



The Leeds Branch Newsletter

From the chair

I am not going to write much about the White Rose Festival, for two reasons. First, there are some very able correspondents writing elsewhere in this Newsletter. Second, I was so heavily involved with it that it is impossible for me to be objective. But I must hand round a few bouquets and thanks.



May Dance - First dance with walk throughs

The committee was dynamic, energetic, reliable and great fun to work with. They have all been named in previous Newsletters so I won't repeat what has gone before.

But I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to three of them. A number of us on the committee had never been involved with an event like this before, so I and my colleagues relied very heavily on those who had: Brenda Burnell, Lesley Enoch, Gerry Yates. They kept us all on the straight and narrow, discreetly but firmly! Equally helpful and supportive were the activists from York, Lesley Digby, Ian Watson, Michael East and others. They all helped in the planning stage and on the day itself.

On the day a very large number of people came along and offered their services, and without them things would have limped along. Putting up signs, marking out the field and the hall, decorating the hall, serving teas, feeding the hard-working band and fetching water. And let us not forget that it was the teachers in this Branch, and elsewhere, who really made the whole event possible. George Meikle and the Lothian Band gave us splendid music to dance to, as did our piper Alan Harrison.

The Festival was of great value to the Branch. It maintained interest in the classes, it created a great atmosphere and team spirit, and I am pleased to tell you that income exceeded expenditure. That means we can go full steam ahead for an event next year, which scheduled for Saturday 16th July and will be based at an excellent new venue, the Leeds Grammar School. Book it in your diaries!

My second important topic for these notes is to say how pleased I am with the financial state of affairs in the Branch this financial year, which ended on 30th June. Our treasurer Gerry Yates will be giving a full report at the AGM in October. As things stand it looks as if for the first time for some years income for the year will exceed expenditure, and that applies to classes, dances, and events. One real winner stands out, though – the shop, so ably run by Yvonne Tredgett. Whenever you buy shoes, CDs, books or whatever at Yvonne's stall at the dances, you are helping to keep the Branch in business as well as getting a good deal for yourself!

I am still awaiting firm information about the revised structure for the Society's teacher training programme, due to be issued any time now. As soon as it comes to hand, I will do a résumé of it and see if we can encourage enough people to make up a 'candidates' group, drawn from both the Branch and the region. I am certainly keen to go ahead with it, and Helen Russell is equally keen to teach it. Please give it serious thought. (I hear on the grapevine that all her candidates at Summer School got their qualifications!)

Our programme for the next few months looks both full and interesting. We start with Mary Murray's Day School on the 18th September. All are welcome for the whole day, though the morning will concentrate on teaching points in the Book 44 dances. On the 23rd October there is another of Catherine Livsey's Highland Day Schools, and on the 20th November Roy Goldring's Deviser's Day. And of course there are the usual monthly dances at West Park, on 18th September, 16th October, 20th November, and 18th December, all with high quality live music.

Support them all if you can, and enjoy them.

Don

Post script. I was very sad to hear from Elspeth Gray at Society HQ of the death of Alice Murphy on the 18th August, peacefully but after a long illness. An IN MEMORIAM appears elsewhere in the Newsletter, but I would like to add my own personal tribute. As a teacher, she certainly inspired me.

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. Email catherine@cld-design.co.uk

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

Subscription to this Newsletter can be taken out at £3.00 for 4 issues for non Leeds Branch Members.

Contact Brenda Burnell for details and form.

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

In Memoriam - Alice Murphy

d. 18th August 2004



Alice was a true professional. She knew how to teach, was well prepared, and always clear in her instructions. She had a strong sense of humour, and many's the time that an apt phrase enlivened her classes. She was a regular

teacher at Summer School and serve as Depute Director. She was frequently asked to teach abroad and had the rare ability to teach in idiomatic French.

Alice had a strong connection with Leeds Branch and taught at basic and intermediate day and week-end schools as well as the Scarborough week-end. She also adjudicated at our Children's Festival where her kindness shone through. She always found a way to encourage children, however they danced. Alice was often helpful to dancers in difficulty – she had a 'good eye'.

But this is only part of the story. Alice was a demonstration standard dancer who loved to dance socially. She was a delightful partner. She cared about dancing, the Society, and its traditions. She was due to receive the Society's Scroll of Honour this year. It was amply deserved. She made a lot of friends and will be missed.



Notes and news from the Goldrings

The Charity Dance

Over £280 was raised at the charity dance held in the Civic hall, Otley, on 3rd July, and a cheque has been sent to Marie Curie. Our thanks go to all those who came and to the many generous people who made donations. Once again, it was a joy to dance to Neil Barron, and he hopes to be available for next year's dance on July 2nd.

Change of venue

From September 16th, the Ilkley (Thursday) class will be held at the Baptist Church Hall in Kings Road. Further information can be obtained from Doreen and Roy on 01943 601373.

Jim Johnstone

As many dancers know, the fine Scottish musician Jim Johnstone is now in a nursing home. Jim has approved the publication of a new dance Jim Johnstone's Reel and it is hoped to include the instructions in a future Newsletter.

Sat 18th September 2004 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Marian Anderson Duo

M.C: Alan Horsfall

**Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1**

Programme

Hooper's Jig	J 8x32	MMM II
The Music Makars	R 8x32	Book 33
The Lea Rig	S 6x32	Book 21
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	J 8x32	Book 22
The Royal Yacht Britannia	R 8x40	Book 43
INSTRUCTOR'S CHOICE	Strathspey	
Kenora Reel	R 8x32	Drewry
Mrs Stewart's Jig	J 8x32	Book 35

INTERVAL

The Jubilee Jig	J 8x32	Leaflet
John of Bon Accord	R 8x32	Book 33
Sugar Candie	S 8x32	Book 26
INSTRUCTOR'S CHOICE	Reel/Jig	
Glen Alva	R 8x32	Forbes
Argyll Strathspey	S 8x32	Book 35
50 Years On	J 4x40	Book 43
The Montgomeries' Rant	R 8x32	Book 10

Extras

Mrs MacLeod	R 8x32	Book 6
Swiss Lassie	R 8x32	Book 39
Roaring Jelly	J 8x32	Foss
Neidpath Castle	S 3x32	Book 22

St Andrews 2004 - week 2

This year Linda Gaul took over as Director of Summer School and made some very positive changes to the programme. When the forms appeared the first change was apparent. Gone were the traditional two fortnights and instead there were four one week courses. Dancers could still go for two weeks and some did exactly that attending weeks 2 and 3 (never heard of before!).

Four of us from the Thursday class attended week 2 and quickly became aware of more changes. There were a huge number of first-time dancers there. In weeks 1 and 2 40% were at St Andrews for the first time. The reception for everyone on the Sunday evening gave us all chance to meet the new people in the Old Dining Room and catch up on news with friends in the Common Room.

Each morning there were the traditional classes for everyone and then in the afternoons there was a variety of alternative activities for those with enough energy to enjoy them. There was the usual walk through for the evening's social dancing plus a beginners' class for highland and ladies' step and also a class to learn the dances in the new book. These were held each afternoon Monday to Thursday.

Gone were the tea-time sessions of talks and classes for other forms of dancing. I particularly missed the music talk, I always found these refreshing and very interesting.

The evening social dancing was held in the Younger Hall only on the Monday and Saturday evenings this year and back in University Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday. For the latter full use was made of the Old Dining Room, Common Room and Wardlaw Common Room and on each occasion Ceilidh dancing was offered in one room. The Tourist Board held their dance in the Younger Hall on the Thursday evening where the School provided demonstration teams. There were the usual highland and ladies' step demonstrations. The mixed team lacked some of the usual sparkle as the ladies did not wear white dresses so they looked rather as if they were having a practice and the patterns were not so easy to see. On the Friday evening the Ceilidh was held again in the more intimate Common Room.

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Sat 16th October 2004 7.00pm

AGM & SOCIAL DANCE

(AGM 7.00pm, Social Dance 8.00pm)

West Park Centre, Spenn Lane

Music: Ian Slater **M.C.:** Alan Procter

Admission: £5, Non-member £6, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

The Hollin Buss	J 8x32	Book 24
Mr Iain Stuart Robinson	R 8x32	Book 42
Strathglass House	S 8x32	Book 13
Mrs Stewart's Jig	J 8x32	Book 35
Mrs MacLeod	R 8x32	Book 6
My Only Jo and Dearie, O	S 8x32	Book 21
Midnight Oil	J 5x48	Bankhead 3
The Lochalsh Reel*	R 8x40	Skye 2

INTERVAL

St. Andrew's Fair	J 8x32	5/82
The Royal Deeside Railway	R 8x32	Book 40
Neidpath Castle	S 3x32	Book 22
Ladies' Fancy	J 8x32	Book 13
Clutha	R 4x48	Book 31
Byron Strathspey	S 3x32	Deeside 2
Major Ian Stewart	J 8x32	Book 35
The Highland Rambler	R 8x40	Leeds 25

Extras

The Wild Geese	J 8x32	Book 24
Miss Hadden's Reel	J 8x32	Book 23
The Royal Yacht Britannia	R 8x40	Book 43
Moray Rant	S 3x48	Silver City

* Instructions in this Newsletter

The Lochalsh Reel

8x40 Bar Reel

- 1 – 8 1st couple turn with right hands and cast off 1 place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3 and 4. 1st couple cross giving left hands, cast off 1 place and join up in promenade hold 1st woman on the left of first man facing 3rd man.
- 9 – 16 1st and 3rd couples dance a reel of three across the dance 1st couple giving left shoulder to 3rd man to start. Finish between 3rd couple facing up and drop hands.
- 17 – 24 1st couple divide and dance reels of three on the sides, 1st woman giving right shoulder to 2nd man, 1st man giving left shoulder to 2nd woman to begin. Finish in the centre facing up.
- 25 – 28 1st couple joining nearer hands dance up to the top and turn the 2nd couple with their free hands.
- 29 – 32 1st couple dance down between 3rd couple, cross back to own sides and cast up to 2nd place.
- 33 – 40 1st couple dance right hands across, 1st woman with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple. 1st couple pass right shoulders and dance left hands across, 1st woman with 3rd couple and 1st man with 2nd couple to finish in 2nd place on their own sides.

Repeat from 2nd place

Devised by Pat Burnett, teacher of the South Skye class, and reproduced with her permission from the Second Skye Book.

Lead tune: *The Lochalsh Reel*, by Colin Dewar. © Deeay Music



St Andrews 2nd week, dancing in the Younger Hall

The weather for us was kind and we had very little rain. For this I was very grateful as I had the long walk to the Boys' Brigade Hall between classes. It was warm all week but became more humid as the week went on and we lost the view of the hills across the sea. The flowers in Kinburn Park were as colourful as ever and lifted all our spirits on the way to class and relaxed us in their beauty on the way back for lunch.

Week 2 passed very quickly and although it was a busy one, I enjoyed the classes I was working with very much. It was good to meet up with friends I have not seen for a while and to meet new dancers from all over the world. If you have not been to Summer

School, why not try it next year? You'll get plenty of exercise, excellent music and be able to enjoy a really social occasion where many life-long friendships have been made.

Brenda Burnell

Footnote: At the time of going to press, the new books Book 44 have not arrived. They were printed wrongly (two tunes were printed the wrong way round) but as soon as they do arrive I will get them to those members who have renewed their memberships as quickly as I can. It was good to see Reg Dyson's dance 'The Silver Thistle' in the book. This dance was chosen for the demonstration at the Younger Hall dance in week 2.

St Andrews 2004 - week 4

After a very pleasant, sunny drive we hit the mist at the Forth Road Bridge and it travelled with us to St Andrews. We arose on Monday to a bright sunny morning and everyone who had already been there a week was grateful that the haar had at last gone. Most people went to class just in cardigans and shirt sleeves - what a mistake! The heavens opened half way through the morning and again just as we were walking back to Hall. I have never seen water actually dripping off the bottom of a kilt before!

Same again on Wednesday, but this time we were prepared with wet weather golfing gear (Derek) and umbrella and bin liner (me). It finally cleared up on Friday and we had two sunny days.

In the classes we worked our way through the dances from the new book. The Wednesday evening social was spectacular with Mary Murray as MC and Muriel Johnstone providing the music. The highlight of the ceilidh was a performance by a Piper and eight Penguins!

The final Saturday evening dance at the Younger Hall was packed, with one set dancing in the entrance hall. Muriel Johnstone was supported by many musicians during the evening - Robert McKay, George Meikle, Pat and Peter Clark and Heulwyn Hall to name but a few. It was over all too soon and time to say our farewells again until next year.

Yvonne Tredgett

**THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY LEEDS BRANCH****ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**The Leeds Branch Annual General Meeting will be held on
Saturday 16 October 2004 - 7.00pm before the Branch Social
at West Park Centre, Spen Lane, Leeds**

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Summary of Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting. (Full minutes available for consultation at the meeting.
3. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report.
6. Executive Council Report.
7. Chairman's Remarks
8. Election of Officers and Committee

Nominations

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee

9. Other Elections
 - (1) Executive Council Representative
 - (2) Delegates for RSCDS Annual General Meeting

10. Any other competent business.

11. Date of next AGM Meeting.

Nominations

Nominations are required for Branch Officers and Committee.

All Branch officers must be elected annually.

There are a number of vacancies for Committee members. The Branch rules require that one Committee member must not have served before on the committee.

Candidates must have agreed to stand before nomination.

**Nomination forms together with any proposed amendments to the Branch Constitution are to be returned to the Secretary, Jean Dyson, 19 Pegholmne Drive, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 3NZ.
Tel 01943 461022.**

by 2nd October 2004.**NOMINATION FORM**

OFFICE	NOMINEE	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED BY
CHAIRMAN			
SECRETARY			
TREASURER			
COMMITTEE			

The White Rose Festival

- an insider's view`

On 10 July 2004, the 50th White Rose Festival took place back in its original home of Beckett Park, Leeds. The Day for me started quite early as I had been roped in at the last minute to prepare the Band's evening meal, as my mum, previously responsible for this, had badly hurt her back. This done I set off for Beckett Park, part of Leeds Metropolitan University with my dad and my boyfriend, Freddie, in tow to help Gerry with setting up.

When we arrived many people were already hard at work, including Kathie Dosell and her team decorating the Sports Hall with the attractive white roses, and Gerry Yates starting on organising the Acre into a danceable area. This was no easy task with the top half of it being turned into a graduation ceremony marquee, and the other half having a tree in the middle of it! However he did a great job; it was just a little unfortunate that due to technical difficulties with tents and the uncertainty of the weather the field was not used and at around 1 pm, over 400 dancers and spectators moved into the Sports Hall, to start the festival at 2 o' clock with a children's march to Alan Harrison's excellent piping.

Despite a slightly chaotic start to the day in the morning, the afternoon was really fantastic. I got the impression both adults and children thoroughly enjoyed it, both when watching others and when dancing themselves. I certainly did, even though I was truly exhausted at the end of it having danced every dance on the programme apart from the Highland Fling, as the Leeds Branch Children's Team was a person short. Other dances included the Scottish Lilt, Shepherd's Crook, the Foursome, the Queen's Quadrille and Fifty Years On.

George Meikle and the Lothian Band's playing was exceptional and Gerry kept proceedings running very smoothly as MC. We were also very honoured to dance in the presence of the Deputy Lord Mayor of Leeds, and

Stewart Adam, Chairman Elect of the RSCDS, and to have coverage on BBC Look North.

In the evening we again enjoyed dancing to the same brilliant music on a slightly less crowded dance floor.

I would like to thank Don and his committee for organising such a wonderful Festival and also Lesley Digby and her York Festival committee from previous years for their useful advice and encouragement.

It was lovely to see the Festival return to its original stamping-ground; I very much look forward to next year's festival on 16th July at Leeds Grammar School

Dora Connolly

- and a spectator's

Having been a spectator at several Scottish Country Dancing events before, I was looking forward to going to the White Rose Festival. Word had it that it was an outdoor event, which was a new experience as previous dances I'd watched had all been held indoors.

I arrived early before the dancers, to help set up the event at Beckett Park in Leeds, laying out the grids for sets on the field and setting up gazebos for the band and information. However, with the weather looking increasingly miserable the event had to be moved indoors. This was a slight disappointment, but was soon dispelled by a fantastic display of dancing from all involved accompanied by very impressive music from George Meikle and the Lothian Band.

Dances that stood out included Scottish Lilt danced by the ladies and Highland Fling danced by the men, both performed with excellent precision

Altogether I thoroughly enjoyed the day, and it was nice to see so many dancers gathered together for the event, making the 50th White Rose Festival one to remember for all involved.

Freddie Foulds



Leeds Festival 2004. (aka The White Rose...)



Will it, Won't it rain? Will we, Won't we be dancing outside?

We arrived about lunch time on a dry but dull day. It was obvious that a great deal of planning, preparation and organization had taken place and with the stalls and people arriving from all points of the compass there was a real buzz about the place. We sat down and had our lunch picnic style but sadly had to move inside to dance, the weather was too threatening. However the hall was large and there was plenty of room for everyone, all 32 sets!

The Lothian band was simply brilliant and I don't think any dancer could just sit and listen to them, you simply had to get up and dance. The choice of dances was challenging, but on the whole the dancers coped well. It was nice to have some really different dances.

The children were an absolute delight to see and took various hiccups in their stride, even to one person dancing holding the kilt together where it had come undone – such composure!

The Highland spots were great and it was good to take part regardless of the standard of steps – we are told and remember dancing should be fun and it was.

After a welcome break, time to change and freshen up, we were ready to join the evening dancing. Again who could sit still when the Lothian band was playing? Simply wonderful what more can we say. The MC suggested as we had come from all points of the compass we should ask people we didn't know for a dance, adding greatly to the friendly & pleasant atmosphere.

Thank you to Don and his team of volunteers for all your hard work and effort. The festival was a great success, well thought out and organized and we really look forward to July 16th 2005.

Sylvia & Godfrey Cozens, Leicester Branch.

Lost and Found At the White Rose Festival:-

Found

One gents pullover, left in Leighton Building
One Brooch

Lost

One 'Pilling', last seen in Sports Hall
One 2'x12' White Rose Festival sign, last seen at end of St Chad's Drive. 50p reward for information leading to its recovery.

Contact: Don Andrews, 01535 605065,
donald@hbandrews.fsnet.co.uk

Welcome

A warm welcome to following new branch members:

Andrea Chapman, Susan Carr (yes we do have two!),
Audrey Cook, Judy Elliott, Ian and Sara MacPherson

Congratulation

To Malcolm Frost on passing his RSCDS full certificate.

Sat 20th November 2004 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spenn Lane

Music: The Alan Ross Trio

M.C: Nigel Campbell

Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Campbell's Frolic	J 8x32	Book 15
Round Reel of Eight	R 88	Book 27
Anna Holden's Strathspey	S 6x32	Book 42
It's Just for Fun	J 8x32	Book 33
INSTRUCTOR'S CHOICE	R/J	
Gang the Same Gate	S 8x32	Book 36
Old Nick's Lumber Room	J 8x32	Book 26
Johnnie's Welcome Home	R 8x40	Book 32

INTERVAL

Peggy Dewar	R 8x32	Book 38
S-Locomotion	S 4x32	Book 41
Major Ian Stewart	J 8x32	Book 35
Anniversary Reel	R 8x32	Book 36
INSTRUCTOR'S CHOICE	S	
Gothenburg's Welcome	J 8x32	Book 37
The Robertson Rant	S 80	Book 39
The Montgomeries' Rant	R 8x32	Book 10

Extras

The Kelloholm Jig	J 8x32	Leaflet
MacDonald of the Isles	S 3x32	Carnforth 2
Inverneill House	R 8x32	Book 35

DATES, DATES, DATES

SEPTEMBER 2004

18th Day School

West Park Centre, Spen Lane, Leeds 6.
Teacher: Mary Murray, Music: Ian Slater
Information and application form in this newsletter or contact Yvonne Tredgett 17 Aviemore Rd, Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND, or see branch website www.rscds.org.uk

Only a few places remaining. Book now, don't miss this unique opportunity to be taught by Mary Murray.

Followed by a Social Dance

West Park Centre, Spen Lane, Leeds 6.
MC: Alan Horsfall
Music: Marian Anderson Duo

MARCH 2005

11-13th Scarborough Weekend

Clifton Hotel Scarborough. Teacher: Ann Dix, Music: George Meikle
Cost £105, a deposit of £20 secures your place and should be submitted by 1st September 2004, balance paid by 1st February 2005. For further information and application form contact Yvonne Tredgett 17 Aviemore Rd, Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND. Tel 01302 851174

OCTOBER 2004

16th Branch AGM

7.00pm West Park Centre, Leeds 6.

Followed by a Social Dance

8.00pm West Park Centre, Spen Lane, Leeds 6.
MC: Alan Procter
Music: Ian Slater

23rd Highland Day School

10.30am Adel Methodist Church Hall, Gainborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds 16
Teacher: Catherine Livsey
Information and application forms available at Branch Dances or from your class teachers or contact Yvonne Tredgett 17 Aviemore Rd, Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND Tel 01302 851174, or see branch website www.rscds.org.uk

This is a fun and interesting day, accessible to all dancers, no experience necessary. So come on and give it a go. Highland is not hard.

NOVEMBER 2004

18th Deviser's Day

10.00am St. Mary's Church Hall,
Teacher: Roy Goldring, Music: Phil Jones
Information and application form available at Branch Dances or from your class teachers or contact Yvonne Tredgett 17 Aviemore Rd, Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND, or see branch website www.rscds.org.uk

Followed by a Social Dance

West Park Centre, Spen Lane, Leeds 6.
MC: Nigel Campbell
Music: Alan Ross Trio

Classes

Fees

£2.50 per class

Term tickets (14 weeks) - autumn term
£30 for one single class per week,
£45 for any number of classes per week,
unless otherwise stated.

Classes

Autumn Term: Starts week commencing 13th September 2004 to week commencing 13th December 2004

Monday Afternoon

1.45 - 3.45pm - General/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds 16
Teacher: TBA

Monday Evening

7.45 - 9.45pm - Advanced
Calverley Conservative Club,
Teachers: Malcolm Brown for the first 10 weeks then Catherine Livsey

Tuesday evening

7.45 - 9.45pm - General/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue, Adel Leeds 16.
Teachers: Alan & Susan Carr

Wednesday evening

7.30 - 10.00pm - General/Beginner
Holy Trinity Church Hall, Knaresborough
Contact Malcolm Frost for venue of 4th Wednesday in each month Tel 01423 872686.
Teachers: Ann Baranyi and Malcolm Frost

Thursday evening

7.45 - 10.00pm - General/Beginner
Brackenwood Community Centre, New Building, Lidgett Lane, Leeds.
Teachers: Brenda Burnell/Stella Summers

Friday evening - children

7.15 - 8.45
Hawthorn Wood Primary School
Broadway, Leeds 5
Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Sunday afternoon

1.45 - 3.45
3 Oct, 31 Oct, 5 Dec 2004, 9 Jan, 6 Feb,
6th Mar, 10 Apr, 8 May, 5 June, 3 July 2005
Askwith Village Hall.
Experienced dancers interested in demonstration work and innovative dances. Everyone welcome.
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

For more information see
www.rscdsleeds.org.uk