

Island Fling



APRIL, 2003

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

President	Thelma Bell	652-5122
1st Vice President and Publicity	Ruth Slavin	380-5154
2nd Vice President and Membership	Maxine Dell	477-2969
Secretary	June Robinson	477-8317
Newsletter Editor	Christine Rushforth	477-0340
Treasurer	Merle Peterson	477-8331
Social Convenor	Jan Thorsen	380-5154
Teacher Representative	Monica Roots	(250) 539-5078

Web address: www.viscds.ca

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Officially, this is the last report of the Bell bus trips but I may occasionally give an item to the newsletter, room permitting.

The usual gang, Janet and Graham Rice, Sue and Rob Langridge and Una Lennam and I attended the Delta Borderers 25th anniversary Spring Fling at the Gizeh Temple Hall in Burnaby. For those of you who have never danced there, it is something everyone should experience. The floor is a dancers' dream and the music of Bobby Brown superb. The programme consisted mostly of dances we have never heard of but with a bit of practice??? beforehand, we did not have trouble coping with them. It amazed me how many people I knew there met through Scottish dance travels.

The Bus' next excursion is to Campbell River the weekend of April 5th to attend a ceilidh sponsored by the pipe band there, my son being the pipe major. On that trip I will be accompanied by my grandchildren and my sister so it will be a family weekend. Some camping trips are scheduled for the summer along with some R & R.

As our dancing year is drawing to a close I am sure some of you are wondering about changing classes next year. Please check with your present teacher before doing so as they have the knowledge of what is available in the other classes and can advise where you should go. Those that are finding the upper classes too hard to handle can either attend the Monday afternoon class or the Lower Intermediate class which progress is taught at a slower pace. Members are welcome to attend either or both of them. The AGM is almost upon us so please come out to support our club and elect your next executive.

By the time this newsletter will be published our workshop and ball weekend will be over and I will not have attended if I do not get busy and get the ball gown finished. Good-bye from the Bell bus.

Thelma Bell, President.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with Section 14, (I) of the Constitution and By-Laws of the VANCOUVER ISLAND SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY, written notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Martins in the Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

Dancing will follow after the meeting.

AGM ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE VISCDS EXECUTIVE

Elections at the AGM will be for President, First Vice-President (Publicity) and Second Vice-President (Membership). If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the Nominating Committee, Mary Hanna 479-4901 or Ruth Slavin 380-5154.

The time required to execute the duties is not excessive nor the roles demanding, but they must be filled in order for the club to run smoothly. Generally, the duties are:

President shall organize and preside at all meeting of the Society and of the Directors. As the chief executive officer, shall supervise the other officers in the execution of their duties.

1st Vice President shall act for the President when he/she is unable or unwilling to undertake his/her duties, shall publicize the club and its events and shall act as contact person for information about the club and its events.

2nd Vice President shall distribute application forms for membership and register members, and with the Social Convener, prepare kits for Class Representatives.

If you have specific questions, please contact the outgoing officers whose numbers appear on the front page of this newsletter.

Ruth Slavin and Mary Hanna

PLEASE NOTE:

CHANGE OF VENUE AND DATES FOR THROONIE NIGHTS

They are now at McKenzie School, McKenzie Avenue either in the new or the old gym.

On Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

April 8, 15, 22 and 29 and May 6 and 13.

NEW DANCES CELEBRATE CENTENNIAL

Monica Roots

As part of the celebrations marking the centenary of the voyage of the S.Y. Scotia, a three masted barque, the research ship of the Scottish Antarctic Expedition 1902-04, under the leadership of Dr. William Speirs Bruce, The RSCDS in collaboration with the Royal Scottish Geographical Society have produced "The Scotia Suite of Scottish Country Dances". The seven dances have been written by Roy Goldring, deviser of many of our favourite dances, including "John of Bon Accord", "The Reel of the Royal Scots" and "The Saltire Society Reel". The music for the lead tune of each dance has been composed by Muriel Johnstone – need I say more. Many of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society events are aimed at children, so these dances are all good social dances that dancers of every level of ability can enjoy.

On Throonie Night, Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at McKenzie School, the program will be "The Scotia Suite of Scottish Country Dances" and I hope many of you will come and explore some of the dances with me.

VISCDS ANNUAL BALL AND WORKSHOP 2003

A Very Successful Weekend

After hundreds of hours of volunteer work, co-ordinating, budgeting, e-mailing, organizing musicians, venues, catering, and registration by a dedicated committee the weekend is over in a flash. The weekend would not be a success without the dancers (98% repeat attendees) who make all the hard work by the committees well worthwhile with the exuberance they put into every venue and the fact that they stay until the key is turning in the lock. At midnight on Ball night there were still 100 of the 122 dancers on the floor. The one stroke of bad luck was that Janet Rice who worked so hard to pull all the different parts together took sick on Ceilidh night and was unable to attend the rest of the weekend. She was sorely missed.

The Ceilidh

Graham Rice did a excellent job of Ceilidh night with acts we have not seen before including one young lady from Washington who gave us a harp solo as well as one of our Caledonia Society (UVic) ladies with a voice like an angel. The crowning act of the evening had to be Joan and the Dem Team doing a Ho-down dance in full square dance gear along with wooden horses with over active colons. Thankfully the best-dressed pooper scoopers in Victoria (Graham, Gordon R. and Lorne) were there to save our ghillies from the obvious results. Apparently Mike Gray is still lost somewhere in a mountain of tulle crinolines and chequered shirts in his living room.

The Raffle

The raffle once again went very well with numbers called during the lunch break, thanks to Ian and Heather. Thank you to all who donated the prizes. Margaret Gray and her team of UVic students did an excellent job with the luncheon. Many thanks go out to the other helping hands. Too numerous to mention.

The Workshops

The Saturday workshops were a great success with Rebecca, Simon, Fred and in the afternoon Una with her fun formations and delightful dances for level 1 dancers. The afternoon step dance was a hugely popular event and should probably be repeated next year.

The highlight of the workshop day had to be Sue's Soup Kitchen and under her

direction Margaret Gray, Anne, Alice, Ethel and the Uvic Caledonia students had the hall set up and were serving 90 people within 10 minutes of the finish of class.

Thanks to Siobhan and Keith for taking a short notice gig who along with guest musicians John Taylor and Lyle Ramshaw played the music for the advanced and intermediate workshops and to Mary Ross who with her knowledge and contacts in the music business once again took on the position of music coordinator and also played with her usual aplomb for the beginner level workshop.

The Ball

Saturday evening. The first dancers started arriving around 5.00 p.m. and were met by a greeter who directed them to the cloak rooms and the lounge where trays of veggies and dip were available. The no host bar did very well until 6:30 p.m. when everyone went into the banquet hall. The guest table was piped in by Jamie Orr. Grace was said by Jamie McKendrick and a short introductory speech was given by Ball Chairman Gordon Simpson. Walter Roots toasted RSCDS and Anne Scott toasted our patron Her Majesty the Queen. We were exceptionally proud of our MC Gordon Robinson who had to struggle between going by the table priority list (Random) or taking bribes from the starving hoard. Gordon did the right thing (I think). The meal was outstanding and the idea of having coffee and sweets laid out in the lounge was very popular in that it allowed after dinner mixing once again and the banquet hall was transformed into a ballroom in less than 20 minutes we were able to nibble on sweets all evening if you so desired. There were 142 people sat down to dinner.

Jamie Orr piped in the Grand March with Howard Sturrock as Grand March Marshall and so started a fantastic evening of dance. With 122 dancers which was three less sets than last year only the first dance was little tight, and after that as some of the dancers sat out dances, the sets were able to spread out a little more. There were eighteen dances on the programme with I believe it was five encores so by the end of the evening Lyle and John were blowing on their fingers. After the last dance the remaining 100 or so went into the lounge for final wee gab and a sweet and at 1:00 a.m. Gordon Simpson and I shooed them

all out.

Sunday morning

Monica, Walter, Anne and myself went early to the Chief's mess to set up for the Sunday Social and Brunch. After a slow start (I wonder why?) the dancers started to arrive and we had nine sets dancing to Lyle and John and later Monica's music. Rebecca, Fred. Simon put on a programme of their favourite dances until 11:30 a.m. when a fabulous hot brunch of Waffles, Strawberries Fruit trays, Eggs, Ham, Salads, scalloped potatoes. I have to stop, it's making my mouth water again was served.

Home by 2:00 p.m., fast asleep (as I am sure most were) in the big chair by five after. Again I

must say to all who supported this weekend from California to the North and into the Prairies on behalf of The Executive and the Ball Committee thank you so much and we hope to see you again next year. Critiques were available if you forgot it or did not get it please feel free to e-mail me or FAX your concerns or recommendations to me and between now and the AGM (please come on April 24th and bring your ghillies for a wee dance afterwards) we will have an idea of any changes or suggestions you may have for next year's committee. Please note at this time the Society will be looking for some new Ball Committee members.

Jim Scott

Not quite in the glass slipper category - but slippers were Lost and Found at the Ball

Lost at the Wardroom one (single) ladies ghillie
Found at the CPO's mess one pair of size 6 ladies ghillies

Contact Jim or Anne 370-2359

YOUTH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE WEEKEND

Youth Weekend West ~ May 16-19 Jericho
Beach Youth Hostel / West Point Grey
Community Centre

www.rscdsvancouver.org/default.htm.

Vancouver's new workshop just for dancers (and soon-to-be-dancers!) aged 16-30 is fast approaching, and we have a fantastic long weekend of dancing planned:

- Classes with Bruce Herbold of San Francisco and Vancouver Branch's own Rebecca Blackhall-Peters
- Live music by members of the Coast String Fiddlers and the Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra
- Social events including a Ceilidh, a Tea Dance, beach BBQ, and Pancake Breakfast - all this for just \$50 per person (or \$95 with hostel accommodation), thanks to our many generous sponsors!

Register now - or encourage the young folks in your life to do so! (We'll have an absolute beginners' class too!) With registrants coming from as far away as Halifax, Northwest youth

won't want to miss this Weekend. Application forms can be downloaded from the website, or requested by calling Noam at 604-738-3037.

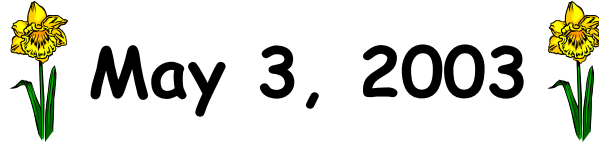
Youth Weekend West - don't miss it! "All Ages" Events at Youth Weekend West

The Youth Weekend Ceilidh, 8-11pm Friday May 16th, and Tea Dance, 3-6pm Sunday May 18th will be open to dancers of all ages! Both events will be held at the West Point Grey Gym, 4397 West 2nd Avenue, Vancouver (parking and gym entrance off NW Marine Dr.). Tea Dance tickets will be available soon, and Ceilidh tickets can be purchased at the door. Mark your calendars! Dance programmes are available on the Youth Weekend West website.

Also of interest to dancers of all ages will be the visiting sales team from St. Andrews Shoemakers (James Senior). Nick and Melissa Churchill will be on site throughout the weekend with a display, so people can drop by at their leisure to try on shoes and place orders.

Sarah Kell. Youth Weekend West

2003 SPRING FLING



8:00 p.m. at St. Martins in the Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue

The De'il Amang the Tailors	8 x 32 R	B	
Muirland Willie/The Highland Fair	8 x 32 J	A/B	C
Sugar Candie	8 x 32 S	I	C
The Button Boy	8 x 32 R	I	C
McLeod's Fancy +	4 x 32 J	A	C
Invercauld's Reel	8 x 32 S	B	C
The Clansman +	8 x 32 R	A	C
Good Hearted Glasgow	8 x 32 J	B	C
Autumn in Appin +	4 x 32 S	A	C
Laird of Milton's Daughter	8 x 32 J	I	C
The Sauchie Haugh	6 x 32 S	A	C
Fisherman's Reel	5 x 32 R	I	C

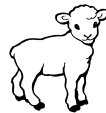
: INTERMISSION :

Shiftin' Bobbins	8 x 32 R	I	C
Summer on the Clyde ++	4 x 32 S	B	C
The Hazel Tree +	8 x 32 J	A/I	C
Summer Assembly	88 Bar R		

+ *No talk through, no walk through.*

++ *Briefed only.*

Farewell to Auchterarder	128 Bar J	A	C
The Bees of Maggieknockater	4 x 32 S	A	C



Your Hosts: The VISCDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Programme compiled by Lizzie

COMING EVENTS -- LOCAL

- Apr. 3 '03** **GAELIC CHOIR PERFORMANCE** sponsored by St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society. Henderson Hall, Oak Bay.
- Apr. 5 '03** **VICTORIA JOINT SCOTTISH COUNCIL ANNUAL TARTAN BALL** at the Edelweiss Club in James Bay. Cost: \$33.00 if tickets purchased by March 24, \$38.00 for tickets purchased after that date for tickets/information call Katie at 598-6547, Irene at 652-5773, Nancy at 381-6100, or Allan at 727-6776
- Apr. 6 '03** **KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN** Sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk, Douglas at Broughton. Service at 11:00 a.m. Meet in the Kirk Hall on Courtney St. at 10:30 a.m. wearing your tartan ready to parade around the corner and into the Church.
- Apr. 8 '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at McKenzie School.
- Apr. 15 '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at McKenzie School.
- Apr. 22 '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at McKenzie School.
- Apr. 24 '03** **VISCDS AGM** 7:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave. AGM meeting followed by dancing.
- Apr. 25 '03** **SPECIAL DANCE WEEKEND WITH RUTH AND ALEX** Les Passmore Centre, Apr. 25, 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., get acquainted dance cost \$20. April. 26, 5:45 p.m., reception and dinner dance, cost \$40. For information call Willie McDermot-Bruce 743-5312.
- Apr. 29, '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at McKenzie School.
- May 3 '03** **SPRING FLING** Sponsored by the VISCDS. 8:00 p.m. at St. Martin in-the-Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave.
- May 3 '03** **Note: the RSCDS event has been cancelled, not the VISCDS Spring Fling**
- May 6 '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at McKenzie School.
- May 10 '03** **THE BEGINNERS DANCE** Sponsored by the RSCDS. This dance was originally scheduled for April 12 and has been changed to May 10. Location now at White Eagle Hall, 90 Dock Street, Victoria at 7:30 p.m. Cost \$12.00.at the door. The program can be obtained from our web site at: www.rscdsvictoria.org under upcoming events.
- May 13, '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at McKenzie School.
- May 18 '03** **VICTORIA HIGHLAND GAMES** sponsored by the Victoria Highland Games Association. All day at Bullen Park Esquimalt.
- May 19 '03** **VICTORIA DAY PARADE** entry sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council. Contact Nancy Wylie at 381-6100 or braveheart@shaw.ca
- May 24 '03** **ANNUAL GAELIC CHOIR CONCERT** sponsored by the Victoria Gaelic Choir. 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk, Douglas at Broughton. Featuring well-known award winning fiddlers Ivonne and Kalissa Hernandez as guest performers. Information/tickets email bobannebell@shaw.ca or phone 477-1980.
- June 14 '03** **WORLD DAY OF DANCE**
- Every Friday** **SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIALS** - sponsored by the RSCDS. The RSCDS holds a social every Friday night at St. Martin-in-the-Fields at 7:30 p.m. The drop-in fee is \$4.00. The last one each month usually had a special theme.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Apr. 5 '03 SEATTLE SPRING WORKSHOP** Congregational Church of Mercer Island.
- Apr. 12 '03 PEARL HOMBERG DANCE** Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson St. Vancouver.
- Apr. 26 '03 SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. Duncan United Church
- May 3 '03 NANAIMO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS WORKSHOP** A workshop for Basic and Intermediate dancers, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with classes for reels, jigs and strathspeys followed by a Tea dance. Dover Bay High School, Nanaimo. Teachers: Ruth Jappy and Wes Clindinning. Music by Alex Jappy. Registration forms will be mailed in early 2003. Information: David Handley (250) 758-7228 or mtebene@pacificcoast.net
- May 16-19 '03 YOUTH WEEKEND WEST** See article in this newsletter for details.
- May 17 '03 SEATTLE BRANCH MAY BALL** The Polish Home Association, 1718 18th Ave, Seattle. Music Calum MacKinnon and Muriel Johnstone.
- June 3-16 '03 NORTHERN LIGHTS OF SCOTLAND TRIP** Scottish Dance trip to the remote Orkney and Shetland Islands. Contact Ken McFarland Toll Free (800) 822-3435 or e-mail farlands@ptialaska.net or #E323, 3875 Geist Rd., Fairbanks AK 99709-3549 US.
- June 20-22 '03 CHEMAINUS HIGHLAND GATHERING** check web page at www.highlandgathering.ca or call Darrel Byron at 250-246-4492.
- July 13 to Aug 10 RSCDS SUMMER SCHOOL**, University Hall, Kennedy Gardens, St. Andrews. Tel: 0131 225 3854 e-mail info@rscdshq.freeserve.co.uk
- July 20-25 '03 CELTFEST 2003** sponsored by the Pacific Institute of Piping and Celtic performing Arts. This summer school is at Shawnigan Lake School. Information, phone 250-758-0208.
- Sept. 12-14 FORT WORDEN 2003 - Come Fly With Us.** Celebrate the centennial of aeronautics with dancing. Check out the website for an online application form at www.rscds-seattle.org
- Oct 6-19 '03 CHINA** A journey to the classical sites of China for Scottish Dancers and other congenial travelers. Organized by Ken McFarland. Information: (800) 822-3435 or (907) 456-7556.
- Feb. '04 PITLOCHRY WORKSHOP**, If enough dancers are interested, a party might go from Van Isle to the workshop. I would welcome expressions of interest from dancers. We'll need about 20 or so to approach Air Canada for special group status. *Alex McAuley* (595-1607 or amcauley@uvic.ca)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWS LETTER, May. 1, 2003

PHONE 250-477-0340 e-mail crushforth@shaw.ca

Mail: Christine Rushforth 1748 Llandaff Place, Victoria, B.C. V8N 4V1