



Above Dancers enjoying the Malhamdale Weekend, Saturday 30 November to Sunday 2 December 2008.

Right: The teacher for the weekend was Ian Hall with music from Heulwen Hall.

Future Newsletters

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

Please send all copy for future newsletters to Catherine Livsey, 11A Hill Top Road, Moldgreen, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 9LX. Tel 01484 515257 Email catherine@clid-design.co.uk 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 any copy of the Branch newsletter please contact Brenda Burnell on 0113 267 6655.

From the Chair ...

I hope the new year as started off well for you all. Branch activities have had a positive start. Branch members have provided entertainment for a number of Burns evenings, first of we danced at Rogerthorpe Manor near Pontefract where the guest speaker was Ian Clayton and on the Saturday we did two Ceilidh Evenings one at Pool Methodist Church and the other at St Peters St Pauls Guisley. These are good ways of promoting Scottish Country Dancing and encouraging people to join our classes. If you know of any function that would welcome some entertainment or would like to join us at future events then please feel free to talk to me. I would like to thank the dancers the gave up their time to take part, I really appreciate it very much.

In the next few months we have some exciting events coming up. Firstly we have our Children's Festival on the 1st of March at the Queen's Hall. On the 15th March we have a Walk through Social Dance at West Park dancing to the music of Ian Slater with Lesley Digby as MC every dance will be walked through so you can just come and enjoy the evening. Friday 4-6 April is the Scarborough Weekend more information from Yvonne Tredgett. For the first time we are

running a dance in April this is on 19th at West Park. We have a new young band playing for us Luke Brady and Band, please come and support this dance as we need to encourage these musicians as they are the future. On the 26th is the highland day school taught by myself at Adel Methodist Church. We will be working on the Highland dances for the White Rose Festival, come and give it a try, it is not that difficult and we have great fun. Application forms are available from myself, at branch dances or on the branch website. Saturday 17th May is a Social dance at West Park with music from Alan Ross and MC Avis Harrison. Monday May 19th is the Spring Tea Dance at Adel Methodist Church Hall, the programme will be published on the website nearer the time.

Lastly we are holding a Roy Goldring Celebration Dance at Gateways School, Harewood. Entry to this dance in by ticket only. Branch and club members have the first chance of tickets before the 28th March, after which they will go on general release on a first come first served basis so get your requires in now! Details on page 4 of this newsletter.

Catherine Livsey

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.

Burns' Supper (almost minus the haggis!)

This year our Burns' supper at Brackenwood was held the day before the 25th and I thought I had everything organised. It is a faith supper, my contribution being the haggis. I ordered the latter as usual from my greengrocer and asked to have them delivered on the Thursday. Something told me to send an e-mail to confirm he had the haggis on the Wednesday but they had not arrived with his order that day but he would contact them on Thursday morning first thing and get them for us. First thing turned out to be 11.00 before he was able to contact the suppliers (in Manchester) and they could only promise delivery on Friday! Panic, panic. I had seen haggis in Morrisons the week before and would have popped over to our local one but anyone living in Cookridge will have suffered the inconvenience of the local railway bridge being closed. Horsforth for the



last three weeks has been at least 2½ miles further away! I rang Stella and asked if she could help (it was less than 12 hours now to our supper). Fortunately Ian was at work and able to get sufficient haggis for us.

At the supper in the evening Ian again did the honours by addressing the haggis and we all had to listen carefully to his broad Scottish accent. It was a good supper and with lots of popular requests for the dancing, everyone enjoyed themselves thanks to Ian and Stella.

White Rose Festival 2008

This year the Festival is on Saturday 12th July, once again at Gateways School, Harewood. I think all readers will know that this is one of the biggest festivals of Scottish Country Dancing with well over 400 dancers, adults and children, and is held outdoors if weather (we hope!) permits, or in a Sports Hall and Performing Arts Centre if not.

This year's programme highlights the dances of Hugh Foss, Hugh Thurston, and Roy Goldring, though not exclusively so.

Full details are on the Branch web site, but for those of you that don't have access to that, the adult afternoon programme will include The Summer Assembly, The Last of the Lairds, Gang

the Same Gate, JB Milne, Anna Holden's Strathspey, Fugal Fergus, Branches Together, General Stuart's Reel, John McAlpin, May Yarker's Strathspey, Rosslyn Castle, and The Dashing White Sergeant.

Additionally, there are four 'demonstration' dances, and some Highland dances.

An evening social dance follows, in the Sports Hall.

Volunteers to help set up and clear away would be very welcome: contact me, 01535 605065, or Lesley Tompkins, 0113 381279, or speak to us at Branch functions.

Don Andrews

Southport at Leigh!

This year the Wigan Thistle Society Festival was held in Leigh because the Floral Hall in Southport is being renovated and decorated. The hall was a brand new sports hall and we were the first big function to be held there. Like all these sports' halls it was built for sports and not for dancing but it did have a sprung wooden floor - ideal for dancing! The new hall didn't have the same atmosphere as the Floral Hall although it was still an enjoyable afternoon. There were lots of different groups with many new faces. We all danced together with some excellent music - thank you Ian. We hope next year will be just as good and we can't wait to be back at the Floral Hall.

Rachel Norwood and Helen Wilson

It was an will we/won't we go last week and Saturday morning with the weather but after leaving Cookridge in a blizzard it was the last we saw of the snow!



Sat 15th March 2008 7.30pm

WALK THROUGH SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Ian Slater

M.C.: Lesley Digby

Admission: £7, Non-member £8, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

The Anderson Rant	R8x32	MMM1
Berwick Johnnie	J 8x32	Graded 14
Lady Glasgow	S8x32	MMM1
Miss Johnson of Ardrosson	R5x32	Goldring
Starry Eyed Lassie	J 8x32	Book 23
The Robertson Rant	S80 (sq)	Book 39
Scotlands Gardens	R8x32	Goldring
Espie McNab	J 8x32	MMM1

INTERVAL

Yan Tan Tethera	R8x32	Haynes
The Goat Fell Gallop	J 4x32	Goldring
Lord Elgin's Reel	S8x32	Book 26
Catch The Wind	H8x32	Book 45
Luckenboth Brooch	J 8x32	Glendaroch 28
Llamermuir Hills	S3x32	Goldring
Pelorus Jack	J 8x32	Book 41
The Wind that Shakes the Barley	R 8x32	Duthie

Extras

Posties Jig	J4 x 32
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Sat 19th April 2008 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Luke Brady and Band

Admission: £7, Non-member £8, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

The Royal Deeside Railway	R 8x32	Book 40
The Express	J 8x40	Book 20
Dalkeith's Express	S 8x32	Book 9
Portnacraig	R 8x32	Book 36
Inchmickery	J 5x32	14 Social Dances (Goldring)
The Robertson Rant	S 80 (sq)	Book 39
Raise The Roof*	R 8x32	Delaware Silver (Nealley)
Old Nick's Lumber Room	J 8x32	Book 26

INTERVAL

It's Just for Fun	J 8x32	Book 33
Lady Susan Stewart's Reel	R 8x32	Book 5
Margaret Parker's Strathspey	S 8x32	Book 31
The 51st Travellers	J 8x32	Book 44
The Ladies of Dunse	R 8x40	Book 26
Tartan Rainbow*	S 3x32	Tartan Rainbow Book (Petyt)
Well Done Jack	J 8x32	Book 29
The Royal Yacht Britannia	R 8x40	Book 43

Extras

The Music will Tell You	R4x32	Book 41
12 Coates Crescent	S4x32	Book 40
EH3 7AF	J8x32	Book 40

* Dances will be walked

The Roy Goldring Celebration Dance: 21st June 2008.

Gateways School, Harewood, LS17 9LE

Music: The Colin Dewar Band
MC: Donald Andrews

Tickets: £8.50, full time education £3,
under 11 £2

PRIORITY BOOKING FOR LEEDS BRANCH AND LEEDS CLUB MEMBERS UP TO 28TH MARCH 2008

To celebrate Roy Goldring's huge contribution to Scottish Country Dancing, the Leeds Branch is pleased to invite dancers to join us at this event in the beautiful setting of Gateways School.

Because of its undoubted popularity, admission will be by ticket only. They will be generally available from the end of March from Donald Andrews, 18 Braithwaite Village, Keighley, BD22 6PX, donald@hbandrews.fsnet.co.uk

PROGRAMME

1	EH3 7AF Book 40	Jig 8x32
2	The Highland Rambler Leeds 25	Reel 8x40
3	Argyll Strathspey Book 35	Strathspey 8x32
4	The Blue and White Quilt 2002	Jig 8x32
5	The Saltire Society Reel Leaflet	Reel 8x32
6	The Minister on the Loch 24 Gr & Soc	Strathspey 3x32
7	Side by Side 15 Soc Dances	Jig 8x40
8	The Piper and the Penguin Scotia Book	Reel 88

INTERVAL

**Strawberries and cream, shortbread,
tea/coffee will be served**

9	Spiers Bruce, The Pole Star Scotia Book	Jig 8x32
10	Miss Johnstone of Ardrrossan 14 Soc. Dances	Reel 5x32
11	The Rose of the North Leeds 25	Strathspey 8x32

12	A Tribute to Talent* unpublished	Jig 96
13	John of Bon Accord Book 33	Reel 8x32
14	Branches Together* Unpublished	Strathspey 96
15	Back to the Fireside Book 38	Reel 8x32
16	The Reel of the Royal Scots Leaflet	Reel 8x32

* Full instructions can be found at www.rscdsleeds.org.uk
Dance Cribs

EXTRAS

1	All for Mary 12 More	Reel 8x32
2	Tribute to the Borders Leaflet	Reel 8x32
3	St Andrew's Fair 5/82	Jig 8x32
4	The Sands of Forvie 2002	Strathspey 3x32

Sat 17th May 2008 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Alan Ross M.C: Avis Harrison

Admission: £7, Non-member £8, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Hooper's Jig	J 8x32	MMM
Festival Fling	R 8x32	Book 44
Sands of Morar	S 8x32	Book 45
Royal Albert Country Dance	R 6x32	Book 34
Pelorus Jack	J 8x32	Book 41
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	S 3x32	RSCDS 2006
Ladies of Dunse	R 8x40	Book 26
Cocket Hat	J 8x40	Book 44

INTERVAL

EH3 7AF	J 8x32	Book 40
John of Bon Accord	R 8x32	Book 33
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	S 8x32	RSCDS Leaflet
Argyll Square	J 96	Book 43
Cumbræ Reel	R 8x32	Book 28
Rose of the North	S 8x32	Leeds 25th
Back to the Fireside	R 8x32	Book 38
Napiers Index	J 8x40	Book 45

Extras

John McAlpin	R 8x32	RSCDS 2007
Maxwells Rant	R 8x32	Book 18
It's Just For Fun	J 8x32	Book 33

How do we learn to dance and build up a repertoire of dances?

This is something that has always fascinated me ever since I started Scottish dancing. Perhaps I am one of the lucky ones who always enjoyed the technique part of lessons and have been able to remember the dances taught in a lesson. I hasten to add that the latter has not happened without effort on my part. When I first started dancing I always went home from class and wrote down any dances I was taught and similarly I made my own crib sheet before going to a dance. This seemed to help me remember dances and build up my own repertoire. At one count I could tell myself how to do about 400 dances. I have to admit that I find it more difficult now to remember some of the newer dances but I do try to keep the grey cells working.

I am now interested in how dancers do build up their repertoire of dances. Popular dances must help, along with any dance that individual dancers like and really enjoy. Sometimes too you love the tune and that really does tell you how a dance goes. Teachers also help you begin to remember dances. With their progressive teaching you will often dance some dances three weeks in succession and this must help in memorising them. Our White Rose Festival certainly gives you the opportunity to memorise ten dances each year. Do you count sheep if you cannot sleep or do you go over dances for the next dance or Festival?

Over the years I have realised that a small minority can remember dances and an equal number of dancers cannot but then somewhere in the middle there is a huge number, in fact the majority of dancers today, who must have evolved their own system for remembering dances. Do you go to dances and spend your time between dances in looking at crib sheets or the diagrams in Pilling or you just hope the MC will recap or even walk through the next dance? With some dances a crafty move to fourth place will give you a chance to see how a dance goes and where you need to join in. You also get the added bonus of standing out a turn at the top before you become first couple – another chance to watch the dance before you lead it. May I add here that crib sheets and Pilling are only means to remind you

of dances and are not always accurate. If you really want to know how a dance goes, please go back to the original instructions for the full picture.

Teachers play a big part in helping you to memorise dances by minimising their recaps (the less words the better) and sometimes by using rather 'untechnical' terms!

I am not suggesting you learn a dance a day or anything like that but do make your brains work (they do need to be kept working) as well as your feet, arms and legs. A good knowledge of formations and mastery of Scottish dancing language is essential to beginners and along with these a gradual build up of dances makes dancing more enjoyable. Do keep your heads working as well as the rest of you – it's all part of the fun of dancing.

Brenda

Footnote: Just for newer dancers - Mr and Mrs Pilling were living in Leeds when they started drawing dances and their little green book was born. It is a valuable asset to lots of people and is frequently updated to include the newer dances.

Branch Shop

The shop is now well stocked and here are some of the offerings.

CDs

All the RSCDS CDs, including the two new ones – Book 13 and Book 34.

Plus a comprehensive list of over 200 CDs we can get, and any others from Music in Scotland. The list can be downloaded from the website, picked up at a branch dance or posted to you.

Books

Pilling, Originally Ours and Index to Formations and Movements in SCD as well as recent books and CDs produced by other branches such as Birmingham and Banffshire. All the RSCDS books and the pocket editions.

Shoes

Full range of ghillies and ballet shoes, plus others to order

Miscellaneous

RSCDS Ties, slip stop and the latest DVD of We Twa.

If you would like any thing else we are happy to try and get it for you.

Please support your Branch shop!

DATES, DATES, DATES

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

Sat 1 March

Childrens Festival
Queens Hall, Harrogate Road,
Leeds 8
Music: Ian Slater

Sat 15 March

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds
Music: Ian Slater

Fri 4 - 6 April

Scarborough Weekend
Teacher: Ann Dix
Music: George Meikle
information from Yvonne Tredgett
Tel 01302 851174

Sat 19 April

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds
Music: Luke Brady and Band

Sat 26 April

Highland Day School
Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds 16
Teacher: Catherine Livsey
Information and application form
from Catherine Livsey 01484 515257

Sat 17 May

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds
Music: Alan Ross

Mon 19 May

Tea Dance Afternoon
Adel Methodist Church Hall
Gainsborough Avenue,
Adel, Leeds 16.
Programme available
nearer the time

Sat 21 June

The Roy Goldring Celebration Dance
7.30pm - 11pm
Tickets only from Don Andrews
The Sports Hall, Gateways School,
Harewood, Leeds LS17 9LE.
Music: Colin Dewar and Band

Sat 12 July

White Rose Festival
Afternoon 2-5pm
Evening Dance 7-10.30pm
Gateways School, Harewood, Leeds
LS17 9LE
Music: Nicol McLaren and the
Glencraig SCD Band

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

Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club Autumn Weekend,

3rd-5th October 2008

at Raven Hall Hotel, Ravenscar, cost £135.00 per
person. Dancing both Friday and Saturday Evening.
Further details from Lesley Enoch, telephone 01132
777113, or at dances or classes.

Classes

Summer Term 2008
WC 31th March 2008
to WC 7th July 2008
No Classes WC 25th May 2008

Fees: £3.00 per class,
Short Term to Spring Bank
Single Class Term costs £20.00
Multi-Class (Term for any number
of Branch class) £25.00

Long Term

Single Class Term costs £35.00
Multi-Class (Term for any number
of Branch class) £45.00

Classes

Monday Afternoon

1.45 - 3.45 - General/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall
Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds 16
Teachers: Susan Carr & Don Andrews

Monday Evening

7.45 - 9.45pm - Advanced
Calverley Conservative Club,
Teachers: Catherine Livsey

Tuesday evening

7.45 - 9.45 Intermediate/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall
Teachers: Alan Carr, Irene Dracup

Wednesday evening

7.30 - 10.00 - General/Beginner
Holy Trinity Church Hall
Knaresborough contact Malcolm Frost
for venue 4th Wednesday of each
month 01423 872686
Teachers: Ann Baranyai
and Malcolm Frost

Thursday evening

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

Friday evening - children

5.30 - 7.00 re-commencing again
12th January
Hawksworth Wood Primary School,
Broadway, Leeds 5
Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Sunday afternoon

1.45 - 3.45
9 March 2008
Askwith Village Hall.
Dancers interested in demonstration
work, innovative dances and
technique. All Welcome
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

For more information see www.rscdsleeds.org.uk