

Island Fling



September 2010

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.viscnds.ca

Executive Committee

President	Dora Dempster	viscnds@shaw.ca
Publicity	Margaret Gray	mgray@shaw.ca
2nd Vice President and Membership	Catherine Thomson	CatherineThomsonDesign@shaw.ca
Secretary	Heather Shave	hshave@pacificcoast.net
Newsletter Editor	Andrew Harley	aharley@shaw.ca
Treasurer	Keith Sinclair	klsinc@shaw.ca
Social Convener	Wendy Turner	wgtturner@shaw.ca
Teacher Representative	Bob Anderson	250-479-6719

VISCDS Open House
Tuesday, September 7, 2010
7:30 pm- 9:30 pm
St Martin-in-the-Fields Church Hall
550 Obed Avenue

We need your help in building up our membership and the most important thing you can do is to invite friends and acquaintances to come and try Scottish Country Dancing. The Open House is free and we also offer the first three basic classes free of charge. If you would like small copies of the posters to hand out to people you know please contact me or Margaret Gray 479-5931 and we will arrange to get some to you. Dora Dempster 598-0207 or doradempster@shaw.ca

VISCDS CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 7 THROUGH 14, 2010

All Teachers are certified by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.

Dancers should consult with their current teacher before moving to a more advanced class. All dancers are encouraged to dance in other classes below their level as this makes less experienced dancers progress faster and the classes more enjoyable.

Classes begin with an Open House on Tuesday, September 7th at St. Martin In-The-Fields Church Hall (this is also the first night for the Basic Class).

BASIC CLASS (starts September 7)

Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:30 PM St. Martin In-The-Fields Church Hall - 550 Obed Avenue

Teacher: Gordon Robinson

In the basic class you will learn the five basic steps of Scottish Country Dancing and the various formations that make up the dances. You will become familiar with the concept of sets, progressions, technique and teamwork and you will experience the joy of moving to the lively music in a relaxed social setting. By the end of the year you will be able to dance many basic dances with some degree of confidence.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS (starts September 9)

Thursdays 7:30 - 9:30 PM St. Martin In-The-Fields Church Hall - 550 Obed Avenue

Teachers: Pat Blair and Rob & Sue Langridge

For those who have attended a basic class and are familiar with basic formations and dances. This class will continue to work on all basic steps and formations as well as provide dancers with the opportunity to experience a broader range of formations and movements.

ADVANCED CLASS (starts September 8)

Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:30 PM St. Martin In-The-Fields Church Hall - 550 Obed Avenue

Teacher: Joan Axford and Bob Anderson

For experienced and upper intermediate level (minimum 2 years) dancers who wish to maintain and improve their dancing skills. Dancers will work on all aspects of technique including "tidy up" old formations and introducing more complex formations and transitions. One class a month will be a demo practice. Dates to be arranged

EXPERIENCED SOCIAL (starts September 13)

Mondays 7:30 - 9:30 PM St. Martin In-The-Fields Church Hall - 550 Obed Avenue

Teacher: Bob Anderson

For those truly experienced dancers who do not wish to choose the intensity of an advanced technique class but wish to dance more challenging dances and formations. Dancers in this class should have a good knowledge of all common formations and steps and be able to dance those dances with common formations with just a brief walk-through.

DAYTIME SOCIAL (starts September 14)

Tuesdays 1:30 - 3:30 PM St. Martin In-The-Fields Church Hall - 550 Obed Avenue

Teachers: Pat Blair

A daytime social class for dancers who have attended a basic class and are familiar with basic formations and dances. Emphasis will be on Core dances, new dances and upcoming social program dances.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I hope you have all had a great summer. Since wrapping up our season in April we have been presented with a wealth of opportunities for dancing starting with the Youth Weekend West Workshops and Ball on the May long weekend. The Highland Games also took place that lovely sunny weekend where our demonstration team performed and we welcomed visitors to our booth. Our May socials were held on the first three Mondays of May and we were delighted that Bob and Alice Anderson once again hosted Summer Dancing Friday nights from June 4th to July 30th.

For the Executive, it's been a very busy spring and summer with our primary concern being the search for new venues for our **January to April 2011 season**. As many of you know the St Martin-in-the-Fields Church is closing on

November 21st 2010 at which time the management of the church properties will be assumed by the Anglican Diocese of B.C. The Diocese has assured us that our activities booked through to December can go ahead as planned, but have said that no such commitments can be made for the winter season as the future use of all vacant Anglican Church properties has yet to be determined.

After an extensive search for alternative venues, we have been able to book all our Monday and Tuesday classes at the Eastern Star Lodge at 3281 Harriet Street near Burnside Road. Wednesday's Advanced class will take place at St Paul's Anglican Church in Esquimalt and Thursday's intermediate class will meet at the Esquimalt United Church. **All our September to December classes will continue to be held at Obed.**

With the help of Rosemary Balfour, we have developed some attractive new promotional materials. At the Highland Games we handed out 60 bright Aqua blue 9 by 4 inch Rack Cards promoting our club's activities and inviting visitors to our Open House on September 7th. The same vibrant blue was used for this year's Open House poster featuring lively photos of our summer dancing. Thanks to all who volunteered to distribute the posters.

We have found a new location for our January 22nd Burn's Ceilidh in the Upper Studio of the Victoria Dance Connection on Quadra near Hillside. It is an excellent and attractive facility with wood-sprung floors and a built in sound system. The workshops this year will be held at the Eastern Star Lodge and Gael Forster has recently confirmed that the dance teacher for the workshops will be Elinor Vandergrift from Seattle.

I'm hoping to see you all at our **Open House on September 7th** at St Martin-in-the-Fields Church. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce your friends and acquaintances to the joys of Scottish Country Dancing.

Dora Dempster, President

EXECUTIVE COLUMN

2011 Workshops, Ceilidh, Ball & Brunch

The Executive has made the following decisions and plans to date,

Workshops

Date: January 22nd, 2011
Location: Eastern Star Lodge
Levels: TBD
Teacher: Elinor Vandergrift

Ceilidh/Robbie Burns Social

Date: January 22nd, 2011
Location: Victoria Dance Connection Upper Studio
Time: 7:30pm – 11:00pm

Ball & Brunch

Dates: March 26th & 27th, 2011
Ball location: Victoria Edelweiss Club
Brunch location: CPO's Mess
Live Music: TBD

We need additional committee members and volunteers to assist with organizing these events in order for them to be a success. We would appreciate your help and if you are interested in either of these roles, please contact any executive member (see contacts at front of newsletter).

Newsletter

Deadline for the next newsletter is September 21, 2010. Please send submissions to aharley@shaw.ca

Membership

The registration form for 2010/11 is available on the website or mailed with this Island Fling issue. Please submit your forms promptly to Catherine Thomson. Fees are due September 1, 2010.

2011 Ball Weekend, March 26th and 27th

The members of the Ball committee this year are

Ball Coordinator	Jamie Orr
Registrar	Maureen Orr
Catering	Ann Scott
Publishing	Rick Deegan
Teacher	Gordon Robinson
President	Dora Dempster

Bookings have been made at the Edelweiss Hall for the Ball and the C.P.& O's Mess for the Sunday Social and Brunch.

Ball Publicity

We are looking for someone who would be interested in joining the committee to handle the publicity for the Ball. This job involves disseminating information to other Scottish Country Dancing clubs and to the Intercity Scot website and submitting updates to the Island Fling newsletter. Please contact Dora if you are interested and want to find out more.



October Harvest Social

October 23, 2010, 7:30 p.m.
at St. Martin In-The-Fields, 550 Obed Avenue
Cost: \$8

Machine without Horses	8x32J	B	RSCDS Bk 12
Flowers of Edinburgh	8x32R	B	Core
The Saint John River	4x32S	B	Core
Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	4x32J	B	Core
Una's Choice-a reel	8x32R	B	Core
Neidpath Castle	3x32S	I	Core
Una's Choice-a jig	8x32J	B	Core
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5x32R	I	Goldring 14 Social Dances
The Sauchie Haugh	8x32S	I	Core
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32J	I	Core
Una's Choice-a strathspey	8x32S	I	Core
Blooms of Bon Accord	4x32R	I	Core
Break			
The Immigrant Lass	4x32J	I	Core
Cape Breton Hornpipe	4x32R	I	See below
Autumn in Appin	4x32S	I	Core
Montgomerie's Rant	8x32R	I	Core
Extras			
Tribute to the Borders	8x32J	I	Core
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	8x32S	I	Core

Hosted by the Thursday
Night Class

THE CAPE BRETON HORNPIPE (R4x32) 4C set 3s & 4s on opposite sides

C Inglis 25 Dances for 25 Years

- 1-8 1s & 4s cross RH, cast in 1 place, set & dance ½ LH across end giving RH to nearest corner
9-16 All balance in St Andrews cross formation, 4s & 1s turn corners into centre, balance, turn corners back to places & end facing corners
17-24 4s & 1s dance DoSiDo with corners & dance RSh round corner back to middle
25-32 4s & 1s dance RH across & end 1s facing down & 4s up, dance out ends crossing & cast in 1 place, 2 4(1)(3)



The Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival

The Highland Games were held this year on the May long weekend at Topaz Park. On the Sunday the VISCDs manned a booth from 10:00 till 4:00 to advertise our group and recruit new members. Although it was a cool, windy day the Games were well attended and we had 13 people wanting to be contacted in the fall so that they could be reminded of the Open House. Dora and Rosemary Balfour had worked on creating colourful "rack cards" and 60 of them were given out at the booth and at other events in the grounds. The MC at the dancing stage mentioned our group and announced that there were four free classes for new people who wished to try out Scottish Country dancing with our group. Thanks to Kathryn and Rick Deegan who put up the tent and to all those who volunteered to work at it.

Margaret Gray



Demonstration Team report from Highland Games

Eight dancers made up the demonstration team for the Victoria Highland Games on May 22, 2010. Choreographed by Joan Axford, the dancers included Joan, Michele Campbell, Gael Forster, Kathryn Knowles, Joan McIntosh, Margaret Mercer, Ray Thomson and Pattie Whitehouse. Ray was a stand out as the only man dancing with the team that day. Jamie Orr joined us to pipe for "The Shepherd's Crook", which was beautifully step danced by Joan, Gael and Pattie. The weather was just right for dancing, not too hot, too cold or too windy which added to the enjoyment of the crowd, and the dancers. Every seat was filled as our group took to the stage under Joan's leadership. People commented on the intricate dance routines and seemed to thoroughly enjoy watching, as several different dances were interwoven with the Celtic Waltz, a wonderful waltz arrangement danced to Natalie MacMaster's music "Blue Bonnets Over the Border". Adding to the entertainment was the flipping off of Joan's shoe in the step dance, who bravely danced on as if it was meant to happen.

An appreciative audience, great music, and wonderful dancing, all in all, a great day!

Margaret Mercer

Youth Weekend West, sponsored by RSCDS Victoria Branch and Van Isle SCDS

Youth Weekend West has been ongoing for eight years, hosted in turn by different cities, with an eye to giving dancers, between the ages of 12 and 30, opportunities to get together and enjoy dancing. This past spring, the weekend of May 21st-23rd, Youth Weekend West was hosted in Victoria, BC, for the second time in five years. Dancers from across Canada and the United States gathered to sharpen their dancing while also making friends and nightly kicking up their heels for keen-spirited reels and jigs or flexing their strides in punctuated strathspeys.

Friday night, at the Ceilidh, dancers clapped, yipped, and even stomped for encores. I have heard the Elastic Ceilidh Band at several dances over the years and I have never heard them play better. Another memorable feature of the ceilidh, of course, was the entertainment provided by dancers themselves. This entertainment included a stick-wielding Kung Fu acolyte, a fiddler, legions of light-footed Highland dancers, an old time ballroom pair exquisitely dressed, a duet in flamenco and poetry, and singers carolling 'I Am Cow'.

Guest SCD teachers Graham Donald from Leeds, England, Fred DeMarse from San Francisco, CA, and Eileen Hsu from Seattle, WA, were lauded for their Saturday and Sunday classes, as were the class musicians, Calum MacKinnon from Seattle, WA, Lisa Scott from Portland, OR, and Mary Ross from Victoria, BC. The elective dance teachers -- Penny Catton and Ed Pitkin for Old Time ballroom; Graham Donald for Highland dancing; Amity Skala for Flamenco dancing; Eileen Hsu for Uncommon SCD Formations; and Calum MacKinnon and Lisa Scott for the music workshop -- were equally praised for their enthusiasm and effective teaching.

The Saturday night Ball, open to dancers of all ages, was both raucous and elegant, epitomizing the "controlled abandon" with which Miss Jean Milligan urged us to dance. Redolent of an older, pleat-swinging century, plangent as the oak-beamed hall of Heorot (*sans* Grendel), the Edelweiss Club was packed with merry-making men and women, colour in their cheeks. Birling through reels, surging through strathspeys, they danced, girded and dizzy, under the potent measures of Calum MacKinnon and Lisa Scott. By midnight, be-decked in gowns or trim Prince Charlie jackets, even the most graceful of dancers bowed or curtsied with a runnelling stream of sweat down the back! What more could you wish for -- except a hankie -- in aerobic nights of dancing?

Naturally, without wider assistance, we could not have enjoyed this memorable weekend. Volunteers from the wider community, namely Mary Cooper, Sheila McCall, Kate La Vertu, Edna Kinnon, Wendy Turner, and Jess Craig, provided and arranged a delectable array of finger foods, meals, and desserts, for which we are thankful. Thanks further to Ray Perkins for his help ferrying equipment and passengers in his formidable carriage, Jean Connon and Joan McIntosh for providing airport taxi service for participants, Pam Sallaway for maintaining the YWW website, Gordon Robinson for his abundant charm, and to all who boarded teachers and musicians for the weekend. Many thanks to RSCDS Headquarters for helping to bring over Graham Donald from Britain. His high standard and ready humour were popular with his intermediate and advanced students. Many registrants expressed how great it was to have a teacher from overseas. We're thankful also for the financial and organizational help from Victoria Branch (especially Mary Cooper and Janet Bailey), VISCDS, and San Francisco Branch. Your generosity is not without result. If this weekend is any indication, our tradition and its members are hale and on the rise.

Garth Martens
Committee Member, YWW 2010
President, RSCDS Victoria Branch



Scottish Country Dancing for Youth and Families

The Victoria branch of the RSCDS is sponsoring a set of Scottish Country Dance classes for youth and families

- What? Fun and sociable group dances to lively Celtic music!
- When? Saturdays 10:00 - 11:30 am, Sep 11th to Oct 30th
- Where? Centennial United Church Hall, Assembly Room 612 David St. (near Hillside & Douglas)
- How much? Suggested donation \$25 per family for the 7 classes.
- How do we sign up? Contact Sarah at 250.598.2612 or sarahkell@shaw.ca

Recommended for boys and girls ages 7 and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

All local events held at St. Martin in-the-Fields Hall, 550 Obed 7:30pm unless otherwise noted

2010

- Sept 7 VISCDS Open House, St Martin-in-the-Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave, 7:30 pm
- Oct 16 RSCDS Victoria Social with Muriel Johnstone, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 7:30 pm
- Oct 23 VISCDS Harvest Social hosted by the Thursday Night Class. Program in this newsletter
- Nov 13 RSCDS Victoria Social with Elastic Ceilidh Band, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 7:30 pm
- Nov 20 VISCDS St Andrews Social, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 7:30 pm
- Dec 11 Christmas Social with Mary Ross, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 7:30 pm
- Dec 31 RSCDS New Year's Eve Social, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 6:00 to 12:00

2011

- Jan 22 VISCDS Workshop, Burns Social and Ceilidh.
Victoria Dance Connection Upper Studio, 2750 Quadra Street
- Feb 12 RSCDS Victoria Social details TBA

- Feb 19** **VISCDS Valentine's Social. Location TBD**
- Mar 12** **RSCDS Victoria Social details TBA**
- Mar 26-27** **VISCDS Ball and Brunch, see details above**
- Apr 16** **VISCDS Spring Fling. Location TBD**

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Sept 9** **Oceanside SCD Open House**, celebrating 25 years, 7-9pm at the Qualicum Beach Community Centre on Memorial Ave in Qualicum Beach
- Nov 27** **Port Alberni SCD Christmas Dance, Royal Canadian Legion, Local 169 Port Alberni**
- Dec 8** **Oceanside SCD Christmas Dinner and Dance**
- Mar 12** **Port Alberni SCD St Patrick's Dinner/Dance, Royal Canadian Legion, Local 169 Port Alberni**

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

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
Membership Application 2010/11

Please keep this page for future reference and send the attachment with your cheque made out to the **VISCDS**.

Membership fees are due September 1, 2010.

\$30.00 Membership fee, including the newsletter

\$90.00 Class fees for one year, Sept.-Apr.; or

\$45.00 for Sept.-Dec. and/or

\$55.00 for Jan.– Apr.

you may attend any number of classes when you pay for a full or half year.

\$5.00 drop-in fee for each class in addition to \$30 membership fee.

Youth members (16 to 25): \$20 membership fee, no class fee

Please note that participation in the VISCDS is at the risk of each individual. The VISCDS assumes no risk or responsibility for personal injury or loss.

New members will receive a complimentary name badge.

Please mail the attachment with your cheque to:

Catherine Thomson
841 Victoria Ave.
Victoria, BC
V8S 4N4

VISCDS Membership Application 2010/11

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Postal code: _____ Tel. (250) _____ Email: _____

I am a new member this year: yes ____ no ____

All fees shown below are at the **per person** rate:

Annual membership		\$30.00 *	_____ = \$ _____
Annual membership (youth)		\$20.00 *	_____ = \$ _____

Classes	full year	(Sept-Apr)	\$90.00 *	_____ = \$ _____
	half year	(Sep/Dec)	\$45.00 *	_____ = \$ _____
		(Jan/Apr)	\$55.00 *	_____ = \$ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT..... \$ _____

In which class will you register? _____

Do you wish to receive the newsletter at your class _____ or
Will you take it off the web? _____

If you wish to order a replacement name badge, the cost is \$5. please let Catherine Thomson know as soon as possible.

For VISCDS use only

Date _____ Payment _____ Receipt # _____ Class _____

Badge order _____ Youth _____ Newsletter _____