

Island Fling



November 2013

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
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Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland
Web address: www.viscnds.ca

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President's Corner November 2013

I'm happy to report that we now have one hundred and twenty one members and that all classes are being well attended. The new Thursday night social class has been growing as more and more dancers try it out and we have had as many as three sets on the floor including five of our newest dancers. I would like to welcome new members, Jan Beckett, Adrienne Gnidec, Gulcan Barclay, Jane King, Chris Beckett, Janet Mather, Olivia Caster, Alison Brown, and (returning members) Gloria Gillingham, and Margaret and Duncan Robertson. I also recently attended the Wednesday afternoon social class and enjoyed meeting Joan Bushe who joined us late in the season last year. We are very pleased that many of the new members from last year's basic class are back for another year of fun and laughter as they strive to master new moves, steps and dances.



There was a warm glow and lots of happy chatter as over sixty dancers came together on October 19th for the Harvest Social. It was a lovely program prepared and led by Joan Axford. No one lost their head in *Posties Jig* and after a slow start *Autumn in Appin* was beautifully danced. Many thanks to the Intermediate class who hosted the dance and provided a diverse array of tasty treats. Mark your calendars for the **St Andrews social on November 16th** and for the **Christmas social on December 14th**. They will be taking place at the recently renamed **City Light Church of Victoria**, 550 Obed Avenue. (formerly called the Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship church).

Three special dances are in the planning stages starting with the **New Year's Social on December 31st**, followed by the **Dance Days Ceilidh on February 1st 2014** and the **Workshop and Social on Saturday March 29th 2014**.

Dora Dempster, President

Newsletter

Deadline for the next newsletter is December 15, 2013. Please send submissions to enchapma@shaw.ca.

Membership

The registration form for 2013/14 is available on the website or at the classes. Please submit your forms promptly to Rick Deegan. Fees were due September 1, 2013 for continuing members, and September 30, 2013 for new members.

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 Representatives 2013-2014

Experienced Social	Sylvia Sinclair Terry White	250-595-6161
Basic	Margaret Chapman Theresa Harbidge	250-598-9534
Daytime Social	Janet Jones Pat Warman	250-480-4146
Intermediate	Ellen Campbell Heather Shave	250-592-3938
Beyond Basic Social	Karen Strawn-Samis Robin Gubby	250-383-7383

January Open House

Our winter Open House will be held on **January 7, 2014** at the City Light Church Hall (formerly 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.

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society 2013-2014 Classes

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

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.

Monday	Experienced social	Bob Anderson
Tuesday	Basic	Gordon Robinson
Wednesday afternoon	Daytime social	Pat Blair
Wednesday evening	Intermediate	Joan Axford
Thursday	Beyond Basic	Bob Anderson

FOR SALE.

Unopened two disc RSCDS album:

"Dance through the Miscellanies" featuring Muriel Johnstone and her Band. Cost \$29, a bargain at \$25. Phone Sue at 250-592-5086.

**St Andrews Social, November 16, 2013, 7:30 pm
City Light Church 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
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 Coll
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 Maggie Knockater	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
Hosted by the Thursday Class			

A Note from Lorraine

Dear Dancing Friends, Thank you for the Benefit Dance, it was a great program and we did get through all the dances. Thank you to Pat Blair for the organizing and the program, to all teachers, to Sheila and her kitchen helpers, Michelle Campbell for the flowers, Ian Sutherland for taking tickets, Dora for the publicity, to Penny and Ed for sharing such a beautiful cake and to all who contributed and attended. Also thank you to several dancers who have contacted me and were unable to attend. Once again proceeds will go to goats and school fees for needy children, mainly orphans.

Happy Dancing! With best wishes,

Lorraine

In Memoriam

Long time local dancers will be saddened to learn of the recent passing of Kay MacIntyre. Kay and her husband Charles danced with and taught for RSCDS Victoria Branch in the 1980's and early 1990's, before moving to Parksville. Kay was particularly patient with basic dancers, encouraging them to dance their best and giving them the love of the dance. While she and Charles were not members of Van Isle, many long-time Van Isle members will remember her.

We send our sincere condolences to Charles and their family.

Edith Chapman

Christmas Social

December 14, 2013

7:30 p.m. at City Light Church Hall

550 Obed Avenue

Music by Mary Ross

\$15.00



Dance name	Bars type	Level	Core	Source
The White Cockade	8X32 R	B	C	RSCDS Book 5
Butterscotch and Honey	4X32 S	B	C	J Attwood
Tribute to the Borders	8X32 J	I	C	RSCDS Leaflet 11
Mairi's Wedding	8X40 R	I	C	Cosh 22 Dances
Margaret Parker's Strathspey	8X32 S	I		RSCDS Book 31
A Wee Nothin'	8x32 J	B		Moments in Time
Blooms of Bon Accord	4X32 R	I	C	John Drewry, Deeside Book
Sandy's Scotch Broth	3x32 S	I		Katannuta
The Hazel Tree	8x32 J	I	C	Drewry, Brodie Book
Fair Ronny's Reel	8x32 R	A		Dunsmuir Collection
The Robertson Rant	80 S (Sq)	I	C	RSCDS Book 39
Roaring Jelly	8x32 J	I	C	Glendarroch Coll Sheet 6
Break				
Jennifer's Jig	8x32 J	I	C	Drewry, Silver City Book
Tweedbridge Court	8x32 S	I		All Around the Circle
The Hunting Horn	8X32 J	I		Archives Peter McBryde
The De'il Amang the Tailors	8x32 R	B	C	RSCDS Book 14
Extras				
A Trip to Bavaria	4X32 R	B	C	James MacGregor Brown
Staffin Harvest	4x32 S	I	C	RSCDS 4 for 1978

September Open House

The VISCDS Open House at the City Light Church hall on Sept 3rd started off the new 2013/2014 season with a Full house. 76 dancers were in attendance. There were 28 guests eager to try out Scottish Country Dancing along with 48 of our members to help guide them through the basic steps and dances.

Gordon Robinson started out the evening by walking the Loch Ness Monster and then proceeded to teach a few of the basic dance steps. After the Ferryboat, it was clear these dancers were catching on quickly and we moved on to the Red Nose Jig and everyone's favourite The Barmkin. As it was a very warm night and the hall was heating up, the dancers were grateful for the two dispensers of lemonade, jugs of water and a variety of cookies to rejuvenate them. The evening continued with Jig to the Music and concluded with Borrowdale Exchange.

Thank you to Gordon Robinson for leading this huge class and for his selection of dances. It was an exhilarating evening and a great start to our year.

Sheila Eaglestone

New Year's Eve Potluck Dinner and Social

December 31, 2013

City Light Church Hall

Doors: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 6:30 pm

Dance: 8:00 pm

Dinner and Dance: \$12.00 plus potluck donation

Dance only: \$10.00



Dance name	Bars type	Level	Core	Source
It Should Be Fun	4X32 J	B	C	Graded & Social 3
The Lass of Richmond Hill	8X32 R	I		2nd Graded Book
Auld Friends Meet	8X32 S	I		Auld Friends Meet
Blue Bonnets	6X32 J	B		RSCDS Book 3
Shiftin' Bobbins	8X32 R	B	C	Ormskirk
Cherrybank Gardens	3X32 S	I	C	Bankhead Book 1
Fair Jenny's Jig	8X32 J	I		Ron Wallace
The Australian Ladies	8X32 R	A		Glasgow Assembly
Seann Truibhas Willichan	6X32 S	B	C	RSCDS Book 27
Granville Market	8X32 J	B		2nd Graded Book
10pm: Dessert and Coffee/Tea				
Catch the Wind	8X32 H	B		RSCDS Book 45
Pelorus Jack	8X32 J	I	C	RSCDS Book 41
The Gentleman	8X32 S	A	C	RSCDS Book 35
Deil Amang the Tailors	8X32 R	B		RSCDS Book 14
11pm: Auld Lang Syne				
Waltz of the Bells				
The Montgomeries' Rant	8X32 R	I	C	RSCDS Book 10
Tribute to the Borders	8X32 J	B	C	RSCDS Pkt '87
Butterscotch and Honey	4X32 S	B	C	J. Atwood
Mairi's Wedding	8X40 R	I	C	Cosh 22+2

New Year's Dinner and Dance

If you are looking for something to do on New Year's Eve, you couldn't do better than to join your fellow dancers for an evening of fun and camaraderie as we say farewell to the old year and welcome in the new. Our second annual New Year's Potluck Dinner and Dance will be held on Tuesday, December 31 at the City Light Church Hall on Obed Avenue. Doors will open at 6:00 pm; a scrumptious potluck dinner will be served at 6:30; and dancing will start at 8:00. We will have a break around 10:00 for dessert, tea and coffee; and will sing *Auld Lang Syne* at 11:00. Those of us with enough stamina will continue with the social program until midnight, or 'whenever'.

The cost of this fabulous evening is \$12.00 plus a potluck donation. If you wish to come to just the dance, the cost is \$10.00. Non-dancing 'life partners' and friends are most welcome. All the dances on the program (above) will be walked through. We hope to see you there! Please let Dora know you are interested in coming so we can be sure of numbers.

Edith Chapman

Burns Social
January 18, 2014
7:30 pm
City Light Church Hall
Music by Elastic Ceilidh Band
\$15.00



Dance name	Bars type	Level	Core	Source
The Jubilee Jig	8 x 32 J	B	C	RSCDS Leaflet
The White Cockade	8 x 32 R	B	C	RSCDS Book 5
The Silver Tassie	8 x 32 S	I	C	RSCDS Leaflet
Farewell to Auchterarder	1 x 128 J	A	C	William Hamilton
Shiftin' Bobbins	8 x 32 R	B	C	Ormskirk Book
The Lea Rig	6 x 32 S	B	C	RSCDS Book 21
Jennifer's Jig	8 x 32 J	I	C	Silver City Book
Bratach Bana	8 x 32 R	A	C	Bon Accord Book
The Saint John River	4 x 32 S	B	C	New Brunswick Coll
Coming Through the Rye	8 x 40 J	I		San Francisco Coll V 2
A Trip to Bavaria **	4 x 32 R	I	C	J Macgregor-Brown
The Gentleman	8 x 32 S	I	C	RSCDS Book 35
The Machine Without Horses	8 x 32 J	B		RSCDS Book 12
The Peat Fire Flame	8 x 40 R	A	C	Bon Accord Book
"Deer" Friends	8 x 32 S	I	C	St Martin Coll
Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	4 x 32 J	B	C	RSCDS Book 5 for 82
Extras				
The Belle of Bon Accord	4 x 32 S	I	C	Deeside Book
Maxwell's Rant	8 x 32 R	I	C	RSCDS Book 18
** No Briefing				
Hosted by Monday Social Class				

Harvest Social 2013

This was the first of the "Socials" and was an excellent beginning to a season of lively dancing. It was hosted by the Wednesday Intermediate Class with a program prepared by Joan Axford to appeal to all levels of dancers. Joan briefed the dances and Sarah Kell took a turn as well. It was a pleasure to welcome 64 enthusiastic dancers, as well as out-of-town guests Judy and Jim Pedder from Comox and Irene and John Telfer from French Creek. Thanks to Sheila McCall for collecting admissions and to Beth Weston and Joan McIntosh for sharing 50/50 duties. The hall was colourfully decorated to reflect the Harvest theme. A special touch of Autumn was provided by two large floral arrangements in pumpkin shells, designed by Michelle Campbell. Gordon Robinson was the lucky winner of \$41.50 from the 50/50 draw.

Thanks to all those who provided the ample selection of delicious food enjoyed at the break. And a special thank-you to Sheila Eaglestone for expertly co-ordinating her kitchen team, to the decorators and to the hard-working clean-up crew.....all contributing to a very successful event.

Ellen Campbell

The members of Van Isle extend sincere condolences to Joan Isaac and her family on the recent passing of their husband and father, Andy Isaac.

Joan Isaac and family would like to thank the dancers for their kind words of sympathy following the recent death of Andy Isaac. The notes inside the card meant a lot. Thank you.

Angela Goddard

(Joan's daughter and a former dancer)

Teachers Association (Canada) – TAC

If you have been dancing for very long, you may have heard your teacher refer to 'TAC'. Teachers Association (Canada), better known as 'TAC', is an outreach and support group for teachers of Scottish Country Dance. One might assume from the name that the organization is solely for Canadian teachers but that's not so – SCD teachers from all over the world are members.

In order to be a member of TAC, a dancer must be a teacher or be working towards becoming a teacher. He/she must also be a member of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS). However, there are three entities attached to TAC which will be of interest to dancers who are not also teachers.

- **TACTalk** – TAC's newsletter, published four times a year. It contains articles of interest mainly to dance teachers, but dancers will find them interesting, too. Non-teachers may subscribe to TACTalk. The yearly subscription cost is \$15.00 Cdn for the newsletter available via the Internet. A hard copy may be had for an additional \$15.00 Cdn. Here is the website:
http://www.tac-rscds.org/images/stories/TACTalk_Subscription_Form_2013-2014.pdf
- **TACBooks** – sells books and leaflets of dance instructions. They also sell books which contain information of general interest about SCD. <http://store.tac-rscds.org>
- **TACSound** – sells compact discs of SCD music, both for dancing and for listening. They also sell DVD videos which are of interest to both teachers and dancers <http://sound.tac-rscds.org>

Non-teachers are welcome to purchase books and music from TACStores.

Edith Chapman

VAN ISLE DANCE & WORKSHOP *Celebrating 40 years*

Saturday, March 29, 2014



2014 marks the 40th anniversary of the club which we will be celebrating with our workshop and social.

The day is now planned: We are pleased to announce we will have two workshop classes, both taught by the internationally renowned and highly regarded Mary Murray. We welcome back Julie Smith as our talented class pianist. The morning is for Experienced dancers and afternoon is for Basic/Intermediate. In the evening we will be dancing to marvelous music by The Tartan Players – a quartet this year.

The program is posted and has several dances the basic dancers will have learned by March so we do hope to see many of our newer dancers at the evening social. Please encourage your out of town friends to join us and keep the date free yourselves.

We have also added a lunch option for those wishing to socialize in between classes. Hopefully many of our past members will come out to the lunch or to the social, whether they are still dancing or just wish to enjoy the music and the memories.

The venue is in Colwood which has enabled us to keep the costs down and not increase the fees. Closer to the time we will be soliciting help to distribute the load and make the day run smoothly.

All the details are on the website and in the registration brochure.

We look forward to another great workshop and dance.

Gael Forster on behalf of the organizing committee



COMING EVENTS – LOCAL Scottish Country Events

2013

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

2014

January 18th 2014 Robbie Burns Social. Elastic Ceilidh Band will be playing. The program is in this issue.
February 1st, 2014 Dance Days Ceilidh, Dance Victoria Studios, 2750 Quadra Street, \$5.00, 8:00 – 10:00 pm.
February 15th 2014 Valentines Tea Dance (Saturday afternoon).
March 29th 2014 Workshop and Social. See article in this issue. Registration form attached.
April 26th 2014 Spring Fling Social.

All Socials take place from **7:30 to 10:30 pm** Saturday evening with the exception of the **February 1st ceilidh** which will take place from **8:00 – 10:00 pm**; and 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 City Light Church Hall, Obed Avenue, with the exception of the Ceilidh on February 1, and the Workshop and Social in March.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

2013

Nov 11th Lady Aberdeen Tea Dance, Scottish Cultural Centre, 1:30 pm, \$10.00. Program available.
Nov 16th Oceanside SCDers Old Fashioned Gala, music by Mary Ross and Janette Polson. Tickets: Ellen Coates, email: eacoates@shaw.ca; or phone: 250-752-6088. Program available.
Nov 23rd RSCDS Edmonton Branch 2013 St Andrews Workshop and Social. Tickets: phone Ann at 780 224-7191.
Nov 30th Delta Borderers Dance, 7:30 pm. Music: Don Bartlett. \$20.00. Program available. Tickets and info: Mairi Maxwell, 604 9462448; or Ruth Jappy, 604 594-6807.
Dec 4th Oceanside SCDers Fall Season Wrap Up Potluck Dinner and Dance. Registration is required. Further information: <http://www.oceansidescd.net/4%20Special%20Events.html>.
Dec 7th Port Alberni SCD Group Christmas Tea Dance, \$15.00. Doors open at noon; lunch followed by dancing. Further info: Leslie Holland, superdoc6@shaw.ca, or 250 723-0516.
Dec 8th Gleneagles Scottish Country Dance Club 50th Highland Ball, Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, Further info: <http://rscdsvancouver.org/downloads/20131208i%20Gleneagles%20Ball%20Info.pdf>.
Dec 28th RSCDS Vancouver Branch “Betwixt and Between” Dance, 7:30 pm. \$15.00. Music: Mary Ross. Check website for further information: <http://www.rscdsvancouver.org/calendar.html>.

2014

Jan 11th Nanaimo SCD Group New Year’s Ball. www.nanaimoscd.com.
Feb 14th – 16th RSCDS Hawaii Branch Aloha Winter Weekend. www.rscdshawaii.org/home/workshop/.
Feb 15th RSCDS Vancouver Branch “Love to Dance” Workshop and Tea Dance. Further info: <http://www.rscdsvancouver.org/calendar.html>.
Feb 22nd Comox Valley SCD Group Snowdrop Social. Further info: www.evscottishcountrydance.org/.
Mar 15th Port Alberni St Patrick’s Tea Dance. Music: Mary Ross. Cost tba. Time to be confirmed. Further info: Leslie Holland, superdoc6@shaw.ca, or 250 723-0516.
Mar 22nd RSCDS Vancouver Branch Heather Ball at Gizeh Shrine Temple (a fabulous sprung floor). Info: <http://www.rscdsvancouver.org/calendar.html>.
Apr 12th Nanaimo SCD Group Workshop and Tea Dance. www.nanaimoscd.com.
Jun 28th RSCDS Seattle Branch and Friday Harbor Dancers Puget Sounds Crossroads, Afternoon Dance, Grange Hall, Friday Harbor. Further info later.

Cribs for some Less Familiar Dances on the Christmas Program

A Wee Nothin' **2C(4) J 32** **Elaine Brunken, Moments in Time**
1-8 1s+2s dance RH across & LH back
9-16 1L followed by 2L dance across top & dance down behind Men to 1L below 2M & 2L below 1M, both cross to new places & set.
17-24 1M+ 2M repeat above figure to 2 1 3 4.
25-32 2s+1s dance R&L.
Repeat from second place.

Fair Ronny's Reel **3C(4) R 32** **Tim Wilson, Dunsmuir Dances**
1-8 1c lead down the middle and up.
9-16 1c+2c Pousette, on [15-16] 1c add ¼ turn extra and swivel R to finish BtoB on midline.
17-24 2c+1M & 1W+3c Reels3 across, Rsh to 2cnr, at end 1c pass RH to face 1cnr.
25-32 1c turn 1cnr LH | P RH ; 2cnr LH | P RH, staying in centre to repeat or to lead to 4pl.
Repeat from second place.

Sandy's Scotch Broth **3Cset S 32** **Gail Sibley, Katannuta**
1-8 All Circle6 and back.
9-16 1c NHJ dance down | set ; dance up | cast to 2pl (2c up) facing 1cnr.
17-24 1c+1cnrs pass and turn; 1c+2cnrs repeat, finish 1c facing out (2,1,3).
25-32 Chaperoned Chain progression (2c+3c turn RH ¾ to midline **while{2}** 1C cast R ¼ round set | 2M+3W turn LH 1½ **while{4}** 1M+2W & 3M+1W in promhold dance ½ round set clw | 1c dance clw to 2pl **while{2}** 3c+2c turn RH ¾) (3,1,2).

Tweedbridge Court **3C(4) S 32** **Bob Blackie, All Around the Circle**
1-8 1s turn 2H 1.1/2 times & cast 1 place and dance LSh round partner to face 1st corners.
9-16 1s dance Corner Chain with 1st & 2nd corners :
1s change pl RH with 1st cnrs, 1st cnrs turn LH in centre & return to places giving RH to 1s who turn LH in centre to face 2nd cnrs.
17-24 1s change places RH with 2nd cnrs, 2nd cnrs turn LH in centre & return to places giving RH to 1s, 1s end turning LH to 2nd places opposite sides.
25-32 2s+1s+3s circle 6H to left 1/2 way (2 bars) & Men turn Lady on right Both Hands right round (2 bars), circle left to place (2 bars) & 1s cross RH.
Repeat from second place.



Congratulations!

Many of you will remember Janet Lam, who danced with VISCDS in the early 2000s. Janet and her husband, Alan Sagan, now reside in Brisbane, Australia, where they welcomed their first child on August 30th! John Yong-Sheng Sagan arrived at 7:33pm, weighing 6 lbs 1 oz and measuring 48 cm long. Baby, mom and dad are doing well. Congratulations, Janet and Alan! Come back and visit BC again soon, so we can all meet "baby John"!

Sarah Kell

Christmas in Scotland

In Scotland, Christmas is known as Nollaig Beag, which means “Little Christmas”. Until the Reformation of the 16th and 17th centuries, Christmas and New Year were equally welcomed by the Scots, who “passed the Christmas days with games and feasting”. Christmas was one of several holidays created as a means to make the early Christian church more acceptable to the pagans who already celebrated winter solstice festivals about that time. It was celebrated as a primarily religious festival during ancient times and it continues to remain so today. New Year was and still is the main holiday for Scots.

Christmas was celebrated in Scotland until the Protestant Reformation when the Kirk portrayed Christian feasting days, including Christmas, as Popish or Catholic feasts and thus they had to be banned. This led to the abolition of festival days and other church holidays. By 1583, Bakers who made Yulebreads were fined, although their punishment could be lessened if they gave the names of their customers! A 1640 Act of the Parliament of Scotland abolished the “Yule vacation and all observation thereof in time coming”.

While a similar ban was in effect south of the border, when the Monarchy was restored there, so were the Christmas celebrations. In Scotland, the rigid laws of the new Kirk still frowned upon Christmas celebrations.

The tradition of celebrating Christmas was banned in Scotland for nearly 400 years until the 1950’s. Until 1958, when Christmas Day was declared a public holiday, people worked normally on this day although the children did get presents. Even today, the traditional Christmas celebration is usually a low-key affair as the Church of Scotland (aka the Presbyterian Church) is not very enthusiastic about the festival. The Christmas traditions in Scotland today are similar to those of the US, although the Scottish people do have some interesting customs of their own. <http://voices.yahoo.com/scottish-christmas-history-traditions-4839050.html>.

Sources: wikipedia.org
siliconglen.com

theholidayspot.com
yahoo.com

christmasarchives.com



New Year (Hogmanay) in Scotland

New Year’s Eve is celebrated around the world but nowhere else is this evening celebrated as it is in Scotland; the Scots have their own name for it: Hogmanay. There are several theories about the derivation of the word but the most likely source seems to be the French name for Christmas, “Homme est né” or “Man is born”. (Christmas and New Year in ancient times seem to have been lumped together as far as celebrations were concerned.) Historians believe that the Scots inherited the celebration from the Vikings, who paid much attention to the passing of the shortest day.

There are numerous traditions associated with the celebration of Hogmanay, which are observed to this day. One is the singing of *Auld Lang Syne* at midnight. The song is attributed to the Scottish poet Robert Burns, who claimed that it was based on an earlier fragment. The tune itself was in print over 80 years before he published his version in 1788. It is common to sing this in a circle of linked arms that are crossed over one another as the clock strikes midnight for New Year’s Day, though, strictly speaking, it is intended that participants link arms at the beginning of the final verse, co-ordinating with the lines of the song that contain the the lyrics to do so. Interestingly, it is only in Scotland that this is done correctly.

Another tradition is that of “first footing” (“first foot” in the house after midnight), which is still common in Scotland. To ensure good luck for the house, the first foot should be male and dark (red-heads and women aren’t nearly as lucky). This is believed to be a throwback to the Viking days when blond or red-haired strangers arriving on your doorstep meant trouble. Traditionally, your first-footing male guest should bring symbolic coal, shortbread, salt, black bun and whisky, but nowadays, whisky and shortbread are the only items still prevalent and available. (When my Mother was growing up in Winnipeg, her Scottish neighbours always had her, being dark, visit them first thing on New Year’s Day. I think they gave her a piece of shortbread. They either didn’t worry about her being a girl, or they went with whoever was available.)

The fireworks displays and torchlight processions held in many cities throughout Scotland are reminiscent of the ancient custom at Scottish Hogmanay pagan parties hundreds of years ago.

Each area in Scotland has its own way of celebrating Hogmanay. There are many websites which give details of these celebrations. One such website is <http://paganwiccan.about.com/od/yulethelongestnight/p/Hogmanay.htm>.

Sources: wikipedia.org

rampantscotland.com

paganwiccan.about.com

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society

**One Day Workshop and Dance
Saturday, March 29, 2014
REGISTRATION FORM**

The Tartan Players, formed in 2005, is a Scottish Dance Band which has rapidly become a sought after group, with their lively playing and signature sound. **Julie Smith** (piano/bandleader) teaches music in public schools, directs choirs and plays for Scottish Country Dance ("Music is my life"). She has attended Master Workshops in Scottish country dance music. **Deborah Jones** (fiddle) has more than 30 years experience of Scandinavian folk fiddling and has played in the Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra since 1990 (spare time, she is a volunteer streamkeeper).



Carole Berger (flute/whistle) has augmented her BMus with the study of Traditional music at workshops in Boston, Goderich and Vancouver. She has played for Scottish & Irish dancing for over 10 years, and performs weekly at the Irish Heather Pub. **Lukasz Wiczorek** (fiddle) has played in the West Coast Fiddlers for almost 10 years; he teaches private violin lessons in Langley and plays viola in the Trinity Western University Orchestra.

EVENING DANCE PROGRAM

Grand March			
Good Hearted Glasgow *	8X32J	B	Peter Knapman
The Lass of Richmond Hill	8X32R	B	RSCDS 2 nd Graded Book
Auld Friends Meet	8X32S	I	Auld Friends Meet
The Pines of Pitlochry	8X48J	A	Archives #77
The Flowers of Edinburgh	8X32R	B	RSCDS Book 1
The Robertson Rant **	1X80S	A	RSCDS Book 39
Roaring Jelly	8X32J	I	Glendarroch #6
Wisp of Thistle	8X32S	B	RSCDS Book 37
Mairi's Wedding	8X40R	I	Cosh, 22 SCD
BREAK			
Joe McDiarmid's Jig	4X32J	B	RSCDS 5 for '82
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	8X32S	I	RSCDS Leaflets
Bratach Bana	8X32R	A	Bon Accord Book
Pelorus Jack	8X32J	I	RSCDS Book 41
Cherrybank Gardens	3X32S	I	Bankhead Book 1
The White Cockade	8X32R	B	RSCDS Book 5
Best Set in the Hall **	8X32J	A	RSCDS Book 46
Staffin' Harvest	4X32S	I	RSCDS 4 for '78
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8X32R	I	RSCDS Leaflets
Waltz			

* briefing only ** no briefing

Name (please print) _____

Telephone () _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

	✓ By March 6 2014	✓ After March 6 2014
Basic / Intermediate workshop	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
Experienced workshop	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
Both workshops (one person)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	n/a
Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> \$7	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12
Evening Dance	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
Evening Dance - non dancer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15

Total enclosed \$ _____ (all prices Canadian \$)

Would you like to be billeted with a local dancer? Y N

Can you offer a place to stay? Y N

If Yes to either question, we will contact you.

PLEASE SIGN THE FOLLOWING WAIVER

I understand that the Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society is under no liability whatsoever in respect to any personal loss or injury which I sustain and agree to abide by any regulations which may be made.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please send this form with cheque or money order (Canadian funds)
payable to **VISCDS** to:

Maureen Orr, Registrar
3332 Painter Road, Victoria BC, V9C 2H9 Canada
Phone: (250) 478 5338 E-mail: viscds@yahoo.ca