



# The Reel

**rscds**  
London Branch

Published by the LONDON BRANCH of the ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY  
Formed 1930 [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) Registered Charity number 1067690

Scottish country dancing -  
For fun, fitness and  
friendship

**Issue 307**

**£1.50**

**MARCH TO MAY 2019**



Danielle Reinstein and Annette Hughes turn in *Gramachie* at London Branch's Christmas Dance, (15 December 2018).



Dancers enjoying the music of Caledonian Reelers at London Branch's Burns' Ceilidh Dance and Supper, (12 January 2019).

## Forthcoming Branch Dances

### Combined Societies' Dance

Hosted by RSCDS London Branch

Saturday 30 March 2019

7.00 - 10.30pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street  
SW1X 0BD

#### Frank Reid and his SCD Band

Hooper's Jig .....	8x32 J
Festival Fling .....	8x32 R
Argyll Strathspey .....	8x32 S
Muirland Willie .....	8x32 J
Glastonbury Tor .....	8x32 R
Margaret Parker's Strathspey .....	8x32 S
Best Set in the Hall .....	8x32 J
Miss Eleanor .....	3x32 S
Mairi's Wedding .....	8x40 R
Miss Mary Douglas .....	8x48 J
John of Bon Accord .....	8x32 R
The New Scotland Strathspey .....	4x40 S
The Wild Geese .....	8x32 J
The Australian Ladies .....	8x32 R
Gang the Same Gate .....	8x32 S
Inchmickery .....	5x32 J
City of Belfast .....	3x32 S
The Reel of The Royal Scots .....	8x32 R

Tickets £13 on the door,  
including refreshments

Dances will be recapped on request

Crib available at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk)

### Summer Wednesday Dance

Wednesday 29 May 2019

### End of Season Dance

Saturday 8 June 2019

## Also in this issue...

**Milton Keynes at 40** Celebrating their Ruby Anniversary Year (see p6)

**Robert Mackay interviewed** on his retirement from playing at the RSCDS Summer School (see p7). Also Wing Musicians' Workshop 2018 and New Music Class (see p8).

**Playford to Scottish** Ian and Val McFarlane tell us about the development of dancing from the 17th century (see p9)

### SCD Diagram Maker

Keith Rose gives an insight into his process (see p12)

### In My Opinion

The fun in dancing. Musician Frank Thomson gives his opinion (see p14)

### Letters to *The Reel*

Adopted then Adapted, Mrs Wendy Kellett, To Leave or Not to Leave, I Agree with Eric (see p15)

### Lives Remembered

Sheila Jupp, Ian Hall and Adrian Meade (see p16 and p19)



Jerry Reinstein chats to David Hall and his daughter Emily at the London Branch Christmas Dance, (15 December 2018).

Issue 308 will be with UK based members by 1 June 2019 unless delayed in the post. Contributions for that issue should be sent to arrive by and preferably in advance of **Sunday 21 April 2019** by email to [editor@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:editor@rscdslondon.org.uk)

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 by Margaret Catchick

It is hard to believe that we are now well into another dancing year. I hope that you enjoyed the festive season, now a distant memory, and that you are looking forward to happy dancing in 2019.

We ended 2018 on a high note with a very successful Christmas Dance. David Hall and his Scottish Country Dance Band treated us to wonderful music, Rachel Wilton and Danielle Reinstein guided us beautifully through the dances and Margaret Shaw and her team provided us with a superb buffet. It was a great way to end the year.

The New Year started with our Burns' Supper Ceilidh Dance which once again was an outstanding success. A tasty traditional supper of haggis, neeps and tatties was provided by our consistently excellent catering team led by Margaret Shaw, a haggis was piped in by Ryan Ellsworth, and Ian Rutherford addressed it with great style, James Fairbairn was our excellent MC, and superb music was once again provided by Caledonian Reelers. Another great evening enjoyed by all those who attended and our thanks go to everyone who played a part in its success.

Spring is on its way so why not put your dancing shoes on and attend some of the many classes and dances the Branch organises on your behalf. There are classes suitable for all levels of ability and we are fortunate to have excellent teachers and musicians to teach/play for them. So please come along and support our classes - you will not only benefit and improve your dancing but will also have fun and make new friends in the process.

In this issue you will find the Advance Notice of our AGM which will take place on Saturday 8 June 2019 and which will once again be followed by an End of Season Dance. Please consider putting yourself forward for a position on the Committee - do not wait to be asked. It is also possible to help with various aspects of the running of the Branch. If we are to continue to offer our membership the varied programme of activities we currently provide, we will need people to step forward and help in making things happen. If you are prepared to help in any way please speak to myself or one of my colleagues.

As members we are all representatives of the Branch and the Society. Encouraging people to attend our events, offering a friendly welcome on the dance floor (not pre-booking dances - a subject which has been discussed many times in the past) and renewing your membership are some of the ways of ensuring the future of the Branch and Scottish country dancing in London. We need members to exist so please renew your membership when it is due for renewal and encourage others to join and reap the benefits of belonging to such a wonderful worldwide organisation which offers all its members fun, fitness and friendship - what else could one want!

As you will see from the following pages, there is much to look forward to in the coming months with a full programme of classes and dances. In addition, we will shortly be announcing our plans to celebrate our 90th Anniversary and hope that you will join us in celebrating such a momentous occasion by attending the various events we will be organising.

I look forward to seeing you on the dance floor.



Simon Wales and Margaret Catchick dance *The College Hornpipe* at the London Branch Christmas Dance, (15 December 2018).

## London Branch Christmas Dance Report by Catriona Bennett

The weather was rather wet but that did not stop me and 90+ others from heading to Pont Street for the Branch Christmas Dance. Although I refrained, I expect most people were very glad of the mulled wine on arrival. To add to the festivities the church had their Christmas tree on the stage along with fairy lights in the hall. Everyone

had made an effort as there was a lot of sparkle and Christmas themes to be seen around the hall. Then, time for the dancing to begin and it was an interesting programme! The MCs, Rachel Wilton and Danielle Reinstein, made sure it was not a problem with their great recaps. The food at the interval, which was provided by Margaret Shaw and her team, apart from being excellent, ensured we were able to keep dancing until the end. However, what really kept us all going was the wonderful music provided by Dave Hall and his Band. It was such a lovely treat to be able to dance to Dave again, as he is currently based in Vienna. All in all it was a really good evening and thanks go to everyone involved as these dances do not just happen!

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ROYAL  
SCOTTISH  
COUNTRY  
DANCE  
SOCIETY



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President: Jean Martin  
Chairman: Andrew Kellett

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Dances ..... Margaret Shaw  
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### 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.

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



[www.facebook.com/RSCDSLONDON](https://www.facebook.com/RSCDSLONDON)



@LondonRSCDS



[YouTube.com/RSCDSLONDONBranch](https://www.youtube.com/RSCDSLONDONBranch)



## Membership

London Branch membership benefits include reduced rates at Branch classes, dances and events, and quarterly receiving *The Reel*, while RSCDS membership includes the biannual publication, *Scottish Country Dancer*, and 10% discounts on items from the RSCDS shop. Membership may be purchased via [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) using PayPal or by cheque payable to RSCDS London Branch. See full details on website. Membership enquiries and cheque payments should be addressed to the Membership Secretary, Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood, Woking GU21 3QB, 01483 721989, email: [membership@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:membership@rscdslondon.org.uk)

The current rates for RSCDS membership through the London Branch are as follows:

	Aged 12-17	Aged 18-24	25 and over	Second Branch member	Joint (per person)
<i>The Reel</i> electronically	£14	£20	£24	£4	£20
<i>The Reel</i> by post (UK)	£16	£22	£26	£6	£22
<i>The Reel</i> by post (Europe)	£22	£28	£32	£12	£28
<i>The Reel</i> by post (Rest of the World)	£25	£31	£35	£15	£31

## AGM Notice 8 June 2019

The Annual General Meeting of the London Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society will be held on Saturday 8 June 2019 at 6.45pm in the Upper Hall at St Columba's Church Hall, Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD. It will be followed by our End of Season Dance which will also take place in the Upper Hall. Members and friends of the Branch are invited to attend both events but only members may vote at the AGM. If you cannot get to the meeting we will still be pleased to see you at the dance. The meeting usually lasts about 45 minutes. You will learn about the work of the Branch and our plans for the future. The Committee welcomes your comments and opinions, either through a formal motion, which must be received in writing by the Branch Secretary by 31 March 2019, or during general discussion at the meeting. The motion should be signed by the proposer and seconder both of whom must be members of the Branch. Only motions submitted in advance and appearing on the Agenda can be voted upon. An agenda for the meeting and a report covering the Branch's activities will be circulated with the next issue of *The Reel*. Members are also encouraged to stand for election as an office holder or Committee member. Nominees should provide the Secretary with a written nomination form by 31 March 2019 signed by the nominee, a proposer and a seconder, all of whom must be Branch members. Having completed three consecutive years as Chairman Margaret Catchick must step down from this position. There are nine positions in total on the Committee (Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary and six ordinary members). We hope that members will step forward and join the Committee to contribute to its work and support Scottish country dancing so please consider nominating yourself. If there are more candidates than places, ballot papers will be issued to all Branch members with the next issue of *The Reel*. It is also possible to help with various aspects of the running of the Branch without necessarily being on the Committee.

Apart from Margaret Catchick, who will have completed her three year term as Chairman, all current Officers and members of the Committee are eligible for re-election. They are listed below with the date they joined or last re-joined the Committee:

Secretary: Joanne Lawrence (2017)

Treasurer: Simon Wales (2003)

Elaine Davies (2009), Jenny Kendrick (2015), George Potts (2009), Jerry Reinstein (2009), Thelma-Jane Robb (2011), Margaret Shaw (2007)

## Burns' Ceilidh Dance by Marjory Reid and friends

I gathered several of my good friends together and invited them along to the Branch's Burns' Ceilidh Dance for the third



year in a row. I asked them what they thought about the evening and the following are their comments:

**Annette:** My third year attending the ceilidh. I found the evening

very entertaining and enjoyable. People are always friendly and get one involved in the dancing. The food was lovely.

**Kathryn:** The choice of dances was excellent. We were eased in gently to start with and then carried on with a programme of dances for all abilities which meant we could dance all evening.

**Key:** The ceilidh was a fun filled evening of great music and company. Everyone, whether a dancer or not, received a warm welcome and was encouraged to join in. Explanations of the steps were given to help beginners navigate their way on a busy dance floor which helped break the ice! The haggis, neeps and tatties were delicious!

**Kim:** The people were friendly. The evening was well organised and great fun. Thoroughly enjoyed the evening!

**Nicola:** The Burns' Night ceilidh encompasses all ages: this year saw me dancing first with an enchanting little boy clad in traditional Scottish dress and my last dance was with a partner who was about ninety and dancing with gusto!

Readers can see they all had a great evening and are waiting for the 2020 date for their diaries.

I would like to say a big thank you to James Fairbairn who was our excellent MC, Caledonian Reelers for the superb music and the catering team for the delicious haggis supper.

## Advanced Technique Class by Ian Stewart

Looking for something exciting to do on Sundays?

Interesting - what is this? An email from Margaret about technique workshops at Coram's Fields. Is she trying to tell me something? Are my three beats now two and a half? She is probably right - I passed my teaching certificate 15 years ago and have picked up bad habits since then. So yes, I definitely do need to go. It is an easy walk from Kings Cross Station and the hall is a good size with wonderful windows - probably Georgian. Was it worth the trip? - definitely. Would I go again? - yes. Downside - unfortunately, not enough support to allow the class to run more frequently. The late morning start made for an informal, relaxed and friendly atmosphere. As a first timer I was made very welcome.

Did I learn anything? Yes, I have always started slip step with a hop. Mervyn pointed out that it is not correct - oops! Sorry Mervyn! What were the dances? *The Old Way of Killiecrankie* (RSCDS 75th Anniversary Booklet): an interesting turn by the right in three bars leading into skip change starting on the left foot - try it. *Lass o' Loudon* (MMM) - tricky with the set to corners finishing facing first corner. My second corner was offended when I abandoned her too early with my glance returning to my first corner too soon - sorry again! *The Golden Pheasant* - it was nicknamed "The Telephone Dance" (GPO STD) - Grand chain, Poussette, Circle, Set and Turn corners, Double triangles. Too young to remember? GPO stood for General Post Office (provider of telephone service). STD was Subscriber Trunk Dialling - direct-dialled long distance calls. End of history lesson.

If you found this article interesting and stimulating and would like to come to the next session, the good news is that there is a class on Sunday 10 March 2019 at Coram's Fields. Hope to see you there.





# London Branch Dances and Classes

## Summer Wednesday Dance

Wednesday 29 May 2019

7.00 - 10.00pm

Doors open at 6.30pm

St Columba's Church, Pont Street  
SW1X 0BD

**Sandra Smith, Ian and Meryl Thomson**

Charlestown Chaser ..... 4x32 J  
The Loch Ness Monster ..... 32 R  
12 Coates Crescent ..... 4x32 S  
Clutha ..... 4x48 H  
Joie de Vivre ..... 8x32 J  
Miss Gibson's Strathspey ..... 8x32 S  
Napier's Index ..... 8x40 J

Pelorus Jack ..... 8x32 J  
The Dream Catcher ..... Sq 1x96 S  
The Westminster Reel ..... 8x32 R  
Inchmickery ..... 5x32 J  
Hello-Goodbye ..... 8x32 S  
Scott Meikle ..... 4x32 R  
The Starry Eyed Lassie ..... 8x32 J

**Extra:**  
The Reel of The Royal Scots ..... 8x32 R

Admission includes light refreshments  
RSCDS members £11, non-members £13,  
full time students (with card) and  
spectators £6. All children (under 16) free

All tickets to be purchased (cash only)  
on the door. All dances will be recapped/  
walked through

Crib available at [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk)

## Family Dance



Saturday 8 June 2019

2.00 - 4.00pm

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

**Sandra Smith**

Circassian (big) Circle ..... 32 R  
Charlestown Chaser ..... 4x32 J  
Gay Gordons ..... 16 Mch  
MC's Choice .....  
The Waratah Weaver ..... 4x32 J  
A Reel for Jeannie ..... 4x32 R  
The Dhoo ..... 4x32 J  
The Loch Ness Monster ..... 32 R  
Granville Market ..... 8x32 J  
MC's Choice .....  
Espie McNabb ..... 8x32 J  
The Barmkin ..... Sq 1x88 R  
Canadian Barn Dance ..... 16 Mch  
The Dashing White Sergeant ..... 32 R  
Extras: Scotch Mixer ..... 32 R  
Round Reel of Eight ..... Sq 1x88 R  
Witches' Reel ..... 32 R

Admission includes light refreshments  
Families £12 or £4 per dancer  
All tickets to be purchased (cash only)  
on the door.

The dances will be chosen from the above  
and will be talked and walked through  
All young dancers, their families, friends  
and teachers are welcome

For more information: email  
[childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:childrensclass@rscdslondon.org.uk)

For updates please check our Facebook  
page: [Families-in-London-Dance-Scottish](https://www.facebook.com/Families-in-London-Dance-Scottish) or  
[www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk)

## End of Season Dance

Following the Branch AGM

Saturday 8 June 2019

Doors open at 6.15pm

AGM 6.45 - 7.30pm

Dance 7.30 - 10.30pm

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

**Sandra Smith and Barbara Manning**

Hooper's Jig ..... 8x32 J  
Flowers of Edinburgh ..... 8x32 R  
Tulloch Gorm ..... 8x32 S  
Old Nick's Lumber Room ..... 8x32 J  
John of Bon Accord ..... 8x32 R  
Culla Bay ..... Sq 4x32 S  
Lady Susan Stewart's Reel ..... 8x32 R

Major Ian Stewart ..... 8x32 J  
La Tempête ..... 48 R  
The Gentleman ..... 8x32 S  
Ladies' Fancy ..... 8x32 J  
Crossing the Line ..... 6x32 R  
Miss Gibson's Strathspey ..... 8x32 S  
Follow Me Home ..... 8x32 J  
The Montgomerie's Rant ..... 8x32 R

Admission includes light refreshments  
RSCDS members £9, non-members £11,  
full time students (with card) and  
spectators £5. All children (under 16) free

All tickets to be purchased (cash only)  
on the door. All dances will be recapped

Crib available at

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

## Other London Branch Dances for 2019

The following dance dates are confirmed  
for next season. Events take place at  
St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London  
SW1X 0BD unless otherwise shown.

17, 24, 31 August	Open Air Dancing, Kensington Gardens
21 September	New Season Dance <b>Strathallan</b>
19 October	Day School and Evening Dance, St Helen's School, Northwood, Middlesex <b>Ian Muir of Prestwick and Day School Musicians</b>
23 October	Autumn Wednesday Dance <b>TBA</b>
14 December	Christmas Dance <b>Nicol McLaren</b>

For details of all our events please visit  
[www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk)

## RSCDS Teaching Certificate Course

Are you interested in learning to teach  
Scottish country dancing, or have you  
passed your Units 1, 2 and 3 and would like  
to complete your Unit 5?

SERTA is intending to run a Certificate  
Course starting Autumn 2019 through to  
exams in early summer 2020, probably in  
Hertfordshire.

For further information or to register your  
interest, please contact Jane Rose  
[jsrose@ntlworld.com](mailto:jsrose@ntlworld.com)

## The Reel Christmas Quiz 2018 - Winner

The Reel received several correct solutions to our Christmas quiz  
on p4 of Reel 306.



The first to be received on 16 December and  
therefore named *The Reel* Christmas Quizzer 2018  
is Elizabeth Bennett from Worcester Park, Surrey.  
*The Reel* sends congratulations to Elizabeth and  
all others who managed to solve this quiz,  
especially if it was after a couple of glasses of  
port.

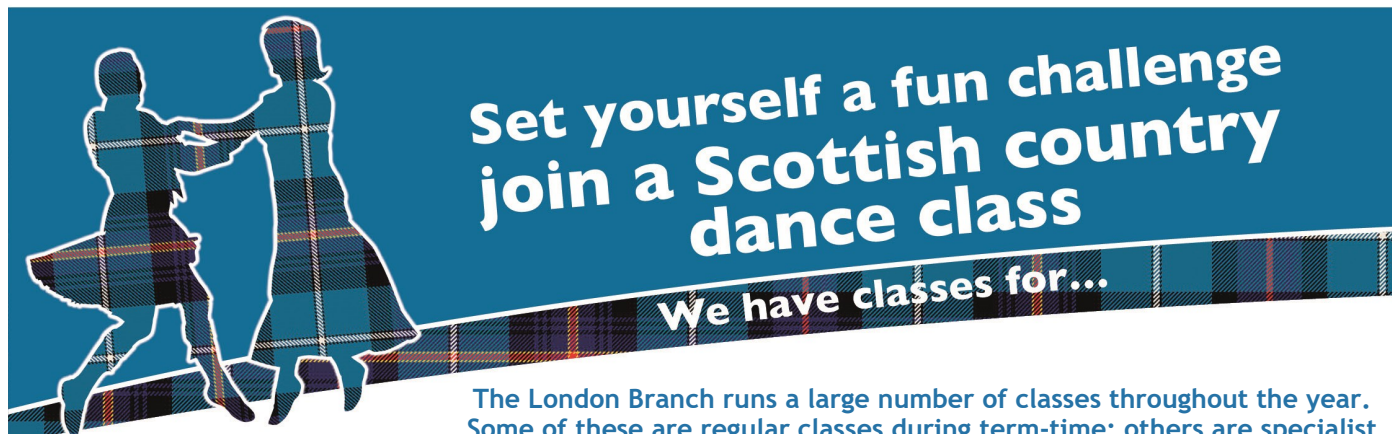
**Answers:**

- 1 Name of London Branch magazine (4) The **Reel**
  - 2 First name of Scottish bard born in 1759 (3) **Robert**
  - 3 Scots for splashes (4) **Jaups**
  - 4 Who devised the reel *Orpington Caledonians*? (5) John **Brenchley**
  - 5 Fife village where there is a Jimmy Shand statue (10)  
**Auchtermuchty**
  - 6 ~~Salmon leap here~~ (6) (This was a misprint in the quiz and should  
be ignored - correctly posted on the London Branch website from  
6 December 2018.)
  - 7 In which churchyard is Rob Roy MacGregor, who died in 1734,  
buried? (6) **Balquhider**
  - 8 Scotland's national mythical animal since late 1300s (5) **Unicorn**
  - 9 Salmon leap here (6) **Pitlochry**
  - 10 Tune used for the dance, *Bonnie Anne* (7)  
**The Glendaruel Highlanders**
  - 11 First name of Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich (6) **Ysobel**
  - 12 Book 1, No.6 (8) Flowers of **Edinburgh**
  - 13 Which Scot first produced pneumatic tyres commercially (2)  
**John Dunlop**
  - 14 16th century castle on Loch Ness (1) **Urquhart**
- Anagram: **reach hilly dot**  
An old Scottish country set dance:  
*The Royal Child* better known as *Bonnie Anne*



Mercat (market)  
Cross, Edinburgh.  
Built 1882,  
originally 1365.





The London Branch runs a large number of classes throughout the year. Some of these are regular classes during term-time; others are specialist classes in advanced technique and classes for young people.

## Park Walk Primary School

Park Walk, London SW10 0AY

**Wednesdays 7.00 - 9.00pm** during term time

Last class of Spring term is 27 March (Joint Class Party - 3 April 2019). Summer term is 24 April - 22 May

### Beginners and Improvers

with teacher **Davinia Miln**

An introduction to basic steps and formations for new dancers while supporting others to develop their technique and general dancing skills.

### Technique Class for Intermediate and Advanced Dancers

with teacher **Pat Davoll** (2nd half term) and **Lindsey Rousseau** (Summer term)

A technique class for advanced and intermediate dancers looking to develop their technique, confidence, performance, style and enjoyment of the dance.

Class fee: £7 per night for RSCDS members, £9 per night for non-members. Termly rates available.

Underground: South Kensington, Sloane Square.

Free on-street parking available after 6.30pm (Chelsea match days 10.00pm) in nearby streets.

Buses: 11, 22, 19, 49, 328, 319, 345

No entry into the school permitted before 6.40pm. No smoking or vaping on school premises.

Contact: Jenny - [classes@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:classes@rscdslondon.org.uk)

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

## St Columba's Church

Upper Hall, Pont St, London SW1X 0BD

**Wednesdays 2.30 - 4.30pm** during term time

Last class of Spring term is 3 April 2019  
Summer term is 1 May to 26 June (half term 29 May)

### Mixed Ability

with teacher **Jeni Rutherford**

A social class suitable for dancers with at least some knowledge of basic steps and formations. Visitors welcome.

Class fee: £7 per class to recorded music

For further information contact Jeni at [jenirutherford@virginmedia.com](mailto:jenirutherford@virginmedia.com)

Underground: Knightsbridge, Sloane Square.

Buses: 19, 22, 137, 452, C1

## Richmond

Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond TW9 2RT

**Wednesdays 7.30 - 10.00pm** during term time (beginners 7.30 - 9.00pm, improvers 8.00 - 10.00pm)

Last class of Spring term is 27 March (Class Party - 3 April 2019). Summer term is 24 April - 19 June

### Beginners and Improvers

with teacher **Judith Jones**

An introduction to basic steps and formations for new dancers while supporting others to develop their technique and general dancing skills.

Class fee: £6 per class to recorded music

Underground/Train: Richmond.

Buses: 65, 190, 371, 391, 419, 490, 493

## Coram's Fields

Band Hall, 93 Guilford St, London WC1N 1DN

**Sunday 10 March 2019 11.00am - 1.00pm**

### Technique Class for Advanced and Very Advanced Dancers

with teacher **Philippe Rousseau** and musician **Ken Martlew**



A class aimed at advanced and very advanced dancers who are able to perform and execute all steps and formations to a high standard of dancing and assimilate instructions quickly.

Class fee: £9 (RSCDS members) and £10 (non-members).

For details contact Margaret Catchick [chairman@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:chairman@rscdslondon.org.uk) or Jenny Kendrick [classes@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:classes@rscdslondon.org.uk)

Underground: Russell Square.  
Free on-street parking available.

## South East Dance Diary

The diary on the Branch website is regularly updated. For a hard copy please send a SAE to Caroline Hamilton.

All societies in the South East may submit their functions free for inclusion in the diary. Email [diary@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:diary@rscdslondon.org.uk) or by post to Caroline Hamilton, 31 Boundary Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 1PW

## Representing the Branch

A monthly class on Tuesdays for advanced dancers, taught by **Mervyn Short**, with music provided by **Neil Esslemont**, 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)

## Families in London Dance Scottish

The Family Scottish Dancing Class will continue at:

Fresh Ground Church of the Nazarene, 68 Battersea Rise, London SW11 1EQ



[www.freshgroundlondon.com](http://www.freshgroundlondon.com)

**Saturdays 10.30 - 11.45am**

2 and 16 March 2019

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For further information please contact Marjory at [classes@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:classes@rscdslondon.org.uk)

**Family Afternoon Dance** on Saturday 8 June 2019 - see p4 for details

## South East Classes Listing

We regularly update the classes listing on [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) (under SE Events).

Would you please check your group's information and send any amendments to [seclasses@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:seclasses@rscdslondon.org.uk) or call Jan Collings on 07803 923036.

## Milton Keynes is 40 by Lesley Wort



### Milton Keynes in 1979 becomes an RSCDS Branch: I moved to Milton Keynes in 1976.

There was no central shopping area and the several villages that now form Milton Keynes, were still independent. There was Bletchley, Stony Stratford, Wolverton and Newport Pagnell for regular shopping, and Northampton or Bedford for larger shops. We found a Scottish dancing group, meeting in Wolverton, and soon got involved. Robert and Hilary Warburton ran the class which, I believe, had recently formed from two small groups. In September 1976 we became an RSCDS Affiliated Group and held our inaugural dance, in Wolverton, dancing to Frank Reid and his Band. Most of the dances on that programme are still popular today. We were called the Milton Keynes Scottish Country Dance Society. I recall two or three sets at the weekly classes, and endless advertising and promotion. The main item on

the committee meeting agenda was always, how to attract more dancers. Much the same as today!

**Our eventful year approaches:** Both Robert and Hilary were RSCDS teachers and worked hard to encourage us to go to dances at other branches. I recall going with them to dances in Birmingham, Hitchin, London and to the Silver Cross dances at Wheathampstead. In 1979 and still as MKSCDS, the group ran a ball on 13 January 1979, dancing to McBain's SCD Band, and a dance in April to The Olympians Scottish Dance Band. In the summer of 1979, the Affiliated Group became a Branch of the RSCDS and in October, as RSCDS Milton Keynes, there was an informal dance, to recorded music. Peter Fischer was secretary until 1979. When he left, Hilary became Branch Secretary, with Mary Nicholson Social Secretary; Robert was Chairman and Pat Torr Treasurer. Peter, Robert and Hilary have since moved away.

A few founding members, including Mary and Pat, have sadly died. There are only three or four of us from that time, still dancing in Milton Keynes.

**Today:** Starting in 2001, RSCDS MK for nine years organised a most enjoyable Sunday afternoon picnic dance, in June, to live music - the first five were held in the grounds at Station X, Bletchley Park and then on Stoke Goldington Village Green with the MCing from Jan Jones and Rita Scott. We still run a summer picnic dance every year. It is now a walk, picnic and dance afternoon at Bradwell. Children's classes, classes for more experienced dancers, different themed dances to recorded music through the year, and different venues, have all been tried over the years, but shortage of numbers has usually affected their success. Like all clubs, dancers come and go. Currently, there are



The Braes of Mellinish at 1979 Ball.

18 RSCDS members, 30 or so on the class register, and the Monday evening classes held in Bradwell Village Hall run, much as 40 years ago, with two to four sets dancing.

**An annual ball or dance** has been hosted by RSCDS Milton Keynes each year, in a variety of halls in north Milton Keynes and the area. Some of the dances from the 1979 programmes are included on the 40th Anniversary Dance programme for 9 March 2019 and which featured in 1979 are *The Happy Meeting*, *Staffin Harvest*, *The Pines of Pitlochry* and *The Silver Tassie* when we will dance to Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Scottish Dance Band. See p18 Reel 306. Contact Jan Jones on 07877 153259 or email [info@rscdsmk.co.uk](mailto:info@rscdsmk.co.uk)

Ed. Milton Keynes would be interested to know who is dancing in 1979 in their ball photo, please email *The Reel* if you know.



Rita Scott's Children's Class leading off after entertaining guests at Stoke Goldington, (17 June 2007).

## Cheltenham is a Small Town by John and Joan Marshall

Cheltenham is a small town which punches above its weight. Most people know about Cheltenham because of its renowned festivals; however we are fortunate to have a thriving Scottish society in the town. Cheltenham Scottish Society dance group meets weekly all year round on Friday evenings. We average just over three sets and dance 12 dances with a brief walk-through. It is at club nights that we introduce new interesting dances, which may get taken into our repertoire if they are popular. We do not have a beginners' class, but beginners do come; we help them with constant encouragement and they stay forever. We organise two major social events each year, and we take great care to devise a programme of well known and familiar dances. We want to ensure that every dance is known by everyone and feel that new, difficult, local or unfamiliar dances have no place at a social evening when a band is sitting on the stage. There are no challenges, no brain strain, no walk-throughs, just a river of enjoyment. Enjoyment is what it is all about. We are lucky in Cheltenham that no one writes dances to add to an already overstocked pool.

Our main dance at the end of February begins with the Grand March to the pipes of Cheltenham St Andrews Pipe Band, and we have been incredibly fortunate to dance to Iain MacPhail and his Scottish Dance Band for the last 12 years. Generally, we get 12 sets which fill the hall. We attract some dancers who travel great distances for our dances and stay in the town for the weekend. Our Summer Dance is at the beginning of June in



Annual Spring Dance: Grand March led by John and Joan Marshall, (27 February 2016).

a smaller hall which holds seven sets. The ticket we sell might look like paper, but that is an illusion. We are really selling atmosphere. In 2018 we danced to Marian Anderson and Max Ketchin, and tickets sold out six weeks ahead.

We believe that it is important for dancers to support each other's events, and we often have a large group of our members travelling to support other clubs' dances with the aim of encouraging others to do the same. We publish and distribute a dance diary of all events within the area Bristol to Birmingham, and Hereford to Oxford.

See our websites:

[www.jockjigging.btck.co.uk](http://www.jockjigging.btck.co.uk)

[www.cheltenhamsscottishsociety.btck.co.uk](http://www.cheltenhamsscottishsociety.btck.co.uk)

## Lucy Clark - New Year, New Home! by Jan Collings

We are excited; our club has found a new home! In future, we will be dancing at Wendover Memorial Hall, HP22 6HF - [www.lucyclark.org.uk](http://www.lucyclark.org.uk)

Great Missenden was our home for many years but, with increasing membership, we needed more space and our dancers voted overwhelmingly for larger accommodation with improved facilities and parking.

Co-incidentally, Wycombe Sound Radio invited our Secretary, Liz Mitchell, to talk about the club and Scottish country dancing before Christmas on 19 December 2018. This was a warm and charming interview. We are so proud of 'our lady who loves a strathspey'.





## An Interview with Robert Mackay - Part 1

The 2018 Summer School was without the services of stalwart class musician Robert Mackay who, after 40 years playing there (for all four weeks each year), decided he should retire. *The Reel* (Rachel Wilton) caught up with him in January 2018 to find out about his views on music, playing for Scottish country dance and how Scottish country dancing has influenced his life. Part 2 will appear in *Reel* 308.



Robert playing at RSCDS St Andrews Summer School in the Younger Hall with teacher, Maureen Haynes, (29 July 2011).

### Who were your musical influences?

As far as SCD was concerned it was Susan Inglis who played at Summer School in 1928 for the first time and I always admired her. She played for the demonstration class in Edinburgh and of course was always Allie Anderson's pianist. Susan took a great interest in me and encouraged me. When she eventually moved into sheltered housing she gave me all her music so I had a great opportunity to not just to learn how to play country dance music but to hear about all the great composers and take an interest. Susan had really advised Miss Milligan a lot on these older composers and also on classical composers.

### How has music for dancing changed over the years? Are the proportion of dances with modern tunes increasing compared to the use of traditional tunes years ago?

Quite a lot of people submit dances with tunes but some of the music is not terribly suitable, or very good. There are many tunes from the 18th and 19th century we have not yet used, so we still have a wealth of knowledge. The important thing is that the music is as important as the dance and Miss Milligan always stressed that. I believe that it is important that we have really good music because I am afraid even the RSCDS has published one or two tunes which I think are just not suitable at all. Of course the speed of dances has changed a bit because when I first started dancing we danced it much faster. In Edinburgh they always dance a bit slower than elsewhere, but certainly we used to dance strathspeys much faster than we do now. Somebody said it was so they could get them all on to 78rpm records - you had to play them at a certain speed to fit - but I think we did dance a bit faster years ago and the speed has now reduced.

### How important is the working relationship between teacher and class musician? Or does there need to be one?

Oh, that is absolutely essential. If you cannot work together it just does not work out at all. Nowadays, the director of Summer School always tells the teaching staff that they must give the musicians notice of what they are teaching so the musician can prepare it. I personally prepared a tremendous lot before I went to Summer School to make sure all the tunes fitted. I did not just pick up a selection of tunes as I am afraid some of the bands do occasionally and just put it to any original. You have to make sure your alternative tunes fit and I do a lot of hard work on that. When I first started at Summer School, one got the programme the night before and it was not very fair. I think probably they were accustomed to pianists being like Susan Inglis and Winifred Carnie and others who had all been there for years - they could play anything they were asked to - but for the newer musicians I think you have to give them a chance to prepare music. There are still one or two teachers who do not - some who should know better - but in general when I was playing at Summer School I always got the music two or three weeks in advance.

When I first went to Summer School the musicians were on a lower level to the teachers. The teachers were all supreme and the musicians were just there and it was unfortunate because there were all these ladies like Miss Carnie, Miss Dingles, Kitty McLauclan, they played for classes and yet were always in the background. Muriel Johnstone and I decided we wanted to make ourselves known and I think they have suddenly realised that the musicians are very important. There is this feeling that the teacher is always more important but if the musician is doing his or her job they are working pretty hard beforehand to make sure everything works and it is a partnership between teacher and musician and I think this has become more obvious.

### What can a musician contribute to a Scottish country dance class other than playing?

Partly, knowledge of the dancing because it helps if one knows when the last eight bars of the dance are - the pianist can watch. But the other thing is being able to talk about the history of the music. This was something that Muriel and I decided a way back and I remember we asked Duncan MacLeod if we could maybe talk to the Summer School and he was very enthusiastic because Duncan was not particularly musical but he was very keen for us to do this. Muriel and I started to give music talks and then gradually I started to talk about the music in the class and I think a lot of these older lady pianists would have been happy to do so but nobody ever asked them. Susan Inglis had a great knowledge of music but nobody ever asked her to expand on it. Some of the musicians did not want to talk about it, they were not happy, but we have always been keen and I still do. I think it is so important that dancers in a class know where the music comes from and it gives them a bit of history.

### The other thing you have talked about is choosing suitable tunes to help people to improve their steps.

That is right, there are some tunes which just do not work and others do and one gets to know this and can help the class by playing tunes that are suitable - in the same way as choosing alternative tunes for dances. Often one goes to a dance and hears people playing slow airs along with slow strathspeys and it just does not work, one has really got to take the time to sort out the alternative tunes. Miss Milligan always said that the music is there but it is the servant of the dancers, the music has to help them.

## Bands

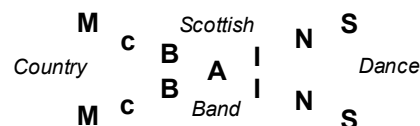
### IAN ROBERTSON AND HIS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE BAND

Solo, duo or trio available for Scottish country dances, classes, weddings, ceilidhs and reeling events.

Contact Ian Robertson on 01296 630682 or [ib Robertson@btinternet.com](mailto:ib Robertson@btinternet.com)

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

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See [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) for details or contact Maggie Westley, 30 Stanley Road, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 4LF or [reelsubscriptions@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:reelsubscriptions@rscdslondon.org.uk)

## Branch Bookstall

The branch Bookstall sells Scottish country dancing books and CDs and also Branch badges. The bookstall is usually at Branch events. Books and CDs can also be sent out by post. Although Daniel was unable to take the bookstall to the Branch Christmas Dance due to illness, he plans to take it to the Combined Societies' Dance on 30 March 2019. Some books donated by a late member, high-quality CDs by well-known bands and early RSCDS Books can be obtained in exchange for a small donation. Current stock is listed on the Branch website, [www.rscdslondon.org.uk](http://www.rscdslondon.org.uk) Contact Daniel at 74B Thurlow Park Road, London SE21 8HY, [bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:bookstall@rscdslondon.org.uk) or on 020 8670 6918 with any queries or orders.

Daniel has decided to step down as bookstall manager by the end of the season, after five years and the Branch thanks him for his support. Any one interested in taking on the bookstall should contact Branch Secretary Joanne at [secretary@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rscdslondon.org.uk)

If you wish to receive London Branch information by email, whether a Branch member or not, (not more than once a month), please send your email address to [publicity@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:publicity@rscdslondon.org.uk) and we will add you to the list.

## CD Review by Jeremy Hill

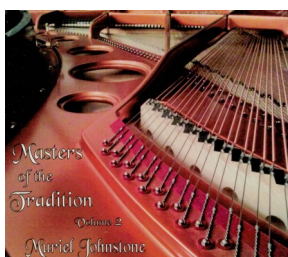


**Muriel Johnstone: Masters of the Tradition, Volume 2**, available from [Scotscores.com](http://Scotscores.com)

Several of Muriel's own tunes feature as originals and alternatives on the Jim Lindsay recording (see [review Reel 306](#)), but her own latest release takes us

away from the dance floor, and back to the Masters of the Scottish music tradition, perhaps in an 18th century drawing room.

Under Muriel's hands, the potential anachronism of a Bösendorfer grand piano is irrelevant, as she uses its depth and variety of sound to full advantage to bring out the pure and delicate beauty of this music. In particular, tunes that have been appropriated for dance rhythm and tempo are returned to their original form, in particular slow strathspeys. *James O Forbes, Esq. of Corse*, for example, may (infrequently) be heard as the original tune of the dance *Auld Lang Syne*, but here it is allowed the tempo, with rubato, with which



it was originally conceived, giving it real shape.

In another nod to the authentic, Muriel plays some tunes with bass

lines as they may have been originally written - single notes, rather than the vamping common to accompany dancing - but the apparent simplicity does not seem sparse harmonically, and her light and shade colour the tunes in a different way, without any loss of rhythm. Elsewhere arrangements are more in line with the style familiar from her recordings of her own music, with tasteful syncopation, multi-tracking, bass and some synthesiser underpinning.

All the great composers of the period are represented, together with a range of lesser-known names highlighted in the sleeve note, such as Airchie Allan. The combinations of tunes, mostly in medleys, allow suitable contrast, but also the linking of tunes by name. For example, it seems every member of the family of Oswalds of Auchincrieve had a tune written for them!

Highly recommended for the pleasure of the playing, and hearing the tunes in their original guise.

## Wing Musicians' Workshop 2018

by Colin McEwan and Edward Bunting



The 11th Musicians' Workshop took place at Wing Village Hall on Saturday 1 September 2018. The tutor was Keith Smith, on fiddle, and the aim was to work on the tunes to play for the evening social dance. The six fiddle players took full advantage of the opportunity to pick Keith's brains on various aspects of fiddle technique. However, Keith did not neglect players of other instruments. He even told us to smile whilst playing....

Keith's choice of tunes included some great sets of alternates without any need for complexity. One set in particular - *Jig Runrig/Wee Todd/Ness Bothan/Calliope House* - showed what can be achieved with a range of a handful of notes. Keith described this set as 'West of Scotland ceilidh style' and I can now see why some RSCDS members rave about ceilidh dancing. I am fascinated by tune names and what might lie behind them. The original tune for *Washbuckling Iain* is *Not Her First Choice*: Would that be for the dance? Her dance partner? The colour of her new sofa? Or take *Ness Bothan* in the ceilidh jigs set: a bothan is an illegal drinking house, and allegedly Ness had several in the 1960s!

We were an 11-piece band on the night, and

we crowded onto the little stage. During the performance Keith moved around the stage once or twice, to try out places in which he could best hear us and be heard. At all times he was lively and cheerful, using eye contact and body language to communicate with every player. He made us aware of possibilities, leaving us to respond as best we could, whatever our level of technical ability. At times we were a handful, running ahead of tempo, but he knew how to bring us back, no offence given and no time wasted. At its best, our playing was the more expressive for the freedom thus granted to us, and the dancers were quick to show their enjoyment and appreciation.

Thanks to Keith Smith for creating the sets and leading the day, to Jan Jones and the Thistle Club for organising and hosting the event, and to the other musicians for their friendly approach and being fun to be with.

Ed. Colin plays concertina and Edward plays fiddle. For Edward's photo see [p6 Reel 303](#).



Keith Smith leading the Workshop Musicians at Wing, (1 September 2018).

## A new class for musicians by Ian Muir



Are you interested in Scottish Traditional Dance Music? Have you ever thought of playing for a class? Would you like to develop the skills and attributes of a good class musician? OR

Do you know of any musician who might be interested. If the answer to any of these questions is 'Yes' then this might well be for you! Please read on!

RSCDS BHS Border Branch is looking to increase the pool of available musicians who are able and would like to play for Scottish country dancing and is therefore actively looking at organising a music course which would support this aim. While it may sound daunting initially, playing for a class is exciting, and enjoyable. A good class musician is able to inspire the dancers to dance well whilst understanding how the music contributes to help dance teachers to improve dancing standards. AND the music increases everyone's enjoyment.

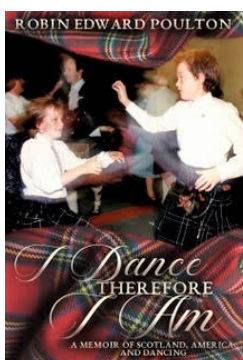
The aims of the course would be to develop class musicians who:

- understand how to deliver music for a 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 and be able to work sympathetically and as a team with the class teacher.

The next stage of the process is to gauge interest, in order to ascertain the best way to deliver such a course and to seek a suitable location.

If you are interested, or know of a musician who might be, then do get in touch so that we can develop this idea further. Please email: [secretary@rscds-bhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rscds-bhs.org.uk)

## I Dance Therefore I Am reviewed by Elisabeth Drumm



Robin Poulton's new 181 page book, *I Dance therefore I Am* is filled with amusing stories as the author dances around England and Scotland, but also in Africa, America and in France where he now lives, exploring mainly Scottish, but also English dance and contra, ceilidhs, minuets, waltzes, polkas, salsa, flamenco, even hip-hop and Bavarian schuhplattler.

He believes that dancing promotes 'the greatest happiness of the greatest number' - a Scottish philosophy for life. Robin's memoir introduces his grandchildren to the wonders of music and dance, taking them through St Andrews and Scottish history to the poets Burns and McGonagall and quoting plenty of hilarious family stories and limericks. His family stories produce a surprise at the end of the book ... you will have to read it to meet his ancestors. Available from Amazon, also in e-book format: with all profits benefitting the RSCDS.





## Social Dancing from Playford to Scottish by Ian and Val McFarlane



**English social dance scene.** There is a particularly strong and continuous thread that links the modern English social dance scene with a series of publications by John Playford (1623-1687), continued by his son Henry. Similar compendia of social set dances were made public, by a succession of publishers throughout the 18th century who collected dances that were taught and composed by Dancing Masters of the day including John Walsh, who published dances composed by Nathaniel Kynaston.

**John Playford** was a creative young entrepreneur to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for enabling us to access the music and notation for English country dancing as it had been danced since the early 17th century. In 1651 he published *The English Dancing Master*, *Or Plaine and easie Rules for the Dancing of Country Dances, with the Tune to each Dance*. From 1649 to 1660 the Puritan Commonwealth ruled the country; public assemblies were discouraged and so private house parties were arranged where the dancing took place. John Playford was himself a Royalist and reference is made to Royalist figures in some of the dance titles: *Prince Rupert's March* and *Lord of Caernarvon's Jig*. His first collection contained 105 dances for round, square or short sets of a fixed number of dancers such that they could be danced at the domestic house parties. Some had their origins in 'court entertainments' such as *Graies Inne Masque*, which was performed at The Inner Temple in 1613. In the early editions of *The Dancing Master* the majority of dances featured what are now known as the Playford introductory figures, 'up a double and back', 'siding' (a flirtatious figure) and 'arming', providing a structure to the dance and an introduction to the distinctive figure(s) for that dance. But by the 4th Edition of the *Dancing Master* there were no new 'set dances', they were all for an indefinite number of dancers 'for as many as will'. The three 'Playford Introductions' no longer split dances into three parts, though these moves continued to be used separately. John Playford's books sold well and he published the 7th Edition in 1686, taking the number of dances to 208; he dropped 'English' from the series title as early as the 2nd Edition.

**Following restoration of the monarchy in 1660**, public dances became popular in Assembly Rooms throughout the country, including in Edinburgh and country estates, and dances 'for as many as will' were ideal for the long ballrooms. Henry Playford inherited his father's business, publishing the 8th Edition of *The Dancing Master* in 1690. He only included duple and triple minor dances, in which couples support the 1st couple (incidentally providing opportunities for confidential social interaction, as beautifully described in Jane Austen's novels!). In addition, there was an exchange of dance style and technique between the English and French Courts. Louis XIV sent over his Dancing Master, Andre Lorin to the English court, with the task of bringing back 'the most beautiful of dances'! He formulated a visual notation system of the dance patterns and so was able to give Louis the notation of the dances he witnessed and no doubt performed. There are some clear similarities between Scottish and French dancing. They both emphasise a balletic style with the pointed toe and clearly defined steps.

**During the 19th century**, the waltz and quadrilles largely replaced country dancing. The publishers of the 17th and 18th centuries

had collected and printed dances that were in the repertoire and so the detail of the figures and steps were defined for the dancing masters and dancers themselves. These *aides memoire* had insufficient detail for 20th and 21st century dancers and teachers of the earlier style, and a large amount of research and interpretation was required to re-introduce them into the repertoire. Dance researchers both in UK and USA produce interpretations of these 17th and 18th century dances and so several variations may appear of the same dance!

**Interest in Playford** was revived by Cecil Sharp and others who founded The English Folk Dance Society in 1911, which amalgamated in 1932 with the Folk Song Society (founded 1898) to become the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS). In Part 1 of *The Country Dance Book* (1911) Sharp gives notations for 'eighteen traditional dances collected in country villages' and in Parts 2, 3, 4 and 6 notations for 'country dances from *The English Dancing Master*'. Part 1 includes Sharp's versions of *Speed the Plough* (RSCDS Bk 2), *Flowers of Edinburgh* (Bk 1), *The Triumph* (Bk 1) and *Haste to the Wedding* (Bk 25, in which Sharp has 'swing and change' where Bk 25 has a poussette), and Part 6 has *The Geud Man of Ballangigh* (Bk 30). Further examples of dances in both of the current English and Scottish dance repertoires are *The Punch Bowl* (Playford 11th Edition and Bk 5) and *Red House* (Playford 9th Edition and Bk 7).

In Scotland at around the same time Mrs Ysobel Stewart, a guide commissioner, decided it would be more appropriate for Scottish girl guides to dance Scottish dances and, in conjunction with Miss Jean Milligan, a lecturer in physical education in Glasgow, published their first book of 12 Scottish Dances. They were both founder members of The Scottish Country Dance Society (founded in 1923, the title Royal being bestowed in 1951). The Scottish dances in RSCDS Book 1 came largely from Rutherford's *Compleat Collection of 200 Country Dances both Old and New Vol. 1st*, collected by David Rutherford in 1756. By 1756 the Playford Introductions were not in use, and the dances were longways in duple and triple minor groups, which could include much standing out. This was resolved for SCD by devising three and four couple set dances, and limiting duple and triple minor longways dances to a four couple set. *The Geud Man of Ballangigh* was reconstructed by Sharp as a

longways duple minor jig. It has been linked to James V of Scotland about whom the legend has it that he liked to go about the countryside dressed as a beggar and find out from general conversation what was being said of him. Sharp set it to the tune *Hunt the Squirrel*, which was a popular song of the day and used by John Gay (1685-1732) for *Polly*, his sequel to *The Beggars Opera*, which was a source of tunes for 17th century dances. Thirty five tunes from this opera are used in country dances.

*The Punch Bowl* is interesting in that the English version is danced to a tune with 3/2 'triple' time signature, for which there is no RSCDS approved step. Many popular English dances in the current repertoire are danced in triple time, for which setting is danced as a relaxed 'Right-2-3, Left-2-3'. Scottish dancers perform the dance to a 32-bar reel, even though the notation is ascribed, as in the English version, to *Rutherford's Compleat Collection*. English and Scottish notations for *Red House* both include the modern and very popular (and flirtatious) couple chase, which English dancers frequently enhance with twirls during the chase.

Some of the dances in the earliest RSCDS books (52 so far) plus leaflets and other incidental books of dances reflect a fusion of 18th century English social dancing with Scottish dance footwork. RSCDS and EFDSS have both been successful, in slightly different ways, in adapting the dancing grandeur from the stately homes and blending it with traditional folk dancing so that the dances are accessible to us all.

**Acknowledgements:** In this short article, we have used examples of English and Scottish set dances in the modern repertoires that contain traces of a common origin. There is much further information available. We are grateful to have had access to the website of Colin Hume [www.colinhume.com](http://www.colinhume.com), to the book by Keller and Shimer (*The Playford Ball: 103 Early English Country Dances* 2nd Edition, CDSS 1994; ISBN 978-0-917024-07-8), to the publications of Andrew Shaw, and to the book *The Playford Assembly: 125 Early English Country Dances 1651 - c. 1820* by Graham Christian (CDSS 2015; ISBN 978-0-917024-42-9). In January 2016, Graham Christian gave an 86 minute address at the US Library of Congress: 'The Playford Assembly: 100 Years of Country Dance & Song' [www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature\\_wdesc.php?rec=7280](http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=7280)

**Table of Comparison**

Pub. Date	Scottish Dance Name	Origin	RSCDS Bk
1695	<i>Red House</i>	TDM 9th Edn	No.7/2
1698	<i>The Geud Man of Ballangigh</i>	TDM 10th Edn	No.30/6
1698	<i>Scotland</i>	TDM 10th Edn	No.31/6
1701	<i>The Punch Bowl</i>	TDM 11th Edn	No.5/5
1702	<i>The Highland Lass</i>	Playford - 24 New Country Dances	No.30/3
1721	<i>Cold and Raw</i>	TDM 17th Edn	No.5/12

Key: TDM: Editions of John and Henry Playford's *The Dancing Master*

(Also see Letters p15)



Guests at The Essex Playford Ball in Woodford, (18 February 2018).





1. Members of the London Branch Beginners and Improvers Class learning how to honour one's partner with teacher Davinia Miln, (28 November 2018).



2. Ken Martlew leads Petula across in *The Gentleman* at SEHSCDS Grand Diamond Jubilee Ball, Presdales School, Ware, (17 November 2018).



3. Club members join with the still dancing octogenarian founder Kay Senior (centre) to celebrate to the day Chiswick SCDC's 18th Anniversary, (20 January 2019).



4. Peter Knight's 80th Birthday Party guests dancing *The Highland Rambler* at St Columba's Church, London, (4 January 2019).



5. Dancers, including organiser and MC Jan Jones, dance eight hands round and back in *The Elephant's Stampede* to Craigievar Ceilidh Band at the Thistle Hogmanay Dance in Great Brickhill Village Hall, (31 December 2018).



6. Clapping the first couple down the set in the *Virginia Reel* at the London Branch Burns' Ceilidh Dance, (12 January 2019).



7. Guests at Chiswick SCDC Kilts and Posh Frocks Dance are (from left) Sarah Dring, Fiona McLaren, Heather Nolan and Tania Lewis, (9 December 2018).



8. Two of three cakes made for Peter Knight's 80th Birthday, (4 January 2019).



9. A most entertaining performance - Colin Duncan as Duncan Gray woos his wife Alex (aka Meg) with musical accompaniment from Ken Martlew at the club Burns' Night at Guildford SCDC, in Onslow Hall, (21 January 2019).



10. SEHSCDS Grand Diamond Jubilee Ball, International teachers David and Avril Quarrie, (17 November 2018).



11. A Christmas scene. The centrepiece cake at Gerrards Cross SCD Club Christmas Party, (11 December 2018).



12. Ian Muir (Prestwick) and his Scottish Dance Band with Neil MacMillan - piano and bass, Keith Anderson - fiddle and Bob Parsons - drums at Maidenhead Scottish Dancing Club's Annual Ball with MC Pat Berry, held at Manor Green School, (12 January 2019).



## The Pleasure of being a SCD Diagram Maker by Keith Rose



**Beginnings:** I started Scottish country dancing in late 1973, a colleague invited me along to the Cambridge Scottish Society one Thursday evening and I was hooked. This was social dancing, not a class, and with few walk-throughs it was

jumping in at the deep end. We moved to Bedford in the early 1980s. Dancing initially took second place to a young family but we soon found a local class. This disbanded after a few years and we joined the local branch, RSCDS Bedford, in 1990.

I was soon elected on to their committee - a life sentence it seems! At that time, they were providing cribs for social events in diagram form. One of the committee had a number of cards, ten cm wide, six cm high on each of which he had hand drawn the diagram of a dance. He would photocopy ten of these onto an A4 page for each event. He was leaving the committee as I joined. Having been involved in computer programming, particularly graphics, for a number of years, it seemed to me that the obvious way forward was to create the diagrams on a computer, storing them in a database, so that generating the A4 page for any event became a trivial process.

**Creating Diagrams:** I volunteered to do this for the February 1991 social, about 10 weeks away. Our home computer at this time was a Commodore Amiga 500, so this is what I used, programming in Basic and generating the graphics in the Postscript page description language which uses plain text to define the required lines, curves and text. These files can be printed on a Postscript enabled printer or converted using third party software into other formats. PNG (portable network graphics, a raster graphics format which supports lossless data compression) is my preferred option for import into a word processor. The first 14 rather crude dance diagrams were just ready for 24 February and another 19 for the Supper Dance the following weekend. By the third event on 28 April, the style had settled down and has changed little since, but over the years I must have made thousands of changes to the program, improving it and adding features.

I now use a Windows 10 PC which can generate an A4 page of diagrams in about one second. On the Amiga it used to take an hour! I developed the programme for our local group so the number of diagrams grew only slowly as new dances crept into our repertoire. I also added dances for my own amusement and was asked by a few people to supply diagrams for their events. For our own balls I create a 20 page A6 booklet containing both diagrams and text cribs.

In 2009, I responded to a posting on the Strathspey mailing list and ended up supplying diagrams for Chris Ronald's new book, *12 Scottish Country Dances*. This has been followed by a succession of other books for people in the USA, Canada, Germany, Switzerland and at home. By December 2011 I had about 1600 dances in diagram form (Pilling Book 8 has 849 and Book 9 has 584). In response to another Strathspey posting, I offered to share my diagrams. Since then they have been freely available at [my.strathspey.org/dd/index/](http://my.strathspey.org/dd/index/) and also since 2013 on Reuben Freemantle's [www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/](http://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/) web site. I have direct access to my.strathspey and I am able to upload new and revised

diagrams instantly using the SVG (Scalable Vector Graphics) format. I send regular batches of diagrams using PNG to SCD Dictionary, so this site is not always quite up to date.

In 2014, I was approached by the RSCDS and asked about the possibility of providing diagrams to be included in their forthcoming book; an invitation which thrilled me. This led to a three-year stint on their Membership Services Committee which I enjoyed, helping to produce their new and revised dance books. It also encouraged me to attend AGMs in Perth and Summer Schools in St Andrews, both tremendous events which we should have started going to years ago. It is wonderful to go and meet and dance with friends old and new from all over the world. I get quite a buzz when people come up to me and exclaim, "Are YOU Keith Rose?" I accept that many dancers prefer text cribs. Diagrams seem to be more popular with those dancers for whom English is not their first language. Diagrams take a little effort to learn and understand, but once mastered they can be read much more quickly and easily than a long paragraph of text. The traditional claim is that they are incomplete and only an *aide-memoire*, but I aim to provide as much information as I can so that a dancer on the floor can quickly answer those questions he may have in the 30 seconds available before the music starts.

I prefer to show figures like the tourbillon and set and rotate in full because a single word naming the figure is of no help to an unsure dancer. I like to show handing, R for right, N for nearer, etc because these are the sort of questions that dancers have. I admit to not showing stepping up and down for supporting couples. There are lists of the symbols which I use at [my.strathspey.org/u/keithrose/](http://my.strathspey.org/u/keithrose/) and [www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/krdiagram/keith-rose-symbols.html](http://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/krdiagram/keith-rose-symbols.html)

**To the uninitiated,** I would recommend starting with a dance they know well, and working through with the text, the diagram and the index of symbols. For historical reasons men are shown as circles, women as squares and the orientation of the diagram is as looked at from the men's side with the top of the set at the left. For a really challenging diagram, have a look at Hugh Foss's *Belhaven* [my.strathspey.org/u/keithrose/belhaven.pdf](http://my.strathspey.org/u/keithrose/belhaven.pdf) I am now working on diagram number 4145. I have an ever growing list of diagrams to draw; made up from dances I am interested in, dances for upcoming events, and by request. I am willing to accept these requests from anyone. My.strathspey lists just over 18000 dances and both old and new dances are being added. I know that some people have concerns about the perceived deluge of new dances, but I am in favour. Who are we to stifle the next John Drewry? I think the internet is making dissemination of these dances so much quicker and easier that we are more aware of both old and new dances than previous generations could be. I pose a question - is reluctance to accept 'progress' age related? There are many exciting dances now being written, I for one would like to dance more of them than I get the chance to.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my wife, Helen, for her support and encouragement and for providing an invaluable job checking these diagrams. At my current rate of progress I estimate that I have at least 31 years of work ahead of me! Ed Keith has devised four dances of his own which are published on SCDDb - [my.strathspey.org/dd/person/10951/](http://my.strathspey.org/dd/person/10951/)

## News and Events from HQ by Daniel Capron



**New website:** The launch of the new website has been put back until spring 2019. So if it not available by the time you read this, it will be in place very soon. Online help will be

available to assist users, and HQ staff can be contacted to answer queries at [info@rscds.org](mailto:info@rscds.org)

**Staffing:** A new Office Manager is being recruited and will take on most of the duties of the former Executive Officer. Until he or she arrives, Sandra Parish remains interim Office Manager. Mike Greenwood has left and a replacement is being recruited.

**Management Board:** The Board had an 'awayday' on 12 January at 12 Coates Crescent to take time to consider what the Society should be trying to achieve, how it goes about it and what needs to change. It was not the occasion to make hard and fast decisions, but the discussions will shape the direction in which the Board wants to take the RSCDS. The Board was encouraged to learn that despite the overall decline in membership the number of people joining the Society is on the increase; 717 joined in 2018, compared to 425 in 2017 and 391 in 2016.

I was surprised to discover that a system of allocating a Management Board member to each Branch, as a contact for raising any issues of importance, has been in place for several years. Branches can contact their Board member with any concerns or ideas. Board members will listen to them and, if appropriate, pass them on to the Board or the appropriate Committee. Some Board members have a number of contact Branches; Andrew Kellett has just one, London Branch.

**Future RSCDS Events: Spring Fling/Fringe 2019** at Paris 19-21 April. There may still be vacancies. See [www.springfling.rscdsparis.fr](http://www.springfling.rscdsparis.fr)

**Summer School 2019** at St Andrews 14 July - 11 August. Booking is open. For more information, and to book, go to [www.rscds.org/events](http://www.rscds.org/events)

**Global Youth Week** 23-30 November

For more information see the RSCDS website or the Facebook page for RSCDS young dancers.

For any queries or information on events, contact Events Manager Moira Thomson at HQ [moira.thomson@rscds.org](mailto:moira.thomson@rscds.org)

## The Reel Advertising Rates

£6 per column cm in b/w, £8.50 per column cm in colour (three columns per page). A listing in the Other SCD Organisations section costs £30 per annum pro rata. All advertisers receive a complimentary copy of *The Reel*.

Send adverts for the Forthcoming Events pages to Meryl at [danceads@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:danceads@rscdslondon.org.uk)

Other adverts and enquiries on pricing to the Business Editor Jeff Robertson at [businesseditor@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:businesseditor@rscdslondon.org.uk)



Congratulations to recent London resident, Nicole Michon from Lyon, France on passing Unit 5 which she took in Lyon on 15 December 2018.



## St Columba's Church WW1 Feeding the 50,000 by Margaret Shaw



Two years ago, the Minister of St Columba's, Angus MacLeod, founded 'Scots in Great War London', comprised of ten Scottish groups to commemorate and celebrate the centenary of the signing of the Armistice to end the First World War. Of several events throughout the summer and autumn, the most notable was 'Feeding the 50,000'. This told the story of



Scottish troops alighting at St Columba's Church of Scotland, (1914-18).

how the congregation of St Columba's met Scottish soldiers at Victoria Station in the early hours, took them to the Church for rest and refreshment, and then back to the station to go on to Scotland; during the four years, it is reckoned that nearly 50,000 soldiers were entertained by the Church.

After a full day of Remembrance at the Church on the 11 November, there was a Family Ceilidh on the 17 November to celebrate the end of the war. The Lower Hall at Pont Street looked quite splendid, with four Union Flags floodlit at the back of the stage, and all the alcoves cleared so that 160 people could sit at tables and still leave the floor clear for dancing.

Chris Oxtoby and the Strathallan Band played brilliantly; the rousing tunes fitted the pre-1918 dances, chosen by Peter Knight, the MC for the evening. The oldest was *The Princes Favorite* (1797), and the youngest *St Bernard's Waltz* (1913). During the first half we were entertained by the Pipes and Drums from the London Scottish Regiment.



Guests dancing *The Dashing White Sergeant* in the Lower Hall, (17 November 2018).

Elaine Davies arranged for the Kathleen Gilbert School of Highland Dancing to dance the *Scottish Lilt* to the appropriate pipe tune *The Battle of the Somme*.

After a superb two course supper prepared by Ben Gourlay and helpers, there was community singing of WW1 songs led by Michael Stokes with Ben Lewis Smith, church organist, on the piano. The truly memorable evening closed with a prayer from the minister and *Auld Lang Syne* to a room still full of dancers.

### Drewry Reel Listing

In *Reel 305* in *Letters to The Reel* Sharon Barker from Alberta told us of TAC's Index of John Drewry dances. Users clicking on the link given will be taken to that index and will see that one of the sources for some dances



is 'Reel' but no numbers are given. From December 1975 (134) until December 2003 (246) John Drewry published 28 of his dances in *The Reel*. Readers may know that all past copies of *The Reel* are now available to view on RSCDS London Branch

website. Here is a list of *Reel* numbers with the John Drewry dance names for ease of locating.

- 134 *Salute to Miss Milligan*
- 136 *Glenfiddich*
- 138 *Devorgilla's Delight*
- 141 *Alex Doig's Jig or The Dunblane Drummer*
- 145 *The Lantern of the North*
- 146 *The Deveron Reel*
- 147 *Welcome to Dunblane*
- 150 *Golden Harvest*
- 150 *The Jubilee Line*
- 152 *The Alder Burn*
- 159 *Bydand*
- 164 *Scotia*
- 168 *Double Triumph*
- 171 *Mary Morison*
- 175 *Come out of your Buckie*
- 178 *Argyll is my Name*
- 180 *MacLeod's Maidens*
- 182 *A Valley Full of Tree-tops*
- 184 *The Bridge of Sighs*
- 185 *The Octocentennial Jig*
- 189 *The Dancing Master*
- 191 *Cambuskenneth*
- 196 *Invershie*
- 230 *The Fruit Cake*
- 231 *Drumheller*
- 237 *The Fruit Cake (also in Reel 230)*
- 238 *Vanessa*
- 238 *Susan*
- 246 *From the Black Isle to the Black Sea*

### Completing a Project for a Friend

by Bob Messner, RSCDS Atlanta Branch



It all started with Richard. He is a fellow SCD teacher from Florida. He contacted me by email one day a few of months ago looking for a John Drewry dance. It was a leaflet dance

called *The Stone of Destiny* and he thought I just might have it. I have got many dance books and an awful lot of individual dances in my collection. All of them are scanned into PDF's to be portable for use in a class setting when teaching in Atlanta, Georgia. It turns out I did not have it, but it started me looking into a collection of Drewry leaflets that had belonged to a fellow teacher who passed away. My friend, Dr Bernard Kaiman, had been collecting the leaflets and even had an inventory showing what he had and what he still needed to find. I decided to complete his collection and finish what he began.

From Virginia, a fellow teacher sent me a spreadsheet of the dance lists available and I enhanced and expanded it to include Bernard's dances. By emailing friends around the country and overseas, I put out feelers for the remaining dances I was looking for and why I wanted them. I have since collected leaflet dances from the West Coast, Arkansas, Canada, and the UK. In the spring of 1998, John Drewry was the guest

teacher at the Atlanta Branch's Annual Spring Workshop held in the North Georgia Mountains at Unicoi State Park. He brought along a 4x32 dance written for the occasion called *The Georgian Strathspey*. He had also devised one for our Branch on the occasion of the 1996 Olympics held in Atlanta. That dance was called *The Olympians*. I met John Drewry at our Thursday night class prior to the workshop. He was an interesting person and we all enjoyed the experience. I was able to provide the music for a couple of the dances he wanted to teach.

Throughout the Southeast of the United States, we enjoy dancing Drewry dances with the popular ones being 1314, *The Bees of Maggie Knockater*, and any of the 'Bon Accord' dances. Anyway, with the help of Jimmie Hill, I was able to find a copy of *The Stone of Destiny* for Richard to use in his class. About a week later an almost perfect copy of it appeared on the Facebook site of 'Curious and Unusual Tartans' as the 'Dance of the Day'. Working the connections and contacts with good friends, one can usually find any dance or track of music needed for a class. And sometimes it will even start one off on a personal project to help a close friend complete theirs!

Ed. Readers are also referred to Sharon Barker's letter in *Reel 305* p14.

### Munro Competition Shoes

for Scottish Country  
and Highland Dancing

from Marie Chaplin  
Garrett

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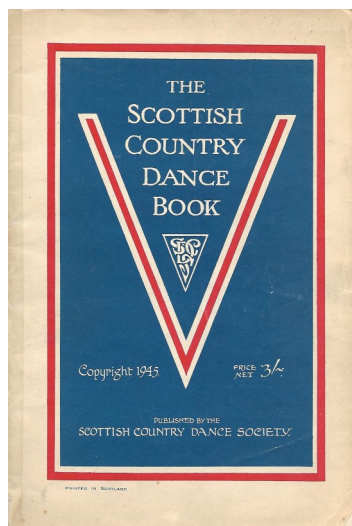
info@bobbymunrodanceshoes.com  
www.bobbymunrodanceshoes.com





# The Dance Corner

## Did You Know? - SCD written in POW Camps



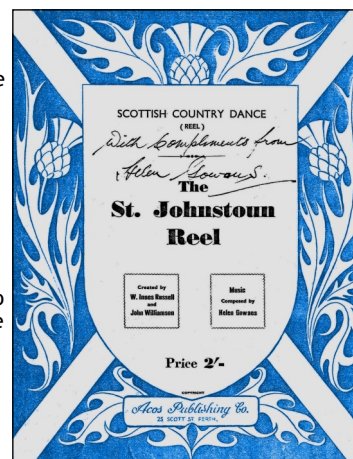
As part of the British Expeditionary Force in June 1940, after fighting a rearguard action at St Valery-en-Caux, the last remnants of 51st Highland Division were captured and would not see freedom again until 1945. The prisoners were marched off to various POW camps; one at Laufen in Bavaria. Lieutenant Jimmy Atkinson of the 7th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, captured a week before, was at Laufen. A Scottish country dancer from Alloa, he had thought of devising a dance based on *Scottish Reform* and *Hamilton House*, favourites of the time (and to this day). Lieutenant Peter Oliver, soon after arrival at Laufen, started a highland dance class which Jimmy Atkinson joined and formed a reel club with about 20 members. Apart from whistling tunes or calling tempo they got by until the Red Cross furnished them with a squeeze box. Amongst the prisoners was Lieutenant Colonel Tom Harris Hunter (a past chairman of Perth SCDS) who suggested the dance could start just as *Lady Susan Stewart's Reel*. So with Atkinson and Oliver *The 51st Country Dance (Laufen Reel)* was born and first danced with 10 men on 31 October 1941. It had been also known as *The St Valery Reel*. The present name *The Reel of the 51st Division* and its chosen tune *The Drunken Piper*, was thought to have been decided upon in consultation with Harris Hunter in advance of publication of this first 'modern' dance by the then SCDS in Book 13 in 1945. Readers interested in a fuller account are invited to visit London Branch *Reel Archives* and refer to Reels 20, 22, 165 (where the original handwritten description for five-couples can be seen) and 246.

In addition to the *The Reel of the 51st Division* a further dance has come to light, published appropriately in Perth in 1950 and priced two shillings - *The St Johnstoun Reel*, a 32 bar reel with music of the same

name composed by Helen Gowans in 1945. The forward to the description states: 'Created by W Innes Russell and John Williamson in a German POW camp at Hohenfels, Bavaria in 1944. The title name of the dance was taken from the ancient name of Perth'.

A description of the dance patterns with a Keith Rose diagram of this dance can be found on the SCDDb.

Ed. Any reader knowing more about this dance is invited to share this with *The Reel*. Also tell us of any other SCD written in POW camps.



## Scottishness in Stamps

The first regional issues were introduced on 18 August 1958 and, on 8 June 1999, four stamps were issued showing heraldic and other symbols of Scotland. Up to 2003 these were borderless.

Over the years *The Reel* has written on these symbols of Scottishness, as they relate to dancing:

Top Left: 2nd Class (58p) The Saltire - *Reel 262 p8*

Top Right: 1st Class (67p) The Lion Rampant - *Reel 284 p6*

Bottom Left: £1.25 (originally E) The Thistle (Europe) - *Reel 255 p1*

Bottom Right: £1.45 Tartan (World Zones) - It is planned to appear in *Reel 308*

In addition, see *Reel 257 p16* on heather.



## "In My Opinion" by Frank Thomson



Frank Thomson, although not a dancer, is a much respected and well-known accordionist who has been around the music scene for many decades, having 'served his apprenticeship' by

playing for Perth Branch dancing classes in the mists of time back in the mid to late 1950's. After a 35 year career in banking he retired in 1995. Living in Aberdeen Frank was invited to join Aberdeen Branch as a musician to play for local classes and dances, and then for St Andrews Summer School. After consigning music to a leisure activity during his banking years, Frank in retirement was within a relatively short period of time, taking on whole new career in music! Frank has played abroad throughout the Middle and Far East, and made many RSCDS recordings, along with regular Radio Scotland *Take the Floor* broadcasts. Frank reflects on his highlights that he was a mere 12 years old when he played on BBC's *Children's Hour* from Coldsides Library Studio in Dundee and much later for the Royal Family at Balmoral and for the late Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother at her residence, Birkhall and more recently for the November RSCDS AGM balls.

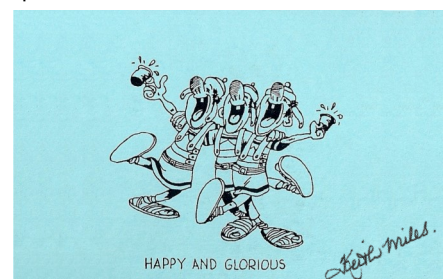
## Seeing the Enjoyment on the Dance Floor

For many people, music opens doors and changes lives, exactly as happens with Scottish country dancing. Most musicians and dancers are generally happy people and it is gratifying to see them openly enjoying their dancing skills on the dance floor. This joy is contagious and affects those around them. Hence, as a musician, I do like to see dancers 'moving' to the music as they enjoy some of their favourite lively reels and jigs. When I say this, I mean such things as clapping when couples are leading down and up the middle of the set, doing a spontaneous 'birl' while not interrupting the flow of the dance. In addition, I enjoy seeing dancers moving in time to the music while standing waiting for their turn to dance, rather than standing like immovable statues such as the military in North Korea or the guards at Buckingham Palace!

Do not get me wrong! Just like our dance teachers, I like to see everything synchronized on the dance floor with straight lines, good covering, timely handing, smiles, eye contact, etc, but I find some teachers do not encourage some of the scenes which I enjoy and like to see on the dance floor. I was interested and somewhat amused to see the word 'birl' included in an RSCDS publication recently and possibly for the first time in history. Check this out - it is in Book 52 in the first dance entitled *City Lights*. Well done to deviser Nicola Scott

from Birmingham who seems to have got away with it!

There are, of course, formal occasions when the etiquette on the floor should be appropriate for the occasion. Generally, however, if the mood on the floor is relaxed, it leads to a much more enjoyable and lively event. The tone of an evening of dance is often set by the MC/dance caller whose role, as well as calling the dances very efficiently, should be to put a smile on the faces of the dancers. In addition, there should be engagement and rapport between the dance caller and musician which, I find, transmits to the dance floor. The fun aspect of dancing is embodied in the names of such dances as *It's Just for Fun*, *Joie de Vivre*, *The Bon Viveur* and many more! Quite simply, if guests enjoy their dancing and the music I, as a musician, drive home to Aberdeen a happy man! A happy musician plays happy music and the dancers go home in good spirits.



## Adopted then Adapted

To The Reel,

On p9 Ian and Val McFarlane have introduced us to the beginnings of some SCD via the Playford route whereby, a dance originally published by John or Henry Playford is adopted and then adapted by RSCDS. Recently, I taught the RSCDS Bk 5/12 jig, *Cold and Raw* published in 1924. The dancers struggled to accomplish the phrasing, as the RSCDS description caused awkwardness in technique and therefore a great haste in their minds and frankly, whilst some managed it, it was not really enjoyed: in my view not achieving the central aim of dancing. Reading the original Playford words of *Cold and Raw* from *The Dancing Master* (17th Edition) 1721, we see quite a different dance!

Reproduced here as originally written:

*Longways for as many as will (this means a two couple dance all the way down the room)*

*The first Man leads his partner off with his Right-hand behind him round the second,*

*and lead round the second Woman into the second couples' place (straine played once)*

*Then the first Man sett to second Woman and turn single then turn her (straine played once)*

*Then the second Man the same to the first Woman, and so on.*

For those dancers familiar with the RSCDS version they will know from the above that there is very little resemblance between these two dances. Yes, they are both 24 bar jigs but the original Playford description is light and playful, just such a stark contrast. It needs to be asked - has the time come for the Society to revisit the descriptions of these adopted dances with a view to giving them a different name, changing them into becoming danceable as their original cousins, or simply removing them from the book? (Also, see a letter again from me on an associated matter in *Scottish Country Dancer* no.14 p25).

Stephen Webb, Hemel Hempstead

## Mrs Wendy Kellett

Dear Editorial Team,

"I used to dance" I said, as the bagpipes played. Soon enough my shoes were off and it seemed the steps, albeit rusty, came flooding back in a heartbeat. The spirit of everything I learned in my youth still there for everyone to see. I was Scottish dancing 3000 miles from home, 25 years after I was taught and I am in Oman!

The morning after with a sore head and sore feet I rummaged through old school photos. I wanted to remind myself of the face behind the knowledge instilled in me

that I had neglected and forgotten. There in a dusty photo, besides smiling young ladies in white dresses with tartan sashes was Mrs Wendy Kellett. Ten minutes on Google revealed that Mrs Kellett is still teaching students for free at Upland School in Bexleyheath, my primary school 27 years ago!

When I was growing up, school was a haven for me. It was a difficult time for my family and my parents were happy that I had found an extracurricular activity that did not cost much. On reflection Mrs Kellett's Scottish dancing classes were not only fun but active to do, they taught discipline, teamwork, friendship and commitment. Being raised in the nineties, when the social and economic climate was tough, perhaps I should ask myself. Would I have graduated with a first class degree? Would I be happily married? Would I be brave enough to be living away from home if it was not for the extra guiding influence of Mrs Wendy Kellett and her classes?

I think that the RSCDS should recognise and be proud that for at least 30 years, Mrs Kellett has been building children's focus and social skills by passing down the tradition of Scottish dancing and leaving behind a legacy of men and women who are achieving better and working harder because of the skills that she instilled through dancing. A skill set so beneficial that simply cannot be taught in a classroom and one that students forget she gave them until someone reminds them, by asking them to dance!

Kind regards,

Kelly Hand, Muscat, Oman

Ed. Wendy devised a round the room jig *The Merry Uplanders* published in *Reel* 166 and was a key consideration in the decision for London Branch to publish a book of 13 dances in 2005 to mark its 75th Anniversary.

Ed. For photo of Andrew and Wendy see *Reel* 253 p8.

## To Leave or Not to Leave

Dear Editorial Team

I read with interest Margaret Catchick's chairman's column in *Reel* 306 mentioning the trend of people leaving dances early. I have also increasingly observed this trend as a band member and also as a dancer. It is very obvious to the musicians on stage looking out at the dancers when the floor starts to empty. This has a dampening effect on the general atmosphere (and yes the band are very aware of this) and also on the smooth running of the dance programme, especially if some dances in the second half are for a set number of couples.

As a dancer of historical dances I have noticed early departure is unusual. Participants always seem to stay until the end of a ball, maybe because they are in historical dress and the whole event is more of an 'occasion', often with a theme.

Of course there are not as many events taking place in the historical dance world, whereas SCD provides options for attending a dance almost every weekend. What is interesting is that there seems to be an opposite trend for historical dancers to leave a dance class early, which does not seem to happen with SCD classes in my experience.

In the past leaving early seems to have been a problem too. In Edward Payne's *A New Companion to the Ballroom* published in 1814 he remarks, "The impolite manner of the couple going down the dance, gaining the bottom, and then abruptly leaving the room is too frequently practised; but seldom by persons of good breeding. It often occurs at assemblies, when the couple that called the dance is recommending the figure, there will not be more than half the number left, occasioned by the couples gaining the bottom, then instantly leaving the room or else sitting down until the next dance commences." Payne is referring to the practice of dancing in long sets with the top couple (who would often have chosen the figures to dance) dancing to the bottom and then back up to the top, which took a long time. At least in modern SCD the set formation does not allow for someone to dance their turn and then sneak out of the door before the dance has finished!

Meryl Thomson, Purley, Surrey

## I Agree with Eric

Dear Editorial Team,

I agree with Eric Finley in *Reel* 306. Many years ago my husband, Frank and I arrived late at the London Branch Day School and missed the warm-up. Frank pulled a muscle in the first eight bars of step practice.

Most classes start with a warm-up; however it is not possible to insist on one at the beginning of a dance, especially for formal occasions. Some clubs play a waltz, which is an elegant way to prepare for more strenuous dances. The London Highland Club's MC, Peter Forrow, chooses dances with little or no pas de basque or slip step for the first few dances of the evening, for example *Maxwell's Rant* or *Hooper's Jig*.

If one travels to dances by public transport there is likely to be some walking involved, which may reduce the need for a warm-up? This certainly applies to St Andrews Summer School, where some people have to walk up to a mile to classes and dances. Warm-ups are not a cure-all, as injuries can occur at any time during a dance. So, if you are delayed and arrive late, be careful for the first half hour.

Elizabeth Bennett, Worcester Park, Surrey

## Two of a Kind - Continuing a Delicious Tradition

Over recent years the London Highland Club has been indeed fortunate because Karen Barter (left) who took over the catering from Claire Wright in June 2006 continued to maintain the high standard of catering at the LHC Annual Balls. This is not unsurprising because Claire donated her loved signature recipes to the club such as *Devils on Horseback*, *Prawn Croustades*, *Coulbiac* and *Asparagus Roulade* and Karen has faithfully followed them adding *Pea Tartlets* (courtesy of Katherine Simms) to the fare - onwards and upwards. It has been a seamless transition.



Thank you Claire thank you Karen for being so delicious!

Both seen here on 27 March 2018 at the Service of Thanksgiving reception for the late Roger Waterson.

## Teachers' Associations

Many dancers will be totally unaware that there exist Teachers' Associations for the benefit of teachers but also dancers who are not teachers. Over the next four issues of *The Reel* it is our intention to publish an introduction of each of the four Teachers' Associations around the world. Their locations are Canada, Australia, SE of England and Scotland and it is the purpose of these articles to identify their aims and activities and hence value to both members and visitors alike. We will give you contact information should you find yourself in any of the general locations.



## The Early Years from Chris and Ian Jupp, and Iain Macaulay

**Sheila (née Macaulay) Jupp**  
4 July 1929 - 20 December 2018



Sheila at age 88

Sheila was born in Kings Park, Glasgow, then after a year the family came south to Park Street near St Albans, a year later Sheila's brother Iain was born. She went to school and later to college in St Albans. On weekends friends and relatives visited from Scotland in particular, the Hebrides, and Sheila would entertain with her party pieces. Her mother took her weekly to London to learn tap dancing. The back garden backed on to the Handley Page bomber factory so with the outbreak of war in 1939 their father decided that the children would go to the safety of Benbecula and stay with grandma, Uncles Donald and Roderick at the Macaulay croft in the Hebrides. There they helped with the harvest, peat cutting, cleared the byre and milked the cows. And in Culla Bay they collected seaweed on the shore. They agreed that the perspective they had on what was important in life, was born in the Hebrides.

In 1943 the family moved to New Aberdour, then later to Bedford where VE Day was celebrated. Sheila passed her City and Guilds in hairdressing and around this time started reeling in Wimbledon. They all moved again to Aberdeen where Sheila worked and started to win hairdressing competitions. It was now 1950 and Sheila was 21. The family again moved, to Manchester living in Whalley Range. Iain was still doing his national service and suffice to say, that a young chap called Fred Jupp was in digs next door! Fred and Sheila had two sons Chris and two years later, Ian, who saw her as their *protector and rescuer*

were initially living in Kent then, for eight years they lived in the village of Freeland, Oxfordshire - a golden time. Here Sheila was inspired and encouraged by headteacher Mrs Williams at the sons' school to train as a teacher, and as she had all the academic qualifications later went to teacher training college. The family then moved to Crowthorne. In 1970 Sheila tragically lost Fred to a heart attack - she was now only 40 years old, Sheila was supported by family and neighbours through this time and despite being half way through her teacher training, kept going and completed it going on to teach at Palmer School. It was after this that she decided to take up Scottish country dancing again. In 2011 Sheila moved to Farnborough where, with Ian's family round the corner, she knew she would be well looked after.

Sheila is variously described by Chris, Ian and Iain as fearless - zooming down a long zip-wire, an F1 fan, a great reader, a quick driver, a lady of high standards in everything, and a great inspirer who shared and encouraged their passions. A trained dancer, singer and pianist, she passed on her love of all types of music and enjoyed taking delight in people and things - she loved being able to say it was 'wonderful'!

Iain adds, "I do not know exactly how a deep sister and brotherly love is to be described, but there is no doubt we have continued to feel that special love from those days and ever since".

## The St John's Years from Alan and Sue Davis

In 1971 when a Christian Aid 'Hunger Supper' was held in St John's Church Hall. As an entertainment, the Bracknell Reel Club did a dem. The dancing was so popular that some of those present decided to 'have a go' themselves under the leadership of Mrs Freda Dalby - and so was born our club. A key founder member was Sheila Jupp, who became the secretary in 1974. The club

proved so popular that it soon outgrew St John's Hall and moved to St Sebastian's Hall also in Nine Mile Ride, but retained the name St John's SCD Club (SJSJC). Sheila became more and more active in local SCD in the 1970s and was involved in the formation of the RSCDS BHS Border Branch in 1978. Sheila with Paul Plummer formed the SJSJC children's class that has given many young people a lasting enthusiasm for Scottish dancing. In the mid-1980's Sheila was deservedly elected as SJSJC's chairperson and remained very active in the local RSCDS and as a member of various other clubs in the area. Her contribution to the RSCDS was recognised in the 1990s by the presentation to her of its silver quach. Sheila also appeared in the celebrated 1994 film *Four Weddings...* (see p7 Reel 209) Sheila continued to be a stalwart both in the RSCDS and at SJSJC right up to the last year or so when, unbeknown to her or anybody else, her final illness began to take its hold.

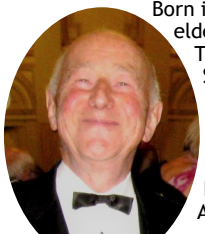
Alongside this potted history of our dear friend we must remember her determination that Scottish dancing should be fun and that has been a major contributor to the ongoing success of our Club and Branch.

We have known Sheila since 1980 when we came south. She was a wonderful lady and was a very good friend to Alan and me. We did lots of things together. Even as recently as about 18 months ago Sheila used to dance up to five nights a week at all the local clubs. Where did she get her energy from? Sheila was well respected and loved by many Scottish dancers she was known from the Isle of Wight to the Outer Hebrides when she used to go up to the Shetland Accordion and Fiddle Festival. Sheila will be very sadly missed by many of the people in the Scottish dance circle as whatever the occasion - she was always there!

Ed. Dances inscribed to Sheila. In 1980s the late Bill Forbes devised the strathspey *Leaving Benbecula* and in 1992 the late Ann Dix devised the popular *Culla Bay* with a dedicated tune *The Macaulays of Benbecula* composed by Frank Reid.

## Ian Brightened Every Event from David Hall

**Dr Ian Murray Hall**  
22 December 1931 - 26 December 2018



Ian at age 79

Born in Cannock, Ian was the eldest of two brothers with Tom. Ian's interest in Scottish music and dance came from his mother who was a proud Scot from Glasgow and who had come south with her family in the 1920s. At Manchester University Ian studied mathematics gaining his PhD working with Sir James Lighthill one of the prominent UK mathematicians of the 20th century. Ian started dancing at Manchester as a student in the late 1940s but met Heulwen as scout and guide leaders at a jamboree in London during the time Ian was working at the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington. Ian spent four years in London from 1955 when as well as being very active with the Teddington Caledonian Society, he also spent this time with the London Branch Dem. Team, then taught by Bill Ireland. Ian and Heulwen married in North Wales on 13 August 1960 and then lived in Manchester until 1997 where Ian was a University Lecturer. Dancing was, along with the music, to be become a lifelong passion. It also began a long association with the RSCDS and particularly the Manchester Branch. He taught its highly successful Demonstration Class for 35 years from 1962, and also a highland class.

He was treasurer for several years and also in later times its President. Ian was on the RSCDS Executive Council for many years and sub-committees, and more recently serving on the Management Board. He taught and played at Summer and Winter Schools (as Director in 2003), and was a Society Examiner.

His influence and reach went far beyond positions and events though, being someone who warmly welcomed newcomers, encouraged beginners and brightened every event with his smile and good nature.

## Singer, Musician, Teacher, Examiner from John Wilkinson

Ian began SCD at an early age. He was also a talented musician, playing piano and accordion and with brother, Tom in The Rattray Band. In the late 1950's Ian joined Manchester Branch and took and passed both Prelim. and Full certificates being examined by Jean Milligan both times in 1961 and 1962 resp. Ian soon took on teaching the demonstration class in the Branch, and taught a superb and fun highland dance class every fortnight. Ian's love of Scottish traditional music meant that he played for classes and in the band. Frequent invitations for the team to dance and the Manchester Scottish Singers, which Ian began, to sing at events followed and there was hardly a week without something happening: highlights were Manchester Scots Night in the Free Trade Hall, David Webster Show, with Glasgow Phoenix Choir, and at the Halle Ball also monthly ceilidhs with participation from, dancers, the choir and some notable individual 'turns'. Add

to these busy times, the various dance classes, choir practices and the arrival of Alison, Izzy, Dave and Rob and one wonders where Ian found time to go to work. Ian also took teams and singers on various overseas trips, often to Germany through his friendship with Werner Wensel. Ian and Heulwen retired to Feolin where he began his busy lifestyle once again becoming involved in the local community, joining RSCDS Helensburgh and District Branch where he played accordion for classes and organ in the local church including playing with son Dave's band. Ian also played at fiddle rallies and at box and fiddle club events.

Ian will be greatly missed by all who knew him through his dancing, his music and his hospitality and sense of humour and the Scottish dance and traditional music scenes will be the worse off without him.

Ed. Readers are also invited to refer to pp1&2, Reel 239.



Ian Hall playing with Judith Smith, David and Heulwen Hall at Harrow School for the London Branch Summer Picnic Dance, (30 June 2007).

# Forthcoming Events

## Event Listing in date order

9/3 RSCDS BHS D/S + Dance p18, 9/3 RSCDS Milton Keynes Ruby Anniversary Dance p17, 9/3 SEHSCDS Spring D/S p17, 10/3 Watford Ball Practice p17, 16/3 RSCDS Tunbridge Wells D/S p17, 16/3 Watford Centenary Ball p17, 23/3 Lucy Clark Spring Charity Dance p17, 23/3 Richmond Spring Dance p17, 30/3 Combined Societies' Dance p1, 6/4 Bracknell & Camberley Spring Dance p18, 6/4 LHC Spring Dance p18, 27/4 Argyll D/S p18, 27/4 RSCDS Cheltenham D/S & Dance p17, 27/4 West Macs Ball p18, 4/5 Cambridge Annual Ball p18, 4/5 Guildford Spring Dance p18, 11/5 LHC May Dance p18, 18/5 BSRC Spring Dance p18, 18/5 RSCDS BHS Spring Ball p18, 25-26/5 MacLennan Folkdance & Music Festival W/E p18, 29/5 Summer Wednesday Dance p4, 8/6 Afternoon Family Dance p4, 8/6 End of Season Dance p4, 8/6 SEHSCDS Drewry Dance p17, 15/6 LHC Summer Ball p18, 22/6 RSCDS Cheltenham Summer Dance p17, 30/6 Gerrards Cross Afternoon Dance p17, 7/7 RSCDS BHS Afternoon Tea Dance p18, 20-22/9 SCD in Zakopane, Poland & 18-20 & 22-28/9 Optional Tourist Programme p17, 4-6/10 Argyll Dancers' & Musicians' W/E p18, 26/10 RSCDS Oxfordshire Annual Ball p17.

LUCY CLARK SCOTTISH  
COUNTRY DANCE CLUB  
Spring Charity Dance  
Saturday 23 March 2019  
7.00 - 11.00pm



Prestwood Village Hall,  
Prestwood, Bucks HP16 0NZ

**Ian Robertson and his Scottish Dance Band**

Programme: The Shetland Shepherdess,  
Mrs MacPherson of Inveran, Dagmar's Fancy,  
The Aviator, Glastonbury Tor, Slytherin  
House, The Immigrant Lass, The Wind on  
Loch Fyne, John Cass, Midsummer Common,  
The Royal Yacht Britannia, The Ship in Full  
Sail, The Daffodil, Flight to Melbourne,  
Jim's Haberdashery, "Deer" Friends, The  
Luckenbooth Brooch, The White Heather Jig

All dances will be fully recapped

Tickets: £12

Bring and Share Supper

Contact Ann Higginbottom, 01494 451374 or

[info@lucyclark.org.uk](mailto:info@lucyclark.org.uk)

Further information and cribs available on  
our website

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

RSCDS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH  
Annual Ball

Saturday 26 October 2019

7.30 - 11.30pm

Headington School, Headington Road,  
Oxford OX3 7TD

Ample free parking and on the London-  
Oxford bus route with stop near to the school

**Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band**

Full details in *Reel* 309 or on our website  
Contact Helen Houghton-Carr, 07531 469213  
or [events.rscdsoxfordshire@gmail.com](mailto:events.rscdsoxfordshire@gmail.com)



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

WATFORD & WEST HERTS  
SCOTTISH SOCIETY  
Centenary Caledonian Ball

Saturday 16 March 2019

7.30 - 11.30pm

Allum Hall, Allum Lane,  
Elstree WD6 3PJ

**Muriel Johnstone and Ian Robertson**

Refer to *Reel* 306 for programme  
or see our website

Help us celebrate 100 years of  
dancing in Watford!

**Ball Practice**

Sunday 10 March 2019

2.00 - 5.00pm

Recital Hall, Nascot Wood Junior School,

Nascot Wood Road, Watford WD17 4YS

Please contact us if you wish to attend

Tickets: £22 including buffet supper,

Celebration cake and sparkling wine

Contact Rose, 07880 842370 or

[ticket@watfordscottish.org.uk](mailto:ticket@watfordscottish.org.uk)

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

Find us on Facebook @WatfordScottish



RSCDS CHELTENHAM BRANCH  
Day School

Saturday 27 April 2019

9.45am - 4.45pm

Reddings Community Centre,  
North Road West, Cheltenham GL51 6RF

**Teachers:**

**William Williamson** (Advanced and General)

**Jennifer Hawdon** (Beginners)

**Musician: Calum Mitchell**

(Advanced and General)

£6 per class

Evening dance 7.00 - 10.00pm

Dancing to recorded music

Tickets: £6

Contact Hilary Foulkes, 01285 851798 or

[hilary.foulkes@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hilary.foulkes@tiscali.co.uk)

or visit our website for more details

**Summer Dance**

Saturday 22 June 2019

7.30 - 11.00pm

Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Rd,

Churchdown, Gloucester GL3 2JH

**Craigievar**

Tickets: £12 American supper

Contact Fiona Knee, 01242 525819 or

[cheltenham.rscds@hotmail.com](mailto:cheltenham.rscds@hotmail.com)

[www.cheltenhamrscds.btck.co.uk](http://www.cheltenhamrscds.btck.co.uk)

RSCDS TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
Day School

Saturday 16 March 2019

10.00am - 4.30pm

Mascalls Academy, Maidstone Road,  
Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6LT

(with good mainline rail links from London  
and the east Kent coast and A21 road access)

**Teachers: Mervyn Short, Joan Desborough**

and **Don Ward** teaching at Elementary,

Intermediate and Advanced levels

**Musicians: Ken Martlew and**

**Barbara Manning**

For details please email Pat Davoll,

[patdavoll2@gmail.com](mailto:patdavoll2@gmail.com)

or go to our website

[rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk](http://rscdstunbridgewells.org.uk)

RSCDS MILTON KEYNES BRANCH  
40th Anniversary Dance

Saturday 9 March 2019

7.00 - 11.00pm

Old Stratford Community Hall,

Deanshanger Road, Old Stratford MK19 6NL  
(Hall is near the end of a no-through road)

**Nicol McLaren and Glencraig Band**

Programme: The Happy Meeting, Forty and

Counting, Staffin Harvest, The Pines of

Pitlochry, The Code Breaker, Monymusk,

Mideltone Silver, JB Milne, Triple Happiness,

Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterader,

Napier's Index, The Ruby Rant, Autumn in

Appin, Staircase in Styria, Linton Ploughman,

The Silver Tassie, Bratach Bana, MacLeod's

Fancy, Mrs MacPherson of Inveran

Tickets: £18 including supper

Supper provided and a licensed bar

Contact Jan Jones, 07877 153259 or

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

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

RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY  
Spring Dance

Saturday 23 March 2019

7.00 - 11.00pm

Orleans Park School,  
Richmond Road, Twickenham  
TW1 3BB



**Frank Reid and his Band**

Programme: EH3 7AF, Mrs Stuart Linnell,  
City of Belfast, Farewell to Balfour Road,  
The Dundee Dragon, Linnea's Strathspey,  
James Gray, Reel of the Puffins, Miss  
Eleanor, Ramadan-ce, The Rutland Reel,  
The Dancing Master, The Cuckoo Clock,  
The Minister on the Loch, Father Connelly's  
Jig, The Fireworks Reel, The Gardeners'  
Fantasia, MacLeod's Fancy, Glastonbury Tor,  
A Gin and Tonic, The Irish Rover

Tickets: £15

Please bring finger food to share

soft drinks provided

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

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



SCD in Zakopane, Poland

Friday 20 - Sunday 22 September 2019

Belvedere Hotel - Zakopane, Poland

Accommodation for 2 nights with full board  
at 4-star hotel

**Teacher: William Williamson**

**Musicians: Ian Robertson and Rebecca Hare**

Prices: 370 EUR (approx. £330)/person,

twin/double room share or

450 EUR (approx. £400)/person, single room

Optional Tourist Programme

18 - 20 and 22 - 28 September 2019

Zakopane, Krakow, Tatra Mountains,

Dunajec, Wadowice, Wieliczka Salt Mine,

Auschwitz-Birkenau (optional)

Contact: Katalin Konya at

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

GERRARDS CROSS SCOTTISH COUNTRY  
DANCING CLUB

SAVE THE DATE!

Introducing a new Summer event

**Summer Tea Dance**

Sunday 30 June 2019

Memorial Centre,

East Common, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD

**Quicksilver**

Suitable for all the family, dancers

and non-dancers alike

Complimentary cream tea

[www.gxscottish.org](http://www.gxscottish.org)

South East Herts SCDS  
Spring Day School

Saturday 9 March 2019

10.00am - 3.00pm

Riverside Hall, Priory Street,

Ware SG12 0DE

**Teacher: Kate Gentles**

**Musician: Barbara Manning**

£15 all day, £9 half day



**Drewry Summer Dance**

Saturday 8 June 2019

7.30 - 10.45pm

**Calum Mitchell**

Sele Community Centre, Hertford SG14 2LW

Tickets: £10 including buffet

Contact Ian, 07842 034890

or [sehscds@hotmail.com](mailto:sehscds@hotmail.com)

[www.sehscottishdance.org](http://www.sehscottishdance.org)



# WEST MACS Charity Ball

in aid of Scottish Autism  
Saturday 27 April 2019  
7.30 - 11.30pm  
Allum Hall, 2 Allum Lane,  
Elstree WD6 3PJ



## Jim Lindsay and his Band

*Programme:* Hooper's Jig, Lady Sophia Lindsay, The Minister on the Loch, Spiffin', Trip to Timber Ridge, Midsummer Common, Flora's Fancy, Mrs Stuart Linnell, The Bon Viveur, Father Connelly's Jig, John of Bon Accord, The Dancing Master, Kinfauns Castle, Swiss Lassie, Montparnasse, A Capital Jig, Staircase in Styria, Broadway, James Gray, The Montgomerie's Rant

Tickets: £20 and £10 juniors/non-dancers  
Including buffet supper  
Book in advance please

Contact Stuart Krelhoff/Judy Snook,  
07900 686171/01923 774789 or  
[ticket@WatfordScottish.org.uk](mailto:ticket@WatfordScottish.org.uk)  
Cribs available from above and  
[my.strathspey.org/dd/list/20512/](http://my.strathspey.org/dd/list/20512/)

# ARGYLL SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP Day School

Saturday 27 April 2019  
Edgbarrow Sports Centre,  
Crowthorne, Berkshire RG45 7HZ

**Teachers:** James Fairbairn and  
Rachel Shankland  
**Musicians:** Christina Hood and  
Robert Mackay

Contact Gaynor Curtis, 60 Bishops Wood  
Woking Surrey GU21 3QB or 01483 721989 or  
[gaynorcurtis@clara.co.uk](mailto:gaynorcurtis@clara.co.uk)

**Dancers' and Musicians' Weekend School**  
Friday 4 - Sunday 6 October 2019  
Dillington House, Ilminster, Somerset  
TA19 9DT

**Teachers:** David Queen (Dancers) and  
Ian Muir (Musicians)

**Musicians:** Robert Mackay and Judith Muir  
This course is not considered suitable for  
beginners

For further information and brochure: email  
[dillington@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:dillington@somerset.gov.uk) or visit:  
[www.dillington.co.uk](http://www.dillington.co.uk)  
[www.argyllscottishdancinggroup.org.uk](http://www.argyllscottishdancinggroup.org.uk)



# GUILDFORD SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Spring Dance

Saturday 4 May 2019  
7.00 Drinks Reception  
Dance 7.30 - 11.30pm

Normandy Village Hall, Glazier's Lane,  
Normandy, Surrey GU3 2DT

**Iain MacPhail and his Scottish Dance Band**  
*Programme:* The Flight of the Falcon,  
The Rutland Reel, The Minister on the Loch,  
The Brisk Young Lad, Bratach Bana, Barbara's  
Strathspey, The Flying Spur, The Black  
Mountain Reel, Autumn in Appin,  
The Dancing Man, Maxwell's Rant,  
The Weathercock, Ysobel Stewart of Fish  
Hoek, Old Nick's Lumber Room, Wicked  
Willy, Saint Columba's Strathspey, The Starry  
Eyed Lassie, Cherrybank Gardens, MacLeod's  
Fancy, The Reel of The Royal Scots

Tickets: £15 must be bought in advance  
Please bring a plate of food for the  
interval buffet

Contact Frances Anderson, preferably by  
email, [dancer.scottish@gmail.com](mailto:dancer.scottish@gmail.com)  
or 01483 456091  
[www.gscdc.org.uk](http://www.gscdc.org.uk)



# CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY Annual Ball

Saturday 4 May 2019  
Wine reception 7.00pm  
Dance 7.30 - 11.30pm

Impington Village College,  
New Road, Impington, Cambridge CB24 9LX



## Danelaw Band

*Programme:* Hooper's Jig, Swiss Lassie,  
MacDonald of the Isles, Broadford Bay,  
Seton's Ceilidh Band, Miss Eleanor, The Lords  
of the Wind, Radcliffe Square, Da Rain  
Dancin', Muirland Willie, Jennifer's Jig,  
Mrs Stuart Linnell, Ruby Wilkinson's Farewell  
to Cranshaws, Pelorus Jack, The Iona Cross,  
The Rutland Reel, The Weathercock,  
The Dream Catcher, Orpington Caledonians,  
Mrs MacPherson of Inveran

Tickets: £16

Shared refreshments

Tickets available from Donald Wilson,  
01223 276614 or [donald@mrao.cam.ac.uk](mailto:donald@mrao.cam.ac.uk)

Details on

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



# BRACKNELL REEL CLUB & CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB

## Spring Dance

Saturday 6 April 2019  
7.30 - 11.00pm

Carnation Hall, Bracknell RG42 7PA

## Craigievar Scottish Dance Band

*Programme:* EH3 7AF, A Highland Welcome,  
The Rose of the North, Polharrow Burn, The  
Scallywag, MacDonald of the Isles, MacLeod's  
Fancy, Miss Gibson's Strathspey, The Spring  
Fling Reel, Ian Powrie's Farewell to  
Auchterader, Neidpath Castle, The Bees of  
Maggieknockater, Bratach Bana, The Belle of  
Bon Accord, Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan,  
Quarries' Jig, The Wind on Loch Fyne, The  
Highland Rambler

Tickets: £15

Please bring a plate of food to share  
Contact Isabel Black, 01344 642104 or  
David McQuillan, 01189 793024 or  
[tickets@bracknellreelclub.org.uk](mailto:tickets@bracknellreelclub.org.uk)



# RSCDS BERKS/HANTS/SURREY BORDER BRANCH

## Branch Day School

Saturday 9 March 2019  
With evening dance  
from 6.30pm

Calthorpe Park School 'NEW VENUE',  
Hitches Lane, Fleet, Hampshire GU51 5JA  
**Teachers:** Antoine Rousseau, Anne Whillis  
and John Fletcher

**Class Musicians:** Ken Martlew and  
Calum Mitchell

**Musicians Day School:** Muriel Johnstone

## Branch Spring Ball

Saturday 18 May 2019  
7.30 - 11.30pm

Emmbrook School, Emmbrook Road,  
Wokingham RG41 1JP

## Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band

*Programme:* Pelorus Jack, Summer Wooing,  
May Yarker's Strathspey, The College  
Hornpipe, The Aviator, Kilkenny Castle,  
The Compleat Gardener, Lochindorb  
Strathspey, Gaelforce Wind, The Piper and  
the Penguin, La Flora, Wisp of Thistle, Duke  
of Perth, Best Set in the Hall, Midsummer  
Common, The Scallywag, Culla Bay, The Reel  
of The Royal Scots

## Branch Strawberry Tea

with Ian and Judith Muir

Sunday 7 July 2019  
2.30 - 5.30pm

Normandy Village Hall, Glazier's Lane,  
Normandy GU3 2DD  
Contact Gordon Anderson, 01420 362530 or  
[events@rscds-bhs.org.uk](mailto:events@rscds-bhs.org.uk)  
[www.rscds-bhs.org.uk](http://www.rscds-bhs.org.uk)



# LONDON HIGHLAND CLUB

Forthcoming dances to be held  
at St. Columba's Church Hall,  
Pont Street, London SW1X 0BD



Saturdays: Lower Hall

7.00 - 10.30pm unless otherwise stated

Saturday 6 April 2019: **Ian Robertson**

Saturday 11 May 2019: **Ian Muir (Prestwick)**

Saturday 15 June 2019: **Summer Ball**

## Summer Ball

Saturday 15 June 2019

7.00 - 11.00pm

**Colin Dewar**

*Programme:* The White Heather Jig, Bratach  
Bana, The Belle of Bon Accord, Midnight Oil,  
Flight to Melbourne, The Gentleman, The  
Dancing Master, The Montgomerie's Rant,  
The Moray Rant, Tattie Bogle, West's  
Hornpipe, Tribute to the Borders, Autumn in  
Appin, The Plantation Reel, Postie's Jig, The  
Duchess Tree, The Blooms of Bon Accord,  
A Capital Jig, The Dream Catcher, Mairi's  
Wedding

Ball Tickets:

Including finger buffet refreshments

\*LHC Members in advance £19

\*Non Members in advance £22

All classes on the door £24

\*Advance booking price is only available on  
orders received by midnight 12 June

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

**Programmes & cribs are on our website:**

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

For tickets and further details  
contact Frank Bennett on 020 8715 3564 or  
[fb.lhc@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:fb.lhc@blueyonder.co.uk)

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

# BERKHAMSTED STRATHSPEY AND REEL CLUB

## Spring Dance

Saturday 18 May 2019  
7.30 - 11.00pm

Boxmoor Playhouse, 72 St Johns Road,  
Hemel Hempstead HP1 1NP

## Craigievar

*Programme:* See website

Tickets: £15 (advance booking only)

Bring and Share Buffet (Please bring finger  
food on disposable plate)

Contact Dawn Dorman, 07710 460623 or  
[events@berkhamstedreelclub.org](mailto:events@berkhamstedreelclub.org)

or visit our website

[www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org)



# MacLENNAN SCOTTISH GROUP 38th International Folkdance and Music Festival

**Weekend 25 - 26 May 2019**

Saturday 25 May 2019

7.00 - 11.00pm

**40th Anniversary Celebration Ceilidh  
with haggis supper**

Tickets £20, under 16s £10

Sunday 26 May 2019

2.00 - 5.30pm approx

## Folk Dance Concert

Adults £8.50 (Conc. £7) Children £3.50

Venue for both events: Knole Academy  
Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks TN13 3LE

Licensed bar, refreshments and stalls  
Tickets from Catriona Bennett, 07790 272463  
or [festival@msg.org.uk](mailto:festival@msg.org.uk)  
[www.msg.org.uk](http://www.msg.org.uk)



## Lives Remembered continued

### Rocket Man from Stephen Webb

Adrian John Meade

19 April 1939 - 4 November 2018



Adrian at age 27

Born in Southampton Adrian was the eldest of three siblings. From an early age he was interested in all things mechanical. After winning a scholarship to Imperial College, London; graduating he stayed on to gain a Masters degree, he joined the Rocket Propulsion Establishment at RAF Westcott in Buckinghamshire where his knowledge of mathematics and as an expert rocket scientist employed his skill on rocket systems during the cold war period and later on engines for spacecraft to explore the solar system. His pride and joy was a Sunbeam Talbot under which he could often be found maintaining it. Adrian met Jill through

amateur dramatics at a production of *The Admirable Crichton* and they were married in 1966. In his early days Adrian's interests were playing bridge and rugby. But with Jill they shared a love of rescue dogs, walking, mountains, and visiting historic houses.

Adrian and Jill came to SCD late in life joining firstly, the Lucy Clark SCD Club in 2005 and then also Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club with whom they danced for about 12 years until Adrian's dementia took hold, he passed away as a result of an aneurysm. Adrian's favourite dance was *Nottingham Lace* and was the departing music at his service. He was intelligent and knowledgeable and was kind and generous too. Those who knew Adrian will miss his dry wit and mischievous smile among his other many qualities.

#### Other Lives Remembered are:

David John Talbot: 26 January 1960 - 21 December 2018 and

Carol Susan Walker: 15 August 1938 - 10 January 2019

*The Reel* hopes to be able to include their tributes in the next issue.

**Today's Scots:** from *To a Haggis* (1787) by Robert Burns (1759-1796)

*Fair fa' your honest sonsie face, Great Chieftain o' the Puddin'-race! - Fair fa' means blessings on and sonsie means jolly.*

## Other Scottish Country Dance Organisations

To update your listing below contact [editor@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:editor@rscdslondon.org.uk). If you require your information to also be changed in the SE Classes Listing on our website please contact Jan Collings directly (see ad p5). Payment is now due for *Reels* 304-307 and will then be due again for *Reels* 308-311. If you wish to stop your advert please contact [treasurer@rscdslondon.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@rscdslondon.org.uk)

ABINGDON SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. Dancing most Mondays, 7.45-10.00pm, Sept-June at Northcourt Centre, Abingdon, nr Oxford. All welcome. Details: Morag Brown, 38 The Holt, Abingdon, OX14 2DR, [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 8.00pm, Beginners Tuesdays 8.15pm. Details: Dawn Dorman, Hill End Farm, Gorbambury, St Albans, Herts AL3 6AR, 07710 460623 or [www.berkhamstedreelclub.org](http://www.berkhamstedreelclub.org)

BERKS/HANTS/SURREY BORDER BRANCH RSCDS. Topic-led class (not suitable for beginners), alternate Mondays Sept-April, 8.15-10.15pm St Sebastian's Memorial Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham Without RG40 3BA. General class (intermediate and above), every Wednesday Sept-May, 8.00-10.00pm St Mary's Church Hall, Park Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 2SR Teacher: Mervyn Short

Contact: Alex Duncan, 01932 241615 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., Kinson, Bournemouth, BH10 7LH 7.30-9.30pm. Alternate Wednesday Technique class, by invitation. Details: Margaret Robson, 24 Upper Golf Links Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8BX, 01202 698138 or [margaret.brsdc@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.brsdc@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 Moulsecoomb Hall, Brighton. Details: Carol Catterall, 01273 564963 or [www.bhscdc.org.uk](http://www.bhscdc.org.uk)

CAMBERLEY REEL CLUB. Dancing every Tuesday 8.00pm 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 SCOTTISH SOCIETY Scottish country dancing and other events. Dance Circle meets every Thursday 8.00pm from Sept-June. Details: Rachel Schicker, 01223 364557 or [www.camscotsoc.org.uk](http://www.camscotsoc.org.uk)

Scottish  
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Scottish country dance pumps and ghillies, with soft leather uppers, black suede sole & a padded insole for extra comfort!

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Fourth Way, Wembley, HA9 0LB. T: 0208 902 0150

E: [sales@scottishdanceshoe.co.uk](mailto:sales@scottishdanceshoe.co.uk)

W: [www.scottishdanceshoe.co.uk](http://www.scottishdanceshoe.co.uk)

CHELTENHAM BRANCH RSCDS Advanced Technique class Monday 7.30-9.30pm St Luke's Hall, Cheltenham GL53 7HP. General class Thursday 7.15-9.15pm Bettridge School, Cheltenham GL51 3AT. Beginners' class Monday 7.45-9.45pm Reddings Community Centre, Cheltenham GL51 6RF. Contact Margaret Winterbourne, 01242 863228 [mj.winterbourne@btinternet.com](mailto:mj.winterbourne@btinternet.com)

CHELTENHAM SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Dancing most Friday nights 7.30-10.00pm 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 meets on Sundays 6.00-9.15pm, Sept-June, in the Upper Hall at St Michaels & All Angels Church, corner of Woodstock Road and Priory Avenue, London W4 1TX (turn right out of Turnham Green tube station, 70 yards).

Check [www.chiswickscottish.org.uk](http://www.chiswickscottish.org.uk) for details or Evelyn Norman, 0208 641 5877 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) 8.00-10.00pm St Andrew's Church, Woodcote Grove Road, Coulsdon, CR5 2AJ. Details: Dorothy Pearson, 01737 551724 or [rscds.croydon.chairman@gmail.com](mailto:rscds.croydon.chairman@gmail.com) or [www.rscdscroydon.org.uk](http://www.rscdscroydon.org.uk)

EPPING FOREST SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION. Club nights: Mondays (all year) 8.00-10.00pm at Christchurch Parish Hall, Wanstead Place, Wanstead E11 7SW; Thursdays (all year) 8.00-10.00pm at St John's Parish Hall, High Road, Buckhurst Hill, IG9 5RX. 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, 7.30-10.00pm, Tweddle Hall, St Andrew's URC, Northey Avenue, Cheam, SM2 7HF. Teacher: Pauline Cashmore, 020 8686 9362 Details: Dorothy Pearson, 01737 551724

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 7.30-10.00pm, 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. 7.30-10.00pm Visitors and Beginners welcome. Details: Suzanne Todd, 01923 283730 or [info@gxscottish.org](mailto:info@gxscottish.org) or [www.gxscottish.org](http://www.gxscottish.org)



## Other Scottish Country Dance Organisations

...Continued from p19

**GREENFORD AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOC.** Meet at the British Legion Hall, Oldfield Lane, Greenford. Visitors welcome. Tuesdays 8.00-10.00pm.

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 8.00pm from Sept-June. Details: 01483 456091 or [www.gscdc.org.uk](http://www.gscdc.org.uk)

**HARPENDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday at 8.00pm 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. Also a variety of other activities. Details: Sheena Henderson, [mail@harrowscottish.org.uk](mailto:mail@harrowscottish.org.uk) or 07719 985025 or [www.harrowscottish.org.uk](http://www.harrowscottish.org.uk)

**HAYES & DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION** meets Fridays 8.00-10.00pm, Sept-July in Hayes, Middx. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. Details: Margaret Wallace, 01895 633642 or [www.hayesscottish.org.uk](http://www.hayesscottish.org.uk)

**HERTSMERE REEL CLUB.** Monthly dances on third Saturday (exc. Aug & Sept) 7.30-11.00pm, 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 7.00-8.00pm. General 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Pat Gill, 01843 603391

**JERSEY CALEDONIA SCD GROUP.** Details: Joy Carry, Les Arbres, Rue des Cateaux, Trinity, JE3 5HB, 01534 862205 or [jjchanjoy97@gmail.com](mailto:jjchanjoy97@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) Frank Bennett on 020 8715 3564 or [www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk](http://www.londonhighlandclub.co.uk)

**LUCY CLARK SCD CLUB** meets Thursdays at the Wendover Memorial Hall, Whard Road, Wendover HP22 6HF. Beginners class 7.00-8.00pm, Social Dancing 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Liz Mitchell, 07947 000368 or [info@lucyclark.org.uk](mailto:info@lucyclark.org.uk) or [www.lucyclark.org.uk](http://www.lucyclark.org.uk)

**MAIDENHEAD SCOTTISH DANCING CLUB** meets every Tuesday 8.00pm at St Piran's School, Gringer Hill, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 7LZ. Last 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 7.30-10.00pm 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 8.00-10.15pm 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 8.00-10.00pm. Bradwell Village Hall, Milton Keynes. Details: Jan Jones, 52 Aintree Close, Blethley, Milton Keynes MK3 5LP, 01908 378730 or [jange@verybusy.co.uk](mailto:jange@verybusy.co.uk)

**NORTH KENT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.** Dancing 7.45-10.00pm most Wednesdays at Barnehurst Golf Club. Beginners welcome. Details: David Reid, 22 Thamesbank Place, London SE28 8PR, 020 8311 7282 or [david@davidfromblighty.plus.com](mailto:david@davidfromblighty.plus.com)

**NORWICH RSCDS.** Dancing on Mondays from Sept-May/June at the Dance & Drama Studio, Sewell Park College, Constitution Hill, Norwich NR3 4BX. Beginners from 7.00-8.15pm and general dancing 8.20-9.30pm. Details: Sue Petty on 01603 741639 or [secretary@rscds-norwich.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rscds-norwich.org.uk)

**ORPINGTON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.** Dancing every Thursday 8.00-10.15pm at Petts Wood Memorial Hall. Beginners'/Improvers' Class every Monday 8.00-10.15pm at St Pauls, Crofton Road, Orpington. Details: Hadyn Davies, 020 8658 9188 or [hadyndavies@gmail.com](mailto:hadyndavies@gmail.com) or [www.orpingtonscottishdancing.com](http://www.orpingtonscottishdancing.com)

**OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH RSCDS.** Dancing on Thursdays throughout the year in Oxford. Details: Christine Jeffery 01844 278242 or [christinej201@hotmail.com](mailto:christinej201@hotmail.com) or [www.rscdsxfordshire.org.uk](http://www.rscdsxfordshire.org.uk)

**READING ST ANDREW'S SCOTTISH DANCING SOCIETY.** Dancing at St Andrew's URC, London Road, Reading, RG1 5BD from 8.00-10.00pm, Sept-May, Tuesdays (elementary), Wednesdays (general), 1st & 2nd Thursdays of each month (advanced). Details: Duncan Barnett, Flat 4, 8 Western Elms Avenue, Reading RG30 2AN 0118 956 9289 [dbarnet@waitrose.com](mailto:dbarnet@waitrose.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) or [www.reigatescottish.org.uk](http://www.reigatescottish.org.uk)

**RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY** meets at the Oddfellows Hall, Parkshot, Richmond, every Wednesday evening at 8.00pm from mid-Sept. to mid-June. Details: [www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk](http://www.richmondcaledonian.co.uk) or 020 8878 3445

**SANDERSTEAD URC SCOTTISH DANCE GROUP.** Dancing Tues 8.00pm 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, 7.15-10.00pm. 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 8.00-10.15pm 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 9.30-11.00am at the Parish Hall, Crowthorne. Details: Deborah Draffin, 01344 776831

**SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR WALLINGTON, CARSHALTON & DISTRICT** hold weekly social dance on Thursday evenings from 8.00-10.00pm 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)

**SIDCUP & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION.** Dancing on Wednesdays from 8.00-10.15pm throughout the year at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Bexley, Kent. Details: Jenny Gavin, 48 Eastbrook Road, Blackheath SE3 8BT, 020 8856 4522

**SOUTH EAST ESSEX SCOTTISH SOCIETY.** Dancing Fridays, 7.30-10.15pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend (near hospital). Tuition 7.30-9.00pm. 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. Sunday afternoon Family Dances once a term. Details: Ian, 07842 034890 or [sehscds@hotmail.com](mailto:sehscds@hotmail.com) or see [www.sehscottishdance.org/news](http://www.sehscottishdance.org/news)

**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)

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS BRANCH RSCDS.** Beginners/intermediate classes on Tues 8.00-10.00pm and advanced classes Thurs 8.00-10.00pm 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.** Beginners/Improvers Class at Nascot Wood Recital Hall, Nascot Wood Road, Watford WD17 4YS Mondays from 8.00-9.30pm and General Class at All Saints' Church, The Green, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth WD3 3HJ Thursdays from 8.00-10.00pm. Details: Stuart Krelloff, 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 8.00-10.00pm 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 8.00pm. 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)

**WEYMOUTH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS** (Formerly South Dorset Caledonian Society). Dancing at St Edmund's Church Hall, Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth, Dorset, Wednesday, 7.30-10.00pm. Details: Miss Valerie Scriven, 13 Fenway Close, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1PQ, 01305 265177

**WINCHESTER BRANCH RSCDS.** Classes Tuesdays 8.00-10.00pm. Club nights 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 8.00-10.00pm. 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 8.00-10.00pm. The Centre, UR Church, Witham, Essex. Details: Alex Daniel, 01621 855548 or [alexsdaniel@aol.com](mailto:alexsdaniel@aol.com)

### Credits

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

p1: Top left and right - Margaret Catchick; bottom - Catriona Stewart. p2 - Jerry Reinstein; p3: Burns' ceilidh - Margaret Catchick; Technique Class - Meryl Thomson. p4&5: Stephen Webb (SJW). p6: Lesley - Graham Wort; Top right - Lesley Wort; Middle left and right - SJW; Cheltenham - Andy Clark; Lucy Clark - from Liz Mitchell. p7: SJW. p8: Jeremy - Simeon Jackson; CD cover - from Muriel Johnstone; Wing - Jan Jones; Colin - from Colin McEwan; Ian Muir - Alex Duncan; Elizabeth Drum and book cover - from Robin Poulton. p9: SJW. Centrefold: 1, 6, 11 - Margaret Catchick; 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12 - SJW; 8 - Peter Knight. p12: Keith & Daniel - SJW; Diagram - from Keith Rose; Nicole - Alain Williams. p13: Margaret - SJW; Top right - Meryl Thomson; Archive photo - from St Columba's Church archives; Sharon - Ross Barker; Bob - Linda Lovejoy. p14: Dance covers, stamps, Frank - SJW; Cartoon - permission Joan Miles. p15&16: SJW. p19: Adrian - from Jill Meade.

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