

Leeds Branch Dancers Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1072452

ISSUE 73 MAY 2014



Dancing at last years White Rose Festival

From the Chair...

It seems like no time at all since we were opening the season and, already, here we are almost at the last dance; but still with two tea dances, the June dance and the White Rose Festival to look forward to. The June dance will be our 52nd birthday so come along and help us celebrate. Marian Anderson is sure to get our feet flying.

A lot has been going on recently, the Children's Festival, Highland Day School and Back to Basics Workshops as well as our usual dances and classes. They all seem to have been well received and well supported.

This year is the 60th anniversary of the Festival, now known as the White Rose Festival, originally run by Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club. It's always a good day out

at the scenic venue of Gateways School, Harewood. If you haven't already put your name down and would like to dance, please speak to me or Catherine Livsey.

Gerry Yates would like some volunteers to help with the car parking on the day. It's fun; you get to wear a 'hi vis' jacket and boss motorists about. Best of all you get to meet and welcome everyone arriving at the Festival. Names of volunteers to me or Gerry please.

Looking forward to next season: now is the time to renew your membership and to sign up for the Day School on 20 September 2014. We have Mervyn Short to teach us and Ian Slater to play for us. It's a good way to start the new season. A membership form and an application form for the Day School

Future Newsletters

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

Please send all copy for future newsletters to Irene Dracup
21 Lawns Drive, Leeds LS12 5RJ
Tel: 0113 2631310
Email: glyn.cup@virginmedia.com

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 a copy of the Branch newsletter please contact Brenda Burnell on 0113 267 6655.

are enclosed; so fill them in now before you forget.

The committee has decided that dance prices will rise by a modest £1 from September to keep pace with our costs. From September entry to a dance will be £10 for members and £11 for non-members.

Many of our classes will finish after the Festival but remember that you can still get a weekly 'fix' of Scottish dancing at the Thursday evening class at Roundhay, which goes on through the summer.

The new season will open on week commencing 8th September 2014 but we will give you a further reminder in the August Newsletter.

Happy dancing.

Irene Dracup

Subscription to this Newsletter can be taken out at £6.00 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.

Phil Daybell

Older members will remember Phil as an active member of the Branch and will be sad to hear of his recent death. He featured in the Scrapbooks playing his pipes at our Ceilidhs. Newer members will have been aware of his presence as he made the targes and shields that decorated West Park for our dances. He was meticulous in making such things. The targes were exact copies of the real thing and made with identical materials. Anyone who helped to put them out would realise how heavy they were. The shields were in their own right works of art and carefully labelled on the back to identify them. We are pleased Phil made these lasting mementoes for the Branch.

The Glaramara Gathering 12th - 16th October 2014

Walking and Scottish Country dancing in the Lakes.

Cost per person: £229 for single room with shared facilities; £253 for ensuite twin room. This includes full board with packed lunch and afternoon tea.

Application forms will be available. If you are interested please send me an email or give me a ring: mhcraven@talktalk.net or 01943 461705.

Heather Craven

Saturday 21st June 2014 7.30pm SOCIAL DANCE

St Chad's Parish Centre,
Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 5JT

Music: Marian Anderson Duo MC: Gerry Yates

Admission: £9, Non-member £10, Full time Education £3,

Programme

The Highland Lass	8x32 R	Book 30
The Nurseryman	8x32 J	Book 37
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	8x32 S	RSCDS Leaflet
The Miller of Sessnie*	5x32 J	R Goldring, 15 Social Dances
Bratach Bana	8x32 R	J Drewry Bon Accord Book
Culla Bay	4x32 S	Book 41
Glastonbury Tor*	8x32 R	Book 47
The Hazel Tree	8x32 J	J Drewry, Brodie Book

INTERVAL

The Snake Pass	8x32 J	N Churnside, Life Begins at Forty
Clutha	4x48 R	Book 31
Barbara's Strathspey	8x32 S	Book 46
Miss Hadden's Reel	8x32 J	Book 23
The Royal Yacht Britannia	8x40 R	Book 43
S-Locomotion	4x32 S	Book 41
Portnacraig	8x32 R	Book 36
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32 J	Book 22

Extras

Inverneill House	8x32 R	Book 35
Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	4x32 J	RSCDS Five Dances 1982
The Minister on the Loch	3x32 S	RSCDS four Dances 2008

*Will be walked through (all others will be fully recapped)

Children's Festival

Once again we held the Children's Festival at The Grove Methodist Church in Horsforth. It's a very homely hall with a nice floor and everyone there is very helpful with the setting up and tidying away.

As soon as the adjudicated dancing started it was clear that a lot of hard work had gone in by parents and leaders making all the smart costumes; and by teachers training the children to such a high standard. Everyone did very well and Graham Donald, the adjudicator, gave much praise as well as highlighting a few things to work on for future improvement. Kathie Dosell's pen flew as she took notes to be handed on to teachers and leaders.

We all joined in with some general dancing to the wonderful music of Neil Barron. Many of our favourite dances were on the programme, and on some occasions the dance had just been demonstrated as it should be done by one of the groups being adjudicated. It was helpful also to receive the reminder of each dance from our MC Jean Dyson. Lots of people were available to help the unsure through the dances and the whole atmosphere was one of fun and enjoyment.

Thank you to everyone involved and 'WELL DONE' to all the children.

Irene Dracup

Saturday 20th September 2014 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE
St Chad's Parish Centre,
Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 5JT

Music: Robert Whitehead MC: Irene Dracup

Admission: £10 Non-member £11, Full time Education £3,

Programme

EH3 7AF	8x32 J	Book 40
Sueno's Stone	8x32 R	RSCDS four Dances 2008
Barbara's Strathspey	8x32 S	Book 46
Teacher's Choice		
Cadgers in the Canongate	8x48 R	Book 9
The Dream Catcher	1x96 S	Book 45
The Frisky	8x32 J	Book 26
General Stuart's Reel	8x32 R	Book 10

INTERVAL

Miss Hadden's Reel	8x32 J	Book 23
A Capital Jig	8x32 J	RSCDS 5 dances for 2009
Teacher's Choice		
The Zoologist	8x32 J	Book 46
The Cumbrae Reel	8x32 R	Book 28
Scarborough Castle	8x32 S	Leeds 50
Scott Meikle	4x32 R	Book 46
St Andrew's Fair	8x32 J	RSCDS 5 SCDs 1982

Extras

The Sailor	8x32 R	Book 24
Pelorus Jack	8x32 J	Book 41
Balmoral Strathspey	4x32 S	Book 22

All dances will be recapped

The Photograph



In answer to the question 'Does anyone know the year of this photo was taken?' (Newsletter February 2014)

Yes I do, and here it is; read on. It was an instant challenge for me. A number of years ago, Susan Carr, accompanied by Alan became teachers of the Monday afternoon and Tuesday evening classes at Adel. I was asked to keep the Monday register of dancers and take the money. I am not really a hoarder but I have these records going back to 2004. So, out came the class registers and to be honest it was not difficult, given the number smiling at the camera, to know that it was one of the VERY FAMOUS ADEL TEA DANCES; the date being 19th May 2008. The main clue for me was a lady at the front who only came for eight weeks. I was puzzled by the absence of 'yours truly' but,

yes, I checked in my diary for that year and I was enjoying a bird watching trip, not as one or two well-meaning fellow dancers suggested 'In the kitchen!' On the extreme right of the picture are two dancers namely Hillary and Ivy. Sadly Hillary died last year albeit she had not danced with us for several years, and Ivy now in her nineties no longer comes dancing. Time marches on even for Scottish dancers, and there are several in the picture who are no longer dancing because of injuries and problems relating to what I have just referenced. However, never heed the slogan 'Shop till you drop', better to drop with your dancing shoes on!

Here comes the next Adel Tea Dance, and would you believe it, I am on a bird watching trip. Don - you really should liaise.

Jean Weatherill

Monday 19 May 2014 1-45pm to 3-45pm Adel Spring Tea Dance

Adel Methodist Church,
Gainsborough Avenue, LS16 7PQ

All Dances will be walked through.
All welcome. Price £5. Faith Tea.
Music: Ian Slater MC: Don Andrews

All the Eights	J 8x32	Leeds 50
The Ladies of Dunse	R 8x40	Book 26
Best Set in the Hall	J 8x32	Book 46
Barbara's Strathspey	S 8x32	Book 46
The Cooper Children	R 8x40	Leeds 50
Bill Clement MBE	J 8x32	Book 47
The Robertson Rant	S 1x80	Book 39
The Lass of Richmond Hill	R 8x32	Graded 2
The Luckenbooth Brooch	J 8x32	J B Dickson
The Reel of the Royal Scots	R 8x32	RSCDS Leaflet

Extras

Nottingham Lace	R 1x88	J Bradley
The Paisley Weavers	S 3x32	Carnforth 6
Ladies' Fancy	J 6/8x32	Book 13

Thursday 22 May 2014 12pm to 45pm Ilkley Spring Tea Dance & Ceilidh

St Margaret's Church Hall, Ilkley LS29 9QL

All Dances will be walked through. All welcome.
Price £5. Faith Tea. Music: Ian Slater MC: Don Andrews

A Highland Welcome	R 5x32 (C)	Craigievar 1
Happy Returns	R 8x32 (S)	MMM
Welcome to Ayr	J 8x32 (S)	Book 47
The Lass of Richmond Hill	R 8x32 (S)	Graded 2
The Moray Rant	S 3x48 (S)	Drewry
Suzuki Circle	R 5x32 (C)	Collins
The Luckenbooth Brooch	J 8x32 (S)	J B Dickson L/let
Cramond Bridge	R 8x32 (S)	London 1979
The Minister on the Loch	S 3x32 (S)	4 for 2008
The Flying Scotsman	J 8x32 (C)	Foss Leaflet
The Machine without Horses	J 8x32 (S)	Book 12
The Dashing White Sergeant	R 5x32 (S/C)	Book 3

Extras

Virginia Reel	R 4x40 (C)	Collins
Joie de Vivre	J 8x32 (S)	Book 39
Gothenburg's Welcome	J 8x32 (S)	Book 37

(C) indicates Ceilidh dance and (S) Scottish Country Dance

Who are or were these people?

The origin of dance titles is often interesting - some titles refer to places or important dates and many to people. We have many of the latter that give us the recent history of the RSCDS and to round off my series for the 90th year of the Society I would like to share my memories of these people and what they have done for Scottish country dancing.

I have already talked about the two ladies who founded the Society and we continually remember them when we dance **Miss Milligan's Strathspey** and **Mrs Stewart's Jig**. Mrs Stewart's husband **Major Ian Stewart** is a popular dance with his regimental march, 'The Scottish Horse', as the name tune for it.

Two other ladies who played major roles in the Society over the years are two of the long serving secretaries.

Miss Hadden's Reel reminds us of a very prim and sometimes stern looking lady who initially worked from her home until **12 Coats Crescent** was purchased in 1955. Miss Hadden was secretary from 1942 until 1967 answering all our letters on an ordinary typewriter. The postcode **EH3 7AF** was added to Headquarters' address before Miss Gibson became secretary in 1975. A retired army lieutenant colonel, she was an extremely efficient secretary and knew everything that went on in the Society. **Miss Gibson's Strathspey** is a frequent reminder of her. Neither of these ladies danced but Miss Gibson was often seen at dances as well as Summer School and AGM weekends.

There has always been a close alliance with the Dukes of Atholl since the Society was formed. **The Duke of Atholl's Reel** reminds us of this association although the dance was danced long before 1932 - it appears in Skillern in 1776! Sadly when the 10th Duke died in 1996 he had no direct heir. The title went to his cousin who lived in South Africa where he made paper out of elephant dung. I met some of his near neighbours when I was in South Africa. I taught them the dance and they were going back to show the 11th Duke it but I doubt he would have joined the dancers. Although he came back annually to inspect the private army, The Atholl Highlanders, his roots were firmly in South Africa. He died in 2012 and his son Bruce has inherited the title.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh was devised in Edinburgh for our young Queen and her husband and is memorable for its two handed turn danced the Edinburgh way in skip change of step. More recently it was adopted by the Society and published in Book 39. A set dance **Prince Charles of Edinburgh** was also devised and now appears in the same book. At the same time as Princess Anne was born Mrs MacNab brought back the set dance **Bonnie Anne** but this was purely coincidental.

Anyone who has visited Summer School would have been into the town to visit Mr Senior's shoe shop. He sold dancing shoes to many dancers until he retired. Now his name is carried on by St Andrews Shoemakers Ltd who despatch the famous shoes all over the world. He is remembered in the dance **James Senior of St Andrews**.



James Senior shoes



Several notables have been Chairmen of the Society and have dances named after them. **MacLeod's Fancy** dedicated to Duncan MacLeod of Glasgow. He was Chairman from 1976 - 79. He was one of Miss Milligan's Jordan Hill boys and a lovely dancer. He was a member of the international team in the 1950s. When Miss Milligan died he took over at Summer School and was Director for several years. **Miss Florence Adams** was also from Glasgow and was Chairman of the Society from 1964 - 67. She taught regularly at St Andrews and co-wrote the book, 'Dance with Your Soul', about Miss Milligan with Alistair MacFadyen. **Margaret Parker's Strathspey** reminds us of another chairman (from 1982 - 85) who ran a very special class. It was an afternoon class and you had to be over eighty to attend. They had frequent breaks and lots of cups of tea! **The Earl of Mansfield** was our President from 1977 - 2009 and chaired the AGMs until fairly recently. I remember dancing on his grass at Scone Palace when we celebrated 75 years of the Society. It was a lovely evening (and not too midgey).

Anna Holden's Strathspey was dedicated to a Scots lady who was living in Birmingham. She was a frequent visitor to the Leeds Branch both as an examiner and as a teacher for our day and weekend schools. She was director of Summer School for several years where **Robert H. MacKay** played for classes. Robert used to play for the whole month and continues to do so. He is well known for his colourful jackets (a different colour each day) and his floral buttonholes. He plays excellent music for dancing and always played duets with Muriel Johnstone at the Summer School ceilidhs.

With associations near home **John of Bon Accord** was Roy Goldring's dance for John Drewry. John was a prolific dance deviser and at one time had more dances than the Society! Many of his dances are collecting dust but his more popular ones turn up regularly on our dance programmes. Roy also dedicated a dance **Mrs Yarker's Strathspey** to another Scots lady who lived in our area for some time. She taught at Summer School and was an examiner before retiring and moving to the south coast and then to the north of Scotland. **Miss Allie Anderson** was Chris Macdonald's gym teacher at school in Edinburgh and she can tell you one or two stories about her!

The younger members of the Branch will well remember **Jig for Mrs Dunn** as it was in their exam syllabus for many years. Mrs Dunn taught a children's class in Scotland and two of her girls made up this dance for her. Retired now, she celebrated her 100th birthday last year.

Now on a lighter note two interesting rather than historical stories. **Mr Wilson's Hornpipe** seems to be enjoying a revival. It was the most popular dance on our early dance programmes - second only to the Foursome Reel and Tulloch! It was published in book 16 in the 1950s and remained popular into the 1960s. Its frequent appearance on programmes coincided with us having a Prime Minister of that name and lurking in the background was always **The Earl of Home** (another of our PMs about that time). Both dances are considerably older than the men we knew.

Ever popular **The Duke of Perth** reminds me of another St Andrews story. A gentleman who attended Summer

School regularly in the 50s/60s was always known as the Duke of Perth. I never saw him dance much but he used to organise a coach to take dancers to Perth for their town dances where Ian Powrie's band provided the music. One morning another dancer was in the newsagent's in South Street getting his morning paper but he was preceded by the aforesaid gentleman and when he left the shop the newsagent asked who he was. Without thinking he said 'The Duke of Perth'. I don't think any of us knew his real name. Each morning after that the newsagent greeted 'His Grace' very deferentially before handing him paper and left us all chuckling!

Many of the names of dances could hide other interesting stories but we can make up our own stories. Have you ever played consequences with names of dances or can you make up a story with our programmes today?

Brenda

Memories of the Early Sixties

Recently, two Club Newsletters, dated May 1962 and January 1963, were forwarded to me by an old friend and they rekindled many memories which led me to start comparing dancing then with my recent experiences.

The Club held dances on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at Adel Memorial Hall, always dancing to records, mainly 78 rpm's. It was usually two dances per record but occasionally a long strathspey would stop after the sixth time, the record would be turned over, and the dance completed.

I first danced at Adel in 1959 and had to negotiate my entrance because it was "a private club". I was made very welcome by Harry Carr (no relative) who turned out to be my next door neighbour. The hall was a traditional village hall, not much larger than a badminton court, but all the space was used for dancing.

I do not recall the dances being booked, but most of the people sat and danced within their own groups. Some of the people who danced at Adel are still dancing, but they are getting fewer. I remember the Clark brothers, Brenda, Avis, Shirley, Diane and many others but in those days they were all much younger and sprightlier.

Programmes in those days were much simpler than those of today and consisted of predominantly RSCDS dances. The repertoire of dances was much smaller and most of them consisted of standard figures. There were a few non-RSCDS dances; Cosh produced his "Six Scottish Dances" introducing Mairi's Wedding, Hugh Foss was producing some very intellectual dances, and of course John Drewry was also publishing his first dances around this time.

Recaps were unheard of and crib sheets were restricted to the larger dances, so most people relied on their Pilling, which was then a small spiral book full of "one - liners".

One big difference was the number and age of participants. You could sell five hundred tickets for the University Balls on a Friday evening and the Leeds Festival

required two halls for the evening dance. Today, apart from the occasional Festival or Area Ball, one would regard the sale of one hundred tickets as a successful event. Also, the age of participants was much younger and consequently the dancing was much more vigorous. This led to very energetic programmes, often including a Foursome and Tulloch which was usually encored. Many of the dances on the programmes are rarely seen today, and one can understand why. Today there is a much wider choice of dances and many dancers do not have the energy to cope with forty-eight bar reels and jigs, for example the 8x48 Hamilton Rant.

Cost is also interesting. Scottish Country Dancing has always been a cheap activity. When one looks at the prices for dances, the University Ball 8/6 (43p), the Branch Dance 7/- (35p), the Rochdale Ball including a wonderful supper, 12/6 (63p), you realise what good value dancing was. Obviously everything had gone up in price, but even allowing for inflation Scottish Dancing remains a relatively inexpensive hobby.

In one of the old Newsletters there is an announcement about a meeting to elect officers and formulate a constitution for the new Branch. It is explained that the Branch is not formed by the Club, but by four un-named members. Who were they?

As time passes, memories fade but I have tried to recall my early days of dancing and I apologise for any inaccuracies. I will pass these Newsletters on in the hope that they will be displayed at some of the dances. I am sure they will give the older member's pleasure in seeing some names to conjure with and younger ones some insight into Scottish Dancing in the early sixties.

Finally, I would like to thank Maureen Lambie for preserving and sending me these two Newsletters. She is an even better hoarder than me.

Alan Carr

Memories of the Malhamdale Weekend 2013

Arriving at Newfield Hall in Malhamdale for the first time on a Friday afternoon in early December for the Leeds Branch Weekend was full of anticipation. I'd heard great things about the weekend, and I wasn't disappointed. We were soon settled in our comfortable rooms, and enjoying a cosy cream tea around the fireplaces, chatting with old friends and meeting new ones, with one thing in common - looking forward to some great dancing in good company.



Yvonne made sure that we all knew what would be happening throughout the weekend, and made us feel so welcome on this very sociable weekend. After a very good dinner on Friday and Saturday evenings, we amazed ourselves at our capacity to dance on full stomachs, inspired of course by the fantastic music of Phill Jones, who was in great form! His enjoyment of playing for the dances was infectious. Derek looked after us as MC for the evenings, and took pity on us with an occasional walk-through!

There were two excellent workshops on the Saturday and Sunday mornings given by Di Rooney, whose great

teaching skills and wonderful sense of fun made it a pleasure to work hard to try and perfect our technique! Her rapport in working with Phill in the classes was both productive and amusing. There was free time on Saturday afternoon, and the more energetic amongst us made for walking in the dale, some for shopping in Skipton, or relaxing in the peace of the house. Sunday lunch came round all too soon, and fond farewells and thanks were said, to Di, Phill and the staff of Newfield Hall, but above all to Yvonne and Derek for organising everything. It was a super timeroll on December 2014!

Elizabeth Gull (Nottingham RSCDS)

Scarborough Weekend March 2014

When we heard last year that the Clifton Hotel (home of The Scarborough weekend for 15 years) was to receive a re-fit, ready for the 2014 season, there was general rejoicing. The weather had been arctic and in some bedrooms the heating failed to keep the icy draughts below gale force. Time had taken its toll over a formerly splendid edifice. The joy was pretty short-lived when we realised that the improvements meant the disappearance of the glory of the place - its beautiful dance floor.

However, such is our trust in the capabilities of our Great Leader (also known as Yvonne the Indomitable) that we flocked to book for 2014, confident she would come up trumps with a suitable new venue. And of course Yvonne did not disappoint us. The Esplanade Hotel made us very welcome, served delicious food, had warm, comfortable rooms, arranged sunny weather for the whole weekend etc, and most importantly - has a dance floor. With George Meikle's marvellous manic digits on the accordion Friday evening simply danced by in no time.

Saturday morning and Bill Zobel took us in hand for a morning of inspired teaching. He expected effort from us and a dancer's understanding of technique, with a deep appreciation of movement as a response to the music. It is always a special experience to be in a class where the teacher and the musician have a strong rapport. Although Bill puts you on your mettle to respond to his teaching he is always encouraging. We learnt a number of lovely Roy Goldring dances, not commonly danced these days.

After a huge buffet style lunch - we were spoilt for choice - Saturday afternoon was ours to spend as we wished. Some went exploring medieval Scarborough, others the art galleries (have a gander to The Tracy Savage Gallery if you've never been) and some the Cleveland Way, walking alongside wild seas. Some never disclosed what they got up to. Let me know if you find out.

On Saturday night we had a great programme of dances with Derek as M.C., a quick re-cap if requested, a walkthrough of a couple of unfamiliar dances. Then suddenly it is Sunday and a morning of classes with Bill who whips up enthusiasm and away we go again. Who ever heard of a 3 couple dance, alternating between a strathspey and a slow reel time, each of the two an individual dance, 6 times through? Even George was flummoxed at one point! A brain storming, foot flying, fun way to end things.

The Scarborough weekend brings together dancers from all over the country, throws in a musical maestro and mixes things up with a wild card - a different teacher each time. We miss absent friends, make new friends, meet up with friends we only see at these weekends. What can we say but a huge thank you to Yvonne for making it all possible.

Mairi

Footnote: The flyer for Scarborough 2015 advises early booking as the size of the dance floor limits the numbers. Yes, it is a smaller floor than at The Clifton so do book early if you want to be sure of a place at the party.

Members out and about

The Harrogate Ball 2014

After not attending a couple of monthly socials this year for various reasons, I felt as if I had missed out, so after - at last - going to Leeds Branch March social, I was not happy to think I had to wait until May for another dance. However Alan mentioned the Harrogate Ball in April, so a ticket was ordered, a crib sheet provided, glad rags on - off I went on the 5th of April. Sandy Nixon was playing; I knew that the venue we were dancing in had a good floor together with other excellent facilities including easy accessible parking so everything boded well.

I met loads of people I was pleased to see, and although the congregation was not as many as had been before, the atmosphere was most congenial and light hearted. What is more, instead of the 3piece band, we had the added delight of a 5piece, which produced a really good sound and together with many of my favourite tunes and quite a few I had not heard before, the music was most enjoyable. It was a good programme very well presented clearly and concisely by our MCs Ian, Valery and Betty so there was little or no problems whilst dancing and everything went with a swing.

Our supper was superb with a variety of food beautifully presented, and this year the tables were around the dance floor which added to the ambience without having the usual break to go to the dining hall. The staff of the school were so helpful and obliging throughout the evening - this must have proved a bonus to the organisers and caterers.

All in all it was an evening worth travelling to and I look forward to another good evening next year.

Kathie D

Leeds Club Dance March

Last night I attended the Club dance at St Chad's, which turned out to be very enjoyable notwithstanding a few 'odd' notes and alternating tempo from the musician. But, by the end of the night I had warmed to him and thought he was a great improvement on the previous occasion he had played.

Irene had 'bagged' a seat on the opposite side of the room to the Leeds group to encourage people to mix and dance with different partners. I don't know how successful this was as I never got to 't'other side' myself but perhaps if we do move out of our comfort zone we will discover that however good or bad we think we are, there are dancers willing to give it a go. Some of the sets I was in made a real hash of things but we were still smiling and managed to all finish together even though some were on the wrong side.

Pat Cowles

Highland Day School

Gosh my legs ache today! It must have been that extra dance that Gerry put in at the Leeds Club dance last night, because all I did during the day was the Highland Day School.

We had the school at St Giles in Bramhope this time. We arrived to a lovely light and airy hall with a welcome hot drink made by Jean Weatherill. Then we got down to business, with Catherine Livsey teaching the seventeen of us a four step Fling and Shepherds Crook. Some performed better than others but everyone, including Muriel, a game 80 year old, gave it their best shot. I've discovered that I have very disobedient feet. They don't do what my head tells them to at all.

After a lunchtime chat and sandwich, our numbers diminished a little, but nine of us made a spirited attempt at the Lilt and the 'real killer', the Foursome Reel and Half Tulloch. We were all a little worn out by the end of that, but I think that we all felt that we had achieved a bit better standard than we had before. Everyone went home satisfied and having enjoyed the school. Thanks are due to Catherine for her patient and thorough teaching.

Adrian then went off with his Harem of female dancers. He told me that he was taking them for a meal! They always seem to have a very good time so one day I'll go along and find out what goes on.

Come and join us at the next school on Sunday 26 October 2014 at the dance studio at Holt Park Leisure Centre.

Irene Dracup

SCOTCH ON THE ROCKS

A week in Nova Scotia consisting of:
Scottish Country dance (5x½ day classes at Intermediate-Advanced level) & a dance with live music. ½ day excursions into the past 350 million years at beautiful shoreline and river localities. One 1-hour massage designed to help one to keep dancing through the years.



Where: Old Orchard Inn, 153 Greenwich Rd. South, Exit 11 Highway 101, Wolfville Nova Scotia

When: 18-22nd August, 2014

Scottish Dance Teacher: Duncan Keppie

Nature Excursions: Duncan and Maggie Keppie

Massage: Ailsa Keppie, Registered Massage Therapist (receipts issued for Insurance, e.g. Blue Cross)

Cost: \$200/person for dance classes, excursions and dance (\$100 for non-dancing partners)

Accommodation and meals: not included (mention Scottish Dancing to get group room rates below)

Old Orchard Inn recommended: Facilities include pool, sauna, hot tub, spa, tennis courts, fitness room.
Single/Double - \$105, Triple - \$135, Quad - \$145 (plus tax) (5 or more rooms qualifies us for a reduced dance hall rental)

To book: reservations@oldorchardinn.ns.ca,

Website: <http://oldorchardinn.com/>

Registration form and more information from:

J. Duncan Keppie, 2367 Ridge Rd,
Wolfville, Nova Scotia, B4P 2R3
Email keppie@eastlink.ca or Phone 902-542-5320

DATES, DATES, DATES

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

2014

Monday 19th May Spring Tea Dance

1.45pm-3.45pm £5 Faith Tea
Adel Methodist Church, Gainsborough
Avenue, Adel, Leeds, LS16 7PQ
All dances will be walked
Music: Ian Slater

Thursday 22nd May Spring Tea Dance & Ceilidh

2pm-4pm £5 Faith Tea
St Margaret's Church Hall,
Ilkley, LS29 9QL
All dances will be walked
Music: Ian Slater

Saturday 21st June Social Dance 7.30pm

St Chad's Parish Centre,
Leeds LS16 5JT
Music: Marian Anderson Duo

Saturday 12th July White Rose Festival

Afternoon 1.45pm-5.00pm
Evening 7.00pm- 10.30pm
Gateways School, Harewood,
Leeds LS17 9LE
Music: Luke Brady's Band

Saturday 20 September Day School

At St Chad's Parish Centre, Otley
Road, Leeds.LS16 5JT. Our teacher will
be Mervyn Short. Ian Slater will be
playing for us. An application form is
enclosed with the newsletter.

Saturday 20 September Social Dance 7.30pm

St Chad's Parish Centre,
Leeds LS16 5JT
Music: Robert Whitehead and the
Danelaw Band.

Sunday 26th October Highland & Ladies Step Day School

Holt Park Active, Holtdale Approach,
Leeds LS16 7RX. Application forms
available on the Branch website or at
classes and branch dances.
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Weekends

5-7 December 2014 Malhamdale

Teacher: Graham Donald
Music: Phill Jones

27-29 March 2015 Scarborough

Teacher: Pat Houghton
Music: George Meikle

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

The Branch Shop

We stock a wide ranging selection of items for Scottish
Country Dances including books,cds and shoes.

If you would like any thing else we don't stock we are
happy to try and get it for you.

See www.rscdsleeds.org.uk for full details.

Please support your Branch shop!

Classes

Summer Term 2014

WC 28 April 2014
to WC 7 July 2014
No class WC 26 May

Fees: £4.00 per class

Autumn Term 2014

Starts WC 8 September 2014
to WC 15 December 2014

Classes

Monday Afternoon

1-45 to 3-45pm General/Beginners
Adel Methodist Church, Gainsborough
Avenue, Adel, Leeds, LS16 7PQ
Teacher: Don Andrews

Monday Evening

7-45 to 9-45pm Experienced
Calverley Conservative Club,
Victoria Street, Calverley, LS28 5PT
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Tuesday Evening

7-45 to 9-45pm General/Beginners
Adel Methodist Church, Gainsborough
Avenue, Adel, Leeds, LS16 7PQ
Teacher: Irene Dracup

Thursday Afternoon

2-00 to 4-00pm General/Beginners
(2-30 start on third Thursday
of each month)
St Margaret's Church Hall, Ilkley, LS29 9QL
Teacher: Don Andrews

Thursday Evening

7-30 to 10pm General/Beginners
Lidgett Park Methodist church,
Lidgett Place, LS8 1HG
Teachers: Brenda Burnell, Stella Summers
If the door is locked please ring:
07932 486340 to gain entry

Friday Evening (Children)

5-15 to 6-45pm
Hawthorn Wood Primary School,
Broadway, Leeds, LS5 3QE
Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Sunday Afternoon

June 8th, July 6th 2014
For dancers with a good knowledge of
steps and figures and with ambition to
extend their repertoire.
All welcome.
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

For more information see
www.rscdsleeds.org.uk

