

# Island Fling



## February 2007

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society  
P.O. Box 30123, Saanich Centre Postal Outlet  
Victoria, B.C. V8X 5E1 Canada  
Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland

### Executive Committee

President	Bill Greig	250-246-1036
Past President	James Scott	370-2359
1st Vice President and Publicity	Joan McIntosh	477-2512
2nd Vice President and Membership	Maralynn Wilkinson	592-2234
Secretary	Heather Danks	477-0346
Newsletter Editor	Sara Hatfield	474-1895
Treasurer	Jamie Orr	478-5338
Social Convener	Ian Danks	477-0346
Teacher Representative	Bob Anderson	479-6719

Web address: [www.viscds.ca](http://www.viscds.ca)

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The 2007 social season has started and classes are well underway. We started off with a very successful Open House followed by a much enjoyed Burns Night. Looking towards the AGM doesn't seem all that far out of reach, BUT there are many things to look forward to between now and then! Our next social occasion will be Valentines on February 17 hosted by the Basic class. It promises to be a great evening and we hope many of you will be able to attend.

As you all know the hardworking Ball committee, under the able direction of Lesley Brennand, has been working diligently to get everything associated with the Workshop and Ball organized. For those who don't know it Merle Peterson, our registrar, has done an enormous amount of publicity for this gala event, and looks forward to receiving your registration forms. There is room available for the Ceilidh, workshop classes, the Ball, and the Sunday morning brunch. One area that could use some help is Maureen and Jamie Orr's silent auction. Items are arriving slowly so if you've been thinking about auction items to donate, now is the time to "spring" into action.

Another spring item on the to-do list is the preparation for the 2007-2008 executive elections at the AGM in April. We need a Nominating Committee and are looking for 2-3 volunteers from the membership. This year there will be a requirement for a new **Social Convener**, **Secretary**, and **President**. Please contact Heather Danks if you wish to pursue a place on the executive or if you wish to assist by being on the Nominating Committee. These positions are important and I hope that you will give it serious consideration.

In ending I would like to thank the membership for the support it has given to our socials -- a big well done and thank you!

**Bill Greig, President**

## EXECUTIVE COLUMN

### Newsletter Notice

An agenda item was brought forward to the executive late fall regarding the publishing of advertisements in the Island Fling. It was discussed by the Executive that members may find the awareness of various contacts and services of value and assistance; particularly to new members who may not have access to the network of information often known by long-standing members. The Executive felt the Island Fling would be an appropriate vehicle to offer this service. A fee would not be requested, as advertising would only be accepted from members in good standing and only available to our membership through the newsletter. This item was discussed at the November, December and January Executive Meetings. A motion was carried at the Executive meeting on January 18, 2007 that advertisements will be accepted in the Fling, business card size, from members only, and related to Scottish Country Dance. They will be published three consecutive times.

\*\*\* Submission of advertisements will be accepted by the newsletter editor beginning the March 2007 newsletter - advertisements must be received by the monthly deadline published in the Island Fling for publication in the following month's newsletter. \*\*\*

### Spring 2007 Workshop & Ball

#### Attention Beginner Dancers we have something exclusive for you.

From previous newsletters, you will be aware that the Committee has been working hard to put into place this special weekend for all our members and dancing friends from other clubs.

This year we are particularly pleased to offer the beginner dancers a special all day program. In the morning, I know you will gain from Joan Axford and Bob Anderson; two very experienced workshop teachers who are interested in promoting the joy of dancing through workshop classes. When we begin dancing our comfort level is low and we do not feel sure of ourselves to attend a social, but do not fear help is at hand, Evelyn Nixon will explain all in her workshop "Having confidence at Socials", by the way this afternoon program is open to all dancers.

All our new dancers are welcome to attend the Friday Night Ceilidh. I am sure there will be dances you can easily dance and it is an opportunity to hear very good live music by Ken Natrass and Ron Krug who will get your toes tapping, and if you are not part of the acts sit back and enjoy the entertainment and light refreshment.

For the more experienced dancer there are two sessions. Evelyn will share with John Wilkinson from Scotland the instruction in the morning classes, but in the afternoon, he will be introducing his own dances A Milknoe Medley. It appears we will be in for some very good information to enhance our dancing skills. For our out of town guests only, who will need a reminder of the Ball dances, we are offering an afternoon review of some of the dances. Please look at the registration sheet for sign up levels, times and places.

This year we are stepping away from the selling of raffle tickets, but are offering a Silent Auction to help us with the funding of our weekend. Maureen & Jamie Orr would be very happy to receive your donations of gifts and baskets. I believe they are coming in slowly and you can reach them at 478-5338.

I just know we have a wealth of gifted people who are interested in being part of our Friday Night Ceilidh. If you have a talent to share, Joan and Edna would love to hear from you at 477-2512 / 727-2977 or put it on your registration. The entertainment spots are no longer than 4minutes and are interspersed with dancing.

Joan would also be grateful to have volunteers decorating on Friday afternoon as many hands make the job go a lot quicker.

We are in need of volunteer drivers to transport teachers and musicians over this weekend period, please call Dora 598-0207 or Lesley 391-6984 if you can be of help.

I thank all that have volunteered so far and look forward to working with more of you over this special weekend.

**Lesley Brennand, Ball Coordinator**

### For Sale

Man's kilt (Ancient Oliphant), jacket and vest (with stag buttons), tam, leather sporran and sock flashes. Tailored in Scotland in 1974 but never worn. Measurements - kilt waist 38", length 25-1/2"; jacket back 27", sleeve from shoulder 28". Contact 1-250-539-2689 or email [pmstaff@telus.net](mailto:pmstaff@telus.net).

### Oh What A Night!



### Joint Burns Celebration

What a wonderful way to start off the New Year socially, with a night like this. The evening was well organized by Anne and Eric Payne, Kathryn Knowles, Ian and Heather Danks, Mary Cooper, and Penny Catton. The dancing programme provided by Bob Anderson and ably assisted by Sheila McCall, was most appropriate for the occasion. Right from the opening comments, then the Grand Entry of the Haggis with appropriate watchful attendants, followed by Walter Balfour's perfect rendition of the "Address to a Haggis," set the tone of the evening. Denise Yeo gave the Selkirk Grace, followed by the Toasts. The Toast to the Lassies, given by Gordon Robinson, and the Response by Christine Kinghorn were humorous, well presented, and tasteful. Garth Martens' Toast to the Immortal Memory, with its spot on analogies, made Robert Burns much more understandable. There was a good turn out of members from both clubs (64 dinner and 81 dancers), and I would like to thank everyone who came out and also those who brought food. The cooks outdid themselves with a wonderful variety of potatoes, turnips, and salads plus ham and not to be forgotten desserts. You could feel the fun in the air right from the first dance and it was noticed by many. After everything was cleaned, mopped, chairs put out again, decorations taken down (which I should mention, the decorators with what they had, did marvelous work) and everyone out, the doors were locked at 12:23 AM precisely.



If you missed this evening, you really missed a good one.

**Bill Greig**

### Another Great Tradition ...

At VISCDs is the Valentines Social hosted by the Basic Class. I'm still a new dancer, but I particularly remember my first year and not believing ANYONE (especially not Ian Danks) when they told me to come to a social. It took a lot of convincing to get up my nerve to attend, but it was great fun and all those friendly faces that helped me out are still there, and they are still friendly! So if any new dancers are not sure about attending the Valentines Social – don't be – come and enjoy the fun!

**Sara Hatfield**

And just in case you feel like the only “dud” out there, I found a little something in an old Fling:

### The Beginner

I joined a Scottish Dancing class,  
We started last September.  
I’m trying hard – I really am –  
There’s so much to remember.

I know the experienced dancer,  
It’s very easy to spot ‘em  
They gaily stand at the top of the set  
And I slink down to the bottom.

I keep one eye on the teacher  
And one on the rest of the set –  
I try to watch my partner as well,  
But haven’t succeeded yet.

It’s very important to know the start  
Of the dance about to be done.  
If you’re not quite sure of the first eight bars  
You are bound to be number one.

Everyone’s very helpful  
And tells me what to do –  
But I get mixed up with my sexes –  
When ladies are men, wouldn’t you?

And when it’s reels we are doing  
I’m soon a total loss,  
There’s reels of four and reels of three,  
Reels down and reels across.

There even are diagonal reels! –  
But when our teacher said  
“Don’t do an eight bar reel in six”  
My brain reeled in my head!

But I’m going to keep on trying –  
The music is lovely to hear,  
And maybe I’ll know which corner is which  
At the end of the dancing Year.

Author Unknown

Reprinted from the October 2001 Island Fling Newsletter



## 2007 Valentines Social

February 17, 7:30 p.m. at St. Martin In-The-Fields, Obed, Cost: \$8

Hosted by the Basic Class

### PROGRAM

Highland Fair	32J2	B	Graded Book (Core)
Saint John River	32S4	B	Canada’s Centennial Dance (C)
Catch the Wind	32R3	B	Book 45
Haste to the Wedding	32J3	B	Book 25 (C)
Miss Jane Muirhead of Dunsmuir ***	32S3	B	Dunsmuir Dances
Reel of the 51 <sup>st</sup> Division	32R3	B	Book 13 (C)
Follow Me Home	32J3	I	Book 38 (C)
Autumn in Appin **	32S4	A	Book 31 (C)
Spiffin’ ***	32R5 sq+	A	Devised Mt. Sidney, Virginia, 1992
Jennifer’s Jig	32J3	I	Silver City Book (Drewry) (C)
Lover’s Knot	40S3	I	Book 8 (C)
Farewell to Auchterarder **	128J4 sq	A	Hamilton (C)
<b>Break</b>			
General Stuart’s Reel	32R3	I	Book 10 (C)
Machine without Horses	32J3	B	Book 12
Seann Truibhas Willichan	32S2	B	Book 27 (C)
The De’il Amang the Tailors*	32R3	B	Book 14 (C)
<b>Extras:</b>			
Sugar Candie	32S3	B	Book 26 (C)
Mairi’s Wedding	40R3	I	22 SCDs and 2 (Cosh) (C)

\* Briefing Only    \*\* No briefing    \*\*\* Directions last pages of newsletter



Dear Van Isle Scottish Country Dancers  
 Happy New Year to you all!  
 Herewith is our formal invitation for VISCDS members to join us for our St Patrick's Dinner/ Dance.

PORT ALBERNI ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DINNER AND DANCE  
 SATURDAY MARCH 10, 2007 – Doors open at 5:30p.m. Dinner at 6:00p.m.  
 Alberni Valley United Church / 3747 Church Street, Port Alberni  
 Cost \$22.50 per person includes Roast Beef Buffet Dinner – BYOB

Please RSVP & prepay by Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup>

Contact: Tony and Leslie Holland (250) 723-0516 or email: [superdoc6@shaw.ca](mailto:superdoc6@shaw.ca)

\*\*Registration form, programme and mini crib available from Island Fling newsletter editor \*\*



### *The Thistle Ball*

This year the Thistle Ball will be on May 12, 2007. Seattle, Bellingham, and Skagit have joined forces to present an evening to remember. Sandy Nixon and his band from Edinburgh will be here to provide the music for this Gala occasion. The Ball will be held at the Boys and Girls club in Bellingham. This is a great venue large enough to host 300 dancers. The evening will begin with cocktails followed by a delicious dinner. The dance program has many favourite dances familiar to all. Tickets are \$65 US or Canadian for dinner and dance. For ticket information in your area contact Kathryn Knowles 250-598-3490 ([kathrynknowles@shaw.ca](mailto:kathrynknowles@shaw.ca)) or check out the website [www.rscds-seattle.org](http://www.rscds-seattle.org)

## COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

- Feb 09 '07 VICTORIA BRANCH DANCE 7:30-9:30 pm, St. Martin's, 550 Obed
- Feb 17 '07 VISCDS VALENTINES SOCIAL St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed
- Feb 23 '07 VICTORIA BRANCH DANCE with Mary Ross, 7:30-9:30 pm, 550 Obed
- Mar 09 '07 VICTORIA BRANCH DANCE 7:30-9:30 pm, St. Martin's, 550 Obed
- Mar 23 '07 VICTORIA BRANCH DANCE with Muriel Johnstone, 7:30-9:30 pm, Obed
- Mar 30- VISCDS WORKSHOP AND BALL WEEKEND
- Apr 1 '07
- Apr 06 '07 TARTAN DAY
- Apr 07 '07 VICTORIA JOINT SCOTTISH COUNCIL TARTAN BALL, Edelweiss Club
- Apr 14 '07 VICTORIA BRANCH ANNUAL BEGINNERS' DANCE
- Apr 19 '07 VISCDS AGM (tentative) St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed
- Apr 27 '07 OLD TIME BALL, sponsored by Old Time Dance, Victoria, McMorran's
- Apr 28 '07 VISCDS SPRING FLING St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed
- Jul 29- TAC SUMMER SCHOOL 2007 Shawnigan Lake.
- Aug 5 '07 Teachers: Eric Finley (Ayrshire, Scotland), Ron Wallace (Santa Rosa, California) & Jean Noble (Toronto). Music: Muriel Johnstone & Keith Smith.  
 Contact Anita Mathur [dmanita@telus.net](mailto:dmanita@telus.net) or TAC website [www.tac-rscds.org](http://www.tac-rscds.org)

## OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Feb 10 '07** **COMOX VALLEY SCD VALENTINES BALL** Native Sons Hall, 360 Cliffe Ave, Courtenay. Music: Muriel Johnstone and Keith Smith. Dinner & Dance. Tickets: \$35 for dancers, \$20 for non-dancers. Payment for tickets must be received by January 31, 2007. Contact: Matthew Nicoll at 250-337-8491
- Feb 16-18'07** **EDMONTON ANNUAL WORKSHOP & BALL** [www.geocities.com/eccds/](http://www.geocities.com/eccds/)
- Feb 17 '07** **VANCOUVER LOVE TO DANCE WORKSHOP & VALENTINES PARTY**  
Full day workshop with evening party. Music: Muriel Johnstone & Keith Smith  
More info contact Fran Caruth 604-224-6838 or caruth@telus.net.
- Feb 22-27'07** **RSCSDS WINTER SCHOOL** at Pitlochry, Scotland
- Mar 10 '07** **PORT ALBERNI SCD ST. PATRICK'S DINNER /DANCE** For more information contact Rosemary Drayton at [rad04@telus.net](mailto:rad04@telus.net)
- Mar 17 '07** **DELTA SPRING FLING** Gizeh Temple, 3550 Wayburne, Burnaby 6:30 p.m. \$50, Music: Bobby Brown and the Scottish Accent. Contact: Mairi Maxwell at 604-946-2448. Social hour, dancing and light buffet at 11 p.m.
- Mar 31 '07** **NANOOSE SPRING GALA** Qualicum Beach Community Hall, Live Music, \$25 Dinner & Dance, \$30 after March 10. Contact Jill Atwood [atwood@island.net](mailto:atwood@island.net)
- Mar 31 '07** **RSCDS SAN DIEGO SPRING BALL** at the Balboa Park Club  
Music by: Andy Imbrie & Calum MacKinnon. Info: Ellen 858-453-8286
- Apr 13-15'07** **LETHBRIDGE 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SCD & MUSIC WORKSHOP & BALL**  
Teachers are Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Mairi Hand, Robert McOwen. Music by Scotch Measure. Contact Fiona Miller 403-329-3582 or [www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org/news.html](http://www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org/news.html)
- Apr 21 '07** **NANAIMO WORKSHOP & TEA DANCE** Teachers: Ruth Jappy and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters. Music by Alex Jappy and Julie Smith. Inquiries: Marguerite Bell 250-756-9836 or [mhjbelle@telus.net](mailto:mhjbelle@telus.net)
- May 11-13'07** **BELLINGHAM YOUTH WEEKEND WEST** at Western Washington University. Teachers are Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Fred DeMarse & Bill Zobel. US\$85. Contact Tom Read 360-734-1295 [ttread2@yahoo.com](mailto:ttread2@yahoo.com).
- May 12 '07** **THISTLE BALL** held in conjunction with Youth Weekend West, Bellingham [www.bellinghamscd.org](http://www.bellinghamscd.org). Tickets \$65.00 US or Cdn Contact Kathryn Knowles for tickets at 250-598-3490 or [kathrynknowles@shaw.ca](mailto:kathrynknowles@shaw.ca)
- Jul 22 -** **RSCSDS SUMMER SCHOOL** takes place in the historic Fife town of  
**Aug 19 '07** St. Andrews. Registration & deposit requested by Feb 1/07. [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org)
- Jul 25-29'07** **HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SCD SCHOOL** at University of King's College,  
Music: Tullochgorum & The Macadians. Teachers are Mary Murray (BC), Robert McOwen (MA), Joe Wallin (NS), Duncan & Maggie Keppie (NS) and Merrill Heubach (NS). Contact Lydia Hedge 902-827-2033  
[lydiahedge@accesswave.ca](mailto:lydiahedge@accesswave.ca).
- Sep 21-23'07** **FORT WORDEN** Scottish Dance Weekend

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER, February 21, 2007

Send your submissions to the new editor please

[sdhatfield@shaw.ca](mailto:sdhatfield@shaw.ca) or mail 1139 Greenwood Avenue, Victoria, BC V9A 5L9

## Miss Jane Muirhead of Dunsmuir

32 Bar Strathspey for 3 couples in a four couple set.

- 1-4            1s dance in and up taking hands briefly and cast off into second place, 2s up on bars 3-4
- 5-8            1s dance a half figure of eight up through 2s
- 9-12          2s, 1s and 3s set and cross with right hand
- 13-16        2s and 3s set and cross right hand to place while 1s set and turn right hand  $\frac{5}{8}$  and pull back right shoulder (i.e. curling round towards the partner and in the direction of the turn) to face first corners
- 17-24        1s turn first corners both hands, pass right shoulder in the middle, turn second corners both hands and pass right shoulder to second place on own side
- 25-32        2s, 1s, and 3s dance six hands round and back.

Devised by Tom Winter

Published in Dunsmuir Dances, 2003

## Spiffin'

A 32 Bar Jig for 5 couples in a square set with 5<sup>th</sup> couple in the center

### Bars

- 1 – 8            The centre couple (couple 5 first time through) dance parallel reels of three with couples 1 and 3, 5L giving left shoulder to 1M and 5M left shoulder to 1L.
- 9 – 12           Centre couple dance hands across, 5L right hand with 2s and 5M left hand with 4s. Centre couple meets facing up and giving nearer hands on bar 12.
- 13 – 16           Centre couple dance up between 1s and cast away from each other (5L casts right, 5M casts left) and around 1s into the centre to meet facing down.
- 17 – 20           Centre couple dance hands across, 5L left hand with 2s and 5M right hand with 4s. Centre couple meets facing down and giving nearer hands on bar 20.
- 21 – 24           Centre couple dance down between 3s and cast away from each other (5L casts left, 5M casts right) and around 3s into the centre to meet facing each other.
- 25 – 28           Centre couple turns clockwise for four bars finishing facing 1s with 5L on her partner's right. The original instructions suggest a Tulloch turn twice around or to taste but by agreement with partner could be replaced with a simple four bar right hand turn, if this is more comfortable.
- 29 – 32           Centre couple sets to 1s and dances left hands across half way to finish in first couple position. 1s finish in the centre facing 2s with 1L on 1M's right.

The dance repeats with a new centre couple until each couple has been in the centre. Each time the dance begins again, the new centre couple begins facing the couple who were to their left to begin the reels. So, the second time through, the original 1s dance the reels with the 2s and 4s and hands across with 3s and 5s (now in position 1).