



From the Chair

49th Tartan Ball – 2012



Margaret Rieger

Our Scottish country dancing year is in full swing. The December Family Night Dance was a huge success, with more than 180 people in attendance, both young and old.

Thanks to the teachers of children/youth classes for encouraging all their dancers to come along and bring their parents. Thanks also to the many grandparents/parents who brought their grand/children along too. It was great fun watching experienced feet being taken “down the middle and up” at a speed much quicker than usual. What a wonderful way to bring in the season.

This February, the Board will host a New Members Tea to give our new members an opportunity to meet the Board and Association Class teachers. It will also give us all the chance to get to know each other, something that can be a challenge during class or at a dance.

The premier event on the Toronto Association dancing calendar is the Tartan Ball. Plans are well in hand to make this 49th Ball a magical evening of dancing. Be part of the fun; organize your group and get your tickets soon from Jane Robinson. For your convenience, you can order on line.

At the start of another New Year when we all are making our New Year's resolutions, let's make a communal resolution to whole-heartedly support the activities of the Association and the Social Groups and to promote Scottish country dancing proudly and loudly wherever and whenever we have the chance. Our Association is only as strong as the continued support it receives from all its individual members.

At this time I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy New Year of dancing with friends old and new.

Cheers,

Margaret

The 49th Tartan Ball is now just over a month away. Let's make this year's ball the best yet. If you have not already done so, order your tickets today, so that you may enjoy a spectacular evening of good food, good fun, and good dancing.

We are delighted to have Michael MacMillan and his wife, Cathy, as our Guests of Honour. They are eager to join in the fun. They will be leading our Grand March and after speaking with him at a recent ball, I am fairly certain they will try Scottish country dancing! Come to the ball and join us in providing a warm welcome to our Honoured Guests.

Michael MacMillan may not be a household name; however, he is very well known in the entertainment industry. Michael was previously the Executive Chairman of Alliance Atlantis. Michael co-founded Atlantis Films in 1978. In its early years, Atlantis was primarily a film and television production house, winning an Oscar in 1984 for its short film *Boys and Girls* and an Emmy in 1992 for *Lost in the Barrens*. In 1993 Atlantis became a broadcaster with the launch of its first network, Life Network. In 1998 Atlantis acquired Alliance Communications (and became Alliance Atlantis). It was under Michael's leadership that the company operated thirteen Canadian television networks including HGTV Canada, Showcase Television, History Television, and the Food Network. The company also distributed and produced movies and television programs, including the hit series *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. In 2007, Michael, along with his partners, sold Alliance Atlantis to CanWest for \$2.3 billion. Now a philanthropist, he is currently vice-chair of the Toronto East General Hospital Foundation Capital Campaign, a \$60 million private sector campaign to raise funds for the hospital's \$210-million redevelopment project.

After 49 years, the Tartan Ball is well steeped in tradition. However, every year there are small changes. At this ball we are pleased to provide a complimentary coat check, located just outside the Concert Hall foyer. As well, this year we will not have assigned line marshals. Instead, there will be very handsome, oak, thistle-topped line markers at the head of each set. These will have wooden 'fingers' attached. We request that the first man in each set take these 'fingers' before he counts the set and use the them to indicate to the MC the number of couples required. Once the sets are complete, first man returns to the top of the set and returns the 'fingers' to the line marker so that they are ready for use in the next dance.

We would like all dancers to attend the ball. However, if you are a newer dancer and feel you are not quite ready to attend a grand formal ball, we encourage you to come and watch the dancing from the balcony of the Concert Hall. You will know what to expect when you come next year. The dancing begins at 9 p.m. – and it really is spectacular.

If you are eager to put the final touches on your dances, attend the Tartan Ball practices (see p.6). These will be listed on our website and in the February *Set & Link*.

Now is the time to order your tickets, online on the website, or contact Jane Robinson (416) 463-5016, janer1@sympatico.ca. See you at the ball.



Michael MacMillan

...Louis Racic, Tartan Ball Convenor

Tartan Ball

Date: Sat., Feb. 18, 2012
Place: Fairmont Royal York Hotel
Music: The Scottish Accent

Cutty Sark	J8x32	Bk 40 / 2
Eternal Friendship	R4X32	Leaflet by Carole Skinner
Cuillins of Skye	S8x34	SCDs 1978
Miss Allie Anderson	J8x32	RSCDS leaflet 2
James Senior of St Andrews	S4x32	Bk 42 / 8
The Montgomeries' Rant	R8x32	Bk 10 / 1
>>> Intermission		
Pelorus Jack	J8x32	Bk 41 / 1
Sauchie Haugh	S6x32	RSCDS leaflet
The Royal Yacht Britannia	R8x40	Bk 43 / 3
Culla Bay	S4x32	Bk 41 / 2
Quarries' Jig	J8x32	Bk 36 / 3
>>> Intermission		
Oh Whistle and I'll Come Tae	J8x32	Bk 24 / 6
Ye My Lad		
Miss Florence Adams	S8x32	Bk 38 / 7
The Clansman	R6x32	Bk 32 / 8
The Immigrant Lass	J4x32	Bk 39 / 5
Mairi's Wedding	R8x40	Cosh 22 SCDs
>>> Extras		
Silver Tassie	S8x32	RSCDS leaflet
Linton Ploughman	J6x32	Bk 5 / 6
The Sailor	R8x32	Bk 24 / 4

Please be considerate of those who are sensitive to fragrances and make the Tartan Ball a scent-free environment.

Family Night Dance

What a wonderful evening! Great music by The Scottish Accent, a program suitable for a fun evening (thank you, Carole Skinner!), and 192 attending – many of them wee ones.

The atmosphere was electric, the energy contagious, and with all those happy faces, you didn't want the evening to end. It was wonderful to see three generations of a family dancing together in one set, and kids dancing with Mom or Dad or grandparents.

The Monthly Dance Committee wants to thank everyone who helped make it such a wonderful evening, especially the three host groups, Humbercrest, Petronella, and Woodglen, for supplying refreshments at the interval. Also, thanks to the South Simcoe Scottish Country Dancers for supplying two tickets for their 10th Anniversary Valentine Workshop & Dance for our draw, which were won by John Webster and Theresa Malek.

Your next Monthly Dance will be January 14, 2012, at Crescent School starting at 8 p.m. with music by The Scottish Accent. Don't miss it.

... Forbes Duncan

50-50 Draw

Proceeds from the 50/50 draws held at Monthly Dances support Dancing In The Park. At the December 10 dance Suzanne Dubeau and David Booz won \$163.

Special Events

Sunday Dancing at Broadlands

Sundays: 2 - p.m. • Dec. 4 • Jan. 29 • Feb. 26 • Mar. 18
 Broadlands Centre, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills (DVP & Lawrence E.)

Warm up the winter with these delightful Sunday afternoon events. Enjoy four afternoons of interesting and unusual dancing at Broadlands for intermediate and advanced dancers. Members: \$5.50; non members: \$8.50.

- **January 22** Teresa Lockhart will teach "mystery, action, and adventure in dance." [Note: This is a new date for this event.]
- **February 26** Andrew Collins will teach "meanwhile and other unusual reels".
- **March 18** Paul Maloney will teach dances by Barry Priddey, deviser of *The Sands of Morar* and creator of the Tourbillon.

Burns Night at the Granite Club

Saturday, January 21

The Robert Burns Club and Scottish Studies Foundation invite you to a rousing celebration of Scotland's Bard. We promise an exciting evening of 1st-class entertainment: the stirring music of The Scottish Accent to dance to, the inspiring words of Robert Burns to reflect upon, and traditional toasts. Special guest, Ronnie O'Byrne, will treat us to a unique rendition of *Tam o' Shanter*. \$95/person. Practice dates for the dancing are at the Granite Club, Saturday Jan 7 and 14. Book early: with Gordon Paterson at 905-642-6262, gapaterson@rogers.com or www.scottishstudies.com



Robbie Burns Dinner & Dance

Saturday, January 28 @ Sikorski Hall

Highlands of Durham are hosting a Burns Dinner and Dance at beautiful Sikorski Hall, north Oshawa. In addition to Burns' poetry, there will be good food, good music, good company, and a great wood floor to dance on. For more info, contact Marjorie Mason 905-649-3532 mmason@bellnet.ca or call the Wee Tartan Shop 905-985-6573.



South Simcoe Valentine Workshop

Saturday, Feb 11 @ Knox Church, Alliston

Come to the beautiful countryside of Alliston for our traditional Valentine Workshop. Our teachers, Jean Noble and Nigel Keenan, will each lead a class to improve your technique and grace. Entry includes a tasty country lunch, followed by an afternoon tea dance. Music by Laird Brown and Don Wood. Registration: 9-9:30am. Cost is \$20 per person; \$10 for the tea dance alone. Book early: event limited to 60 dancers. Contact Irene Wilson (705) 435-2361. [More info on website.](#)



West End Workshop

March 24, 2012 @ Turner Fenton Secondary School, Brampton

Save the date! We have a new (comfortably danceable) WOOD FLOOR, come and try it out this year! Teachers: Ruth Jappy, Becky Roman, David Booz. \$48 (\$25 Youth) includes morning and afternoon classes, hot lunch, and tea dance. \$15 tea dance only. Watch for application form and info on www.RSCDSToronto.org



Dear Editor...

Thank you

On behalf of the kids and me, I would like to thank everyone for their support, love, flowers, emails, and cards in the loss of our beloved husband and father, Malcolm.

If you were able to attend the Memorial Service you know we had a special guest, John McDermott, who sang, beautifully, *The Parting Glass*.

John volunteered to sing for us because of the number of donations that were already sent in Malcolm's memory to his foundation, McDermott House Canada. John has made it his mission to totally revamp the palliative wing at Sunnybrook Hospital. After living there for 7 days with Malcolm, I can attest to the fact that numerous upgrades, especially basic necessities, such as comfortable chairs to sit in, are needed for the families taking care of their loved ones.

Our thanks again to those who have already generously donated. And, to those who would still like to make a donation, you can donate on-line at: www.mcdermotthousecanada.org

... Laurie McConachie

The following letter was received from Christine Fairhead of Hertford, U.K. where she and her husband, Bob Tait, dance with the South East Hertfordshire Scottish Country Dance Society.

"Bob and I so enjoyed our visit to the St Clement's dancers that I wrote a short article about our experiences for our club's magazine, *Newsreel*. Our group extends a warm welcome to visitors from Toronto who happen to find themselves in our part of the UK. Information about our Society can be found on www.sehscottishdance.org."

Once again I have been reminded of what a wonderful hobby SCD is, and the welcoming doors it opens when travelling at home and overseas.

A few weeks ago a family wedding took us to Toronto. An email to the RSCDS Toronto Association elicited an immediate response with advice on the best class to attend, which subway and streetcar to catch, plus a link to an online street map of the area. So the dance shoes were packed.

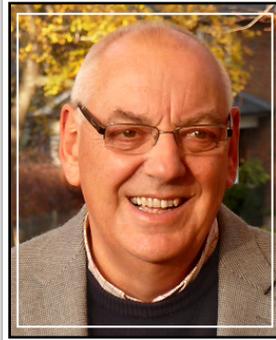
We set off and, as we walked to the class venue we suddenly realised that it was Hallowe'en and many of the houses were decorated with illuminated pumpkins, cobwebs, and ghoulish sound effects; there were also groups of excited children, all under parental supervision, who were knocking on doors 'trick or treating'. We felt quite apprehensive as we walked up the drive to Bishop Strachan School - it was very grand - but we quickly caught up with a lady carrying a tartan shoe bag; she just had to be a dancer. She was, and she turned out to be Margaret Rieger, Chair of the Toronto Association, so we arrived in good company!

The St Clement's Group was extremely welcoming and friendly and we soon found ourselves on the floor, enthused and encouraged by the class teacher, Teresa Lockhart. The programme consisted of dances, all new to me, each one with a Hallowe'en theme. However, we did finish with an old favourite, the Reel of the 51st Division, chosen because 31st October is the date in 1941 when the name of the dance was approved by the officer commanding the 51st Division.

We felt very honoured to be presented with a copy of a book of dances published by Toronto Association and a CD of the accompanying music. Written by Ann Campbell, one of their members, each of the 16 dances is inspired by, or dedicated to, Toronto dancers. We also received copies of their monthly newsletter, *Set & Link*, and I will leave these on our noticeboard at the Christmas Ceilidh to give those interested a glimpse into the dancing activities in Toronto. The kindness of the St Clement's dancers finished with the kind offer of a lift home to our hotel.

What a great evening it was, with some wonderful memories to take home.

Grace Notes



Malcolm McConachie died Friday, Dec. 2, 2011, at the age of 59. Malcolm danced at various social groups, and was a helpful presence in several Beginner Classes.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Laurie and Samantha, and Malcolm's children, Ian and Cheryl.

They're engaged!



Sarah Norris and Graham Andrews, who (like many of us) met in dancing, have announced their engagement. This popular couple are often seen at dance events, balls, and social groups. Sarah is a Rosedale alumnus and now dances at St. Clement's. Graham caught Scottish country dance fever at Trinity when the music emanating from Seeley Hall drew him in.

Sarah is in Celtic Studies at UofT; Graham has graduated in law and is currently articling with a Toronto law firm. Hearty congratulations to you both!



A Visit to South Simcoe Group

L to R: Irene, Rosemary, Ed, Maureen, Pauline, David, Nora & David

In November I visited the South Simcoe Group in Alliston, one of the more distant groups within the Toronto Association. For me, however, it was just 15 minutes past my aunt's house. We enjoyed a fast-paced evening of practising for their Christmas dance. In particular, we danced the 128-bar square set *Christmas Party Jig*, which I thought was quite the memory test! South Simcoe holds a annual Valentine Workshop in February and they were proud to tell me that it will be the 10th anniversary of a great day of dancing and fabulous food too!

... Nancy Duffy, Social Group Liaison

Ed.: South Simcoe donated 2 Valentine Workshop tickets for the Family Night Dance draw.

Ball Etiquette: Carole's Advice



Carole Skinner

With the Tartan Ball fast approaching, let's take a few minutes to review some rules of the dance floor. Find your partner and chat until the MC asks you to form sets, then proceed to the dance floor and form straight lines. In order to do this, you need to be aware of the other people around you. When you are forming sets, do it from the top of the hall. If a set is formed, don't squeeze in; join at the end of the line. However, as you are forming the set look around and make sure you are not blocking someone from joining your group.

The first man counts the lines. Because you have formed a straight line, this will be done quickly and easily. If a couple is required to complete your set, only the line marshal should indicate how many couples are needed. It's very confusing for the MC to look down to the bottom of the hall and see that three people require two couples. So is that six couples needed, or only two?

While the dance is being briefed, please don't talk. You may know the dance, but the person next to you may need the reminder.

If someone needs help during the dance, let one person help. It's very confusing having seven people yell different instructions for the same four bars.

The dance isn't over until the final chord, so pay tribute to the musicians and your partner by using the chord to acknowledge your partner. Then you can applaud the wonderful music and break up the set, clearing the dance floor as quickly as possible.

Please, do your homework! If you plan to attend the ball, make sure you are familiar with all the dances on the program. Going over a few dances a day on your own is a great way to reinforce what you have been taught in class. If you have no clue how to do a dance, don't do it.

The Tartan Ball is our premier event of the year. By following some simple rules, we can all get the most enjoyment out of the evening. See you on the dance floor.

Lang may yer lum reek, Millie!



Meet Millie McConnell, our oldest active dancer. Millie is 95 years old, nay, YOUNG this month. The exercise and sociability, she says, are what have kept her dancing all these years. Looking back over her long dance career, she remembers particularly fondly "the wonderful dance tours that Bob Blackie used to organize" and the happy times at Trinity, Rosedale, and Fallingbrook groups. Now daytime dancing suits her best and she is an enthusiastic member of the Tayside Morning Dancers. Happy birthday, Millie, from all your dancing friends.

Nominations for Scroll of Honour



The Society's Scroll of Honour – RSCDS's highest accolade – is awarded for exceptional contribution, generally to the RSCDS at large as well as locally. If you wish to nominate someone, consult the RSCDS Toronto Secretary (Pat Clark: pat.clark@kos.net) for the requirements of the process.

Nominations are only considered by the Society if made from a Branch (Association). Nominations, including details of service and supporting letters, must be submitted to Pat by **January 31, 2012**.

Nominations for Branch Award

The Branch Award is made by the Society in recognition of service, largely to a particular Branch/Association. Again, the nomination must be sent by the Association to Scotland, so please send any nomination for a Branch Award to Pat (pat.clark@kos.net).



Normally, the Society expects no more than one submission a year from any particular Branch/Association (though couples may be nominated jointly), so if there is more than one nomination the RSCDS Toronto Board will have to decide among the nominees before putting a name forward. Please consult the Branch Award guidelines and use the nomination form available on the RSCDS website, or ask Pat to forward you these documents.

Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2012.

Nominations for Volunteer Award

We are fortunate to have so many members willing to volunteer their time to assist with various RSCDS Toronto activities throughout the year. Without these people, it would be impossible to organize the monthly dances, prepare and produce the newsletter, hold workshops, etc.



Please think of members who have volunteered their help and gone above and beyond normal expectations for the Association or a social group and consider showing your appreciation by nominating them for a Volunteer Award. The following are the criteria to be kept in mind: They may be dancers or non-dancers. They must have been involved in volunteering activities within the past five years and must be active supporters of SCD and/or SCD music. They may not be current Board members, convenors, past chairs or someone who is paid for their services. They can, however, be past Board/Executive members, but not within the last five years.

We have written to teachers and contact persons to ask each social group to submit up to two nominees who they feel warrant recognition. Please give a full explanation of the activities and extent to which your nominees have been involved.

There will be no more than five awards overall for the dancing year 2011-2012. Not all nominations may be selected this year; however, anyone who is not selected may be submitted again next year.

Please send nominations to Nancy Duffy, Director for Volunteers, duffy-scdancer@rogers.com

Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2012.

RSCDS Toronto Classes

All classes run for 10 weeks, from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$85 (HST included). Cheques preferred, payable to *RSCDS Toronto*.

Contact: Sue Ann Bryce (416) 266-5423 sueann2@sympatico.ca

Level 1 Beginner Classes: for inexperienced dancers

- Mondays:** Grace Presbyterian Church,
447 Port Union Rd., Scarborough.
Jan. 9 - Mar. 19 (No class Family Day, Feb. 20)
Teacher: Wendy Loberg
- St. Leonard's Anglican Church,
25 Wanless Ave., 2 minutes from Lawrence station.
Jan. 9 - Mar. 19 (No class Family Day, Feb. 20)
Teacher: Jean Noble
- Wednesdays:** Swansea Town Hall,
95 Lavinia Ave., 7 min walk from Runnymede station.
Jan. 11 - Mar. 14
Teacher: May Divers
- Thursdays:** Eastminster United Church,
310 Danforth Ave., 2 minutes from the Chester station.
Jan. 12 - Mar. 15
Teacher: Deirdre MacCuish Bark

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

- Mondays:** Glenview Presbyterian Church,
1 Glenview Ave.
A 5-minute walk south from Lawrence station
at the top of the hill.
Jan. 9 - Mar. 19 (No class Family Day, Feb. 20)
Teacher: Andrew Collins
- Thursdays:** Eastminster United Church,
Jan. 12 - Mar. 15
Teacher: Moira Korus

Level 3 Classes: advanced level for experienced dancers

- Thursdays:** Swansea Town Hall,
Jan. 12 - Mar. 15
Teacher: Fiona Philip

Distillery District Christmas Market



Members of our demo team braved the cold at the Distillery District Christmas Market to entertain a large, enthusiastic audience. (Shown here, L-R: Valerie Fisher, Deirdre MacCuish Bark, Margaret Rieger, Dennis Ridley, Theresa Malek, Tom Clark, Ann Anderson, Keith Bark).

What's in a Name? *The Lochalsh Reel*

It would probably not surprise readers to know that Scottish Country Dancing is alive and well on the Isle of Skye. Centred in the town of Portree, I guess, the Skye Branch was launched in 1988 and, based on some photographs on their website, seems to be doing rather well.

As many know, there are a couple of ways to get to Skye without flippers. One either takes the ferry from Mallaig, which is at the end of the Road to the Isles, or one drives over the relatively new bridge at the Kyle of Lochalsh. Kyle? It is derived from the Gaelic word *caol* which means "strait," and the Kyle of Lochalsh is a body of water separating the mainland from the Isle of Skye, which brings us to Lochalsh!

Either one word or two, Loch Alsh is geographically a sea inlet that runs eastward between the Kyle and the well-known castle Eilean Donan on Loch Duich. Ready for a bit more Gaelic? Lochalsh means "foaming lake" or *Loch Aillse* in the Gaelic. That said, from a tourist's perspective, Lochalsh also comprises the land area around the Kyle both on Skye and the mainland. A beautiful area to visit, Lochalsh has any number of sight-seeing locations to be investigated and is a source of Scottish Country Dances galore.

I already mentioned the "Road to the Isles". Head north from the Kyle and you are close to the "Cuillins of Skye" and just north of Portree is the "Old Man of Storr". I've covered them all in past editions of *What's in a Name*. Oh! And look across the harbour at Portree and the adjacent island is Raasay, erstwhile home of "Mrs. McLeod of Raasay".

Other points of interest? On the mainland side of the Kyle, you are just a hop, skip, and a jump away from the village of Plockton. While this may sound most un-Gaelic, many may remember the TV series called *Hamish McBeth* about a Highland police constable in the mythical town of Loch Dubh. The series featured Maryhill-born (that's Glasgow, folks!) Robert Carlyle, "The Full Monty" himself. The last time I was in Plockton, I didn't see highland cattle wandering down the main street as shown in the series, but it did have palm trees indicating that the Gulf Stream runs nearby.

OK! Let's get back on track here! *The Lochalsh Reel* was devised by Pat Burnett (most likely a Skyelander) from her/his *Skye Collection*. So you can treat yourself to its formations at the January Monthly Dance. For a real treat though, head up to Skye when you are next in Scotland. There's lots more to see around Lochalsh!

... Barry Pipes, mccallum.pipes@sympatico.ca



The Skye Bridge spanning the Kyle of Lochalsh

Upcoming Events: NEAR

JAN. 21 **Scarborough Pipes & Drums Robert Burns Dinner and Dance**, Qssis Place Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Rd. 905-839-0407 or contact@scarboroughpipeband.ca.

JAN. 22 **Sunday Dancing at Broadlands**: Teresa Lockhart will offer "mystery, action, and adventure in dance".

JAN. 28 **Highlands of Durham's Robbie Burns Dinner and Dance**, Sikorski Hall, Oshawa. Contact Marjorie Mason: 905-649-3532.

FEB. 8 & 15 **Tartan Ball Practices at Glenview**.

FEB. 13 **Tartan Ball Run-thru at St Clement's**.

FEB. 11 **South Simcoe Valentine Workshop**: Teachers: Jean Noble & Nigel Keenan. At Knox Church Hall, Alliston. Details [on the website](#), or contact Irene Wilson: (705) 435-2361.

FEB. 26 **Sunday Dancing at Broadlands**: Andrew Collins will teach "meanwhile and other unusual reels".

MAR. 18 **Sunday Dancing at Broadlands**: Paul Maloney will teach dances by Barry Priddey, deviser of *The Sands of Morar* and creator of the Tourbillon figure.

MAR. 24 **West End Workshop** at Turner Fenton Secondary School, Brampton.

MAY. 12 **43rd Annual West Toronto Ball** at Rameses Temple.

JUN. 23 **Highlands of Durham's White Heather Ball**, Sikorski Hall, Oshawa. [*Note: correct date.*]

43rd Annual West Toronto Ball Saturday, May 12, 2012

Come and dance the night away to the music of The Scottish Accent under the "starlit" sky at Rameses Temple. This is a beginners' ball, but is an enjoyable evening for all levels of dancers. An all-inclusive ticket for dinner and dancing is \$75 per person. Ticket order forms will be sent to each group and will also be posted on the RSCDS Toronto website. Contact Marcia Delamere at (289) 837-3557 or mjdelamere@gmail.com

'65 & '66

Only 1965 & 1966 booklets missing

Donald Holmes now has every Tartan Ball booklet except these two years. If you can complete the collection for the Tartan Ball's 50th anniversary, please contact: deholmes@sympatico.ca or at 416-226-6081.



Join us on Facebook

Join your dancing friends in the RSCDS Toronto Facebook group. Set up automatic alerts of any new posting. Post comments yourself if you have something to say, or an event to promote.

Upcoming Events: FAR

JAN. 27-29 **Ardbrae Dancers of Ottawa Ball Weekend**. Enjoy a winter weekend get-away in Canada's capital! The weekend includes a Welcome Dance, a formal ball with a catered buffet followed by dancing to the music of The Scottish Accent under the grand dome of the Glebe Community Centre Ball Room (sprung floor!), and a relaxed Sunday brunch. Tickets: \$90 (non-dancing \$55). Hospitality available. www.ardbrae.org or ardbraeball@ardbrae.org

JAN. 27-29 **A Weekend Away in St Andrews**. A star-studded group of teachers and musicians, at the 5-star Fairmont St Andrews Hotel. Formal Ball on Saturday night. Info: www.rscdsedinburgh.org

MAR. 2-4 **Belleville Workshop & Ball**. Music by The Scottish Accent. Teachers: Bob Grant of Edinburgh and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Langley B.C. Contact: Mike McCarey (613) 967-1827.

APR. 28 **John Middleton RSCDS Ball 2012**. At the beautiful Scottish Rite, Hamilton. Dinner & Dance \$65. Contact: Annette Sabourin (519) 647-3055 annette1sabourin@hotmail.com

MAR. 31 **Blair Scottish Country Dancers' Annual Ball** in Cambridge, ON. Music by The Scottish Accent. Information: BlairSCD@hotmail.com or visit: www.blairscottishcountrydancers.ca

MAY 25-27 **2012 Peterborough SCD Society Workshop and Ball**. Guest teacher is Ruth Jappy, with music by Fred Moyes. Accommodation at the Irwin Inn on beautiful Stoney Lake. Contact Barry Diceman: bdiceman@cogeco.ca

JUN. 15-17 **'Simply Scottish' on Salt Spring Is.** Teachers: Elaine Brunken, Mary Murray, Geoffrey Selling. Musicians: John Taylor (a fabulous fiddler) and David Mostardi. Info: simplyscottish@shaw.ca

Demo Pool Practices

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

19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

• January 8 • January 15

• February 19 • March 11 • April 15

The Demo Pool welcomes interested dancers familiar with the basic formations.

Contact: Deirdre MacCuish Bark 905-822-1707

New Class Starting in Barrie

Bill and Sue Scott will be the teachers for a new class in Barrie, starting Thursday, January 12 at 7:30 p.m. The class is being held at Unity Christian High School, 25 Burton Avenue in Allandale. This is the former King Edward School (1905), which has had the old wood floors restored, resulting in an excellent surface for dancing. Bill and Sue moved to Barrie in 2009, after having taught Scottish country dance for 21 years in St. John's, NL, and before that in Calgary and Ottawa. The Scotts have also recently begun operating TACBooks.

For information, please call 705-737- 2493.



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notice . . .

Please send submissions to Carole Bell. Deadline for the February issue is January 10.