

# Island Fling



**October 2008**

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

## **Executive Committee**

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Social Convener	Kathryn Deegan	<a href="mailto:kdeegan@shaw.ca">kdeegan@shaw.ca</a>
Teacher Representative	Bob Anderson	250-479-6719

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

I am happy to announce that we now have a Newsletter Editor. The Executive welcomes Gael Forster to this position and we look forward to working with her. This is her first publication and we appreciate Gael's willingness to put it all together on such short notice.

We are well into the fall dancing season and I welcome back our members, at all class levels, for another exhilarating year of mastering challenging new dances as well as enjoying repeats of many of the popular, familiar ones.

On behalf of the Executive, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our Newcomers. We are delighted to have you join our membership and trust you will find participation in Scottish country dancing an enjoyable activity that is mentally, physically and socially stimulating – and fun!

Our Open House, hosted by Gordon Robinson, on September 9th was a great success. The hall was filled with 58 attendees – which included 20 non-member guests. Gordon put together a fun program and taught an interesting variety of basic dances and some basic footwork. Judging by the laughter “a good time was had by all”. Thank you to Gordon for a great introductory evening and to Kathryn Deegan for providing beverages and goodies during the much appreciated break.

Our Treasurer, Jamie Orr, applied and succeeded in getting another \$2,000 Grant this summer. As this money goes towards class expenses, we decided not to increase membership or class fees this year. We have reduced our costs as a result of dropping one class level (Intermediate amalgamation); however, we did have an increased cost in the rental fee for St. Martin Hall this year. Overall we are in good financial shape for now.

The first social of the year on October 18th is the Harvest Social and it is hosted by the Intermediate Class. As this is a small group, Sue has mentioned that they would appreciate additional donations of food from other members attending. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

**Joan McIntosh, President**

## EXECUTIVE COLUMN

### Membership

Thank you to all of you who have submitted your registration form. If you have not paid your membership or class fees yet, please do so as soon as possible, preferably by mail.

**Maralynn Wilkinson**

### Newsletter

Yes indeed as Joan has informed you, I have agreed to assemble the Island Fling. I have been involved with Scottish Country dancing since I was a child and benefitted from so many other people who have volunteered their time to keep the clubs running, I decided it was time for me to assist. I have recently attended Summer School in St. Andrews and am infused with further enthusiasm for this form of dance.

My gratitude goes to Sara Hatfield who has shown me the ropes and kept meticulous files to make it all easier. Please send me your contributions, solicited or not, via [gael@shaw.ca](mailto:gael@shaw.ca) and I will do my best to get your news to you each month. **DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER is October 27, 2008.**

**Gael Forster**



### Ball Committee

Things are all ready getting underway for next year's Ball Committee ... as always, it promises to be a wonderful event on March 27 to 29! This year the Committee is still looking for 3 new positions: New Ball Coordinator, New Ceilidh Chair, and New Catering Coordinator, and hopes all of you will consider becoming involved and helping out in one of these positions. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Lesley Brennand at 250-391-6984 or [lesleybrennand@shaw.ca](mailto:lesleybrennand@shaw.ca).

### Class Schedules and Class Representatives

Thank you to the class reps who have volunteered this year:

Experienced Social	Monday	Heather Hermanson	last class before Christmas
Daytime Social	Tuesday	Irene Booth	November 24 – there is a class Oct 13
Basic	Tuesday	Annette Barclay	November 25 – there is a class Nov 11
Advanced	Wednesday	Merle Peterson	November 25 – there is a class Nov 11
Intermediate	Thursday	Heather Shave	November 26
			November 27



I would like to thank everyone for their get well wishes, messages, and cards during my recent stay in hospital and during my recuperation. A special thank you to my sister in law Mary Cooper, who gave up a holiday in Oregon to look after me for a week after I came out of hospital. She fed me when I had no appetite, took me for walks to get me moving again, and was my tower of strength through it all. I am breathing a little easier now, but it will still be a few weeks before I am back on the dance floor. I've missed you all and missed the dancing and look forward to seeing you all sometime soon.

**Sheila McCall**

## Over the Hills and Far Away (Thoughts about Scotland #5)

### Time to Visit

Christmas (and Hogmanay) can also be a fine time to visit Scotland, especially if you can make it to some out-of-the-way place. One Hogmanay in Glen Lochay (near Killin) I was treated to traditional boiled potatoes and salt herring from Mallaig, washed down with a local malt. The last time I was in Findhorn I stayed at the local pub, the Crown and Anchor. The accommodations were fairly spartan, but the ambience was wonderful. The local brass band turned up to play in the courtyard. The bar emptied as the locals went outside – in a howling gale - to listen. The host then spent the next hour supplying everyone with hot spiced wine, presumably to make sure that no one expired from exposure on his premises. The band was excellent, and the atmosphere quite special. A brisk walk along Findhorn's fabled sands to look for agates the next morning was the perfect antidote to any excesses of the night before.

Glasgow's hospitality at the turn of the year is legendary, but even Edinburgh has picked up its socks. Edinburgh now boasts the biggest Hogmanay party in the world. This may be a debatable claim, but the city puts on a fine, family oriented party - with a carol service by the tree that's gifted every year by the citizens of Oslo, pipers marching down the Mound, dancers and crowds in Princes Street, a Bavarian-style market next to the Royal Scottish Art Gallery, a funfair and ice rink in East Princes Street Gardens, and fireworks up among the Athenian follies on Calton Hill. And because it's the 'off-season', there's always lots of accommodation, with prices much lower than they are in summer.

**Michael Elcock**



### 2008 St Andrew's Social

**November 22, 7:30 p.m. at St. Martin In-The-Fields, 550 Obed, Cost: \$8**

#### PROGRAM

St. Andrews Fair	8 x 32 J	B	C (Core)
The Clansman	8 x 32 R	I	C
Miss Catherine Ann	3 x 32 S	I	D. Queen
Hooper's Jig	8 x 32 J	I	C
John of Bon Accord	8 x 32 R	I	C
John McAlpin	8 x 32 S	I	C
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8 x 32 J	I	C
Blue Mess Jacket	4 x 32 S	I	C
Reel of the 51st Division	8 x 32 R	I	C
Roaring Jelly	8 x 32 J	I	C
Staffin Harvest	4 x 32 S	I	C
Clutha	4 x 48 R	I	C

#### Break

The Luckenbooth Brooch	8 x 32 J	I	Glendarroch
Polharrow Burn **	5 x 32 R	A	C
The Gentleman	8 x 32 S	A	C
Farewell to Auchterarder **	1 x 128 J	A	C

#### Extras

Miss Milligan's Strathspey	8 x 23 S	I	C
Maxwell's Rant	8 x 32 R	I	C

\*\* No Briefing

**HOSTED BY THE WEDNESDAY ADVANCED CLASS**



## COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

- Oct 18 2008** **VISCDS Harvest Social** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed. See the September Island Fling for the program. Please bring food to share if you can.
- Oct 26** **Alexander Brothers 50th Anniversary Concert** at 3pm at the McPherson Theatre. Cost: \$30, \$28 (seniors) Tickets are available at the McPherson box office.
- Nov 1** **Victoria Branch, Mini workshop** with Evelyn Nixon from Comox 9:30am - 12:15pm, followed by **Nostalgic Luncheon and Afternoon Dance** 1:30 - 5:00, at Polish White Eagle Hall, 90 Dock Street. Contact Edith Chapman (enchapma@telus.net).
- Nov 22** **VISCDS St. Andrew's Social** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed
- Dec 6** **JOINT Christmas Social**
- Dec 31** **Victoria Branch, Hogmanay /New Years Pot luck** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall
- Jan 24 2009** **VISCDS Burns Social** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed
- Jan 25** **Burns Memorial Tea and Concert** sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council (the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns). Heather-laying Ceremony at the Burns statue at 2pm in Beacon Hill Park followed by concert and tea at the Kirk Hall of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Courtney St at 2:30. Admission by donation.
- Feb 21** **VISCDS Valentines Social** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed
- Mar 27-29** **VISCDS Ball and Workshop Weekend**
- Apr 18** **VISCDS Spring Fling** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed

## OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Oct 31- Nov 2 2008** **SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH ASILOMAR WORKSHOP & BALL** at Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, CA (near Monterey). Contact Julee Montes 650-722-0473 or [julm-hcs@pacbell.net](mailto:julm-hcs@pacbell.net) or [www.rscds-sf.org](http://www.rscds-sf.org)
- Nov 14-15** **HEARTLAND DANCE SCOTTISH** in Vancouver to Scotland's Best – Colin Dewar Band. Held at the United Scottish Cultural Centre. Social Dance Fri \$55; Ball Sat \$60; Both \$95. Tickets contact Janice/Paul Lowe at 604-536-7660, [JaniceLowe@shaw.ca](mailto:JaniceLowe@shaw.ca) or [www.ottawadancescottish.org/heartland](http://www.ottawadancescottish.org/heartland)
- Dec 6** **PORT ALBERNI CLUB Christmas Dinner/Dance.** Contact Rosemary Drayton at [rad07@shaw.ca](mailto:rad07@shaw.ca)
- Feb 14 2009** **COMOX VALLEY SCD VALENTINES BALL**
- Feb 26- Mar 3** **RSCDS WINTER SCHOOL** in Pitlochry, Scotland. Watch [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org) for details.
- Mar 28** **NANOOSE SCD 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SPRING GALA**
- Apr 3-5** **LETHBRIDGE SCD & MUSIC WORKSHOP** at Lethbridge Lodge Hotel. Contact Fiona Miller 403-329-3582 or Joanna Fraser 403-320-0357 [jo-jo@telus.net](mailto:jo-jo@telus.net).
- Jun 12-14'09** **SALT SPRING ISLAND SIMPLY SCOTTISH** at Harbour House. Teachers are Jean Dodds, Simon Scott & Bill Zobel. Musicians are Muriel Johnstone, Calum MacKinnon & Mary Ross. Contact Rita Robertson (Registrar) [struan2@telus.net](mailto:struan2@telus.net) or <http://saltspringsscottishdancers.org/>

**NOTE:** Dance Programs for many of the listed events are available from the VISCDS newsletter editor or the listed contact/websites.