



rscds
Dance Scottish

Leeds Branch, Dancers' Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1072452

ISSUE 83 NOVEMBER 2016

From the Chair...

Christmas is coming and there are dances and tea dances enough for everyone. All welcome, do come along and help us celebrate. Cribbs are available from the website if you want to study them in advance of the day. All the dances at the tea dances will be walked through. I hope to see you at these events.

Sadly we have received news of the death of David Robertson. David had been a valued Treasurer for Leeds Branch. He helped us to develop the reports that we need to make to the Charity Commission each year and kept us on track with our finances. His help and advice over the years has been very much appreciated and he will be missed.

Thank you to all who were able to support the committee at the AGM. Minutes will be sent out by e-mail. If you do not use e-mail a copy can be collected from a class or dance or can be requested from Betty Hagart tel:01423 521241. As we do not have a full committee I asked if people who weren't on committee could help with some jobs. It seems that quite a number of people don't want to be committed to coming to meetings or particular dances but are willing to help with tea if they are there. Thank you for your offers, I will be taking some of them up. Other jobs that people might help with off committee are:

- Those with the skill and equipment: photographing pages of scrapbooks so that we can turn them into a digital record and use them a bit more. My 'Box Brownie' doesn't work for this. If you didn't understand that bit you are unusually young for a Scottish Dancer.
- Updating our class adverts in local magazines. This involves sending about four e-mails every three months to advertise our classes in local magazines. After about three months the adverts drop out and have to be renewed. We can provide the text and the e-mail addresses.
- Making or buying a band supper and bringing it to a dance if you know you are going to be there. Supper consists of something savoury such as a sandwich or quiche and fruit, yoghurt or cake. Reimbursement will be made against receipts. Not all of our bands wish to have a supper so this doesn't occur at every dance. If we have a list of those willing we could ask them if they are going to a particular dance and ask them to provide the supper if they are.
- Purchasing the tea, coffee, biscuits as needed and passing them to someone going to a dance.

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.

Reimbursement will be made of course.

- Compiling cribbs for the website. Training will be given if required.

If you are willing and able to help a committee member will be pleased to hear from you.

There is still space on the Scarborough weekend course from 28th to 30th April 2017. The course is aimed at intermediate dancers. Janet Johnson is teaching and George Meikle playing. It's a bargain at £125. A booking form is on the website or you can contact Yvonne on 01302 851174.

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.

September Day School

It was a lovely sunny morning when Sally and I set off from Darlington to attend the workshop and I wondered if I should be spending the day outdoors instead. The minute I arrived I knew I would much rather spend the day dancing than anything else and the day did not disappoint.

John Wilkinson has a lovely style of teaching which is both relaxed and informative. He encouraged us to improve our footwork and formations whilst emphasising how important sociability is. There is such a buzz when the dancers in the set look at each other and 'cover' each other's movements. We were quite a mixed ability class but there was something for everyone to learn throughout the day. John taught several of his own dances one of which was a 3 couple strathspey Greenmantle which was particularly lovely and had plenty of opportunity for 'covering'. One of the more challenging dances of the day was in waltz time which really made us think. I'm not sure how beautifully we danced it but it was very interesting try something a bit different. We had great fun dancing The New Parliament House Jig which is a dance for 9 people – 3 dancers in 3 rows!

It is always a treat to dance to Ian Slater's music and this was no exception. Ian plays at the perfect tempo for dancing and his selection of tunes just makes me want to keep dancing with a smile across my face.

Adel Christmas Tea Dance 2016

12 Dec 2015, 1.45-4.00pm

Adel Methodist Church Hall Gainsborough
Avenue Leeds LS16 7PQ

Music: Ian Slater MC: Don Andrews

Admission: £5

FAITH TEA

Programme

Maxwell's Rant	8x32	R	RSCDS Book 18
Mrs Stewart's Jig	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 35
Barbara's Strathspey	8x32	S	RSCDS Book 46
Captain George Vancouver	4x32	J	Vancouver 50
The Royal Yacht Britannia	8x40	R	RSCDS Book 43
Best Set in the Hall	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 46
The Dream Catcher	1x96	S	RSCDS Book 45
Scott Meikle	4x32	R	RSCDS Book 46
The Cranberry Tart	8x32	J	Glasspool The 7 Year Itch
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8x32	R	RSCDS Leaflet

Extras

The Duke of Atholl's Reel	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 16
City of Belfast	3x32	S	RSCDS Book 48

All dances will be walked.

A big thank you to everyone involved in organising the day school but especially to John and to Ian for giving us such a 'grand day out'

Louise Macdougall

Leeds Branch on the internet

The Leeds Branch provides several resources on the internet.

The main web site is at <http://www.rscdsleeds.org.uk/>, everything is accessible from here. It has details of upcoming events and links to cribs, the new shop, the White Rose Festival, Facebook pages and Twitter.

The shop now has its own website at <http://rscdsleeds.uk>. It now provides online ordering and payments.

If you require any help accessing the above information speak to Adrian Dickin or email adrian.dickin@gmail.com

Saturday 17 December 2016, 7.30pm

Joint Christmas Dance with Leeds SCDC

Queens Hall, Immaculate Heart Church,
294 Harrogate Road, Leeds, LS17 6LE

Music: George Meikle and the Lothian Band

MCs: Julie Harrison/Patricia Lynch

Admission: £9, Non-members £11, Full time Education £3

Programme

Gaelforce Wind	8x32	J	3rd Graded Book SCDs
Old Nick's Lumber Room	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 26
The Swan and the Tay	3x32	S	SCD for Perth 800
Shifftin' Bobbins	8x32	R	Collins Guide
Fisherman's Reel	5x32	R	Dunblane Holiday
Kilkenny Castle	8x32	S	Craigievar Book 2
The Elephant's Stampede	4x48	J	Aurora 10th Anniversary Book
Mrs MacPherson of Inveran	8x32	R	Collins Guide

INTERVAL

The Clansman	8x32	R	RSCDS Book 32
Links with St Petersburg	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 46
Mist O'er the Loch	8x32	S	RSCDS Diamond Jubilee Book
Swiss Lassie	8x32	R	RSCDS Book 39
White Heather Jig	4x40	J	Cosh 22 SCDs
There's Something about Thirty	3x32	S	RSCDS Book 50
MacLeod's Fancy	4x32	J	RSCDS Book 33
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8x32	R	RSCDS Leaflet Dances 27

Extras

Crossing the Line	6x32	R	Bankhead Book 6
Mrs Stewart's Jig	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 35
The Minister on the Loch	3x32	S	Magazine Dances
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5x32	R	Goldring 14 Social Dances

All dances will be recapped

Wednesday 28 December 2016,
7.30pm

HOGMANAY DANCE FAITH SUPPER

St Columba's UR Church Hall, 70
Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS6 2DH

Music: Ian Slater MC: Don Andrews
Admission: £5

Programme

The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32 J	RSCDS Book 22
The Highland Rambler	8x40 R	Leeds 25th Anniversary
Sands of Morar	8x32 S	RSCDS Book 45
Bill Clement MBE	8x32 J	RSCDS Book 47
The Clansman	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 32
The Minister on the Loch	3x32 S	Magazine Dances
Links with St Petersburg	8x32 J	RSCDS Book 46
Back to the Fireside	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 38

INTERVAL

Cherrybank Gardens	3x32 S	Drewry Bankhead 1
Father Connelly's Jig	4x64 J	Drewry Donside
The Countess of Dunmore's Reel	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 49
The First Rain of Spring	3x32 J	RSCDS Book 49
Ezekiel's Wheel	1x88 R	Mungall/Baton Rouge
Jacqui Watson's Strathspey	3x32 S	Leeds Golden
The Machine without Horses	8x32 J	RSCDS Book 12
Mairi's Wedding	8x40 R	Collins

Extra

The Duke of Atholl's Reel	8x32 J	RSCDS Book 16
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All dances will be recapped



Saturday 21 January 2017, 7.30pm
SOCIAL DANCE

Queens Hall, Immaculate Heart Church,
294 Harrogate Road, Leeds, LS17 6LE

Music: Neil Barron MC: Claire Johnson
Admission: £9, Non-members £11, Full time Education £3

Programme

Swiss Lassie	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 39
Napier's Index	8x40 J	RSCDS Book 45
Kilkenny Castle	8x32 S	Craigievar Book 2
Festival Fling	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 44
The Wandering Wallaby	4x32 J	RSCDS Book 50
There's Something about Thirty	3x32 S	RSCDS Book 50
Scott Meikle	4x32 R	RSCDS Book 46
The Elephant's Stampede	4x48 J	Aurora 10th Anniversary

INTERVAL

Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5x32 R	14 Social Dances
Montparnasse	4x32 S	A Dix Reel Friends 3
Bea's Delight	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 43
Father Connelly's Jig	4x64 J	Donside Book
MacDonald of the Isles	3x32 S	Carnforth Collection 2
Mr Iain Stuart Robertson	8x32 R	RSCDS Book 42
The Raven's Dance	8x32 J	Carnforth Collection 5
The Irish Rover	8x32 R	Cosh 22 SCDs

Extras

Blooms of Bon Accord	4x32 R	Deeside Book 2
The Kelloholm Jig	8x32 J	RSCDS Leaflet Dances 12
Culla Bay	4x32 S	RSCDS Book 41

All dances will be recapped

THANKS TO THE GOLDRINGS
26 January 2017 2pm

St Margaret's Church Hall, Queens Road,
Ilkley, LS29 9QL

Music: Ian Slater MC: Don Andrews
Admission: £5

FAITH TEA

Programme

EH3 7AF	8x32 J	RSCDS Book 40
UNICEF Circle	1x88 R	Auld Friends Meet
The Rose of the North	8x32 S	Leeds 25th Anniversary
Twizell Bridge	8x32 J	Auld Friends Meet
All for Mary	8x32 R	12 More Social Dances
The Partnership	1x96 S	Dances for 2002
The Highland Rambler	8x40 R	Leeds 25th Anniversary
Side by Side	8x32 J	15 Social Dances
Muse Cottage	3x32 S	Auld Friends Meet
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8x32 R	RSCDS Leaflet

Extras

Allt An Duin	8x32 R	24 Graded & Social Dances
Birkenside	8x32 S	24 Graded & Social Dances

All dances will be recapped

Musicians' Course week

St Andrews Summer School, August 2016

Around 24 assorted instruments and their players assembled in the distinguished oak panelled Old Dining Room of University Hall on August 1st for the first session of the 2016 Musicians' Course. I had already had a star attached to my name badge to show it was my first time there, and it soon became clear that quite a few regulars were attending. One half of the room was fiddle players and the other half a mixture of accordions and keyboards, with a cellist/flautist in the middle. We came from many parts of the UK and Europe and ranged in age from student to grizzled senior. Ian R Muir and Judith Smith, our keyboard and string tutors for the week, started us off with an easy set, and it was at once obvious that this was going to be a hard working week. We had had many pages of music to look at in advance, centred on the programme for the Saturday night dance which we would be playing for. Ian set an easy pace, but when a crowd of musicians play together for the first time it is always a testing experience, and it seemed quite fast enough to me. We sounded very ramshackle that Monday morning, but by the end of the week we had worked hard to be an ensemble and our final sound was quite impressive.

Along the way the two morning practice sessions were a full day's work. If your sight reading was a bit slow you were fighting to keep up as we collected various extra bits of music during the week and were expected to play them first go. I would say that anyone considering going should work really hard to familiarise themselves with the main programme music before the course starts, so that you can manage all the transitions from tune to tune without pausing to think. What you do in the working sessions puts the polish on. In the afternoons we had fine demonstrations, including playing along, with Judith, and distinguished visiting players Muriel Johnstone, Jim Lindsay and Marion Anderson.

I was attached to accordionist Roddy Johnston for a

valuable mentoring session while he played for a class on the main course. I was able to learn a lot about working as an instrumentalist with a class teacher and seeing how to organise music so that you have a variety of standard reel, strathspey and jig material ready to play without having to have a gigantic repertoire. Dances often have a specific tune as their 'home' tune. Sometimes this has the same name as the dance. Selecting the other tunes to go with it to make a successful set is one of the dark arts of Scottish Country Dance music, as the tune combinations are not readily available on the internet in the way that dance cribs, diagrams and videos are.

In the remaining few afternoon hours Ian and Judith put on sessions when string and keyboard players could meet to tackle problems of technique in detail, and they also held sessions for individuals to bring up their own playing problems.

All round it was a packed week of concentrated playing, culminating in the Saturday night closing dance in the Younger Hall. Playing for a full programme in an orchestra-sized band is an experience no instrumentalist should miss. I can thoroughly recommend the course, but it is no lazy seaside holiday.

Lee Davidson

Dancing Basics Course

Two basics days were run during October. These were taught by Catherine Livsey. All the participants found them very useful and were keen to have more. Everyone made progress during the day.

The courses are designed to teach steps and formations in a more thorough way than there is opportunity for in a mixed experience class. They are helpful for beginners but also suitable for dancers wishing to polish their dancing to a higher standard, or to have the time to practice more difficult formations. If there are formations which anyone would particularly like to have included please let me or Catherine know. We hope to be able to fit in more sessions in the New Year.

Irene Draucp

Highland/SCD Workshop

We met at St Giles for the Highland course taught by Catherine Livsey. This time we were concentrating on country dances with some Highland steps. The dances were very attractive, changing shape and direction, but relatively easy to do, and interspersed with Highland setting steps. If you couldn't manage the Highland steps you could fill the time with ordinary setting. Having spent so much time being told to arch our ankles, the heel down, toe down step bamboozled us, but all in all it was great fun. I'm sure that there are more people out there that could manage it and enjoy doing it. Do come along on 8th April 2017.

Irene Draucp

Musicians' Workshop



Saturday February 18th 2017

St Edmund's Church Hall, Lidgett Park Road,
Roundhay, Leeds, LS8 1JN

The workshop is open to all musicians who wish to develop their confidence and expertise playing in a style that is enjoyable for Scottish Country Dancing.

The workshop sessions will be led by noted accordionist and prolific composer **Nicol MacLaren**.

Interested? Email heather@feete.org

Further details on our website soon
www.rscdsleeds.org.uk

First RSCDS Junior Summer School

Week 3 - 2016

This year Week 3 at the RSCDS Summer School in St Andrews was not only the Musicians' Week, but a trial of a new venture: a class specially for 8-11 year olds. My husband and I had already decided to resurrect some (very) old skills in Scottish country dancing and its music and were keen to attend during this week. As Bekah, the youngest of my three dance-mad granddaughters, was about to be 11, we offered to take her too. We chose to be non-resident both for reasons of economy and Bekah's dietary requirements. However we were only a 10 minute walk/3 minute drive away from University Hall where Summer School is based. One family had also chosen to be non resident and rented a holiday apartment for the week to fit in with travel arrangements and to be self-catering. Another family group were in Agnes Blackadder Hall which is more modern and has I believe en-suite facilities, but is a good five minutes away from Hall. These arrangements made it harder for evening babysitting if the children needed to go to bed at their usual time for at least some of the week. We managed easily as we had a 'spare' non-dancing/playing adult, as we stayed with my sister.

Classes for Summer School are scattered throughout the town in a variety of church and community halls. The Juniors' class was held in Hope Park Church Hall, near the bus station and a ten minute walk from University Hall - but 25 minutes from our house. The programme was so arranged that the children could be delivered at 9am while our classes started at half past 9 and finished half an hour before the children's. Perfectly doable on foot, except that I had an ankle injury which I didn't wish to challenge by long walks as well as dancing every day. As parking in the centre of St A is a nightmare at any time, and the streets around Hope Park are permanently full of parked cars, husband Lee had to come too as a passenger to see Bekah from where I could safely let them off, to the door of Hope Park where one of the teachers waited for their charges. At the other end of the morning Lee had to rush, with fiddle, from Hall to Hope Park to pick her up, whilst I cruised round the block until I saw them, and double parked while they clambered in. For the second part of the week my classes were opposite Hope Park in the Victory Memorial Hall, so Lee drove and dropped us both off, then collected us after Bekah's class. There was just enough parking near Hall for him to do this. For us this worked well, but any one needing to drive a child to and from classes would need this second adult in the car.

The juniors' morning sessions were a mixture of dancing and craft. They had two wonderful teachers, Anne MacArthur, Youth Services Convener, and Marilyn Watson who made these six mornings of fun as well as hard work. There were nine children on the course, some of whom had never danced before. By the Friday evening Ceilidh they were able to perform before the entire Summer School in Hall Common Room, displaying a good knowledge of steps and teamwork in 'The Tartan Bridge Ruin'. The girls sported the tartan rosettes they had made in the craft sessions.

Not only were all the craft materials and fruit at break provided, but the teachers also produced matching white socks for all the girls and tartan skirts for those who didn't have one so that they were all dressed as a team for their

performance and well presented for their medal tests. As the speed with which these youngsters could progress was unknown, the medal test fees had not been included in the course fee. I believe this will be allowed for in future years.

Open classes to practise for the evening social dances took place every afternoon. As the children were official course participants, unusually for Summer School, the under 12s were allowed to attend these. Bekah and I took part in a couple of these together and found the children fitted in well with the others who had come to practise. The sight of a tall bearded and kilted German dancing with tiny Bekah is one I shall long remember!

On the Saturday morning they all took and passed, some with distinction, the Introductory Medal Test. This was followed by a trip to Nardini's Ice Cream Parlour, courtesy of their assessor, the Summer School Director, Jim Stott. As you can imagine, this was the first bit of news we received when picking Bekah up on the Saturday morning! At the Saturday evening dance in the Younger Hall, showing no hint of false modesty, they again took the floor with each other and with willing adults and participated competently in many of the dances. The adults in their sets were delighted to see them and all helped to direct them where necessary. Bekah was ecstatic and is angling for a return visit next year. *Evelyn Davidson*

Saturday 18 February 2017, 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

St Edmund's Parish Church,
15 North Park Avenue, Leeds, LS8 1EJ

Music: Nicol McLaren MC: Don Andrews

Admission: £9, Non-members £11, Full time Education £3

Programme

The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 22
Fraser's Favourite	8x32	R	RSCDS Leaflet
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	8x32	S	RSCDS Leaflet
Monica's Way	4x32	J	RSCDS Book 48
The Ladies of Dunse	8x40	R	RSCDS Book 26
City of Belfast	3x32	S	RSCDS Book 48
The Frisky	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 26
West's Hornpipe	4x32	R	5 dances for 1965

INTERVAL

Joie de Vivre	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 39
The Earl of Mansfield	4x48	R	RSCDS Leaflet
The Braes of Breadalbane	8x32	S	RSCDS Book 21
The Kelloholm Jig	8x32	J	RSCDS Leaflet
Polharrow Burn	5x32	R	Magazine Dances
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	3x32	S	Magazine Dances
The Machine without Horses	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 12
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8x32	R	RSCDS Leaflet

All dances will be recapped

DATES, DATES, DATES

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

2016

2nd-4th December 2016 Malhamdale

Teacher: Diane Rooney
Music: Phill Jones

Monday 12th December Adel Christmas Tea Dance 1.45pm

Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue, Leeds, LS16 7PQ
Music: Ian Slater

Saturday 17th December Joint Christmas Dance with Leeds SCDC 7.30pm

Queen's Hall, Immaculate Heart
Church, 294 Harrogate Road, LS17 6LE
Music: George Meikle and the
Lothian Band

2017

Saturday 22nd January Social Dance 7.30pm

Queens Hall, Immaculate Heart Church,
294 Harrogate Road, Leeds, LS17 6LE
Music: Neil Barron

Thursday 26th January Thanks to the Goldrings 2pm

St Margaret's Church Hall, Church
Road, Ilkley, LS29 9QL
Music: Ian Slater

Saturday 18th February Musicians Day Course

St Edmund's Parish Church, 15 North
Park Avenue, Leeds, LS8 1EJ
Teacher: Nicol McLaren

Social Dance 7.30pm

Music: Nicol McLaren and the course
musicians

Saturday 18th March Children's Festival

Otley Methodist Church (Between
Boroughgate and Walkergate) Otley

Social Dance 7.30pm

Music: Ian Slater

28th to 30th April Scarborough Weekend Course

Esplanade Hotel
Teacher: Janet Johnson
Music: George Meikle

Saturday 20 May Social Dance 7.30pm

St Edmund's Parish Church, 15 North
Park Avenue, Leeds, LS8 1EJ
Music: Ian Muir

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 now sell James Senior shoes, including colourful pumps and ghillies.

New for Summer 2016 from RSCDS - Book 50, the accompanying CD by Scott Band and his Scottish Country Dance Band and a new Miss Milligan Miscellany CD by Luke Brady's Scottish Dance Band. Originally Ours Vol II will be reissued.

Visit www.rscdsleeds.uk for full details of these and lots of other goodies or email: sales@rscdsleeds.uk

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

Please support your Branch shop!

Follow us on  @RSCDSLeeds



Classes

Spring Term 2017

W/C 9 January till W/C 3 April

Fees: £4.00 per class

Multi Class term ticket £52

(half price for those in full time education)

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 and Julie Harrison

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
Teacher: Brenda Burnell
If the door is locked please ring:
07932 486340 to gain entry

Friday Evening (Children)

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

Sunday Afternoon

1.45- 3.45pm
Askwith Village Hall, Askwith, LS21 2JB
December 11th 2016. January 8th,
February 5th, March 12th, April 2nd, May
7th, June 4th, July 2nd 2017.

For dancers with a good knowledge of
steps and figures and with ambition to
extend their repertoire. All welcome.

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Further Information

Contact Betty Hagart
10 Dorset Crescent, Harrogate, HG1 2LU
Tel 01423 521241 Email e.hagart@talktalk.net

www.rscdsleeds.org.uk

For further information and details, application
forms, dance cribs and the Branch shop etc.

You can now follow the branch

On twitter and facebook

Twitter www.twitter.com/RSCDSLeeds
Facebook Rscds Leeds Branch