



From the Chair



John Clark

Earlier this year we asked RSCDS Toronto members to submit dances for a competition for our submission to the Society for consideration for Book 49. This was completed and a dance

has been chosen.

We started the November Toronto Workshop weekend with Graham Donald teaching a class on Friday night, hosted by Fallingbrook and Woodglen. Forty enthusiastic dancers attended the session. Thanks to these two groups for the evening's arrangements and to Ken MacKinnon for taking the lead.

The Saturday Workshop was followed by an afternoon Tea Dance, both at BSS. From comments submitted, some supported this idea, and a few thought it to be too much. I felt it was a great day. Thanks to the teachers, Graham Donald, Elizabeth McMahon, and Moira Korus, and to the Workshop Committee led by Andrew Henderson.

The next few weeks were busy with the 40th Anniversary Trinity Assembly, the Celtic Christmas Concert, and the St. Andrew's Ball. If you attended these events, you enjoyed a good time.

A milestone event in December is Scarborough's final Christmas Dance. For many years this has been a well-looked-forward-to event. Thank you to everyone from this group for all the work putting on this dance. A dance of this calibre will be missed. Perhaps a couple of groups can get together and come up with another event in the future.

The Family Christmas Dance at Crescent School (Dec 14) is always a favourite. The youth make us all feel a little younger with their joy, energy, and love of the dance. After a brief Christmas break, January is but a week away, and it's time to start learning dances for the 51st Tartan Ball on February 22, 2014.

Susan and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

RSCDS 84th Annual General Meeting

Hotels along the Banks of Tay and the North Inch of Perth were abuzz with a convention atmosphere when delegates and society members at large from all continents arrived to participate in the three-day Conference and 84th Annual General Meeting of the RSCDS, held under the cavernous dome of the Bell Sports Complex. I had the privilege of representing Toronto Association along with Deirdre and Keith Bark.

This year, the format changed slightly, forgoing both the Saturday Teacher Conference and, disappointingly for me, the Open Question Time when any member could voice a concern or proffer an opinion directly to the Board. Instead, together with the usual classes, a Youth Forum was held, which might have appealed to members younger than 25; however, their numbers were insignificant compared with the larger body of membership present. To be fair, in common with other traditional bodies, the Society is acutely aware that it must depend upon a new generation prepared to take on the objectives set out by the founders and maintained over 90 years by willing volunteers from previous generations. It remains to be seen whether the millennial cohort, when moving into career and family obligations, will have either time or means available until they are free to return to dancing in late middle age, currently our main dancer recruitment group.

The Society awarded a "Dance Music for the Future" knockout competition to encourage younger musicians. The UK is blessed with so many SCD musicians to choose from; we must take care to support our own local bands.

It is a matter of pride for us in Toronto to have Keith Bark awarded the Society's Scroll of Honour. When the President outlined Keith's numerous voluntary efforts in local and international endeavours for the benefit of the Society, it became apparent how much time Keith contributes daily to maintain the links between what is without doubt a conservative Edinburgh institution and the widening ripples of SCD beyond the immediate area of headquarters. Indeed, on occasion the ripples are often less than positive in outlook.

Sadly, the AGM was advised of the death of Ann Dix, another 2013 scroll nominee widely known in the UK as a teacher, deviser, and Demo Team instructor for the London branch. Then Society President Alastair MacFadyen announced his resignation on health grounds after a seven-year term but with a humorous autobiography of some 70 years of dancing, beginning with the mentorship of his grandfather and aunt, both of whom were accomplished musicians in Scotland.

Membership board members presented their reports highlighting strategies for growth. The only matter of new business was a motion to increase in 2014 the per-member fee to be charged to the branches. A lively debate ensued where branches already struggling with declining membership spoke about being faced with either increasing their fees or cutting programs and on what basis HQ prepared its budgets. Support was heard also from branch representatives who considered the subscription to be good value compared with the price of other activities. Although Toronto Association voted against the motion, it passed with a slender majority.

Any rancour was set aside when some 500 dancers attended two nights of dancing, including the formal ball. This must be easily the best value in the world of SCD. Where else can one dance all weekend to two bands and do 45 dances for less than a \$30 ticket price?

November 7 and 8, 2014, was set for the next Annual Conference Weekend, again in Perth, where in addition to branch voting delegates any member of any branch or individual dancer is invited to attend. Granted, travel cost is a factor, but for anyone truly interested in SCD, it is a worthwhile experience to join and dance with the world's best.



Keith Bark receives the Scroll of Honour from Dr. Alastair MacFadyen, president of RSCDS.

Reported by Jon Allen-Friend

January Tea Dance

Date & Time: Saturday, January 11, 2014 *at 2 p.m.*
Place: Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Avenue
Music: Scotch Mist
Host Groups: • Glenview • Scarborough • South Simcoe • Woodglen

EH3 7AF	8x32 J	Book 40 / 6
* The Silver Tassie	8x32 S	RSCDS Leaflet
† City of Stirling Reel	8x32 R	Roy Goldring, Auld Friends Meet
Pelorus Jack	8x32 J	Book 41 / 10
† Sugar Candie	8x32 S	Book 26 / 9
† A Hamilton Ceilidh	4x40 R	Hamilton - A Golden Collection
>>> INTERVAL		
† Best Set in the Hall	8x32 J	Book 46 / 7
Sands of Morar	8x32 S	Book 45 / 6
* Captain MacIntosh	8x40 R	Miss Milligan's Miscellany
Saint Andrew's Gardens	8x32 J	Book 35 / 7
† The Quern	3x32 S	J.B. Dickson, Dunedin 3
The Wind that Shakes the Barley	8x32 R	John M Duthie, Eight SC Dances
>>> EXTRAS		
Ha! Ha! The Woonin' o' It	6x32 R	Miss Milligan's Miscellany
The Rothesay Rant	4x32 J	Birmingham Book (1973) / 11

† = Tartan Ball dance * = Briefed only dances

*The Monthly Dance is a scent-free and nut-free environment.
Hand sanitizers will be available.*

Price of entry (incl. HST): • Members - \$22 • Non-members - \$28
 • Student members - \$10 • Youth/Spectators - \$5

Notes from the Monthly Dance

The November Monthly Dance was held in the afternoon this year, immediately following the Toronto Workshop, and was well attended with 133 dancers. A number of beginners stayed for the dance and experienced their first dancing to live music and in a Monthly Dance setting. Holding the dance in conjunction with the Workshop was an experiment this year, and once everything is looked at, it will be decided if it will be repeated next year.

Our Family Night Dance will be held at Crescent School on December 14, starting at 7:30 p.m. Dancers are encouraged to bring their children or grandchildren. Santa Claus will make an appearance. It's always a fun night so do try to attend.

We start 2014 with a repeat of last year's afternoon Tea Dance, on January 11 at 2 p.m. Again, this is on a trial basis to see if we have a repeat of last year's success, and to decide if we want to continue it in the coming years.

Monthly Dances, with wonderful live music, are part of what makes RSCDS Toronto unique. Your presence will keep the tradition alive.

...Forbes Duncan

50-50 Draw

Proceeds from the 50/50 draws held at
 Monthly Dances support Dancing In The Park.
 At the November 9 dance Jackie Walsh won \$127.

Special Events

Calvin Christmas Dance

Tuesday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Avenue (Yonge & St Clair)



Calvin SCD Group invites all dancers to join our holiday celebration. Come and dance to the music of Don Bartlett. The cost is \$10 and includes refreshments. Contact Nancy Stokes at naristo@rogers.com 416 425 2195 or Fiona Morton at flrmorton@gmail.com 416 787 9605.

Glenview Christmas Dance

Wednesday, December 11 from 8 - 11 p.m.

Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Ave.



Kick off the festive season dancing to music by Fred Moyes followed by "bring and share" Christmas treats. For the program and cribs visit www.glenviewscd.org \$15 at the door. Info: Nick Cheng sammyfish@gmail.com 416 485 4929 or Liz Clunie eclunie@rogers.com 416 486 6582.

Petronella's Comedy Night

Wednesday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Hideaway Bar, 180 Yorkland Blvd.

Lower level of the Toronto Police Association building



This last session of the Fall Season will be a Comedy Night provided by the Improvniacs — a professional troupe of improv comedians who will engage and titillate your funny bone. Cost: \$10 for Petronella members and \$15 for visitors, nibbles provided. Info: www.dancepetronella.ca

Glenview Hogmanay Dance & Ceilidh

December 31, 2013. 8 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road



Last year's event was a resounding success so once again our New Year's Eve celebration will be held in the beautiful hall at Grace Church. Dance to lively music provided by Scotch Mist, enjoy a sumptuous pre-midnight buffet followed by ceilidh entertainment. Tickets at \$25 are limited, so reserve now from Nick Cheng sammyfish@gmail.com 416 485 4929. Info: www.glenview.org

St Clement's Tartan Ball Run-through

Monday, February 17 ~ 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Bishop Strachan School, 298 Lonsdale Road, Forest Hill.

Preparedness is key to success. Test your Tartan Ball-readiness with a run-through of the programme, top to bottom. Have a fun night of dancing while reviewing the dances. \$5.

West End Workshop 2014

March 22, 2014. 8:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Turner Fenton Secondary School, Brampton.

Easy access from 401. Lots of parking.

Wood floor! Tasty lunch. Tea dance. Teachers: Jimmie Hill, Patricia Coyle, Maureen Richardson. Musicians: Don Bartlett, Fred Moyes. Save the Date! Registration will be available soon.

A Visit to 12 Coates Crescent



While in Edinburgh I could not pass up an opportunity to visit 12 Coates Crescent of dance and post code fame.

Finding myself staying just around the corner at Haymarket, I walked over on a bright sunny morning and was warmly welcomed by Alison Horsely, who introduced me to Elspeth Gray, a most charming hostess, who took the trouble to give me a tour of the building, which bears a plaque in memory of Mrs Ysobel Stewart of Fasnacloch, co-founder of the Society.

Actually, the society only occupies two floors. The ground floor contains a beautiful Georgian drawing room used as the boardroom where meetings are viewed from on high by a large portrait of Miss Milligan (yes, her piercing eyes do follow one around the room!). The room also serves as a studio where new dances are tried for acceptance.

The main floor contains the main working office, while the basement is home to publications and recordings, together with the RSCDS archives — which go back 90 years and beyond with older pre-society texts.

I left No. 12 with an open invitation for any dancer wishing to visit: You are assured of a warm welcome. ...Jon Allen-Friend



Ann Dix

Remembering Ann Dix

Ann Dix was known to many as an excellent teacher, a tutor of teachers, an examiner, and a deviser of dances, including the well-loved *Culla Bay*. Ann suffered many years from a condition which made breathing difficult and, sadly, she passed away on

the eve of the Society's AGM, where she was to be awarded the Scroll of Honour.

Recently she had worked with a small RSCDS committee to produce the new version of the RSCDS Manual, which has been well received by teachers and dancers.

Her influence and commitment to the world of SCD will live on with this endeavour, and with the many dancers she trained. And our community will continue to enjoy the many wonderful dances she devised. There is a lovely video of Ann explaining how she wrote *Culla Bay* and a demonstration of the dance on this link:

<http://my.strathspey.org/dd/dancevideo/1088>

Tartan Ball News

The Tartan Ball committee is working hard on the details of February 22 to ensure that a good time will be had by all at the 51st Tartan Ball!

As you prepare for Christmas, consider buying someone a ticket to the Ball. It's a great gift!

Also, please consider volunteering to help us set up the ballroom on the day (in the morning).

To be a line marshal contact Bill Barber:

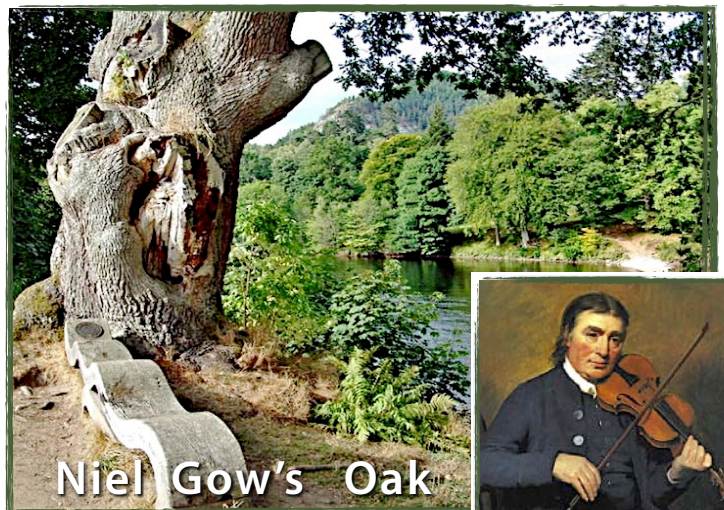
William.barber054@sympatico.ca

To help decorate the Concert Hall contact Christy:

Christy Barber72@sympatico.ca

The Tartan Ball is for everyone. If you are a newish dancer, extra study and practice walking the dances in your living room will be necessary. There will also be practices prior to the Ball. The excitement of the Tartan Ball is a tradition not to be missed.

...Laurie McConachie, Tartan Ball Convenor



Niel Gow's Oak

An ancient, gnarled oak stands on the banks of the River Tay at Inver near Dunkeld in Perthshire.

Legendary Scottish fiddler, Niel Gow, often sat under the tree playing and composing tunes. Gow wrote many of Scotland's best loved strathspeys and reels — including many of the tunes we dance to. Indeed, he was a travelling "dancie" (dance teacher).

Gow, who died in 1806, was a musical prodigy, apparently much appreciated by his patron, the 4th Duke of Atholl, who paid Gow a retainer so he could devote his time to music. Atholl spent many an hour sitting on the opposite bank, enjoying Gow's fiddle music as it drifted across the Tay from the shade of the tall oak.

Niel Gow's Oak is Scotland's entry in a contest to find Europe's best loved tree.
... Submitted by John Reeves.

What is the SGLCC?

SGLCC (Southern Great Lakes Chairs' Conference) is not a secret society. It is a forum for all Branches/Affiliates/Associations in Southern Great Lakes area to voice concerns, share ideas, and discuss common issues. We hope that cooperation among these groups will continue for many years.

The intent of the forum—it started in 2010—is to find out what works and what does not work in other groups. Our first production was a Coordination Worksheet of Events. Each Branch/Affiliate/Association submits events for one year. One participant compiles and distributes the list. Its aim is to eliminate conflicts among geographically close Branches. For instance, Hamilton and St. Catharines now share a Workshop Weekend. Ideas for different methods of advertising and marketing Dance Scottish have also been established.

Secondly, we have begun to train musicians, since we need and prefer local musicians to play at events. We realized that the three groups currently serving the area cannot accommodate everyone. An ongoing workshop has been established with Don Bartlett, who will lead three sessions. We believe other musicians will lend their expertise to help new musicians learn to play the strict tempo expected for SCD classes and dances.

A seven-year apprenticeship may be required before a musician is ready to play for a dance, but despite the length of time, new musicians can benefit from first-hand tutorials conducted by professionally practising musicians.

If anyone is interested or knows of someone who might be interested, contact Deirdre MacCuish Bark or me, and we will put you in contact with the workshop leader.

...John Clark

Association Classes

All classes run for 10 weeks, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$100. Please note payment option for Level 3. All dancers, except for first term beginners, must be members of the Association. Cheques made payable to RSCDS Toronto Association. Contact: Glenna MacDonald 416 763- 0073 or glenna.macdonald@sympatico.ca

Level 1 Beginner Classes: *for inexperienced dancers*

Mondays: St. Leonard's Anglican Church
25 Wanless Ave. 2 min from Lawrence Station
Jan. 6 – Mar. 24, 2014 (no class Feb. 17 & Mar. 10)
Teacher: Barbara Taylor

Thursdays: Eastminster United Church
310 Danforth Ave. 2 min from Chester Station
Jan. 9 – Mar. 13, 2014
Teacher: Maureen Richardson

Level 2 Classes: *for dancers wishing to improve knowledge of basic formations, and expand their dance experience*

Thursdays: Eastminster United Church
310 Danforth Ave. 2 min from Chester station
Jan. 9 – Mar. 13, 2014
Teacher: Teresa Lockhart

Level 3 Classes: *advanced level for experienced dancers* To be confirmed.

Help spread the word about Beginner Classes. Download information brochures from the website and share them with friends. You will also be very welcome to join the team distributing postcards door-to-door (see right) →.

What's in a Name? *Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan*

Every organization seems to have its icons. . . and RSCDS is no exception! Sure, we have all heard of Miss Milligan, whose richly deserved reputation as the co-founder and key re-awakener of Scottish Country Dancing, not only in Scotland but eventually all around the world, enabled the development of a traditional but wonderful style of dancing. Scottish Country Dancing has provided millions of people, Scots and others, with such happiness and joie de vivre. Our debt to Miss Milligan is beyond question. Yet, numerous others over the past few decades have built on Miss Milligan's passion, and helped to further many aspects of the dancing that we all cherish.



Muriel Johnstone

Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, Muriel by name, is such a person. This Ayrshire lassie made her connection with RSCDS as a child in Saltcoats, which is one of three towns along with Ardrossan and Stevenston that seems to form a mini metropolis overlooking the Firth of Clyde between Largs and Ayr. An accomplished pianist, Muriel Johnstone spent many years juggling her commitments between playing and dancing. She became an accredited SCD teacher, yet continued to develop her pianistic skill in working with other musicians for the enhancement and evolution of that special music that "showed us how" to better enjoy the steps and formations of Scottish Country Dancing.

Muriel's bio states that among her pastimes, composition is a favourite, borne out by an estimate that there are now over 1000 Muriel Johnstone tunes. There is also a musical label under Muriel's direction called "Scot-scores" that now owns as many as 25 CDs of her music and has published eight musical books. It gave me a chuckle to read a comment of Muriel's that in her travels, "I have met and wrestled with many strange and wondrous piano-shaped objects that resolutely refuse to help one sound like the musician you are supposed to be".

It would be great to encourage SCD teachers to give Muriel at least an honourable mention when playing her music. Her arrangements do sound quite different from our own well known Bobby Brown recordings, especially since our teachers often identify outstanding dance deviators like Roy Goldring, who by the way designed one of my preferred five couple dances called ... can't you guess? ... *Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan*. This is a lovely, smooth-flowing reel that is always a pleasure to dance, recognizing as it does an icon of SCD music as celebrated by another SCD icon in dance devising. . . .Barry Pipes, mccallum.pipes@rogers.com

Marketing Committee: Looking for help



Between Christmas and New Year we plan to blanket the neighbourhoods around St Leonard's and Eastminster with Beginner Classes info. If you can help drop post-cards through letter slots, contact Peggy Frye: pegfrye@gmail.com or 905 773 4200.

Dance Competition Results

On October 27 and November 3 of 2013, eleven intrepid dancers arrived at Broadlands Community Centre to dance sixteen unknown dances. The dances were submitted by Toronto devisors and had to be danced and assessed to select the best dance to be sent to the Society with hopes it would be included in Book 49.

The process started with a Steering Committee of Jean Lindsay, Barbara Taylor, and John Clark, developing the parameters to administer the competition. Questions and concerns about the rating process were sorted out at a meeting in early October.

All sixteen submissions were sent to Jean by the July 31st deadline. She removed identifying information, numbered the dances, and sent them to Barbara, who reviewed the dance instructions. Questions or issues to be clarified were sent back to the devisor through Jean.

David Booz was recruited as the teacher and Jean Noble, Moira Korus, and Ken Adamson were recruited as judges for the two-day competition dance tryouts. David received the numbered instructions and prepared to teach the dances and, for some, he found appropriate music.

The judges used a template to rate the dances on the agreed criteria. The rating process included asking the teacher and the dancers their opinions about the dance: did it flow, was it easy to teach, was it fun? In some cases, the judges also danced to get a better feel for how it flowed and danced.

It was a very difficult decision for the judges. Three dances made the final round and the judges asked that these be danced again. The decision was made and the judges provided the number of the winning dance to the Committee.

To all who submitted dances for the competition: *Thank you*, and congratulations on a job well done! Everyone involved in the competition process was pleased by how many great dances were submitted. We have a lot of talent among our members.

It is our pleasure to announce that RSCDS Toronto's submission for Book 49 is *The Countess of Dunsmore Reel*, devised by Deirdre MacCuish Bark.

Congratulations to Deirdre for brilliant devising. It is our sincere hope her dance, Toronto's dance, will be included in Book 49.

...Barbara Taylor, Jean Lindsay, and John Clark

Info Session for Potential Teacher Candidates

Have you thought of becoming a
certificated Teacher of Scottish Country Dance?

Learn about the process and requirements:
Sunday, January 12, 2014, starting at 2 p.m.
at Broadlands Community Centre
19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

More details to follow at:
www.RSCDStoronto.org

Dancing in Oz

Andy frowned as he thought about the workshop and dance on the next day.

If he only had a brain, he could remember the complicated steps! If he only had more courage, he would feel more confident about dancing. He had to admit, however, that some people with little brains or courage do an awful lot of dancing. But it was no use, and that night he sank into a deep and troubled sleep.

What happened then was just this. The wind began to switch, the house to pitch, and suddenly the hinges of his mind started to unhitch.

Andy had a feeling he was not in Toronto anymore as he entered the gym with his wife. As they stood on the yellow floor, a dancer in black approached. "Just you wait, my fine gentleman," she cackled, "I can cause accidents for dancers like you – and for your partner too! Just try and stay out of my way." By the time the dancing began, he had completely lost his nerve.

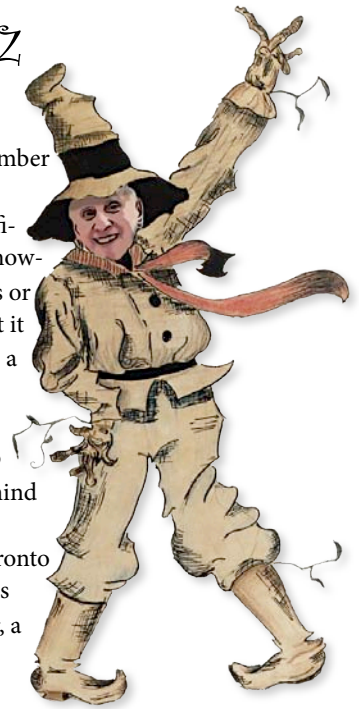
Strathspeys, jigs and reels! Oh, my! His dancing was a shambles: his Double Triangles more like hexagons and his Hello-Goodbye settings more Goodbye-Hello. In one dance, he couldn't stop his Petronella and whirled wildly across the dance floor. A frenetic Poussette sent his partner sprawling. He had no idea what a Tourbillon was. It was horrible. As Andy led down the middle, he was tempted to keep going and race for the door.

All the while, the dancer in black with the evil grin kept her witch-like gaze on Andy. "I'm not finished with you, my pretty lad," she seemed to be saying. As he shrank away from her, he thought: there must be *somewhere* I would have no trouble dancing. If there is such a place, it's not a place you can get to by a boat or train. It's far, far away. Somewhere behind the moon. . . beyond the rain... perhaps somewhere like Edinburgh or St. Andrews.

Emboldened, he told himself: "If courage can make a muskrat guard his musk, then I am going to try. *I'm not afraid of her!*" (though he hoped someone would talk him out of it). Then the face of his Social Group instructor seemed to hang shimmering in the air before him. "You, my friend, are a victim of disorganized thinking," she said. "You are under the impression that because you think you have no brains, you can't dance. But you have both brains and courage. All you need is a kilt. And remember — a good dancer is not judged by how much you want to dance with others, but by how much others want to dance with you." Andy looked around him at the happy faces and especially at his wife, his partner of many years – and he knew he also had heart.

Andy awoke, remembering nothing of his dream. He felt calm and confident. His fears were not merely dead but really most sincerely dead. They had melted away and he whiled away the hours at the workshop and dance with a great deal of pleasure. But there was a moment at the beginning of one dance when his new partner faced him in a pair of red dancing shoes. On her name tag was written, "Glinda". The music began and she smiled at him, giving him confidence — but he had a strange feeling he had danced with her before and that her name surely must be Scottish.

...Andy Lipchak



Andrew Henderson: 2013 Toronto Workshop Convenor



While my accent might lead you to think that I am English (a Sassenach to use the proper terminology), my heritage is most definitely Scottish. Both of my parents and my extended family were all Scots, and I spent the first two years of my life in Scotland, until my parents moved us down to London, where my Dad was a policeman. My mother tried hard to introduce me to

SCD while I was a young lad growing up in the East End, but it was one of the toughest areas of London at the time, and that wasn't going to happen.

So it wasn't until many decades later, after immigrating to Canada in 1975, that my wife Stella met the female half of the Dancing Bells, who was a volunteer at the Toronto Botanical Gardens. It didn't take long for Carole to suggest to Stella that we should visit a RSCDS branch class and see what Scottish country dancing was all about. My initial reaction was negative, but then I looked back and remembered how much my parents and sister enjoyed themselves when they danced in England. We went along to St. Leonard's to Carole Skinner's Level 1 class in September 2007 and have progressed from there, taught by many of the wonderful teachers that we are fortunate to have in the Toronto Association.

I first became involved with the Toronto Workshop committee in 2010, helping Valerie Fisher wherever I could. In 2011, Jean Lindsay and I began looking for an alternative venue to hold the Workshop, since the Toronto French School rental had become too expensive. We were pleased to find that Bishop Strachan School fitted our requirements. In 2012 Valerie retired as Convenor, a position that she had held for six years, and I stepped into the breach. Actually, at the time, it felt more like jumping off a cliff. However, I am told that both the 2012 and 2013 Workshops have been well received and I must thank Stella, as she worked tirelessly alongside me as my administrative assistant.

It is with some regret that I will not be Convenor for 2014, as we are moving our home to Aurora in the fall of next year and will not have the time or energy required to run the Workshop.

... Andrew Henderson



Rosedale dances at Celtic Christmas Concert

The Rosedale teens donated their time for this performance and danced a medley of *Inverneill House*, *Wind On Loch Fyne*, and *De'il Among The Tailors*. The concert tally is still in progress but at press time it appears an amount similar to the Food Bank total was raised in support of musicians.



The 2013 Toronto Workshop

November 9th began with 115 dancers gathered at Bishop Strachan School for early morning coffee and delicious baked goodies at the start of the 2013 Toronto Workshop. After the morning welcome and introduction of our three expert teachers, Graham Donald from Leeds, U.K., Elizabeth McMahon from Peterborough, and Toronto's Moira Korus, participants dispersed to their first class. There followed a day of dancing to music supplied by Laird Brown and Don Wood, Don Bartlett, and Fred Moyes, with breaks for refreshments, socializing and shopping at the ever popular 'gently used' clothing sale and other vendors.

This year, for the first time, an afternoon dance took place as part of the Workshop. We were joined by additional dancers and, as Scotch Mist began to play, the energy and enthusiasm in the room was electric. It was particularly rewarding to see the beginner dancers, some attending their first dance, take courage and, with the generous assistance of the teachers and experienced dancers, join sets to dance.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill in and return the evaluation forms. Your response was very positive. Thank you also for some very constructive suggestions which have been noted and will be used in planning for 2014.

And, finally, thank you to the volunteers who gave their time and energy to help make such a success of this year's event.

The committee looks forward to seeing you at the Toronto Workshop in 2014.

... Andrew Henderson



Claidhmor sings with soprano, Susan Ryman

The concert at Metropolitan United Church, was a great afternoon of music, song, and dance. Stewart Bennett's group Claidhmor sang a lively selection of Scottish favourites, Susan Ryman touched our hearts, and young Liam McGloshan wowed us with his fiddle. The "Toonie Treats" prepared by dancers and offered at the interval raised \$550 for the Daily Bread Food Bank. Thank you to all who contributed their time and culinary talents.

Catching up on some late season events...



Trinity Assemblers from 1979

These handsome folk ... were members of the Trinity Group three and a half decades ago. A lovely time was had by all at Seeley Hall, Nov 23, at the Assembly celebrating the group's 40th anniversary. L-R: Andrew Collins, Joan Wood, Judy Williams, Margaret Ann Phillips, Kathleen McMorow, John Beckwith.



Family Ceilidh

Keith Bark led a crowd of youngsters and assorted family members at St Leonard's, Oct 19. Here, he shows an eager 4-½ year-old how to slip down the middle. Keith and Deirdre's own grandchildren attended the event and were mightily impressed to see Grandpa in action. Everyone enjoyed the dance, and the pizza supper!



Culture Days

Culture Days at Eastminster was busy all afternoon, with Keith Bark and helpers introducing Scottish Dance to those who had not yet had the pleasure thereof. Brian Blair piped to invite visitors in.



Outreach Ceilidhs

Teresa Lockhart led an Outreach Ceilidh in the east end and Keith Bark led one in the west. Both events were well attended, and much enjoyed by the folk who came. Some Beginner Class people came, and some visitors subsequently joined a Class.



Eastminster Levels 1 & 2...



...Last Class of Term Dance

Upcoming Events: NEAR

DEC 10 - Calvin Christmas Dance at Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Ave. (Yonge & St Clair). Tickets \$10. Contact Nancy Stokes at naristo@rogers.com 416 425 2195 or Fiona Morton flrmorton@gmail.com 416 787 9605.

DEC 11 - Glenview Christmas Dance at Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Ave. Tickets \$15 at the door. Contact Nick Cheng sammyfish@gmail.com 416 485 4929 or Liz Clunie eclunie@rogers.com 416 486 6582.

DEC 18 - Petronella's Comedy Night at 7:30 p.m. at Hideaway Bar, 180 Yorkland Blvd. Lower level of the Toronto Police Association building. \$10 for Petronella members and \$15 for others, nibbles provided.

DEC 31 - Glenview Hogmanay Dance & Ceilidh at Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd. Tickets at \$25 are limited, so reserve now from Nick Cheng sammyfish@gmail.com 416 485 4929. www.glenview.org

FEB 17 - St Clement's Tartan Ball Run-through 6:30 p.m. - 9:30. At Bishop Strachan School. \$5 at the door.

FEB 22 - The 51st Tartan Ball 5:30 p.m. - midnight, at the Fairmont Royal York. Join us for the world's best Scottish country dance Ball. Music by The Scottish Accent. Order your tickets from the website, ask your teacher, or contact: Jane Robinson: janer1@sympatico.ca 416 463 5016.

MAR 22 - West End Workshop 8:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Turner Fenton Secondary School, Brampton. Teachers: Jimmie Hill, Patricia Coyle, Maureen Richardson. Musicians: Don Bartlett, Fred Moyes.

Upcoming Events: FAR

DEC 28 - JAN 5 - RSCDS New Zealand Summer School. A residential SCD school at St Peter's School, in beautiful Cambridge, N.Z. Teachers include Antoine Rousseau of Paris and Noriel Tarka of Australia. Music by Nicol McLaren and Isobelle Hodgson. Info: www.rscdsnz.org.nz

FEB 8 - Ardbrae of Ottawa 50th Anniversary Ball. Celebrate 50 years dancing with your Ottawa friends. Music by The Scottish Accent. Info: Elizabeth Woodbury 613 746 5466 or visit www.ardbrae.org

FEB 14 - 16 - Aloha Winter Weekend, Hawaii. Come to Hawaii for a sunny dance experience. Teacher: Jack Raines. Music: Humuhumunukunua'ua and Strathspey Society Band. Info: www.rscdshawaii.org.

FEB 28 - MAR. 2 - 30th Annual Belleville Workshop & Ball. Teachers are: John Wilkinson, Chair of RSCDS, and Janet Johnston from Scotland. Music by Scotch Mist. Contact Mike at 613 967 1827 Imccarey@sympatico.ca, or Jan at 613 965 4212 waverleyjlen@bell.net

MAR 28-30 - Prince Edward County Tartan Tea Weekend at the Picton Yacht Club, Picton, Ontario. Guest Teacher: Jimmie Hill, Edinburgh, Scotland. Music: Fred Moyes. The weekend includes a dance on Friday evening, a workshop on Saturday, a dance on Saturday evening, and the Tartan Tea on Sunday afternoon. Join us for some or all of the events. For more information call Sheila Keller, 613 393 2955 or email ckeller@sympatico.ca

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Events

RSCDS Winter School

February 23-28, 2014

Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, Scotland

Experience beautiful scenery and share a wonderful Scottish country dance experience! Online booking opens Sept. 2: www.RSCDS.org/events/winter-school.html

RSCDS Spring Fling

April 18-20, 2014

Lyon, France (young people only: 12-35 yrs)

This event is organised by and for young people with RSCDS Lyon and RSCDS Youth Services.

Teachers include Antoine Rousseau.

Info: www.RSCDSspringfling.fr

Demo Pool Practices

Sundays: 2 - 4 p.m. at Broadlands CC

19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

Jan 5 • Feb 16 • March 9 • Apr 6, 13

Note: The Jan 12 practice has been cancelled.

Contact: Deirdre MacCuish Bark
905-822-1707 barkd@rogers.com



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