

Island Fling

September 2017

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



Executive Committee

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President's Report September 2017

I hope you have all had a lovely summer. We have had quite a busy spring and summer since the May newsletter was published. We had a very successful Highland games this year thanks to the dedicated group of volunteers at our tent over the three day event. Publicity Director Martha Morrison made sure we got a good location just opposite the Highland dancers performance stage and made a special effort with the decorations. She suggested we have a draw for free classes and many people entered it and also signed up to receive notifications for our ceilidhs and free events. As a result we have been able to add thirty four people to our distribution list and six of them attended the May Ceilidh.

Thirty six people attended the May 27th Ceilidh and thoroughly enjoyed the lively music of the Elastic Ceilidh Band with guest Fiddler Gavin Duncan who also performed one of the Ceilidh acts. Many thanks to Anita Mathur who designed the program and lead the dances. I heard many positive remarks from our guests who enthusiastically took part in the fun. We were also pleased to have two former youth dancers join us in performing Mairi's wedding for our audience.

The demonstration team was busy performing over the summer at various events including the Victoria International Accordion Festival at Centennial Square and also the Gorge Vale Picnic on July 1st. Thank you very much to those members who were willing to help out at these events as quite a few of the demonstration team members were away at that time in the summer.

Many thanks to Bob Anderson for hosting the **twenty-eighth year** of his summer dancing evenings! Thanks also to organizer Sheila Eaglestone and those members who helped set out the food and clearing up at the end of the evening.

Our new season starts up on **Tuesday September 5th** with a free **Open House**. The **Wednesday night class** will also start that week on **September 6th**. As we no longer have access to the hall on Wednesdays this class will be meeting at the **St Peter and Paul's Anglican Church** 1379 Esquimalt road. All other classes will start the following week. The **afternoon class** has been moved from Wednesday to **Tuesday afternoon** at the City Light Church, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. For more information on the classes please turn to page 6. Cont. on p2

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I would like to welcome two new members to the Executive team. Our new membership Director is June Robinson and John Duffus is our incoming Newsletter editor. John is also a member of the Nanaimo club and edited their newsletter for many years so comes to us with lots of excellent experience. You will also know him as the man behind the camera. Its thanks to him that we have so many videos of our dances on YouTube.

Thirty eight people attended the August 19th Ceilidh including sixteen guests and we had a lovely evening. The dance program was excellent and we were treated to some wonderful music by Mary Ross. The demonstration team performed a variation of the

Barmkin very imaginatively choreographed by Joan Axford and performed by twelve of our dancers. Later in the evening the demonstration team performed and Joan and Gael did a step dancing routine which was delightful to watch. Thanks very much to Sheila McCall who designed the program and expertly lead us through the dances. It was such fun and you could see how much the visitors enjoyed the evening. Among the visitors were a delightful couple from the San Diego RSCDS club who had just stepped off a cruise ship and came straight to our Ceilidh.

Dora Dempster, President

Membership

The registration forms for 2017/18 for new and returning members are available on the web site <http://viscds.ca/membership/> and at classes.

Payment by class

As an alternative to prepayment of classes by full or half-year "Drop-in" punch cards are available at \$60 each, good for 10 classes. (This is in addition to the basic \$30 membership fee.) Cards do not expire.

Newsletter delivery

The Island Fling is available only electronically unless you elect on your registration form to receive a paper copy. In that case, it will be delivered to the class in which you register. If you later change to another class let the class rep. know.

Keep your contact info up to date

It is sometimes necessary to contact members directly in case of cancellations and other emergencies. If your contact information changes be sure to let Membership Director June Robinson know- June.robinson@shaw.ca

Class levels

Dancers, especially Basic class dancers, should consult with their 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 more quickly.

Web resources for dances

For those who may not know, there are dance "cribs" and videos on the web for many of the dances we do in class and at Socials. The main sites are:

- The Scottish Country Dance Dictionary www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com
- The Scottish Country Dance Database <http://my.strathspey.org/dd/index/>



Hallowe'en Social
October 28, 2017
7:30 pm
City Light Church Hall
\$10.00



Dance name	Bars / type	Level	Core	Source
The Machine Without Horses*	8x32 J	B		RSCDS Book 12
The Highland Rambler	8x40 R	B		Leeds Silver Jubilee
The Glengarry Homestead	4x32 S	I	C	The Kangaroo Paw
The Chequered Court	8x32 J	A		RSCDS Book 42
Fisherman's Reel	5x32 R	I	C	Dunblane Holiday
The Rose of the North	3x32 S	A		Leeds Silver Jubilee
The Merry Oddfellows	8x32 J	B		RSCDS MMM
Trip to Bavaria	4x32 R	I	C	Guide to SCD (Collins)
Barbara's Strathspey	8x32 S	A		RSCDS Book 46
Hallowe'en Jig	8x32 J	I		Scottish Dance Archives
Balmoral Strathspey	4x32 S	I	C	RSCDS Book 22
The Rutland Reel	8x40 R	A	C	RSCDS Book 48
Break				
The Hazel Tree	8x32 J	I	C	Brodie Book
Ferla Mor	8x32 R	A		Deeside Book 1
Staffin Harvest	4x32 S	I	C	RSCDS 4 for 1978
The Reel of the Royal Scots*	8x32 R	B	C	RSCDS Leaflets
Extras				
The Silver Grey	3x32 S	B		Graded and Social 2
Napier's Index	8x40 J	I	C	RSCDS Book 45
* Briefing only, no walk through				

Hosted by the Thursday Intermediate Class



St. Andrew's Social
Saturday, November 18, 2017
7:30pm, 550 Obed Ave.
\$10

Dance Name	Bars / Type	Level	Core	Source
St. Andrew's Fair	8x32J	B	C	RSCDS 5 for 1982
Flowers of Edinburgh	8x32R	B	C	RSCDS Bk 1
The Sauchie Haugh	8x32S	I	C	RSCDS Leaflet 29
Waratah Weaver	4x32J	B		RSCDS 2nd Graded Bk
Red House	6x40R	A		RSCDS Bk 7
Saint John River	4x32S	B	C	New Brunswick Coll.
The Barmkin	88R	B	C	Goldring: 24 Graded & Social
Pelorus Jack	8x32J	I	C	RSCDS Bk 41
Midsummer Common	8x32S	I	C	RSCDS Bk 49
Corn Rigs	8x32R	B		RSCDS Bk 4
Break				
Catch the Wind	8x32R	I		RSCDS Bk 45
12 Coates Crescent	4x32S	B		RSCDS Bk 40
Good Hearted Glasgow	8x32J	B	C	Knapman Leaflet
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5x32R	I	C	Goldring: 14 Social Dances for 2000
Macdonald of the Isles	3x32S	I	C	Glendarroch Coll.
De'il Amang the Tailors*	8x32R	B	C	RSCDS Bk 14
Extras				
EH3 7AF	8x32J	B		RSCDS Bk 40
The Gentleman	8x32S	I	C	RSCDS Bk 35
* Briefing only, no walkthrough				

Coming Events—Local

Sept 5, 17	VISCDS Open House	7:30 pm City Light Church	
Oct 28, 17	Hallowe'en Social	7:30 pm City Light Church	See programme in this issue
Nov 18, 17	St. Andrews Social	7:30 pm City Light Church	See programme in this issue
Dec 9, 17	Christmas Social	7:30 pm City Light Church	
Dec 31, 17	New Year's Eve Social	Details to follow	
Jan 20, 18	Robbie Burns Social	7:30 pm City Light Church	
Feb 17, 18	Valentine's Tea Dance	3 :00- 6:00 pm City Light Church	
Apr 7, 18	Annual VISCDS Workshop and Ball	Details to follow	
Apr 21, 18	Spring Fling Social	7:30 pm City Light Church	

City Light Church address: 550 Obed Ave. Victoria

Coming Events— Out of Town

Sep 8– 10	Seattle Branch Fort Worden Workshop	Places still available at time of printing.	http://www.rscds-seattle.org/fort-worden-workshop.html
Oct 1	White Rock SCDC Workshop	Morning advanced class and afternoon beginner/intermediate	http://www.wrscdc.org/events/workshops.php
Oct 6 - 8	RSCDS Nova Scotia	Registration deadline Sept 15	http://www.rscdsnovascotia.ca/2017-Fall-Ad.htm
Oct 14	Gleneagles Fall Dance	Christ The Redeemer Church 595 Keith Road West Vancouver	https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/gleneagles-fall-dance/
Oct 21	Salt Spring SCD Day of Dance	Registration deadline Sept 11	https://sites.google.com/view/ssiscdc/october-workshop
Nov 11	Lady Aberdeen Tea Dance	Scottish Cultural Centre Vancouver	https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/lady-aberdeen-tea-dance/
Nov 17 –19	RSCDS San Francisco Asimolar Weekend	Dancer places have SOLD OUT, but will take applications for the Wait List & registrations from non-dancers.	https://sfasilomardance.wixsite.com/asilomarweekend
Nov 25	Delta Borderers Tea Dance	3:00 pm –8:00 pm Tsawwassen	https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/delta-borderers-fall-tea-dance/
Dec 10	Gleneagles Ball	Fairmont Hotel Vancouver 1:30 pm - 8:00 pm	https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/gleneagles-ball/

Classes

Class	Description
EXPERIENCED SOCIAL Mondays 7:30 - 9:30 pm Teacher: Bob Anderson	Experienced social for dancers with a good knowledge of all common formations who wish to dance more challenging dances and formations.
BASIC CLASS Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm 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
DAYTIME SOCIAL CLASS Tuesdays 1:00-3:00 pm Teacher Pat Blair	A class for those who prefer a daytime class, learning formations, phrasing, covering, handing and dances from upcoming socials.
EXPERIENCED SCOTTISH DANCING Wednesdays 7:30-9:30 pm Teachers: Gael Forster, Joan Axford and guests.	This class will be enjoyed by experienced Scottish country dancers who want to dance in a faster-paced class that focuses on steps and formations worked into interesting and varied Scottish country and step dances. New dancers with Highland and Irish dance experience are also welcome.
INTERMEDIATE CLASS Thursdays 7:30 -9:30 pm Teachers: Gordon Robinson and Sarah Kell	For dancers who have learned the basic steps and formations and are ready to enjoy a new challenge, the Intermediate class will continue to build a range of formations for use in social dancing. Learn phrasing and technique to help you dance old favourites and newer dances with confidence!

Class schedule

Class	2017	2018
Experienced Social - Mondays	Sept 11 to Dec 4 Except Thanksgiving Oct 9	Jan 8 to April 9
Basic class - Tuesdays	Sept 12 to Nov 28	Jan 9 to April 10
Daytime Social class - Tuesdays	Sept 12 to Nov 28	Jan 9 to April 10
Experienced Scottish Dancing - Wednesdays *	Sept 6 to Dec 13 Except Sept 27, Oct 25, Nov 22	Jan 3 to Apr 18 Except Feb 14 and Mar 28
Intermediate class -Thursdays	Sept 14 to Nov 30	Jan 4 to Apr 5

* In the fall the Wednesday night classes will be held at the St Peter and Paul's Anglican Church, 1379 Esquimalt Road V9A 3R4.

Starting on January 3rd, the Wednesday night classes will be held at the Lutheran Church of the Cross of Victoria, 3787 Cedar Hill Road V8P 3Z4

All other classes are held at the City Light Church, 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria V9A 1K5.

Formations of the Month

In response to a request for more focus on formations, the teachers' committee is offering Formations of the Month this season. Two formations will be featured each month – one basic / intermediate formation, and one intermediate / advanced formation. The teachers will focus on these formations in weekly classes, and include the formations and their variations on the monthly social programs. There are enough formations in the RSCDS Manual to keep us busy for years!

Formations for October:

- Rights and Lefts:
<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/rights-and-lefts.html>
- Rights and Lefts for Three Couples:
<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/rights-and-lefts-for-3-couples.html>

Formations for November:

- Poussette (in quick time)
<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/poussette.html>
- Strathspey Poussette
<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/strathspey-poussette.html>

Demonstration Team

The team finished the regular season with an award at the Performing Arts Festival and an invitation to the Gala Performance. Dancers have been very busy over the summer promoting Scottish country dancing and sharing our love of the dance and music. We participated in the Gorge Canada Day Celebrations with some street dancing and crowd participation. Thank you to Jamie Orr who came and called the crowd with his pipes and to Martha who handed out about 60 brochures to those interested in dancing.

We followed that up with a performance at Centennial Square with Mary Ross playing for the dancing in support of the Accordion Festival.

We shared a couple of our routines at the August 19th Ceilidh and will perform at Greek Fest on September 2, 2017 at Saanich Commonwealth Place. Lots of fun and a good crowd who love music and dance.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Joan Axford at jaax@shaw.ca or 250-474-1018.

Joan Axford

The Brentwood Scottish Country Dance group have a Ceilidh Dance on Sept. 29th and a Fun Friday on Sept. 8th at 1229 Clarke Road in the Centre next to the library in Brentwood. Clarke Road is one block north of the light at Wallace and West Saanich Road.

- There is a Free Fun Friday on Sept. 8 (7-8:30 pm). All dances called and easy. No refreshments. Bring a water bottle and have fun! All ages welcome.
- Ceilidh Dance, Friday, Sept. 29 (7-9:30 pm) Refreshments. Easy dances called. All ages welcome. Fund-raiser for the Centre. \$5 per person or \$10 per family.

We will continue having Fun Fridays the second Friday of each month throughout the dance season. Cost \$3 drop in fee per person or \$6 per family after the first free night. All money collected goes to the Centre to assist with operating costs. We would enjoy having you.

TAC (Teachers' Association of Canada)

SUMMER SCHOOL 2017

A week of Scottish Country Dancing, fantastic live Scottish country dance music, and wonderful teachers, all in the setting of the beautiful University of British Columbia – what more could you ask?

This is the opportunity that 10 dancers from Van Isle took from July 23-30 by attending TAC summer school in Vancouver.

Over 200 people attended the week with dancers coming from all over Canada and many countries including Australia, Scotland, Germany, South Africa, Japan and a large contingent from the US.

Prior to summer school the teacher's weekend and AGM was held also at UBC and was attended by 4 teachers from the Van Isle Club, Gordon Robinson, Joan Axford, Gael Forster and Louise McGillivray. Sarah Kell joined the Van Isle group for summer school and had the honour of giving the official greeting to dancers on Tuesday and Saturday nights in the language of the Coast Salish.

The summer school week began with a welcome dance on the Sunday evening at the new Alumni building at UBC referred to as "the Nest". The "Nest" has a huge auditorium with a "sprung" floor which facilitated a fantastic week of dancing.

Classes were held each morning at a variety of dancing levels. Teachers included Andrew Smith and Tracey Applebee from the US, Gary Coull from Scotland and Jean Noble from Toronto. Dancers were treated to the accompaniment of live music by Lisa Scott, Ian Muir, Don Wood, Deby Benton Grosjean, Judi Nicolson and Victoria's own Mary Ross. Each afternoon had a variety of events which included unique dancing classes and learning and practice of the dances for the evening's social dance.



L to R: Anita Mathur, Pat Warman, Fiona Warman, Mary Ross, Gordon Robinson, June Robinson, Louise McGillivray, Michelle Fisher.

Celebration of Canada 150 was the feature of the Tuesday theme night. A sea of dancers dressed in red and white and maple leaf patterns contributed to a great evening of fun and participation.

Another highlight of the week was the ceilidh held on Thursday night. A vast array of talent in the form of poetry

reciting, storytelling, skits, musical performances and of course Scottish country dancing acts made for a great evening of entertainment and fun. The week culminated with the banquet and ball on Saturday evening and the musicians playing for the ball made it an outstanding evening.

Van Isle dancers feel lucky to have had TAC Summer School so close to home this year and hope that the event comes back to Vancouver again soon.

June Robinson

Van Isle Member

Next issue

The next issue of the Island Fling will be in November. Please send submissions, suggestions or items for sale, to jduffus@shaw.ca by Oct 22,17