



The Leeds Branch Newsletter

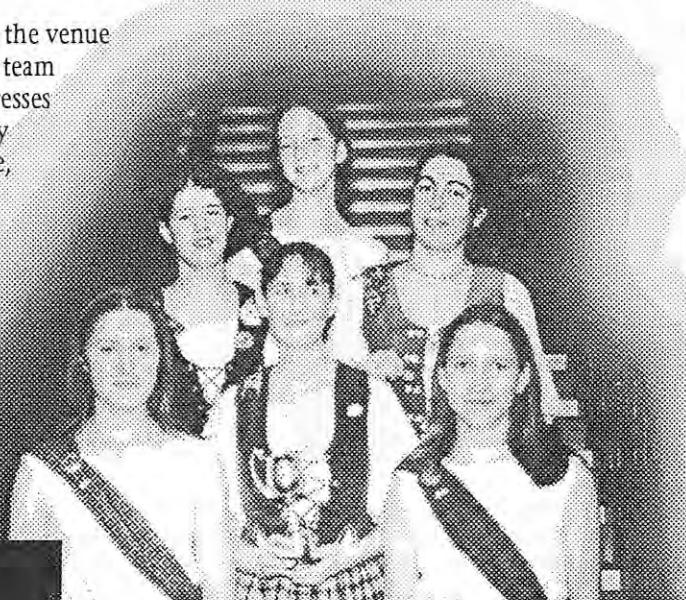
Winning Ways

Newcastle Festival - Saturday 13th February 1999

The day started with everyone meeting at the venue the Newcastle University Hall. The Ladies team changed in to our new matching white dresses and sashes. These had been made specially for the event. (I just finished mine in time, 12 o'clock that previous night. We all felt we looked good, this gave us a little extra confidence.

The Ladies class was the first class to be danced. We were last on. At last it was our turn and we proudly walked out into the centre of the floor. Trying

Younger dances with Trophy they won and below the performance



our very best we performed Portnacraig and Gang the Same Gate. I felt we danced very well, but were pipped into 3rd place by only one point. It was pleasing to read the adjudicator Alex Gray's comments. These were very favourable. "This is a team that is aware of covering and puts it into practice." "Phrased well and danced well together". "Set & link was well phrased and a joy to watch."

Next it was the turn of our younger dancers in

the 13-18year section. They danced The Reel 51st Division and Neidpath Castle. They danced both these dances with energy and enthusiasm. The 1/2 pousettes in Neidpath Castle were excellently danced. This resulted in them winning their section. The rest of us who were there from Leeds gave them a big cheer. Congratulations you really deserved it. The younger dancers also entered the demonstration dance section. They performed a medley of dances including some Highland. They performed very well and did us proud.

The day finished with a number of us staying for a very lively evening dance, with music from Sandy Nixon. It was an excellent dance and very encouraging to see a lot of younger dancers there.

This is a very good day out. Maybe next year more of you would like to go.

I think we all did the branch proud. Thanks to all who took part and Brenda for teaching both teams.

Catherine Livsey



The Ladies team in new branch white dresses

The Branch welcomes your news, stories, views, questions etc..... please contact me, Catherine Livsey - Editor, 6 Woodlands Avenue, Lepton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD8 0HZ. Tel 01484 432270 day or 01484 306637 evenings.

If for some reason you don't receive any copy of the Branch newsletter please contact Alistair Mason on 01423 560684

From the Chairman

Alan wishes to thank those people who have returned their teachers' questionnaire. He would like to receive your completed form even if you are not available for teaching at present, as we are compiling a data base of all Branch teachers. If you have not yet had a form please contact Alan at 01943 466 702

The New Branch web site is
www.rscdsleeds.freemove.co.uk
why not give it a try.

Southport Festival

On Saturday 6th February our young dancers set off on the train for the 13th Southport Festival organised by the Wigan Thistle Society.

There was great excitement particularly for those attending for the first time. It is an unforgettable experience to dance in such an enormous luxurious hall, the Floral Hall, under spotlights, surrounded by dancers in white dresses and kilts as far as the eye can see.



Right Dancing. Above our team of dancers

The programme consisted of round the room dances for everyone, interspersed by dances of three ability levels, elementary, intermediate and advanced. Our youngest dancers joined in the elementary dances and our experienced dancers joined in the advanced dances. Sometimes our experienced dancers helped out the younger ones by making up the set. Sometimes a few of our younger dancers were thrilled by the challenge of helping out our advanced dancers to make up their set, and by dancing Highland Schottische for the first time.

A few groups opted to dance a solo. Our experienced dancers danced 'The Breakdown' which was appreciated by all.

Groups were invited by the organisers to devise their own dances, which may be included in the Southport Festival in the year 2000. This was discussed with great excitement on the train going home. At the end of the day we arrived in Leeds, tired but contented after a successful day.

Barbara Caldicott

Visit from Los Angeles

The Branch was delighted to welcome Fred DeMarse our first overseas teacher from our twin branch of Los Angeles. Fred was asked to teach a number of our branch classes during the week of 14th to 21st February 1999. I really hope you didn't miss out, as this was a real treat.

On Tuesday Fred taught the Level 3 class. He taught a very difficult demonstration dance "Port Tack", which challenged all. He taught with such energy and enthusiasm that you could do nothing else but enjoy it. My favourite part of the class was when we went through Highland steps and danced the Strathspey & 1/2 reel of Tulloch. It reminded me how much I enjoy Highland. What a buzz you can get from the effort involved in this form of dance. The exhilaration you get compares to nothing else for me. (Come and see for yourself at the Branch's Highland Workshop on Sat 24th April 99, details in Dates, Dates, Dates.)

Thursday came and Fred taught the level 2 class at Brackenwood. This provided a real challenge as the class had a new recruit. Once again with enthusiasm Fred overcame this challenge. He worked the class hard. There was a great fun atmosphere from which I concluded everyone had

really enjoyed the class.

Fred will teach our younger dancers on Saturday and will be at the branch dance. I hope you all will enjoy meeting him and maybe enjoy a dance with him.

The Branch would like to thank Fred for finding the time to visit us, and providing us with a very enjoyable week of classes.

Catherine Livsey



Fred with Brackenwood class.

Tribute to Dr Cunningham

When I read the obituary of Dr Cunningham, in the December newsletter, how the memories came flooding in! This kind of reaction becomes more frequent as the years roll by, but I take the sanguine view that it is part of the restorative defence against the effects of age!

I only met Bill once, but the circumstances left a lasting impression. In the Summer of 1956, I was living in digs in North Wales. By some means, I learned about the Leeds S.C.D Festival and made up my mind to attend. That meant a very early start to a carefully planned journey by bus and rail. Eventually arriving in Leeds, kilt, hose and all, I was soon at Beckett Park. My intention was to enjoy the day to the maximum, to stay as long as possible and to travel back at the end of the day, even if it took me all night and most of Sunday to get back to my billet!

To my surprise, I was enlisted by Bill almost immediately to fill a gap in one of the teams. The busy day ended with a dance at the University. Taking pity on me, Bill then offered me accommodation for the night, as a welcome alternative to making the weary journey home. I gratefully spent the night on his sofa, and was taken to the station next morning to catch the train to Wales.

That act of hospitality was made despite the fact that Bill and his daughters were still grieving for the recent untimely death of his first wife. As a complete stranger to Bill and to Leeds, I was deeply impressed by his generosity. A curious twist of fate brought me in 1968 to live permanently in Leeds. By then Bill had moved on, and I was never able to renew our acquaintance. All the more reason now, to salute him!

Gordon J Bennett

COME TO THE CEILIDH

As Easter is early this year, the Committee thought it would be an ideal opportunity to hold a ceilidh dance on **Saturday 17 April at West Park 7.30pm** with music by John Browne.

It promises to be a great evening with something for everyone. Please encourage your non-dancing family and friends to come along and join in the fun. The cost will be: adults £4: Students £2: Children £1.

ADMISSION TO THE BRANCH DANCE

The branch committee have decided that the cost of entry into branch dances will vary depending on the cost of the musicians. See programmes for dance costs.

Also it was agreed to reduce the children's price to £1 and University Student's to £2.

WHITE ROSE FESTIVAL 10TH JULY

If you wish to dance in a Branch team, then please fill in the enclosed form or give you name to Catherine Livsey.

Tickets are limited for the evening dance, so let me know ASAP.

Sat 20th March 1999 - 7.30pm SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre

Music - Marian Anderson Trio MC's - Alan & Susan Carr

Admission: Members £4.50, Non Members £5, University Students £2, Children £1

Programme

The Happy Meeting	8 x 32J	Book 29
The Highland Lass	8 x 32R	Book 30
Bridge of Nairn	8 x 32S	Book 13
Wild Geese	8 x 32J	Book 24
General Stuart's Reel	8 x 32R	Book 10
The Glasgow Highlanders	8 x 32S	Book 2
Gothenburg's Welcome	8 x 32J	Book 37
New Scotia Quadrille	2 x 48R	Book 34

Joie de Vivre	8 x 32J	Book 39
Ladies of Dunse	8 x 40R	Book 26
Ladykirk Bridge	8 x 32S	Leeds 35th
Diamond Jubilee	4 x 32J	Book 31
Minard Castle	8 x 40R	Book 22
The Dundee Whaler	4 x 32S	Ormskirk
Miss Allie Anderson	8 x 32J	Leaflet
Reel of the Royal Scots	8 x 32R	Leaflet

Extras

Blooms of Bon Accord	4 x 32R	Drewry Deeside 2
Minister on the Loch	3 x 32S	Goldring Social Dances
Postie's Jig	4 x 24S	J Clowes Ormskirk Bk 5
Black Mountain Reel	5 x 32R	Haynes Camforth Bk 3

Sat 15th May 1999 - 7.30pm SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre

Music - Ian Slater (solo) MC - Gerry Yates

Admission: Members £4, Non Members £4.50, University Students £2, Children £1

Programme

The Highland Lass	8 x 32R	Book 30
Quarries' Jig	8 x 32J	Book 36
Adieu mon Ami	8 x 32S	Book 24
The Silver Thistle	8 x 32R	Leeds 35th
C'est L'Amour	8 x 32J	Book 34
Cape Town Wedding	8 x 32S	Book 39
Light and Airy	8 x 32J	Book 4
Australian Ladies	8 x 32R	Geneva Park Dances

Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	4 x 32J	RSCDS 5/82
The Clansman	8 x 32R	Book 32
The Cashmere Shawl	8 x 32S	Ian Boyd
None so Pretty	8 x 40R	Book 19
The Luckenbooth Brooch	8 x 32J	Leaflet
Clutha	4 x 48R	Book 31
Wisp of Thistle	8 x 32S	Book 37
The Highland Rambler	8 x 40R	Leeds 25th
Kiss under the Stairs	8 x 32J	MMM II

Extras

The Anniversary Reel	4 x 32R	Book 36
Macleod's Fancy	4 x 32J	Book 33
Argyll's Farewell to Stirling	4 x 40R	Leaflet
Dundee Whaler	4 x 32S	Ormskirk

Classes

Fees

Level 1 and 2 £1.50 per class, Level 3 class £2.00 (due to this class having live music).

Level 1 Beginners, Level 2 General, Level 3 Experienced Dancers.

Level 2 Starts 5th Jan 99

Tuesdays, 7.45 - 9.45pm

Adel Methodist Church Hall, Adel, Leeds 16

Teachers: Alan & Susan Carr

Level 3 Starts 5th Jan 99

Tuesdays, 7.45 - 9.45pm

Mechanics Institute - Corner of Blackett St & Thornhill St, Calverley, Leeds.

On street parking.

Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Note: On 26th January 1999 there will be no class, if you wish to dance that evening you will be more than welcome at Adel.

Level 1 Starts 6th Jan 99

1st Three Wednesdays of month, 7.45 - 9.45pm

Holy Trinity Church Hall, Knaresborough

Teacher: Peter Clark

Level 1 Starts 3rd Feb 99

Wednesdays, 7.45 - 9.45pm

Mechanics Institute - Corner of Blackett St & Thornhill St, Calverley, Leeds.

On street parking.

Teacher: Barbara Caldicott

The new class got off to a good start with 18 people attending. If you know of anyone else who would like to start Scottish Country Dancing then please inform them about this class. Your help is greatly needed in spreading the word and publicising this class. Thank you.

Level 2 Starts 7th Jan 99

Thursdays, 7.45 - 9.45pm

Brackenwood Community Centre, New Building, Lidgett Lane, Leeds 8

Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Children

Fridays 7.15 - 8.45pm Starts 8th Jan 99

Hawsworth Wood Primary School, Broadway, Leeds 5

Teachers: Brenda Burnell, Barbara Caldicott

TEACHERS CERTIFICATE CLASS

Full & Preliminary

Sundays, 10.00 - 4.00pm

Askwith Village Hall, Askwith

Dates: 14th March 99, 25th April 99,

9th May 99, 27th June 99,

3rd & 4th July 99 the exam,

Teacher: Brenda Burnell,

Pianist: Pat Clark

DATES, DATES, DATES

WALK-THROUGH SOCIAL

Come and try a very enjoyable evening of social dancing. Dances are selected from the next Branch Social Programme. Every dance is walked through, so you can just turn up and enjoy the evening without having to prepare.

Friday 5th March 1999

WALK-THROUGH SOCIAL DANCE

7.45 - 9.45pm

St Columba's UR Church Hall, Headingley.

Saturday 20th March 1999

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

2pm West Park Centre

Music Marion Anderson Band

Saturday 20th March 1999

SOCIAL DANCE

7.30pm West Park Centre

Music Marion Anderson Band

Fri 26th to Sun 28th March 1999

WEEKEND SCHOOL

Clifton Hotel, Scarborough.

Teacher Bill Zobel, Music George Meikle

PLEASE NOTE YOUR BALANCE OF THE PAYMENT IS NOW DUE.

Saturday 17th April 1999

CEILIDH DANCE

West Park 7.30pm with music by John Browne. It promises to be a great evening with something for everyone. Please encourage your non-dancing family and friends to come along and join in the fun. The cost will be: adults £4: Students £2: Children £1.

Saturday 24th April 1999

HIGHLAND WORKSHOP

10.00am St Mary's

Hawkwood Ave, Leeds 5

Teacher; Catherine Livsey (MBATD

Highland & Scottish National).

10am Registration & Coffee

10.30 12.30pm Beginners and those

wishing to improve on the basic

movements/steps.

Complete Beginners very welcome so why not give Highland a try!

1.30 - 3.30pm Intermediate and Advanced

Classes £3 per session or both sessions £5

for the day.

Form included with this Newsletter or

from Yvonne Tredgett 17 Aviemore Road,

Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND Tel

01302 851174.

Friday 7th May 1999

WALK-THROUGH SOCIAL DANCE

7.45 - 9.45pm

St Columba's UR Church Hall,

Headingley.

Saturday 15th May 1999

TEACHERS WORKSHOP

For both Preliminary and Full Certificate holders. Forms now available. You should have one with this news letter if you don't contact Yvonne Tredgett 17 Aviemore Road, Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND Tel 01302 851174.

Saturday 15th May 1999

SOCIAL DANCE

7.30pm West Park Centre

Music Ian Slater Solo

Friday 4th June 1999

WALK-THROUGH SOCIAL DANCE

7.45 - 9.45pm

St Columba's UR Church Hall, Headingley.

Saturday 19th June 1999

END OF SEASON DANCE

7.30pm West Park Centre

Music Ian Slater Solo

9th and 10th July 1999

WHITE ROSE FESTIVAL

St. Peter's School, York.

Dance Friday Night, Festival Saturday afternoon, Saturday evening dance at the Assembly Rooms.

Information enclosed with this Newsletter or contact Catherine Livsey.

THE SILVER THISTLE COLLECTION

Twelve more Leeds Dances to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Leeds Branch of RSCDS

Books £2.50 plus postage

CD's £12.00 plus postage containing music for dances in this book and played by David Cunningham and his Band.

If bought together Book and CD may be purchased for just £13.50 plus postage.

Now available from

Yvonne Tredgett
17 Aviemore Road, Warmsworth,
Doncaster DN4 9ND
Tel 01302 851174