



November 25: A Diamond Anniversary Celebration

From the Chair:



Jean Lindsay

On November 25, 2017, we will have an evening of dancing at the Sala Caboto Ballroom to celebrate Toronto Association's 60th Anniversary by, of course, dancing!

Joining us, all the

way from Scotland, will be RSCDS Chair-Elect Andrew Kellett, who will greet guests until we line up to follow the piper for the Grand March. Enjoy your evening, including the great dances on the programme. At the break, we'll be offered delicious *hors d'oeuvres*, coffee, tea, and dessert — and there'll be prizes. Then lots more dancing.

The Board is looking forward to everyone having a great evening of fun and friendship. More details are on the website.

The next day, November 26, from 2 to 5 p.m., the Association is hosting a free afternoon event, with Andrew Kellett. Look forward to tea, treats, and great conversation at Rosedale United Church at 159 Roxborough Drive. (Note: This is not our familiar Presbyterian church location.)

Please take the opportunity to ask Andrew questions and to hear about updates from RSCDS. Members of other branches and social groups affiliated with RSCDS in the Southern Great Lakes area have also been invited so come and mingle with our extended community of dancing friends.

I hope to see you at both events.

Warm regards,

Jean

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the number of moments that take our breath away."

... Maya Angelou

A lot has happened in the 60 years since Miss Jean Milligan, co-founder of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, conferred "Branch" status upon the informal network of Scottish immigrants who gathered in various Toronto church halls and clubs to engage in the noble pastime of Scottish country dancing. Miss Milligan made 12 trips to Canada. She attended an annual ball at the Granite Club, the predecessor of the Tartan Ball. Miss M also taught a Toronto workshop for 275 people (picture at right).



Miss Milligan
at Toronto Workshop



RSCDS Toronto is celebrating its 60th dance season, as are at least three of our social groups: Calvin (who just had their own party), Petronella, and the Rosedale Youth group.

The 60s and 70s were halcyon days, with a huge, very active membership. We did big things, such as performances at the CNE Grandstand. One year the Tartan

Ball had to cut off ticket sales at 800 dancers! This is a problem Laurie McConachie is eager to cope with. Sala Caboto, while very beautiful, has a limited capacity so avoid disappointment and don't delay getting your tickets to the 60th Anniversary Dance.

Toronto Branch appeared, briefly, in the Guinness Book of World Records for the world's biggest *Eightsome Reel* (a 512-some). We were quickly overtaken but we made a noble counter-attempt at a *1024-some Reel* (see below).

We still do big things. We are the second largest branch of the RSCDS and November 25 we shall celebrate our continuing heritage of dance fellowship with guest Andrew Kellett, RSCDS Chair-Elect.

26 Aug 1993 ~ MEMO TO GUINNESS: "...Toronto Branch of RSCDS were hosts to 960 Scottish country dancers...at the SkyDome in Toronto. We presented, on the field, a 12-minute SCD routine and came off...to the roar of the 19,000 spectators and quite proud of our accomplishment." ~ Esther M. Goodfellow, Toronto Branch Chair



Esther Goodfellow



On the field at the CNE ready for the 1024-some Reel

Special Events

Social Dance with Jim Stott

Friday, November 10 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. ~ \$6 at the door



St Andrew's Presbyterian Church
115 St Andrews Rd, Scarborough

Jim Stott of Aberdeen has kindly accepted an invitation to lead an evening of social dance on the Friday prior to the Toronto Workshop.

You will love the teacher and the space. St Andrew's is an historic church on a forest lane in the heart of Scarborough. It has a spacious hall, a great wood floor, and plenty of free parking.

RSCDS Toronto 60th Anniv. Dance

Saturday, November 25 ~ Reception at 6:00; Dancing at 7:00
Sala Caboto Ballroom, 40 Playfair Avenue (nr. Lawrence & Dufferin)



Celebrate our Diamond Anniversary season with Guest of Honour Andrew Kellett, Chair-elect of the Society, great music by Scotch Mist and delicious catered buffet snacks. It will be a great dance party! \$60; half price for youth.

Tickets: www.dancescottish.ca/

60th-dance.html or Liz Clunie elclunie@rogers.com 416 486 6582

Tea & Chat with Andrew Kellett

Sunday, November 26 ~ 2 - 5:00 p.m.

Rosedale United Church, 159 Roxborough Dr.



This FREE event, in the comfortable confines of Rosedale United Church (NOT Rosedale Presbyterian) will give members of RSCDS Toronto a chance to hear from, to talk with, and to ask questions of Andrew Kellett, Chair-elect of RSCDS. Please indicate intention to attend to Liz Clunie elclunie@rogers.com 416 486 6582

and let her know of any topics you would like Andrew to address.

Calvin's Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Calvin Presb. Church, 26 Delisle Ave.



Calvin SCD Group invites all dancers to join our Christmas Party. We'll dance to wonderful music by Don Bartlett on piano. Your \$10 entry includes light refreshments at the interval. Info: Nancy Stokes 416 425 2195 naristo@rogers.com or Mary 416 485 8280 mbaldwin456@hotmail.com

Glenview's Christmas Dance

Wednesday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Glenview Presb. Church, 1 Glenview Avenue

Join us at Glenview's annual Christmas Dance for a fun evening of dancing to the music of Fred Moyes. Refreshments provided by Glenview members will follow. \$15 at the door.

Glenview's Hogmanay Dance & Ceilidh

Sunday, December 31 ~ 8 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

Grace Church On-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd.

Glenview's Hogmanay celebration is always a much anticipated event to end the year. Music by Scotch Mist. Enjoy bring-and-share treats about midnight, and prepare to laugh during the ceilidh afterwards.

Tickets at \$30 are limited. Reserve now from Valerie Fisher at 416 497 4186 or v.fisher@sympatico.ca info: www.glenviewscdg.org

60th Anniversary Dance



Date & Time: Saturday, November 25, reception at 6:00 p.m.

Place: Sala Caboto Ballroom, 40 Playfair Ave.

Music: Scotch Mist

A Trip To Crinan	8 x 32 J	Mairi & Andrew Collins, Coast To Coast
The Peat Road	8 x 32 R	Deirdre MacCuish Bark, Leaflet
Mrs Hamilton of Eglemount	3 x 40 S	Jean Noble, Golden Ghillies
St Andrews Of Brampton	4 x 32 R	Ann Campbell, RSCDS Book 37
Michell dePledge of Preston	8 x 32 S	Barbara Taylor, Leaflet
The Dancing Bells	8 x 32 J	Ann Campbell, Who's Who in Toronto
The Scottish Accent Reel	8 x 32 R	John S Trew, For Old Tymes Sake
The Spirit Of The Dance	8 x 32 S	Irene Paterson, TAC 50th Anniv. Book
Linton Plowman	8 x 32 R	RSCDS Book 5
St Andrews Links	3 x 40 S	Georgina Finlay, 75 Years In St Andrews
Bea's Delight	8 x 32 R	May Macfarlane, RSCDS Book 43
The Chequered Court	8 x 32 J	D Brown, RSCDS Book 42
Tweedbridge Court	8 x 32 S	Bob Blackie, All Around The Circle
The White Heather Jig	4 x 40 J	James Cosh, 22 Scottish Country Dances
Bedrule	8 x 32 S	Betty Grant, RSCDS Book 33
Davy Nick Nack	8 x 32 H	RM Campbell, Glasgow Assembly
The Merry Dancers	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 4
West's Hornpipe	8 x 32 H	Trad., Five Traditional SCDs 1965
Neidpath Castle	3 x 32 S	Derek Haynes, RSCDS Book 22

All dances will be briefed only.

Ticket Price: Adults: \$60 • Youth (<30yrs): \$30

Family Christmas Dance

Date & Time: Saturday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m.

Place: Crescent School, 3265 Bayview Avenue

Music: Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs

Hosts: • Aurora, St. Andrew's • Humbercrest • St. Clement's

† Cutty Sark	8 X 32 J	RSCDS Book 40
† The Old Man Of Storr	8 X 32 R	RSCDS Childrens' Book
Brochan Lom	8 X 32 S	Leaflet
† The Highland Lass	8 X 32 R	RSCDS Book 30
† The Dundee Whaler	4 X 32 S	Ann Campbell, RSCDS Book 37
The Rakish Highlandman	8 x 40 J	RSCDS Book 19

Miss Hadden's Reel	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 23
The Anniversary (Medley)	4 x 32 S+R	TAC Silver Anniv. Dances
Round Reel of Eight	1 x 88 R	RSCDS Book 27
Over The Water To Charlie	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 34
† Rakes Of Glasgow	8 x 32 S	RSCDS Book 11
Jessie's Hornpipe	8 x 32 H	RSCDS Book 8

Kiss Under The Stairs	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Miss Milligan's Miscellany
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† = Tartan Ball dances. All dances will be briefed and walked.

*Entry fee: Members: \$20 • Non-members: \$26
(prices above for this dance only)*

Students: \$10 • Youth / Spectators: \$5

The Monthly Dance is a scent-free and nut-free environment.

Distinguished visitors from Scotland this November

Getting to know Andrew Kellett . . . Guest at the 60th Anniversary Dance

I started dancing at age 10 at a children's class in Bradford, Yorkshire. Why, I don't really know, but I was fascinated by Scottish history, the '45 and all that. So began a lifetime of fun, friendship, and a modest level of fitness.

That first class was a wonderful experience. Our teacher, Rhoda Shaw, gave us a fantastic grounding in the fundamentals of Scottish country dance and we learnt some Highland too. In our mid-teens some of us were recruited into the RSCDS Leeds demo team. I was lucky; friends would drive me to dances all over the north of England, and my knowledge of dancing and life gradually matured.

At St Andrews I had the experience of being taught by Miss Milligan. After university I moved to London. I was on London demo team taught by Bill Ireland. He taught me what a straight line really meant, and what it was to perform as opposed to just dancing well.

I met Wendy, who became my wife, and we had a wonderful time dancing in all manner of venues from iconic London sites in front of Royalty to back street halls with a handful of spectators. The occasion and the place never seemed to matter. The joy was in dancing with friends to the best of our ability to the accompaniment of some great music.

It could not last. The demands of careers and parenthood meant that we withdrew from the dem team. I took on various tasks for London Branch, but I was dancing less. As retirement loomed I decided to get back into it because I believe what we say about the health and well-being benefits of Scottish country dancing. It was a shock. My muscles ached, and I realised the repertoire had moved on in the last 10-15 years. I understood what it must be like for an adult taking to the dance floor for the first time.

After over fifty years of dancing and over forty years as a Society member I was elected Chairman Elect last November. It is a great privilege. Some of the RSCDS "greats" have been there before me and I shall inherit an almost sacred trust of helping to guide the Society as we seek to maintain and grow this wonderful pastime of ours.

Thank you so much for inviting me to your 60th Anniversary celebrations.

I am really excited about the occasion, the chance to dance with you, and to make new friends. I am also very keen to hear what you have to say. Toronto is one of our largest branches, with a rich history. You have influ-



Andrew at the Society's AGM Ball

ence. How will you continue to succeed? What do you need from me, the Management Board and Committees and the staff at Coates Crescent, and, as importantly, what do you *not* want us to do? I look forward to finding out, to learning more about you and to sharing your special event. . . .Andrew Kellett

Getting to know Jim Stott. . . Lead teacher at the Workshop

I started dancing in 1965. In my career as a primary teacher, I taught dancing in schools and entered many teams into the Aberdeen Festival. I gained my Full Certificate in 1994.

I taught classes at all levels for Aberdeen Branch and did a term of office as Chair of the Branch.

I've been lucky enough to teach at many Day and Weekend Schools in Britain, Europe, Japan, and North America. I taught at the Australian Winter School in Perth and at our own RSCDS Winter School in Pitlochry, Scotland.

In 2005, I became one of the first Medal Assessors and then an adjudicator in 2007. In 2011 and 2012, I was Depute Director of Summer School and in 2013 I tutored Unit 5 at St Andrews. I have served on Youth Services, Education & Training, and was two years on the Management Board. I became Schools Director in 2015.

I enjoy teaching dancing and get great pleasure seeing Scottish country dancing continue to thrive all over the world. Last winter, I travelled to Kazan, Russia, to tutor six teacher candidates. This October I taught in Nova Scotia and had the opportunity to attend 5 concerts in the Cape Breton Celtic Colours Festival.

For 14 years I have taught at St Andrews Summer School and for the past two years it was my responsibility and privilege to run the Summer School — a fantastic opportunity to engage with dancers. This year we welcomed over 700 from 40 different countries. Several Torontonians, including three youth, came to St Andrews this summer. I'm eager to reconnect with my Toronto friends, and to make new friends at the November Workshop.

In my life outside of dancing I enjoy painting very much, in both oils and watercolour. My other great love is playing piano, especially with my local music group, the Ythan Fiddlers. We have a rally every year in May, and we've been lucky enough to play gigs in Nova Scotia, North and South Uist, and Orkney.

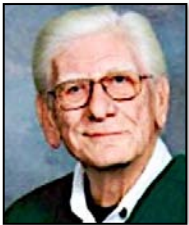
I've been promised better fish & chips in Toronto than can be had in Scotland. That's a cheeky challenge that must be addressed!

...Jim Stott



Jim with Teacher Candidates in Russia

#97 What's in a Name? *Lady Peak's Strathspey*



Barry Pipes

I am sure that many of us realize that numerous Scottish country dances exist that refer to Lady something or other. It has been my pleasure to cover a few of these British female aristocrats over the past decade or so. But Lady Peak? This is a new one for me. For a brief while I wondered if it might perhaps refer to a Lady of the Peak.

How so? Well, I hail from the English county of Derbyshire, a large portion of which lies within the Peak District. This is in reference to a range of small mountains called the Pennines. By far the most celebrated of British lady

aristocrats within the Peak District has been the Duchess of Devonshire, née Deborah Mitford. Debo, as she was called not only by her family but also by the Queen, was one of the six infamous Mitford sisters. Infamous? I can only suggest you look them up. As a Duchess, Debo lived with the Duke at an imposing manor called Chatsworth House in the Peak District, and as a member of Britain's Youth Hostel Association in my youth, I spent many delightful weekends either cycling or hiking (nowadays known as rambling) throughout the Peak, including visits to Chatsworth where one was quite likely to meet the Duchess somewhere in the grounds.



Duchess Debo

Now, was Deborah Cavendish, née Mitford, Duchess of Devonshire, the Lady of the Peak? Or, Lady Peak as named in the dance? She died in 2014 at the age of 94, and I cannot confirm any hopes of tying her by name to the aforementioned strathspey. So, will you please excuse me for what has turned out to be rambling preamble. Back to the drawing board!

Lady Peak, in the Cheam Range of the Cascades near Chilliwack, BC.



I checked on the deviser of *Lady Peak's Strathspey*, a lovely dance, and I should not have been surprised to find the deviser was the iconic John Drewry. Further research led me to British Columbia where, believe it or not, there exists in the Cheam Range of the Canadian Cascades, a 7000 ft mountain called Lady Peak. Locationwise, it's just a little east of Chilliwack and it's well known for its hiking trails. It would not surprise me therefore to learn that, at some point in the 90s, John Drewry made his way out to Vancouver, and being a known Rambler, found his way to Lady Peak. The dance was published in 1998 and featured in John's *Greenburn Book* series. Perhaps John's presence in B.C. at that time can be confirmed by someone at RSCDS Vancouver.

As has been written many times previously, John was born in the English town of Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire, better known for delectable pork pies than for any connection to SCD. Later in life, Drewry became an academic at Aberdeen University in the field of biochemistry and, after having devised over 800 Scottish country dances, he died in 2014 at the age of 90. *Set & Link*, published a lead story on his life in its February 2009 edition [www.dancescottish.ca/archives-set%26link.html]. It was written by veteran Thornhill dancer, Ross Floyd. Ross and his wife, Dorothy, continue to dance with the Newtonbrook, Petronella, and Richmond Hill social groups.

I cannot recall having seen *Lady Peak's Strathspey* on any recent RSCDS Toronto dance programmes, but those dancers who travelled recently to RSCDS Kingston for its annual workshop and dance, will have enjoyed working their way through John's lovely formations in *Lady Peak's Strathspey*, celebrating his likely presence on the mountain in B.C. at some point in the past.

Sláinte!

...Barry Pipes, mccallum.pipes@rogers.com



I am very excited to be continuing as Convenor of the Tartan Ball for a fifth year. It will be the 55th annual Tartan Ball and your Ball committee is working hard to plan another great event.

I encourage you to join us in this diamond anniversary, 60th dance season for a truly magical night of dining and dancing in the magnificent Concert Hall of the Royal York Hotel. The Tartan Ball is for everyone; it's the highlight of the dance season. Don't miss it.

We have a new price structure this year:

- Member: \$135
- Member attending 1st Tartan Ball: \$115
- Youth (under 30) or non-dancer: \$115
- Non-Members: \$150

Special Practices for newer dancers: To help prepare you for the Ball, we'll have three Sunday afternoon practices at Broadlands. Dates, times, and teacher to be confirmed next month. Space is limited, so please email me to reserve your spot (laurie-m@rogers.com).

Early Bird Draw

Purchase tickets by November 30, 2017, and your name will be entered in the Early Bird Draw. The prize is a complimentary room for two at the Fairmont Royal York on the day of the Ball. Enjoy dining and dancing at the Ball until the wee hours, and then the luxury of a gorgeous room upstairs. The draw will take place at the December Family Christmas dance.

The Tartan Ball application form is now on the website:

www.dancescottish.ca/Tartan_Ball.html

I look forward to seeing you at the Ball.

... Laurie McConachie, Tartan Ball Convenor



Barry Pipes' column on *The Craigellachie Reel* prompts more stories. . .

George Will: Dance Devisor ~ *Elusive nae more*

Pursuant to Barry Pipes' *What's in a Name?* (Set & Link, Sept. 2017), I have been able to unveil some of the mystery about George Will. Thank you to the following sources for their timely replies to my requests: Simon Scott, Ruth Jappy, and Phyllis Will, Vancouver; Georgina Finlay and Jean Noble, Toronto; Irene Paterson, TAC; Mike Brunnock, Toronto Irish Choral Society; Mike Greenwood and Julia Parr, 12 Coates Crescent . . . D.E.H.



(Ruth Jappy photo)

George Will

George Will and his wife Phyllis lived in Don Mills, Ontario, before being transferred to Vancouver in 1974 by his employer, First City Trust. Born in Bridge of Earn, Scotland, George was an accomplished dancer even as a boy. When he lived in Vancouver, he became a certified SCD teacher, on August 18, 1978.

George was a well-rounded musician. As a pianist, he could play any type of music either by ear or by reading sheet music. He played in the Schiehallion Band in British Columbia. He and Maureen Collins played piano together, accompanied by Alex Jappy on accordion, and Freddy Collins on percussion. As an organist, George played for several churches in Toronto and Scarborough and later for two United Churches in Vancouver and St. Joseph the Worker, in Richmond.

In Toronto, he occasionally played piano for the Toronto Irish Choral Society's rehearsals at Neil McNeil High School on Victoria Park Avenue. Mike Brunnock, treasurer and attendance keeper of the TICS, said "George was a faithful bass chorister for five years".

George was a most talented member of the Vancouver Branch of the RSCDS as a dancer, musician, teacher, and dance devisor. Even while very ill in 1991, he still shared in teaching and organizing the Teacher Candidate examinations in Vancouver in March 1991. George died November 6, 1991.

Among his numerous compositions were *Bonnie Ina Campbell* [Ina was his mother]; *The Cooper's Wife*, and *The Craigellachie Reel*, which was danced at Teresa Lockhart's Canada 150 Red & White dance party on June 24, 2017. His skills and personality were shared and enjoyed by many Vancouver dancers as well as dancers in other parts of North America where he was in great demand as a teacher at workshops, including Toronto. Georgina Finlay recalls his advice in his broad Scottish accent to dancers who did not always know where to go: "Stond still and let others dance aboot ya".

... Donald E. Holmes



(Ruth Jappy photo)



Dear Editor...

RE: *The Craigellachie Reel and George Will*

When Barry Pipes wrote about George Will, devisor of *The Craigellachie Reel*, it reminded me of a story about George.

My story relates to the first Teachers' Workshop John and I attended after having passed the RSCDS Preliminary Certificate in 1989. We were, understandably, very nervous to be in a big circle and realize that people on the other side of it were the likes of Bob Blackie and Georgina Finlay, legends we had encountered in our beginner days.

One of the two teachers for this workshop was George Will, SCD teacher from Vancouver, who at that time was making an easy living for himself playing church organs for massive Japanese "destination" weddings in B.C. George endeared himself to me very quickly when we had all been mixed up and then put into sets. My partner was older and never once made eye contact with me, which threw me off badly because we had been repeatedly taught, "LOOK at your partner!"

The dance was *Bonnie Ina Campbell*. It had been devised by George in response to a complaint from his mother that he had never written a dance for her. (Since it seems that George had run away from home at 14 to escape his mother, this is not surprising.)

The dance eventually was published by the RSCDS as a strathspey but on that fateful day George was teaching it as a reel.

By the time it ended, I was quite mortified but felt vindicated when George, hands folded on his chest and glowering, asked, "Who would like to tell on a partner who never looked at them?"

I never forgot this kindly recognition of a new teacher being let down by an old timer. George Will's untimely death was a loss to Scottish country dancers everywhere.

... Joan Reeves, Peterborough

Volunteer Awards: *I nominate...*

Our many RSCDS Toronto activities and social groups would not exist without the many volunteers who toil quietly behind the scenes. Honour those people.

Nominate someone for a Volunteer Award to show your gratitude for extensive and exceptional unpaid service. Nominations may be made by the Board or by individual RSCDS Toronto members. NOTE: This year we are ensuring that at least one recipient is someone nominated from a social group. On April 14, 2018 (at the Volunteer Appreciation Night Dance), we will present certificates to those chosen to receive a Volunteer Award.

The Nomination Form, criteria, and a list of previous recipients (and citations) are on the Members' Home page, under VIPs. Deadline for submissions is February 28, 2018.

Send nominations to Jane Robinson at janer1@sympatico.ca or post to Jane at 14 Dearbourne Ave., Toronto M4K 1M7.



culture days

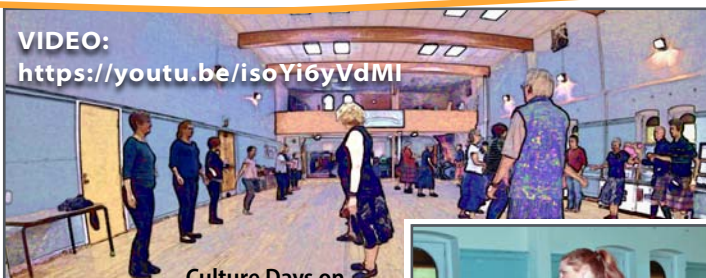


The premiere outing of our new feather banner:

Our greeters on the street: Susan Heximer, Wayne Fraser, and Rosalind Gilbert. The sound of Ellen Mole's pipes also drew in visitors – particularly a family who thought the event was at Eastminster across the street!

VIDEO:

<https://youtu.be/isoYi6yVdMI>



Culture Days on the Danforth was a roaring success.

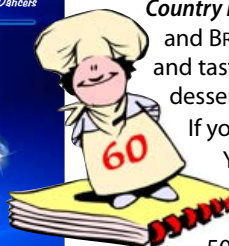
Our team on the street pulled in unsuspecting passers-by and many stayed all afternoon. Keith and Deirdre Bark led the ceilidh, and some familiar country dances such as *The Dhoon*, and a great time was had by all. Everyone left with info about adult beginner classes and classes for youth.

A noble effort at a similar event in Richmond Hill was doomed by the obscurity of the venue.



The new cookbook will be at the Workshop: Let's get cooking!

Diamond Jubilee Cookbook
Come from the Kitchens of Scottish Country Dancers



The new 60th anniversary *Diamond Jubilee Cookbook* has 200 wonderful *Gems from the Kitchens of Scottish Country Dancers* — recipes from some of my favourite cooks. It has exotica such as SNAFFLES MOUSSE and BRAU CARROTOCCOLI SOUP; comfort food such as RUMBLEDETHUMPS and NANCY PEASE'S SCOTTIE TARTS; and tasty main dishes such as TANGY OCTOBERFEST ROAST and OLD-TIME BEEF STEW. There are tempting desserts and interesting salads too.

If you pre-ordered a book, get it at the Workshop; or buy one there. The cost is \$10 each.

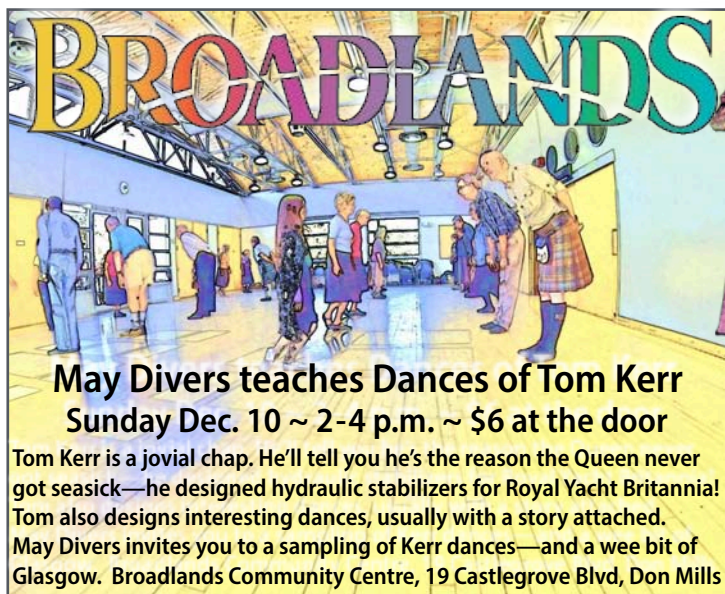
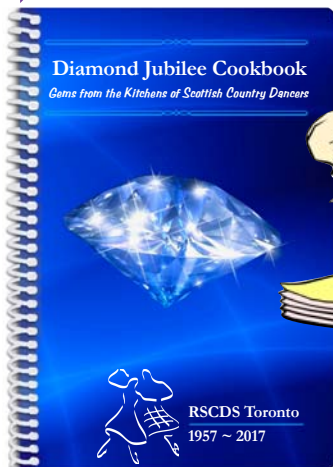
You can also get an ebook version (\$10 each) — great for the cottage, or travel, or simply decluttering. We did not reprint the 50th cookbook, *A Golden Feast*, but we might if there is sufficient demand (contact Theresa M.). However, you can request an ebook version of the 50th cookbook. It has some wonderful recipes such as: DEIRDRE'S TABLET, MARGARET'S EMPIRE

BISCUITS, MARIAN'S RHUBARB DREAM, and RODDY NICOLL'S SHORTBREAD.

Arlene Koteff won the name-the-cookbook contest. She graciously donated her winning cookbook to be won by some lucky dancer at the November Tea Dance that follows the workshop.

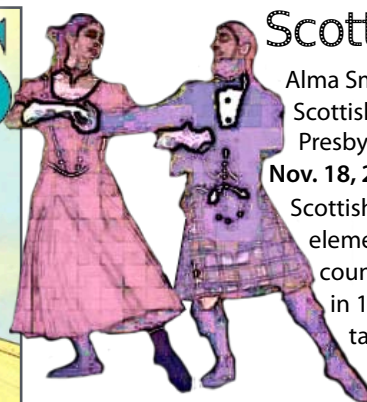
Info and orders: Theresa Malek theresamalek@rogers.com 416 535 4447

... Theresa Malek



May Divers teaches Dances of Tom Kerr Sunday Dec. 10 ~ 2-4 p.m. ~ \$6 at the door

Tom Kerr is a jovial chap. He'll tell you he's the reason the Queen never got seasick—he designed hydraulic stabilizers for Royal Yacht Britannia! Tom also designs interesting dances, usually with a story attached. May Divers invites you to a sampling of Kerr dances—and a wee bit of Glasgow. Broadlands Community Centre, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills



Scottish Step Lessons

Alma Smith is offering a series of three Scottish Step Classes at Rosedale Presbyterian Church.

Nov. 18, 25 and Dec. 2 ~ noon to 1:15 p.m.

Scottish Step Dance is a hybrid, with elements of both Highland and Scottish country dance. The genre originated in 19th century Scotland, typically taught to ladies by ballet masters, hence the name "Ladies' Step".

However, men can give it a go as well and some excel, thus Scottish Step is the preferred term.

These classes are an intro to Scottish Step. It's possible more classes will be offered in the Winter Term. Sign up for all three classes for \$25 or pay \$10 per class.

Please contact Moira Korus at smkorus@sympatico.ca to let her know if you will be attending. Moira: 416 924 9616

Calvin's 60th



Photo by Douglas Pickett



Duncan Gray, son of Frances & Neil Gray, and Douglas Smith cut the cake



Don Bartlett played for Calvin's 60th

60 years to the day since Calvin first danced, the Calvin social group hosted a dance party with over 60 people attending. Don Bartlett played great music, some dance legends who no longer take the floor came for a visit, and a wonderful array of savouries and sweets was enjoyed.



October Monthly Dance

It was a dark and stormy night for the October 14 Monthly Dance at Crescent School but 93 enthusiastic dancers came, some from far away Peterborough and London. Don Bartlett and the band played wonderful music. The 4th dance, *Sueno's Stone*, had a surprise ending: with a great PHFFT sound the lights went out; the music stopped; and someone shouted *We've Nae Electric!* (or should have). The entire posh Bridal Path/Post Road neighbourhood had gone dark.

We waited. . . and chatted in the gloom of emergency lights. But they have a limited lifespan, and dancing in near mirk would be more like roller derby — besides, the band couldn't play. Evacuation was ordered (and a blackout procedural standard will be developed).

The bad news: Costs must still be met (the band; the rent).

The good news: At the December dance we will get a \$2 discount.

The good luck: Moira Korus won \$87 in the 50/50 draw.

The video: <https://youtu.be/btOnRGR14KQ>

Workshop Shirt Bargains

10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Closing down sale. . .

Our stock of dance shirts with the RSCDS Toronto logo will be sold at greatly reduced prices. Other such merchandise will also be available.

No further orders will be taken but this is a great opportunity to stock up on these popular garments.

Info: Marie Duncan and Carole Bell

Of course, this is in addition to the sale of gently used dance garments and regalia. No credits cards, please. Bring your cheque book, or cash.

The Toronto Workshop, Nov 11

Branksome Hall Athletics & Wellness Centre, 10 Elm Ave.

Details and registration form at:

www.dancescottish.ca/Workshop.html



Shirts, and model, may not be exactly as shown



The Family Ceilidh

More than fifty people came out – despite the rain – for a great afternoon. On October 28th, children and adults gathered for our Family Ceilidh at St Leonard's Church. There was lots of fun and laughter as we learned new dances and made new friends. A number of the dances were Halloween themed, including my favourite Halloween dance, *Tam O'Shanter*. I got to brief that one and tell the story as we walked it through. The Ceilidh was designed to be enjoyed by everyone, and it was great to see kids as young as three out on the dance floor with their parents. The Rosedale Children's Group impressed everyone with two beautiful demonstrations — *The Cell Phone Jig* by the intermediate class and *The Orcadian Medley* by the seniors. By the end, everyone was well ready for pizza and the many desserts that people had brought. Thanks to the Toronto Association for making this possible, I hope the tradition of Family Ceilidhs continues.

... Gavin Keachie



Dancing Achievement Award (DAA)



Toronto Association is planning to offer a DAA course in 2018, between early March and the end of April. Classes will run Sunday afternoons at Broadlands Community Centre. Candidates are required to attend all classes. We seek participants at the Intermediate level. More information can be found here:

www.rscds.org/article/dancing-achievement-award-daa

Potential candidates are advised to ask their teacher if they are ready for such a course. Cost is \$70 for instruction, plus exam fee. If interested, please email Tony Szeto at aszeto2010@gmail.com with name and contact info, Social Group/Association Class, by noon on December 5, 2017.

Haggis gains legal and language status

L'Office québécois de la langue française officially recognizes "haggis". The great chieftain o' the puddin' race has been granted status. Apart from the difficulty of coining a concise French term encompassing the mostly "please-don't-tell-me" ingredients of the Scottish national dish, the OQLF states such words "refer to a reality that is representative of one of the anglo-saxon (sic) linguistic communities."

Level 3 Advanced Classes



These classes will continue to build on dance skills honed at the Toronto Workshop and Level 2 branch classes. New and unfamiliar formations and more complex dances offer challenge for the more experienced dancer.

Thursdays 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Nov. 17 - Dec. 15

Teacher: Fiona Philip

Eastminster United Church

310 Danforth Ave. (2 minutes from Chester station)

You can pay \$50 for the suite of five classes or pay \$10 at the door for individual classes. Make cheques payable to "RSCDS Toronto".

Class Representative: Margaret Roper 416 285 0367

All dancers must be members of RSCDS Toronto Association

Classes Convenor: Catherine MacLean

416 996 1136 birchpoint123@gmail.com



Coincidentally... The BBC reports: Scotland is to start exporting haggis to Canada for the first time in 46 years. Canada lifted a ban on imports of red meat from Europe in 2015 but still does not allow imports of offal. This has led Scottish haggis producers to create new haggis recipes to meet Canadian regulations.

Grace Notes



Wes Clindinning

3 November 1933 - 10 September 2017

Irish-born Wesley (Wes) Clindinning was a man of many talents – a Highland dancer for the Toronto Scottish Regiment, a prolific deviser of Scottish country dances, a dance teacher and tutor for potential teacher candidates, and a guest teacher at workshops throughout North America and overseas. He was Chairman of the Teachers' Association (Canada) from

1982 to 1984, during which period he hosted the Silver Jubilee Teachers' AGM Weekend, with the late Anna Holden as Guest Teacher. Wes also established the Silver Jubilee Scholarship Fund, now known as the Jubilee Scholarship Fund, which continues to assist candidates to attend Candidate Classes at TAC Summer School.

Wes, together with Doug Stephen and Jess Bryden, established the West End Workshop, which continues to draw enthusiastic beginner and experienced dancers, to enjoy the teaching of well-known, in-demand teachers from the UK, USA, and local areas. Wes was also on a committee of West End teachers who established the still-popular West Toronto Ball, a semi-formal event primarily for new dancers, held every May, with a programme suited to their level of experience.

On a personal note, Wes encouraged me to become a certificated teacher (1979/1980). He allowed me to practise my skills with his beginners, in the first portion of his regular class, which he established in 1972 in Erin Mills. In September 1981, after a separate beginner class with Doug Stephen had been started, Wes left the teaching of the Friday Class to me, but he and Brenda still supported the group by attending regular coffee nights and other special events until they moved to Vancouver Island around 1998 following his retirement. Out west, Wes continued teaching SCD for several years, locally and on nearby Gabriola Island. In September 2012, Erin Mills celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a special dance, and Sharon, Wes's youngest daughter, was Guest of Honour.

Wes loved the music of the dance (a favourite tune was Belladrum House) and he invited musicians to play for classes and special functions whenever possible. Stan Hamilton, Ron Gonella, Ian Powrie, Donald Bartlett, and Fred Moyes all come to mind. He encouraged new teachers, (Keith Bark, Barbara Taylor), and was known world-wide as an excellent exponent of Scottish country dance.

Wes will be remembered for many things, including his sense of humour and his enjoyment of travel and social gatherings. Our thoughts are with Brenda and their three daughters, all of whom shared his love and dedication to spreading the joy of Scottish country dancing.

...Jean Hamilton



John Prentice

1927 - 20 June 2017

John passed away just short of his 90th birthday. During his career, John owned and operated Heritage Yarns in St Jacobs, now operating as A Touch of Scotland. He was proud to pass on the family business to his granddaughter Kelly.

John and Catherine were both very involved in Scottish country dancing; Catherine was an instructor for 50 years. Our sympathy is extended to Catherine and her family.



Jean Campbell

27 December 1939 - 29 August 2017

Jean was a Scottish country dancer since childhood in Glasgow. She came to Canada in the 1960s. She danced at Calvin for 20 years, a beloved member.

We will miss "Wee Jean," her laugh and smiling face, her generous spirit.

Family and friends celebrated her life on Sept. 3rd and shared memories of her. Sincere condolences to Jean's family from her fellow Calvin dancers and all her RSCDS friends.

...Dorothy McKinnon and Nancy Stokes



Mary Ramsay

18 July 1926 - 15 September 2017

Mary, and her late husband, Bill, came from Aberdeen. They danced with St Andrew's of Brampton since the 1970s, participated in Brampton celebrations of Canada Day, and were constant attendees at the West Toronto Ball.

Mary was a nurse and after her retirement she volunteered with the Red Cross for its annual blood drive.

Our sympathy is extended to Mary's family.



Virginia Booker

1940 - 20 September 2017

Virginia danced in Toronto with Hillcrest, Scarborough, and occasional other groups. She also danced in Orillia. Virginia loved to attend Christmas dances and formal balls.

She was a lifelong figure skating enthusiast, participating as a member at the University Skating Club for many years and attending many World Championships and international events.

Our condolences to her family.



Sharon with
David Grant at
Erin Mills' 40th



Erin Mills Friday:

Keith

Doug

Wes

Deirdre

Jean

Upcoming Events: NEAR

Nov 10 - **A Social Evening of Dance with Jim Stott** ~ 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 115 St Andrews Rd., Scarborough. This evening is not about perfect technique; it's about sharing the fun of dance.

Nov 11 - **Toronto Workshop and Afternoon Dance** ~ 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Branksome Hall Athletics & Wellness Centre, 10 Elm Avenue, Toronto. Details and registration form at www.dancescottish.ca/Workshop.html

Nov 12 - **TATA Teachers' Workshop** ~ Jim Stott will lead this Sunday afternoon workshop for teachers and share his broad experience of teaching Scottish country dance at all levels and many places. Music: Don Bartlett 2:00-4:30 at Westway United Church, 9 Templar Drive, Etobicoke. Info: Deirdre MacCuish Bark 905 822- 1707 barkd@rogers.com

Nov 15, 22 - **60th Anniv. Dance Practices at Glenview** ~ Wednesdays, Nov. 15 & 22, Glenview will do the dances on the 60th programme, 7:30-9:30 at Glenview Presbyterian.

Nov 18 - **Youth Workshop with Maureen Richardson** ~ Saturday morning at Rosedale Presbyterian Church, 129 Mount Pleasant Rd. Two classes ~ Wee ones: 9:15-10:15; Older kids: 10:30-11:45. Info: Moira at 416 924 9616.

Nov 21 - **60th Anniv. Dance Practice at Hillcrest** ~ Jean Noble will teach the lesser-known dances on the 60th programme, 7-9 p.m. at Toronto French School.

Nov 25 - **60th Anniversary Dance** ~ Saturday evening, starting at 6:00 p.m. Music by Scotch Mist. Special Guest, Andrew Kellett. Tickets \$60; half price for Youth (30 and under). Tickets: www.dancescottish.ca/60th-dance.html

Nov 26 - **Tea and Chat with Andrew Kellett** ~ Meet and greet our distinguished visitor, Andrew Kellett, Chair Elect of the Society. All are welcome. Sunday afternoon, 2-5:00 p.m. at Rosedale United Church, 159 Roxborough Drive.

Dec. 12 - **Calvin's Christmas Dance** ~ Dance to the music of Don Bartlett at 7:30 p.m. followed by refreshments. \$10 at the door. At Calvin Presbyterian. Questions: Mary Baldwin 416 485 8280 or Nancy Stokes naristo@rogers.com

Dec. 13 - **Glenview's Christmas Dance** ~ Dance to the music of Fred Moyes at 7:30 p.m. followed by refreshments. \$15 at the door. Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Ave. Programme at www.glenviewscdg.org

Dec. 16 - **Family Christmas Dance** ~ 7:30 p.m. at Crescent School. Music by Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs.

Dec. 31 - **Glenview's Hogmanay and Ceilidh** ~ 8 p.m. -1:00 a.m. at Grace Church On-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd. Music by Scotch Mist. Tickets at \$30 are limited. Reserve from Valerie Fisher: 416 497 4186 v.fisher@sympatico.ca Info at www.glenviewscdg.org

Upcoming Events: FAR

Nov 3-5 - **Kingston 51st Weekend Workshop & Ball** ~ Teachers: Fiona Miller, Lethbridge; Marion Hamilton, Ottawa. Music: Scotch Mist. Frontenac Secondary School, 1789 Bath Road, Kingston. Info: Jim MacLachlan: 613 382 8682 20jrmac@gmail.com www.rscdskingston.org

Dec 10 - **54th Annual Gleneagles Ball, Vancouver** ~ Dance to the music of the 24-member Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra in the beautiful ballroom of the historic Hotel Vancouver. Enjoy a delicious buffet lunch before dancing and decadent dessert after. www.rscdsvancouver.org

Dec 28 - Jan 5 - **New Zealand Summer School** ~ Teachers include Fred DeMarse; Musicians include Ian Muir. Info: www.rscdsnz.org.nz

Feb 9-11 - **Workshop & Grand Ball in Italy** ~ Teachers Antoine Rousseau, Paris Branch, and Olga Ivanova, Moscow Branch. Musicians include James Gray. Info: www.scotiashores.com email info@scotiashores.com

Feb 16-18 - **Isle of Wight Weekend School** ~ Teachers Pat Houghton, Edinburgh, and Fred DeMarse, San Francisco. Musicians include Craigellachie Band and Robert MacKay. Info: catherinepb@hotmail.co.uk 44+ 01980 621322

Feb 16-18 - **Aloha Winter Weekend** ~ Guest Instructor Mary Murray from Vancouver. Music by The Humuhumunukunua-pua'a Society and Strathspey Band from San Francisco. Info: www.rscdshawaii.org or email Melissa mlindsay@hawaii.rr.com (808) 256-3347

Mar 2-4 - **Belleville Workshop Weekend** ~ Guest Instructors Mary Murray from Vancouver and Jean Noble, Toronto. Music by Scotch Mist. Info: Bill and Jan Cunningham at 613-965-4212 or David Aston at david.aston@kos.net

Mar 16-18 - **Dance Weekend, Algarve, Portugal** ~ Teacher Antoine Rousseau. Music by Luke Brady's Band. Info: scdlapa@gmail.com

Apr 6-8 - **Dancing In New Places: Nikko, Japan** ~ Teachers: Graham Donald & Yoshiki Oyama. Music by Jim Lindsay & Hiroko Kokai. Info: Katalin Konya: kkonyakatalin@gmail.com

More events, near & far: www.dancescottish.ca



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Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Events

Winter School

18-23 February 2018

Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, Scotland

5 days of dancing and music with. . .

Teachers: Mervyn Short, Helen Russell,
Lindsey Ibbotson, Paul Plummer

Musicians: Muriel Johnstone, Judith and Ian Muir, Judith Smith

www.rscds.org/news/winter-school-2018-2

Still Calling For Gently Used Clothing

The popular Workshop sale delights dancers.

Have you something to contribute to this general happiness? contact Evelyn Holmberg 416.694-1218

Holmberg_Evelyn@hotmail.com



St Andrew's Charity Ball: Nov 18, 2017



Our friends at the St Andrew's Society of Toronto host this exuberant celebration of Scots dance and culture at the Royal York Hotel.

It's been a Toronto tradition for generations.

You'll have a typical Scottish meal, and enjoy dancing to the Pipes & Drums of the 48th Highlanders. The dances are ceilidh favourites such as the *Eightsome Reel*.

NB: RSCDS Toronto Members get a discount.

Info: www.standrews-society.ca

Practices, Moss Park Armoury, 130 Queen St. E.

8pm-10:00 . Fri Nov 3, Tues Nov 7, Tues Nov 14

Plus: Sat Nov 11, 2-4pm at Glenview Presbyterian



Scotland's National Tourism Organisation

www.visitscotland.com

