

# Island Fling



## September 2013

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society  
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### PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Welcome back to you all as we start up a new season of dancing! All the details of the upcoming classes and events for this year are outlined in this newsletter, including the introduction of a new class. The **Beyond Basic** social dancing class will be taught by Bob Anderson on **Thursday** nights. The **Intermediate** class has moved to **Wednesday** night and will be taught by Joan Axford. Both classes will be open to all dancers who have learned the basic steps and formations taught in the Basic class.

We've had a busy spring and summer starting with the offering of six introductory Spring classes taught by Gordon Robinson from April 23rd to May 28th. Nine new dancers joined a class of over thirty dancers which included twelve from the Basic class who wanted to keep improving their skills and sixteen experienced dancers who were there to provide support. We had a very enjoyable time.

Over the May long weekend we staffed a club booth at the highland games and met many who showed an interest in learning to Scottish country dance. Thirty nine signed up to receive notices of our upcoming Ceilidhs and events.

### Promotional events

About 50 people attended our May 25th ceilidh dance including 24 guests. Music was provided by the Slow Pokes Ceilidh band and Gordon Robinson and Sheila McCall called the dances. On June 15th we joined the Christ Church Cathedral Fair where we performed a couple of our favorite dances and engaged a very receptive audience in participation dancing. Thank you to Bob Anderson for calling the dances and to Janet and Peter Bailey who extended the invitation to be part of the church's festivities.

We also had an unexpected opportunity to promote Scottish country dancing during one of Bob Anderson's summer dances. Bob arrived at the church to find a steady stream of folk dancers arriving at the Hall and it was soon discovered that the hall had been double booked. The dance then turned in to a joint ceilidh alternating folk dances and Scottish country dances throughout the evening. There was much hilarity!

To wind up the summer activities we hosted another Ceilidh dance on August 10th at Dance Victoria. Joan Axford, Gordon Robinson and Sarah Kell called the dances and the Slow Pokes Ceilidh Band provided the lively music. It was a lovely evening with over 60 people in attendance including 36 guests. Joan Axford did a masterful job of planning the program and gradually introducing our guests to the various formations which make up Scottish country dancing.

### **Congratulations**

Let me finish my report by congratulating our very talented demonstration team who won first place in their class at the Greater Victoria Music Festival. They have had a very busy season performing at many venues giving us a higher profile and delighting their audiences with their graceful and lively performances. Congratulations also to Sarah Kell who obtained her Interim Teaching Certificate and to Gael Forster who has successfully completed her RSCDS teacher's certificate.

**- Dora Dempster, President**

### **Editorial**

I would like to thank all the contributors to this issue for getting their copy in on time. It made my job much easier. Special thanks to outgoing Newsletter Editor Andrew Harley, who gave me his old computer which is proving to be more reliable than the one I'd been using. He also showed me how to put the newsletter together.

**- Edith Chapman**

### **Newsletter**

Deadline for the next newsletter is October 20, 2013. Please send submissions to [enchapma@shaw.ca](mailto:enchapma@shaw.ca).

### **Membership**

The registration form for 2013/14 is available on the website or at the September classes. Please submit your forms promptly to Rick Deegan. Fees are due September 1, 2013.

### **DROP-IN FEES**

You'll find the opportunity to buy 10 drop-in classes for \$60.00 on the membership form; please be sure to mark Punch Card, and it will come to you through your class rep. Cards do not expire, and more can be purchased as yours run out.

### **Class reps needed**

I would like to start by saying thank you to all the class reps who worked hard last year taking attendance and keeping our members up to date on upcoming events. This coming year there are a few changes to our scheduled classes and new class reps will be required. Our classes cannot function efficiently without a class rep. Each class is committed to hosting one social per year and the class reps play an important role ensuring all goes well. It is not a difficult job, and it would be wonderful if everyone took a turn at volunteering in their classes for one year. Please think about making this small commitment to ensure the essential needs of our society are met. Thank you.

**- Sheila Eaglestone**

### **VISCDS Open House**

Our fall Open House will be held on September 3 at the Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship Hall on Obed Avenue, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Bring your friends, neighbours, relatives – anyone who might be interested in trying Scottish Country Dancing. There will be no charge for the evening. Refreshments will be served.

## **VISCDS CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 2013**

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 helps less experienced dancers progress faster and makes the classes more enjoyable.

### **EXPERIENCED SOCIAL Mondays 7:30 – 9:30 PM Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship Church, 550 Obed Avenue Teacher: Bob Anderson**

For those truly experienced dancers who 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 dances using those formations with just a brief walk-through.

### **BASIC CLASS Tuesdays 7:30 – 9:30 pm Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship Church, 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.

### **DAYTIME SOCIAL Wednesdays 1:30 – 3:30 PM Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship Church, 550 Obed Avenue Teacher: Pat Blair**

The Wednesday afternoon class is a social class for everyone. Within the social aspect of the dancing you will go through formations, phrasing, covering, handing, and basic etiquette. You will be prepared for the dances in upcoming socials.

### **INTERMEDIATE CLASS Wednesdays 7:30 – 9:30 pm Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship Church, 550 Obed Avenue Teacher: Joan Axford**

The intermediate class will focus on learning to dance with good phrasing and technique. During the year, you will learn most formations used in Scottish Country Dancing. This class is a must for all dancers wanting to improve their dancing and gain experience so you can dance with confidence. The class is open to all dancers who are able to dance the basic steps and formations from the Basic Class.

### **BEYOND BASIC SOCIAL CLASS Thursdays 7:30 – 9:30 pm Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship Church, 550 Obed Avenue Teacher: Bob Anderson**

In this class you will enjoy learning the more popular dances and their formations. The easier dances on social programmes will be covered so that newer dancers will be able to enjoy our monthly socials. The class is open to all dancers who are able to dance the basic steps and formations from the Basic class.

## **Zimbabwe Benefit Dance**

Pat Blair is hosting a *Zimbabwe benefit dance* again this year which takes place on **Saturday August 24th** at the Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship church hall, 550 Obed Avenue, 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Admission is \$10.00, which will be a part of the funds raised during the evening. Please bring a small plate of finger food to share with your fellow dancers, and don't forget your plates, mugs, etc.

Van Isle club member Lorraine Irvine has worked as a volunteer doctor in Zimbabwe for many years and witnessed the deprivation of families and orphans in the area. Through Lorraine, all proceeds from the admissions are used to purchase goats which provide much needed nutrition for orphaned children in Zimbabwe. Members who wish to make personal donations may provide a cheque to Lorraine made out to VIDEA (Victoria International Development Education Association) which will send tax receipts to each donor. These additional donations are used to pay school fees for orphaned children. To learn more about VIDEA visit:

<http://www.vida.ca/index.php?pageid=126>

The social program is on the website.

**- Dora Dempster**

## **A Word from Lorraine**

I will be working at Karanda, another Mission hospital, farther from Harare than Howard. Dr Thistle is working there. I plan to visit the schools around Howard and pay school fees in the same schools as in the past. Lovemore Katumbe will take me on his bike. Also, Lovemore hopes to continue buying goats for orphans in the Howard area.

Victoria International Development Education Association (VIDEA) has been going for 35 years, and supports only education. The funds are used to pay school fees and the amounts vary from primary to secondary and with each school. All children are required to pay school fees and as you know there are many AIDS orphans. I bring back receipts with the name of each child, the amount paid and name of school, and these receipts are given to VIDEA. There is no problem with getting receipts from the schools. I try to help mainly orphans and the headmasters are very helpful. Lovemore Katumbe takes me on his motor bike to the schools and they are in the area of Howard Hospital. This year perhaps we should try to help some in Karanda area. VIDEA gives a tax receipt to all donors. VIDEA also gives me the money directly to carry with me. VIDEA takes 10% of all donations and all donations have to be changed to American dollars as that is the currency in Zimbabwe since 2009. The proceeds from the dance admissions have been used to buy goats for orphans. Lovemore keeps receipts from these. This support is very much appreciated by those in need.

**- Lorraine Irvine**

## **Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society 2013 2014 Classes**

**All classes (except the afternoon class) run from 7:30 to 9:30 pm**

### **2013**

Mondays, September 9th to December 9th 2013 (*excluding Thanksgiving Oct. 14th*).

Tuesdays, September 3rd to December 3rd 2013 (*Open House September 3rd*)

Wednesdays, September 11th to December 4th 2013

Wednesday afternoons September 11th to December 4th 2013 (*1:30 to 3:30 pm*)

Thursdays, September 12th to December 5th 2013

### **2014**

Mondays, January 6th to March 31st 2014

Tuesdays, January 7th to April 8th 2014 (*Open House, January 7th*)

Wednesdays, January 8th to April 2nd 2014

Wednesday afternoons January 8th to April 2nd 2014 (*1:30 to 3:30 pm*)

Thursdays, January 9th to April 10th 2014 (*April 10th Annual General Meeting*)

**Note: Easter Weekend Friday April 18th to Monday April 21st**

### **Spring Fling**

The Spring Fling was held on April 20th at Obed Ave. and was hosted by The Basic Class. Attending a social was a new experience for many of our new members but that did not stop them from volunteering to bring food, pitching in to decorate, helping in the kitchen and cleaning up afterwards. Thank you to new members Theresa Harbridge, Heather Beiermeister, Deb and Peter Mills, Cathy Hay, Rhonda Gait, Bob Warman, Heather Warman, Sandy Currie, Loreleigh Jantzen and Janet Jones for making this social a huge success. Sheila McCall and Gordon Robinson guided the 68 dancers through many basic dances such as "Hooper's Jig" and "De'il Amang the Tailors". The program also included more challenging dances such as "Best Set in the Hall" and "The Missing Turn". It was a good program with a variety of dance levels. The Hall was nicely decorated and with plenty of food at the break this social was truly a delightful experience for everyone and a profitable event for VISCDs which included a 50/50 draw for \$47.50.

**- Sheila Eaglestone**



## Harvest Social, October 19, 2013, 7:30 p.m. VFGF Church, Obed Avenue, \$10.00

Dance name	Bars type	Level	Core	Source
Hooper`s Jig	8X32 J	B	C	MMM Vol 2
Sean Truibhas Willichan	6X32 S	B	C	RSCDS Book 27
Catch the Wind	8X32 R	I	C	RSCDS Book 45
The Laird of Milton`s Daughter	8X32 J	B	C	RSCDS Book 10
Miss Gibson`s Strathspey	8X32 S	I	C	RSCDS Leaflet 10
John of Bon Accord	8X32 R	I	C	RSCDS Book 33
The Pines of Pitlochry**	8X48 J	A	C	Scottish Archives
The St. John River	4X32 S	B	C	P Edwards
St. Andrew`s Fair	8X32 J	B	C	RSCDS 5 for 1982
The Sailor	8X32 R	I	C	RSCDS Book 24
Autumn in Appin	4X32 S	A	C	RSCDS Book 31
Pelorus Jack	8X32 J	I	C	RSCDS Book 41
Break				
Postie`s Jig	4X32 J	B		R Clowes, Ormskirk 5
John McAlpin	8X32 S	I	C	H Foss-Galloway Album
Clutha	4X48 R	I	C	RSCDS Book 31
Polharrow Burn	5X32 R	I	C	Glendarroch
Extras				
West`s Hornpipe	4X32 R	I	C	RSCDS 5 for 1965
The Garry Strathspey	4X32 S	I	C	James Cosh
** No Briefing				
Hosted by the Intermediate Class				

### Highland Games



much busier.

The **Highland Games** booth was very successful. We had a full slate of volunteers from 9am until 4pm on Saturday and 9am until 3pm on Sunday. Jamie Orr helped to set up the tent which was provided by the Highland Games organization with some of the young Highland Games volunteers, and he set up Maureen`s photo display.

Saturday morning was grey and raining initially so things got off to a slow start but by the time Prince Andrew did his walk about at noon and made the official opening, it was a lovely day. The Prince did stop and chat with some of the volunteers, which was exciting. Sunday was sunny and hot and seemed to be

As far as the displays go, we attached the long banner to the back of the tent so it could be seen across the field. The quilted banner was set up at the front. We didn`t have much to display inside the booth other than the two dressed up bears, which looked cute, a few old photo albums and Maureen`s panels. Sheila provided music which helped to draw people to the tent. Next year we should try to have a few more large photos and also Joan Axford suggested that we have a computer running with dance videos.

Thirty-nine people signed the list wanting information for ceilidhs and classes and more than 50 brochures were passed out at our booth and to people at other booths. Saturday night the display items were stored in plastic bins and the photo panels were protected in large plastic bags and all stored under the tables in the tent, which worked fine.

- Hilary Fedoruk

**St Andrews Social, November 16, 2013, 7:30 pm, VFGF Hall, \$10.00**



Dance name	Bars type	level	Core source
Good Hearted Glasgow	8 x 32 J	B	C P Knapman
Butterscotch and Honey	4 x 32 S	B	C J Attwood
The Button Boy	8 x 32 R	I	C Allanton Collection
Mrs Stewart's Jig	8 x 32 J	I	C RSCDS Book 35
The Sleeping Warrior	4 x 32 S	B	Second Carnforth Collection
Bratach Bana	8 x 32 R	A	C Bon Accord Book
The Machine Without Horses	8 x 32 J	B	RSCDS Book 12
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	8 x 32 S	I	C RSCDS Leaflet 20
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8 x 32 R	B	C RSCDS Leaflet 7
The Bees of Maggieknockater	4 x 32 J	A	C Canadian Book
Auld Friends Meet	8 x 32 S	I	Auld Friends Meet
The Lass of Richmond Hill	8 x 32 R	I	Second Graded Book
A Reel for Alice	5 x 32 R	I	C A Reel for Alice
Break			
Seton's Ceilidh Band	4 x 64 J	I	C Morrison Bush
Bonnie Stronshiray	8 x 32 S	I	C Glasgow Assembly
The Barmkin	1 x 88 R	B	C 24 Graded and Social
Extras			
The Dream Catcher	1 x 96 S	I	C RSCDS Book 45
Early in the Morning	5 x 32 R	I	C The Island Bay Collection
** No Briefing			
Hosted by the Thursday Class			

**In Memoriam**

Long-time members and fellow dancers will be saddened to learn of the recent passing of Robert (Bob) Vroom. Bob and his wife Isabel danced with Van Isle in the late 1970's and early to mid-1980's. Bob, who obtained his Full Certificate in 1981, taught the Beginners class back when our classes were held at the Oak Bay Seniors Centre (Monterey Avenue), and he was well-liked by the members of his classes. Later on, he taught a class in the Nanoose area. Bob also danced on Van Isle's demonstration team for many years.

Long-time dancers in the Victoria area will particularly remember the ceilidhs, organized by the Sidney group, which Bob and Isabel hosted. Dancers came from all over to enjoy themselves; one year there were 150 dancers and guests in attendance. Unfortunately, a move to Nanaimo put an end to the ceilidhs.

Later on, Bob and Isabel took up square dancing, and as former Scottish Country Dancers, they found the new-to-them dance form easy to learn.

We send our condolences to Isabel and the family.

Thank you to Joan Axford for some of the information contained in this article.

**- Edith Chapman**

The members of Van Isle extend sincere condolences to Bob and Alice Anderson on the recent passing of Bob's Mother.

## Performing Arts Festival

As teachers, it is not often we get to brag a bit about those we teach but in this newsletter, I get to do just that. Your demonstration team is a dedicated group of dancers who give up a lot of time to practice and then attend community events to represent VISCDs and Scottish culture and dance. In the past year, they practiced for over 60 hours, did 12 performances. Two of the most memorable was to compete in the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival and perform in the Honors Performance. Demonstration dancing is first and foremost working as a team and they have a lot of fun doing that.



It was challenging choreography as we had to fit it into exactly 5 minutes and show both reel and strathspey. The dancers performed the transition from reel to

strathspey so well that I understand the adjudicator said ``wow`` at that point of the performance. Some of the adjudicator's comments were:

1. Nice and light on feet and hands held well at sides
2. Good control in circles
3. Lovely patterns and formations
4. Love the weave and work of the couples
5. Impressed with pattern changes and seamless transitions

What is great about these comments is that we can all do this with our dancing.

The result was the Group won the 2013 Folk Dance Open for the Festival. Congratulations to the Team!

The team members were:

Penny Catton	Joan Axford
Ed Pitkin	Sarah Kell
Ray Thompson	Joan McIntosh
Sheila McCall	Amanda Cavenaugh
Gordon Robinson	

## - Joan Axford

### A Teacher Candidate's Story

This spring I took "Part 1" of the RSCDS teacher training course, and completed the three units required for the Interim Teaching Certificate. Unit 1 is a written exam, which our class in Vancouver completed in February. The Unit 2 and 3 exams, at the end of April, were the culmination of our course. Our examiners were Eleanor Vandegrift from Seattle, and Ron Wallace from San Francisco. I believe this was the first year North American examiners were allowed to examine candidates without a colleague from Scotland. I was a little bit sorry not to have a terrifying stranger from Scotland on the panel!

Unit 2 is a practical dancing exam; the candidates brief and perform twelve pre-set dances. Gordon Robinson kindly agreed to be my partner for this exam, and we practiced for many hours in the weeks prior, with a wonderful team of Victoria friends. When the exam finally came, it was almost anti-climactic: All that work, and it was over in an hour and a quarter! Each dancer is watched dancing twice through one jig, one reel, and one strathspey. The Advanced class who suffered through *Allshellach* with us will be sad to know that Gordon and I were fourth couple when it came up, and didn't even get to do it!

The Unit 2 exam was held on a Friday evening, and the individual Unit 3 exams on Saturday. Unit 3 is a practical teaching exam: Each candidate presents a 20-25 minute lesson. We had drawn lots to choose the order we would be examined in. Guess who drew #1 and got to go first at 9:30 in the morning?! Margaret and Duncan MacKenzie of Vancouver Branch kindly billeted me on the Friday night between exams.

We had received our Unit 3 assignments on the Wednesday before the exam. Many thanks to those of you who came to be "stooges" for the "dry run" on the Thursday evening! I appreciated your feedback, hugs, and words of encouragement. We all know SCD is a team sport, but I noticed a whole new level of teamwork from VISCDs in the weeks before the exams – pulling together to support your candidates. Thank you!!

The course organizers, Fran Caruth and Jean Wagstaff, made sure the correct number of dancers were in the room for each candidate's Unit 3 exam. I had 16 dancers – four two-couple sets – to teach skip change of step, a two-couple Allemande, and the last 16 bars of *A Trip to Glasgow*. Rosemary Coupe operated the music, so we didn't have to worry about that aspect of running a class. Special thanks to Raymond Thomson, who found the music I needed for my exam and made me a custom CD.

## **A Teacher Candidate's Story, continued**

Candidates are encouraged to stay right through exam day to support their classmates. Jean and her team put on a beautiful lunch and snacks for all the candidates and stooges. A funny moment was when examiner Ron came marching out to point out a spelling mistake in Louise's lesson plan. She had meant to put "toe above **heel**", and the spell-checker didn't catch "toe above **hell**"! A recipe for heavenly dancing!

After the exams, a few of us decided to go to the Gleneagles dance in North Vancouver that evening. What a relief to just dance, to remember the joy of it, and to remember why we put ourselves through these exams: to be able to share this joy with others. The candidates got into just a bit of trouble for opening champagne in the church hall foyer!

We were told that our exam results would be sent by surface mail in six to eight weeks – in fine old-fashioned Headquarters style. What a surprise to find them in our email boxes after just three weeks. I invited Kathryn and Raymond over for moral support before I opened mine – I passed all three units! I soon learned that all seven candidates in our class passed. Kudos to our tutors, Mary Murray and Rosemary Coupe.

What next? Unit 4 is a teaching practicum, so you'll see me teaching at classes and events in the coming months. I hope to take the final teaching exam, Unit 5, in 2015 or 2016 either locally or at TAC Summer School. (Is anyone else on the Island interested in taking teacher training? It would be fantastic to be able to run a course nearer than Vancouver!)

The teacher training experience was very positive for me – though it certainly had its harrowing moments. It was a big step for me to put myself forward, and take the course among top-notch dancers, mostly from the Vancouver Branch Demonstration Team, but the camaraderie and support among the candidates was wonderful. Thanks again to VISCDS – executive and members – for all your support of this learning experience.

**- Sarah Kell**

## **On the path to becoming an RSCDS certified teacher**

This year I have put most of my dancing attention to successfully completing all the requirements set out by the RSCDS to become a qualified teacher. To those who are interested in the process it is fully described on the RSCDS website. In a nutshell, it has 5 parts: two written, one dancing and two practical teaching exams. I have had the privilege of receiving Mary Murray and Rosemary Coupe's tutoring for the first stages; Louise McGillivray's mentorship for one unit; and Jim Stott's tutoring for the final unit at Summer School in St Andrews. My exam dance was 'The Fête' and I look forward to reprising the lesson with different students and less time pressure.

Taking the training over a few months gives the opportunity to contemplate and rest and practice but I found the two week residential version easier to immerse myself and apply recent learning immediately. There are pros and cons to both. Having volunteer students is hugely valuable and this was hard to arrange at Summer School because they are already in class or resting for the evening's activities. Thank you to all the Victoria and Vancouver area dancers who patiently participated in my training classes. Practising in St Andrews had another twist: many people do not speak Canadian or even English very well. I had to work on using fewer words and speaking slowly. Another difference is recorded music versus learning to teach with a class musician. I was thrilled to have James Gray as our talented pianist. He was exceptionally patient with those of us not used to giving good *Ready Ands* but also he taught us about noticing the unique phrasing in each tune and therefore how to select music to match an exercise.

I really enjoyed the camaraderie in the two groups as we pursued a common goal (practical teaching exams). There were many exchanges of encouragement and ideas amongst the candidates. Sarah started A Pat on the Back and I introduced it to the Unit 5'ers.

For anyone who has not been to St Andrews Summer School, I do encourage you to consider it. The highlight is dancing at Younger Hall with the most amazing sprung floor. The band varies but it is always delightful. Eating meals in the big dining room is a great opportunity to meet people from various parts of the world and swap stories from home. And of course, classes with exceptional teachers and keen students. We learned some of the dances from Book 47 and I am noticing a trend towards longer dances, sometimes in cannon style which challenge the brain cells even further.

Back home again, the whole experience feels a bit unreal but I am enriched and enthused by it. I owe a lot to my family who was generous to me in affording the time for classes and homework, in addition to my usual dancing fix. Thank you to all who supported me in various ways. I am pleased to report I have achieved my goal, and look forward to more teaching on the horizon.

**- Gael Forster**



## Workshop and Dance Committee

Preparations are well underway for the March 2014 event and we will select the location soon to be able to publicize details. We are in need of someone to help with promoting the one day event. The time commitment should not be too onerous as we have templates and processes from prior years. Please consider this and contact me or Dora if you could contribute in this capacity.

We are also thinking ahead to the year or two after to mount a bigger event that would appeal to dancers from away, as well as local VISCDS members. Please contact me in class or via [gael@shaw.ca](mailto:gael@shaw.ca) if you have some ideas and/or time to apply to organizing it. We will need more advance planning for this so we should begin soon.

**- Gael Forster**

Our first two socials are known as the “Harvest” and “St Andrews” socials. Here is a bit of information about the two titles as they relate to Scottish Country Dancing.

### Harvest

Much of the fruit and vegetables grown in this area have already been harvested by the time October arrives, but some harvesting is still going on. The problem is, what to do with all this largesse!



There are a number of dances with ‘harvest’ in the title. The most well-known dance in this area is the strathspey “Staffin Harvest”, devised by Bert Mitchell of Duncan BC. Other dance titles include the strathspey “Golden Harvest” and reel “The Harvest Moon” both by John Drewry; and the jig “Harvest Time” by Bob Campbell. Also, the jig “The Merry Reapers” is from the RSCDS *Graded Book* (the first one).

### St Andrew

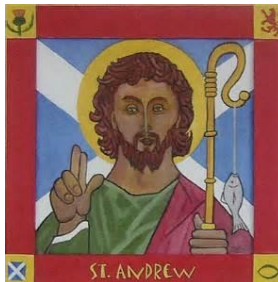
St Andrew was one of the Disciples of Christ. He preached throughout the Middle East area, and is said to have preached as far east as Romania and Russia, before being crucified on an X-shaped cross (saltire). According to legend, in 832 AD, Oengus II led an army of Picts and Scots into battle against the Angles in the East Lothian area. The legend states that on the morning of battle white clouds forming an X shape in the sky appeared. Óengus and his combined force took this to be a sign that victory would be theirs. They took to the field, and despite being inferior in numbers, they were indeed victorious. Having interpreted the cloud phenomenon as representing the *crux decussata* upon which Saint Andrew was crucified, Óengus appointed Saint Andrew as the Patron Saint of Scotland. The white saltire set against a celestial blue background is said to have been adopted as the design of the flag of Scotland on the basis of this legend.

November 30 is the feast day of St Andrew. It is marked with a celebration of Scottish culture with traditional Scottish food, music and dance. His actual date of birth is not known.

Saint Andrew is also the patron saint of Greece, Romania, Russia, Ukraine, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and St Andrew, Barbados.

**- with help from Wikipedia. The images below are from yahoo.com**

There are several dances with the name in the title. The best known dance in this area is “St Andrews Fair”, from the RSCDS book 5 *SCD for 1982*. Other dance titles include St Andrews Cross (reel), Flag (reel), Gardens (jig), and Nicht (jig).



## **COMING EVENTS – LOCAL Scottish Country Events**

### **2013**

October 19th 2013	Harvest Social – program is in this issue
November 16th 2013	St Andrews Social – program is in this issue
December 14th 2013	Christmas Social. Mary Ross will be playing.
December 31st 2013	New Year's Eve Social

### **2014**

January 18th 2014	Robbie Burns Social. The Elastic Ceilidh Band will be playing.
February 15th 2014	Valentines Tea Dance (Saturday afternoon)
March 29 2014	Workshop and Social. See article in this issue.
April 26 2014	Spring Fling Social

All Socials take place from 7:30 to 10:30 pm Saturday evening with the exception of the **February 15th Tea Dance** which will take place in the afternoon from **1:30 to 4:30 pm**

**All socials will take place at the Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship Hall, Obed Avenue, with the exception of the Workshop and Social in March.**

## **OUT OF TOWN EVENTS**

### **2013**

<b>Sep 6</b>	Fort Worden Workshop. <a href="http://www.rscds-seattle.org/ftworden/index.htm">www.rscds-seattle.org/ftworden/index.htm</a> .
<b>Sep 7</b>	RSCDS Calgary Branch Fall Back Dance. <a href="http://www.rscdscalgary.org">www.rscdscalgary.org</a> .
<b>Oct 4 – 6</b>	RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch 33rd Annual Workshop, Banquet and Ball. Sponsored by the Saskatoon Scottish Country Dancers. <a href="http://www.rscdsSaskatchewan.org">www.rscdsSaskatchewan.org</a> . Our Gordon Robinson is teaching at this workshop.
<b>Oct 4 – 6</b>	RSCDS Calgary Branch Rocky Mountain Workshop and Ball. <a href="http://www.rscdsCalgary.org">www.rscdsCalgary.org</a> .
<b>Oct 20</b>	White Rock SCD Club Workshop. Info: <a href="http://www.wrscdc.org/">http://www.wrscdc.org/</a> .
<b>Oct 20</b>	Brentwood Bay SC Dancers Ceilidh, 2 – 4 pm, \$5.00, 1229 Clarke Road, off West Saanich at Wallace.
<b>Nov 16</b>	Oceanside SCDers Old Fashioned Gala, Community Centre, corner of Memorial Avenue and Veteran's Way, Qualicum Beach; music by Mary Ross. Further info later.
<b>Dec 4</b>	Oceanside SCDers Fall Season Wrap Up Potluck Dinner and Dance. Further info later.
<b>Dec 7</b>	Port Alberni SCD Group Christmas Tea Dance.
<b>Dec 8</b>	Gleneagles Scottish Country Dance Club 50th Highland Ball. Further info later.

### **2014**

<b>Jan 11</b>	Nanaimo SCD Group New Years Ball. <a href="http://www.nanaimoscd.com">www.nanaimoscd.com</a> .
<b>Feb 14 – 16</b>	RSCDS Hawaii Branch Aloha Winter Weekend. <a href="http://www.rscdshawaii.org/home/workshop/">www.rscdshawaii.org/home/workshop/</a> .
<b>Feb 22</b>	Comox Valley SCD Group Snowdrop Social. Further info later. <a href="http://www.cvscottishcountrydance.org/">www.cvscottishcountrydance.org/</a> .
<b>Mar 15</b>	Port Alberni St Patrick's Tea Dance.
<b>Apr 12</b>	Nanaimo SCD Group Workshop and Tea Dance. <a href="http://www.nanaimoscd.com">www.nanaimoscd.com</a> .

If you are traveling out of town and are looking for a Scottish Country Dance event that is happening in the area of your destination, check out the above websites. Another useful website is [intercityscot.org/](http://intercityscot.org/). Who knows, there might be an event that you can attend!