TRAVEL"

The month of March—the near end of another season—was a month of very nearly 1,000 miles of travel to attend dances and classes for my wife and self.

The first of our 'long distance' dances was at Weymouth for the W. Dorset Caledonian Society Annual Ball dancing to the music of MacBain's S.C.D. Band, then down to Truro the following weekend for another dance organised by the Truro S.C.D. and finally to London for the R.S.C.D.S. London Branch Annual Spring Dance at Porchester Hall to the music of Jim McLeod and his band on the Friday night and on Saturday the London Highland Club monthly dance at St Columba's Hall, Pont Street, with the Caledonian Country Dance Band.

Four different venues, many new faces, varied programmes, all Groups 'different' in their own way but we had an equally enjoyable time at all four. We met and talked to a number of people who were previously just names, whom we had either spoken to on the 'phone, heard or read about, but all of whom have taken the same keen and enthusiastic common interest—Scottish Country Dancing.

I think perhaps the highlight of our miles of travel was the dancing of the R.S.C.D.S. London Branch Demonstration Team at Porchester Hall—their dancing was superb in every way and really was a joy to watch.

By the end of the month we were somewhat travel weary but it was all very worthwhile for we had enjoyed meeting, talking and dancing with 'new faces' and gaining knowledge of the different dances which are more familiar and popular in the various areas. E.C.H."

Note: Mr Hutchings is not the same person as "Have Kilt Will Travel" whose letters have been published in previous editions of "The Reel".

GOLDER KELPI

PROFESSIONAL DANCE SHOES

Order from your Dancing Teacher

or direct from the

SNDC Trade Stand or Sales Office

1 Lakeside, Earley, Reading, RG6 2PG

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

ALDRINGTON (HOVE) SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP (Affiliated to R.S.C.D.S.)—Meet 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, Portlady, Brighton, Sussex, BN4 1XF. Tel.: Brighton 416893.

AYLESBURY—Scottish Country Dancing weekly—also social activities monthly. Details from Betty Gray, Alicante, Terrick, nr. Aylesbury. Tel. Stoke Mandeville (029-661) 2572.

BEXHILL & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Dancing Class, St. Peter's Community Centre, Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Secretary, Arthur Sims, Northern Hotel, Bexhill (0424) 212836.

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH R.S.C.D.S.—Meetings every Thursday (Beginners) and Friday, 7.45-10.30 p.m. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. B. Saunders, 13 Harbour View Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset. Tel: Parkstone 741637. Visitors welcome.

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.

CHELTEHAM 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 Mrs. P. Aitkenhead, 28 Charlton Close, Cheltenham. Tel. Cheltenham 24704.

CHILTERN EDGE SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY meets at Chiltern Edge School, Sonning Common (6 miles north of Reading) on Thursday evenings 7.30 to 9.30 September to June. Newcomers very welcome. Please contact Jill Scraggs, Kidmore End 2469.

CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Details from Miss J. Martin, 19 Garrick Crescent, Croydon (Tel. 681 3968). Classes at Reigate (General—Mondays); Forestdale (Advanced—Mondays); Selsdon (Beginners/Elementary—Mondays); Purley (General—Tuesdays); Selsdon (Intermediate/Advanced—Tuesdays).

DOWNHAM MARKET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP (NORFOLK). Meet every Monday. Instruction and dancing. For details contact Mrs. Sheila Barnes 'Pendle', Bexwell Road, Downham Market. Tel. 03663 3222.

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 Reformed Church Hall, Mount Park Road, Ealing, W.5. For details contact Secretary, Mrs. Jo Gibbs, 15 September Court, Dormers Wells Lane, Southall, Middlesex. Tel. 01-571 1668.

EASTBOURNE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. Hon. Sec. Mrs. C. M. Bull, 36 Lushington Road, Eastbourne, Sussex BN21 4LL. Tel. 21544. Dance on Wednesdays 7.45-10 p.m. October to April at The Kings Arms, Seaside, Eastbourne. New members and visitors welcome.

ELSTREE & BOREHAMWOOD REEL CLUB—Dances held at Community Centre, Borehamwood 2nd Saturday each month September to June and Annual Ball 9th February. Enquiries: 01-449 3155.

EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION (Affiliated to the R.S.C.D.S.)—Classes in Scottish country dancing on Mondays (September to April). 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 DANCING CLUB have changed their venue. Dancing every Tuesday at 8 p.m. September to May, at the Memorial Hall, West Street, Farnham, Surrey. Instruction every other week. Hon. Sec.: Dennis Bradley, Danceswood, Frensham, Farnham, Surrey. Tel Frensham 3732.

FELTHAM & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION Mid-September to Mid-May. Meet every Tuesday. Instruction and dancing. For details contact Mrs. A. Redding, 53 Grove Road, Hounslow, Middx. TW3 3PR. 01-570 8662.

FESTIVAL OF SCOTLAND IN LONDON ASSOCIATION—Hon. Secretary: Miss L. A. Baker, 22 Linkenholt Mansions, Stamford Brook Avenue, London, W.6. Hon. Publicity Officer/Editor: Miss Freda Graham, 62 Oxford Gardens, W.10. Tel.: 01-969 4916. Details of Corporate and Associate membership now available. Active members especially welcome. May we hear from you?

FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY meets on alternate Saturdays for Social Dancing at SS Phillip and James Church Hall, Kings Road, Fleet, Hants. at 7.30 p.m. Details from Doris Dove. Tel. Fleet 7090.

GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesdays, 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 St. Alban's Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, N.W.11. Dance instruction given. All welcome. Children's S.C. dancing tuition on Tues. 6.30-7.30 p.m.—6 years upwards. Enquiries for classes to Miss Sheena W. Dallas, 29 Queen's Court, Hampstead Way, London NW11 7TN. Tel. Home 01-455 1744.

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.: G. R. White. Telephone Harpenden 61692.

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.

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. Secretary, Mrs. E. Lewis, 23 Mannering Gardens, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. Tel. 0702 41194.

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. Saturday dances with McBain's Band. Enquiries to: Miss Barbara Taylor, 8 South Drive, Beaconsfield. Tel.: 3922, or Miss Priscilla Francis, Botley House, Chesham. Tel.: 2070.

MILTON KEYNES BRANCH R.S.C.D.S. Meets on Mondays. Details from Secretary, Mrs. D. R. Warburton, 6 Akerman Close, Greenleys, Milton Keynes, MK12 6AA. Phone Milton Keynes (0908) 312223.

NORTH HERTS REEL CLUB (Affiliated to the R.S.C.D.S.)—Dancing most Wednesdays 8-10 p.m. from September to May at Roecroft 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 mid September to end April at St. Andrews United Reformed Church, London Road, Reading. Secretary, Mrs. V. W. Craig, The Firs, Carter's Hill Lane, Arborfield, Reading, Berks., or telephone Peter Luke, 0734 56339.

RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Freda Hyde, 25 Fellbrook, Ham, Richmond, Surrey. Tel.: 940 8757. 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.

RISELEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP (BEDFORDSHIRE). Classes: Tuesdays, Advanced Westfield A.E. Centre; Thursdays, General, Riseley A.E. Centre. Regular Dances, Day Course Nov. 11th. Angus Boyd, 3 Nursery Gardens, Bedford (46461), Sheila Barnes, Pendle, Bexwell Rd., Downham Market (3222).

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.: Miss J. E. Aylward, 42a Mount Zion, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Tel.: Tunbridge Wells 25272 (office hours).

ST. IVES SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB. Meets every Thursday, 8 p.m. in St. Ives, Cambridgeshire. Annual Ball, 20th October, 1979. Further details from Mrs. B. L. Sharpe, Mill Lane, Hemingford Grey, Cambs. Tel: St. Ives (0480) 65829.

THE SCOTTISH CLANS' ASSOCIATION OF LONDON. Meets on Tuesdays from 2nd October, 1979 in the upper hall, St. Columba's Church, Pont Street, S.W.1. Instruction given before general Country Dancing. 7.15 p.m. - 10.30 p.m. Enquiries on Clans' functions to: Miss Faith MacNicol 45 Morant Place, Wood Green N22 4HT. Tel: 01-889 8486.

THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY—Regd. office: 1 Lakeside, Earley, Reading, Berks. RG6 2PG. Tel. Reading (STD 0734) 666006. *THE DIFFERENCE IN DANCING.* Professional entertainment throughout the year; Highland and Scottish Country dance instruction; DAYS OF DANCE, Lectures, etc. Details through mailing list, 40p per annum. Mail order service for dancing accessories.

SEVENOAKS REEL CLUB. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. J. M. Moore, High Spinney, Old Coach Road, Wrotham, Nr. Sevenoaks. Tel. Fairseat 822340. Classes on Tuesdays, October to April.

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. Upwey 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 St. George's United Reformed Church Hall, Park Road, Southend-on-Sea. Hon. Sec. Mrs. K. M. Judkins, 62 Avenue Road, Westcliff-on-Sea. Tel.: 43951.

SOUTH-EAST HERTS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY—Dancing in Hertford, monthly September to May. Fridays 8-11 p.m. Weekly dance classes Tuesdays 7.45 p.m. (September to April) in Hertford. Advanced class fortnightly Mondays in Hertford. New members and beginners welcome. Details from Hon. Sec. Mrs. L. Dunbar, 95 Mandeville Road, Hertford, Herts. Tel. Hertford 50449.

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.: David Park, 65 Leatherhead Road, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2TP. Tel. Ashted 72046.

ST. ANDREW SOCIETY (LONDON)—The Wimbledon and District Scots' Association (affiliated to R.S.C.D.S.). Dancing every other Tuesday, 8 p.m., at Wimbledon Community Centre, St. George's Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19. Full details from Mrs. A. White, 77 Malden Hill, New Malden, Surrey. Tel. 942 1395.

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 0A7 (Tel.: 01-647 1690).

WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY—Dancing classes held in St. Michael's Church Hall, Durban Road West, Watford, from September to June. Adults every Tuesday evening from 8 to 10 p.m. and children every Saturday evening. Details from Hon. Secretary, Stanley Fraser, 79 Kilby Close, Watford. Tel: Garston 72664 or 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. Ivy Dunkley, 21 Greenhill Park, London NW10 9AN. Tel. 01-961 0861.

WEST SURREY SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP. Meeting in Guildford on Monday Evenings September-Easter. Enquiries to: W. F. McLaren, 2 Churchfields, Hursell 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. Audrey Dickson, 38 Highfields Road, Witham, Essex. Tel. Witham 513252.

WORCESTER SCOTS SOCIETY—Scottish country dancing most Tuesday evenings at 7.30 p.m., Christopher Whitehead Girls School, Bromwich Road, Worcester. Enquiries to Hon. Sec.: Mr. Clive Bridges, 137 Malvern Road, Worcester WR2 4LN. Tel. 421117.

WORTHING—WAVERLEY SCOTTISH DANCE CLUB. Scottish Country and Highland Classes for Adults and Children. Enquiries to Mrs. Dorothy Macdonald-Petrie, Flat 2, 17 Down View Road, Worthing, Sussex. Tel. 501597.