

# RSCDS SET & LINK

TORONTO ASSOCIATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2006



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

My family and I wish you and yours a Happy New year. This is usually a busy time of the year for us and this year has been no exception. For Shona and I the festivities started back in late November when we paid a visit to the Highlands of Durham Group then following that we attended the St Andrew's Ball, and then the Family Christmas Dance on the 10th December. Since then we have attended Christmas Dances at ASTA, Erin Mills Intermediate, Erin Mills Beginners, and St Andrews of Brampton. We have enjoyed attending all of these events. The food and hospitality that we found there was just wonderful.

I would like you all to know that the total attendance at the Association's Family Christmas Dance reached 200. The exact break down for the 25 people who signed in as either a Beginner or Spectator was not recorded. However, I can tell you that very few of these individuals were left sitting at the side of the hall when a dance was called. The figure that I was pleased to have confirmed was that 39 Youth turned up for the dance! We owe their teachers and all the parents involved a big "Thank you" for encouraging them to "join the dance". The dance programme and the music were wonderful. Whose idea was it to encore Petronella & The Dhoon anyway? It was wonderful to see the youth enjoying themselves and the adults enjoying the youths' enthusiasm.

Amid all these festivities we were shocked and deeply saddened to hear of the death of our friend Betty Grant. The Memorial Service held on December 12th was a wonderful tribute to a lovely lady. She will be dearly missed by all.

## Betty Grant

*By Jean Hamilton*

To say that Betty Grant was an asset to the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society would be an understatement.

Betty was passionate about Scottish Country Dancing. She appreciated its tradition, its discipline and, above all, its opportunities for friendship. Betty considered it a "team effort" and was always a team player, encouraging and helping new and nervous participants, recognising effort and the desire to "dance well" and as a teacher, stressing the value of initial "basic training" without losing any of the enjoyment.

Betty was always willing to share her wealth of resource material and to participate in lively discussions on our favourite topic.

Scottish Country Dance music inspired Betty. She respected the talent and the dedication of our musicians, appreciated that they were the mainspring of the dance, and, with David, made their recorded music accessible to all dancers.

Betty left a legacy of dances, including those chosen for publication by the Society and celebrating her Scottish heritage, her worldwide friendships and her annual visits to the St. Andrews Summer School, to develop her own dancing and teaching skills and to renew and form friendships.

Having met and entertained Miss Jean C. Milligan, the co-founder of the RSCDS, on many occasions, Betty was very much aware of our indebtedness to her and to Mrs.



Stewart, and to the Society, for making it possible for any dancer to be equipped to "join the dance" within the worldwide "family" and to enjoy the fellowship offered through this.

Betty was incomparable as an Ambassador for the Toronto Association, and supported its many activities with undiminished enthusiasm. She designed the Logo formerly used by the Toronto Branch, which incorporated the official RSCDS "crown logo" at its centre.

We already feel Betty's absence from our events. It was impossible not to realize how much she would have enjoyed the Family Night in December and would have been encouraged to know that the future is in good hands (or young feet).

The Toronto Association claims Betty Grant as its own, but her influence enriched dancers and Branches worldwide. She was said to "always look to the future" and her contributions in dance, music and example will continue to inspire us.

Thank you, Betty.

## February Monthly Dance

**Date:** Saturday, February 11, 2006  
**Time:** 8:00 pm - 10:30 pm  
**Place:** Crescent School  
 2365 Bayview Ave  
**Music:** Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent  
**Hosts:** Hillcrest, Scarborough, St. Clement's

*Please note that Crescent School has a no-nut policy*

C'est l'Amour	J 8x32	Bk 34-1
The Ladies of Dunse	R 8x40	Bk 26-11
Moment of Truth	S 8x32	Bk 37-2
Ladies Fancy	J 6x32	Bk 13-12
Sugar Candie	S 8x32	Bk 26-9
Starlight	R 8x32	Bk 44-1
<b>INTERVAL</b>		
Miss Johnstone of Dumfries	J 8x32	Farewell My Fancy
Not I	R 8x32	Bk 28-12
Miss Ogilvie's Fancy	S 8x32*	Bk 20-8
The Starry Eyed Lassie	J 8x32	Bk 23-11
Adieu Mon Ami	S 8x32	Bk 24-11
Mrs MacLeod	R 8x32	Bk 6-11
<b>EXTRAS</b>		
Jessie's Hornpipe	R 8x32	Bk 8-9
Mrs Stewart's Jig	J 8x32*	35-1

\* Tartan Ball dances

## Tartan Ball 2006

By the time you read this, the hustle and bustle of the holiday season will be over. The dreary month of February will be looming, winter will be established and we will be wondering what do with ourselves.

The one bright spot on the horizon is the 43rd Annual Tartan Ball to be held on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at the Fairmont Royal York. Here is your opportunity to shine. This is the time that the men usually outshine the women. Silver buttons have been polished, sporrans shined and those black jackets against the colourful tartans of the kilts are amazing. Spirits are high and feet are light. This is your opportunity to put your best foot forward, (it had better be the right one) and enjoy a night of dancing to the incomparable music of our own Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent.

Once again, Georgina Finlay and her "young people" (some of us aren't so young anymore) will be hosting two practices for the Ball on Wednesday February 9th and February 16th, at Weston Presbyterian Church. Another good place to learn the dances is at your own social class. If there are dances that you are not sure of, please ask your teacher to review them. Although the dances will be briefed, it will only be a quick reminder. The evening will more enjoyable for all if you come prepared.

Again this year we are pleased to be able publish the menu early. This will allow those of you who have special dietary requirements to indicate so on the application form.

**Soup:** Carrot and Ginger Soup with Melted Leeks and Lemon Cream

**Entrée:** Red Currant and Cider Glazed Chicken Breast, with Wild Rice and Sweet Potato Risotto, and a gathering of Winter Vegetables

**Salad:** Minuet of Crisp Winter Garden Greens, with Sundried Cranberries and Apricots, Gooseberry Vinaigrette

**Dessert:** Chocolate Truffle Torte, White Chocolate Crème Anglaise and Compote of Winter Berries.

Applications are available on the website.

~Sandra Scott  
 Tartan Ball Convenor  
 416-447-0157  
 setandlink@hotmail.com

### December Monthly Dance

*Left:  
 Dancers from  
 the Woodglen  
 Children's  
 Group*

*Below:  
 Presentation to  
 Irene Southwell*



# Upcoming Events

JANUARY 9, 2006, 6:45 - 7:45 p.m., St. Clement's new Monday night beginner class. General class to follow until 9:00 p.m. Teacher is Teresa Kowalczyk. Series of 6 classes cost \$42. Contact Grace Harris 416-431-9653; grace\_colin50@hotmail.com.

JANUARY 20, 2006, 8:00 p.m., Erin Mills Burns' Social at Cooksville United Church. Music by "The Reel Thing" (a.k.a Jim Darge and Gordon D. S. Hamilton). Tickets at \$15.00 will include haggis, neeps and tatties. Contact the Hamiltons at 905-566-9599.

JANUARY 27 - 29, 2006, The 2006 Ardbrae Ball Weekend, Ottawa, ON. Music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. Contact Guy Quesnel 613-725-3031; g.quesnel@sympatico.ca; www.flora.org/Ardbrae.

JANUARY 28, 2006, Highlands of Durham SCD's Burns Supper and Dance at Scugog Community & Recreation Centre, Reach Street, Port Perry. Contact Marjorie Mason 905-649-3532; mmason@bellnet.ca or Stewart Bennett 905-985-6573 or tartanshop@on.aibn.com

FEBRUARY 11, 2006, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., South Simcoe Scottish Country Dancers Valentine Workshop & Afternoon Social Dance, Knox Church, King St. South, Alliston. Teachers are Steve Coombs, Burlington, and Teresa Kowalczyk, Toronto. Morning classes followed by lunch, and dance starts at 1:30 p.m. Register by February 3, 2006. Contact Pat Asada 905-478-2085 or Grace Graham 705-435-3689.

FEBRUARY 11, 2006, St. Catharines Valentines Dance with Fred Moyes. Contact Jere Brubaker brubakerj1@aol.com.

FEBRUARY 25, 2006, The Oakville Scottish Country Dance Group's 50th Anniversary Ball at Le Dome in Oakville. Music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. Contact Liz Walton 905-338-0798; mjewelton@sprint.ca.

MARCH 3-5, 2006, Belleville Scottish Country Dancers 22nd Annual Workshop and Ball. Teachers are Jim Ray, Lockerbie, Scotland and Jean Noble, Toronto. Music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. Contact Bill and Jan Cunningham, 613-965-4212 or Mike McCarey, 613-967-1827.

MARCH 18, 2006, West End Workshop, Streetsville Secondary School. Teachers are Nadine Gingrich, Waterloo, ON; Carole Skinner, Toronto; Alex Gray, UK. Contact Brien or Ishbel Thomson 905-826-7842.

MARCH 24 - 26, 2006, Vanisle 30th Anniversary Weekend and Ball, Victoria. Teachers are Mary Murray, Vancouver, BC; David Queen, England; Gary Thomas, Santa Rosa, CA. Music by Muriel Johnston and Keith Smith. Registration forms at www.viscds.ca. Contact Rosemary Balfour 250-598-6456; rpbalfour@shaw.ca or Janet Rice gjrice@shaw.ca.

APRIL 8, 2006, Toronto Association Children's Festival.

MAY 6, 2006, Toronto Association Youth Ball, Newtonbrook United Church.

MAY 13, 2006, The Thistle Ball in Victoria, BC. Contact Kathryn Taylor 250-598-3490; kathryntaylorthomson@shaw.ca

MAY 26-28, 2006, 4th Annual Youth Weekend West in Victoria, BC. Cost is \$98 for accomodation and all events. Teachers are Mairi Hand, Boise, ID; Fred DeMarse, San Francisco, CA; Ruth Jappy, Delta, BC. Musicians are Muriel Johnstone, Alex Jappy and Mary Ross. Contact Frankie Chao 250-381-4756; tuba\_frank@hotmail.com or visit www.youthweekendwest.com

July 16 - August 13, 2006, RSCDS Summer School at University Hall, Kennedy Gardens, St. Andrews, Scotland. Scholarship application forms are available from Brenda Hurst brenhurst@hotmail.com or by the Society's Bulletin or www.rscds.org.

## BOOKING DANCES A NO NO!

Are Toronto's dances welcoming? Do we engage newcomers, visitors or singles and ask them to dance? Some will say "No, we don't." Why is that? Well, pre-booking dance partners can sometimes get in the way, making it hard for others to dance.

Let's beat the rap and stop booking dances. Look for singles who need a partner, take their hand and lead them to the top of the hall.

Is Toronto welcoming? Let's erase any doubt. We are and let's prove it!

~Toronto RSCDS Executive

## From the Grant Family

Betty Grant's family and more than 500 of her Scottish Country Dance family and friends said goodbye to Betty at a celebration of her life held at her church, Timothy Eaton Memorial in Toronto on December 12th. What a wonderful tribute!

We thank you for all the expressions of love, comfort and sympathy that you expressed in person or by mail.

David, Christy, Julia, Carolyn and John

December 15, 2005

## ISCDS

### Mark your calendars for the summer of 2007!

The RSCDS NS Branch is proud to announce the next International Scottish Country Dance School (ISCDS). July 25-29, 2007 at King's and Dalhousie Universities Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Teachers:

Mary Murray (BC)  
Robert McOwen (MA)  
Joe Wallin (NS)  
Duncan & Maggie Keppie (NS)  
Merrill Heubach (NS)

Music by:

Tullochgorum (Boston, MA)  
The Macadians (NS)

This school will be MUCH smaller than recent schools and it will NOT be expanded to accommodate larger numbers. Places will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please take a look at the web page (Click on ISCDS on the left side of the page): <http://www.accesswave.ca/~lydiahedge/>

For further information, please contact:

Lydia Hedge  
Coordinator, ISCDS 2007  
lydiahedge@accesswave.ca  
(902) 827-2033



# Children's Workshop 2005

There were two workshops held on November 14th and 19th. Just as all the adults of the Association were excited to have guest teachers at their workshop, so were the children. Many thanks to Alma Smith and Lorna Larmour who taught fabulous classes, geared towards the abilities of each group. The children now know that it is not only their teacher who insists on straight lines and three beat pas-de-basques! Thanks also to the teachers of children who give so generously of their time and energy to encourage our future dancers.

~Colin and Fiona Philip

We kindly thank Rob Lockhart for these great photos.



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## don't forget...

- Deadline for February Newsletter is January 15<sup>th</sup>
- Monthly Dance January 14th
- General Meeting at Monthly Dance

### EDITOR'S NOTES...

WE HAVE PREPARED A BULLETIN FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TITLED "THE JUNIOR JIG". IF YOU WOULD LIKE COPIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR.

It is with sadness that we note the passing of Jessie Hauth, wife of Tony Hauth, retired catering manager at the Royal York. The Hauths danced at Hillcrest. We extend our condolences to her family and friends.