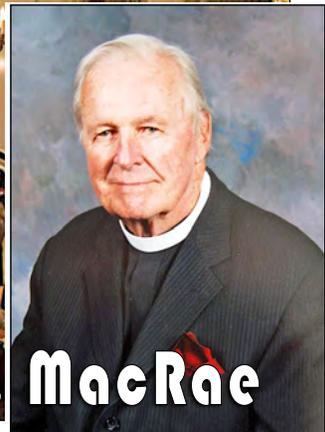




RSCDS SET & LINK Toronto



2018 Tartan Ball Guest of Honour: The Rev'd. Arthur W.M.J. MacRae

From the Chair...



HAPPY NEW YEAR & BEST WISHES IN 2018!

The holidays are a wonderful time to get together with family and/or friends and to celebrate counting down the minutes into the new year.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you dancing in January to the wonderful sounds of Scotch Mist.

Toronto Association dancers perform to demonstrate dances and entertain people in various venues in January to celebrate the Bard's birthday. The songs of Robbie Burns are familiar to many and the Scottish country dances he inspired include many favourites. For spectators, it is entertaining for them to listen to the music as well as fun to watch the dancers in action. Spectators may have opportunities to participate. My thanks to all the dancers who do such a great job at these various events!

On February 17, 2018, I hope to see many of you at the 55th Tartan Ball. It will be a wonderful evening. If you haven't bought your tickets yet, think about getting them soon. This will be your last chance to dance in the beautiful Concert Hall of the Royal York. Extensive renovations will make the hall unavailable.

Warm regards,

A toast to the New Year:

"To all the days here and after, may they be filled with fond memories, happiness and laughter!"

Arthur MacRae is a Montrealer, married to Judith Watkins, a long-time parishioner of St. Clement's Church, Toronto. He was educated at Ashbury College, McGill (BA and STM), Trinity (STB), and the University of Toronto (MA). He also graduated from the Ontario College of Education, and the Canadian Armed Forces Militia Command and Staff Course. He was ordained deacon (in the Church of England in Canada) in 1955 and priest (in the Anglican Church of Canada) in 1956. After a curacy in Montreal, he founded St. James the Apostle, Brampton, and St. Joseph of Nazareth, Bramalea. Later he served in a number of parishes, in various capacities, joining St. Clement's as an Honorary Associate in January 1990.

He was coordinator of the North York Board of Education's Extended (Late Immersion) French programme. As a multilingual Certified Translator, translating from Italian, French, Spanish, and Portuguese to English, he has been Chair of the Canadian Translators' and Interpreters' Council and he translated the *Book of Common Prayer* into Papiamentu, a two-year project. [*Papiamentu is a Spanish Creole language with admixtures of Portuguese and Dutch, spoken on the Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao.*] MacRae said he undertook that translation for three reasons: "The people were dissatisfied with the American version of the *Book of Common Prayer*, I can speak Spanish, and I certainly know liturgy."

As a military chaplain in charge of 36 Protestant chaplains, he became Area Chaplain (senior reserve chaplain) for Ontario and helped to form the relationship between the 7th Toronto Regiment RCA and St. Clement's Church, Toronto. He was also involved with the Lorne Scots of Brampton, and the Victoria Rifles.

When he is not worshipping at St. Clement's, Arthur does crosswords and reads mystery novels, especially those of Peter May, a Scottish novelist, whose work, *The Lewis Trilogy*, is set in the outer Hebrides. Judith favours the Brontës, and moor walking.



Judith Watkins-MacRae

Arthur and Judith have sailed around Scotland twice on the *Queen Elizabeth*. Loyal to our Royal Patron, HM Queen Elizabeth, Judith was Toronto Chair of the Monarchist League of Canada in 2014. Arthur has been a member of the Monarchist League of Canada since 1981, and he can heartily greet you in Gaelic.

... Donald E. Holmes



Monarchist League of Canada



7th Toronto Regiment RCA



The Lorne Scots



The Victoria Rifles

Special Events

BROADLANDS

Sunday, January 21
Figure it out

Keith Bark will teach dances that contain common figures that are slightly twisted. Sounds perfectly mischievous!

Sunday Jan. 21 ~ 2-4 p.m. ~ \$6 at the door

Broadlands Centre, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

{ For Intermediate & Advanced Dancers }

Burns Suppers



Saturday, January 27

A.S.T.A. at Brae Ben Golf Course, 5700 Terry Fox Way, Mississauga

Experience *Address To The Haggis*, time-honoured Burns toasts, and Ceilidh with music by Laird Brown & Don Wood.

Tickets: Margaret Shortt 905 257 0941

Oakville SCD at Bronte Legion, 79 Jones St.

The evening includes Haggis Supper, followed by dancing to the 'best of the bands' (i.e recordings). There will be a cash bar.

Tickets: Alicia Manson 905 849 7180 manson@globalserve.com

Sir John A's Great Canadian Skate

Saturday, January 27 ~ noon to 2:00 p.m.

Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto

Show the flag, and knobby knees. Join with dafty, drafty Scots in cities across Canada to skate in the kilt to commemorate our 1st Prime Minister. Dress warmly (as best you can in a kilt), and pass out Scottish country dance brochures to astonished onlookers.

Info: Lyn Barsevskis barsevskis@gmail.com



Valentine Workshop & Tea Dance

Saturday, February 10 at 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Knox Presby. Church, 160 King St. S., Alliston

Warm up your winter with a wonderful day of SCD in Alliston with teacher Alicia Manson and her husband, Ian. A full day of activities with 2 classes, an afternoon tea dance, snacks, lunch and a light supper. Registration is limited to 50 people. Carpool with your friends!

Learning, Live Music (Laird Brown & Don Wood) and the Love of your Life (SCD) is the best way to beat the winter blues.

Tickets: Maureen Richardson schoolmarm1975@hotmail.com



Tartan Ball Practices

Various times and places. **Listed on Page 3.**

West End Workshop & Tea Dance

Saturday, March 24, Turner Fenton School, Brampton



Save the date.

Three great teachers:

William Williamson

from Scotland;

Marie Zicarelli from

Buffalo; Alma Smith

from Oakville.

Tartan Ball Dances



2017-18 Programme by David Booz

Date: Saturday, February 17

Place: Fairmont Royal York Hotel, 100 Front St. W., Toronto

Music: Scotch Mist **Tickets:** www.dancescottish.ca/Tartan_Ball.html

Cutty Sark	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 40/2
Old Man of Storr	8 x 32 R	RSCDS Children's Book #6
Rakes of Glasgow	8 x 32 S	RSCDS Book 11/11
The Zoologist	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 46/12
Midsummer Common	8 x 32 S	RSCDS Book 49/3
The Dancer's Wedding	8 x 32 R	RSCDS Book 41/3

1st Interval

Miss Allie Anderson	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Leaflet Book 16
MacDonald of Keppoch	(2s32+2r32) M	RSCDS Book 49/11
The Compleat Gardener	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Graded 3/14
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	8 x 32 S	RSCDS Leaflet Book 19
The Mason's Apron	8 x 32 R	Border Book

2nd Interval

St Andrews Fair	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Five for 1982
Blooms of Bon Accord	4 x 32 R	Drewry Deeside 2
The Flower of Glasgow	3 x 32 S	RSCDS Book 46/9
The Nurseryman	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 37/7
Memory Lane	8 x 32 R	Gene's Memory Lane

Extras

The Laird Of Milton's Daughter	8 X 32 J	RSCDS Book 22/10
The Highland Lass	8 x 32 R	RSCDS Book 30/3
The Dundee Whaler	4 x 32 S	Ormskirik

All dances will be briefed only.

Please make the Tartan Ball SCENT FREE. Several dancers are allergic.

Volunteer Awards: I nominate...



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

Let's 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 will ensure 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

Tartan Ball Practices

Calvin: Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30

Jan. 30: Dances that follow the 2nd Interval

Feb. 6: Dances that follow the 1st Interval

Feb. 13: Dances before the 1st Interval

Calvin Presby. Church, 26 Delisle Avenue

Info: vickyzeltins@gmail.com

Glenview: Wednesdays, 7:30-9:15

Feb. 7: First half of the programme

Feb. 14: Second half of the programme

Glenview Presby. Church, 1 Glenview Avenue

Info: v.fisher@sympatico.ca

St Clements: Monday, Feb 12, 6:30-9:30

Teresa Lockhart will dance you through the entire ball programme, in order.

Bishop Strachan School, 298 Lonsdale Road

Info: teresa.lockhart@rogers.com

Broadlands: Sundays, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 & 11

Barbara Taylor will prepare newer dancers for the ball. 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Broadlands CC, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

You must reserve with Laurie McConachie:

Info: laurie-m@rogers.com



Feb 17

Tartan Ball ~ Be part of the magic

For 55 years, home for the Tartan Ball has been the Concert Hall of the Royal York.

On February 17, at the 55th Tartan Ball, we shall dance in that glorious space for the last time. The hotel has grand renovation plans; the hall will no longer be available. The Tartan Ball will continue into the future but the 2018 ball is an historic turning point, and your last chance to enjoy the ambience, the glittering chandeliers, and the marvellous wood floor of the Concert Hall. Don't miss out on the experience. 

Tickets are available now: www.dancescottish.ca/Tartan_Ball.html

We have a wonderful, dancer-friendly programme by David Booz, and we'll have stirring music by Scotch Mist. In the lead up, most social groups will feature the dances and some have announced dedicated ball practises (listed at left).

Special Practices for New-ish Dancers

The Tartan Ball is for EVERYONE. If you are a new-ish dancer, so that you can be well prepared, I'm excited to tell you there are three special practices:

Sunday afternoons 2-4 p.m. at Broadlands Community Centre, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, Feb. 11.

Please email me, laurie-m@rogers.com, to reserve your spot. The classes will be taught by teacher extraordinaire, Barbara Taylor. The cost is \$7 per week.

Volunteers Are Needed

Please consider volunteering some time to help us set up the Concert Hall the day of the Ball. We meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Concert Hall and have coffee and treats while we make the room even more beautiful for the big event. Contact Lois Adams at loisorangevan@aol.com to help decorate.

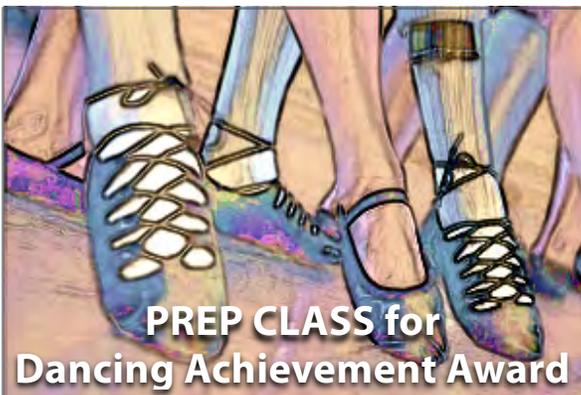
We also need line marshals that evening

Contact Bill Barber at: william.barber054@sympatico.ca

The excitement and thrill of the Tartan Ball are not to be missed.

...Laurie McConachie, Tartan Ball Convenor





PREP CLASS for Dancing Achievement Award

Are you are interested in the Dancing Achievement Award? If so, there will be a DAA prep course:

Sunday afternoons, 2-4 p.m. April 8, 15, 22, 29 at Broadlands CC, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills.

Participants will be put through their paces *as if* in an actual DAA, except: there will be no test. Under the expert instruction of Moira Korus, you will learn how to improve personal dancing and teamwork, and to prepare for an assessment. In a supportive environment, dancers can expect individual critique and feedback. At the end of the course, you will have a fairly good idea of how ready you are for an official DAA course, be it at the level of Intermediate, Advanced, or Very Advanced.

TO REGISTER, please email class contact, Maureen Richardson asap schoolmarm1975@hotmail.com
Further info from Tony Szeto: aszeto2010@gmail.com

The fee is \$40 in advance.



Outreach Ambassador Training

Do you have a connection with a school, place of worship, or community group where, if you knew how, you might enjoy introducing SCD in an informal way — i.e., without being a certificated teacher?

Here's your chance. The Toronto Association is holding an Outreach Ambassador Training session to help prepare you for such an event.

Pre-registration is required by emailing Tony Szeto aszeto2010@gmail.com by noon, February 26, 2018. (The earlier the better.)

WHERE: Broadlands Community Centre
19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

WHEN: **Sunday, March 4, 2-5 p.m.**
(note 3 hours)

FEE: Free of charge

INSTRUCTOR: Maureen Richardson

Maureen Richardson: *Back to the Classroom*



Through one of Moira Korus' Youth dancers, I was invited to the Bayview Middle School/Avondale Elementary School to teach Scottish country dance to a group of grade 7 students who had signed up for the April 13 lunch-hour session. A class of grade 4 students also joined the fun. The grade 7 teacher, the Intermediate Art/Dance/Drama teacher, the grade 4 teacher, and I provided supervision and guidance. The group of 32-35 students was happy to complete *Virginia Reel* in the 30-minute period.

A follow-up email of appreciation invited me to teach five grade 8 classes for up to five lessons each. My calendar couldn't accommodate that but we worked out a compromise such that all classes had at least two sessions in their timetable. The lessons ran through to May 31, and an extra-curricular group continued until the last day of school.

The students were introduced to some history of Scottish country dance, the skip-change-of-step, and three dances — *Virginia Reel*, *The Dashing White Sergeant*, and *Domino Five*. A number of eager enthusiasts danced the reels of three, rather than a simpler figure of eight. They also got to perform for some of their peers.

It was, and always is, a pleasure to share what one loves with others. There are unexpected opportunities to share Scottish country dance with others of all ages — we must be open to the possibilities. In January, I taught one lesson to a class of grade 4 students at a school in Newmarket, as part of their study of Robert Burns. That contact was made through my local book club, via a retired principal who just happened to be close friends with the teacher of class.

Enjoy the dance season. I look forward to seeing you on the dance floor.

...Maureen Richardson



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Toronto, ON M5R 2S6
416-929-2424

MoRoCo uptown
Bayview Village Mall
(until mid February)



www.morocochocolat.com

Harris & the AGM: Smooth Sailing



Deirdre MacCuish Bark

Keith and I go to Scotland each autumn, for family and the AGM. Autumn weather is usually good, with bright sunny days, and there's a big advantage — *no midges* this late in the season. (Midges are tiny insects with a vicious bite, and a taste for visitor blood!) Our journey took us to Inverness, where I grew up. It has grown from a small Highland town into a city. From there we drove to Uig, on the Isle of Skye, to board the CalMac Ferry to Tarbert, on the Isle of Harris. It was a smooth crossing, though this time of year

sudden gales often whip up rough seas which disrupt ferry service.

Harris was beautiful, as always, with sunny, frosty days and little rain. However, one afternoon we encountered low cloud and fog on one side of the island and 30 minutes later, down the coast, a howling gale made it difficult to open the car door. Another day we drove to Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, to look again at Lews Castle, where



Lews Castle & Ballroom

Jimmy Hill has planned a Scottish dance weekend [now sold out] for June next year. Lews Castle was the baronial home of James Matheson, who, in 1844, purchased Lewis (the whole island). Lews Castle is a beautiful venue with a fabulous wooden dance floor.



A beautiful Harris beach

In Tarbert, Keith and I again joined the energetic, fun group of Harris dancers at their weekly Ceilidh/Scottish dance class. We were asked to teach some dances and this year they requested step practice!

At the end of the week, we headed for Perth and the Society AGM, arriving in time

for the Friday night dance. This year they ran a ceilidh dance, also in the Bells Sports Centre, and we could switch between the two events. Saturday morning we attended the Open Forum, which covered the Convenor reports and feedback on the Business Plan. We then split up. Keith attended the New Website update (Anselm Lingnau), and I went to Education & Training on the New Teaching Qualification (Malcolm Brown).

At lunch, International Branch members met at the Copper Beech Cafe, in the Black Watch Museum. It's nice to meet friends there, and to make new friends. Just a soup and sandwich lunch with a glass of wine — and a lot of conversation.

The Annual General Meeting was the shortest since we began attending in 2001; only 47 minutes, with little discussion. The award of Society scrolls was moved to the pre-Ball Reception on Saturday evening and Convenor reports are now on the website, which saved a great deal of time. Keith maintains that as he did not ask any questions that saved time too! He may be right.

There were several hundred dancers at the Formal Ball enjoying a programme of 18 dances, including my *Countess of Dunmore's Reel*. They danced all the dances and some encores. Colin Dewar and his band gave us wonderful music.

There were other events Sunday morning, but we slept in instead, and went shopping for another suitcase. We exceeded our weight allowance yet again.

We've already booked our Harris hotel for next year. The Western Isles are becoming popular late into the season and more places are staying open.

Looking forward to next year.

...Deirdre MacCuish Bark

Association Classes



All dancers, except for first-session beginners, must be members of RSCDS Toronto. The ten-week classes are \$100. Make cheques payable to "RSCDS Toronto".

Classes Convenor:

Catherine MacLean 416 996 1136
birchpoint123@gmail.com



All classes are 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Level 1 Beginner Classes: Dancers learn the five basic steps of Scottish country dance and a variety of formations. These elements are combined in learning simple dances that incorporate the steps and formations taught.

Mondays: Jan. 8 - March 19 (no class Feb. 19: Family Day)
 at St Leonard's Anglican Church*
 Teacher: Jean Noble

Thursdays: Jan. 11 - March 15 at Eastminster United Church*
 Teacher: Colin Philip

Level 2 Intermediate Classes: These classes build on steps and formations learned as beginners and introduce more complex formations. Dancers become more confident in their skills and abilities and enjoy more challenging dances.

Mondays: Jan. 8 - March 19 (no class Feb. 19: Family Day)
 at Victoria Hall, Aurora*
 Teacher: Tony Szeto

Thursdays: Jan. 11 - March 15 at Eastminster United Church*
 Teacher: Teresa Lockhart

* Location Addresses:

Eastminster United Church

310 Danforth Ave. 2 minutes from Chester station
 Class Representative: Margaret Roper 416 285 0367

St Leonard's Anglican Church

25 Wanless Ave. 2 minutes from Lawrence station
 Class Representative: Cheryl Catt cherylcatt47@gmail.com

Victoria Hall, Aurora

27 Mosely Street (at Victoria)
 Class Rep.: Andrew Henderson hendersona033@gmail.com

Scottish Step into the New Year

The first three Scottish Step Classes held at Rosedale were a great success with up to 16 dancers of all ages attending. We learned *Blue Bonnets* and *The Scottish Lilt*. The wonderful lilting music and Alma Smith's patient and clear, excellent instruction has us all wanting more. Thus, we offer two groups of three classes in 2018.



1st Group: January 27, February 4, February 10

2nd Group: March 3, March 10, and March 17

Saturdays, Rosedale Presbyterian Church ~ 12 - 1:15 p.m.

Info: Moira Korus smkorus@sympatico.ca

#99 What's in a Name? *The Haggis Tree*



VIDEO: https://youtu.be/UeJ7_MssBI4

Barry Pipes

With tongue thrust firmly into cheek, I'd like to bring to your attention a Scottish legend that the haggis grows on trees. This being the month we celebrate Robbie Burns Day, and when that thing known as a haggis is addressed, we need to put to rest anyone's concerns about where a well-prepared haggis actually originates and what it contains.

It is said, and perhaps even believed by some, that haggis can be found growing on a rare type of Scottish tree. Should you be fortunate enough to come upon such a tree, and find a haggis or two that has ripened and fallen from said tree, then proceed as follows. Marinate the haggis with a generous supply of your favourite single malt Scotch and cook to taste. The result will be as fresh and flavourful a delicacy as you will ever have experienced.

As we now return to reality, setting legends aside, those of us who delight in our annual opportunity to savour a very tasty haggis more than likely know what it contains. We may even know what constitutes sheep's pluck, which of course covers the primary ingredients, by name: lamb's heart, liver, and lungs. As most of us well realize, the pluck is ground up with oatmeal, onion, suet, and spices, all compressed into a bladder that used to be made from the animal's stomach but now is likely to be an artificial facsimile.



There was an interesting snippet of news recently about a Scottish butcher, Macsween of Edinburgh, wanting to import haggis directly from Scotland into Canada. But there's a snag! Canadian Food Regulations forbid the importation of animal lungs for reasons too complex to be discussed here. So Macsween plans to adjust its haggis recipe, eliminating the lung component.

In the eyes of established Canadian haggis makers, this is too non-traditional and lacking in quality to be acceptable to Scottish-Canadians. One Toronto critic, Allen's Scottish Butchers on Weston Road, has been making haggis for over 40 years using home-grown ingredients including those important lungs. The owner, Steve Allen, who is a Liverpudlian by birth, believes that Canadian haggis eaters will recognize such a blatant shortcoming in the Macsween product. Stay tuned!

Back to the dance. John Drewry, perhaps also with tongue in cheek, devised *The Haggis Tree* as a strathspey, and published it in his *Autumn 83 Collection* some 30-odd years ago. It is especially interesting in that it contains a relatively uncommon formation called *La Baratte* (the churn), which adds to this strathspey quite distinctively. You have not heard of *La Baratte*? I recommend that you take a look at *The Haggis Tree* on YouTube. It is seen as danced in 2016 by the Humbercrest and Erin Mills groups at our last Gala Day.

In conclusion, two brevities for us haggis eaters to recognize are....

1. Don't forget the neeps and tatties.
2. Fair fa' your honest sonsie face. ...Barry Pipes, mccallum.pipes@rogers.com

Rosedale Youth: Turning 60

Were you a young dancer at Rosedale?
Do you know a former Rosedale dancer, or teacher?



Anne Macleod

The Rosedale children and teen group was started in 1957 by Anne Macleod, assisted by Betty Anderson, and still meets at Rosedale Presbyterian Church. At one time almost 100 children danced with us Saturday mornings. Various teachers instilled the joy and traditions of Scottish country dance in generations of young people. Some current Toronto dancers remember dancing at Rosedale classes, festivals, and balls over our six decades. Have traditions changed? We still have a Christmas Party with a visit from Santa and carols around the Christmas tree. Party days at Rosedale still end with *Dashing White Sergeant*.

To reunite Rosedalians and celebrate our 60 years, the current youth at Rosedale, supported by the Youth Committee, invite all former teachers and dancers at Rosedale to come to a special ball:

The Youth Ball, Saturday, May 5, 2018

Cummer Avenue United Church, North York

Reception at 5 p.m.; dinner 5:30; dancing 6:45 to 9:30.

Ticket Price \$30.

If you are a former Rosedale dancer or teacher, email Moira Korus smkorus@sympatico.ca to confirm your intention to attend, and share your Rosedale details and stories. If you know any former Rosedalians, please let them know about the event. Photos of dancing at Rosedale or at festivals, etc. are also welcome. Please email images to me or post scans or copies to:

Moira Korus, 116 Kendal Ave, Toronto, M5R 1L9

Hospitality is available for out-of-towners who would like to stay in Toronto the night of the ball.

...Moira Korus



The Marketing Committee has hundreds of folded, card-size, brochures. Please keep one or two in your wallet, purse, or pocket and when the topic of Scottish country dance comes up, pass them along. Available for pick-up at various dance events and social groups. Spread the word...

Family Night Dance 2017



**TWO JOLLY CHAPS:
FORBES & SANTA**



Once again, the Family Night Dance lived up to expectations.



**A DANCING SPRITE
GREET'S SANTA**

We had great music by Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs, and a lively crowd of 142 dancers in attendance. The 12 children who came brought energy and enthusiasm which was contagious — creating a challenge for us older dancers to follow. . . which we did.

Santa and his Elf made an appearance, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas, and handing out some goodies, all adding to the festivities.

At the interval we enjoyed a scrumptious array of goodies, by our host groups, St. Clement's, Aurora (St. Andrew's), and Humbercrest.



**ALISON WITH HER
VERY OWN SANTA**



**TWO GOOD FELLOWS:
SANTA & BILL**



Anne Moloney won, with evident glee, the grand sum of \$136 in the 50/50 draw. The early bird draw for a room at the Royal York on the night of the Tartan Ball was won by Marie Duncan. That prompted a round of enthusiastic applause from the assembled dancers.

The next dance is January 20, at 8 p.m. at Crescent School. Music by Scotch Mist will lift spirits and heels. Come out and chase away those winter blues with a fabulous night of dancing.



**LORRAINE & TONY
LAUGH WITH SANTA**



**LOOKING GOOD IN RED:
KAREN & SANTA**

... Forbes Duncan Thanks to Alison Booz for these fine photos.

A pinch of snuff

In our first few years of Scottish country dancing in Toronto, Marian and I were introduced to a tradition that was unusual, at least to us. We were guests at a Hogmanay house party hosted by a couple from Newtonbrook at the time, later from Glenview, and at the end of the evening as guests were leaving, our host stood at the door and offered everyone, men and women alike, a pinch of snuff.

It was a genteel gesture of kindness for sure, just as Lieutenant Tobias George Smollett shook Robert Anderson by the hand, laughing heartily, and then desired a pinch of snuff, in token of perfect reconciliation*:

*If young X wad gi' him but a pinch o' snuff
out o' his own mull, he wad think more
of it than a' the siller.*

Does anyone perform this ritual any more?

... Donald E. Holmes



**Antique Scottish
Snuff Mull
(\$400 on eBay)**

Grace Notes



Ina Ferguson

17 June 1925 - 29 November 2017

Born in Dundee, Scotland, Ina emigrated to Canada in 1957 with her husband David.

She worked at one of the largest printing companies in Dundee, D.C. Thompson, was part of the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (all women) in Ceylon, and was active in the

Gilbert and Sullivan Society in Dundee. In Canada, she worked at MacLean Hunter and the Shouldice Hernia Centre where she was sworn to secrecy about prominent clients. She volunteered at Mackenzie House, St. John's Rehab Centre, and Glynnwood Tuck Shop. She was an avid Scottish country dancer at Newtonbrook and other Toronto groups. We extend sympathy to David and her family.

* The Expedition of Humphrey Clinker, by Smollett, 1770 ad.

Upcoming Events: NEAR

Jan 20 - **January Monthly Dance** ~ Scotch Mist will put wings on our heels at Crescent School. Dancing starts at 8 p.m. Hosts: St Andrew's Brampton, Bloorlea, Glenview.

Jan 21 - **Broadlands: Figure It Out** ~ Keith Bark will teach dances having formations with an unfamiliar twist. 2-4 p.m. \$6 at the door. Intermediate and advanced dancers only, please.

Jan 21 - **Shiftn' Bobbins: Maureen Richardson** ~ At Grace Church-On-The-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road. 2-4 p.m. Intermediate and advanced dancers only, please.

Jan 27 - **Sir John A's Great Canadian Kilt Skate** ~ At Nathan Phillips Square. noon-2 p.m. Wear the kilt; skate bravely; pass out SCD brochures. Free.

Feb 10 - **South Simcoe's Valentine Workshop and Tea Dance** ~ 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Knox Presby. Church, 160 King St. S., Alliston. Teachers: Alicia & Ian Manson. Tickets: Maureen Richardson schoolmarm1975@hotmail.com

Feb 11 - **Shiftn' Bobbins: Moira Korus** ~ At Grace Church-On-The-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road. 2-4 p.m. Intermediate and advanced dancers only, please.

Feb 17 - **The 55th Tartan Ball** ~ Music by Scotch Mist ~ At the Concert Hall, Royal York Hotel. Complete info and tickets at: www.dancescottish.ca/Tartan_Ball.html

Mar 4 - **Outreach Ambassador Training** ~ Learn how to teach Scottish country dance. Teacher: Maureen Richardson 2-5 p.m. at Broadlands. Register no later than Feb. 26 with Tony Szeto: aszeto2010@gmail.com

Mar 24 - **The West End Workshop & Tea Dance** ~ Save the date. 9 - 5 at Turner Fenton School, Brampton. Teachers: William Williamson (Scotland); Marie Ziccarelli (USA); Alma Smith (Canada). More info anon.

Apr 8, 15, 22, 29 - **Prep Class for DAA** ~ Sunday afternoons at Broadlands. Teacher Moira Korus. Register with Maureen: schoolmarm1975@hotmail.com

May 12 - **The West Toronto Ball** ~ Save the date for the 49th annual West Toronto Ball held at the beautiful Sala Caboto in Villa Colombo, 40 Playfair Ave, Toronto. Music by Scotch Mist. More details anon.



**Gala Day is coming:
April 21**

**Save the date
Pick your dance**

RSCDS Toronto Association Board of Directors

Chair: Jean Lindsay	416.413-9418	jlind.1949@gmail.com
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Education/Training: Tony Szeto	416.566-9386	aszeto2010@gmail.com

Upcoming Events: FAR

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 10-11 - **Ardbrae Ball Weekend, Ottawa** ~ Music by Torridon Scottish Dance Band, Winterlude time in Ottawa. www.ardbrae.org/ Info from Doug: 613 851 2874

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 Humuhumunukunuaupua'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

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

Apr 14 - **The annual RSCDS Ottawa Branch Ball** will be held in the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre. Save the date. Tickets will be available in January.

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

Demo Pool Practises

Sundays, January 7 & 14 ~ 2-4:00 p.m.
Broadlands CC, 19 Castlegrove Blvd.

Contact stellahenderson820@gmail.com
416 498 1940

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, Keith Smith, and others

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

Spring Fling

20-22 April 2018

Glasgow, Scotland

Scottish Country Dance Festival for young dancers, 12-35. Subsidies and scholarships are available for young people to attend; and there is a concurrent Spring Fringe for those over 35s

www.rscds.org/article/spring-fling-2018



Youth Ball: May 5

Info: Moira
smkorus@sympatico.ca



Demo Pool Needs New Convenor

The demo pool needs a new convenor for the 2018/19 season. To find out more about what is involved in this position, please contact Stella Henderson at 416 498 1940.

I will be happy to involve a replacement in planning for the rest of this season and will be available to help with the transition next season. ...Stella





RSCDS Toronto
c/o Secretary
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Newsletter Committee:

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Marian White	416.781-7795
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Please send submissions to
Donald Holmes at:
deholmes@sympatico.ca
by the 10th of each month

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