

# Leeds Branch Dancers Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1072452

ISSUE 75 NOVEMBER 2014



White Rose Festival 2014

## From the Chair...

Hello Everyone. Our season is now well under way. Classes are in full swing and a very enjoyable Day School and the AGM are behind us. Following the AGM we now have a new committee. A list of members is included in the Newsletter. I would like to record thanks to the two retiring members of the committee, Alan Horsfall and Jane Walford, for all their help, hard work and support.

Now we look forward to Christmas. On the 20th December we have the Christmas Dance with George Meikle and the Lothian Band at St Margaret's at Horsforth. Come along and enjoy some seasonal fun.

The world famous Adel Tea Dance will be held on 15th December 2014 at 1.45pm, at Adel Methodist Church with Ian Slater playing. All dances will be walked through. Everyone is welcome and there's a chance to chat, over a faith tea.

The Ilkley Thursday afternoon group has decided on a Burns celebration instead of a Christmas one and this will be held on Thursday 22 January 2015 at St Margaret's Church Hall at Ilkley from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Dances are from the time of Robert Burns and will all be walked through. Ian Slater will play for us. Do come and join us.

Cribs are available on the website for both 'tea dances'.

On Saturday 17th January a Youth Workshop is being organised in Leeds by RSCDS Headquarters. Some of the participants hope to join us at our evening dance at St Margaret's with Ian Slater playing for us again. I hope that as many members as possible will come along to welcome and encourage these young dancers.

On 21st February 2015 we have the Musicians Day School followed by

## 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.

an evening dance at St Margaret's with Ian Muir and all the musicians playing for us. It's always interesting to see what kind of sound it's going to be with different types of instruments playing. Somehow it always works well and a good time is had by musicians and dancers alike.

A busy three months ahead of us then; I must get a new diary and get organised. I don't want to miss anything! I look forward to seeing you all at these events.

It is with sadness that I report the death of Louise Keegan of York. Many of you will have known her. She had been Festival Secretary in the late 1980s.

Also Reg Dyson suffered a stroke and died on 24 October. He will be very much missed. Our thoughts and sympathies are with Jean and her family.

**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](http://www.rscdsleeds.org.uk) Why not give it a try.

# A Tribute to Reg Dyson

Reg was born in Thurnscoe, near Barnsley where he spent his early years. He had three sisters and a brother who died while very young. His father was a miner and both his parents wanted something better for Reg. At sixteen he came to Otley to stay with one of his sisters. He trained to be a design engineer with a firm in Otley and then with Carnaud Metal Box in Shipley where they made metal cans for the food industry.

Reg met Jean at a ballroom dance and in 1956 they married and settled in Otley bringing up their three boys.

Scottish dancing was first brought to their notice when they attended an Otley Caledonian Ball at Hogmanay. Fascinated they joined Jimmy Wallace's Caledonian class where they continued to dance until Jean inherited the class when Jimmy retired. They joined Roy Goldring's class in Ilkley and danced socially at Askwith Thistle Club, Ilkley Club, the Leeds Club and the Branch too,

Reg devised the dance 'The Silver Thistle'. It was published in our 25th book. He chose the tune 'Jack's Delight' in memory of his little brother. When the Branch submitted Reg's dance for Book 44 the tune was changed to 'The May-Day Hornpipe' because 'Jack's Delight' had already been used as an alternative tune for another RSCDS dance.

**THE SILVER THISTLE** **8x32 R**

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Reg Dyson, 1986, RSCDS Book 44 3C/4C longwise set.

I first really met Reg when he and Jean came to take their Preliminary Test in one of our exam classes. They were both successful in their exam.

More recently Reg and Jean have been regular dancers at the Monday Askwith class where Jean often helped

with the teaching. Reg supported Jean in her involvement with the children's activities and was always very helpful in counting lines and organising sets at our Festival. He very often helped the younger sets to keep dancing by prompting them.

I loved phoning Jean when Reg answered the phone. He put on his welcoming butler's voice to say 'Whom shall I say is calling?' I shall miss hearing him say that.

Latterly when I was still involved with refreshments Reg always cooked the salmon for us. He enjoyed baking too. His bran loaf was a favourite of mine. He made jam too using the fruit from his garden.

Always pleasant, always helpful we shall miss him very much in dancing.

Our thoughts and best wishes go to Jean and her family at this sad time.

**Brenda Burnell**

**Saturday 20th December 2014, 7.30pm**

## SOCIAL DANCE

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

**Music: George Meikle and the Lothian Band**

**MC: Betty Hagart**

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

### Programme

The Ravens Dance	8x32 J	Carnforth Coll 5
The Lass of Richmond Hill	8x32 R	Graded 2
Wisp of Thistle	8x32 S	Book 37
Fifty Years On	4x40 J	Book 43
The Ladies of Dunse	8x40 R	Book 26
Aging Gracefully	8x32 S	Book 47
Napier's Index	8x40 J	Book 45
Cumbræ Reel	8x32 R	Book 28

### INTERVAL

Gaelforce Wind	8x32 J	Carnforth Coll 3
The Royal Patron	8x32 R	Queens Diamond Jubilee
Moray Rant	3x48 S	Silver City Book
Major Ian Stewart	8x32 J	Book 35
Lothian Lads	8x32 R	Brodie Book
Argyll Strathspey	8x32 S	Book 35
The Roselath Cross	8x32 J	Book 41
Jovial Jack	8x32 R	Leeds Golden Collection

### Extras

Royal Deeside Railway	8x32 R	Book 40
Good Hearted Glasgow	8x32 J	Collins
Peter White	8x32 S	A Hay
J B Milne	8x32 R	Hugh Foss

**All dances will be recapped**

## The Branch Shop

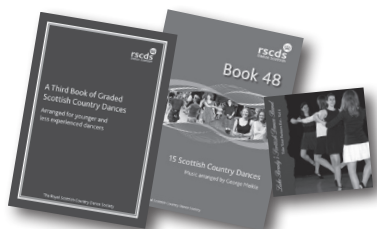
We stock a wide ranging selection of items for Scottish Country Dances including books, cds and shoes.

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](http://www.rscdsleeds.org.uk) for full details.**

**or email: [sales@rscdsleeds.org.uk](mailto:sales@rscdsleeds.org.uk)**

**Please support  
your Branch shop!**



# Day School, Saturday 20th September 2014

What better way to start a busy season of dancing than to attend the September Day School organised annually by the RSCDS Leeds branch. Here is a chance to catch up with all the summer news from dancers you have not seen since the White Rose Festival and also to meet new dancing friends; at the same time you can start to get those dancing feet (and dancing brain cells) back into shape.

The day started with tea, coffee and biscuits, extra work for the dedicated committee, but an excellent way to break the ice even before we took to the floor. Soon we were in the capable hands of Mervyn Short and the first session, though over two hours long, never dragged. With the focus on technique, there was much to learn. As one dancer commented, there is always something new to discover, or perhaps something you have been told before suddenly falls into place. For me, it was covering and shoulders - I'm not claiming I'll get it right, but at least I know what I'm aiming for! The session was superbly structured, so that the techniques were applied in a variety of dances. With music by Ian Slater, we all thoroughly enjoyed dancing to the highest standard of which we were capable.

After lunch, the second session looked at social dances chosen from the four new books published by the RSCDS this year. Of course, Mervyn extracted various points of technique from the afternoon's dances, so that the two sessions complemented one another and created a united whole. I noted that some dancers, perhaps worried about overdoing it, opted for one of the two sessions. This was a pity, as the two sessions did work so well together. It also makes me reflect that, although neither session was full, the total number of dancers attending either one or the other class shows a real enthusiasm for the day school.

The evening dance with music to Robert Whitehead and the Danelaw Band and Malcolm Brown as MC was an enormous success. From the start we were all eager to be on our feet and, after a day focussing on technique and formations, an evening of social dancing in good company and with excellent music was the perfect way to round things off. The inclusion of a couple of dances from the classes was just enough to remind us what a busy day it had been and how much we had learned. Given the unseasonably warm weather that certainly made us "gently glow", it is a tribute to everyone involved in organising this event that numbers were good until the very end.

See you next year. **Marion Walbank**

## Second Hand Men's Clothing

We have the following items for sale. We suggest £25 as a starting point for negotiation as some items are better quality and in better condition than others. An offer is in order. If interested please contact Irene Dracup [glyn.cup@virginmedia.com](mailto:glyn.cup@virginmedia.com) 0113 2631310 to arrange to see and try any item.

**JACKETS** 2 x Black 38", 2 x Wool 38"

**KILTS** Green tartan Waist 32" length 25"  
Blue/Red tartan Waist 30" length 26.5"  
Blue/Green tartan Waist 32" length 24.5"  
Dark.Red/Yellow tartan Waist 28" length 26.5"

On 20 September we gathered at St Chad's for our annual Day School. It was lovely to catch up with old friends over a cup of tea before we started.

Mervyn Short began the morning by teaching quick time technique with flawless demonstrations and helpful advice. Then followed careful practice of formations and dances from recent publications, which were new to most of us, and very enjoyable dances. Ian Slater's music helped us to achieve our best.

During the well-earned lunch break we ate our sandwiches together and did a bit more socialising.

After lunch and a warm up to dissipate any stiffness, Mervyn moved on to Strathspey technique, covering all the points thoroughly. We then learned more dances from the recent publications and ended the day with a sense of achievement and having thoroughly enjoyed the day.

**Irene Dracup**

**Saturday 17th January 2015**

**7.30pm**

## **SOCIAL DANCE**

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

**Music:** Ian Slater **MC:** Don Andrews

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

### **Programme**

All the Eights	8x32 J	Leeds Golden Collection
Back to the Fireside	8x32 R	Book 38
The Gentleman	8x32 S	Book 35
The Duke of Atholl's Reel	8x32 J	Book 16
Festival Fling	8x32 R	Book 44
Alison Rose	4x32 S	Imperial 2
The Compleat Gardener	8x32 J	Graded 3
The Piper and the Penguin	1x88 R	Scotia Suite

### **INTERVAL**

Mrs Stewart's Jig	8x32 J	Book 35
The Sailor	8x32 R	Book 24
There's Nae Luck about the Hoose	8x32 S	Book 10
The Newburgh Jig	8x32 J	Book 48
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh	8x40 R	Book 39
Jacqui Watson's Strathspey	3x32 S	Leeds Golden Collection
Miss Hadden's Reel	8x32 J	Book 23
Mrs MacPherson of Inveran	8x32 R	Drewry Bon Accord

### **Extras**

City of Belfast	3x32 S	Book 48
Scott Meikle	4x32 R	Book 46
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32 S	Book 22
Red House	6or8x40 R	Book 7

**All dances will be recapped**

# Leeds Branch AGM

## Leeds Branch

## Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

18th October 2014

## St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth

**Present:** Irene Dracup - Chairman,  
Betty Hagart - Secretary,  
Gerry Yates - Interim Treasurer  
and the following Branch Members -  
Betty Sumpton, Isabel Douglas, Pat Hynes, Jacqui Watson, Jo Dracup, Ian Ashton, Christine Parker-Jones, Mairi Devlin, Robin Walford, Jane Walford, Claire Johnson, Kathie Dozell, Janet Brayson, Alan Horsfall, Jean Weatherill, Pat Cowles

Irene welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Brenda Burnell, Heather Foote, Don Andrews, Catherine Livsey, Adrian Dickin

### 2. Summary of Minutes

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were approved and signed.

### 3. Matters Arising

None

### 4. Secretary's Report

Over the past year we have continued to run our monthly dances and to offer a wide range of classes on different days, at different venues and times and at differing levels in order to provide something for everyone, including our Children's class and Highland classes.

The September Day School and the Scarborough and Malhamdale weekends were well-attended and well-received, the opportunity to enjoy tuition from different teachers and to live music proving popular with our members and with dancers from further afield.

Likewise the Children's Festival drew young, enthusiastic dancers from near and far.

A new initiative was our series of Back to Basics classes which ran over four Saturday afternoons. Near-beginners and dancers with some experience who wished to improve their steps and technique came along and were put through their paces by Catherine. There was a demand, from among those attending, for the classes to continue so this year we are running a further series, Back to Basics Moving On, which again are being well attended. There are two more on Oct 25 & Nov 8th, and there will be further dates in the Spring.

This year it is again our turn to host the Joint Ball, again at Riley Smith Hall in Tadcaster. Ian Muir and the Craiggellachie Band will be playing.

This coming year in February, after a break last year, we are again running a Musicians' Day, being led by Ian Muir, from Prestwick. We are hoping to recruit some new blood so if you know anyone who might be interested in attending the workshop, please pick up a flyer and/or a form this evening.

The big news of the moment is that very soon we will have

a CD to go with our Leeds Golden Collection book. Hooray! Neil Barron, who wrote the original tunes for the majority of the dances in the book, and his band have already recorded the music and we expect to have the CDs very soon. Neil himself is delighted with the recording.

Finally, thanks to Irene and Alan who have helped me through my first year as Sec.

**Betty Hagart**

### 5. Treasurer's Report

Gerry distributed copies of his report and talked through the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and the Financial Analysis of Branch Activities. He explained that the Designated Funds column refers to a restricted fund related to promoting children's activities. The main income comes from donated teaching expenses.

The Branch Shop continues to make a good income for the Branch. Gerry thanked Christine Parker-Jones and Ian Ashton for their contribution.

The overall surplus for the year in the Unrestricted funds was £3,897. This had prompted Gerry to suggest, at a recent committee meeting, that the decision taken at an earlier meeting to make a £1 rise on the price of a dance ticket be rescinded. A vote had been taken and as a result this price rise had been withdrawn.

Gerry invited any questions on his report. Claire Johnson asked "How do you get a -£80 for sundry expenses?" Gerry explained this was a balancing entry. (see note at the bottom of page 5 \*)

Claire then asked how the income and expenditure for the weekend schools could be identical. Gerry replied that our weekend events organiser, Yvonne Tredgett, always presents accounts that balance exactly.

Gerry explained that the third page of his report shows the income, expenditure and surplus or deficit for our main Branch Activities.

Irene thanked Gerry for his detailed report for the meeting and also his reports to committee which committee members find very helpful.

She verified that a copy of the accounts had been signed by the auditor.

### 6. White Rose Festival Report

Jane reported that the festival had run smoothly and had been a successful day, the wonderful weather having contributed to the success. Twenty-five adult teams and 5 children's teams had attended. Some new faces were welcomed as well as old. It had been the Diamond Jubilee of the Festival and we were delighted to have Patricia Lynch the president of Leeds SCD Club to open it, in recognition of the fact the Club had started the Festival sixty years ago. We had good music from Luke Brady and his band. They are unable to play next year, but we are pleased that Neil Barron and his Scottish Dance Band are booked to play for us.

Despite having more teams and having sold more evening dance tickets, there will be a loss of approx £60. Jane explained that mailings, music and meals were more expensive. Next year's Festival will be on July 11th.

### 7. Chairman's Report

I have quite a number of thanks to give:

Don Andrews and Catherine Livsey as former Chairs for their help and advice and sometimes just a listening ear.



Alan Horsfall for his support as Vice Chair.

Betty Hagart for her efficient work as secretary.

Gerry Yates, for keeping the books and giving clear, understandable information to the committee about financial matters.

Brenda Burnell as membership secretary and for Newsletter distribution, cribs and posters at the dances,

The dance team: Alan Horsfall, Ian Clark and Jean Weatherill

Day School team: Janet Brayson, Jane Walford and Heather Foote

The White Rose Festival Committee chaired by Jane Walford.

Catherine Livsey for printing the newsletter, application forms and so on.

Yvonne Tredgett for the organisation of dancing weekends.

Christine Parker Jones and Ian Ashton for all their hard work with the shop.

Jean Dyson for her work running the Children's Festival.

The teachers, Don Andrews, Brenda Burnell and Catherine Livsey and their support teams including Jean Weatherill, Isabel Douglas, Stella Summers and Brenda Morris.

### Overview

Generally the year has been a successful one both socially and financially. Classes, dances, day schools and weekends have all been well supported.

We are pleased to have extended our 'Back to Basics' course into a short series, networking with other groups in the area, as well as our own classes, to further fulfil the objects stated in our constitution of promoting the teaching and enjoyment of Scottish Country Dancing in our district. A major aim of the courses is to help beginners to be able to manage better at classes of largely experienced dancers but it can also be used by experienced dancers who wish to polish their skills.

We are still having difficulty attracting children, and indeed younger people. Although, as you will have realised, we are already a busy committee, we will seek to address this during the coming year.

Your thoughts and ideas on this subject will be welcomed.

### Venue

A word about the venue.

We have had a few adverse comments about St Margaret's. I'd just like to remind you of the background to us arriving here. When we sadly lost West Park it was very difficult to find a suitable venue. There are few halls of sufficient size and a great deal of competition for them from other groups. For a time we went from place to place carrying our tea things with us. The committee felt that we needed to settle down so that everyone knew where to come. St. Margaret's was the most available, soonest. Most of the committee are pleased with the arrangements and help we receive from St Margaret's. We now have our own key and cupboard for our tea things and a good relationship with St Margaret's staff. No-one would deny that the floor was in need of attention or that a lick of paint might be nice. Promises have been made in that direction and we can check out tonight whether anything has already been done. We would like your further feedback, either by raising matters tonight under AOB or by speaking to a committee member at any time.

In conclusion I would like to say how proud I am of how much this branch achieves, by working together. The biggest thanks of all goes to you the members for that continuing support, which makes it all possible.

**Irene Dracup**

## 8. Election of Officers and Committee

The following were proposed and seconded

Chairman	Irene Dracup
Secretary	Betty Hagart
Treasurer	Gerry Yates

Committee: Janet Brayson, Mairi Devlin, Adrian Dickin, Heather Foote, Catherine Livsey.

Ian Clarke, Jean Weatherill and Pat Cowles have one year left to serve of their current term.

## 9. Any Other Business

Robin Walford proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for their work through the year.

Claire Johnson asked how many members the branch currently has. The Chair and Secretary were uncertain of the exact figure but know it to be between 90 - 100.

## 10. Date of next AGM

The next AGM will be Saturday Oct 17th 2015 at St Margaret's Church Hall at 7.00pm

## Addendum to minutes

\* Note from Treasurer following the AGM

This has been a difficult year to be Branch Treasurer. When I was co-opted on to Committee in January 2014 the financial year was half way through and we had no Treasurer for six months, although our Chair did a good job as acting Treasurer.

Our Branch Accounts are not straightforward as they have to incorporate the busy Branch Shop and the accounts of the White Rose Festival, the latter having its own quite separate bank account.

I have been assured that getting our £45.5k income and £40.6k expenses to balance within £80 is quite acceptable. (We always had too much assets, not too little.)

I am not a trained accountant but I do my honest best to keep things in order.

**Gerry Yates** Interim Treasurer

### At this Annual General Meeting on October 18th 2014 the following Branch members were elected to committee -

Chairperson	Irene Dracup
Secretary	Betty Hagart
Treasurer	Gerry Yates

### Committee

Janet Brayson  
Ian Clarke  
Pat Cowles  
Mairi Devlin  
Adrian Dickin  
Heather Foote  
Catherine Livsey  
Jean Weatherill

We are delighted that Branch members were willing to accept nomination to the committee and that all vacancies were filled. **Betty Hagart**

# Looking back musically



What a lovely interview appeared in the latest Scottish Country magazine with Jennifer Wilson. She is a well known pianist from Elgin and her music can still make everyone want to dance! We are very lucky that she made a CD so we can all continue to enjoy her playing.

Jennifer came to Leeds many moons ago to play for a teachers' workshop. Helen Frame was teaching that day. As Jennifer had travelled so far we decided her talents should not go to waste and persuaded Roy Goldring to book the hall at Ben Rhydding and organise an impromptu dance. This was all put in place and a lucky few of us were able to attend. What had not been taken into account was the state of the piano. Reading the interview and Jennifer's answer about the worst piano she had encountered, set me thinking about this particular evening. At Ben Rhydding the men unearthed the piano which was extremely dusty and badly neglected. Jennifer duly set to work cleaning it up and making it playable. It was not in such a bad a state as the one she refers to, but ran it a close second. With her nimble fingers (after her restoration work) we all enjoyed a wonderful and never to be forgotten evening dancing to Jennifer's wonderful music.

It has set me wondering about dancers who were taught in classes with piano music. Did it help to raise the standard of dancing? It certainly made dancers more aware of phrasing and dancing together as a set rather than eight individuals. How many classes listen to the music before doing a dance? If they are like the Thursday class they just continue chatting rather than listening to the music but I do try! Classes today in this area for economic reasons no longer use 'live' music. Having the latter makes teaching so much easier for teachers, it can be adjusted quickly for individual needs in a class and makes dancers more aware of the music for certain dances and phrases within a dance. Recorded band music was for the Saturday night dances when no band was available, and that too was special. We managed to have a pianist longest at the children's class as we always preferred to pay the pianist rather than the teacher but sadly the Friday class now has canned music. Mrs Findlay was our long serving pianist. She came from North Africa where her father was in the diplomatic service but had to return to Aberdeen at the beginning of the war. She did not think much of the North Sea compared with the

Mediterranean Sea! In the north east she met and married Mr Findlay an Aberdonian who played the fiddle. Very soon she joined him playing the piano and developing the distinctive north eastern style of music very similar to Jennifer Wilson's. I was very lucky to have her play for me on Fridays for so long.

Sorry I must be getting old and boring talking about the 'good old days' but I was going to mention in the same edition of the Scottish Country Dancer was David Eastwood's appreciation of John Drewry. He was a former Leeds Branch member before his teaching career took him to various parts of the country when he met up with John. David left his mark in Leeds (still on a musical theme!) where he built for us a splendid turntable with variable speed for use at our Branch dances. Sadly that is long out of date but older members will remember David and the good recorded music we had for our early dances.

I often now go to sleep with good piano music ringing in my ears - wonderful!

**Brenda Burnell**

**Saturday 21st February 2015**

**7.30pm**

**SOCIAL DANCE**

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

**Music: Ian Muir MC: Alan Horsfall**

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

## **Programme**

The Lass of Richmond Hill	8x32 J	Graded 2
The Kissing Bridge	8x32 R	Book 47
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	8x32 S	Leaflet
Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterader	1x128 J	Hamilton
Cadgers in the Canongate	8x48 R	Book 9
Robertson's Rant	1x80 S	Book 39
South from Oban	8x40 J	Leeds 10th
The Irish Rover	8x32 R	Cosh 22 SCDs

## **INTERVAL**

Mrs Stewart's Jig	8x32 J	Book 35
None So Pretty	8x40 R	Book 19
The Braes of Breadalbane	8x32 S	Book 21
All the Eights	8x32 J	Leeds Golden Collection
Nottingham Lace	1x96 R	Bradley
Miss Catherine Ann	3x32 S	Queen's Coll 1
Major Ian Stewart	8x32 J	Book 35
The De'il Amang the Tailors	8x32 R	Book 14

## **Extras**

The Machine Without Horses	8x32 J	Book 12
The Sailor	8x32 H	Book 24
Rougemont Castle	3x32 S	Book 48

**All dances will be recapped**

## Membership and Newsletters

I am sorry that membership has been so chaotic this year but I think I have sorted everything out finally! Headquarters have installed new software and there have been teething troubles. I should have received the membership cards for everyone complete with your names and lifetime numbers but this did not happen as planned. The cards were late and I had to go into our list at Headquarters to get your numbers. Now everyone should have received this year's membership card by post or by hand with your lifetime membership number. Hopefully next year the cards will come ready with the appropriate details.

The November Newsletter will reach most of you by e-mail (if I have deciphered everyone's writing!). Please let me know if you are not happy about that and would prefer a hard copy (brenda.gunny@talktalk.net). For those without e-mail your hard copies will be sent by post or handed out at classes as usual.

All members should now have received the latest Country Dancer magazine (edition 19). I have now updated your details on the Headquarter's list and ticked all the appropriate boxes. Please let me know if you have not received the latest edition and I will make sure you receive one. Joint members should now be receiving a single copy.

Please do contact me if there are any problems and I will do my best to sort them out for you.

**Brenda Burnell**

## Highland Day School

The Highland Day School was held on Sunday 26 October at Holt Park Active. As usual it was taught by Catherine Livsey.

It was our first venture into a dance studio. Mirrors were a bit intimidating at first, but once we got used to them, they proved to be quite useful, as did the ballet bars. As always our efforts to achieve grace and elegance were accompanied by much laughter and some despair at times. Catherine continued with her patient encouragement to a class of fourteen, in the morning, ranging in age from 10 years to 80 years; and in ability from 'not much' to 'skilled'. It was all a great deal of fun. I think that we all improved some of our Highland steps.

In the afternoon the five intrepid people, who were brave enough to stay on, attempted a Highland step dance. The slightly alarming thing is that we got homework. We might build on our efforts to do 'Highland Laddie' at the next Highland day school, so we could be practising at home. The next Highland Day School is on 18 April 2015 at St Giles Church Hall, Bramhope. So the homework is in the diary for the 17th! Come along and join in the fun. You will be at least as good as me.

**Irene Dracup**

## A Burns Celebration

**St Margaret's Church Hall, Ilkley, LS29 9QL**  
**2 - 4 pm Thursday 22nd January 2015**  
**Music: Ian Slater, MC: Don Andrews**

**£5: Faith Tea**

### **Dances from the time of Robert Burns, 1759-1796**

#### **Programme**

1	Hooper's Jig	J 8x32	MMM	1756
2	Johnny Groat's House	R 8x32	Book 18	1748
3	The Duke of Atholl's Reel	J 8x32	Book 16	1776
4	Dalkeith's Strathspey	S 8x32	Book 9	1792
5	Scottish Reform	R 8x32	Book 3	'early'
6	The Machine without Horses	J 8x32	Book 11	1772
7	The Eight Men of Moidart	R 4x 32	Book 3	1754
8	The Lea Rig	S 6x32	Book 21	'old MS'
9	The Moudiewort	J 8x32	Book 11	1755
10	The Montgomeries' Rant	R 8x32	Book 10	1749

#### **Extras**

A	Muirland Willie	J 8x32	Book 21	'old MS'
B	The Birks of Invermay	S 4x32	Book 16	1776
C	Red House	R 6x40	Book 7	1731

**All dances will be walked through**

## Youth Workshop Leeds

**Saturday 17th January 2015**

Teachers: Alasdair Brown and Craig Houston

Musicians: Adam Brady (accordion/piano)  
and Christina Hood (fiddle)

#### **Timetable:**

10.00	Arrival and registration
10.30-12.30	Classes (advanced: Craig and Adam, intermediate: Alasdair and Christina)
12.30-14.00	Lunch (tbc)
14.00-15.15	Classes (advanced: Alasdair and Christina, intermediate: Craig and Adam)
15.30-16.30	Classes (general highland: Alasdair and Adam, ceilidh dances: Craig and Christina)
19.30-22.30	Social dance run by Leeds branch, music by Ian Slater (refreshments provided)

#### **Venues:**

Workshop: Leeds University Union, Lifton Place, Leeds, LS2 9JZ (2 rooms: Lounge and Treehouse)

Evening dance: St Margaret's Parish Centre, Church Lane, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5LA

Further information from Lindsay Ibbots on  
lindsey.ibbotson@gmail.com

# DATES, DATES, DATES

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

## 2014

**Friday 5 - Sunday 7 December**  
**Malhamdale Weekend Course**  
Newfield Hall, Malhamdale  
Teacher: Graham Donald  
Music: Phill Jones

**Monday 15 December**  
**Christmas Tea Dance 1.45pm**  
**Faith Tea, All dances walked**  
Adel Methodist Church, Gainsborough  
Avenue, Adel, Leeds, LS16 7PQ  
Music: Ian Slater

**Saturday 20 December**  
**Social Dance 7.30pm**  
St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth  
LS18 5LQ  
Music: George Meikle  
and the Lothian Band

## 2015

**Saturday 17 January**  
**Social Dance 7.30pm**  
St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth  
LS18 5LQ  
Music: Ian Slater

**Thursday 22 January**  
**Burns Celebration 2.00pm**  
**Faith Tea, All dances walked**  
St Margaret's Church Hall, Ilkley,  
LS29 9QL  
Music: Ian Slater

**Saturday 21st February**  
**Musicians' Day School**  
St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth  
LS18 5LQ  
Teacher: Ian Muir

**Saturday 21 February**  
**Social Dance 7.30pm**  
St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth  
LS18 5LQ  
Music: Ian Muir

**Saturday 21 March**  
**Children's Festival**  
The Grove Centre, Horsforth LS18 4BH  
Music: Neil Barron

**Saturday 21 March**  
**Social Dance 7.30pm**  
St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth  
LS18 5LQ  
Music: Neil Barron

**27-29 March 2015**  
**Scarborough Weekend**  
Esplanade Hotel  
Teacher: Pat Houghton  
Music: George Meikle

**Saturday 18 April**  
**Highland & Scottish National**  
**Day School**  
St Giles Church Hall,  
Bramhope, LS16 9BA.  
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

**Saturday 16 May**  
**Social Dance 7.30pm**  
St Margaret's Church Hall, Horsforth  
LS18 5LQ  
Music: Adam Brady

**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 2.00pm - 5.00pm**  
**Evening 7.00pm - 10.30pm**  
Gateways School, Harewood,  
Leeds LS17 9LE  
Music: Neil Barron and his Band

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

## Back to Basics Moving On

During the four classes held this term newer dancers have again benefitted from the opportunity to practise steps and figures at a steady, measured pace without the pressure that can sometimes arise when learning alongside more experienced dancers.

Four more classes are scheduled for after Christmas. The dates are 14th Feb (this date to be confirmed), 28th Feb, 14th Mar, 25th Apr 2015.

The classes will revise figures taught this term then cover further corners figures, allemande, chains of different types, the knot and the all-round strathspey poussette. As before the classes will be held at Adel Methodist Church Hall, Gainborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds LS16 7PQ, 2.30 till 4.45.

Please put the dates in your diary.

**Betty Hagart**

## Classes

### Spring Term 2015

W/C 5 January 2015 to  
W/C 23 March 2015

**Fees:** £4.00 per class  
Multi Class term ticket £86

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

## 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

14 December 2014, 11 January,  
1 February, 1 March, 12 April,  
10 May, 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.  
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

### Further Information

Contact Betty Hagart - Branch Secretary,  
10 Dorset Crescent, Harrogate, HG1 2LU Tel  
01423 521241 Email [e.hagart@talktalk.net](mailto:e.hagart@talktalk.net)

### [www.rscdsleeds.org.uk](http://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](http://www.twitter.com/RSCDSLeeds)  
Facebook Rscds Leeds Branch