

Leeds Branch Dancers Newsletter

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Our January Dance

Future Newsletters

The Branch welcomes your news, stories, views, questions etc...

Please send all copy for future newsletters to Catherine Livsey, 11A Hill Top Road, Moldgreen, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 9LX. Tel 01484 515257
Email catherine@cld-design.co.uk

Copy should be with her at least three weeks before publication for the November, February and May issues, and early July for the August issue.

If for some reason you don't receive any copy of the Branch newsletter please contact Brenda Burnell on 0113 267 6655.

From the Chair ...

Hopefully we are now heading to warmer days after all the snow and cold weather. Consequently if you are a single class term ticket holder and had to miss your class because it was cancelled you only need pay £9/£24.00 for next terms ticket.

On Sat 21 March we have our Children's Festival, so if you are free that day, why not come and help, on watch our future having a great time doing Scottish Country Dancing. In the evening we have our branch dance with music from Ian Slater and a great programme by our MC Terry Chater.

Saturday 25 April is the Highland & Ladies Step Day School, at this day school we will be working on

the highland dances for the White Rose Festival. This is a good fun day so why not give it a go. I can guarantee you will get a great buzz from what you have achieved.

The 16 May brings us the Branch dance. This will be a walk through dance with Lesley Digby as MC and the Chris Dewhurst Band. This is a great opportunity to encourage dancers in yours classes that haven't been to a branch dance before. These are lively dances and great fun.

The summer brings the White Rose Festival on 11 July, this is a great opportunity to meet other dances from all over the country. I will shortly be sending round the

lists for you to sign up to take part. Anyone can join in, so don't be shy at putting your name down. This is a very enjoyable day. This year we are going to have some V neck tee shirts made to wear with a plain skirts and sash, and for the men polo shirts, more details very shortly.

From the committee. We are continuing to work on the health and safety policy as stated at the AGM. We will shortly be carrying out risk assessments. All the work on this should be completed and published for any interested party by the summer.

We are looking at buying a PA system for the branch, which will help when we do ceilidhs. If any one has any knowledge of the best system then please let me know.

Catherine Livsey

Subscription to this Newsletter can be taken out at £3.00 for 4 issues for non Leeds Branch Members.
Contact Brenda Burnell for details and form.

The Branch web site is www.rscdsleeds.org.uk Why not give it a try.

Snow and Scottish Dancing



Strange how things happen sometimes and 2008 was no exception. At our Scarborough weekend school in April we unexpectedly had snow. That was definitely a first! Then much later in the year in December, perhaps more seasonably, we had snow for the Malhamdale weekend. We've had a covering of snow there before but this was real snow with a crisp layer on top that you could walk on! From my point of view both these weekends of snow gave me ideal opportunities to take some wonderful photographs.

I wonder what 2009 has in store for us.

The above paragraph was written before winter returned to us this year. Last week all but the children's class were cancelled due to the snowy and frosty evenings. Our visit to Southport came at the

end of the week. I decided to go one day but then changed my mind the following one and so the week progressed. I phoned the organisers on Thursday and they were amazed we were considering not going - they had no snow in Lancashire!



Burns Nights

On behalf of all the dancers that took part in the Burns Night celebrations at Rogerthorpe Manor, St Bartholomew's Armley and Moortown Care Centre I would like to thank Catherine for all her hard work in preparing the programmes. Also to Alan & Susan Carr for organising the programme for the event at Pool in Wharfedale Methodist Church and finally Brenda and everyone who helped at Brackenwood. I understand that everyone enjoyed themselves wherever they were.

Lesley Enoch (Branch Secretary)

Branch Shop

The shop is now well stocked and here are some of the offerings.

CDs

All the RSCDS CDs, including the two new ones - Book 9 and Book 11.

Plus a comprehensive list of over 200 CDs we can get, and any others from Music in Scotland. The list can be downloaded from the website, picked up at a branch dance or posted to you.

Books

Pilling, Originally Ours and Index to Formations and Movements in SCD as well as recent books and CDs produced by other branches such as Birmingham and Banffshire. All the RSCDS books and the pocket editions.

Shoes

Full range of ghillies and ballet shoes, plus others to order

Miscellaneous

RSCDS Ties, slip stop and the latest DVD of We Twa.

If you would like any thing else we are happy to try and get it for you.

or see www.rscdsleeds.org.uk for more details

Please support your Branch shop!

Obituary

Mrs Clark

Older members will be sad to learn of the death of Mrs Edith Clark on January 23rd at the age of 96. Mrs Clark danced regularly with us until after the Branch celebrated its 40th birthday in 2002.

My memories of Mrs Clark are of a quiet lady who enjoyed her dancing and was always very supportive in its activities. The one thing that really stands out about her for me is when in 1988 a team was listed for the Festival at Beckett Park as the Manor Dancers. I didn't know who they were. There was a lot of MacPherson tartan about on Festival day and then the penny dropped. The team was Mrs Clark's family – herself, three sons, two daughters-in-law and two grandchildren. How proud she must have felt that day.

Our condolences to the family.

Brenda

Southport Festival 7th February 2009

All through the week it was "shall we go?" or "shall we not". A phone call to Southport was made and the organisers wondered why we were questioning going or not. They had no snow there. We couldn't believe it.

After a delayed start, the intrepid three, Brenda, Kath and I, set off with parents and children from Leeds Branch and Cookridge Primary School. Snow, snow, snow, although the roads were clear.

On reaching the top of Windy Hill we were amazed to look down the hill and surprise, surprise not a snowflake in sight. We couldn't believe our eyes. We arrived at Southport with about 10 minutes to spare in which to get the children kitted out. Happily we made it, so all was well.

There was a variety of dances during the afternoon and all our teams did very well. Leeds Branch performed a near perfect Earl of Errol's eel and

Cookridge did well with Magic Moments. Well done to you all and special thanks to Brenda for teaching them. How does she fit it all in?

Kath and I enjoyed the afternoon and were quite amused by Macclesfield who danced "The Wee Kicudbright Centipede." We just wish we had been young enough to join in.

At about half past five we all got on the coach and headed off home, the adults seemed more tired than the children who sang nearly all the way home. My thanks must go to the coach driver who got us all there and back safe and well.

Jean Dyson



Darlington Appreciation Day

I would like to thank the Leeds Branch Junior Scottish Dancers and Cookridge Primary Dancers for once again supporting Darlington Juniors Appreciation Day in November. Also of course Brenda for presenting the teams, and the adults for coming to support them. Both teams did very good set dances with an excellent choice of dances, particularly the Branch Juniors, their Earl of Errol was the best I have seen for a long time. In Cookridge Primary the branch could have future Junior branch members. Well done.

Terry

Newcastle Festival - Feb 14



The mixed team that took part in the 25th Newcastle Festival. The team got really nice comments about team work and hands, they really did the branch proud. Thanks to them all for taking part.

Sat 21st March 2009 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Ian Slater

MC: Terry Chater

Admission: £7, Non-member £8, Full time Education £3, Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Kendall's Hornpipe	J 8x32	Graded SCDs
Festival Fling	R 8x32	RSCDS 44
The Wishing Well	S 8x32	RSCDS 44
Campbell's Frolic	J 8x32	RSCDS 15
Cadgers in the Cannongate	R 8x48	RSCDS 9
Take Care	S 8x32	Leeds Silver Thistle (35th)
A Tribute to Talent	J 96 bars	R Goldring
The Music Will Tell You	R 4x32	RSCDS 41

INTERVAL

The Scots Bonnet	J 8x32	RSCDS 10
Raise the Roof	R 8x32	Delaware Silver
Bonnie Ian Campbell	S 8x32	RSCDS 37
Inchmickery	J 5x32	14 Social Dances
Red House	R 8x40	RSCDS 7
The Corian Strathspey	S 6x32	RSCDS 43
Well Done Jack	J 8x32	RSCDS 29
Swiss Lassie	R 8x32	RSCDS 39

Extras

Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	J 4x32	RSCDS 1982
Seann Truibhas Willichan	S 6x32	RSCDS 27
The Dundee Whaler	S 4x32	Ormskirk I

Malhamdale



Phill & Maureen

Standing at the airport in Oslo watching the snow come tumbling down, I began to seriously doubt whether this venture to Malhamdale was such a good one.

On a bright sunny morning whilst visiting friends in the UK I was asked if I'd like to come to a Scottish dancing weekend and workshop. My answer came instantaneously "I'd love to". I needn't have worried, the journey Oslo via London and Leicester to Malhamdale once the plane took off, went smoothly.

Wending our way up through the English countryside to Newfield Hall was delightful, and so pretty with a slight "icing" of snow over the fields and limestone walls, although I heard from some locals that the slight scattering had in fact closed schools and shops and nearly stopped some of the participants from attending.

Newfield Hall is a wonderful stone mansion and stands in beautiful surrounding in the southerly part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park in Malhamdale. It seems to bear its rather Viking sounding name correctly. Malm in Norwegian meaning ore and dale or valley – the valley of ore was just that, filled with mines.

The venue was just perfect. A very nice swimming pool for those of us that were up early enough in the morning (not that many I gathered).

The dining room overlooked fields full of sheep and wonderful old trees, and the weekend we were there, we had dramatic sunrises bathing the countryside in a stunning orange pink light.

The new dining room was large enough to accommodate us all comfortably and the food was a real treat, having to make up one's mind being the major obstacle, as the choice was plentiful for they catered for all tastes and allergies.

Travelling abroad to go Scottish dancing is really never a problem. People that dance Scottish dancing seem to

be an extraordinarily nice group of people. Even if you don't know anybody when you arrive - you leave with a feeling of having acquired a lot of new friends and Malhamdale was no exception. Wide welcoming smiles were all over the place, and at the end of the weekend several new e-mail addresses were exchanged!

This was no holiday weekend, classes started promptly and we "worked" hard both mornings. We had the benefit of having a great teacher to help us through the weekend. Maureen Haynes did her very best to get us to actually listen to the music and I think come Sunday morning the message had begun to sink in. She was clear in pointing out what she wanted from us, but I think we often disappointed her, although we really did try. The whole point of dancing though must be having fun. And Fun we did have with a capital F, lots of new dances (at least for me) a good mix of jigs, reels and strathspeys which left our hearts pounding both Friday and Saturday evenings (and most definitely in need of a shower) but also leaving large smiles on everyone's faces!

There would be no dancing without music and Phill Jones made a good job of trying to get us heed the rhythm of the music and the accordion, which he played both nights and for morning classes.

Saturday afternoon was marked off as free time and we headed for the small town of Grassington that had a nativity play with a live donkey that afternoon. The only problem was that we were not alone, and we ended up in a long queue for the park and ride. In fact we were not really sure that there was donkey, because we didn't see it! Still it was a chance to get out and about and see some of the local beauty spots, and savour mince pies and fruit bread at a small church, which went down a treat as it was rather cold, (so I don't blame the donkey for not turning up!!).

All in all a very agreeable weekend, and given the chance I'd love to come again!

Patrica Dawson



Adel Tea Dance

It was the usual warm and friendly atmosphere on Monday afternoon at Adel but with the addition of live music played by Peter and Pat Clark and John Ritchie. What a treat!

Susan Carr was warmly welcomed on her return after her foot operation. She sat on the stage expertly directing us. We even managed 'Eileen Watt's Reel' without a hitch; twice in fact; but then we had been practising.

The faith tea was the usual feast with Martin's pom fritta rolls and Ivy's mince pies and much more delicious food. We never did find out who provided the lovely cheese flapjacks. There was plenty of tea and chat and laughter and a good time was had by all.

Jo Dracup



Sat 16th May 2009 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE Walk through dance West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Chris Dewhurst Band **MC:** Lesley Digby

Admission: £7, Non-member £8, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Grand March		
The Barmkin	R 1x88	Goldring
Berwick Johnnie	J 8x32	Gr 14
The Silver Tassie	S 8x32	Gr 1
The Blooms of Bon Accord	R 4x32	Bon Accord Book
Cape Town Wedding	S 8x32	Book 39
Scotland's Gardens	R 8x32	Goldring
Airyhall Delight	J 8x32	Book 40

INTERVAL

EH3 7AF	J 8x32	Book 40
Polharrow Burn	R 5x32	3 for 2007 Foss
Lord Elgins Reel	S 8x32	Book 26
Major Ian Stewart	J 8x32	Book 35
Catch the Wind	R 8x32	Book 45
The Lammermuir Hills	S 6x32	Goldring
Pelorous Jack	J 8x32	Book 41
Mairi's Wedding	R 8x40	Cosh

Extras

The Wild Geese	J 8x32	Book 24
The Sailor	R 8x32	Book 24
Sandy O'er the Lea	S 6x32	MMM2

Teachers' Library

The Branch has recently acquired a copy of the Society's most recent publication, An Introduction to warming up and cooling down for Scottish Country Dancing.

Yes, that really is the title, and it contains 33 pages of guidance on suitable exercises and activities for adults and children's classes, as well as physiological information, from 14 contributors.

I also have a number of other Society publications that may be of interest:

Muriel Johnstone - A Guide to Music in the Teaching of Scottish Country Dancing

Membership Services - Standard Terminology for use in the description of Scottish Country Dances

Membership Services - Index to Formations and Movements in Scottish Country Dances

I will bring this selection to Branch dances to make them available on short term loan to any member engaged in teaching SCD classes. As new publications are produced, these will be added to the list.

For those who perhaps find the recent publications of the Society worthy but heavy going, I have a personal copy of Won't You Join the Dance, which I turn to from time to time to reassure myself that we do it for fun.

Don Andrews

DATES, DATES, DATES

The many dances arranged locally are listed in the
Yorks & North East Scottish Country Dance Diary.

2009

Sat 21 March

Childrens Festival
St Chad's, Leeds
Music: Ian Slater

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds
Music: Ian Slater

27 - 29 March

Scarborough Weekend

Teacher: Jessie Stuart
Musician: George Meikle
Cost £125.00.

Application forms and information
from Yvonne Tredgett,
17 Aviemore Rd,
Warmsworth,
Doncaster DN4 9ND.
Tel 01302 851174.

Sat 25 April

Highland & Ladies Step Day School
Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds 16
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Sat 16 May

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds
Music: Chris Dewhurst Band

Sat 20 June

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds
Music: Alan Ross Trio

Sat 11 July

White Rose Festival
Afternoon 2-5pm
Evening Dance 7-10.30pm
Gateways School, Harewood, Leeds
LS17 9LE
Music: George Meikle & Lothian Band

Full details of these events will be circulated at Branch dances and
posted on the Branch web site www.rscdsleeds.org.uk, were you
will find dance programmes and dance reminders.

LEEDS SCD CLUB AUTUMN WEEKEND

Cober Hill, Cloughton, near Scarborough
2nd - 4th October 2009

Members of Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club would like to invite Leeds RSCDS members to join us on our Autumn Weekend at The Joseph Rowntree Centre, Cober Hill, Cloughton, near Scarborough. The Centre is situated in spacious grounds with a croquet lawn and tennis courts in a lovely garden setting overlooking the sea. There are well-appointed bedrooms, a large lounge, the Conference Room for dancing and the elegant dining room. The Centre has plenty of single, twin, double and family rooms. All are en-suite with bath and/or shower and tea & coffee making facilities. Car parking is available in the grounds.

The weekend consists of walks on both Saturday and Sunday with something suitable for all. You may of course prefer to visit either Whitby or Scarborough or simply relax in the Centre and gardens. Dancing in the Conference Room on both Friday and Saturday evenings will be accompanied by recorded music (all the best bands!). All dances will be recapped, with walk-throughs as necessary. We always seem to engender a friendly and warm atmosphere mainly because it's great having a weekend's dancing amongst friends!

The holiday includes dinner and bed & breakfast for two nights. Special dietary requirements can of course be catered for. The cost of the weekend is just £100.00 per person.

If you would like to join us for our Autumn Weekend contact Lesley Enoch
0113 277 7113 by 31st March.

Classes

Spring Term 2009

finishes WC 30th March 2009

Summer Term 2009 Short Term

WC 20th April - WC 18th May

Summer Term 2009 Long Term

WC 20th April - WC 6th July

Fees: £3.00 per class,
Short Term

Single Class Term costs £12.00
Multi-Class Term costs £20.00

Long Term

Single Class Term costs £27.00
Multi-Class Term costs £40.00

Classes

Monday Afternoon

1.45 - 3.45 - General/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall, Gainsborough
Avenue, Adel, Leeds LS16 7PQ
Teachers: Susan Carr & Don Andrews

Monday Evening

7.45 - 9.45pm - Experienced
Calverley Conservative Club,
Victoria Street, Calverley LS28 5PT
Teacher: Catherine Livsey
Malcolm Brown, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd &
30th March 2009

Tuesday evening

7.45 - 9.45 Intermediate/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall, Gainsborough
Avenue, Adel, Leeds LS16 7PQ
Teachers: Alan Carr, Irene Dracup,

Wednesday evening

7.30 - 10.00 - General/Beginner
Holy Trinity Church Hall Knaresborough
and Markington Village Hall on
4th Wednesday of month
Teachers: Ann Baranyai and Malcolm Frost

Thursday Afternoon

2.00 - 4.00 - General/Beginner
St Margaret's Church Hall,
Ilkley LS29 9QL
Teacher: Don Andrews

Thursday evening

7.45 - 10.00 - General/beginner
Brackenwood Community Centre,
New Building, Lidgett Lane, Leeds LS17 6QP
Teachers: Brenda Burnell

Friday evening - children

5.30 - 7.00
Hawthorn Wood Primary School,
Broadway, Leeds LS5 3QE
Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Sunday afternoon

1 Mar, 5 Apr, 3 May, 7 June & 5 July 2009
1.45 - 3.45 Askwith Village Hall, Askwith
Dancers with a good knowledge of steps
and figures and with ambitions to extend
their repertoire. All Welcome
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

For more information see www.rscdsleeds.org.uk