



# The Reel

**rscds**  
London Branch

Published by the LONDON BRANCH of the ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY  
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**No 298**

**DECEMBER 2016 TO FEBRUARY 2017**

Scottish country dancing –  
For fun, fitness and  
friendship

*We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*



**London Branch members at the AGM of the RSCDS in Perth, 5 November**, from left: Branch Treasurer Simon Wales, Danielle Reinstein, Elaine Davies, Liz Douglas, Angela Berry, Jürgen Munz, Branch Chairman Margaret Catchick, Andrew Nolan, Andrew Kellett, newly appointed as RSCDS Chairman-elect, Anne Hodgson, Alan Goulding, Branch President Rachel Wilton, Garry Robertson, Lizzy Conder, newly appointed to the RSCDS Youth Services Committee, Branch Secretary Ireen Goulding, Jenny Kendrick, Jane Rose and Jerry Reinstein (*see report p4*).

## CHRISTMAS DANCE

Saturday 17 December 2016

6.45 for 7.00 – 10.30pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

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

**Nicol McLaren and the  
Glencraig Scottish Dance Band**

Admission includes reception drink & refreshments

Maxwell's Rant .....	18/10
EH3 7AF .....	40/6
The Duchess Tree .....	Brodie/11
John of Bon Accord .....	33/5
It's Just for Fun .....	33/6
The Gentleman .....	35/5
The Black Mountain Reel .....	Carnforth 3/1
Best Set in the Hall .....	46/7
Glasgow Country Dance .....	23/6

RSCDS members £18.00, Non-members £21.00

Full time students (with card) and spectators £9.00

All children (under 16) free

The Dream Catcher .....	45/9
Joie de Vivre .....	39/2
Mr Iain Stuart Robertson .....	42/1
Miss Gibson's Strathspey .....	Leaflet
The Dancing Master .....	London 75th/13
Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich .....	Leaflet
The Minister on the Loch .....	4 for 2008/2
The Immigrant Lass .....	39/5
The Montgomerie's Rant .....	10/1

All tickets to be purchased (cash only) on the door

All dances will be recapped

Crib available on the website

## WINTER WEDNESDAY DANCE

Wednesday 15 February 2017

7.00 – 10.00pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

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

**Sandra Smith and Christina Hood**

Admission includes light refreshments

Granville Market .....	Graded 2/18
The Dunedin Festival Dance . Guide to SCD/Collins	
Karin's Strathspey .....	Graded 3/9
Inchmickery .....	14 Social for 2000/7
Jessie's Hornpipe .....	8/9
Friendships .....	Graded 3/3
Catch the Wind .....	45/5

*Extra:*

RSCDS Member: £10.00, Non-members: £12.00

Full time students (with card) & spectators £5.00

All children (under 16) free

The Frisky .....	26/10
The College Hornpipe .....	20/12
Indian River Strathspey ....	Orlando Br 1998 Lft
The Piper and the Penguin .....	Scotia/6
The Wild Geese .....	24/3
The Byron Strathspey .....	Deeside 2/7
The Reel of the 51st Division .....	13/10
Good Hearted Glasgow ...	Guide to SCD/Collins

All tickets to be purchased (cash only) on the door

All dances will be recapped/walked through

Crib available on the website

Issue no 299 will be with UK based members by 4 March 2017 unless delayed in the post. Contributions for that issue should be sent to arrive by **Saturday 21 January 2017**, preferably by email, to [editor@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:editor@rscdslondon.org.uk) or Jeremy Hill, 6 Gilpin Green, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5NR.

The opinions expressed by contributors in *The Reel* do not necessarily reflect the official position of the RSCDS, or of the Branch.

## CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

The dancing season is now well under way, and I hope that you have all enjoyed the classes and dances you have been to. Although attendance at our Opening Season dance was down on the previous year, those who came were treated to some superb music from Strathallan, and there was a great atmosphere on the dance floor.

The Day School was once again a very successful event. It was encouraging that there had been an increase in the numbers of those coming for the first time. We hope they will have enjoyed the day and will return again next year. The evening dance following the Day School was also well supported, and Ian Muir and the Day School musicians, accompanied by Judith Muir, provided superb music for everyone to dance to.

We hold classes at all levels, and it is good to see that many of those from the Beginners' Class have moved up to the Intermediate level. The Branch also runs a Mixed Ability class on a Wednesday afternoon, which is held at St. Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, as well as a Beginners' Class in Richmond. We attempted to run a Beginners' Class in Stanmore, but, unfortunately, this was not so well-attended and, regrettably, we have had to discontinue this class, at least for the time being. Our thanks go to all our teachers and musicians who work so hard on behalf of the Branch. *Details of the classes are on p5.*

Our Autumn Wednesday Dance was once again a success, with those who came dancing to the excellent music of Sandra Smith and Christina Hood (*see photos p11*). The Wednesday mid-week dances were originally introduced to help our beginners and less experienced dancers enjoy social dancing during the half-term break, by including less complicated programmes. These dances have increased in popularity, and we hope will continue to do so.

Our next main event, taking place on Saturday 17 December, is the Christmas Dance (*see p1*), which will be to the superb music of Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Band, so don't miss it! We are delighted to be hosting a Youth Workshop on Saturday 17 January, details of which can be found on p3. That evening will see the Branch holding its Burns' Night Ceilidh, with Haggis supper, which has become one of the highlights of the year, so, again, please put this date in your diary. Dancing will be to the music of the Caledonian Reelers.

As you can see there is a lot to look forward to in the coming months so please come along and support our classes and dances. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Christmas Dance, and should like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a very happy Christmas, and great dancing in 2017!

**Margaret Catchick**

Since writing this report we have been advised that we are unable to return to St Thomas', W10 in January. We have, however, been fortunate in securing Colville School, located near Ladbroke Grove and Notting Hill Gate stations and we hope to see you at our new location, Colville Primary School, Lonsdale Road, London W11 2DF when classes resume on January 11 2017.



**ROYAL  
SCOTTISH  
COUNTRY  
DANCE  
SOCIETY**



**Patron:** H M The Queen  
**President:** Jean Martin  
**Chairman:** Helen Russell

### HEADQUARTERS:

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### LONDON BRANCH:

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Mary Barker, Jenny Greene, Owen Meyer,  
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Elaine Davies, Jenny Kendrick, George Potts,  
Jerry Reinstein, Thelma-Jane Robb,  
Margaret Shaw

### Sub-Committee co-ordinators:

**Classes:** ..... Jenny Kendrick  
**Day School:** ..... Margaret Catchick  
**Dances:** ..... Margaret Shaw  
**Publicity:** ..... Elaine Davies  
**Youth:** ..... Elaine Davies

### Non-Executive roles:

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@LondonRSCDS



### Objects of London Branch

To advance the education of the public in the London area in traditional Scottish country dancing, in particular by:

- preserving and furthering the practice of traditional Scottish country dances;
- providing or assisting in providing instruction in the dancing of Scottish country dances;
- promoting the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish country dancing and music by any suitable means.

## South East Region Teachers Association

SERTA celebrated its 10th Anniversary with an excellent weekend of workshops and dancing in Bournemouth in September. Pat Houghton led the main workshops, supported by Ian and Judith Muir, and there were also presentations from Marilyn Watson, Anne Carter, Ian Muir and Jane Rose. Full reports of these are available on the SERTA website. Many thanks to all involved in the weekend and particularly Mervyn Short and Rachel Wilton for organising everything so splendidly. It was so successful that suggestions have been made to repeat the weekend soon! *See photo p10.*

Our next workshop is on Sunday 19 March 2017 at Collingwood School, Springfield Road, Wallington. It will be led by Helen Russell, Chairman of the RSCDS. Our musician will be Barbara Manning. Further details will be available on our website and emailed to all on our circulation list.

Following a consultation process, SERTA is currently metamorphosing: we are forming a committee, and if any teachers would like to be involved, mainly organising two workshops per year, please get in touch with Jane Rose at [jsrose@ntlworld.com](mailto:jsrose@ntlworld.com) or on 01923 261167. We will give full details at our March meeting, when we hope to hold our first General Meeting, but key personnel are likely to include Jane Rose as Chairman, Alex Harvey as our Treasurer and Marie Montague as Secretary; Mervyn Short and Sue Last are happy to continue to help as well. SERTA will still be open to anyone who leads an SCD group, whether qualified or not.

Further details are available at [www.SERTA.org.uk](http://www.SERTA.org.uk)

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## London Branch Day School

As I arrived at Paddington Academy on the morning of Saturday 15 October, I once again anticipated a really good Day School, with top class teachers, dancing for all levels, up to the highest standard, and beautiful music. The first hurdle was getting into the building, as I found myself among several others, stranded on the pavement outside, as it was locked. Within a couple of minutes though they had opened the doors and we were able to get in. First stop was registration and then checking which room the first class would be in. A quick stop in the dining room followed, to say hello to a few people, and a cup of tea/coffee should you so wish. Then it was time to go to the Assembly Rooms for the first class, which was taught by Angela Young, and playing for her was Sandra Smith on piano. Following the warm-up, there was step practice and then into the first dance. We made up sets and, surprise, surprise, Angela had us make them a little bigger, as per her preference. The dances she chose, though not overly difficult, were interesting, and enabled us to think about, among other things, phrasing, covering and handing. She did *Speirs Bruce*, *The Pole Star*, from *The Scotia Suite*, *Castle Brae* from the Imperial Books, *Mrs Hill's Delight* from Book 28 and *A Winter's Walk* from *Between The Rivers* (a publication from Washington DC). After what was a wonderful class and one enjoyed by everyone, it was time for lunch.

The afternoon class, which was taught by Dave Hall, with Ken Martlew on keyboard, was in the sports hall. After a warm-up, it was straight into strathspey. After practising setting, then set and link for two, it was into four couple sets, where we did set and link for four. This proved interesting, as you have to work in pairs, but also remember whether you are a middle or end! This took us into the first dance, which was *The Library of Birmingham* from Book 49. After this we did *Glens of Angus* from Book 23, which has the spurtle in quick time, *A Celtic Border* from Carnforth 5 with a quadruple figure of eight, *Ellie's Jig* which has a slip knot and finally *Jim Johnstone's Reel*, a typical Goldring dance. It was another great class, enjoyed by all, but one that kept us on our toes, especially with figures that you don't get to do very often.

It was time for a quick break, with homemade scones, before the optional classes. I chose to do Ladies' Step, taught by Angela, with Barbara Manning on violin. In the class, Angela covered three steps of the *Scottish Lilt* and three steps of *Flowers of Edinburgh*. The latter involved us getting our feet and heads around double trebles. We all gave it a good go, and the hour flew by. It was nice to do some slightly more difficult steps.

Another quick break and then it was the last event of the day: the evening dance to Ian Muir and the School musicians. It was wonderful dancing to an orchestra, and, no matter how tired we were, they kept us going with lively tunes that they'd been practising all day, while we were dancing. There were also a few items, to give us a breather during the course of the evening. It was nice to see a good number staying to the end of the dance and I have to say the change from ceilidh to dance has worked well.

All in all, it was a brilliant day, and it is just wonderful to have the use of such a versatile building in the Paddington Academy. Thank you to everyone involved in making the day happen, but a big thank you must go to Margaret Catchick, who made it all happen. It really was a very enjoyable day.

Catriona Bennett

## A Rollicking Thrill for a Rambling Fiddler

As a fiddler who has long rambled around the traditional music scene, I was interested when a friend sent me details of the RSCDS London Branch Day School. I applied, got my sheet music, and practised this a bit. Then 15 October arrived, and I was in a school classroom with six other fiddlers, ten more musicians – accordions, concertina, keyboards and snare drum – and our teacher, Ian Muir. Ian, with 40 years' band-leading experience, has his own personal vision for the music, which he is very willing to share. Concerning technique, his message was uncomplicated, focusing on a handful of the most important skills of phrasing and articulation, and the essence of how to play the various tune types – jigs, reels, strathspeys etc. He explained various nifty points of arrangement. And all the time, when not actually playing his accordion, he gave out a constant flow of comment and information on Scottish music in general, invaluable to a newcomer like me.

The day was divided up by refreshment and social breaks until at last we assembled in the hall to play for the dancers, who, like us, had been attending classes all day. It was a thrilling band to be in, with first-class leadership and a rollicking rhythm section, a colourful alliance of keyboards, accordion basses and snare drum. The dancers responded in lively fashion, but you had to avoid watching them, for fear of losing your place. We paused now and again for beautiful songs, a display of highland dancing and inspired piano music, all well worth the entry fee. And those tunes have yet to stop going round my head!

Edward Bunting

# LONDON YOUTH WORKSHOP

14<sup>th</sup> January 2017

THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF GLOBAL YOUTH WEEK 2017



**IMPROVER/ INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED (2 CLASSES)**

**VENUE:** Student Central, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HY

**TIMES:** 10:00-12:00 & 13:00- 15:00

**TEACHERS:** Andrew Nolan & Gillian O'Dell

**MUSICIANS:** Fernando Martín-Peñasco Osorio & Mártainn Skene

**PRICE:** £10

**BURNS'NIGHT CEILIDH**

**VENUE:** St Columba's Church Pont St, London, SW1X 0BD

**TIME:** 19:00- 22:45

**PRICE:** £7.50 (students/workshop attendees) or £15 (full price)



**GLOBAL YOUTH WEEK**  
20 - 30 JANUARY 2017



**rscds**  
London Branch



**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

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No. SC016085  
Company No. SC480530






## BURNS' NIGHT CEILIDH

Saturday 14 January 2017

7.00 – 10.45pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

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

**Caledonian Reelers**

**MC: Andrew Kellett**

*Programme from:*

Gay Gordons, Dunnet Head, St Bernard's Waltz, Jig to the Music (Gr 2/7), A London Celebration (*The Reel* 280), Canadian Barn Dance, My love she's but a lassie yet (9/4), Rószá (Potts), The Dashing White Sergeant (3/2), Boston Two Step, The Eightsome Reel (2/12), Veleta, Virginia Reel, Lambeth Walk, Britannia Two Step, Bluebell Polka, A Highland Welcome, Strip the Willow (Orcaadian Style)

*Extras:* Kelvingrove Two Step,  
Pride of Erin Waltz

All dances are from *The Pocket Reference Guide to SCD (Collins)* except where noted  
Admission includes haggis supper with a glass of wine

RSCDS members £15.00,  
Non-members £19.00

Full time students (with card) and  
spectators £7.50

All children (under 16) free

All tickets to be purchased (cash only)  
on the door

All dances will be recapped/walked through

## London Branch Membership

The current annual cost of RSCDS membership through the London Branch is as follows:

	Aged 12-17	Aged 18-24	25 and over	Second branch member	Joint (per person)
<b>The Reel electronically</b>	£14.00	£20.00	£24.00	£4.00	£20.00
<b>The Reel by post (UK)</b>	£16.00	£22.00	£26.00	£6.00	£22.00
<b>The Reel by post (Europe)</b>	£22.00	£28.00	£32.00	£12.00	£28.00
<b>The Reel by post (Rest of the World)</b>	£25.00	£31.00	£35.00	£15.00	£31.00

London Branch membership benefits include reduced rates at Branch classes, dances and events, and receiving *The Reel*, while RSCDS membership includes the biannual publication, *Scottish Country Dancer*, and 10% discounts on items from the RSCDS shop.

Full details may be found on the Branch website at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk/category/membership](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/category/membership) and membership can be purchased at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop) with PayPal and standing order options available. Membership enquiries should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood, Woking GU21 3QB, 01483 721989 or [membership@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:membership@rscdslondon.org.uk)

### RSCDS LONDON BRANCH EVENTS 2016-17

Events take place at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD, from 7.00 – 10.30pm (doors open at 6.30pm), except where noted.

Saturday 17 December 2016: Christmas Dance **Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Scottish Dance Band** (see p1)

Saturday 14 January 2017: Youth Workshop, and Burns' Night Ceilidh with the **Caledonian Reelers** (see p3)

Wednesday 15 February: Winter Wednesday (till 10.00pm) **Sandra Smith and Christina Hood** (see p1)

Saturday 18 March: Family Day and Evening Dance with **Craigievar** (see right)

Saturday 1 April: Combined Societies' Dance (led by the London Highland Club) **Alasdair Macleod**

Wednesday 31 May: (till 10.00pm) **Chris Oxtoby**

Saturday 10 June: Family Day and AGM Dance **Ian Robertson**

For further details see future editions of *The Reel* and [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk)

### Representing the Branch

The Branch runs a monthly class on Tuesdays for advanced dancers, taught by Jeremy Hill, with music provided by Sandra Smith, to work on a repertoire of dances that can be used for public displays. Classes are held from 7.00 – 9.00pm in the Upper Hall at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD.

If you have a sense of fun and the ability to reflect the joy of Scottish country dancing to the general public, do come along and give us a try. Anyone interested in joining is asked to have a good grasp of Scottish dance steps and formations. For further information please contact Elaine Davies at [demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk)

### SPRING DANCE

Saturday 18 March 2017

7.00 – 10.30pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

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

**Craigievar**

St Andrew's Fair ..... 5 for 1982/2  
The Royal Yacht Britannia ..... 43/3  
The Silver Tassie ..... Leaflet  
Bill Clement MBE ..... 47/1  
The Ladies of Dunse ..... 26/11  
Autumn in Appin ..... 31/5  
The Starry Eyed Lassie ..... 23/11  
Argyll Strathspey ..... 35/3  
The Earl of Mansfield ..... Leaflet

Inchmickery ..... 14 Social for 2000/7  
College Hornpipe ..... 20/12  
Margaret Parker's Strathspey ..... 31/3  
Ladies' Fancy ..... 13/12  
None so Pretty (London Pride) ..... 19/1  
The Dream Catcher ..... 45/9  
The Kelloholm Jig ..... Leaflet  
The Minister on the Loch ..... 4 for 2008/2  
The Montgomeries' Rant ..... 10/1

Admission includes light refreshments  
RSCDS members £12.00, Non-members £15.00  
Full time students (with card) & spectators £6.00  
All children (under 16) free  
All tickets to be purchased (cash only) on the door  
All dances will be recapped/walked through  
Crib available on the website

### Classes Update

You will see from our classes advert opposite that we have a new venue for the Basic Skills, Intermediate and Technique Classes after Christmas. Colville Primary School is close to Ladbroke Grove and Notting Hill Gate underground stations and has three good size halls. Everyone is welcome from complete beginners to very experienced dancers.

Our other classes at St Columba's on a Wednesday afternoon, in Richmond for inexperienced dancers, the university class, the demonstration class and our children's class continue as usual.



### Children's Class 2016-2017

Teachers: **James Fairbairn and Jenny Kendrick**

Branch Children's Classes will be held on 21 and 28 January, 4 and 25 February, 18 (see below) and 25 March, 22 and 29 April, 6 and 20 May, 10 and 17 June in the Upper Hall, St Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD.

Class Fee: £5.00 per child per class

**Newcomers are always welcome!**

### Class & Family Day Dance

Saturday 18 March 2017

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

11.30 am-1.00 pm: Children's Class

Followed by lunch for all children

2.00-4.30 pm: Dance to the music of

**Craigievar**

*Programme:* Circassian (big) Circle (Trad/Fairbairn), The Charlestown Chaser (Gr 2/2), Gay Gordons (Guide to SCD/Collins), MC's choice, The Waratah Weaver (Gr2/4), A Reel for Jeannie (40/1), The Dhooon (Ch 1/1), The Loch Ness Monster (Gr 2/1), Granville Market (Gr2/18), MC's Choice, Espie McNabb (MMM 23), The Barmkin (Gr 2/6), Canadian Barn Dance (Guide to SCD/Collins), The Dashing White Sergeant (3/2).

*Extras:* Scotch Mixer, Round Reel of Eight (27/7), and Witch's Reel (English)

Special Day Ticket (includes class, lunch & dance): £7.00 per child

Dance Admission only: £3.50 per person

For further information please contact either

James Fairbairn on

07930 949599, or email

[childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk) or  
[youthcoordinator@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:youthcoordinator@rscdslondon.org.uk)

### SOUTHEAST DANCE DIARY

The diary is available through the Branch website at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) and is regularly updated. If you don't have internet access and would like a hard copy of the latest version please send an SAE to Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW.

All societies in the South East are invited to submit their functions for inclusion in the diary by emailing Caroline Hamilton at [diary@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:diary@rscdslondon.org.uk) or by post to the above address.

The course for new dancers in Stanmore has finished and all the participants were keen to continue dancing with one of the local clubs. This is a model we could repeat elsewhere. If your club or group would like the RSCDS to run an introductory course for new dancers in your area do get in touch with Jenny Kendrick at [classes@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:classes@rscdslondon.org.uk)



# Set yourself a fun challenge Join a Scottish Country Dance Class

We have  
classes for...

## **CHILDREN** in central London.

Email James Fairbairn: [childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk) for details

St. Thomas' CE Primary School, Appleford Road, London W10 5EF

**Last night of Autumn term:** 7 December 2016

**Class party night** with **Jane Rose** Musicians: **Sandra Smith** and **Ian Robertson**

**New location:** Colville Primary School,  
Lonsdale Road, London W11 2DF

**Spring term:** 11 January – 29 March 2017  
(half term 15 February) 7.00 – 9.00pm

**Basic Skills & Improvers**  
Teacher **Jane Rose**

**Intermediate** for dancers with at least a year's  
experience of Scottish country  
dancing who want to improve their technique and  
develop their repertoire. Teacher **Ken Martlew**

**Technique** for good dancers who want to develop their personal technique, improve their  
team-working skills and gain even more enjoyment from Scottish country dancing.  
Teachers **Pat Davoll** (up to half term) **Deborah McLachlan** (after half term)

Musicians: **Sandra Smith, Ian Cutts and Ian Robertson**

Class Fees: £75 per term or £9 per night for RSCDS members,  
£85 per term or £10 per night for non-members



**Mixed Ability Class** suitable for dancers with at least some knowledge  
of basic steps and formations.

Wednesdays 2.30 – 4.30pm **Autumn term:** 7 – 14 December 2016

**Spring term:** 11 January – 5 April 2017 (half term 22 February)

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

Teacher **Jeni Rutherford**: [jrutherford@freeuk.com](mailto:jrutherford@freeuk.com)

Fee £6 per class

**Beginners** Wednesdays 8.00 – 10.00pm **Last night of Autumn term:** 7 December 2016  
**Spring term:** 11 January – 29 March 2017 (half term 15 February)

Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond TW9 2RT

Teacher **Judith Jones** Fee £6 per class

**University of London & UCLU Folk Society** For students, staff and Alumni  
of the University of London. Thursdays 6.00 – 7.30pm.

Room 3C/D, Student Central, Malet St, WC1E 7HY Term time. Fees £2 per class. Live music

Teacher **Lindsey Jane Rousseau** with **Lizzy Conder**

**For experienced dancers interested in giving demonstrations**

Email Elaine Davies at [demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:demteam@rscdslondon.org.uk)

**Contacts for all classes** Jenny at [classes@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:classes@rscdslondon.org.uk)

## RSCDS Summer School 2017

Week 1: 16 – 23 July  
Week 2: 23 – 30 July  
Week 3: 30 July – 6 August  
Week 4: 6 – 13 August  
University Hall, St Andrews  
**Director: Jim Stott**

- Attend as resident or non-resident, for any one or two weeks of the four. Residents can choose between University Hall and the Agnes Blackadder Hall;
- Morning classes at all levels, and optional afternoon classes/sessions;
- Social dancing every evening, with a ceilidh one evening each week;
- For the first time, details of all the teachers and musicians are available in advance, at [www.rscds.org/document/1368](http://www.rscds.org/document/1368). Teachers and musicians from London and the South-East are well represented among some of the best from around the world.

### Music Courses, including a New Course for Class Musicians

- There will be Music Courses run by Ian Muir in both weeks 1 and week 3 in 2017, for musicians at Grade 5/6 standard or above;
- The course in week 3 will follow a similar programme as previous years, preparing the assembled company to play for dances, including the Younger Hall on the final Saturday. Various clips are available from prior years, including this from 2016: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOLKbFLOuo0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOLKbFLOuo0)
- In contrast, the course in week 1 offers eight places, with the aim “to develop competent class musicians who:
  - Understand how to, and are able to, deliver music for class which has the necessary sustainability and lift to inspire dancers;
  - Use an increasing repertoire of tunes which complement and support the teaching of dancing;
  - Understand the role and impact of the class musician;
  - Are able to work sympathetically and as a team with the class teacher.”
- Full details of this new course are available at [www.rscds.org/document/1380](http://www.rscds.org/document/1380)

### A Range of Options available in Different Weeks

- Young Dancers’ Week will take place in week 3, when 12-15 year olds may attend, with a chaperone, and join in the regular classes and activities;
- Junior Summer School, for 8 - 11 year olds, which proved so popular last year, will again run in week 3 of Summer School. You can book using the main booking system, but please note that the parent/guardian of each young dancer must also fill in a separate Junior Summer School form (available at [www.rscds.org/document/1371](http://www.rscds.org/document/1371)) and email [moira.thomson@rscds.org](mailto:moira.thomson@rscds.org)
- Teachers’ Training Unit 5 will be covered in weeks 1 and 2, taught by Anne Taylor;
- Graham Donald will be teaching Unit 2 in week 3 and Unit 3 in week 4;
- Subject to sufficient numbers, classes will be offered in all four weeks at levels from Introductory level up to ‘Technically Skilled’ level, both High and Low Impact, as well as a class for Teaching Skills. Social Dancing Skills will be available in week 4 only.

### Prices

- A range of prices is available. Based on Early Bird discounts that expire on 1 February, for RSCDS members, prices include £595, if resident at University Hall, £790 if resident at Agnes Blackadder Hall, and £275 as a non-resident;
- Discounts are available for 8-11 accompanying children (week 3), 12-15 year olds (week 3) and 16-25 year olds (all weeks);
- Other resident and non-resident options are available;
- A range of scholarships and are available to enable dancers and musicians to attend Summer School and other Society events. See “We can help you afford it” below.

All classes and courses are subject to demand. Further information and online booking are available at [www.rscds.org/article/summer-school-2017](http://www.rscds.org/article/summer-school-2017). Members are required to log in to book. For log-in details, please contact Gaynor Curtis at [membership@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:membership@rscdslondon.org.uk)

## WE CAN HELP YOU AFFORD IT

The RSCDS and the London Branch recognise the importance of supporting the teachers, musicians and dancers of the future. As such, scholarships are available for young people (25 and under) to attend RSCDS residential schools as a dancer or as a musician, and for any member to take the RSCDS Teaching Certificate at Summer School. Details of RSCDS scholarships are set out on the website under Courses. However, note that the deadline for scholarships for Summer School is in November each year.

Applicants from London Branch member for scholarships should get in touch with our Secretary, Ireen Gouling, via [secretary@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rscdslondon.org.uk)

London Branch also has funds to support any event promoting Scottish country dancing among young people in the London area. We are a charity and want to help you improve your skills and enjoyment of SCD, and to support you in passing on your enthusiasm and knowledge to the next generation. This fund increased earlier this year thanks to a generous donation following the closure of the Waverley Scottish Country Dance Club, for which London Branch is very grateful.



## RSCDS Book 52

The Society is putting out a call for dances to be included in Book 52 (to be published in 2018). The book will contain a mixture of dances that have been enjoyed locally, and may include dances at all levels of experience. Dances may have been previously published outwith the RSCDS.

Devisers must submit, or arrange to have submitted, their own work (no more than one dance per deviser), and must be members of the RSCDS throughout the publication process. Submissions must be made by 15 January 2017 through the website (only). Full information and a submission form can be found at [eval.rscds.net/p/book-52](http://eval.rscds.net/p/book-52). If you have any questions please contact [info@rscds.org](mailto:info@rscds.org)

## Spring Fling and Spring Fringe

**Bonn, 28 - 30 April 2017**

Visit the Spring Fling 2017 website: [www.springfling2017.de](http://www.springfling2017.de) to register for next year's Spring Fling, 28 - 30 April, in beautiful Bonn, Germany (see The Reel 297). The weekend includes classes, a Welcome Dance on Friday, and a Ball on Saturday. This is likely to be a very popular event, so book early to ensure a place. The teachers will be Fiona Brunk, Raphaëlle Orgeret and Duncan Brown, and Aymeric Fromherz, Susan MacFadyen and Matthias Rank are the musicians. Anyone aged between 12 and 35 years old can attend the weekend of dancing, no matter whether they are an inexperienced or an advanced Scottish country dancer. Prices start at €130 for bed and breakfast for RSCDS members, with a €10 early bird discount for bookings before 14 February 2017.

There are a number of scholarships available to help dancers attend Spring Fling, both from headquarters and from London Branch (see “We can help you afford it” below).

Those outside the Spring Fling age bracket are also welcome at the Spring Fringe event, running in parallel. There will be classes for intermediate and advanced dancers, a Kids’ Class (subject to interest), three evening dances (both those organised by Spring Fling, plus Tanz in den Mai on Sunday, organised by Spring Fringe).

The teachers are Jimmie Hill and Linda Henderson, and musicians Lindsey Ibbotson and Silke Grosholz. Further details at [springfringe2017.de](http://springfringe2017.de)





## RSCDS AGM

The mood following this year's AGM in Perth was that it had been a positive meeting, and certainly one of the shortest in recent memory. As usual, proceedings kicked off with presentations of the RSCDS Scroll to several worthy recipients, including John Sturrock, formerly of Cambridge Branch, and a regular at London Branch dances. Congratulations, John!

Bill Cant, RSCDS Treasurer, presented the accounts with the aid of a helpful two-page summary circulated to delegates in advance. Thanks to a revaluation of our Headquarters building in Edinburgh, the Society's net worth now stands at over £1.5 million, but annual expenditure continues to exceed income. The deficit in 2015-16 was less than the previous year, thanks to a reduction in support costs, and the Management Board recommended that the membership subscription should remain at the current level for 2017-18. Unsurprisingly, this was overwhelmingly approved by the meeting.

The Executive Officer, Gillian Wilson, and the Convenors of the Management Committees updated delegates and observers on the impressive, wide-ranging work of the Society; and Jean Martin of Aberdeen was appointed President of the Society. Jim Healy's two-year tenure as RSCDS Chairman came to an end with this meeting, and Helen Russell stepped into his place. Andrew Kellett (London Branch) was elected Chairman-elect and in two years' time he will become Chairman, the first non-Scot in the role. All the other candidates for places on the Management Board and Committees were successful. The meeting concluded with the traditional vote of thanks.

The AGM is just one element in a Conference Weekend packed with dance-related activities. Helen Russell spoke to members at an open forum about the Society's strategic aims 2017 – 2020. There was an informal dance and a ball to music from Marian Anderson's Band and Jim Lindsay's Band, with PA supplied by Ian Muir and Graham Hamilton, plus classes, parties and the chance to chat with friends from across the RSCDS world.



Newly appointed RSCDS President Jean Martin, dancing an allemande with Jimmie Hill at the AGM Ball, Perth, 5 November 2017.

## St Columba's 60th Anniversary

Thank you to everyone who submitted dances to the St Columba's 60th Anniversary Dance competition. A group comprising RSCDS members, regulars at the Monday night dancing at St Columba's and inexperienced dancers went through them all and performed a short list in front of representatives from the Church. They had jigs, reels and strathspeys, longwise, square and round the room dances to choose from. Eventually, a reel devised by Lizzy Conder was declared the winner. It was felt that this dance was easy enough to be enjoyed by people of all ages not necessarily familiar with Scottish country dancing, but it contained something a little different that might appeal to experienced dancers, and the choreography reflected the 60th Anniversary of St Columba's. Congratulations Lizzy, and many thanks also to Ian Muir who kindly composed music for the dance. *The St Columba's 60th Anniversary Reel* was danced in public for the first time at the St Columba's celebration ceilidh on 5 November.

### St Columba's 60th Anniversary Reel

4 x 32 bar reel in a square set

- Bars 1 - 8 1st couple dance down the middle of the set in promenade hold, out between 3rd couple. They continue to their left and into the middle of the set by dancing between 2nd couple. They curve right and dance back to place. *Thus dancing the path of the figure '6' as seen from the foot of the hall.*
- 9 - 16 All dance eight hands round and back. *Thus dancing the figure '0'*
- 17 - 20 Ladies dance right hands across while retaining inside hands with their partners (as in *The Eightsome Reel*)
- 21 - 24 Men dance left hands across while retaining hands with their partners.
- Bars 17 - 24 symbolise the St. Andrew's Cross to represent The Church of Scotland*
- 25 - 28 All couples promenade anti-clockwise three-quarters round the set, so 4th couple finish in top place, 1st couple in 2nd place, etc.
- 29 - 32 All turn partners by the right hand or birl.
- Bars 25 - 32 symbolise the community of dancers from around the world that have enjoyed dancing at St Columba's.*

Repeat with the original 4th couple, now in 1st place, dancing bars 1 - 8.

Dance devised by Lizzy Conder and chosen by St. Columba's as a celebration of the Church's 60th Anniversary and first performed at a Church ceilidh on 5 November 2016.

#### The St. Columba's Anniversary Reel

Ian R Muir - Reprinted with permission



# DANCING LIVES



## Janet Aylward

**25 September 1949 - 13 October 2016**

Janet became a Scottish country dance addict during her last ten years; gaining and giving much pleasure from our wonderful past-time.

Born in South Africa to British parents, she returned 'home' to the UK after qualifying as a nurse, met her husband Mick, and eventually moved to Bovington, near Berkhamsted, in 1980. However, one could still detect a slight South African accent whenever Janet MC'd!

In early 2006, Janet was introduced to me at a village party, and, in that September, she and Mick joined the newly established beginners' class at Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club. They quickly got the bug, joined the London Branch and attended several RSCDS Summer Schools in St Andrews, Winter Schools in Pitlochry and weekends in Bude.

Janet joined the BSRC committee in 2009 and at her first meeting, suggested that we should hold a Day School – something which we have done annually since and which has gone from strength to strength. She went on to become President of the Club (2013 to 2015) and was always happy to help whether it was MCing, assisting with the beginners' classes or making a

*(continued below right)*



Moyna Gilbertson in a photo (above) of the London Branch dem team at East Farleigh, Kent in the 1950s. From left to right: George Robinson, Hugh Evans, Margaret Robinson, Kit Power (behind and just visible), unidentified lady in spotted dress, Stella Shank with John Bowman behind her, Moyna Gilbertson, Josephine Richards (the child, now Jones), Alex Westwood and Joy Richards.



*Above: Liz Houghton (back row, second left) as part of the RSCDS Manchester demonstration team in Montsevereux, France, July 1989. Husband Tony is in the centre of the row in front.*

As we went to press we were sorry to hear of the passing of **Irene Edgar**. An obituary will appear in *The Reel* 299.

*(continued from left)*

cake for the next function. Janet was also keen to learn as much as possible, and was an enthusiastic member of SERTA.

Many dancers never knew that Janet was diagnosed with advanced ovarian cancer in 2011. She underwent many types of treatment, bravely and placidly, often taking part in clinical trials to help future sufferers. We shall always remember our well-loved friend Janet, and especially at our Day School on 20 November this year.

**Jane Rose**

*Left: Janet at the RSCDS London Branch 80th Anniversary Ball, 30 October 2010*

## Moyna Gilbertson, OBE

Born in January 1931, Moyna died on 17 May 2016. Her funeral was at Christ's Hospital, Horsham on 30th June. She was for many years a member of the Branch demonstration class and was a Branch teacher from 1956 until 1962, under her maiden and married (Ireland) names. She had a long active association with Christ's Hospital being educated there and, after a long and distinguished career elsewhere, lived there for the rest of her life.

She trained as a paediatric physiotherapist at Guy's Hospital, becoming Superintendent Physiotherapist at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, and worked for The Children's Trust at Tadworth from 1970 to 1998. Between 1977 and 1991 she was Executive Director of the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. She was made an OBE in the 1991 Birthday Honours and had Honorary Fellowship of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

**Wilson Nicol**

## Liz Houghton

We were sorry to hear of the death after a long and debilitating illness on 6 October of Liz Houghton. She died peacefully in her sleep soon after her 75th birthday. Liz and Tony started dancing in Manchester and re-started when they lived in Reading, with the Reading club, with the London Demonstration Team for most of the 1980s and with the MacLennan Scottish Group. They moved to Derbyshire and Yorkshire before settling in Tweedmouth where their home in Main Street is on the right of the Lowry painting 'Old Property 1943'.

**Peter Luke**



# NEW RECORDINGS

**The Sunday Class, Dance Book 2 – Marian Anderson and her Scottish Dance Band:** CD £13.00 and book £7.00, or the pair together for £18.00, from [www.thesundayclass.org.uk](http://www.thesundayclass.org.uk) (free worldwide shipping), RSCDS Leeds Branch Shop ([rscdsleeds.uk](http://rscdsleeds.uk) or 07851 419656), TACSound/TACBooks or the RSCDS NZ Branch Shop. The album features all the dances from the book, plus *Staircase in Styria* (5x40R), Polka (1x32R), and *Auld Lang Syne*.

This new book, and its accompanying CD from Marian Anderson, are likely to appeal to a wide audience of dancers and listeners, with dances ranging from the straightforward to the complex, such as *Marja's Buns*, a medley for six couples in a "square" set. Each is accompanied by the story of its origins, which span the world, from New York to New Zealand.

On the recording, Marian's band comes across really well, with a full-bodied sound in which all instruments are clearly audible and play their part. Her stylish and lively playing is well-matched: Marie Fielding is the perfect foil on the fiddle; the rhythm section is in great hands, with Max Ketchin on drums, Graham Bell on second box and Isobelle Hodgson on the piano. There is a great "build-up" track in *The Courtship*, with the tunes allowing different band members to shine, and a surprise ending (no spoilers). Most of the dances have new tunes, by Marian and other leading players, and tunes are well chosen to match, drawn from the great body of music written in the last 50 years.

The album is not without its novelties, including "Singing in the Rain" and "Any Dream Will Do" to go with "Give My Regards to Broadway" for the dance *Broadway* – great fun and something different for a strathspey. I also particularly enjoyed the use of Calum MacLean's *Mull Holiday* to provide four turns of *Staircase in Styria*, instructions and music for which are in the CD booklet.

**Excited States, with music by StringFire!** CD £14.00 and book £10.00 from RSCDS Leeds Branch Shop (see above), or as a download from [www.cdbaby.com/cd/stringfire1](http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/stringfire1) for \$9.99. The album features all the dances from the book, plus waltzes, *Linnea's Strathspey* (8x32S) and *City of Belfast* (6x32S).

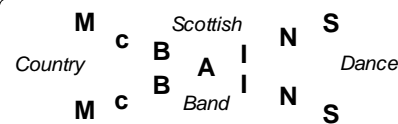
From the San Francisco Bay area, StringFire! comprises violinists James MacQueen and Annie Rodier, Erik levins on cello and bass, and Patti Cobb (piano). I hadn't heard them before this, their second release, which showcases some quite beautiful playing, and real vivid style. To quote their website: "They're all classically trained, all write tunes and have superb improvisational skills – creating an out-of-the-ordinary groove you won't want to miss!"

If you enjoy, for example, Alasdair Fraser or Keith Smith with Muriel Johnstone, you will get a lot out of this album, both for dancing and listening. The cello adds variety in a really rich sound, and all get their moments in the spotlight. Tunes include the quirky and modern, alongside traditional, and familiar. Highly recommended!

Jeremy Hill



## BANDS



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

### Soloist: PETER JENKINS

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

### THE FRANK REID SCOTTISH DANCE BAND

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

### CALEDONIAN REELERS

Well established three-piece SCD band, consisting of accordionist, fiddler and drummer. Caller/piper can also be supplied. Available for RSCDS dances, ceilidhs, weddings, reeling. Anywhere, anytime for your function. Please contact Derek Chappell 01206 764232 / Mary Felgate 07866 757401 for further information, or [derek\\_chappell@aol.co.uk](mailto:derek_chappell@aol.co.uk)

### KAFOOZALUM COUNTRY DANCE BAND

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

### IAN ROBERTSON AND HIS SCOTTISH DANCE BAND

Solo, duo or trio available for Scottish country dances, classes, weddings, ceilidhs and reeling events. Contact Ian Robertson on 01296 630682 or [ibrobertson@btinternet.com](mailto:ibrobertson@btinternet.com)

SCOTCH MIST – see p20

## Lilian Podbury

An interview with Lilian, in which she shared her memories of the Lucy Clark Club over the past 50 years, was included in the last edition of *The Reel*. We are sad to report that Lilian passed away on 28 August, aged 82. She had been a member of the club for most of her life and had been dancing there until the middle of June. Lilian's love of life, and Scottish dancing in particular, was infectious and she will be sorely missed by her many dancing friends at Lucy Clark and other local clubs.

Elizabeth Mitchell



## BRANCH BOOKSTALL

The bookstall is at your service for the sale of books, CDs and Branch badges. Book 50 and its CD are among the publications that can be bought at the Branch Dance on 17 December and other Branch events, or sent out by post. Current stock is listed on the Branch website, [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) Contact Daniel Capron with any queries or orders at [bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk) 74B Thurlow Park Road, London SE21 8HY, or on 020 8670 6918.

## EDITORIAL

On the first Saturday in November, following success in London and further afield, Andrew rose above all other candidates to a key position of worldwide influence – yes, Andy Murray became tennis world no.1 – but, more importantly, congratulations to Andrew Kellett, who, on the same day, was elected Chairman-elect of the RSCDS at the Society AGM (see photo p1 and AGM report p4). I recall some years ago, attending the AGM as a Branch delegate, when a matter was being argued back and forth in the interminable fashion that can prevail in these situations. Andrew rose to speak, and, in a few, short sentences, set the matter to rest once and for all. It is great to see that the Society will be able to benefit over the next few years from this clear thinking that he has demonstrated over many years in London, most recently as Chairman.

The Society AGM continues to attract dancers from all over the world for great dancing, one of several key events that many people ink into their diaries as soon as they can. On p6 you can see details of the RSCDS Summer School in St Andrews – for the first time details of the teachers and musicians attending each week are available, if this is a deciding factor in booking; also, the Spring Fling, for the 12-35 age bracket, which has gone from strength to strength, and, in conjunction with the Spring Fringe for all dancers, will take place at the end of April 2017 in Bonn.

It is worth reinforcing the financial support that the Branch and the Society have available for attending such events: see "We can help you afford it" on p6. There are few applicants for this support: might that make the difference to your attending?

The Branch is also excited to be presenting a London Youth Workshop (see details p3), which is the official launch of RSCDS Global Youth Week, albeit a few days early. This is also bound to bring a real buzz to the Burns' Night Ceilidh in the evening.

That's in addition to all the other great dancing available to you in and around London. I hope to see you there!

Jeremy Hill





# THE DANCING WORLD



1

**1. Lions Fête, Berkhamsted Cricket Club, Monday 29 August:** After two years of wash-outs, under blue skies and in sunshine, twenty dancers from the Berkhamsted Strathspey & Reel Club provided a display, followed by spectator involvement.

**2. SERTA Weekend, Bournemouth, 9-10 September:** to celebrate its 10th Anniversary, SERTA members gathered in Bournemouth for a weekend of talks, dancing, and fellowship (see p2).

**3. Book 50 Workshop, Winchester, Saturday 1 October:** RSCDS Winchester Branch teacher Wendy Mumford teaches *Double Trouble Triangles* from new Book 50.



2

**4. Orpington & District Caledonian Society Autumn Dance, Petts Wood Memorial Hall, 8 October:** What price the re-cap? Dancers find their own way to remind themselves of the next dance.

**5. Branch Autumn Wednesday Dance, Pont St, Wednesday 26 October:** Branch Chairman Margaret Catchick thanks MC Jane Rose, who was ably assisted by Peter Knight, and musicians Christina Hood and Sandra Smith for a splendid evening.



6

**6. Branch Day School, Paddington Academy, Saturday 15 October:** Ian Muir led another highly successful Musicians' Workshop, with the musicians combining to play for the Evening Dance – see report p3.



4

**7. Branch Day School:** Dancers were put through their paces by some excellent teaching. Here, Angela Young is shown demonstrating to the Very Advanced Class – see report p3.

**8. Branch Autumn Wednesday Dance:** Dancers enjoyed a great evening, with many from the Branch classes attending, including some who have not been dancing long. A walk-through of the dances gave the less experienced dancers the confidence to get on the floor and enjoy themselves. Tasty refreshments were provided by the Branch catering team of Margaret, Lena, George and Sarah.

**9. RSCDS Oxfordshire Branch Ball, Headington, Saturday 22 October:** Alongside great music from Craigellachie, with a big band six musician line-up, and excellent dancing, a highlight of the evening was the excellent hospitality. Susan Kerr and Dennis Tucker are shown at the bar.

**10. Silver Cross dance, Wheathampstead, 5 November:** Iris Ronayne and Matthew Goulden birling in *The Kelloholm Jig*.



7



8





3



5



9



10



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Too many books?

Dear Jeremy

I have recently written a letter in our local RSCDS magazine in which I regretted the fact that the RSCDS continues to publish a book of new dances each year. This received a mixed reaction and I would be interested to know what the feeling is world-wide.

I am certainly not against new dances in themselves. While the RSCDS did a brilliant job in reviving and publishing the traditional dances of Scotland, this has provided a firm basis for the development of SCD with new dances and formations from the likes of Drewry and Foss. It is clear that Scottish country dancing would be very much the poorer if it had remained unchanged since 1960. Branches, clubs and individuals will continue to publish new dances and, while initially of local interest, some of them will gradually filter out to the world at large.

The problem with the RSCDS books, as I see it, is that each year we have about twelve new dances thrust upon us and this has a distorting effect on dance classes and programmes. You may say that we are free to ignore them but, in my experience, RSCDS teachers feel under an obligation to introduce the dances to their classes. Many of these dances achieve a short-lived popularity and then simply disappear. On the other hand, some of the traditional dances are disappearing from our repertoire to the detriment of us all and, in particular, to recent converts to whom many of these dances will remain unfamiliar.

There are certainly occasions when it might be appropriate for the RSCDS to publish a new book such as the centenary in 2023 and, if publications were to be limited in this way, the cry "There are too many new dances nowadays" might be heard less often.

Yours sincerely,

**Andy Patterson**

**Rotorua, New Zealand**

This letter first appeared on the Strathspey Server and is re-printed with permission.

## First Aid and Safety at Dances

Dear Jeremy,

With reference to Stephen Webb's letter in *The Reel* 297, I knew Tony Robb, so I certainly agree with what he says. I believe there may have been other cases as well. The only difficulty I can see is that a defibrillator is a fairly expensive piece of equipment, and may be beyond the resources of smaller clubs. However, venues such as St Columba's ought to have one themselves. A few years ago an elderly gentleman had a heart attack at a Remembrance Sunday parade near my home, and was saved by a defibrillator brought from a nearby shopping mall.

Prevention is better than cure. Most dancers are reasonably fit, because dancing is an excellent way to keep fit, which helps to reduce the risk of heart attacks. However, sprains (damaged tendons), strains (pulled muscles) and falls can affect anyone. I once saw an elderly lady have a heavy fall while dancing. She was taken to hospital and diagnosed with a broken pelvis.

Ghillie laces that come undone are a trip hazard, and a trip can lead to any of these eventualities. One way to prevent trailing laces is to replace them with elastic. Use fairly thick round elastic (not shirring elastic, which is far too flimsy). Put on the shoes and thread the elastic through the eyelets as you would a lace until you reach the ankle. Cross the ends in front of the ankle and take one end through the leather loop at the back of the heel. Do not wind the elastic round the ankle. Adjust to fit, and knot ends together firmly. Take off the shoes and seal the knot with clear nail polish. When this is dry pull the knot inside the loop. This method also saves a great deal of time when changing your shoes.

As Stephen says, it is important to be prepared. The London Highland Club also has a first-aid box, and it is usual to find one in the kitchen of any public hall. Slip-stop is a very useful product, although, as some people find it irritating, dancers should be warned if it is necessary to use it, so they can get out of the way for a few minutes while it settles. It follows that it should not be put down while people are actually dancing. If you find yourself on a particularly slippery patch of floor, walk that dance and then ask the MC to have the problem dealt with before making up sets for the next one.

It is impossible to avoid all mishaps, however the consequences can be minimised with a little forethought. When Fabrice Muamba had his heart attack someone said that he could not have had it in a better place unless it was a hospital. There was even a cardiologist among the spectators in the stands.

Yours sincerely,

**Elizabeth Bennett**

## Dancing on a Sunday

Dear Jeremy,

In *The Reel* 297, Amanda Peart described her TSC group, and asked, "Is the Sunday Class Unique?" With busy lives and family obligations, Sunday is often omitted from the SCD week, but, as I am sure you will hear from others, London has a thriving established Sunday group in Chiswick.

While beginner dancers are offered many options, the more advanced could be taken for granted. Amanda noted that her classes were for advanced dancers seeking a challenge, and, as in the case of TSC, this segment was recognized in Toronto in 2010 by the establishment of the RSCDS affiliated group Shiftin' Bobbins, which meets one Sunday afternoon a month. Each session, a different guest MC will feature dances not often seen elsewhere, for those already comfortable with the more complex RSCDS formations, and able to participate with minimal instruction.

Membership has grown with dancers and teachers coming from both locally and across the Great Lakes region of Southern Ontario, western New York State, and with occasional welcome visitors from the UK. In addition to regular Sunday class, the group also hosts an annual St. Andrew's Night Celebration dance, with live music, and opportunities to practise for other formal dances in the local and regional calendar.

Yours sincerely,

**Jon Allen-Friend**

**Toronto, Canada**

## Can down ever be up?

Dear Jeremy,

The observant amongst our readers, looking at the cover photo of *The Reel* 297, and reading the caption, may have had a double take. The photograph I refer to was of dancers dancing the *The Happy Meeting*, and, despite dancing away from the music (the band on the bandstand), the caption stated "Andrew dances up with Catriona during an interval demonstration". This had me thinking as to whether the top of the set could be other than where the music is positioned. Although disorientating, it does seem reasonable that it could be elsewhere. In the demonstration referred to, it was important to show the audience the dancers dancing towards them so inverting the set (turning it on its head so to speak) was a clever innovation.

We will often see demonstration sets of dancers in displays mirroring, or dancing in unconventional directions, to create a great visual effect. So, by these devices, simple dances can appear to be more visually pleasing, and even complex, and, of course, can reduce the stress on dancers in remembering the patterns before an audience to create a flawless display. The deviations from the norm are not, however, recommended in a social setting. As we see more often these days men dancing in women's positions any further unexpected circumstances might be one step too far!

Yours sincerely,

**Stephen Webb**

## SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS

### from just £4.00 per annum

In addition to membership options (see p6), for £4.00 for four issues, non-members of the Branch can join as second branch members, or subscribe to *The Reel*. Electronic subscribers receive four pdf editions of *The Reel* each year, in full colour throughout.

Rates to receive four hard copies, by post, are £6.00 if resident in the UK, £12.00 for other European residents and £15.00 if resident elsewhere. There are special rates on request for bulk orders. Remittances in sterling please, payable to RSCDS (London Branch), or you can pay by PayPal via [www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk/shop) (see p6).

All subscription requests or enquiries should be sent to Maggie Westley, 30 Stanley Road, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 4LF or [reelsubscriptions@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:reelsubscriptions@rscdslondon.org.uk)

## Maintaining Contact Email addresses

The Branch continues to use various means to keep in touch with members, on the website, Facebook, Twitter, through *The Reel* and regular email.

If you wish to receive information by email (not more than once a month), please send your email address to Jerry Reinstein [jar@reinsteinassociates.com](mailto:jar@reinsteinassociates.com) and we will add you to the list.

Note: the list is not used for any other purpose and not shared with any other organisation.

## RSCDS

### Teaching Certificate Course

The Committee of the South East Branches RSCDS are considering running a course for Units 2 & 3, and possibly Unit 5, from December 2016 until about May 2017. These courses are hard work but enjoyable and very rewarding! If you are interested in taking part, or would just like to talk to someone about it, please contact Pat Davoll at [patdavoll2@gmail.com](mailto:patdavoll2@gmail.com)



## More on Mary Douglas

As a follow-up to Wilson Nicol's article on the dance *Lady/Miss Mary Douglas*, below you can see side by side the two current published versions: on the left, *Lady Mary Douglas*, from the Imperial Book of Scottish Country Dances, Volumes 1-3, and, on the right, what is now called *Miss Mary Douglas*, published in RSCDS Book 10. Both quote the same origin, but the

differences meant that in practice we have two dances. Perhaps, in re-naming the RSCDS dance in 1947, there was a recognition that, in this form, it was no longer close enough to the original *Lady Mary Douglas* to keep the same name. Which do you prefer?

Jeremy Hill

### 1.07 - Lady Mary Douglas

48-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

Bars	Description
1 - 8	1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides. To begin, 1st couple dance in and down, 2nd couple dance out and up and 3rd couple dance in and up.
9 - 16	1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance a grand chain.
17 - 20	1st couple slip down the middle for four steps and back up to finish in the middle of the set facing up
21 - 24	1st couple dance up and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 23-24.
25 - 32	1st couple dance a figure of eight round 3rd couple to finish facing first corners.
33 - 36	1st couple, giving both hands to first corners and, using skip change of step, turn once round and pass partner by the right to face second corners.
37 - 40	1st couple, giving both hands to second corners and, using skip change of step, turn once round and pass partner by the right to second place on own sides, facing out.
41 - 48	1st couple cast off and meet below 3rd couple, lead up to the top, cross and cast off one place on opposite sides and, passing by the left, cross to second place on own sides. (Notes) Repeat, having passed a couple.

Thomas Wilson: *Companion to the Ballroom*, 1816.

Original tune: *Miss Mary Douglas* (Niel Gow)

Notes:

- The original instructions refer to the movement in bars 41-48 as *Figure of Eight round Contrary Corners*.
- At the end of each couple's second turn, 1st couple cross and cast off as fourth couple step up ready to enter the reels.

### Book 10 - No. 11 Miss Mary Douglas

48-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

Bars	Description
1 - 8	1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides of the set. 1st and 2nd men and 1st and 2nd women pass by the right to begin.
9 - 16	1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance a grand chain.
17 - 24	1st couple lead down the middle and up to finish in the middle of the set facing up.
25 - 32	1st couple cast off one place, dance down between 3rd couple, cast up one place on own sides, and finish facing first corners. 2nd couple step up on bars 27-28.
33 - 40	1st couple turn first corners with the right hand, partner with the left hand, second corners with the right hand and partner with the left hand to finish facing first corners.
41 - 46	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on the sides, 1st couple passing first corners by the left to begin.
47 - 48	1st couple, giving right hands, cross over to second place on own sides. Repeat, having passed a couple.

Thomas Wilson: *A Companion to the Ballroom*, London, 1816 as *Lady Mary Douglas*.

Tune: *Lady Mary Douglas* (Thomas Wilson: *A Companion to the Ballroom*, London, 1816).

## Confusing Changes of Direction

Dear Jeremy,

I would like to expand on Wilson Nicol's statement in his article, in *The Reel 297*, on *Lady Mary Douglas*, that the SCDS's version in Book 10 was cobbled together. I and many others devised dances because of the difficulties we were having teaching many dances, and especially *Lady Mary Douglas*: beginners had difficulty in dealing with dancers where they found themselves facing the wrong direction to start the next figure, when finishing the previous figure.

When I started dancing in 1947, it was the rule that, unless the instructions said differently, reels started with the right shoulder. Hence, instances where *Lady Mary Douglas* leaves you facing the wrong way are:

- End of Figure 1:
  - 1st lady is facing out when she needs to be facing in to start Figure 2;
  - 2nd lady is dancing up and in when she needs to be facing out and down;
  - 2nd man is dancing up and out when he needs to be facing in and down;
  - 3rd lady is dancing out when she needs to be facing up and slightly in;
  - 3rd man is dancing in when he needs to be facing up and slightly out;
  - The natural hand going into the Grand Chain for the 3rd couple would be their left, whereas they have to give their right.
- End of Figure 2:
  - 1st man is changing place with 2nd man with left hands, and hence finishing facing out, when he should be facing in, ready to collect his partner;

- To do this he has to do a polite turn, which beginners do not always find natural, resulting in the man lagging his partner, when it is the man who should be doing the leading.
- End of the dance, before starting the repeat:
  - 1st man is facing out, when he needs to be facing in to start the reel.

Experienced dancers will have no problems with these instances, but beginners do. I was interested, but not surprised, to hear that Hugh Thurston taught mirror image reels, which would remove some of the problems, but not all.

Another problem that caused me to write dances was that, of the 181 dances readily available in the 13 SCDS books and the Border Book, 17 were only 24 bars long, and ten were only 16 bars long. That is 22.6% of available dances. This caused many beginners to complain that they just got up, had the sets numbered, and hardly danced before it was time to sit down again.

In those days, there was another problem for beginners: the poussette. Different groups used different versions, all acceptable to the Society. According to the 1924 edition of Book 1, the poussette was a "waltz round"; according to the 1930 edition of Book 4, the poussette used four quarter turns (the "John Duthie poussette"); and, according to the 1932 edition of Book 1, the poussette was the modern version. With each new version, the Society allowed the older poussettes to be 'correct'.

Yours, etc.,  
Douglas J Dean  
Reading



## Autumn in Gamundia

On the last Saturday in October the picturesque southern German town of Schwäbisch Gmünd was transformed into a Scottish exclave by the participants of the first Autumn in Gamundia Scottish dance weekend course. Following on from the long-running Rechberg course, the Rechberg Scottish Dancers e.V relaunched the course as Autumn in Gamundia, which proved to be a great success, with around a hundred dancers from all over the globe taking part, including many from London Branch.

As well as a wide geographic range of participants, there was a broad age profile – 85-year-old Frank from New York and 13-year-old Julia from Budapest at either end of the scale. Julia was dancing for the first time, although she has attended the course before under the watchful eyes of her parents. Surely, all dancing together regardless of age is one of the best things about SCD.

This year, the honour of teaching went to Antoine Rousseau, who ably led the dancers through the classes, with particular emphasis placed on those special "Ahhhhh" moments in dance where hands, feet, covering, phrasing and music all come together. The class was brought even more to life by the expert hands of London Branch member Andrew Nolan, whose live music was a treat to those more used to recorded tracks.

Those craving more live music didn't have to wait long as the Saturday evening's ball was led by the trio of Ian & Judith Muir and Judith Smith. An excellent programme, with highlights such as *Flowers of Edinburgh* and *Cadgers in the Canongate*, was expertly called by Chris Harris from Zürich. Chris has a long association with the Rechberg dancers, having been the regular MC over many years in the previous venue. He managed to satisfy the cries for encores, resulting in virtually every dance being repeated.

Chairman of the Rechberg Scottish Dancers, and London Branch member, Karin Schnabl commented "We are very satisfied with how the weekend has gone. The dance level was extremely high and that made a great experience for all the participants. This certainly won't be the last Autumn in Gamundia." So watch this space! If you feel like stretching your dance legs and enjoy seeing new places, then consider spending an Autumn weekend in southern Germany. There will be a good chance of spotting some fellow London Branch members there too.

**Garry Robertson**



*"Scenes of horror, scenes of woe", or just a good outfit for a Hallowe'en themed evening? Stephen Webb and Joan Desborough getting into the spirit for a Berkhamsted themed evening several years ago – see article opposite.*

## CREDITS

Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue of *The Reel*, including the following for providing photos for this edition:

Jimmie Hill: p1  
Chris Collings: p2  
Jerry Reinstein: p7  
From Josephine Jones: p8 (MG)  
Stephen Webb: p8 (JA), p10/11 (1, 2, 3, 5, 9 & 10)  
From Ian Hall: p8 (LH)  
Elizabeth Mitchell: p9 (LP)

From Jeremy Hill: p9 (JH)  
Rebecca Randall: p10/11 (4)  
Elaine Davies: p10/11 (6 & 7)  
Alan Ip: p10/11 (8)  
Reinhard Waibel: p14 (top)  
From Stephen Webb: p14 (bottom)  
From Colin Johnston: p15  
From Chris Ransom: p20 (top)  
From RSCDS HQ: p20 (bottom)

Thanks also to Stephen Webb for additional reporting and co-ordination.



## Reflections on my Dancing Father

My father took his first dancing steps almost exactly 100 years ago, whilst a pupil at Forfar Academy. His teacher was John 'Dancie' Reid, the well-known teacher and dance band leader of the time. My father's enthusiasm for travel and adventure led him into a career in banking in the Far East. At the age of 21, his first posting was to China, where he soon became a leading light in the St Andrew's Society in Tientsin (now Tianjin). The usual contingent of Scots was augmented by Americans striving to hang onto their Scottish roots, and various other nationals. Going through my mother's effects recently, I found a booklet *Instructions for Reel Practices* that the Society had produced, which contained a strong recommendation that members learned the three dances:

*The Eightsome Reel*, 'as danced at The Northern and Oban Balls and Skye Gatherings', *The Caledonians*, a quadrille, and *Foursome Reel* all being danced in the 1920s in China!

After seven years in China, he was next posted to Colombo in Ceylon (Sri Lanka), where he enthusiastically joined the local Caledonian Society. Before too long he was posted back to China, Peking (Beijing) this time. By now he had married my mother and an elegant and graceful couple they made. Once again he entered fully into the expat Scottish community, encouraging people of all nationalities to take up Scottish dancing.

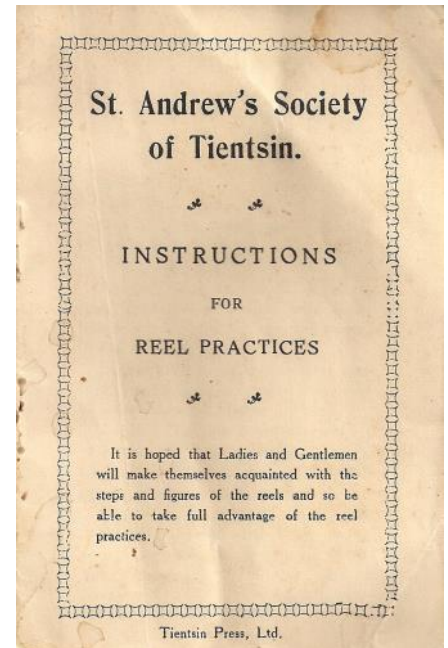
My sister and I were born during a stay in Calcutta, India, where we spent the war years. There were lots of opportunities for dancing, as we lived next door to a large army barracks, and there was a constant stream of Scottish regiments passing through to various combat zones. It was back to Colombo post-war, where interest in Scottish

dancing was flourishing, and the weekly sessions attracted anything between 60 and 80 dancers! I well remember sitting out with my sister, watching in amazement the dancers swirling around in very hot and humid conditions, and seeming to be thoroughly enjoying themselves.

It was when he reached Singapore that he resurrected his teaching skills, and a select group met weekly at the manager's house to be put through their paces. On my annual return visits from school in the UK, I was often entrusted with Jimmy Shand, Adam Rennie and Ian Powrie records for the latest dances. One of the group was Lady Fenella Fogarty and when her husband was posted away, my father composed a jolly little jig *Lady Fenella Fogarty*, which was published 50 years later in the Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club's Golden Anniversary Book.

His final overseas posting was to Manila in the Philippines and there he had an unfortunate but ironic, accident, which ended his Scottish dancing days. He was much taken with a group of young Filipino girls who performed traditional local dances. Amongst these was a fearsome dance, *Tinikling*, the national dance of the Philippines. In it, dancers have to dance in and out, between two bamboo poles that are being clapped together rhythmically. Father could not wait to have a go, and was doing quite well, until he danced in when he should have danced out. His foot was caught between the two bamboo poles and was broken in several places. His pas de basque was never quite the same again!

Colin Johnston



Robert and Moyra Johnston on the occasion of their silver wedding Manila, The Philippines, January 1959

## Have you ever considered a Themed Evening?

Themed dances can be great fun, and add that extra dimension of enjoyment to an event. Over the years London Branch have run some, and I recall the 2005 Polesden Lacey dance with a 1970s theme, when Rachel Wilton was Chairman, as being one of those highlights (see *The Reel* 253).

Christmas parties are a good opportunity: to dress up in red and green, wear Santa Claus hats, dance to Jim Lindsay's excellent, lively *Christmas Dance Party* CD and perhaps attempt a seasonal quiz. Hallowe'en dances are particularly popular with dancers, allowing some dancers to be even scarier than usual, appearing as ghouls, bogles, witches; Jim Rae's clever jig, *Old Spedding Castle's Ghost's Dance* invariably makes its annual appearance.

Not all themed dances need to be so extreme on dress: Burns' Night, St Andrew's Night and St Valentine's dances are cases in point. As dance names and movements in dances can often be used to reflect the theme of an evening, it is natural, as an MC, to select a programme of such relevant dances. I especially like organising a Burns' Night at the club, as a successful one brings so many different but interrelated components together. It can sometimes feel like a one-off major production.

One year, a while ago now, I prepared an evening programme of dances for Burns' Night that Robert Burns might have actually danced, and to music of the time, interspersed with various poetry recitations, musical pieces, group singing and solo dancing. I was very fortunate on that occasion to have Peter MacFarlane accept my invitation to play solo fiddle all evening for us to dance to, a *tour de force*. Some other dates to look out for: dancers' special birthdays, Saints' days and national holidays such as 4 July.

Over the years at Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club I have also been MC for at least four St.Valentine's evenings. The first thing to do with any theme is to thoroughly research it, its myths and origins, any anecdotes and how relevant can the dances available on the programme be. For this I generally ask dancers coming to it to wear something red or pink, as these are colours associated with love and romance. It doesn't necessarily have to be visible! I find by doing this, it sets the mood for the evening.

It seems that Roman Emperor Claudius II in 270AD wishing to maintain a flow of military recruits had outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, a priest, realising this injustice still performed marriages. He was arrested and whilst in prison Valentine sent a greeting to the jailer's blind daughter marked 'From your Valentine'. Choosing not to convert to Roman gods, Claudius had him put to death on 24 February. This story, however, gets merged with another: Roman spring began at the ides of February, at the festival of Lupercalia, a fertility festival. In pagan Rome, at this festival available women placed their names in an urn and the city's bachelors chose a woman for the year, sometimes these matches were successful. In 498AD Pope Gelasius declared 14 February as St Valentines Day.

I generally parallel this by providing chocolate hearts for the ladies at the interval to be taken from an urn and sometimes dancing partners chosen in the same way, and I usually include at least one dance that is a ladies' invitation. Now what dances would I consider appropriate for such an evening? These dances need to have a flirtation element to them, i.e. where eye contact predominates, chasing is involved, advancing towards one's partner, partner changing, birling too. The formations could include la barrette, allemande, poussette right round, knot, promenade and tandem reels. My programme could be chosen from *C'est L'Amour*, *Catch the Wind*, *The Highland Rambler*, *Follow me Home*, *The Cranberry Tart*, *Emmett's Chase*, *Camp of Pleasure*, *Airth Castle*, *MacDonald of Sleat* and even sometimes a teasing Playford dance such as *Lord Byron's Maggot*. I avoid dances where contact with one's partner is negligible or non-existent or it has eye contact only.

Finally, just a thought: I was reading *The Reel* 5 (as one does) and noted that it referred to the 1748 dance *Kiss me Quick*, *My Mither's Coming* (12/6). Bars 1-8 describe a bow by first man to second woman, followed by a reel of three with third couple, repeated in bars 9-16 with first woman. It says this was originally a kiss and figure of eight for the first 16 bars! Why was this ever changed, I wonder?

Stephen Webb

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## RSCDS CHELTENHAM BRANCH Annual Ball

Saturday 14 January 2017  
Pittville School, Albert Road,  
Cheltenham, GL52 3JD

**Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band**

Tickets £18.00 including light refreshments  
Programme and flyer available on our website

### Day School

Saturday 22 April 2017

Reddings Community Centre, Brooklyn Road,  
Cheltenham, GL51 6RF

**Teacher: Jane Rose**

**Musician: Keith Anderson**

Advanced, General and Beginners' classes  
and Evening Social Dance

More information available on our website

### Summer Dance

Saturday 20 May 2017

Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road,  
Churchdown, GL3 2JH

**Susan MacFadyen**

More information available on our website  
[www.cheltenhamrscds.btck.co.uk](http://www.cheltenhamrscds.btck.co.uk)

## WEST MACS CHARITY BALL In aid of Venture Trust

Saturday 1 April 2017

Allum Hall, 2 Allum Lane, Elstree,  
Herts WD6 3PJ

**Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band**  
**MC: Caroline Hamilton**

*Programme:* Hooper's Jig, Shiftn' Bobbins, Kilkenny Castle, John Cass, The Piper and the Penguin, The Dundee Whaler, Best Set in the Hall, The Spring Fling Reel, Scotch Mist, Father Connelly's Jig, The Reel of The Royal Scots, The Dream Catcher, The Recumbent Stone, Napier's Index, The Plantation Reel, Culla Bay, Scott Meikle, Neidpath Castle, James Gray, The Irish Rover

Tickets £19.00 if paid for by 25 March  
£20.00 thereafter

Contact Jim Henderson, 020 8954 2586 or

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

Cribs available from:

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

## HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY Annual Ball

Friday 6 January 2017

7.30 – 11.30pm

Allum Hall, 2 Allum Lane, Elstree,  
Herts WD6 3PJ

**The Frank Reid Scottish Dance Band**

*Programme:* The Last of the Lairds, Shiftn' Bobbins, Culla Bay, Napier's Index, Ray Milbourne, The Gentleman, John Cass, The Saltire Society Reel, Scotch Mist, The Glenalmond Gamekeeper, Cramond Bridge, The Dream Catcher, Torridon Lassies, The Falls of Rogie, The Swan and the Tay, Welcome to Ayr, Cape Breton Island, Miss Eleanor, Macleod's Fancy, Mrs Macpherson of Inveran

Tickets £20.00 including refreshments

Contact Mick Madigan, 020 8863 5306,

[ms\\_madigan@btinternet.com](mailto:ms_madigan@btinternet.com)

or Lorraine Kent 07951 587546,

[lorrainekent@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lorrainekent@yahoo.co.uk)

### Advance Notice

Spring Dance, Saturday 25 March 2017

Eastcote URC, Eastcote, HA5 1EX

Ian Muir (Prestwick) and Bob Parsons

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

## GERRARDS CROSS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB

### Tea Dance

Sunday 22 January 2017

2.15 – 6.00pm

Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre,  
East Common, Gerrards Cross, SL9 7AD

**Ken Martlew and Barbara Manning**

*Programme:* The Welcome Reel, The Luckenbooth Brooch, Dear Friends, Mrs Stewart's Jig, Fisherman's Reel, Montparnasse, Pelorus Jack, The Rutland Reel, The Piper and the Penguin, Miss Gibson's Strathspey, J B Milne, Aird of Coigach, The Flower of Glasgow, The Morrison Measure, The Reel of the 51st Division

Dances will be walked and talked through

Tickets £8.50

Bring and share refreshments

Tea, coffee and squash provided

### Tea Dance Practice

Saturday 21 January 9.45am-12.45pm

Garden Room, Memorial Centre, Gerrards Cross  
SL9 7AD £3.00

Contact Celia, [celiastuartlee@gmail.com](mailto:celiastuartlee@gmail.com)

or Rose, 07880 842370 or

[rkreloff@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rkreloff@hotmail.co.uk)

visit our website [www.gxscottish.org](http://www.gxscottish.org)

## LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB



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

Saturdays: Lower Hall 7.00 – 10.30pm unless  
otherwise stated

Saturday 7 January: New Year Dance

7.00 – 11.00pm **Craigievar**

Saturday 4 February: Annual Ball (see below)

Saturday 4 March: **Calum Mitchell**

Saturday 1 April: Combined Societies' Dance  
**Alasdair Macleod**

### Annual Ball

Saturday 4 February 2017

7.00 – 11.00pm

**Ian Muir (Prestwick)**

*Programme:* Hooper's Jig, The Belle of Bon Accord, The Montgomeries' Rant, Midnight Oil, The Valentine, Round Reel of Eight, Pelorus Jack, The Dundee Whaler, Ramadan-ce, The Rothesay Rant, Grand March & Buchan Eightsome, Scotch Mist, Tribute to the Borders, Nottingham Lace, John McAlpin, Diamond Jubilee, The Sailor, City of Belfast, The Lochalsh Reel, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder

### Ball Tickets:

Including finger buffet refreshments

\* LHC Members in advance £20.00.

\* Non Members in advance £23.00.

All classes on the door £25.00.

\* Advance booking price is only available on  
orders received by midnight 1 February.

For tickets contact: Frank Bennett on

020 8715 3564 or [fb.lhc@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:fb.lhc@blueyonder.co.uk)

If you have highland dress, you are invited to  
wear it

Programmes and cribs are on our website

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

For further details, contact Catriona Bennett on

020 8286 8424 or [cmb84scd@gmail.com](mailto:cmb84scd@gmail.com)

Everyone is welcome at all our functions, so  
please come along and join us for an  
enjoyable evening

## MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB



### Highland Ball

Saturday 14 January 2017

6.30 – 10.30pm

Manor Green School,

Elizabeth Hawkes Way, Maidenhead SL6 3HF

**Ian Muir (Prestwick) and  
his Scottish Dance Band**

*Programme:* Currie Mountain, The Starry Eyed Lassie, Royal Deeside\*, Mrs. Stuart Linnell\*, Achnacarry House\*, Mathilde is a Delight, The Plantation Reel, The Happy Weasel\*, Midsummer Common, The Deil among the Tailors, The Last of the Lairds, The Spring Fling Reel, Burns Bicentenary Strathspey\*, Glastonbury Tor\*, The Ship in Full Sail, Butterscotch and Honey, Pelorus Jack, Glen Alva\*, Cherrybank Gardens, The Laird of Milton's Daughter *Extras:* Blooms of Bon Accord, The Bees of Maggie Knockater

\*These dances can be recapped/walked if  
necessary

Tickets £20.00 before Saturday 24 December  
£22.00 thereafter

Includes supper and a welcome drink

Bring your own wine

Dress Formal

Contact: Jane Leach, 16 Brudenell, Windsor,

SL4 4UR, 01753 869557 or

[janerleach@hotmail.com](mailto:janerleach@hotmail.com)

Payment available by cash, cheque or online  
bank transfer. If ticket delivery to home address  
is required please send a SAE, otherwise tickets  
for collection on arrival.

Visit our website at:

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



## LUCY CLARK S.C.D.C Charity Dance

In aid of 'The Stroke Association'

Saturday 22 April 2017

Weekend with Annual Ball

Prestwood Village Hall, Wycombe Road,

Prestwood, Great Missenden HP16 0NZ

More information in *The Reel* 299

## RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY 80th Anniversary Ball

Saturday 18 February 2017

7.00 – 11.00pm

Hampton School, Hanworth Road,

Hampton, Middx TW12 3HD

**Iain MacPhail and his Scottish Dance Band**

*Programme:* The Flight of the Falcon, Swiss Lassie, Montparnasse, J B Milne, The Dancing Master, Gang the Same Gate, The Recumbent Stone, The Chequered Court, The Singing Sands, Anniversary Reel, Miss Allie Anderson, Angus MacLeod, Foxhill Court, Father Connelly's Jig, Bratach Bana, The Robertson Rant, Ramadan-ce, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder, Jean Martin of Aberdeen, The Falls of Rogie

Tickets £25.00 (£17.00 non-dancers)

Including supper and welcome drink

Any extra information

Contact us: 020 8755 0050 or

[tickets@richmondcaledonian.co.uk](mailto:tickets@richmondcaledonian.co.uk)

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



**CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY****Annual Spring Dance**

Saturday 25 February 2017

7.30 – 11.30pm

Pittville School, Albert Road,  
Cheltenham GL52 3JD**Iain MacPhail and his Scottish Dance Band**

*Programme:* Grand March, The Dancing Master, Swiss Lassie, Foxhill Court, Father Connelly's Jig, The Rutland Reel, The Glengarry Homestead, Flora's Fancy, Mr Iain Stuart Robertson, The Dream Catcher, Muirland Willie, Johnnie Walker, The Silver Penny Farthing, Spiffin', The Duchess Tree, Shiftn' Bobbins, The Cooper's Wife, Scott Meikle, The Minister on the Loch, The Bees of Maggieknockater, The Highland Rambler

Tickets £16.00

Cheques to "Cheltenham Scottish Society"  
please enclose SAEContact John Marshall, 17 Gratton Road,  
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 2BT or  
[duracellbunney@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:duracellbunney@tiscali.co.uk)**JAN & RITA'S****Hogmanay Dance**

Saturday 31 December 2016

8.00pm – 12.30am

The Village Hall, Horsepond, Rotten Row,  
Great Brickhill, Milton Keynes,  
Buckinghamshire MK17 9BA**Chris and Julie Dewhurst**

Tickets £5.00

Shared refreshments

Contact Jan, 07877 153259 or

[jange@verybusy.co.uk](mailto:jange@verybusy.co.uk)

Programme available on our website

[www.thistleclub.co.uk](http://www.thistleclub.co.uk)**BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY****& REEL CLUB****65th Highland Ball**

Saturday 11 February 2017

Welcome drink 7.00 – 7.30pm

Dancing 7.30 – Midnight

Ashlyn's School, Chesham Road,  
Berkhamsted, HP4 3AH**Ian Robertson and his Scottish Dance Band**

*Programme:* Hooper's Jig, The Doonhamer Delight, Indian River Strathspey, The Compleat Gardener, Lord Maclay's Reel, Muse Cottage (Goldring), The Black Mountain Reel, The Wild Geese, The Golden Wedding Strathspey, The Roselath Cross, Fisherman's Reel, Grand March into Flight to Melbourne, Mathilde is a Delight, Peggy's Wedding, Flowers of Dunbeg, Follow ne Home, Lord Brownlow's Strathspey, The Montgomerie's Rant, The Frisky, Schiehallion, Ladies' Fancy, The Reel of the 51st Division

Tickets £25.00 (£26.00 by Paypal) including  
welcome drink and dinner

Closing date for ticket sales is

Tuesday 7 February 2017

Buy early to avoid disappointment!

Contact Dawn Dorman, 07710 460623 or

[events@berkhamstedreelclub.org](mailto:events@berkhamstedreelclub.org)

Tickets also available via website using Paypal

**Highland Ball Practice**

Saturday 4 February 2017

11.00 – 5.00pm

Potten End Village Hall, Potten End,  
Berkhamsted, HP4 2QGBring a packed lunch. Morning and afternoon tea  
provided

£5.00 on the door

[www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org)**RSCDS BERKS/HANTS/  
SURREY BORDER  
BRANCH****Christmas Social**

Wednesday 28 December 2016

7.45 – 10.45 pm

St Paul's Parish Rooms, Wokingham,  
RG41 1EH

Dancing to recorded music

Bring and share refreshments

Contact Paul Plummer, 01252 404639

**Day School**

Saturday 11 March 2017

Court Moor School, Spring Woods,  
Fleet, GU52 7RY**Teacher: Pat Houghton****Class Musician: Ken Martlew****Musicians' Day School: Nicol McLaren**

Contact Paul Plummer, 01252 404639

**Branch Ball**

Saturday 20 May 2017

Emmbrook School, Emmbrook Road,  
Wokingham, Berks RG41 1JP**Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band**Contact: [events@rscds-bhs.org.uk](mailto:events@rscds-bhs.org.uk)Visit our website: [www.rscds-bhs.org.uk](http://www.rscds-bhs.org.uk)**ARGYLL SCOTTISH DANCING  
GROUP****Day School**

Saturday 22 April 2016

Edgbarrow School, Grant Road,  
Crowthorne, Berks RG45 7HZ**Teachers: Pat Houghton and Simon Wales****Musicians: Robert Mackay and****Ian Robertson**

For further details and application forms contact:

Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood, St Johns,  
Woking, Surrey GU21 3QB or 01483 721989**Argyll Weekend at Dillington House,  
Somerset**

Dancers Weekend School

6 – 8 October 2017

Musicians Weekend School led by **Ian Muir**For booking contact: Dillington House,  
Ilminster, Somerset TA19 9DT, 01460 258613

For further information and brochure:

[dillington@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:dillington@somerset.gov.uk) or[www.dillington.co.uk](http://www.dillington.co.uk) or see[www.argyllscottishdancinggroup.org.uk](http://www.argyllscottishdancinggroup.org.uk)**WEMBLEY AND DISTRICT SCOTTISH  
ASSOCIATION****Annual Ball**

Saturday 25 February 2017

7.30 – 11.30pm

Alperton Upper-School, Stanley Avenue,  
Wembley, Middlesex HA0 4PW**Jim Lindsay and his Band****MC: Caroline Hamilton**

*Programme:* EH3 7AF, Mr Iain Stuart Robertson, The Blue Mess Jacket, Inchmickery, Swiss Lassie, Sugar Candie, Best Set in the Hall, Flight to Melbourne, Miss Eleanor, The Dancing Master, The Black Mountain Reel, Montparnasse, Mrs Stewart's Jig, The Lochalsh Reel, Margaret Parker's Strathspey, Neil M Grant, The Reel of The Royal Scots, The Gardeners' Fantasia, James Gray, The Montgomerie's Rant

Tickets £17.00

Contact Brenda Manbuhar, 020 8933 9169 or

[boxoffice@wdsa.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@wdsa.co.uk)[www.wdsa.co.uk](http://www.wdsa.co.uk)**CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB and  
BRACKNELL REEL CLUB****Joint Spring Dance**

Saturday 25 March 2017

Carnation Hall, Winkfield Row,  
Bracknell, Berks RG42 7PA**Strathallan Scottish Dance Band**More information in *The Reel* 299[bracknellreelclub.org.uk](http://bracknellreelclub.org.uk)[camberleyreelclub.org.uk](http://camberleyreelclub.org.uk)**READING ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH  
DANCING SOCIETY****Annual Ball**

Saturday 4 February 2017

7.30 – 11.00pm

The Abbey School, 17 Kendrick Road,  
Reading, RG1 5DZ**Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band**

*Programme:* Welcome to Ayr, The Last of the Lairds, Midsummer Common, James Gray, The Lochalsh Reel, Miss Gibson's Strathspey, A Capital Jig, General Stuart's Reel, Butterscotch and Honey, The Deil among the Tailors, Miss Allie Anderson, Castle Of Mey, Linnea's Strathspey, Macleod's Fancy, Maxwell's Rant, The Dream Catcher, The Chequered Court, Scott Meikle, Miss Eleanor, The Reel of The Royal Scots

Tickets £20.00 including reception drink  
and supper with a glass of wineContact Rita Cane, 45 Beech Lane, Earley,  
Reading RG6 5PT, 0118 975 7507or[sascdol@gmail.com](mailto:sascdol@gmail.com)[www.scottishdancingreading.org](http://www.scottishdancingreading.org)**RSCDS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH****Burns' Night Supper & Dance**

Saturday 28 January 2017

7.00 – 11.30pm

Benson Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson,  
Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 6LZ**Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band**

Programme to be published on our website

Tickets £15.00

Contact Trisha Rawlings, 29 Frances Road,  
Middle Barton, Chipping Norton

Oxon OX7 7ET, 01869 340830 or

[trish@rawlings50cc.plus.com](mailto:trish@rawlings50cc.plus.com)**Day School and Dance**

Saturday 18 February 2017

Headington School, Headington Rd,  
Oxford, OX3 7TD**Teachers: Jean Martin, Duncan Brown and  
Dennis Tucker****Musicians: Jeremy Hill, Barbara Manning  
and Ian Robertson**

Evening dance

7.00 – 10.30pm

**Ian Robertson and his Scottish Dance Band**

*Programme:* Good Hearted Glasgow, The Sailor, Sugar Candie, Flora's Fancy, None so Pretty, Radcliffe Square, Machine without Horses, MacDonald of the Isles, Flowers of Edinburgh, Jig to the Music, The Reverend John MacFarlane, Linnea's Strathspey, Lady Home's Jig, Mr Iain Stuart Robertson, The Minister on the Loch, Pelorus Jack, The Reel of The Royal Scots

Tickets:

Whole day £26.00

Morning or afternoon class £9.00 each session

Evening Dance £14.00

Applications available on our website

Contact Trisha Rawlings, 29 Frances Road,  
Middle Barton, Chipping Norton,

Oxon OX7 7ET, 01869 340830 or

[trish@rawlings50cc.plus.com](mailto:trish@rawlings50cc.plus.com)[www.rscds-oxfordshire.org.uk](http://www.rscds-oxfordshire.org.uk)

## THE REEL

*The Reel* is published four times a year by the London Branch and posted free to all Branch members. Membership options are shown on p4. Non-members may subscribe to be on the mailing list, and clubs can negotiate bulk copies for their members. Enquiries to Maggie Westley (see advert on p12).

Articles and advertisements for *The Reel* should be sent to the Editor, address at the foot of the front page. **Advertising rates are £13.00 per column inch in black and white, £19.50 per column inch in colour.** Enquiries to the Business Editor: Jeff Robertson at [businesseditor@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:businesseditor@rscdslondon.org.uk)

### MILTON KEYNES RSCDS Annual Dance

Saturday 11 March 2017  
7.30 – 11.30pm

Old Stratford Community Hall,  
Deanshanger Road, Milton Keynes, MK19 6NL  
**Calum Mitchell and his Band**

*Programme:* Joie de Vivre, Anniversary Reel, Mathilde is a Delight, Seton's Ceilidh Band, Milton's Welcome, Schiehallion, Inchmickery, The Cashmere Shawl, The Sailor, Muirland Willie, The Reel of the 51st Division, Red Kites over the Black Isle, Best Set in the Hall, Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, Linnea's Strathspey, A Capital Jig, Ramadan-ce, Miss Eleanor, Spiffin', Mairi's Wedding, The Montgomerie's Rant, Follow me Home, St Columba's Strathspey

Tickets £18.00 including supper

Contact us: Jan Jones, 07877 153259 or  
[jange@verybusy.co.uk](mailto:jange@verybusy.co.uk)

### SAINT QUAY PERROS (BRITTANY, FRANCE)

#### Scots Bonnet

Friday 30 June – Sunday 2 July 2017  
Weekend with Annual Ball

Friday evening: walkthrough  
Saturday: Day School and Ball  
Sunday: walk before lunch

**Teacher: Tom McKinlay**

**Musicians: Ian Robertson and John Dudley**  
Contact Martine Guilbert,  
[ball2017@scots-bonnet.fr](mailto:ball2017@scots-bonnet.fr)

For more information please visit our website  
[www.scots-bonnet.fr/index.php/en/ball-2017](http://www.scots-bonnet.fr/index.php/en/ball-2017)



### THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE HIGHLAND BALL

Saturday 4 March 2017  
7.30 – 11.45pm

Millennium and Memorial Hall,  
Stanton Harcourt, Witney, OX29 5SB

#### Luke Brady's Scottish Dance Band

*Programme:* Joie de Vivre, Catch the Wind, Midsummer Common, Ladies' Fancy, Over the Volcano, Garry Strathspey, Major Ian Stewart, Anniversary Reel, Schiehallion, The Fireworks Reel, The Cooper's Wife (Mitchell), Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, Macdonald of Keppoch, Midnight Oil, The Cuckoo Clock, Miss Milligan's Strathspey, Gothenburg's Welcome, Scott Meikle, Chasing the Eclipse, The Reel of The Royal Scots. *Extras:* West's Hornpipe, The Piper and the Penguin

Tickets: £18.00 (students £14.00)  
including supper

Contact: Jamie Bell, 07989 887813 or  
[jamie.bell@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jamie.bell@new.ox.ac.uk)

### WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY

#### Caledonian Ball

Saturday 18 March 2017  
7.30 – 11.30pm

Allum Hall, 2 Allum Lane,  
Elstree, Herts WD6 3PJ

#### Marian Anderson and her Scottish Dance Band

*Programme:* The Honeymoon, St Andrew's Fair, Margaret Parker's Strathspey, Wicked Willy, The Chequered Court, The Foundling, Catch the Wind, The Ship in Full Sail, Montparnasse, The Rutland Reel, The Dancing Master, The Flower of Glasgow, Festival Fling, The Bees of Maggie Knockater, City of Belfast, The Morrison Measure, Berwick Johnnie, The Blue Mess Jacket, Swiss Lassie, Mairi's Wedding

Tickets £20.00 including wine reception  
and buffet supper

#### Ball practice

Sunday 12 March 2017  
2.00 – 5.00pm

Recital Hall, Nascot Wood Junior School,  
Nascot Wood Road, Watford, WD17 4YS  
Please contact us if you wish to attend

Contact us: 07880 842370,  
[tickets@watfordscottish.org.uk](mailto:tickets@watfordscottish.org.uk) or  
[rkreloff@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rkreloff@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.watfordscottish.org.uk](http://www.watfordscottish.org.uk)



## OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS

ABINGDON SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. Dancing most Mondays, 8–10.15pm, Sept–June at Northcourt Centre, Abingdon, nr Oxford. All welcome. Details: Betsy Wu, 42 Ock Bridge Place, Abingdon, OX14 5FW, [abingdonscdc@gmail.com](mailto:abingdonscdc@gmail.com) or [www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com](http://www.abingdonscdc.wordpress.com)

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

BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB meets in Potten End Village Hall, HP4 2QG. Social dancing: Tuesdays 8.15pm Sept–May, Sat. gardens June/July. Classes: Intermediate and Advanced Mondays 8pm, Beginners Tuesdays 8.15pm. Details: Dawn Dorman, Hill End Farm, Gorhambury, St Albans, Herts AL3 6AR, 01727 853908 or [www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org)

BERKS/HANTS/SURREY BORDER BRANCH RSCDS. Technique Class, alternate Mondays, Sept–April, 8–10pm Finchampstead Memorial Hall, RG40 4JU. General Class, every Wednesday, Sept–May, 8–10pm, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church Hall, Frimley, GU16 7AA. Teacher: Mervyn Short. Details: Paul Plummer, 01252 404639 or [www.rscds-bhs.org.uk](http://www.rscds-bhs.org.uk)

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH RSCDS meets every Friday at Kinson Community Centre, Pelham's Park, Millhams Rd., Bournemouth, BH10 7LH 7–10pm. Alternate Wednesday Technique class, by invitation. Details: Margaret Robson, 24 Upper Golf Links Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8BX, 01202 698138 or [margaret.brseds@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.brseds@ntlworld.com)

BRIGHTON BRANCH RSCDS. Classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced, country and highland, adults and children. Details: Rod Burrows, 01903 783053 or [chair@rscds-brighton.org.uk](mailto:chair@rscds-brighton.org.uk) or [www.rscds-brighton.org.uk](http://www.rscds-brighton.org.uk)

BRIGHTON & HOVE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets Thursdays 7.45–10.15pm at Moulsecomb Hall, Brighton. Details: Carol Catterall, 01273 564963 or [www.bhscdc.org.uk](http://www.bhscdc.org.uk)

CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB. Dancing every Tuesday 8pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Church Hill, Camberley. Details: Jackie Cresswell, 01252 616289 or [info@camberleyreelclub.org.uk](mailto:info@camberleyreelclub.org.uk)

CAMBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRANCH RSCDS. Classes for all grades. Details: Lindsey Ibbotson, 07977905291 or [lindsey.ibbotson@gmail.com](mailto:lindsey.ibbotson@gmail.com)

CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY Scottish country dancing and other events. Dance Circle meets every Thursday 8pm from Sept–June. Details: Rachel Schicker, 01223 364557 or [www.camscotsoc.org.uk](http://www.camscotsoc.org.uk)

CHELTENHAM BRANCH RSCDS Advanced class Mondays 7.45–9.45pm, Reddings Community Centre, Cheltenham. General class Thursdays 7.15–9.15pm, Bettridge School, Cheltenham. Beginners' Class Mondays 7.30–9.30pm, Christ Church Infants' School, Cheltenham. Details: Margaret Winterbourne, 01242 863238

CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Dancing most Friday nights 7.30–10pm from October to end May, at St Andrew's URC, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham. Details: Mrs Doreen Steele, 45 Dark Lane, Swindon Village, Cheltenham, GL51 9RN, 01242 528220 or [mbsteele1945@gmail.com](mailto:mbsteele1945@gmail.com)

CHISWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meet on Sundays 6–9.15pm, Sept–June, in the Upper Hall at St Michaels & All Angels Church, corner of The Avenue and Bath Road, London W4 1TX (turn right out of Turnham Green tube station, 70 yards). Check [www.chiswickscottish.org.uk](http://www.chiswickscottish.org.uk) for beginners and experienced dancers' start times and all activities. Details: Heather Nolan, 01784 256549 or [secretary@chiswickscottish.org.uk](mailto:secretary@chiswickscottish.org.uk)

CROYDON & DISTRICT BRANCH. Branch classes in Coulsdon: General, incl Beginners with technique (Fri); Advanced & Improvers (Wed) 8–10pm St Andrew's Church, Woodcote Grove Road, Coulsdon, CR5 2AJ. Details: Ian Tucker, 01306 741690 or [ian.tucker.at.home@gmail.com](mailto:ian.tucker.at.home@gmail.com) or [www.rscdscroydon.org.uk](http://www.rscdscroydon.org.uk)

EPPING FOREST SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION. Club night Mondays (all year) 8–10pm at Christchurch Parish Hall, Wanstead Place, Wanstead, E11 2SW. Details: Angela Ross, 020 8504 3376 or [angelaross87@hotmail.com](mailto:angelaross87@hotmail.com) or [www.efsa.org.uk](http://www.efsa.org.uk)

EPSOM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION General dancing Mondays, 7.30 – 10pm, Tweddle Hall, St Andrew's URC, Northey Avenue, Cheam, SM2 7HF. Teacher: Pauline Cashmore, 020 8686 9362. Details: Dorothy Pearson, 01737 551724 or [pearson2902@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pearson2902@tiscali.co.uk)

FARNHAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB. Dancing every Tuesday at 8pm, Sept–end of April at Weydon School, Weydon Lane, Farnham, GU9 8UG. Details: Pippa Peatman 01256 703909 or [p\\_peatman@yahoo.com](mailto:p_peatman@yahoo.com) or [www.fscdc.co.uk](http://www.fscdc.co.uk)

FLEET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY dance in Church Crookham Memorial Hall in Hampshire on alternate Saturdays from 7.30–10pm, Sept–May. Details: Shirley Ferguson 01276 501952 or [fergusonshirley7@gmail.com](mailto:fergusonshirley7@gmail.com) or [fleet.rscds-bhs.org.uk](http://fleet.rscds-bhs.org.uk)

GERRARDS CROSS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB meets at Memorial Centre, East Common Road, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD on Tuesdays from Sept–June. Beginners 7.30pm, General 8.15pm. Details: Celia Stuart-Lee, 01753 884217 or [info@gxscottish.org](mailto:info@gxscottish.org) or [www.gxscottish.org](http://www.gxscottish.org)



## OTHER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE ORGANISATIONS

- GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOC.** Meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesdays 8-10pm. Details: Kate Fraser 020 8998 0571 or [enquiries@greenfordcaledonian.net](mailto:enquiries@greenfordcaledonian.net)
- GUILDFORD SCDC** meets at Onslow Village Hall, Wilderness Rd, Guildford, GU2 7QR most Mondays at 8pm from Sept-June. Details: 01483 456091 or [www.gsdc.org.uk](http://www.gsdc.org.uk)
- HAMPSTEAD & DISTRICT SCOTS' ASSOCIATION.** Dancing on Tuesdays Sept-June from 8-10pm in The Parlour, Trinity Church, Methodist and United Reformed, 90 Hodford Road, Golders Green, London NW11 (Entrance in Rodborough Road). All welcome. Details: Miss Joan Burgess, 503A York Road, London SW18 1TF, 020 8870 6131
- HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday at 8pm at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden. Details: Val Owens, 29 Palfrey Close, St Albans, Herts AL3 5RE, 01727 863870 or [HSCDC.org.uk](http://HSCDC.org.uk)
- HARROW & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Classes Wednesdays 8.15-10.15pm, St Albans Church Hall, Norwood Drive (off The Ridgeway), North Harrow. Details: Jane Forbes, 7 Buckland Rise, Pinner, HA5 3QR, 020 8428 6055 or [www.harrowscottish.org.uk](http://www.harrowscottish.org.uk)
- HAYES & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** meets Fridays 8-10pm, Sept-July in Hayes, Middx. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. Details: Margaret Wallace, 020 8560 6160
- HERTSMERE REEL CLUB.** Monthly dances on third Saturday (exc. Aug & Sept) 7.30-11pm, Tilbury Hall (URC), Darkes Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 1BZ. Details: Margaret King, 0208 440 3236 or [margaret.king4@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:margaret.king4@hotmail.co.uk)
- ISLE OF THANET SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS** meet Wednesdays Sept-June at Holy Trinity & St John's C. of E. Primary School, St John's Road, Margate. Beginners 7-8pm. General 8-10pm. Details: Mrs Linda McRitchie, 60 Bradstow Way, Broadstairs, Kent, 01843 869284
- JERSEY CALEDONIA SCD GROUP.** Details: Joy Carry, Les Arbres, Rue des Cateaux, Trinity, JE3 5HB, 01534 862205 or [jchanjoy97@gmail.com](mailto:jchanjoy97@gmail.com)
- Alan Nicolle, 01534 484375 or [alan.nicolle88@gmail.com](mailto:alan.nicolle88@gmail.com) or Brenda Gale, 01534 862357 or [scottishcountrydancingchannelislands.blogspot.com](http://scottishcountrydancingchannelislands.blogspot.com)
- LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB** meets regularly at St Columba's, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD. Details: adverts in *The Reel*, Catriona Bennett, 33 Pains Close, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 1BY, [cmb84scd@gmail.com](mailto:cmb84scd@gmail.com) or 020 8286 8424 or [www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk](http://www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk)
- LUCY CLARK SCD CLUB** meets Thursdays 8pm, Oldhams Hall, Great Missenden, HP16 0BA. Details: Dick Field, Stonefield House, Clappins Lane, Naphill, Bucks HP14 4SL, 01494 562231
- MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday 8pm at St Piran's School, Gringer Hill, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 7LZ. First Tuesday in the month is Social Dancing Evening. Details: Jane Courtier, 16 Ostler Gate, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6SG, 01628 628372 or [maidenheadscottishdancing.org.uk](http://maidenheadscottishdancing.org.uk)
- MAIDSTONE (COBTREE) SCD GROUP** meets every Wednesday 7.30-10pm at The Grove Green Community Hall, Maidstone. Details: Dick Barford, 55 Northumberland Road, Maidstone ME25 7JG, 01622 685984
- MEDWAY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION.** Dancing Thursdays 8-10.15pm at St Mary's Island Community Centre, Chatham. Beginners welcome. Many other activities. Details: Liz Bowden, Meadow Cottage, Green Farm Lane, Lower Shorne, Gravesend, Kent DA12 3HL, 01474 822919
- MILTON KEYNES BRANCH RSCDS.** Mixed ability class Mondays 8-10pm. Bradwell Village Hall, Milton Keynes. Details: Jan Jones, 52 Aintree Close, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 5LP, 01908 378730 or [jange@verybusy.co.uk](mailto:jange@verybusy.co.uk)
- NORTH HERTS REEL CLUB.** Dancing most Wednesdays during school term, 8.15-10.15pm from Sept-May at St Thomas' Church Hall, Bedford Road, Letchworth, SG6 4DZ. Informal Saturday dances. Details: Mrs Jennifer Warburton, 17 Victoria Road, Shefford, Beds SG17 5AL or 01462 812691
- NORTH KENT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.** Dancing 7.45-10pm. most Wednesdays at Barnehurst Golf Club. Beginners welcome. Details: David Reid, 22 Thamesbank Place, Thamesmead, London SE23 8PR, 020 8311 7282
- ORPINGTON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Dancing every Thursday 8-10.15pm at Petts Wood Memorial Hall. Beginners/Improvers' Class every Monday 8-10.15pm at St Pauls, Crofton Road, Orpington. 'Young at Heart' class on Mondays 2-4 pm at St Johns Church Hall, Lynwood Grove, Orpington BR6 0B Details: Hadyn Davies, 020 8658 9188 or [hadyndavies@gmail.com](mailto:hadyndavies@gmail.com)
- OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH RSCDS.** Dancing on Thursdays throughout the year in Oxford. Details: Patricia Rawlings, 29 Frances Road, Middle Barton, Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 7ET, 01869 340830
- READING ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY.** Dancing at St Andrew's URC, London Road, Reading, RG1 5BD from 8-10pm, Sept-May, Tuesdays (elementary), Wednesdays (general), 1st & 2nd Thursdays of each month (advanced). Details: Rita Cane 0118 975 7507 or [sascd01@gmail.com](mailto:sascd01@gmail.com) or [www.scottishdancingreading.org](http://www.scottishdancingreading.org)
- REIGATE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets most Mondays 8.15-10.15pm, Sept-May at the Redhill Methodist Church Hall, Gloucester Road, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1BP. Details: Wendy Mitton, 01737 766244 or [wmitton517@btinternet.com](mailto:wmitton517@btinternet.com)
- RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** meets at the Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, every Wednesday evening at 8pm from mid Sept. to end of May. Details: 020 8943 3773 or [www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk](http://www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk)
- SANDERSTEAD URC SCOTTISH DANCE GROUP.** Dancing Tues 8pm at Sanderstead URC Hall, Sanderstead Hill, S. Croydon. Details: Graeme Wood, 01883 627797 or [gwood@gna.cc](mailto:gwood@gna.cc)
- ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,** Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD. St Columba's Dancers meet most Mondays from Oct to May, 7.15-10pm. Admission free except for Band Nights when a charge will be made. Details: Valerie Strachan, 020 8693 5355 or [valeriestrachan@btinternet.com](mailto:valeriestrachan@btinternet.com) or [www.stcolumbasdancers.org](http://www.stcolumbasdancers.org)
- ST JOHN'S SDC, WOKINGHAM** meet every Thurs 8-10.15pm Sept-June at St Sebastian's Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham. All standards welcome. Details: Sue Davis 2 Larkwood Dr, Crowthorne, 01344 774344 or [alan.suedavis@gmail.com](mailto:alan.suedavis@gmail.com) Also Children's Class Sats 9.30-11am at the Parish Hall, Crowthorne. Details: Deborah Draffin, 01344 776831
- SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR WALLINGTON, CARSHALTON & DISTRICT** hold weekly social dance on Thursday evenings from 8-10pm at Collingwood School, Springfield Road, Wallington, SM6 0BD. Details: Maggie Westley, 020 8647 9899 or 07956 937157, or [westley.maggie14@gmail.com](mailto:westley.maggie14@gmail.com)
- SEVENOAKS REEL CLUB** meets every Tuesday from Sept-May, 8-10pm at Kippington Church Centre, Kippington Rd, Sevenoaks. Details: Mrs Josephine Ellis, 26 Byng Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8EJ or [josephine@ellismp.plus.com](mailto:josephine@ellismp.plus.com)
- SHENE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP** meets every Wednesday from Sept-May, 8.15-10.15pm, in Barnes. Details: Sheena Clarke, 07954 350899
- SIDCUP & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION.** Dancing on Wednesdays from 8-10.15pm throughout the year at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Bexley, Kent. Details: Jenny Gavin, 48 Eastbrook Road, Blackheath SE3 8BT, 020 8856 4522
- SOUTH DORSET CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Dancing at St Edmund's Church Hall, Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth, Dorset, Wednesday, 7.30-10pm. Details: Miss Valerie Scriven, 13 Fenway Close, Dorchester Dorset DT1 1PQ, 01305 265177
- SOUTH EAST ESSEX SCOTTISH SOCIETY.** Dancing Fridays, 7.30-10.15pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend (near hospital). Tuition 7.30-9pm. Details: Graham Easton, 01702 587808 or [graham.easton@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.easton@btinternet.com) or [www.seess.org.uk](http://www.seess.org.uk)
- SOUTH EAST HERTS SCDS.** Classes for all standards, in Hertford, Tuesdays in term time. Monthly dances Sept-June, In Ware, usually second Friday. Details: Ian, 07842 034890 or [sehscds@hotmail.com](mailto:sehscds@hotmail.com) or [www.sehscottishdance.org/news](http://www.sehscottishdance.org/news). For Demonstration class contact Anne Nutt 01992 550923
- SURBITON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Dancing every Thursday at 8pm from Sept-June at St Mark's Church Hall, Church Hill Road, Surbiton. Details: David Horwill, 32 Wolsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx TW16 7TY or [www.surbitoncaledonian.co.uk](http://www.surbitoncaledonian.co.uk)
- TALLY HO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS.** Thursdays, 7.45-9.45, in the hall behind Christ Church, 620 High Road, Finchley N12 0NU. Details: Lucille on 01707 691 522 or [www.tallyhodancers.org](http://www.tallyhodancers.org)
- TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH RSCDS.** Beginners/intermediate classes on Tues 8-10pm and advanced classes Thurs 8-10pm at St Augustine's School, Wilman Rd, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9AL. Details: George Daly, 1 Broadwater Rise, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5UE, 01892 534512 or [www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk](http://www.rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk)
- WATFORD & WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY.** General and Beginners'/Improvers' Classes at Bushey Community Centre, High Street, Bushey, WD23 1TT. Thursdays from 8-10pm. Details: Stuart Kreloff, 60 Tunnel Wood Road, Watford, WD17 4GE, 01923 492475 or [reel@WatfordScottish.org.uk](mailto:reel@WatfordScottish.org.uk)
- WELWYN GARDEN CITY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** meets Wednesdays 8-10pm Sept-June at Lemsford Hall, Lemsford Village, Welwyn Garden City. All welcome. Details: Douglas Wood, 01582 469928 or [welwyn.scdc@uwclub.net](mailto:welwyn.scdc@uwclub.net) or [www.sehscottishdance.org/Welwyn](http://www.sehscottishdance.org/Welwyn)
- WEMBLEY & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.** Dance Class Mondays 8pm. The Church of the Ascension, The Avenue, Wembley, Middx. Details: Mrs Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road, Eastcote, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW, 0208 866 2378 or [info@wdsa.co.uk](mailto:info@wdsa.co.uk)
- WIMBLEDON.** St Andrew Society (London): Wimbledon and District Scots' Association. Dancing Tuesdays 8pm at Holy Trinity Church, 234 The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1SB. Details: Miss Alison Raffan, 2 Erridge Road, Merton Park, London SW19 3JB, 020 8540 1755 or [araffan@googlemail.com](mailto:araffan@googlemail.com) or [www.standrewsocietylondon.net](http://www.standrewsocietylondon.net)
- WINCHESTER BRANCH RSCDS.** Classes Tuesdays 8-10pm. Club nights 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 8-10pm. Both evenings at St Peter's School, Oliver's Battery Rd North, Winchester. Details: Wendy Mumford (teacher), 20 Blendon Drive, Andover, SP10 3NQ, 01264 363293 or [wendy@mumford.com](mailto:wendy@mumford.com)
- WITHAM & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Dancing every Wednesday 8-10pm. The Centre, UR Church, Witham, Essex. Details: Alex Daniel, 01621 855548 or [alexsdaniel@aol.com](mailto:alexsdaniel@aol.com)



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For further details visit [www.scotchmistuk.co.uk](http://www.scotchmistuk.co.uk), see clips on YouTube, or contact Chris Ransom at [chris.ransom@cransom.plus.com](mailto:chris.ransom@cransom.plus.com) or on 01843 821446.



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**Left:** Helen Russell, appointed RSCDS Chairman at the Society AGM, 5 November 2017, in Perth. Other appointments included Andrew Kellett as Chairman-elect, and Jean Martin as President. See also photos on p1 and p7, and a report on the AGM on p7.