

Island Fling



November 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
Web site: viscds.ca

Executive Committee

President	Dora Dempster	250-598-0207	doradempster@shaw.ca
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President's Report November 2017

We started off the season on September 5th with a very well attended Open House, forty-seven in all which included twenty newcomers! On September 6th the Wednesday class welcomed eighteen dancers at their new location in the upper hall of the St Peter and Paul's Anglican Church in Esquimalt. Joan Axford and Gael Forster, supported, and cheered on by Sarah, have also attracted new members with an interest in the new format of the Wednesday night class which offers both Scottish country dancing and step dancing lessons.

Over all it's been a very busy Fall and I've been delighted to see how well attended most of our classes have been. We've also met lots of new people at the free Basic classes and at the latest count we have twenty new members !

Our social season is having a late start this year and will kick off with a Halloween Social on October 28th. It's been fun practicing the new dances Gordon and Sarah have introduced often danced to very spooky music. This weekend (October 21) many of our dancers have headed off to Salt Spring Island for the "Simply Scottish Day of Scottish Dance" and are no doubt having a great time at this popular event. Our Workshop/Ball committee are al-

ready hard at work planning our special Spring event which this year will take place on April 7 2018.

The Basic class dancers are coming along well and under Sheila McCall's leadership helped host a mini social on Tuesday October 17th. We enjoyed having members from other classes joining in as the beginners had a chance to have an evening of social dancing with a program of dances reviewed in classes.

Our Executive team is missing Social Convener Theresa Harbidge who is currently helping care for family in Calgary but is expecting to return to dancing in January. In the meantime former Social Convener Sheila Eaglestone is standing in ensuring classes get the guidance they need for running their socials. I would ask that you all be willing to step in to help out when asked to take on a task needing attention.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Socials.

Dora Dempster

President

Dental Mission Fundraiser Ceilidh and and Dance

Nov 4, 17 Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2964 Tillicum Rd.

Afternoon Ceilidh

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Suggested donation of \$10 adult, \$5 youth, \$15 family

Music by Mary Ross. MC Bob Anderson

Evening Dance

7:30 pm

Music by Mary Ross

\$15/person + donation jar for those who want to give more

Programme

Pelorus Jack	(J8x32) 3C (4C set)	Int.
Wisp of Thistle	(S8x32) 3C (4C set)	Beg.
The Button Boy	(H8x32) 3C (4C set)	Int.
The Bees of Maggieknockater	J4x32) 4Cset	Int.
The Garry Strathspey	(S4x32) 4C set	Int.
The Australian Ladies	(R8x32) 3C (4C set)	Int.
The Wild Geese	(J8x32) 3C (4C set)	Beg.
The Dundee Whaler	(S4x32) 4C set	Int.
The Montgomeries' Rant	(R8x32) 3C (4C set)	Int.
Break		
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	(J8x32) 3C (4C set)	Beg.
The Quern	(S3x32) 3C set	Int.
Shiftin' Bobbins	(R8x32) 3C (4C set)	Beg.
Macleod's Fancy	(J4x32) 4C set	Adv.
The Minister on the Loch	(S3x32) 3C set	Int.
Mairi's Wedding	(R8x40) 3C (4C set)	Int.

Hello dancers,

I am hosting an evening dance on Sat. Nov. 4th with Mary Ross playing, as well as an afternoon "ceilidh" for families and non-dancers. The reason I am holding these events is very special to me. After dreaming of going on a dental mission since I went to Camosun College to take my dental assisting some 28 years ago, it is finally coming to fruition.

My dental office is going on a dental mission to Fiji with the Lolomar Foundation (www.lolomarfoundtion.org) in Jan. 2018. There are six of us going, and as a group we are trying to raise funds to offset the cost of the trip. Of course, my idea involved dancing!

I am very happy to accept help with food donations and/or prep, and with set up. I can be reached at 250-598-3490 or kathrynknowles@shaw.ca if you have any questions or would like to contribute outside of these events.

Thank you,

Kathryn



St. Andrew's Social
Saturday, November 18, 2017 7:30pm,
St. Matthias Anglican Church
600 Richmond 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
*Briefing only, no walkthrough				
Extras				
EH3 7AF	8x32J	B		RSCDS Bk 40
The Gentleman	8x32S	I	C	RSCDS Bk 35

Christmas Social

December 9, 2017

7:30 p.m.

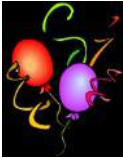
City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue

\$15.00

Music by Mary Ross



Dance name	Bars type	Level	Core	Source
Fair Enough	8x32J	B		Book 51
Highland Rambler	8x40R	B		Leeds Silver Jubilee
Butterscotch and Honey	4x32S	B	C	Jean Attwood Alexander Leaflet 24
Waratah Weaver	4x32J	B		2nd Graded Book
Montgomeries' Rant	8x32R	I	C	Book 10
Midsummer Common	8x32S	I		Book 49
Bees of Maggieknockater	4x32J	A	C	Canadian Book
Shiftin' Bobbins	8x32R	B	C	Ormskirk 6
Glasgow Highlanders	8x32S	I		Book 2
Maxwell's Rant	8x32R	B	C	Book 18
Break				
Roaring Jelly	8x32J	I	C	Glendarroch SD sheets
Seann Truibhas Willichan	6x32S	B	C	Book 27
Napiers Index	8x40J	I	C	Book 45
Bratach Bana	8x32R	A	C	Bon Accord Book
Robertson Rant	4x80S Sq set	I	C	Book 39
West's Hornpipe	4x32R	B	C	5 Trad RSCDS 1965
Extras				
Cherrybank Gardens	3x32S	I	C	Bankhead book 1
Spiffin	5x32J Sq set	I		Chicago 25th Anniv Collection



New Year's Eve Potluck Dinner and Social

Dec 31, 17
550 Obed Ave

Doors will open at 6:00 pm, a potluck dinner will be served at 6:30 and dancing will start at 8:00. Dessert, tea and coffee will be served at 10:00 and we will have Auld Lang Syne at 11:00. Those of us with enough stamina will continue with the program afterwards. Admission is \$12.00 plus potluck donation for dinner and dance; and \$10.00 for dance or dinner only. So get out those recipes and join us for a really enjoyable way of seeing the old year out and the new year in. Everyone is reminded to bring their own dishes and cutlery – plus, if needed, a serving spoon.

Dance programme

Dance name	Bars/Type	Level	Core	Source
Gay Gordons				
And for the Young Ones (Circle)	4x32J	B		Book 51
The Sailor	8x32R	I	C	Book 24
The Enchanted Garden	8x32S	B		Boyd
MacLeod's Fancy	4x32J	A	C	Book 33
Maxwell's Rant	8x32R	I	C	Book 18
12 Coates Crescent	4x32S	B	C	Book 40
New Year Jig	8x32J	I		Book 51
Irish Rover	8x32R	A	C	Cosh 22+2
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	4x32S	I	C	Leaflet Book
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32J	B		Book 22

10pm: Dessert, Coffee, Tea

Summer on the Beach	4x32R	B		Book 51
The Hunting Horn	8x32J	I		Archives
Wisp of Thistle	8x32S	B		Book 37
Mairi's Wedding	8x40R	I	C	Cosh 22+2

11pm: Auld Lang Syne

Waltz of the Bells				
Good Hearted Glasgow	8x32J	B	C	Knapman
Currie Mountain	8x32R	I		New Brunswick Coll.
Minister on the Loch	3x32S	I		24 Graded
The Deil Amang the Tailors	8x32R	B	C	Book 14



Burns Social January 20 2018
550 Obed Ave 7:30 pm
\$15

Dance name	Bars type	Level	Core	Source
Good Hearted Glasgow	8 x 32 J	B	C	P Knapman
The Bees They Are a'Drummin	8 x 32 R	B		The Sunday Class Bk 2
The Silver Tassie	8 x 32 S	I		RSCDS Leaflet
The Bees of Maggie Knockater	4 x 32 J	A	C	Canadian Bk
Currie Mountain	8 x 32 R	I		New Brunswick Coll
The Belle of Bon Accord	4 x 32 S	B	C	Deeside Bk
Follow Me Home	8 x 32 J	I	C	RSCDS Bk 38
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5 x 32 R	I	C	14 Social Dances 2000
Return to Saint Martins	4 x 40 S	A		St Martin Bk 2
Seton's Ceilidh Band	4 x 64 J	I	C	Morrison Bush Coll
Butterscotch and Honey	4 x 32 S	B	C	J Attwood
Falls of Rogie	8 x 2 R	I		Alexander Bk
Break				
The Barmkin	1 x 88 R	B	C	24 Graded & Social
Midsummer Common	8 x 32 S	I	C	RSCDS Book 49
Fair Enough	4 x 32 J	B		RSCDS Bk 51
Polharrow Burn	5 x 32 R	A	C	Glendarroch
Extras				
The Moray Rant	3 x 48 S	I	C	Silver City
Early in the Morning	5 x 32 R	I	C	Island Bay Coll

Coming Events Local

- **Nov 4, 17 Dental Mission Fundraiser Ceilidh and Dance.**
Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2964 Tillicum Rd.
- **Nov 18, 17 St. Andrews Social**
St. Matthias Anglican Church, 600 Richmond Ave.
- **Dec 9, 17 Christmas Social**
- **Dec 31, 17 New Year's Eve Potluck Dinner and Social.**
- **Jan 20, 18 Robbie Burns Social**
- **Feb 17, 18 Valentine's Tea Dance**
- **Apr 7, 18 Annual VISCDS Workshop and Ball**
- **Apr 21, 18 Spring Fling Social**

Coming Events—Out of Town

- **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**
<https://sfasilomardance.wixsite.com/asilomarweekend>
- **Nov 25 Oceanside SCD St. Andrew's Tea Dance** 1:00 to 4:00 pm
<https://oceansidescottishcountrydancers.com/events-2/>
- **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/>

The Etiquette of Scottish Country Dancing

Etiquette, like fashion, varies with each generation and with circumstances. But while the forms vary, the underlying principles of consideration for the comfort, privacy, convenience and happiness of others remain constant.

In Scottish Country Dancing, the following rules of etiquette are observed everywhere:

- Do not form your set until the dance has been announced.
- Do not dance with the same partner all evening, even if you are married to that partner!
- Take your place at the end of the line as it is formed.
- The first couple (or first man) in each line counts off the sets and indicates to the MC if more couples are needed.
- Do not insist that someone join in to complete a

set if he or she is not familiar or comfortable with the dance.

- Each dance begins and ends by acknowledging your partner with a bow or curtsy. Ladies dancing on the men's side should still curtsy.
- Scottish Country Dancing is a team effort! Having taken a place in a set, never desert it until the dance is finished.
- After the dance, thank your partner and the other members of your set, and escort your partner off the dance floor.

Compiled by the VISCDS Teachers' Committee based on an article by Marguerite Bell of the Nanaimo Scottish Country Dancers.

Classes

EXPERIENCED SOCIAL Mondays 7:30 - 9:30 pm. **Sept 11 to Dec 4 and Jan 8 to April 9** 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 **Sept 12 to Dec 5 (except Oct 31) and Jan 9 to April 10** 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 CLASS Tuesdays 1:00-3:00 pm **Sept 12 to Nov 28 and Jan 9 to April 10** Teacher Pat Blair. A class for those who prefer a daytime class, learning formations, phrasing, covering, handing and dances from upcoming socials.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY AND STEP DANCING ** Wednesdays 7:30-9:30 pm. **Sept 6 to Dec 13 (except Nov 22) and Jan 3 to Apr 18 (except Feb 14 and Mar 28)** 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. **Sept 14 to Nov 30 and Jan 4 to Apr 5** 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!

** 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

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>

December

There is no Basic Formation for December, as most classes end in the last week of November. For experienced dancers, Glasgow Highlanders will be featured on the Christmas Dance programme.

Glasgow Highlanders Dance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVXxCSLfNfk>

Glasgow Highlanders Setting Step <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zfb8cvBV1Gw&feature=youtu.be&t=171>

Also check out the animations of Glasgow Highlanders <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSQBJrYtEYU> and Glasgow Highlanders Progression on : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnSIIBarFyM> Danciemation

January:

- Allemande for Two Couples: <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/allemande-for-2-couples.html>
- Tourbillon: <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/tourbillon.html>

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/>

T.A.C. and the D.A.A.

Bonnie and I had signed up for the T.A.C. Summer School, so had TAC letters figured out, but D.A.A. was something different I cornered our esteemed, wise teacher, Gordon Robinson and asked him what it was all about. Well, he explained with a sly grin It’s “Dancing Achievement Award”, there is an Intermediate level course which you may enjoy. I thought “not much going on in the afternoons of the T.A.C. program” and “enjoy” being the key word, why not?

After we are all signed up we get a nice note from our DAA tutor, Sharon Barker. The DAA, she explained is under the rules of RSCDS that requires an instruction period each day and finishes with two assessors, both of whom will be appointed by the RSCDS Convenor of Education and Training Committee. Wow, sounds heavy duty, I thought.

She explained what to expect:

1..You will have classes for 3 hours in the afternoons. (That means 3 hours dancing for TAC Classes in the morning, now 3 hours for DAA in the afternoon and 2+ hours for TAC evening socials: equals 8 hours per day. That’s more than I dance in a week, make that in two weeks). 2.. Personal criticism of dancing will be given. (nothing new, used to that). 3.. Learn the prescribed dances and be able to dance them fluently. (6 dances to learn - 2 reels, 2 jigs, and 2 strathspeys). 4. Become familiar with the list of 26 formations. The assessors will request the dancers to dance an 8 bar phrase comprising one or more of the above listed formations in either Jig or Reel time as well as

Dancing Ability Assessment courses can also be held locally! If you would be interested in taking this course and assessment in Victoria, please let your teacher know, or contact the Teachers’ Rep, Sarah Kell.

in Strathspey time.

Actually the classes were enjoyable. Our class consisted of 10 dancers, a nice 5 couple set. The dancers were from Vancouver, Ontario, the USA , 1 from Sweden and 3 of us from Victoria (Michelle Fisher, Bonnie and I). We also had our own musician , Julie Smith.

The assessment: Steely eyed Mary Murray and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters from Vancouver were the assessors. We weren’t going to get anything past them. Dancers are asked to dance, as first couple, one Jig,

one Reel and one Strathspey and are given the dance name after they enter the room. Most important for the first couple was the proper execution of the steps: slip steps, skip change of step, Pas de basque, strathspey travelling and setting steps. If the dances selected didn’t have a formation they wanted to see the assessors would ask you to perform them separately : example, the Rondel or Allemande for two couples. All other dancers are required to act as supporting dancers for the dancers being assessed as the set is also being assessed as a whole. The supporting dancers are assessed on their knowledge of the dance, correct phrasing, correct hand and arm positions , covering and good footwork throughout.

All in all it was an enjoyable class, lots of work for sure, new friends made and also new skills gained and old skills polished up nicely. (Mind, some bad habits are hard to change....)

Bob Barbulak

Class reps

Monday Social	Robin Gubby Jan Beckett	ergubby@yahoo.ca	250 595-6813
Tuesday Afternoon	Heather Shave	hashave@shaw.ca	250 389-0987
Tuesday Basic	Dean Helm	rdhelm@me.com	250 595-5107
Wednesday Evening	Sarah Kell	smkell@shaw.ca	250 598-2612
Thursday Intermediate Social	June Robinson Tony Lambert	june.robinson@shaw.ca alambert@pacificoast.net	250 477-8317

Core Dances

VISCDS has a set of Core Dances that we dance regularly. Core Dances are marked with a C on the monthly social programs. You can find directions for the dances in the Core Book, which you can download from the link at the top of our Events Page: <http://viscds.ca/events-2/>.

Ask your teacher for the Core Book password!

Remember if you have paid full membership fees you are always welcome to dance in other classes at your level or below. Drop in members should have their card punched.

Club information

Our web site <http://viscds.ca> may have more recent information about club activities.

If you have a question call 250-598-0207 or email viscds@shaw.ca

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

Grant Jones

Grant joined VISCDS when he met our then past president Annie and fell in love. They married soon after and were hardworking members of the Society. Grant worked diligently at his dancing so that he could join Annie on the demonstration team where he partned Alice Anderson. Grant was also Secretary on the executive. Our favourite dance was MacLeod's Fancy and we always danced together when on the program. Grant passed away recently. He was a kind and generous person whose sense of humor was appreciated by his fellow dancers.

Joan

Next issue

The next issue of the Island Fling will be in January. Please send submissions, suggestions or items for sale, by mid-December to jduffus@shaw.ca