

From the Chair...



Liz Clunie

Here we are almost at the end of another dance season. May has a full dance schedule with end-of-season dances highlighted by the West End Ball or what has been referred to as the Beginners' Ball, although it's supported and enjoyed by all the dance community.

I have missed most of the May events as I was on vacation in Greece, but before I left I did attend the Youth Ball, which was celebrating 60 years of teaching young dancers at the Rosedale group. My first connection to Scottish dancing was through that group 40 years ago when my daughter attended classes for a few years, but it was several more years before I started dancing. My granddaughter Mercedes (centre in the picture below) also took classes at Rosedale until five years ago, so she accompanied me to the ball, and she had a wonderful time. It was a pleasure to dance with such a young energetic group, but I certainly felt the effects the following day!

Thanks to Maureen Richardson and all her helpers for such an entertaining evening, and congratulations to Moira Korus and her predecessors for contributing to 60 years of teaching the Rosedale children's group.

Dancing functions were interrupted twice this season because of a power outage and an ice storm. Let's hope that we can have four Tuesdays of beautiful summer weather in June for dancing in the park.

Hoping to see you there.

Liz



Skip-stepping into a Different Culture

Simone & Samuel Micaroni are visitors from Brazil, here for a short while to improve their English and to pursue further education. They have been dancing at Woodglen and St Clement's. This is their account of the Youth Ball.

Stepping into a different culture is never a sure dance — unknown ground, unknown rules, and all of a sudden you are expected to start the reel with unknown people. But what if you realize there are hands reaching out to you, voices guiding you, and so many cups of kindness to comfort and acquaint you to everything?

For us, experiencing Canada is inextricably intertwined with Scottish country dance. We were embraced by this community. We witnessed the beauty of generations and so many nations dancing together with hands and hearts, keeping alive the flame of history and of love, emotionally, socially, physically, and respectfully connecting decades and diversity with laughter and dazzling choreography.

The 14th Annual Youth Ball was the first time wearing the kilt, and the Ball gave us the best impression we could possibly have: each and every moment was unforgettable. We were surrounded by extremely polite and welcoming people, from youngsters to seniors, making us feel at home.

The organization was impressive. Mr Ron Bell gave us a warm, friendly reception at the door, shaking hands and smiling. Kind people served us food, and table talk during the meal was lively. The dishes, desserts, and refreshments were fabulous! When dancing began, people invited us, and helped us to dance. On leaving, we had a tender farewell from the great musician, Fred Moyes. Everything was remarkable. We could see each person fulfilled with passion by what was being done there.

The Ball unfolded with a grand march behind the talented piper [Tristan Gerrie] — a preview of enjoyment about to come. As the evening progressed, the energy of the gathering kept our hearts alive and our attention focused. We admit to some fear of making mistakes in the dances, but our fear was dissolved by the generosity of seasoned dancers gently leading the less experienced through the dances with respect,



Special Events

The White Heather Ball



Saturday, June 16 ~ Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.
Gen. Sikorski Hall, 1551 Stevenson Rd N, Oshawa
Join Highlands of Durham for great food and great dancing (wood floor and air conditioning!). Music by Scotch Mist. Dinner and dancing \$75; dinner only \$40; dancing only \$40. Tickets from the Wee Tartan Shop 905 985 6573 or visit: www.weetartanshop.ca



Trinity Summer Dancing

Thursdays, June 21 - August 2 ~ 8-10 p.m.

Trinity College in beautiful Seeley Hall, 6 Hoskin Ave.

All are welcome.

Guest teachers: 21 June: Moira Korus; 28 June: Colin Campbell;

5 July: May Divers; 12 July: Andrew Collins;

19 July: Arlene Koteff; 26 July: Tony Szeto; 2 Aug: David Booz

Info: Ken Adamson 416 763 0073 ken.adamson@sympatico.ca

or <https://trinityscd.wordpress.com/>

Highlands of Durham

Thursdays, May 31 - July 26 ~ 7-9 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion, Port Perry

The first three nights are White Heather Ball practices. After that, regular dancing. All are welcome. We dance on a great wooden floor, we have air conditioning, and a social hour afterwards in the club room. \$5 per person.

Orillia Scottish Festival

Saturday, July 21 ~ 1:00 p.m.

Couchiching Beach Park, Orillia

Come with a group, or by yourself, and dance in the Opening Ceremonies. Demos and participation dances after in the lakeside Pavilion. Info: 705 259 3232 uilleam.ailean@gmail.com

Uxbridge Scottish Festival

Saturday, July 28

40 Elgin Park Drive, Uxbridge

We will dance some demos and you are invited to join us. We will also teach some simple dances at the Children's area.

Admission is free - donations welcome.

Details: www.weetartanshop.ca 905 985 6573

Dance Dufferin Grove

Thursday, August 30 • 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Dufferin Grove Park

Dance Scottish in the most-community oriented park in Toronto.

Also enjoy the Farmers' Market. Keith & Deirdre will lead the dancing, mostly easy-peasy SCDs — all audience participation.

Dancing in the Park 2018



Tuesdays, June 5, 12, 19, 26 • 7 p.m. to dusk • Edwards Gardens
Music by Scotch Mist

Come, join in the fun, and remember to bring a friend. This is one of our most popular outreach events. All are welcome: dancers, would-be dancers, and spectators alike. We appreciate your participation and support. There is no official charge, but your contributions to the donation box help keep the tradition going.

We dance on The Green (behind the barn), at Edwards Gardens (Leslie & Lawrence Ave. East), weather permitting. If rain threatens a notice will be posted on the website by 4:00 p.m. giving the location of the hall to be used for that evening.

If it rains: First 3 weeks: St. Bonaventure Parish Centre
(1st driveway south of Edwards Gardens off Leslie St.)

...*Dave Drewette, Convenor DITP*

Reach Out and Share Our Passion

Invite family and friends to enjoy a lovely summer evening walking through Edwards Gardens. It's also an opportunity to introduce them to SCD in the Park. Everyone can enjoy watching or participating. The Orillia Scottish Festival is another delightful way to spend a summer day with family and friends. After watching the field dances, the general public can join in the participation dances at the Pavilion.

Explore your local community centre programme offerings for all age groups. Perhaps there's a window of opportunity in fitness, dance, or other activities to share some ceilidh or simple dances. If you need assistance or guidance, please email Tony Szeto, Director of Education & Training, at aszeto2010@gmail.com and/or Lyn Barsevskis, Director of Marketing, at kite_hill@me.com

... *Maureen Richardson*

Keep it handy... Give it away... Repeat...



Spread the word... The Marketing Committee has hundreds of these folded, card-size, brochures. Please keep one or two in your wallet, purse, or pocket and when the topic of Scottish country dance comes up (as surely it will), pass them along. Available for pick-up at Dancing In The Park.

One Awesome Party!



If you missed this year's Youth Ball . . .
... you missed ONE AWESOME P-A-R-T-Y!
There is nothing quite like joyful exuberance, especially when it emanates from a 6-year-old and an 86-year-old at the same time and place! A dance floor covered in sets made up of young dancers, with the young-at-heart, and beginners mixed with more experienced

Helen Bellé

dancers is a lovely sight. Like a true country dance from bygone years.

The Youth Ball is a great event for "new" and not-so-new dancers of all ages. Why? You get the whole package: a delicious dinner, followed by a piper-led Grand March, live music, AND each dance is walked first – phew! The result is a casual evening of fun where boo-boos create laughter.

This year's Youth Ball was also an opportunity to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Rosedale Group. Eons ago, Maureen Richardson and I were Rosedale participants under the tutelage of the late Grace Harris. There were competitions against arch rivals such as Leaside and Hamilton. Today, we have the good fortune to dance with them.



See also: **A Rosedale Memory**, on page 7

My thanks to the organizers; the accomplished piper, Tristan Gerrie; the always delightful accordionist, Fred Moyes; and most particularly the volunteers who spent hours in the kitchen preparing the food and cleaning up afterwards. They were our very own house-elves (Harry Potter).

Plan to join us for NEXT year's Youth Ball, which will likely be in May. Watch *Set & Link* and the website for information closer to the date.

To create that old-time country dance feeling at your next event, don't forget to invite these energetic, young dancers. They embody the "social" in Social Dancing.

... Helen Bellé

(cont. from page 1) . . . A Different Culture

care, and attention, helping us to enjoy the time.

The thrilling tunes, and the grins stamped on the faces of those attending the event drew in our minds a portrait of a masterpiece we will always remember.

Canadians have shown us the essence of the true north strong and free, a place with room for different cultures, giving them the opportunity of living as in their native land. Being part of the Scottish country dance community of Toronto has been a great honour for us, as well as a way of learning English and experiencing the beautiful Canadian and Scottish cultures. We have met precious people, exquisite treasures that we already keep in the inmost part of our hearts.

We two have paddled in the stream from South to North, crossing the Americas, and the seas between us. Our experience here will be, for us, auld lang syne. We extend our gratitude to the Toronto Scottish country dance community for the gentle and permanent memories about Canada we will carry through our lives.

... Simone & Samuel Micaroni

Four lively Youth Ball Dance videos:

Scottish Roulette: <https://youtu.be/PfOlzZAaYts>

Arthur's Seat: <https://youtu.be/MXw8shaPne8>

C'est si bon: <https://youtu.be/Kxzw8FpiZM>

Oh Canada: <https://youtu.be/Pw6IGhiEdLE>



Tristan Gerrie played the pipes to welcome dancers to the very first Youth Ball, May 7, 2005. He piped again this year and led the Grand March. Then, as in 2005, he settled in to dance the enjoyable programme devised by Teresa Lockhart in consultation with young dancers.



Confessions of a Dance Polyglot



Halyna Sydorenko

I am a linguist. I'm fully bilingual, switching easily between English and Ukrainian. I've studied at least a dozen languages in my lifetime, including the less frequently encountered Lithuanian, and classical Latin and Sanskrit. I have always loved learning new languages, to discover what makes them tick. I even have a language bucket list, to

explore the likes of Basque, Finnish, Georgian, Welsh and last, but not least, Scots Gaelic.

So, what does my language avocation have to do with Scottish country dance? Well, I'm equally passionate about exploring different languages of dance.

Just as soon as I was able to point my toes, this four-year-old announced to her mom, dad, and older brother, "Let's first do a teeny bit of ballet, then let's first do a teeny bit of dance." My family could never figure out what I wanted to do first, ballet or dance, but it was clear I wanted to get my feet moving to music's rhythm.

In the end, ballet came first. This was followed by square dancing, ballroom, and a taste of some Renaissance moves, both rustic and courtly. Scottish country dance came next, then Ladies' Step, and, most recently, Highland. Fellow SCD and Highland enthusiast, Donald Holmes, put me onto Carolyn MacMillan's class in Thornhill.

With a novice in tow, Carolyn alternated teaching time between me and her regulars, Rachael Johnston, Jessica Kitchen, Fiona Ogilvie, and Donald.



But, instead of practising off to the side while Carolyn tutored her other dancers, I often found it more educational to watch the experienced dancers, to focus on their execution of steps, noting the subtle differences between Scottish country dance, ballet, and Ladies' Step.

I also got valuable tips from Ella Allison, Carolyn's 90-something mother and unofficial class coach.

For me, understanding the intricacies of Highland was like stepping into the complex world of a German sentence. Learning to have arms working independently of feet, and yet both ultimately working together to create a whole was, for me, as challenging as learning to first express subjects, objects, and prepositional phrases, but to hold off with the main verb until the very end. Be it Highland or German, I had to master keeping components separate, yet to combine them seamlessly into a holistic entity.

My brief foray into Highland gave me an insight into the challenging footwork of the art form and an appreciation of the effort dancers must put in to rise to the top.

With its more lyrical style, Ladies' Step comes to me more easily. The flow of movement makes it more akin to ballet — the first dance language I ever learned. So, too, I find it particularly easy to wrap my brain around Spanish. Why? Perhaps because it has a transparent correlation between spelling and pronunciation — not unlike Ukrainian, the language I learned from birth.

You may be wondering... do I also have a bucket list for languages of dance? Yes, there is a dance language I absolutely need to explore — the one my SCD friends fully expect I've already done, but which, surprisingly, I have not.

I must learn to dance *Ukrainian!* ...Halyna Sydorenko

Experience... is simply the name we give our mistakes (Oscar Wilde)



Oops!

Mistakes—we all make them. While teachers want dancers to perform correctly, we all make our share of mistakes—they are an inevitable part of the fabric of dance. As such, are they really something to get excited about? Should they be deemed high-priority problems? At a recent community gathering, Barbara Taylor mentioned in conversation with me that recovering gracefully from making mistakes is actually quite a positive experience for the dancer as well as for the teacher. Stopping a dance to correct a mistake is not the point. She emphasized: "Recovery is important, not the mistake".

In all classes and on all occasions mistakes occur, but the dancers keep going and recover as best they are able with subtle (or obvious) guidance from others in the set. Large smiles resonate within a set with those who sympathize, and think: "I've been there

too." And the dance continues, joyfully. The knack of graceful recovery develops with practice, and an experienced dancer can recover

with minimal disruption to the set. Recovery is definitely not degenerative refinement. Recovery is the mark of maturity, the hallmark of experience, and the grace to execute it seamlessly.

For additional discussion of this topic, Google:

BRUCE HAMILTON'S "AN APPROACH TO DEALING WITH MISTAKES"

That points you to a .pdf file of the paper presented at SCD Kaleidoscope, an international conference about Scottish country dance held in Geneva, Switzerland, 2009. ...Donald E. Holmes



The name Albufeira leaped out at me as I scrolled through “What’s On Far” on the website. Remembering our holidays in Algarve in the early 1980s I had a great idea, which very quickly became a reality: to make the Iberian Dance Weekend part of a two-week vacation. We would only have to learn 36 dances or so for the two balls, Friday evening and Saturday evening, March 16 and 17. Piece of cake!

To our absolute delight, two other Toronto Association couples also signed up for the dance weekend in Portugal, namely Barbara and Michael Taylor, and Tony Szeto and Lorraine Ng. We were on our way. Now there was just the slight problem of learning the dances.

Well, they *were* all on video so that should be easy? The first dance we viewed was *Double Trouble Triangles* – Oh dear! now we knew we were in deep water! However, with much enthusiasm our co-travellers came to the rescue. Tony and Lorraine arranged for a couple of practice sessions at their home, with Barbara putting us through our paces. How lucky could we be. After much practice and lots of laughter, we were well equipped to show the other dancers what the Toronto Association could do. We were not going to let the side down.

It was time for the Friday night ball. Feeling a little nervous we entered the ballroom. The talented Adam and Luke Brady were our musicians for the weekend. No matter how tired or sore feet may be, once the Brady brothers start to play their magical music, I challenge anyone to keep their feet still.

The dance list was posted on the ballroom walls so that no matter where you were dancing it was easy to see what was coming next. Here it was, next up *Double Trouble Triangles*. By a little bit of engineering, the six of us managed to get ourselves into the same set. We nailed it. Oh, the relief and joy. It seemed to have worked for many, if not all of the sets, as there was much cheering at the end and the dance was repeated immediately. When the dancing was over for the night, we sojourned to the resort bar to unwind with a nightcap or two. Weren't we all great, we agreed. The only thing to do now was to wipe the slate clean and start again for Saturday night's ball.

The Friday afternoon walk-through was a tad chaotic, so Barbara arranged for the six of us, plus Bruce and Bernadette Edmond (a couple we had the good fortune to meet), to have our very own private walk-through for Saturday night. With Barbara as our leader, we got through it and felt well prepared for another night of dancing – we were dab hands at this stage.

The first dance was *Aird of Coigach*. When Adam Brady wished us all good luck for this dance before starting the music I laughed it off thinking, “We know this – it worked great during the walkthrough”. However, suffice to say, it didn't work out too well. With confidence a bit thrown, the second dance, *The Outer Circle*, was not much better.



Anne & Kevin Moloney, Bernadette & Bruce Edmond, Benoit Monteiro, Michael & Barbara Taylor, Tony Szeto & Lorraine Ng

By this time I considered a quick exit to my room for some much needed sleep, which might be better for me and everyone else. However, the third dance – *Minister on the Loch* – did the trick and calmed the nerves somewhat so that the rest of the night was more or less flawless and thoroughly enjoyable. Without meaning to boast, we did fine jobs of *The Library of Birmingham*, *Nottingham Lace*, and the rest of the dances. We were so proud. At the end of the night and the end of two consecutive balls we were thoroughly exhausted but exhilarated. The crowning glory for Kevin and me was that Saturday was St. Patrick's Day and Ireland had just won the Rugby Grand Slam Trophy (by defeating England at Twickenham)!

Kevin and I acknowledge the assistance of Toronto social group teachers, who included some of the more difficult dances from the Portugal programme in their weekly socials for the few months prior to our trip, as follows:

- Teresa Lockhart, St. Clement's
- Jean Noble, Hillcrest
- Moira Korus, Glenview
- David Booz, Trinity.

We are extremely grateful to each of them for their consideration in doing this extra work.

...Anne Moloney



The dancers expressed enthusiastic appreciation of the music of Luke and Adam Brady

AGM Dance Report



Forbes Duncan

Numbers at the AGM Dance, April 28, 2018 were low, 76 total. On the positive side, we had lots of room on the dance floor. The meeting went smoothly, volunteer awards were presented, and we managed to comfortably finish the dance programme plus an extra. Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs were in top form. It was a good evening.

The 50/50 draw was won by Alexandra Kaempffer who learned her dancing from John Reeves at Trent University, and after a few years off, now dances with the Scarborough group.

The Monthly Dance Committee thanks all those who supported our monthly dances throughout the year, David Booz who prepared the programmes, the teachers for preparing their dancers and briefing at the dances, and both bands: Scotch Mist and Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs.

Dates for next season will be finalized in July. They will be posted on our website and in *Set & Link*.

Enjoy your Summer.

...Forbes and Marie Duncan; Ken MacKinnon, and Ken Adamson



fifty-fifty draw

At the April AGM Dance,
Alexandra Kaempffer won \$107
in the 50/50 draw.



Dear Editor...

To the Members of the Toronto Association

Dear Dancers:

I was sorry to have to step down as your Chair, but memory issues prevented me from continuing to do a good job on your behalf.

I am grateful that Liz Clunie was willing to take over as the Toronto Association Chair. I wish her all the best in her new role.

Kind regards,

...Jean Lindsay

Re: Volunteer Award

With sincere appreciation as recipients of a Volunteer Award this year, Bill and I thank everyone in the Toronto Scottish country dance community with whom we have had the opportunity to interact and share the dance floor. You are such interested and interesting individuals! It is a surprise to those who knew my parents, Betty and David Grant, and their many years of volunteer commitment to SCD activities, that it took us until 2007 to step up but our complex family and work lives restricted, for many years, any regular social life together. We have found such pleasure in the classes, social groups, and the various committees in which we have been involved. These are such rich experiences, and I find myself promoting dancing in some of the most unexpected situations. The folded brochures are an inspired marketing tool.

I want to clarify that in 2015 (assisted by Nancy White) I made the more than 20 Tartan Ball table toppers, with tartan fabrics which had been donated to the RSCDS Toronto, and offered to me by Margaret Rieger. At the Tartan Ball in 2014, I was pleased to honour my parents with the heather centrepieces.

Each of us has an opportunity to enrich RSCDS Toronto. Check the dancescottish.ca website Membership section with the drop down for volunteering opportunities. I invite you to join the set.

HISCD.

...Christy & Bill Barber

Thank you

What an honour to be selected for the inaugural teacher candidate scholarship!

Thank you to the Toronto Association for creating this scholarship to defray the cost of attaining certification and also to encourage and promote interest in dancers becoming teachers of dancing. Developing ideas such as these takes a great deal of volunteer hours and skill, so thank you to Tony Szeto, who set the criteria for the scholarship, to his committee, and, of course, to the TA for funding it.

Of course, we all know that the teachers in the Toronto area are an encouraging lot, engendering a love of dancing and a desire to improve, to polish, and to have fun. They are inclusive and willing to share their expertise, so thank you to all. In particular, there has been a wee bit of nudging (*A Noble Feat*), Unit 4 mentoring (*The Lincoln Imp*), words of support and sharing of an astounding wealth of history and skill (*Mrs Hamilton of Eaglemount*), and *Cell Phone Jig* (Teresa Lockhart), for which I am appreciative.

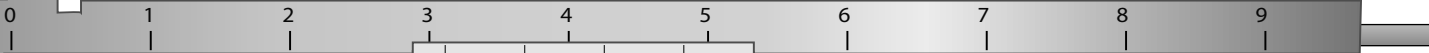
My experience at St Andrews last summer was a perfect prelude to this year's session. I enrolled in the teaching skills course with Sue Porter (who was one of my examiners for Units 2 and 3), stooged for teacher candidates for their practice sessions and for the exam, opted for personal dancing critique by Eric Finlay, danced in Younger Hall, and could have haggis for breakfast every morning to keep up my stamina!

I am looking forward to completing Unit 5 at St Andrews, which I think will serve as a smooth transition to the next 32 bars of the dance.

The one thing I hope someone can help with is to keep me from buying too many more pairs of dance shoes! (Don't I need a pair in every colour?)

With much gratitude,

...Arlene Koteff



I faced a moment of truth while watching the videos of our DAA prep classes.

I didn't think my dance techniques needed improvement. However, in the video I was able to see the flaws in my techniques and to compare my footwork with that of my fellow dancers. It became obvious to me that when setting pas de Basque I was not turning out my foot properly — I was putting my foot in front of the other, but it's supposed to be in the third position. Of course, I'd heard such instruction many times before, but somehow it did not register! Now I'm aware of my mistake, and I need to practise the footwork so that the correct setting steps come naturally. That's another challenge!

The video also revealed shortcomings in my strathspey travelling step. I was not bending my leg enough, which made my travelling step somewhat shallow.

Another point I want to make is about posture. Although my posture is not bad, I'm a little bit stiff. I need to find a way of keeping the strathspey steps elegant without appearing stiff.

Overall, I enjoyed the classes. The dances had different levels of complexity; none was overly complicated. The pace was right, and teacher Moira Korus struck a good balance between footwork drills and dancing.



Olga Alliloueva

... Olga Alliloueva

VICTORIOUS VICTORIA DAY

◆ Since 1845 we Canadians have celebrated Queen Victoria's Birthday ◆
St Clement's closed their season by dancing on the holiday. Dancers were asked to don coronet or tiara and wear red, white, and blue. Empire biscuits were served, with tea. The turnout was great and we were highly amused (and amusing). -Teresa Lockhart



Tray Cloth Update



Thanks to the dancers who responded to my request in the May S & L for information about the RSCDS Tray Cloth. It was Kathleen Kynoch who gave me the cloth in the first place, thus originating my search for more information.

I heard from Jean Noble, Fiona Philip, Bill Goodfellow, Diana Hooper, and Janice Bennett, and each provided some clues. While most respondents had one such cloth, Jean Nobel has a set of ten.

Janice Bennett reports that she ran accessories and book sales for the Branch in the 1970s and 1980s and sold these cloths there. The price was £1 each. I will convey this information to Mike Greenwood and others at Headquarters in Scotland as they have requested.
... Donald E. Holmes

A Rosedale Memory

As Rosedale celebrates completion of its 60th season, here's a poem by the founder of the Rosedale group, Professor Ronald Smith — endearingly known in the Toronto SCD community as Sanskrit Smith. He was a specialist in East Asian languages and cultures, and a cryptographer at Bletchley Park. He was a man who never wore trousers (only the kilt), whose favoured footwear was plimsolls (ask your British friends), and, most especially, he was known as a perfect gentleman.

Rosedale Children

In life's atomic pace
our heightened trepidation
expects the human race
to sport some new mutation.
And here it's plain to every eye
how bonny bairns multiply.

If nature's chance erratum
is beauty, still absorb it,
and watch each human atom
swing in and out in orbit.
Agree mutation's not all mess
that leads to certain loveliness.

These young momentous bodies laugh -
life's marvel, life's enigma -
to follow through the curving graph,
Root cos two theta's sigma,*
or else a function more advanced
which those of you will know who've danced.

Subject to outer forces,
yet fixed in their positions,
the atoms in their courses
keep each their own traditions.
How fit that ours should seek the chance
to learn the old Scots country dance!

The Younger Generation – Poems by Professor R. Morton Smith, Vol 1

* Figure of 8 (or lemniscate of Bernoulli ?)

Upcoming Events: NEAR

June Tuesdays, 5, 12, 19, 26 – **Dancing in the Park** ~ at Edwards Gardens 7:00 to dusk. Music by Scotch Mist. Free, but donations cheerfully accepted.

May 31-July 26 – **Summer Dancing in Port Perry** ~ Join us Thursday evenings at Port Perry Legion (great wood floor and air-conditioning). First 3 evenings focus on White Heather Ball dances. \$5 per night.

June 16 – **White Heather Ball** ~ at Sikorski Hall, Oshawa. Cocktails at 6:00 followed by dinner and dancing. Info and tickets from The Wee Tartan Shop 905 985 6573. Music by Scotch Mist. www.weetartanshop.ca

June 21 - August 2 - **Trinity Summer Dancing** ~ Dance in beautiful breezy Seeley Hall, Trinity College, 6 Hoskin Ave. from 8 - 10 p.m. All are welcome.

July 21 – **Orillia Scottish Festival** ~ Couchiching Park, Orillia. Dancers of all ages and levels of experience are invited to join us in the mass dancing of the opening ceremonies – which start at 1:15 p.m. Free admission. Will Kinghorn: 705 259 3232 uilleam.ailan@gmail.com

July 28 – **Uxbridge Scottish Festival** ~ Elgin Park, Uxbridge. We will be dancing some demos and everyone is invited to join us. We will also be teaching some simple dances at the Children's area. Free admission.



Summer break

Your next *Set & Link* will be September. Have a great summer, and send in your stories of summer dance adventures.



Breaking News. . .

. . . Budget breaking, actually. A rare bottle of 60-year-old Macallan whisky was sold at auction in Hong Kong for \$1.3 million CDN. Only 12 bottles were made, malted in 1926, bottled in 1986. The price works out to \$13,466 for each of the 75 centilitres. **Philosophical questions:** If this liquid gold was yours, who would you ask to share a dram? What, or who, would you toast?

Upcoming Events: FAR

June 9 - **Kitchener-Waterloo Ball** ~ Music by Scotch Mist. New venue this year: Viennese Ballroom at The Inn of Waterloo. Contact: David Murison 519 576 4262 or www.rscds.kitchener.on.ca

July 6-14 - **Pinewoods Dance Camp** ~ Live music and dancing from morning 'til night, with classes for beginning, intermediate, and advanced dancers in a rustic setting. Info from RSCSD Boston: www.rscdsboston.org

July 8-15 - **43rd Annual Australia Winter School** ~ Teachers: Tom McKinlay (France), Raphaëlle Orgeret (France), Debbie Roxburgh (New Zealand), Bill Unger (Australia), Anne Kennedy (Australia), Ros McKie (Australia). At Hunter Valley NSW. Info: www.hvws2018.com

Aug. 13-17 - **2018 Scotch on the Rocks** ~ in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. Learn a variety of new formations based on old figures and steps - places are still available. Contact Duncan Keppie: johnduncankeppie@gmail.com

Sept. 28-30 - **RSCSD Saskatchewan Workshop Weekend** ~ in Moose Jaw. Teacher: Fiona Miller, Chair of TAC. Welcome Ceilidh, Level-specific classes, evening Banquet and Ball. Info: www.rscdsask.org

Oct. 12-14 - **RSCSD Ottawa Workshop Weekend** ~ Teachers: Geoffrey Selling and Terry Harvey. Music by Keith Smith and Peter Shand. Info: www.rscdsottawa.ca

Oct. 26-28 - **Autumn in Garmundia, Austria** ~ A dance weekend for advanced dancers. Teacher: Andrew Nolan. Music: Luke & Adam Brady. rechbergsctottishdancers.de

Nov. 30-Dec 2 - **December Weekend in Portugal, Curia** ~ A dance weekend featuring workshop and two balls. Teacher: Raphaëlle Orgeret (Lyon). Music: Keith Smith & Peter Shand. Info: dancinginportugal@gmail.com

Apr. 13, 2020 - **Weekend Away in Chambéry** ~ A dance weekend for advanced dancers in the French Alps. Teacher: Ron Wallace. Music: Sarah-Jane Summers (fiddle) & James Grey (piano). www.rscdsparis.fr

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

Please join the RSCDS Toronto Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/55880122664

A letter to *The Times*

Sirs, . . . I took up Scottish country dancing when I retired. It provides plenty of exercise for your body, brain, and social skills. You don't need a partner or a kilt, though you may find you have acquired one or both after a few years.
Steve Smith
Cheltenham, Glos

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Events

St Andrews Summer School

15 July ~ Aug 11 2018
St Andrews University

Experience the ambiance of a beautiful town, a panoply of SCD superstars, talented musicians, and exotic optionals.

Dance SCD or ceilidh each evening and enjoy one evening of talents on display.

Week 1: Geared to Very Advanced

Week 2: Geared Starters & Advanced

Week 3: Geared to Youth, Advanced, DAA

Week 4: Starters, Advanced, DAA

www.rscds.org/article/summer-school-2018

TAC Summer School and Teachers' Conference Weekend

University of Minnesota

Antoine Rousseau,

Ellie Briscoe, Jody Poapst, Alan Thwigg
The Teachers' Conference is 27-29 July
Summer School is 29 July - 5 August.
There will be a Teacher Candidate Course at this school, 22 July - 5 August.

The week includes 6 mornings of dance classes, 4 evening social dances, a formal banquet and ball, a ceilidh and optional afternoon classes.

www.tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school

Scotch on the Rocks

Wolfville NS • Aug 13-17

johnduncankeppie@gmail.com



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