

Island Fling



September 2015

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
PO Box 30123, Reynolds RPO
3943C Quadra Street, Victoria BC V8X 1J5, Canada
Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland
Web address: www.viscdis.ca

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President's Report September 2015

I hope you have all had a lovely summer. Our spring classes, taught by Sheila McCall and Gael Forster went very well with up to five sets in attendance. We were very lucky to have Mary Ross playing for our Ceilidh dance on June 2nd and we had a very good turnout with lots of visitors. Gordon Robinson and Sarah Kell led sixty dancers through a fun program of dances. The "ad hoc" Ceilidh demo team performed Good Hearted Glasgow and Seton's Ceilidh Band at the breaks and deserved the hearty round of applause for a near perfect performance. All in all it was a very enjoyable and successful evening. [See the photos on pages 5 and 6.]

In the coming Fall we will continue to offer six classes a week. We'll be starting off our season with an Open House on **Tuesday September 8th** at the City Light Church. The Western communities class will be meeting in the gymnasium at Royal Roads University this year and will kick off their classes with an Open House on **Friday September 11th** at the University. The descriptions of the classes are in this Newsletter and also on our website. This year we are offering an intermediate class on Wednesday nights and all other classes remain the same.

Summer Dancing

There were lots of opportunities for dancing from April through July with mini socials on Thursday nights in April and May. Bob Anderson offered us many of our favorite dances throughout June and July, and we were delighted when he agreed to hold dance practices on the Tuesday nights before each dance. As I write this we are now looking forward to the Zimbabwe Benefit dance on August 15th and another Ceilidh with music by Mary Ross on August 22nd.

Hope to see you all soon as we open our new season in September.

Dora Dempster, President

Newsletter

The deadline for the next newsletter is **October 25, 2015**. Please send submissions to enchapma@shaw.ca.

Membership

The registration form for 2015/16 is available on the website or at the September classes. Please submit your forms promptly to Rick Deegan. Fees are due September 1, 2015.

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 FOR THE 2015 - 2016 SEASON

Hello everyone. Sept. is almost upon us once again and we will be needing members to step forward for the Class Rep positions in each class. It is essential for each class to have a rep to take attendance and keep the members up to date on the upcoming events. The class rep also coordinates with the Social Convener once a year to host a social. Please consider taking on this small but vital role to keep our society functioning properly. I am looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sheila Eaglestone, Social Convener

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
2015 2016 Classes
All classes (except the afternoon class) run from 7:30 to 9:30 pm

2015

Mondays, *September 14 to December 14, 2015 (*excluding Thanksgiving Oct. 12*).

Tuesdays, September 8 to December 8, 2015 (*Open House September 8*)

Wednesdays, September 16 to December 9, 2015

Wednesday **afternoons** September 16 to December 9, 2015 (*1:30 to 3:30 pm*)

Thursdays, September 17 to December 10, 2015

Fridays, September 11 to December 11, 2015 (**Open House September 11**)

2016

Mondays, January 4 to April 4, 2016

Tuesdays, January 5 to April 12, 2016 (*Open House, January 5*)

Wednesdays, January 6 to April 6, 2016

Wednesday **afternoons** January 6 to April 6, 2016 (*1:30 to 3:30 pm*)

Thursdays, January 7 to April 7, 2016

Fridays, January 8 to April 15, 2016 (**except Easter Friday March 25**)

Notes:

***Labour Day is Monday September 7th 2015.**

Easter Weekend Friday March 25th to Monday March 28th 2016

Annual General Meeting Thursday April 14th 2016,

In Memoriam – it is with regret that we announce the recent passing of Bob MacRae. Bob danced in the Basic Class for a short time before becoming unable to dance. He and his wife, Sue, danced with both the Branch and Van Isle at times over the years. Our sincere condolences go to Sue and their family.

VISCDS Open Houses

We will have two fall Open Houses in early September. The first one will be the **Victoria** Open House, on Tuesday, September 8 at the City Light Church Hall on Obed Avenue, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

The Open House for the **West Shore** class will be held at the Dance Studio, Recreation Centre, Royal Roads University, on College Drive within the University campus, on Friday, September 11 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

Bring your friends, neighbours, relatives – anyone who might be interested in trying Scottish Country Dancing. Come to either Open House – or both! There will be no charge for the evening. Refreshments will be served.

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society Classes 2015/2016

EXPERIENCED SOCIAL Mondays 7:30 – 9:30 PM, City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue.

Teacher: Bob Anderson

Experienced Social for dancers with good knowledge of all common formations and wish to dance more challenging dances and formations.

BASIC CLASS Tuesdays 7:30 – 9:30 PM, City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue. Teacher: Sheila McCall

In the Basic class you will learn the five steps used in Scottish Country Dancing. You will learn basic formations and become familiar with the concept of sets, progression and teamwork while you experience the joy of moving to lively Scottish music. You don't need to come with a partner, just come and join us for fun evenings as you learn the dances.

DAYTIME SOCIAL Wednesdays 1:30 – 3:30 PM, City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue.

Teacher: Pat Blair

A class for those who prefer a daytime class, learning formations, phrasing, covering, handing and dances from upcoming socials.

WEDNESDAY EVENING CLASS 7:30 – 9:30 PM, City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue.

Teachers: Gael Forster and Sarah Kell

This class is open to all dancers who have attended a basic class and learned the basic steps and formations. We'll try those same steps and formations with the unique twists that devisors require to weave them into more intricate dances, from VISCDS programs and beyond. This class will introduce a broader range of formations, along with the phrasing, technique and etiquette of Scottish Country Dancing. Join us for fun, fitness and friendship on Wednesdays! Improve your dancing and gain experience so you can dance with confidence!

BEYOND BASIC SOCIAL CLASS Thursdays 7:30 – 9:30 PM, City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue. Teacher: Gordon Robinson

In this class you will enjoy learning popular dances and their formations. A number of dances on social programs will be covered so that newer dancers will be able to enjoy our monthly socials. This class is for those who have learned the basics and are ready to learn the next level of formations, and dance more challenging dances with increasing skill and confidence.

WEST SHORE BASIC CLASS Fridays 7:30 – 9:30 PM, Dance Studio, Recreation Centre, Royal Roads University, 2005 Sooke Road. Teachers: Joan Axford and Liz Gray

In this basic class you will learn the five steps and various formations that make up Scottish country dancing. You will become familiar with the concepts of sets, progression and teamwork while you enjoy the lively Scottish music. Come join us at our new venue – Dance Studio at the Recreation Centre at Royal Roads University where we have lots of space, a good dance floor and lots of laughter. If you are more experienced, you are most welcome to join us for another night of dancing with an opportunity to review the basic formations and support our newest dancers. Please see the website for more instructions on how to get to the dance studio and parking.

Workshop Committee Coordinator needed.

Although we have a committee in place, we are currently looking for a Coordinator for the Workshop Committee. The former coordinator, Gael Forster, will continue on the committee and provide some continuity and support. Please contact Dora if you are interested.

Dora Dempster



Harvest Social
October 17, 2015
7:30 pm
City Light Church Hall
\$10.00

Good Hearted Glasgow	8 x 32 J	B	C	Collins
The Lass of Richmond Hill	8 x 32 R	B	C	Graded 2
Lady Glasgow	8 x 32 S	B	C	MMM 1
Swashbuckling Iain	8 x 32 J	B		San Francisco Collection 2
Clutha	4 x 48 R (square set)	I	C	Book 31
“Deer” Friends	8 x 32 S	A	C	St. Martin
Hooper’s Jig	8 x 32 J	I	C	MMM 2
The Rutland Reel	8 x 40 R	A		Book 48
It Wisnae Me	4 x 32 S	I		Book 47
The Flowers of Edinburgh **	8 x 32 R	B	C	Book 1
Break				
The Sailor	8 x 32 R	I	C	Book 24
Gaelforce Wind	8 x 32 J	I		Graded 3
The Fête	8 x 32 S	I		Book 25
Napier’s Index	8 x 40 J	I	C	Book 45
Prince Rupert’s Fancy	3 x 32 S	B		Canadian Book
Tap the Barrel	3 x 32 R	B		Graded 3
Extras				
Staffin Harvest	4 x 32 S	I	C	4 for 1978
Pelorus Jack	8 x 32 J	I	C	Book 41

** No Briefing, No Walkthrough

Hosted by the Wednesday Intermediate Class





St Andrews Social

November 21st 2015

7:30 pm

City Light Church Hall

\$10.00

Dance name	Bars type	Level	Core	Source
St Andrews Fair	8 x 32 J	B	C	RSCDS Leaflet
Shiftin' Bobbins	8 x 32 R	I	C	Ormskirk 6 (or Guide)
The Ring of Brodgar	4 x 32 S sq	I		Carnforth 5
Flora's Fancy	8 x 32 J	B		RSCDS Bk 49
The Peat Fire Flame	8 x 40 R	I	C	Bon Accord
The Silver Tassie	8 x 32 S	I		RSCDS Leaflet
The Chequered Court	8 x 32 J	I		RSCDS Bk 42
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5 x 32 R	I	C	14 Social Dances
Miss Eleanor	3 x 32 S	A		RSCDS Bk 49
Neil M Grant	8 x 32 J	I		RSCDS Bk 49
Culla Bay	4 x 32 S sq	I	C	RSCDS Bk 41
The Button Boy	8 x 32 H	A	C	Allanton
Break				
Craigleith	1 x 88 R sq	B		RSCDS Third Graded
The Pines of Pitlochry	8 x 48 J	A	C	Scottish Dance Archives
Cherrybank Gardens	3 x 32 S	I	C	Bankhead
The De'il Amang the Tailors*	8 x 32 R	B	C	RSCDS Bk 14
Extras				
Neidpath Castle	3 x 32 S	I	C	RSCDS Bk 22
Seton's Ceilidh Band	4 x 64 J	I	C	Morison's Bush (or Guide)
* Briefing only, no walk through				
Hosted by the Thursday Beyond Basic Class				



BOBBY BROWN MUSIC APPRENTICE SCHOLARSHIP 2015

I am extremely honoured to be the first recipient of the Bobby Brown Memorial Scholarship. Bobby Brown and the Scottish Accent Band have been my inspiration to becoming a SCD musician. I have always admired their mastery of the Scottish idiom and Bobby's style of arranging traditional tunes for dancers.

I would like to thank the TAC committee for creating the Music Apprenticeship Program at Summer School. I have been on "cloud nine" since TAC director, Fiona Miller told me that I would be coached by Bobby's pianist, Kathy Fraser-Collins on a daily basis at Longwood University, Virginia July 24th–August 2nd. Kathy, TAC music director, devised the apprentice program which was extremely beneficial to me and will be a great template for future musicians. This experience surpassed all workshops that I have attended. The workshop stressed active participation which was tailor fit so I could focus on improving specific skills, which could be assessed daily. Details of the course outline are listed on TAC website under 2015 Bobby Brown Music Apprenticeship.

Prior to Summer school, Kathy asked me to prepare sets for classes. I had the opportunity to play for every teacher and every dance level. It was extremely beneficial to work with highly skilled teachers who gave very clear and helpful directions. All teachers and dancers were very supportive and encouraging. The added bonus was being able to pick up tips on improving my dancing skills. I played lead accordion with Kathy by my side, providing the strong rhythmical support on the piano and offering suggestions. This was total immersion with many opportunities to play pick-up notes, music for step practice, jigs, reels, and strathspeys. After class, Kathy met with me to review the various elements such as interpretation, grace notes, phrasing, dynamics, and chord selection and discuss preparations for the following day. Kathy is not only a great musician but a very skilled teacher, which has made this Scholarship the most valuable musical experience I have ever had.

I also had the opportunity to participate in the evening socials. The line-up of musicians was amazing. Neil Barron, lead accordion; Judi Nicholson, violin; Etienne Ozorak, 2nd Acc; Don Wood, bass; Fred Collins, drums; Kathy Fraser-Collins, piano. My name for this band was "The Real MacCoys" (Scottish Spelling intentional). I appreciated their encouragement, friendship and willingness to share their expertise.

The Longwood University was an outstanding venue with a beautiful ballroom, dance studios, great food and friendly staff. The total experience has been better than winning the lottery.

I hope I will prove worthy of this award as I continue the quest of playing traditional Scottish music at a high standard for dancers. There is a shortage of trained SCD musicians in North America. Donations to the Bobby Brown Memorial Scholarship are encouraged to allow future musicians to apply and give dancers the opportunity to dance to live music..... Ready and.....

Mary Ross



L – R: Fred Collins, Kathy Fraser-Collins, Don Woods, Judi Nicholson, Etienne Ozorak, Mary Ross, Neil Barron

COMING EVENTS – LOCAL Scottish Country Dance Events

2015

- Sep 8th** Open House, City Light Church Hall, 7:30 pm.
Sep 11th Open House, Royal Roads University, 7:30 pm.
Oct 17th Harvest Social, \$10.00. Hosted by the Intermediate class.
Nov 21st St Andrews Social, \$10.00. Hosted by the Beyond Basic class.
Dec 12th Christmas Social, \$15.00. Music by Mary Ross.
Dec 31st New Year's Hogmanay Potluck Dinner and Dance. Further info later.

2016

- Jan 16th** Burns Social. Hosted by the Monday Experienced class. Further info later.
Feb 20th Valentine Social, 2:30 – 5:30 pm. Hosted by the Wednesday Daytime Social class. Further info later.
Apr 2nd Workshop and social. Teacher – Linda Mae Dennis, Portland OR. Further info later.
Apr 16th Spring Fling social. \$10.00. Hosted by the Basic class.

All VISCDS Socials take place from 7:30 to 10:30 pm Saturday evening, except for the Valentine social which takes place from 2:30 – 5:30 pm. All socials are held at the City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue, except for the Workshop social, venue tba.

OUT OF TOWN Scottish Country Dance Events

2015

- Sep 11th – 13th** RSCDS Seattle Branch Fort Worden Weekend, Port Townsend WA. Gordon Robinson is one of the teachers. Live music for classes and socials. There will be a musicians' workshop on the Friday. Info and forms: www.rscds-seattle.org.
Oct 9th – 12th RSCDS Calgary Branch and the St. Andrew Caledonian Society of Calgary "Scots Gathering Weekend", a unique cultural gathering, featuring workshops in various dance forms, including Scottish Country Dancing; Musicians' Workshop, Gaelic Lessons, Celtic Knotwork and more. Info – www.calgaryscots.org.
Oct 16th – 18th RSCDS San Diego Branch 40th Anniversary Workshop and Ball. Music by Muriel Johnstone and Judi Nicholson. Teacher – Tim Wilson. Registration closes October 1. Further info - <http://www.rscds-sandiego.org/Assets/PDFs/SD40thReg.pdf>.
Oct 23rd RSCDS Ottawa Branch Golden Anniversary Weekend. Further info - www.rscdsOttawa.ca.
Oct 24th Bellingham Scottish Country Dancers Annual Ball, Majestic Ballroom. Music by Andy Imbrie, Calum MacKinnon, Deby Grosjean and Ginny Snowe. Further info - <http://bellinghamscd.org/dances-and-events/>.
Oct 30th – Nov 1st RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch 40th Anniversary Workshop and Ball. Gordon Robinson is one of the teachers. Further info - <http://nonprofit.memlane.com/scottish/>.
Nov 11th RSCDS Vancouver Branch Lady Aberdeen Tea Dance, Scottish Cultural Centre, 1:15 pm, \$10.00.
Nov 13th – 15th RSCDS San Francisco Branch 50th Asilomar Weekend. Info and registration forms available at asilomar.rscds-sf.org. The registration deadline has passed, but contact Patti Cobb at 510 858-7588 or pkcobb23@gmail.com to be put on a waitlist, if you are interested in going.
Nov 28th Delta Borderers' Dance, Kinsmen Centre, Tsawwassen. Further info later.
Dec 13th Gleneagles 52nd Annual Ball, Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, 1:30 pm, \$110.00. Tickets from Helene Andersen, helene.andersen@ymail.com, 604 922-6016.
Dec 28th RSCDS Vancouver Branch B'twixt & Between social. Further info later.

2016

- Feb 12th – 14th** RSCDS Hawaii Branch Honolulu Aloha Winter Weekend. Info - www.rscdsHawaii.org.
Feb 21st RSCDS Vancouver Branch "Love to Dance" Workshop and Tea Dance. Further info later.
Mar 18th – 19th St Giles SCD Club, Calgary, Workshop and Ball. Info - Contact Karen Hyde, 403 283-8488, Karenhyde@telus.net; or Janyn Bertram, 403 585-3842, janyn_bertram@hotmail.com.
Mar 19th RSCDS Vancouver Branch Heather Ball. Further info later.
Apr 30th Vernon Scottish Country Dancers 20th Annual One-Day Workshop. Further info later.