



January 2008

Dear Dancing Friends,

The White Rose Festival of Scottish Country Dancing

Plans for the next White Rose Festival of Scottish Country Dancing are now well under way and the organizing committee would like to invite you and your dancers to take part.

Date: Saturday, 12th July 2008

**Venue: Gateways School, Harewood, Leeds LS17 9LE.
(www.gatewayschool.co.uk)**

The school has excellent facilities. It is in a rural setting opposite the Harewood estate approximately 3 miles north of the Leeds city boundary on the Harrogate road. It is easily accessible from all directions using the motorway network.

Saturday Afternoon, 12th July, 14.00 - 17.00

There will be massed open air dancing for adult and junior teams, opportunities for demonstrations of pre-selected dances and ladies' and men's Highland displays. Dancing will be to Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Band with piping from Alan Harrison. Ian Slater will also play if the event is held indoors because of wet weather.

Please note that arrangements can be made this year for individual dancers or small groups.

Saturday Evening, 12th July, 19.00 - 22.30

There will be a social dance to Nicol McLaren and the Glencraig Band in the sports hall at Gateways School. Because of restrictions on numbers that can be accommodated admission will be by ticket only.

I enclose further details, programmes and application forms for the afternoon events and an application form for the Saturday evening dance.

The organizing committee hopes very much that you will be able to join us and we look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely,

Don Andrews
Chairman, White Rose Festival Committee

WHITE ROSE FESTIVAL 2008 - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entry fees

Junior teams: £17 per team of up to 9 dancers plus a teacher.

Adult teams: £27 per team of 8-10 dancers. Additional dancers - £2.50 each

(Prices include postage).

We would welcome entries from individuals and groups that are less than 8 dancers; please contact Brenda Burnell for a price.

Please note that we ask any dancers who wish to be included in the afternoon mass dancing to have a thorough knowledge of the dances that have been set as there will not be any recaps.

Spectators: £1 per ticket in advance; programmes will be available to purchase on the day for 50p each. In the event of wet weather programmes purchased on the day will not allow admittance to the sports hall or performing arts centre.

Evening dance tickets:

£8.50 each, £3 for those in full-time education, £2 for those 11 and under.

These prices include a plated supper; soft drinks will be available.

The space in the sports hall limits the number of dancers that can be accommodated. All evening dance tickets will therefore be sold on a "first come, first served" basis.

If you are just applying for evening dance tickets or spectator tickets please enclose a SAE for 65p.

Wet weather arrangements

In the event of wet weather the afternoon dancing will be held indoors in two separate halls. Both venues will have live music. Gateways School has a performing arts centre with excellent spectator facilities. The junior teams and a small number of adult teams will use this. A full programme, including demonstrations, will be danced and Ian Slater will provide the music.

All other teams will dance a full programme in the sports hall to Nicol McLaren and the Glenraig Band.

The White Rose Festival is planned as an outdoor event. However, this being England, we can never guarantee that the weather will be kind to us and, like last year, we may be forced indoors. Following our experiences in 2007 we have made some changes to the arrangements should we have to have an indoor festival. We hope these adjustments will help to make an indoor event as enjoyable as possible. We believe that the participants largely determine the atmosphere and we would ask that everyone enter into the spirit of the festival to help others to enjoy it.

Please note: no food is allowed in the Performing Arts Centre.

Parking

Parking is freely available for both cars and coaches on site at the owner's risk.

Refreshments

Gateways School has a restaurant which can provide reasonably priced lunches and evening meals to be paid for as bought. Please indicate on your application form if meals are required together with the numbers.

We introduced a new system for the evening meal last year with a marked improvement in the service. We would therefore like to invite afternoon participants and spectators to have an evening meal with us and add to the atmosphere of the festival. Unfortunately, because of limited space and time we are unable to offer evening meals to others.

Please indicate on your application form approximately how many meals are required. We will issue vouchers for the evening meal which will allow admittance to the dining room and will indicate a time for your meal.

Should it be necessary to restrict the numbers dining with us vouchers will be issued on a "first come, first served" basis.

Evening dance

Unfortunately because of acoustic difficulties in the hall we will not be able to offer recaps for the dances.

P.T.O. for more information on the Festival.

WRF 2008 - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTINUED

Accommodation

Some accommodation is available in the village and in Wetherby. A wider range of accommodation is available in Harrogate, approximately 20 minutes away by road.

Details of accommodation in Leeds are available from the tourist office at:

Gateway Yorkshire, Regional Travel and Tourism Centre, The Arcade, Leeds City Station, Leeds, LS1 1PL. Tel. 0113 242 5242 or via the website: www.leeds.gov.uk

Details of accommodation in Harrogate are available from the Tourist Information Centre, Royal Baths Crescent Road, Harrogate, HG1 2RR. Tel. 01423 537304, email tic@harrogate.gov.uk or via the website: www.harrogate.gov.uk

Further communications

Please would team leaders ensure that all members of the team receive copies of this information.

We would particularly like to draw your attention to the information regarding evening meals on the site.

It would greatly assist the committee if the contact details could include an email address if available.

In May we will send out tickets, programmes and directions plus cribs where requested on the entry forms. Maps can be taken from the Internet at www.streetmap.co.uk by entering postcode LS17 9LE. Alternatively maps can be obtained from the Gateways School website at www.gatewayschool.co.uk

Deadline for receipt of entries: 30th April 2008

Branch web-site: www.rscdsleeds.org.uk

All entries to Brenda Burnell: 208, Moseley Wood Gardens, Leeds, LS16 7JE.
Tel. 0113 267 6655, email brenda@gunnyjwar.demon.co.uk