



Sturdy in numbers; Sturdier in commitment

From the Chair...



Welcome back to a new season of Scottish Country Dance in the GTA. I hope everyone is well rested and eager to resume our favourite pastime. Dancers are returning home after a summer

spent dancing in various parts of North America and elsewhere in Scotland and Europe. My summer, along with several other Toronto dancers, was spent in Denmark, North Carolina, and Virginia, where we met fellow enthusiasts from all over the world.

Some of our dancers enjoyed the St Andrews summer school experience in Scotland, and you can find photographs on Facebook. If you look at the RSCDS.org website, you can find connections to the new Book 49 dances, demonstrated in videos with effortless grace by the demonstration teams.

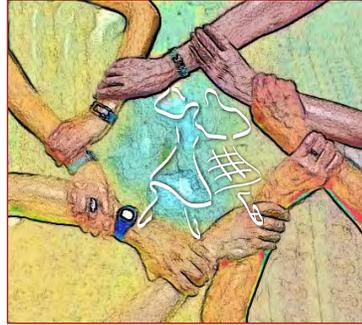
To experience these dance weeks and weekends outside our immediate area underlines the international appeal of Scottish country dance. You only have to look at Campbell Tyler's (South Africa) lists of top dances world-wide as well as those in Canada and the USA to see that there is a core of dances that are common to all parts of the globe and we in Toronto dance many of them. So wherever you go, take your dance shoes with you!

Sadly, this summer saw the death of Dr Alastair MacFadyen, past President of the RSCDS and an internationally known teacher, tutor, and examiner. Alasdair visited Toronto and North America many times in his various capacities. He was invariably at the Society AGM each November, and he shall be missed. He was a historian by profession and he authored two books about the founders of the RSCDS: *Dance with Your Soul* and *An Album for Mrs Stewart*. Both are well worth reading.

Various committees have been meeting over the summer to prepare for the season ahead. Branch classes begin in early September and the social groups resume soon thereafter.

See you all on the dance floor.

Slàinte.



We welcomed 38 new members to RSCDS Toronto in the last membership year. Our newest members indicate that along with the enjoyment of Scottish country dancing, it is the warmth, friendliness, and sense of community they have come to appreciate. They join a community that numbers 376 dancers and, of those, more than one-third volunteer hours and hours of their time to make the Toronto association work.

We are sturdy in numbers; even sturdier in commitment.

We all know the instrumental benefits of membership:

ten issues of *Set & Link*; discounted fees for dance events; a richness of dancing opportunities that far exceeds other branches in the world; co-membership in the Society in Scotland; two annual editions of its stylish *Scottish Country Dancer*; and more.

That membership affords international opportunities is aptly illustrated in this newsletter. Colin Campbell shares his experiences as a teacher candidate at St Andrews Summer School; Halyna Sydorenko and Lynn Barsevskis share their joy at TAC Summer School; and Ken Adamson provides a charming portrayal of six Members' determination to dance in Spain. These stories exemplify the fun, fitness, friendship, and love of Scottish country dancing that prompts us each September to renew our commitment to RSCDS Toronto.

Membership Form

New Membership or Renewal?

New Renewal

Full Name and Address

Phone Number(s)

E-mail Address

Etc. . .

NEW ONLINE FORM: Renewing membership (or joining up) is especially easy this year with a new, interactive online form, now posted on the website (click Membership tab). The form is smooth and quick. Fill it in, SUBMIT, and you are a member! Your details are instantly sent to me as Membership Director while you are taken to PayPal to complete a secure transaction. If you have a PayPal account, you know how easy it is. Don't have PayPal? fret not. . . PayPal will accept your VISA or MasterCard, securely, no extra charge. You will receive immediate email confirmation of your transaction.

MEMBERSHIP EMBARKS ON TWO INITIATIVES

- 1. A TORONTO DANCE BANK:** Members will be asked to contribute to a Toronto Dance Bank by naming their favourite jig, reel, and strathspey. The results will be compiled and posted to serve as a resource (and inspiration?) for program devisors.
- 2. DEVISE A MONTHLY DANCE PROGRAM:** Members are invited to submit a proposed program for the April 2017 Volunteer Appreciation Dance. This is an exciting opportunity to devise a dance program and see it in action. Details remain to be fully worked out, however, there will be guidelines, technical vetting by the Teacher's Panel, and a selection process by the Board.

The 2015-16 dance year looks to be one of true-blue pleasure. Your membership renewal will be invaluable to support and maintain the richness of our programming, and to sustain a culture of commitment to Scottish country dancing.

In the words of South Simcoe dancer Lynn Aird Barsevskis, "Being a member of RSCDS Toronto is special. The friendships, the camaraderie, the networking, the laughter, and the dancing. . . I am honoured to be considered a member."

We look forward to your continued support. Slàinte

. . . Wayne Fraser, Director Membership and Volunteers

October Monthly Dance



NO STREET SHOES IN THE GYM!

Date & Time: Saturday, October 3, at 8 p.m.
Place: Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Avenue
Music: Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs
Host Groups: • Bloorlea • Scarborough • Don Mills

EH3 7AF†	8x32 J	RSCDS Book 40/6
Fair Donald ^B	8x32 S	RSCDS Book 29/4
The Whistling Wind	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 36/5
Kendall's Hornpipe	6x32 J	Graded Book
Bob Campbell	8x32 S	Drewry, Canadian Book
Lass of Richmond Hill	8x32 R	2nd Graded Book
Interval		
Napier's Index†	8x40 J	RSCDS Book 45/8
Flight to Melbourne	4x32 R	RSCDS Book 47/3
The Silver Strathspey	8x32 S	RSCDS Book 44/3
Chevy Chase	8x32 R	Priddey, Anniversary Tensome
Adieu Mon Ami ^B	8x32 S	RSCDS Book 24/11
Scotland's Gardens	8x32 R	Goldring, Auld Friends Meet
Extra		
Domino Five	5x32 R	2nd Graded Book

^B = briefed only; not to be walked † = Tartan Ball dance

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

Cost (incl. HST): • Beginner Class participants: \$10 • TA Members: \$22
 • Non-members: \$28 • Student members: \$10 • Youth / Spectators: \$5

Monthly Dance Reminder

Our first Monthly Dance for the 2015-16 season is Saturday, October 3, at Crescent School. We'll have great music by Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs and dancing will begin promptly at 8 p.m.

Once again, only dance shoes are allowed in the gym, no street shoes. You must change into your dancing shoes before entering the gym — this is a school policy we must adhere to.

Mark these Monthly Dance Dates on your calendar:

• December 12 • January 16 • March 12 • April 9 • April 30 (the AGM) — all held at Crescent School. Don't forget there's a dance November 14 after the Toronto Workshop at Bishop Strachan School.

Come out and support the Monthly Dances. You'll have great fun, exciting music, and a dancer-friendly programme devised by Teresa Lockhart. You can't go wrong.

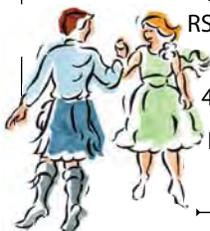


Forbes Duncan

... Forbes Duncan

Association Classes

All dancers, except for first-term beginners, must be members of RSCDS Toronto. Make cheques payable to "RSCDS Toronto". Classes Convenor: Glenna MacDonald
 416.763-0073 glenna.macdonald@sympatico.ca



Note that we have two new classes in Aurora.

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

Intro to Scottish Country Dance: This class is for new dancers. In a few easy, fun classes you'll learn basic steps and formations, and some of the heritage of Scottish country dance. If you wonder, "Is this for me?" this is a great way to discover the answer.

Cost: 4 weeks for \$40, 2 weeks for \$20.

Mondays: **New:** Sept. 14 & 21 at Aurora Seniors' Centre*
 Teacher: Maureen Richardson

Thursdays: Sept. 3 - 24 at Eastminster United Church*
 Teacher: Vicky Zeltins

Level 1 Beginner Classes: For new or basic dancers to learn dance steps and formations. \$100 for 10-week term.

Mondays: Sept. 21 - Nov. 30 (skipping Thanksgiving)
 at St Leonard's Anglican Church*
 Teacher: Barbara Taylor

Mondays: **New:** Sept 28 - Dec 14 (no class Oct 12 or Oct 19)
 at Aurora Seniors' Centre*
 Teacher: Maureen Richardson

Thursdays: Oct. 1 - Dec. 3 at Eastminster United Church*
 Teacher: Vicky Zeltins

Level 2 Classes: For dancers to learn more complex formations and expand their dance experience. \$100 for 10-week term.

Thursdays: Oct. 8 - Dec. 10 at Eastminster United Church*
 Teacher: May Divers

Level 3 Classes: A 5 week class for competent dancers to improve dance technique and learn more advanced formations. Dancers may pay as they attend - \$10/session.

Thursdays: Sept. 3 - Oct. 1 at Eastminster United Church*
 Teacher: Keith Bark

* Location Addresses:

Eastminster United Church
 310 Danforth Ave. 2 minutes from Chester station

St Leonard's Anglican Church
 25 Wanless Ave. 2 minutes from Lawrence station

Aurora Seniors' Centre
 90 John West Way, Aurora
 Same campus as Aurora Town Hall — plenty of free parking





Dear Editor... A Big Thank You

This year at Dancing in the Park we had a great turnout for three of the four nights at Edwards Garden and, even June 9th when it rained, we had good attendance at Church of the Ascension.

Our total for this year was \$2,590, plus a subsidy of \$921 from the Music Performance Trust Fund in New York.

My thanks to Anne Anderson who helped put up the banners and Glenna MacDonald, Carole Bell and others who helped set up and take down at the end of each evening.

On behalf of RSCDS Toronto I gratefully acknowledge the gift of Mr & Mrs J. Doyle, who kindly donated two magnificent green stuffed curiosities depicting the Loch Ness monster in Highland regalia playing the pipes. The McNessies were snapped up almost before they were unpacked and the proceeds contributed to DITP.

As I step down as Convenor for DITP I express my thanks to the membership, Laird and the band, briefers, volunteers, and helpers who made DITP a success over the last five years.

... Graham Anderson

Special Events

culture days Scottish Dance Drop-in

Saturday, Sept 26 ~ 1:30 - 4 p.m. ~ free

Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Ave. (1 block W. of Chester station)

This drop-in ceilidh is about fun — and outreach. We expect many visitors. Members are invited to be strong partners to help visitors enjoy the fun, exercise, music, and fellowship of Scottish social dancing. Your “dancie” Keith Bark will lead ceilidh dances and simple Scottish country dances.

Family Ceilidh & Pizza Supper

Saturday, Oct 24 ~ 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. ~ drop-ins welcome

St Leonard's Parish Hall, 25 Wanless Ave. (2 minutes from Lawrence station)

Bring a friend, bring your family. Fun dances. . . enjoy pizza afterwards. Everyone is welcome to this party to introduce the joys of Scottish country and ceilidh dance to a new generation. Wear soft shoes; dress cool. Bring your best smile; leave happy.

Grace Notes

Dr Alastair MacFadyen

May 27, 1936,—July 20, 2015

Alastair MacFadyen was a distinguished figure in the community of Scottish country dancing and an ambassador for Scottish country dancing around the world.

He served as archivist for the Society from 1978, Chair from 1985 to 1988, and director of St Andrews Summer School 1994 to 1998. He was made honorary President of the society in 2007. A wonderful, story-filled interview with Dr MacFadyen is posted on:



www.dancescottish.ca/Members_Home.html

Classes for Kids and Teens

Saturday Mornings ~ Two locations

Rosedale:

Rosedale Presbyterian Church, 129 Mt Pleasant Rd at South Drive

Since 1965, Rosedale has offered SCD classes for young people. Starts Sept 19 but new students are welcome at any time. Three age class groups:

- Family Dance Time, 9 - 9:45 ~ Wee ones 4-7 yrs and family
- Intermediates, 9:45 - 10:45 ~ 8-12 yrs
- Senior Class, 10:30 - 11:45 ~ 12 - 20 yrs

Given sufficient demand, there is also a Parent Class.

Info: Moira Korus 416.924-9616 or smkorus@sympatico.ca

Dance Scottish With Vicky:

Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Avenue (7 minutes from Runnymede station)

Vicky Zeltins offers two 8-week classes to children 6 - 10 yrs:

Class A: 9:05 - 9:50 Class B: 10:00 - 10:45

Starts Sept 26. Info: Vicky Zeltins scdtechnique101@gmail.com

Sat. Nov 14: The Toronto Workshop



Antoine Rousseau



Rebecca Roman



Barbara Taylor

Bishop Strachan School, 298 Lonsdale Road, Forest Hill

Antoine will inspire you with the power and grace of his dancing. Becky will show you how to bring precision and analysis to your dancing. Barbara will share the secrets of finesse in dance. They are eager to help you improve technique and grow in confidence. Workshop information is included with this issue of Set & Link. Or, register quick and easy online.

November Dance

Saturday, Nov 14 ~ 2:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Bishop Strachan School, 298 Lonsdale Road, Forest Hill

Optionally included in your workshop package — but even if you can't attend the Workshop, please come to the dance. We'll have music by Scotch Mist. Usual prices apply (Members \$22).

Feb 20, 2016

The 53rd Tartan Ball. . .
Dining, Scottish dancing,
music by Scotch Mist.
Great programme.
Can't wait!

Summer Postcards

Toronto Dancers at TAC Summer School



Back: Keith Bark, Catherine MacLean, Vicky Zeltins, Don Wood, Halyna Sydorenko, Lyn Barsevskis, Forbes Duncan
Front: Deirdre MacCuish Bark, Marie Duncan, Pat Coyle, Alison Booz, Sue Scott, Bill Scott

Teacher Candidates at St Andrews



↑
Colin Campbell

↑
Luke Brady

Memorable Moments at TAC Summer School

Lyn Barsevskis and Halyna Sydorenko: In the wee hours, over a cup of tea, we came up with these memorable TAC moments:

- Dancing with people who know how to dance [Teacher Weekend!]
- Dancing with people who like to discuss the nuances of dance steps, dance formations, and dances!
- Plotting to cool off in the water fountain — then seeing Holly Boyd sitting on the edge of one with her feet in the water.
- Having someone else cook breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- Having someone else clean up after breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- Laughing!
- Excellent teachers.
- Meeting people from France, Australia, England, Scotland, USA.
- Figuring out short cuts so that you save energy for dance classes.
- Talking with old friends and making new friends.
- Being a fashionista — changing 3 times a day because of the energy exerted during the classes and the heat.
- Listening to cicadas.
- Learning new dances.
- Polishing dance steps and formations.
- Ceilidh dancing until 12:30 a.m.
- Buying dance books and dance music.
- Finding ice for feet.
- Ladies' and Gentlemen Step Dancing.
- Losing track of what day it is.

Candidate Class, St Andrews Summer School

Colin Campbell wrote: The Scottish sun made only token appearances in St Andrews this year but its absence was more than offset by the warm welcome I received for the first two weeks of summer school (not least the familiar, smiling face of Donald McDonald). I was able to complete Units 2 and 3* of the teacher certification process along with a fun group which reflected the international scope of SCD – dancers from Estonia, Siberia, Hungary, Germany, France, England, Scotland, and Canada.

For both units we had a super teacher, Anne Smyth from Fort William (note to workshop planners if you are looking for a teacher) and music for our classes was provided by a young Scottish band-leader, Luke Brady. We will doubtless hear more from him in future.

The fun abated somewhat after two weeks of dancing from morning till evening, assisted by the liberal use of painkillers (though not the traditional Scottish one) but the examiners were kind and the stooges were sympathetic.

Sore as we were, the evenings of social dancing beckoned like a temptress, leading us to the fabled bouncing sprung floor of Younger Hall, and music which would not let us sit. Then the pubs and ceilidhs beckoned. The second week included a large youth contingent, a sizeable French group celebrating the Auld Alliance, and the musicians' workshop, capped by dancing to a 28-piece band. It was an experience not to be missed.

Thanks to all of you who offered me support and encouragement – I can assure you, I used it!

[* Editor's note: *He passed! Congratulations Colin on achieving Units 2 and 3.*]

Dance Dufferin Grove

The Dufferin Grove Farmers' Market was a hive of activity when we held our annual outreach dance in the city's west end. Tables were heaped with fresh heritage tomatoes and luscious greens while the smell of fresh baked bread filled the air.

The night was a roaring success with more than 40 dancers participating, including lots of beginners and many enthusiastic locals. Keith and Deirdre Bark did a superb job with the music and briefing while Glenna MacDonald and other volunteers handed out marketing postcards. Afterwards everyone gathered across the street at Paul Barber and Kim Malcolmson's for refreshments. Said local resident Katherine Rankin: "It was so much fun! Thanks so much for making it happen."

... Wayne Ellwood



Summer Postcard

Douglas Bone

1 2 5



Dancers in Andalusia

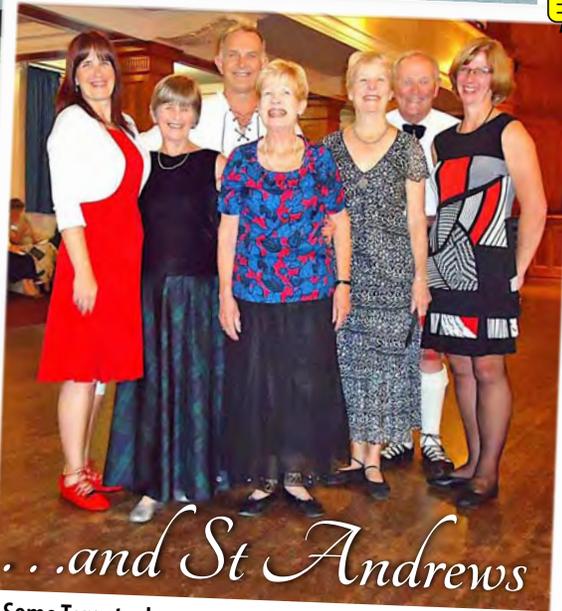
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Toronto dancers and friends in Jerez de la Frontera

Pictured with Douglas Bone and other Iberians: 1. Margaret Rieger, 2. Ken Adamson, 3. Glenna MacDonald, 4. Barbara Taylor, 5. Michael Taylor

Ken Adamson wrote: Spanish dancing conjures up images of strumming guitars, stomping feet, beautiful women in bright flamenco dresses, and noble looking men. There is even a Spanish dance form called Muneira that is danced to bagpipes! In June, the Iberian Scottish Country Dance Group warmly welcomed six Toronto Association members to an evening, not of Spanish dancing, but of traditional Scottish country dancing. When the Spanish group was contacted in April and asked if there was any dancing taking place on June 4, the answer was, "No, but we will get a group together for that night and come to you to dance." What a wonderful response, and so typical of the Scottish country dance ethos.

The Iberian group devised the program; they arrived with the music and a dozen dancers; they moved back the tables and chairs in our hotel breakfast room; then we made up two sets for a delightful evening of dance. The program included favourites such as *Mairi's Wedding*, *Highland Rambler*, *The Sailor*, *Montgomery's Rant*, *Neidpath*



...and St Andrews

Some Toronto dancers at St Andrews Summer School

L-R: Leslie Miller, Anna Rielly, Stefan Korus, Jean Noble, Barbara Taylor, Michael Taylor, Moira Korus

Castle, *Joie de Vivre*, *Wild Geese*, and *De'il Among the Tailors*.

We also danced *Rougemont Castle* and *Preston Mill* from the more recent RSCDS books.

It was the first time the Iberian group had invited dancers from another country and their teacher, Douglas Bone, a Scot, said his group thoroughly enjoyed dancing with the experienced Toronto dancers, Barbara and Michael Taylor, Heinz and Margaret Rieger, Glenna MacDonald, and Ken Adamson. They particularly enjoyed dancing *The Best Set in the Hall*.

At the end of the evening, the tables and chairs were put back in place and everyone retired to a local restaurant for beer, Rioja wine and tapas. As is customary when Scottish country dancers get together, the fun, laughter, and camaraderie went on to the early hours of the morning. We bade goodnight to each other with hugs and handshakes in the central square of the lovely town of Jerez de la Frontera, home of Spanish sherry. The joy of the evening still lingers on. ■



Opening Ceremonies (from a drone)

Georgetown Highland Games 2015

Despite a gloomy start to the day, the weather on the morning of Saturday, June 13th brightened and the sun streamed through to make it a perfect day for our annual Scottish Country Dancing demonstration. This was the 40th anniversary of the Georgetown Games and we were delighted to have participated in the celebration.

Over 35 pipe bands participated this year and the Massed Pipes and Drums events were something to see — and hear!

Our dancers did a wonderful demonstration and, judging by the applause received, certainly delighted the audience.

Thanks to all who participated in this year's demonstration.

We hope to see you, and many others, at next year's Games.

...Ian Paterson



The search is over! After many anguished months, we are delighted to announce the Petronella Social Group has at last found itself a new home, and can resume activities for the upcoming season commencing September 9, 2015. There is quite a background story to this wonderful news.

Petronella's history goes back 58 years to 1957. It was one of the first social groups to be established coincident with the new Canadian Branch of what became the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Based in Thornhill, Petronella was initially at Henderson Avenue Public School, but ultimately moved to Royal Orchard Public School where the group thrived for over forty years. A number of teachers managed Petronella until about 1974, when Janette Todd arrived on the scene. After many years of success and continued activity, Janette turned over the reins to Carole Skinner. Throughout that extended period of time, many RSCDS Toronto dancers cut their teeth at Petronella before moving to other new groups, which were rapidly being formed in the Toronto area.

Early in the new decade after Y2K (who still remembers that turn of phrase 15 years later?), Petronella received the news that Royal Orchard School was going to be demolished, which had to do with a surfeit of asbestos in the building's construction. Petronella had to move on, and in due course relocated out of Thornhill to the Toronto Police Social Club in North York. A short time later, that building too was slated to be sold, leaving Petronella high and dry once more. Was this the demise of the group after 55 years? Not if two Petronella veteran dancers had anything to do with it!

Pat Asada, with the able support of Mairwen Thornley, took up the challenge and, after months and months of searching, secured a dancing location back in Thornhill where Petronella really belongs. We are now located on Royal Orchard Boulevard at the Thornhill Lutheran Church. Petronella will resume activities on Wednesday, September 9 at 7:30 p.m. We are delighted to have acquired the services of both Maureen Richardson and Carole Skinner as teachers. This certainly bodes well for a terrific Petronella rebirth. Please check either the RSCDS Toronto website at www.dancescottish.ca/ or www.dancepetronella.ca for complete details including a location map.

Thank you Pat and Mairwen for never losing hope, and for having the foresight to recognize that Petronella deserved the opportunity to stage a rousing comeback, befitting its long-standing reputation.

...Barry Pipes



Denis Snowden was born and educated in Glasgow, Scotland, and emigrated to Oakville in 1964. He soon launched a lively radio show that broadcast news and music of Scotland. In October, 2014, the show celebrated its 50th anniversary — a broadcasting record. Denis used to run tours for Scots; older dancers can tell you about them. Denis' show was a comforting Sunday afternoon ritual for many of us. And we, the RSCDS Toronto Association, could always depend on Denis to promote beginner classes, balls, Burns suppers. . . whatever we asked of him that served our shared community. All of this recently came to an inglorious end when radio management unilaterally decided to make changes to the program and schedule that Denis could not agree to. And so it is over. But, Denis, please accept our thanks, and best wishes.

. . . RSCDS Toronto Association

Dancers From Edinburgh

Did you ever take classes at The Scottish Ballet School, 16 Grosvenor Crescent in Edinburgh? The School was founded and directed by Marjorie Middleton, who also created and ran the Edinburgh Ballet Club and Edinburgh Ballet Theatre. A biography of Miss Middleton is being organized, and all recollections will be gratefully accepted. Please send your memories to: inez.somerville@rogers.com 416.920-9248.



John Beckwith

Theresa Malek

World Premiere of Wendake / Huronia

On July 30th I had the pleasure of attending the world première of Wendake/ Huronia composed by John Beckwith to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Samuel de Champlain to the Georgian Bay area.

The piece was done in six movements, each one unique with many beautiful moments. The composition took us from the period before Champlain's voyage to Canada up to the present day. It was sung in Wendake (Huron) and French, with words from texts of the period. Translations were projected on the wall to help the audience. The lovely choral music was accompanied by keyboard, recorder, guitar, percussion, and even a hurdy gurdy.

I was keen attend this concert since my mother was raised in the area and one of my cousins sang with the choir.

John and his partner Kathleen McMorro have danced at Trinity since the 1970s. John was awarded the Order of Canada in 1987 for his composing.

If you have a chance to hear this piece I highly recommend it.

...Theresa Malek

The Reel of the 51st Division:

A beginner's perspective

The White Heather Ball in Oshawa on June 6 was our second ball since we enrolled in Barbara Taylor's beginner class in January 2015 (the first being the West End Ball). Both occasions were just wonderful and our apprehension was quickly replaced by sheer joy as we came to grips with the dances — helped enormously by all our dance partners who were just so helpful and determined that we would enjoy ourselves.

The Reel of the 51st was on the White Heather ball dance list and, having danced it at Jean Noble's Hillcrest group and Teresa Lockhart's St Clement's group, I felt reasonably confident that I would make it through okay. I was aware of the origins of the dance and felt honoured to be able to dance the reel as a "thank you" to those gallant men who devised the dance in a POW camp.

I vaguely heard Marjorie at the White Heather Ball say that given the history of *The Reel of the 51st* men only would perform the dance, so off I went to take a seat and enjoy an opportunity to see the men in action.

Suddenly my hand was taken by Louis Racic, who said, "Come on, you will be my partner for *The Reel of the 51st*. I need a tall partner." You don't argue with Louis, so off I went — Louis on my left! I did a quick cast off to my right and saw all the ladies settling in for the performance — wow, my first public performance I thought!

But now I am in the lady's position as Louis and I bow gracefully — or should I have curtsied? Oh God, where are my corners now? No worries, Louis flung me into position when needed! And gentle finger pointing by the others got me through it all. What exhilaration at the end and a big hug from my wife, Anne.

Then Margaret Roper asked me to dance the next dance, which I thought was *Pelorus Jack*. I politely declined explaining that I was not comfortable with this dance and I just wanted to "get ready" for *Chrysanthemum* (another highlight of my dancing career — Thank you Stella!). Margaret gave me a puzzled look and just gripped my hand and said, "You have just danced it — come on." *The Reel of the 51st* again!"

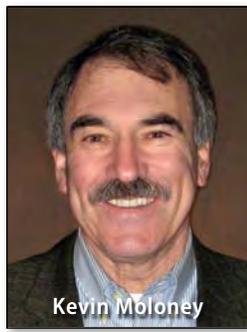
Now, when I boast about doing the dance with the men, the main question I get is — were you the man or the lady? Who cares! I can do both!

Thank you all from Anne and me for your kindness, encouragement, floor guidance, and being such wonderful friends.

Thank you Scotland.

...An Irish Celt, Kevin Moloney

See Kevin in *Reel of the 51st* at: www.goo.gl/GofYSF



Kevin Moloney

What's in a Name? Dunkeld House



So a new SCD season is about to get under way, and here I sit, flailing around for a topic about which to write. Then I was struck by an idea. How about I use my home address to generate something. Let me explain.

For almost 25 years, I have lived in Thornhill, on Dunkeld Way. Until my SCD life began, I had hardly ever heard of Dunkeld, and certainly did not know, as I now do, of its Scottish heritage.

Aha! I say to myself, I wonder if there has been a dance devised using Dunkeld? Well, thank you John Drewry, prolific as you were, I knew you wouldn't let me down. *Dunkeld House* is a John Drewry jig that made its appearance in John's *Donside Book* in 1990. I don't believe I have ever danced it, nor seen it danced.

I learn that Dunkeld House was originally a summer residence built for the 6th Duke of Atholl, about 175 years ago. At present, it is a 4-star Hilton Hotel sitting on the banks of the River Tay a few miles north of Perth. I have written before about the Dukes of Atholl, chiefs, I believe, of Clan Murray. Motor up the A9 from the community of Dunkeld and you will pass by the clan headquarters at Blair Castle. It is quite visible from the highway. The same 6th Duke, George Murray, also inaugurated his own private army in 1839 called the Atholl Highlanders, about which I have written before. But if you are in the Dunkeld area, staying perhaps at the House with rooms at 95 quid a night (give or take), or so I am told, it is also worth visiting the nearby Dunkeld Cathedral.

The cathedral dates from the 16th century, and although it's partly in ruins, Church of Scotland Sunday Services are still celebrated there in the summer.

Before I close, here is another little gem about Dunkeld House.

Who, as a child, remembers the Victorian writer, Beatrix Potter and her animal stories? It seems that as a young lady, before moving to the Lake District Beatrix often spent time holidaying at Dunkeld House. It is said that it was here she started to write *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, with many more children's books to follow. I had always thought that Peter was a Cumbrian rabbit, but no — it seems his heritage is pure Perthshire.

...Barry Pipes



St Andrew's Charity Ball: Nov 28, 2015



This exuberant celebration of Scottish dance and culture has been a Toronto tradition for generations. You'll have a typical Scottish meal, and enjoy dancing to the Pipes & Drums of the 48th Highlanders. The dances are ceilidh favourites such as *Strip The Willow* and *Eightsome Reel*.

Info: www.standrews-society.ca



Upcoming Events: NEAR

Sept. 13~**Shiftin' Bobbins** ~ Program by Claire Collier, Grace Church-on-the-Hill. 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 19~**White Cockade** ~ Dance to recorded music. MacNabb Presby. Church, Hamilton. 8:00 p.m.

Sept. 20~**TATA Teachers' Workshop on Book 49** ~ Rosedale Presby. Church. 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Sept. 26~**Culture Days** ~ Welcome newcomers to Scottish dance at Eastminster United Church. 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Oct. 3~**October Monthly Dance** ~ At Crescent School, 8:00 p.m. Music by Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs.

Oct 4~**Shiftin' Bobbins** ~ Program by Alicia Manson, Grace Church-on-the-Hill. 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Oct. 24~**Family Ceilidh & Pizza Party** ~ A family-friendly event for Scottish dance fun at St Leonard's Parish Hall. 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 14~**Toronto Workshop** ~ Great teachers, great music, great fun. At Bishop Strachan School. 8:30 a.m.

Nov. 14~**Workshop Tea Dance** ~ At Bishop Strachan School, 2:30 p.m. Music by Scotch Mist.

Nov. 14~**Gently Used Clothing Sale** ~ At Bishop Strachan School in conjunction with the Workshop. From 10:00 p.m. until the many bargains run out.

BROADLANDS

These dates for Sunday afternoon special interest classes have been booked. Teachers and themes will be announced as they are confirmed.

2-4 p.m. Sunday afternoons at Broadlands

- ◆ Sept 27 ◆ Oct 25 ◆ Nov 1 ◆ Nov 8
- ◆ Feb 28 ◆ Apr 24

Demo Pool Practice Dates

2-4 p.m. Sunday afternoons at Broadlands

- ◆ Sept 20 ◆ Oct 18 ◆ Nov 22

- ◆ Jan 3 ◆ Jan 17 ◆ Feb 21 ◆ Mar 20 ◆ Apr 17

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

Contact: Stella Henderson 416.498-1940

RSCDS Toronto Association Board of Directors

Chair: Deirdre MacCuish Bark	905.822-1707	barkd@rogers.com
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Upcoming Events: FAR

Oct. 3 ~ **RSCDS Montreal Workshop & Social**. Teacher: Craig Williams, Ottawa. Music: Torridon. Info: www.scdmontrealorg.weebly.com/workshops.html

Oct. 23-24 ~ **RSCDS Ottawa's 50th Anniversary Weekend**. Friday night ceilidh. Saturday ~ dance to Torridon Scottish Dance Band at Parkdale United Church. Info: www.rscdsottawa.ca

Oct. 24 ~ **RSCDS Windsor 50th Anniversary Ball**. Rosalind Golf & Curling Club. Music by Scotch Mist. Info: www.rscdswindsor.org

Nov. 6-8 ~ **RSCDS Kingston Weekend & Ball**. Teachers: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, David Booz, Sheila Keller. Music by Scotch Mist. Info: 613.382-8682 or visit www.rscdskingston.org

Nov. 7-8 ~ **Jeannie Carmichael Ball**. Hosted by RSCDS New York at the beautiful heritage Thayer Hotel on the West Point campus. Music by Hanneke Cassel. Info: www.rscdsnewyork.org

Nov. 13-15 ~ **Asilomar Weekend Workshops & Ball**. Teachers: Jimmie Hill, Ruth Jappy, Elaine Brunken, Jeff Corrigan, Alan Thwigg. Musicians: Fiddlesticks & Ivory, Judi Nicolson, and Andy Imbrie. Hosted by San Francisco Branch. Info: 510 858 7588 www.asilomar.rscds-sf.org

Apr. 8 - 10 ~ **RSCDS Lyon (France) 30th Anniversary Weekend**. Teachers: Roberta Gotfried, Fred DeMarse. Musicians: The FLYING KIWIS. Welcome ceilidh Friday evening. Highland, cultural, and gastronomic options. Info: www.rscds-lyon.fr/en/

More events, both near and far, are listed on the website: www.dancescottish.ca/Whats-On-Near.html
www.dancescottish.ca/Whats-On-Far.html

Highland Apparel for Sale

- **Red Ross Kilt**, waist 36 in., length 24 in., 24 x 3.5 in. pleats/serge ~ \$350
- **Dress Sporan** - seal skin and silver trim, chain and leather strap ~ \$30
- **Day Sporan** - black leather with chain and leather strap ~ \$20
- **Prince Charles Evening Jacket**, size 40 black with silver buttons ~\$35
- **Day Jacket**, black, size 40 with RSCDS crest ~\$20

All articles in good condition. They are available at package price of \$400. Hose and garters included.

Contact Edward Swinton 905.625-8859

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Events

AGM Conference Weekend

6 - 8 November, 2015

Bell's Sports Centre, Perth, Scotland

Any Toronto Member can attend. Only delegates can vote but everyone can dance!
www.rscds.org/article/agm-conference-weekend-2015

Winter School

21-26 February, 2016

Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, Scotland

5 days of dancing and music with Janet Johnston, Ron Wallace, Jim Lindsay, Ian Robertson and others
www.rscds.org/article/winter-school-2016-event

Gently Used Clothing

The popular Workshop sale delights dancers who can save on gently used kilts, gowns, jackets, and other great finds. Equally satisfied are those who donate garments, thus clearing their closets and helping the financial viability of RSCDS Toronto. Contributors/volunteers please call Evelyn Holmberg 416.694-1218

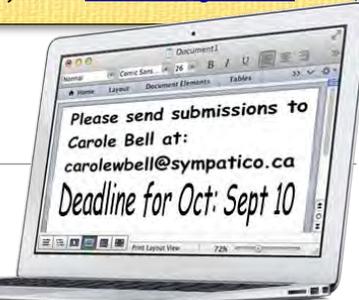


Scotland's National Tourism Organisation
www.visitscotland.com

Attend a Board Meeting

Any member of RSCDS Toronto is welcome to attend a Board meeting as a silent observer.

Arrange attendance with Secretary, Nancy White: nawwhite15@gmail.com



RSCDS Toronto
c/o Secretary
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