



THE REEL NEWS

Volume 20, Issue #1 August 2013
ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
LONDON, CANADA BRANCH
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Submissions for the next newsletter can be sent to
kmaccrone@rogers.com by October 2, 2013

Chairperson's Message

Marel Fielding

As I write this in the dog days of summer, it is exciting to realise that we will soon be into another year of Scottish Dancing. I hope you have been able to find time for relaxation and refreshment in what is considered to be the slower pace of our lives in summer.

Thanks to Membership Secretary Margaret Campbell for keeping us up to date on events and news during our "down" time. We offer our sympathies to Wendy Kelly and Elfriede Rollo who are grieving the deaths of family members. All of us will miss long time member Judy Sloan who died August 5. She contributed a great deal to the London Branch. Judy had a great love of dancing and even while she battled cancer, she kept in touch with the branch and attended classes and social events whenever she was able. She composed a large number of dances and we used a number of them in our Jubilee Book. As well, her open friendly manner and her encouragement of new dancers was delightful. Judy also held many roles on the Committee of Management, including Publicity Coordinator for the past two years. We offer our sincere condolences to Arthur and her family and many friends.

This summer we have enjoyed several evenings of "Dancing in the Summer" thanks to Marie McLennan and the folks at Ailsa Craig and their lovely new floor. This seems to have been a popular addition and I hope we will be able to repeat it next year.

By the time you read this we will have enjoyed our Summer Picnic and the wonderful hospitality of Linda and Bob Watson. Based on previous years I am sure we will all have had a great day.

Our Past Chair, Dorothy Sample, has done some effective preplanning for us and our venues for classes and social events are all booked. We will be trying out a couple of new venues for some of our social events and we look forward to your feedback of these locations.

For our first social event, we will be returning to the Air Force Association Hall on October 18. We will return to the Polish Hall for our Christmas Dance and I am pleased that Helen Bell has again agreed to be our liaison with that hall. A full calendar of events will be available.

Scottish dancing is a social enterprise and we like to welcome new members to the group. So to those of you who have been around for some time, those who came more recently, and those who are new - welcome to a new season of dancing. I am sure we will have fun.

There are short-cuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them. - Vicki Baum

Committee of Management for 2013-2014

Chairperson	Marel Fielding	mefielding@sympatico.ca	519-471-3229
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Renew Your Membership by September 30th

Margaret Campbell

Start the new dance year off on the 'right foot' by renewing your membership now. Fees are the same as last year. Where else can you get such great entertainment at such low cost? Not to mention the social, physical and mental benefits.

The registration form accompanies this newsletter and it can also be found on the website. We require fully completed and signed forms from everyone, including teachers, by Sept. 30, 2013.

New this year – if you receive the newsletter by email, you can complete the form simply by opening the file “2013-2014 registration form” in this email and entering your information. Use the tab key to move from field to field. Once you've completed it, print off the form and sign it.

Also new is a membership called “Friend of the Branch” If we have your email address, you'll receive all branch announcements, updates, etc. plus electronic copies of the newsletters. If you don't have email, you'll receive printed newsletters only. It's a great way to stay in touch with what's happening in the Branch if you don't live in the area or no longer dance.

Completed registration forms can either be mailed to the address at the top of the form to reach us by Sept. 30, 2103, or bring it to class.

First class: Wednesday, September 4th, new time 7:30-9:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Monday, September 30

(A late fee will apply for late registrations for renewing members)

Reminder – if your contact information changes throughout the year (home address, email address, etc.) please let Margaret Campbell know so that you don't miss out on any important information or communications.

Branch News

Congratulations



Congratulations to Helen and Maurice Bell, recipients of the 2013 Branch Award. Dorothy Sample, former Chairperson (on left) and Marel Fielding, former Vice Chairperson (on right) made the presentation at our annual Spring Ball held at The Great Hall.

Dorothy Drew is now a grandmother. Beatrice O'Donell drew was born on July 29, 2013 to Dorothy's daughter Kristine and her husband Carlos. Mother, Father, baby and Grandmother are all doing well.

Condolences

Jeannie Pethick's mother, Lorraine Helm, died peacefully April 8th in her 91st year.

Former member, Edith Mills, passed away peacefully on June 3rd at the age of 92.

Marie McLennan's brother, Ronald Taylor, died peacefully on June 15th in his 85th year.

Margaret MacLeod's husband, Warrant Officer John Angus MacLeod, died June 25th in his 90th year. May Haan is Margaret's sister.

Wendy Kelly's sister, Colleen Kelly, passed away Tuesday, July 30th at the age of 64.

Elfriede Rollo's daughter, Helga Johanna Seitz, died peacefully Friday, August 2nd in her 59th year.

Long-time member, Judy Hodgins-Sloan died peacefully on Monday, August 5th at the age of 68.

Our deepest sympathies go out to our members and their families. Apologies for any items missed.

Odds and Ends

Downton Abbey Quiz

The March newsletter asked what three Scottish Country Dances were shown in the last episode of Downton Abbey Season Three. Fred Moyes has supplied the following answer:

- 1) The Gay Gordons
- 2) The Dashing White Sergeant
- 3) The Eightsome Reel



RSCDS Electronic Magazine

ezines come from the RSCDS Marketing Department and are one or two page updates which sometimes have links to videos and other sources. If any member is not yet receiving RSCDS occasional *ezines*, but would like to, please drop an email to info@rscds.org, giving your name and email address, and they will be happy to add you to the list.

Accommodation in Edinburgh

The Tune Hotel opposite Haymarket Station in Edinburgh is a new hotel, close to RSCDS Headquarters. All booking is online and pricing is straightforward: a room has a cost and everything else has a cost, but is entirely optional. A discount has been offered by the hotel for any RSCDS member to use. When making a reservation, enter **CORPRSCDS0** (zero at the end) in the “promotions” box and a 20% discount will be automatically applied. Their website is www.tunehotels.com/edinburgh/en/.

The London Ball

Mary Woods

Entering the Great Hall at Western for our 52nd annual ball gave a feeling that this was, indeed, a celebration. Decorated in the blue and white of the flag of St. Andrew, Patron Saint of Scotland, with unique floral arrangements, additional table decor and hanging banners of clan crests contributed by our members, it was a sight to behold. The meeting and greeting of fellow dancers, friends and acquaintances, set the scene for a happy evening. The ladies in fancy frocks, and those men in kilts, more handsome than ever - what a splendid gathering!

A buffet dinner of roast beef, salmon, salads, with all the trimmings and delectable desserts was very much enjoyed - seconds were available for the hearty appetites. A special presentation of the Branch Award was made to Helen and Maurice Bell - many congratulations! There seems to be a buzz in the air now - changing shoes - limbering up of feet - the tune up sounds of music - the band is on the stage - time to call the first dance.

The music of Laird Brown and The Scottish Accent lead us in the dancing of lively reels, jigs, hornpipes, and stately strathspeys. This wonderful music seemed to make our feet keep in time, and be in place at the correct moment. Laird was gracious in giving us encore dances and adding an extra dance to the program. It was good to see many newer dancers fully participating and enjoying the culmination of our year by attending the Ball. Thanks to our Teachers who willingly changed their prepared lesson plans for classes, to accommodate our pleas to go over yet another dance for the Ball. Oh, that we could have danced all night and had a dance with everyone - alas it was time for Auld Lang Syne.

Hold happy memories of this year, and look forward to May 2014!!



Michael's Restaurant donated lunch for two which was won by the Dunne family.
Jean Cameron donated a bottle of ice wine which was won by Marg Allen.
The gift card for Esso gasoline was won by Karen MacCrone.
Congratulations to our lucky London members.



“No!” said Declan. “I’m too busy. I don’t have time to learn all those dances.” “You only have to learn some of the dances and besides they have this great after party. You can bring your guitar and sing and party...”I replied. They left on May 24th for the Stoney Lake Scottish Weekend. Driving the back roads to avoid traffic, Declan got a little bit excited. “Little Britain isn’t on my map. What’s the Peace Road? How come we’re crossing Chemong Lake? You have us completely lost!” “It’s okay”, I said. We made it to Lakefield, found Country Road 6 and finally arrived at our destination.

Irwin Inn, on the shores of sparkling Stoney Lake, has quaint log cabins nestled among tall pines. The air was cool, but any chill was taken away by the wonderful hot squash soup served with a tasty dinner. Friday evening was cool, but Saturday morning was even cooler. The first workshop was so cool that people danced in down filled jackets and Fred Moyes played accordion wearing gloves. After the first workshop of Jigs and Reels, there was a Strathspey workshop and a Ball practice workshop. We learned some new dances and complicated figures for the Ball. The Ball arrived. The rustic surroundings made a charming contrast with the lovely evening attire worn by the dancers. The dancing was a great success.

The “After” party came next. Fred Moyes, after playing all day, played and sang at the party. Declan also played and sang and entertained everyone with songs like Old MacDonald and his dyslexic sheep. Linda Watson joined Fred and Declan for a song. I led a parade to a marching tune. And when it was Alasdair’s turn, he surprised everyone with his music hall style song and dance. The group of twenty Londoners showed everyone how to have a party. We learned many things, but most of all we learned that our advanced dancers are exceptional in their kindness and courtesy to other dancers. We owe them a special vote of thanks. Thanks also go out to our London Teachers, who trained us well and made it possible for us to enjoy this weekend.

As they drove away Declan asked, “How soon should we book our cabin for next year?”



A Beginner's Plea

Be kind, be considerate, be caring for the new ones on the scene.
When a reel becomes a hazard and you feel you'd like to scream.
Remember when you were learning and never thought you'd know
How long it took to allemande and that strathspeys must be slow.
The feet, the hands, the eyes, the head must all do things in time
When just to find your partner is the major thing in mind!
We look the same in snow white frocks, in kilts and pumps and tartan socks,
But some are old hands, some are new with lots to learn, so before you do –
Frown or growl, or push or pull, sneer or snarl, remember too
That once, perhaps, long, long ago you were new and didn't know.
Your heart would thump, your brain would freeze,
Your legs would knock about your knees.
You knew you were the only one who'd mess the reels up one by one!
So be kind, be considerate, be caring for the new ones on the scene
Then clubs will grow in numbers which was Miss Milligan's hope and dream.
New Zealand Scottish Country Dances, 1988



Dear Miss Millie Ganz

Dear Miss Millie Ganz,

When I have to give my hand(s) to someone, I never know whether they should be palm up or palm down. I don't want to feel awkward out on the dance floor, so is there a rule about this?

Baffled Betty

Dear Baffled Betty,

Generally speaking, men's palms are up and ladies' palms are down. When two men or two ladies dance in line, the second couple graciously offers palms up to the dancing couple. When there are three dancers in a line (i.e. six hands round, advance and retire, setting), the centre person offers their hands palm up. There is a lot to remember, but with practice things become easier and soon you'll be doing them without even thinking about them. Don't forget to smile too!

Miss Millie Ganz

If you have a question for Miss Millie Ganz, just send it to kmaccrone@rogers.com and I'll be sure to forward it on to her.

October Dance Programme

Friday, October 18, 2013 8 p.m.
Air Force Association Hall, 2155 Crumlin Road

1. [THE DASHING WHITE SERGEANT](#) (R32) Round the Room Dance 3 facing 3 Bk.3 #2
2. THE NUT (J8x24) 2C (3C set) Bk.1 #4
3. SCOTTISH RAMBLE (S8x32) 3C (4C set) Bk.5 #7
4. [SHIFTIN' BOBBINS](#) (R8x32) 3C (4C set) Ormskirk 6
5. [THE NEW RIGGED SHIP](#) (J8x48) 3C (4C set) Bk.9 #7
6. [WISP OF THISTLE](#) (S8x32) 3C (4C set) Bk.37 #4
7. [FLOWERS OF EDINBURGH](#) (R8x32) 3C (4C set) Bk.1 #6
8. THE HAYMAKERS (J4x48) 4C set Bk.2 #11
9. JENNY'S BAWBEE (S8x24) 2C (4C set) Bk. 5 #3

Break

10. [THE WHITE COCKADE](#) (R8x32) 3C (4C set) Bk.5 #11
11. THE SNAKE PASS (J8x32) 3C (4C set) (Life Begins at 40)
12. [THE MARQUIS OF LORNE](#) (S8x32) 3C (4C set) MMM2
13. [THE SUMMER ASSEMBLY](#) (R88) Sq.Set Bk.35
14. [THE WILD GEESE](#) (J8x32) 3C (4C set) Bk.24
15. [THE MINISTER ON THE LOCH](#) (S3x32) 3C set (24 G & S Dances)
16. [THE CRANBERRY TART](#) (J8x32) 3C (4C set) (T. Glasspool 7 Year Itch)
17. [MAIRI'S WEDDING](#) (R8x40) 3C (4C set) Cosh 22 S.C.Ds)

Extras

- [THE JUBILEE JIG](#) (J8x32) 3C (4C set) RSCDS Leaflet #19
[MRS MACLEOD \(of Raasay\)](#) (R8x32) 3C (4C set) Bk. 6 #11

By hitting the CTRL button and clicking on the name of the highlighted dance, you will be directed to the corresponding YouTube video.

Upcoming Out of Town Events

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|------------|--|--|
| Sept 20-22 | Ottawa Valley Workshop, Concert & Gala Dance | www.ottawadancescottish.org |
| Sept 28 | Fergus Gathering at Belwood Lake | contact Lou Emslie lemslie@sympatico.ca |
| Oct 18-19 | Hamilton/St. Catharines Weekend | www.rscdshamilton.org/index.html |
| Oct 19 | Kincardine Annual Fall Dance | call 519-396-3622 for further information |
| Oct 26 | The Windsor Ball | www.rscdswindsor.org |
| Nov 1-3 | 47th Annual Kingston Workshop and Ball | www.rcdskingston.org |
| Nov 9 | The Toronto Workshop | www.rscdstoronto.org/Workshop.html |

