

Leeds Branch Dancers Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1072452

ISSUE 77 MAY 2015



Another picture from the Malhamdale Weekend Course - December 2014

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.

From the Chair...

Hello Everyone

For once we were blessed with pleasant Easter weather. I hope that all of you who were able to take a break made the most of it, and have returned reinvigorated.

We now have the June dance to look forward to on 20 June with the Ian Thomson Trio and Catherine Livsey as the MC. Then on 11 July is one of the highlights of our calendar, The White Rose Festival. If you haven't yet put your name down to dance and would like to, then let your class teacher or a committee member know

as soon as possible. I can recommend it. It is a most enjoyable day out.

If there is any member with a trailer or van who might be able to help with the transport of the stage and other equipment to Harewood on Friday 10th, and to remove items on Sunday 12th, we would like to hear from you.

Another 'Not to be Missed' event is the Day School on September 19th at St Chad's Parish Centre. Write the date in your diary. An application form is included with this newsletter. We have

Di Rooney to teach us and Ian Slater for accompaniment. In the evening we have the Alan Ross Duo and Veronica Hughes as our MC. A good start to the new season.

Sadly I have to report the death of Alec Green. Alec will be well known to many of our long term members. He was a stalwart of Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club and Lesley Enoch, their secretary and Sheila Toft, have each written a piece about him, which appear later in the Newsletter.

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.

Alec Green, 1930-2015

The following articles are reprinted with permission from the Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club Newsletter.

Many of you will remember Alec, as he has been an enthusiastic member of our club since its foundation in the 50s. He worked very hard on committee as president and secretary on our behalf. He was intelligent and very athletic, with a wide range of interests.

He trained to be a teacher at James Graham College in Leeds. He did his National Service in the RAF and apart from his Scottish Country Dancing he helped to teach an International dance class. He was a member of two walking clubs and Leeds Athletic Club.

When my family and I came back to Leeds in the 1970s Alec was a very prominent person in the Leeds dancing scene. He was a member of The Glenlee Dancers, and was chosen to represent the City of Leeds on three cultural trips to Germany, Holland and France.

In more recent years, when he was spending a lot of time with Trish, I got to know him more as we went camping, walking and he joined us in family festivities. He particularly appreciated good home cooking!!!!!!

In 2006 his health suddenly deteriorated and he could not live alone. His brother Mick and sister-in-law Jenny took him to live with them in Whitby. He steadily worsened and eventually went into Nursing Home Care in Saltburn. He remained there until he died.

I recently acquired a wonderful photograph of Alec dancing with Avis in his CHRISTMAS trademark red shirt. This is how I am choosing to remember him.

Sheila Toft

I worked with Alec on both Club and Festival committees, he was always thorough in everything he did, and his last official position was President, 1996-2000. However he continued to write our newsletters until 2004 - they were always very interesting. He was always a popular MC. Roy Goldring devised 'The Scribe' for Alec for all his hard work with the newsletters. I found this quote in one of Alec's newsletters from 2003: "Still, we do have five more dances before the close of the year when there will be a time for the red shirts to appear accompanied by mince pies which all help to put a punch into the festive season". I am certain that Alec in his red shirt at the Christmas dances will bring back memories to those who knew him. A memory I have of Alec is one Christmas, eight club members decided to do some Medieval Dancing as entertainment at the interval and Alec danced and taught us, we hired costumes from Homburghs in Call Lane, and we really felt like courtiers. Patricia and Alice remember this occasion as they were two of the dancers. It's strange that of the 8 dancers, 5 have been President of the Club over its history and one a Vice President. Happy memories.

Lesley Enoch

A thank you from Jo Dracup

I would like to thank all of those who came to my ninetieth birthday ceilidh at St Chad's on 20 March and all those who sent cards and gifts.

- A special thank you to Don Andrews as MC, Ian Slater for super music and to all the performers. These were;
- St Marks Family class dancing Goat Fell Gallop (They did very well)
- Harry Wharrier reciting The Lambton Worm
- Roll Back the Carpet, Appalachian Dancing
- Briggate Morris (the accidental loss of a white cotton underskirt caused some amusement)
- Ruth and Nadine with a classical music interlude.
- Eileen Murray with her excellent Highland Dancing

Thanks also to the family for the organisation and catering.

Jo Dracup

Saturday 20th June 2015, 7.30pm SOCIAL DANCE

St Margaret's Church Hall,
Horsforth, LS18 5LQ

Music: Ian Thomson Trio MC: Catherine Livsey

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

Programme

The Shetland Shepherdess	8x32	J	RSCDS Graded 3
Cramond Bridge	8x32	R	RSCDS London Jubilee 79
Mist o'er the Loch*	8x32	S	RSCDS QE Diamond Jubilee
Best Set in the Hall	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 46
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5x32	R	Goldring, 14 Social Dances for 2000
Cape Town Wedding	8x32	S	RSCDS Book 39
Muirland Willie	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 21
Duke of Perth	8x32	R	RSCDS Book 1

INTERVAL

Miss Allie Anderson	8x32	J	RSCDS Leaflet
Mrs Stuart Linnell*	8x40	R	RSCDS Imperial Vol 1-3
Peggy Spouse MBE	8x32	S	RSCDS Book 46
Sunshine and Sweetie's Jig*	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 48
John of Bon Accord	8x32	R	RSCDS Book 33
The Dream Catcher	1x96	S	RSCDS Book 45
Mrs Stewart's Jig	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 35
The Deil Among the Tailors	8x32	R	RSCDS Book 14

Extras

A Trip to Bavaria	4x32	R	Collins A Guide to SCD
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	3x32	S	RSCDS 3/2005
Pelorus Jack	8x32	J	RSCDS Book 41
Shiftin' Bobbins	8x32	R	Clowes, Ormskirk Book 6

All dances will be recapped

*These dances will be walked through

Musicians' Day School

The Musicians' Day School took place in February this year after missing a year from the previously annual event. 38 musicians came, mostly from Yorkshire and Lancashire, though some from further afield. I had expected around 15 to 20 to attend, so was excited and daunted in proportion as the application forms continued to arrive! The final total was 37.



The day was led by Ian Muir from Prestwick who organised this diverse group into a cohesive unit for the evening dance, with about 20 staying on to join him to play for the dancing. There was a mix of regular attendees and new faces, and Ian encouraged, guided and gently instructed the group.

It was an intensive, fast paced and exhausting day, playing through 18 sets of music incorporating often 4 tunes apiece (8 in The Deil among the Tailors!), repeating and shaping some of them further under Ian's tuition. Ian praised the quality of the musicianship; I hope those dancing shared his view?

The size, acoustics and variable heating around the room caused some difficulties, but the overriding comments were very appreciative, with requests to return to the annual pattern.

Providing a hot lunch for the group was my biggest concern, and I wish to express a huge thank you to those who assisted with making and serving this! It was very much appreciated by the group.

I am grateful for the expert guidance, gentle prompting, practical assistance and encouragement given by many individuals in making the day such a success.

A regular Leeds Scottish Music Night has developed from this Musicians' Day, and there may be further opportunities for musicians to improve their skills for playing for dancing in the Leeds area. Please ask if you would like to know more.

Heather Foote



Scarborough Dancing Weekend 27 to 29 March 2015



This was our first visit to the Scarborough weekend and, although we have been dancing for a number of years in Sheffield, it was the first time we had been to a dancing weekend anywhere and so we were a little unsure of what to expect. At the reception prior to dinner, we were made very welcome and introduced to the other participants. Some we already knew from our own area but others had travelled from much further afield. Dinner was served in the hotel dining room and soon afterwards we were dancing to the music of George Meikle who provided a marvellous selection of tunes throughout the weekend.

On Saturday morning, our teacher Pat Houghton gradually got us back up to speed again after the previous evening's exertions and under her expert tuition, we were able to learn two new dances which we would later dance in the evening.

We thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and we are very grateful to Yvonne and the organising committee for all their hard work and to Derek for acting as MC. The combination of a proficient and enthusiastic teacher and an expert musician made sure that there was never a dull moment during the classes and the programmes of dances for both evenings were lively and entertaining. The hotel accommodation was comfortable, the meals were excellent as was the service in the restaurant and the hotel staff were friendly and helpful at all times. It was also a chance to meet dancers from other parts of the country and compare our experiences. Everyone was very friendly and we enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere in the breaks between dancing.

We also enjoyed our visit to the seaside and, despite the stormy weather, it brightened up in the afternoons and we were able to take a walk along the beach on Saturday and visit the castle on Sunday. This is always a pleasure as we live so far from the coast and we hope to return again next year.

Douglas and Katrin Thomson



George Meikle and Pat Houghton

Highland Day School and Back to Basics

It was probably as a result of the slight lull in dancing activities over the Easter period that the Highland Day School and the last Back to Basics course of the current series, were not as well attended as usual. Perhaps people were still on holiday or getting to grips with their gardens. Those who did attend enjoyed the more individual tuition from Catherine Livsey and something was achieved by all.

At the Highland Day School we practised the dances for the White Rose Festival. The Shepherd's Crook, The Highland Fling and The Lilt were all tackled and we all felt a bit more confident, as well as tired, at the end. Adrian once again enhanced his reputation by having an evening meal with more than his fair share of ladies. You've either got it or you haven't I suppose!

Despite the low turnout at the last Back to Basics course, they have overall been very successful and the participants are asking for more. We are considering holding some full day sessions, perhaps on Sundays. If anyone wants to volunteer any comments or suggestions on this subject please let myself, Catherine Livsey or Betty Hagart know.

Irene Dracup

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 and the Facebook page.

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

The Facebook page is updated with news and reminders about upcoming events, links to cribs are included. By liking the Facebook page these details will appear in your Facebook newsfeed. Search for Rscds Leeds Branch in Facebook and like the page.

You can follow us on twitter at www.twitter.com/RSCDSLeeds

On the main web site are details on upcoming events and links to cribs.

If you quickly want a printable crib for a Dance then the "Crib with Diagrams" is best.

The "Programme" link takes you to the Strathspey site. The Strathspey site allows you to customise a printable crib as well watching demonstration videos for each dance.

The White Rose Festival has links to application forms, details on the event and cribs for both the afternoon and the evening programme. The cribs are on the Strathspey site so they also offer diagrams and videos.

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



Saturday 19th September 2015, 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

**St Margaret's Church Hall,
Horsforth, LS18 5LQ**

Music: Alan Ross Duo **MC:** Veronica Hughes

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

Programme

Maxwell's Rant	8x32	R	Book 18
The Wild Geese	8x32	J	Book 24
Alison Rose	4x32	S	Imperial II
Tutor's Choice	Reel/Jig		
The Barmkin	4x32	R	Graded 2
Sugar Candie	8x32	S	Book 26
The Weathercock	4x32	J	Graded 2
The Montgomeries Rant	8x32	R	Book 10

INTERVAL

Major Ian Stewart	8x32	J	Book 35
The Miller of Sessnie	5x32	R	Goldring 15 Social Dances
Tutor's Choice	Strathspey		
Quarries' Jig	8x32	J	Book 36
Mrs Macpherson of Inveran	8x32	R	Collins A Guide to SCD
The Dream Catcher	1x96	S	Book 45
Seton's Ceilidh Band	4x64	J	Collins A Guide to SCD
Duke of Perth	8x32	R	Book 1

Extras

The Deil among the Tailors	8x32	R	Book 14
Scott Meikle	4x32	R	Book 46
Hooper's Jig	8x32	J	MMM II
Butterscotch and Honey	4X32	S	Attwood Alexander Leaflets

All dances will be recapped

DATES, DATES, DATES

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

2015

Saturday 20 June

Social Dance 7.30pm

St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth
LS18 5LQ

Music: Ian Thomson Trio

Saturday 11th July

White Rose Festival

Afternoon 1.45pm (assembling at
1.30pm) - 5.00pm

Evening 7.00pm - 10.30pm

Gateways School, Harewood,
Leeds LS17 9LE

Music: Neil Barron and his Scottish
Dance Band

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.

Saturday 19 September

Day School

Registration & coffee 10.00am

Morning session 10.30am - 12.45pm

Afternoon session 2.00pm - 4.15pm

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

Our teacher will be Di Rooney.

Ian Slater will be playing for us.

It's sure to be a fun and sociable day,
so if you haven't been before, why not
give it a go this year?

An application form is enclosed with
the newsletter.

Saturday 19 September

Social Dance 7.30pm

St Chad's Parish Centre

Leeds, LS16 5JT

Music: Alan Ross Trio

Saturday 17 October

Highland & Scottish National Day School

St Giles Church Hall,
Bramhope, LS16 9BA.

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Classes

Summer Term 2015

W/C 13th April to W/C 18th May

W/C 1st June to W/C 6th July

(except Thursday afternoon class which
finishes at half term)

Fees: £4.00 per class

Multi Class term ticket £86

for full 12 week term

(1/2 price for dancers in full time education)

Autumn Term 2015

W/C 7 September 2015 to

W/C 14 December 2015

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

7 June & 5 July 2015

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

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

Further Information

Contact Betty Hagart - Branch Secretary,

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

The Branch Shop

We stock a wide ranging selection of items for Scottish
Country Dancers 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.

or email: sales@rscdsleeds.org.uk

Please support your Branch shop!

