

Island Fling



March 2018

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

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Social Convener	Theresa Harbidge	250-658-3834	bharbidge@shaw.ca
Teacher Representative	Sarah Kell	250-598-2612	smkell@shaw.ca

President's Report March 2018

Membership now stands at 137 dancers including thirty-six new members this year. We've welcomed sixteen new members since January and we have had up to five sets in the Tuesday night Basic class. Thank you very much to all the experienced dancers who come out to support the newer dancers. We had a very successful Tuesday night mini social on February 20th ending up with the ever popular dance The Barmkin.

On **Saturday March 17th** we will be hosting a **ceilidh dance** at the City Light church. This will be a great opportunity to introduce your friends to Scottish country dancing. Sheila McCall and Joan Axford will be leading the dancing and Mary Ross will provide the music. We'll have a performance by the demonstration team and I have also asked Mary to perform a Ceilidh act.

The Monday night class did a great job getting everything organized for the Burns social on Saturday January 20th and we enjoyed the great program put together by Bob Anderson who unfortunately had to miss the dance this year. Thank you very much to the teachers who filled in at the last minute to call the dances.

Thanks to teacher Pat Blair and the Wednesday afternoon class for putting on a lovely Valentine's Tea dance. Lori

Morrison lead a team of volunteers who set the up and decorated the tables, put out the china and poured the tea.

Workshop and Ball

Coming up on Saturday April 7th we have our much anticipated 2018 Workshop and Ball. Workshops are being offered at the Basic, Intermediate and Experienced levels and we are lucky to have pianist Julie Smith and our own Mary Ross on accordion providing the music for the classes. We welcome workshop teachers Fred DeMarse from San Francisco, Katherine Shearman from Vancouver and Hazel Macdonald from Nanaimo and the ever popular Tartan Players return again to provide the music for the Ball so we have much to look forward to.

The **Spring Fling Social** rounds out the season on **April 21st** and will be hosted by the Basic class. Be sure to mark it on your calendar!

Spring and Summer Dancing

We are once again planning to offer basic level classes in the Spring and will be promoting them through our publicity channels.

Continued on p2

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If you have friends who want to try Scottish country dancing please invite them to join us.

We offer six classes for \$36 (no membership fee required).

The classes will run on **Tuesday nights** from the **17th of April until May 22nd**. We will wind up with a **Ceilidh dance on Saturday May 26th** which we will also be promoting at the Highland Games.

On **Thursday nights** from **April 26th to May 24th** we will be running mini socials from 7:30 to 9:30 pm (\$5 drop in). All classes and socials will take place at the City Light Church.

Bob will be hosting his **summer socials** on **Thursday nights** this year because the hall at Obed is no longer available to us on the weekends over the summer. These socials will run from **May 31st to August 2nd 7:30 to 10:30 pm**. Bob will also be offering **practice classes** for the summer socials to be held on **Tuesday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 pm** starting on Tuesday May 29th. Bob will be handing out a summer dance programs in classes so you will know ahead of time what dances are coming up

Dora Dempster

President

Workshop and Ball April 7, 2018

REGISTRATION CLOSES APRIL 1

Come one, Come all: dancers, inexperienced and experienced are invited to the Van Isle Annual Workshop and Ball to be held on April 7 in the James Bay area.

There will be three workshops: Basic, Intermediate and Experienced. The Basic class will be taught by Hazel MacDonald of Nanaimo and the Intermediate and Experienced classes will be taught by Fred Demarse of San Francisco and Katherine Shearman of Vancouver.

Our own Mary Ross will play for classes as will Julie Smith of Vancouver. In the evening the Tartan Players also of Vancouver will play for the Ball.

The one-day event will begin with registration at 8:30; classes start at 9:00 and conclude at 12:30. The afternoon is at your leisure and doors open at 6:45 p.m. for the Ball in the Ambrosia Event Centre, 638 Fisgard Street. A delicious lunch will be served later in the evening. For more information and to register go to: <http://viscds.ca/workshop-and-spring-social> and follow the links to the workshop and ball. There are also paper copies of the registration form available at weekly classes or also on-line.

This is a great annual event and I encourage you to register as soon as possible. Sorry but this year there will be no last minute registrations and forms and on-line registrations are to be completed and in by April 1. Hope to see you there!!

June Robinson

On behalf of the Workshop and Ball Committee



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

Coming Events

Club main events

- **Mar 17 Ceilidh dance** 7:30 pm at 550 Obed Ave. Music by Mary Ross. \$8.00 at the door.
- **Apr 7 Annual VISCDs Workshop and Ball**
- **Apr 21 Spring Fling Social.** Dance programme in this issue
- **May 26 Ceilidh Dance** Music by Mary Ross and Janette Polson

Spring and Summer Social Dancing

Mini Socials Each Thursday Apr 26 to May 31 7:30 to 9:30 pm \$5.00 drop-in at Obed Ave

Bob Anderson's Summer Dancing - 29th Year

Each Thursday May 31st to August 2nd 550 Obed Ave 7:30 to 10:30 pm.

Everyone is welcome. Dance programmes are published in advance and all dances are briefed.

**** There will be practice classes on the Tuesday preceding each social 7:30—9:30 pm. ****

(Note: The socials will be held on Thursdays this year as the hall is not available on Saturdays)

Out of Town Scottish Country Dance Events

- **Apr 28 Nanaimo Scottish Country Dancers Spring Tea Dance.** 1:30 - 5:00 pm Wellington Hall, 3922 Corunna Ave, Nanaimo. \$15 at the door. Dance programme <https://nanaimoscd.com/cms/events>
- **Apr 28 Vernon BC 22nd Annual Workshop & Ceilidh.** Instructor Bob Anderson, music by Mary Ross. The club has registration forms for this event—ask your class rep.
- **Mar 17 and 18 RSCDS Vancouver Heather Ball Weekend**
 - SATURDAY: Heather Ball at the Scottish Cultural Centre. Reception 5:45 pm, supper 6:15 pm. Music by Muriel Johnstone, Ian Roberson and Judi Nicholson
 - SUNDAY: Muriel Johnstone in Concert at Holy Trinity Anglican Church 3:00 pm, 1440 West 12th Ave.More information: rscdsvancouver.org/dance/heather-ball/
- **July 15—Aug 12 RSCDS Summer School** St. Andrews, Scotland <https://www.rscds.org/article/summer-school-2018>
- **July 29—Aug 5 TAC Summer School** at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minnesota, USA. www.tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school for more information
- **Sept 28 - 30 Moose Jaw (Sask Branch) Workshop.** More information Mike Blanchard micblanchard@sasktel.net
- **Dec 9 Gleneagles Ball.** General information and dance cribs will be available in Sept.

Other Events

- **Mar 10, 18 Vancouver Fiddle Society** presents **Alisdair Fraser and Natalie Haas** More information at <http://www.victoriafiddlesociety.com/>
- **May 19-21 155th Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival.** More information <http://victoriahighlandgames.com/games/> Our Demonstration Team will be performing. We will have an information tent and we will be looking for volunteers to help 'man' the table. Further information and an opportunity to sign up will be given in classes .



Spring Fling Apr 21, 2018



Dance	Bars	Core	Level	Source
It Should Be Fun	4x32J		B	Gr & Soc 3
Corn Rigs	6X32R		B	Book 4
Save the Children	8x32S		B	Book 51
Quarries' Jig	8x32J	C	A	Book 36
The Spring Fling Reel	8x40R		I	Book 50
12 Coates Crescent	4x32S	C	B	Book 40
EH3 7AF	8x32J		B	Book 40
Flight to Melbourne	4x32RSq		I	Book 47
The Enchanted Garden	8x32S		B	Iain Boyd
Come What May	8x32J		B	Book 51
The Silver Tassie	8x32S		I	RSCDS Lfit Book
The Barmkin	1x88RSq	C	B	2nd Graded Book
Break				
The Waratah Weaver	4x32J		B	2nd Graded Book
The White Cockade	8x32R	C	B	Book 5
Midsummer Common	8x32S	C	I	Book 49
Pelorus Jack	8x32J	C	I	Book 41
Summer on the Clyde	4x32S	C	B	Archives
The Deil Amang the Tailors	8x32R	C	B	Book 14
Hosted by the Basic class				

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://viscnds.ca/events-2/>.

Fragrance Free

Just a reminder that all our classes and events are fragrance-free. Some of our members have severe allergies to strong scents. Please leave the perfumes, after-shave lotions and other smelly stuff at home. Thank you!

Regular Classes

EXPERIENCED SOCIAL Mondays 7:30 - 9:30 pm. **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 **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 **Jan 9 to April 10** Teacher Pat Blair. A class for those who prefer a day-time class, learning formations, phrasing, covering, handing and dances from upcoming socials.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY AND STEP DANCING ** Wednesdays 7:30-9:30 pm **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. **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!

** The Wednesday night classes are 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.

Spring Classes

Tuesdays Apr 17 to May 22 - Basic level classes suitable for those who may be interested in trying Scottish Country Dancing. Club membership is not required Cost \$36.00 for the series of six classes.

Report on the Burns Social

The Robert Burns Social took place on 20th January, 2018. Attendance was down slightly this year, possibly due to the extreme weather warning issued by Environment Canada for the South Island region that evening, nevertheless, the 44 intrepid dancers who came had a wonderful evening. Hall set-up was done by Lori, Jane and Sheila, with plaques depicting various events in Robert Burns' life. Music was provided by Mary Ross-Klektau and her Invisible Band - thank you Mary! Bob Anderson's dance program had something to suit all tastes and experience levels, including one or two of Bob's own creations. Briefers Sheila McCall, Gael Forster and Sarah Kell stood in for Bob who unfortunately was temporarily indisposed.

Jamie piped in the Haggis with Jan as official Bearer,

followed by Walter, Robin with the whisky, and David as Ceremonial Guard, filling in at the last minute for Bob Barbulak. Walter's superb rendition of the Address once again brought to life the customs and traditions of rural Scotland in the latter half of the 18th Century.

Thanks to Jan for selling tickets and Jim for running the 50/50 draw, which Sara Kell won (approximately \$35).

Thanks to kitchen/food volunteers Theresa, Jennifer, Sue, Maureen, Pat, Barb, Sheila, David, Thelma, Jane, Lori, Norma and Terry, and thanks to Tony and Glyn for tidying up the hall afterwards. Apologies if I missed anyone; a big thank-you to everyone that helped make this event such a success.

Robin Gubby

Next issue

The next issue of the Island Fling will be in May. Please send submissions, suggestions, or items for sale etc. to

jduffus@shaw.ca by Apr 15, 2018

Teachers' Corner—Formations of the Month

March 2018:

- Figure of Eight across the dance, as in bars 9-16 of *Corn Rigs*: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=REm-aj_zuDO
- Chain Progression for three couples: <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/chaperoned-chain-progression.html>

April 2018:

- Set and cross. As in bars 1-8 of ...
 - * *The White Cockade*: <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/white-cockade.html> (See second video for correct use of hands!)
 - * *Lady Glasgow*: <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/lady-glasgow.html>
- Set and right hands across halfway, set and left hands back. As in bars 1-8 of *The De'il Among the Tailors*: <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/deil-amang-the-tailors.html>
- Rondel: <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/videoclips/rondel.html>

Report on the Valentine Tea Dance

The VISCDs annual Valentine Tea Dance, hosted by the Tuesday afternoon social class and held February 17, 2018, was a most enjoyable event. Old friends met and new acquaintances were made.

Dancers and guests were greeted with tables beautifully set with white cloths and lovely china, decorated with numerous bouquets of flowers courtesy of Sandra and David Wald, Pat Blair and Lori Morrison. Sunshine streaming through the windows added to the effect. As many as six sets took the floor for a delightful variety of dances ably briefed by Pat Blair, Bob Anderson and Dr, David Wald, for which, our thanks.

As the Afternoon Social class is rather small and numbers further decimated by illness and absences, sincere gratitude to the dancers from other classes who assisted in providing food. The tea, as always, was greatly enjoyed by all. Much appreciation also to the hard-working groups who set up the hall so beautifully, handled kitchen duties and cleared up at the end of the afternoon. If many hands make light work, they also make for a seamless and memorable afternoon of music, dance and companionship.

Linda Foley

Class reps

Monday Social	Robin Gubby Jan Beckett	ergubby@yahoo.ca	250 595-6813
Tuesday Afternoon	Pat Warman Lori Morrison	pwarman909@gmail.com bruce.lori.morrison@telus.net	250 474 1616 250 478 7897
Tuesday Basic	Dean Helm	rdhelm@me.com	250 595-5107
Wednesday Evening	Susan Leah Lori Morrison	brisueleah5@shaw.ca bruce.lori.morrison@telus.net	250 478 8427 250 478 7897
Thursday Intermediate Social	June Robinson Tony Lambert	june.robinson@shaw.ca alambert@pacificoast.net	250 477-8317

Teachers' Corner

RSCDS Teacher Certification

Our newer members may have wondered how VISCDs teachers got to *be* teachers! All VISCDs teachers are certified by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Edinburgh. The teacher certification process has changed somewhat over the years. It currently consists of five "units". Unit 1 is a written exam about Scottish Country Dance history, formations and music. Unit 2 is a practical dancing exam, in which the candidates brief and perform twelve pre-set dances. Units 3 and 4 are teaching exams, separated by a practicum, Unit 4, in which each candidate gains practical teaching experience working with a mentor teacher.



Photo courtesy of Karin Wagstaff

Left, our Unit 5 candidates had a little fun with socks. Mary Murray, centre, did a quadruple take when all arrived decked out in colourful knee highs for their last teaching class.

Scottish Country Dance teaching courses and exams can be taken either locally, or at Summer Schools. The RSCDS offers courses annually at Summer School in St. Andrews, Scotland, and the SCD Teachers' Association of Canada (TAC) offers them in the "even" years (2018, 2020, etc.) in different locations in North America.

For us on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, taking a course "locally" usually means travelling to the Scottish Cultural Centre in Vancouver. RSCDS Vancouver Branch offers teacher training courses in the "odd" years (2017, 2019, etc.), and RSCDS Examiners come from Scotland or across North America to conduct the exams.

VISCDs members Katherine Miller (left) and Sarah Kell (right) completed Unit 5 in Vancouver in the spring of 2017, along with Karin Wagstaff (middle left) and Sarah MacQueen (middle right) from Kelowna. Our tutor was Vancouver Branch's famous Mary Murray (centre)

Sarah Kell

Come Dancing!

You know you can travel the world with Scottish dancing.

There are many countries you can go and dance – the US, Portugal and of course Scotland to name a few. But I was wondering if some of our newer members appreciate that there are many worthwhile events that are on or very near Vancouver Island.

In October last year, the Saltspring Island Scottish Dancers hosted a workshop and dinner/dance with live music. In November, the Oceanside Dancers invited dancers to an afternoon tea dance at a venue with a fabulous sprung floor.

In January the Nanaimo club held a dinner dance with a fantastic buffet, door prizes and Mary Ross playing. As new members become comfortable with their Scottish dancing, they should keep an eye out for some of these events. I attended the three dances mentioned above and enjoyed a warm welcome and a good time at all of them. All the dances were briefed and walked.

Pat Warman

Club Business

Annual General Meeting

Thursday April 19 at City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave, 7:30 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend. Please submit any business and/or proposals for the AGM in writing to Secretary, Susannah Andersen, johnsusannah@telus.net, no later than Thur April 5.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee consists of:

- Lori Morrison bruce.lori.morrison@telus.net 250 478 7897
- Heather Hermanson hhermanson@shaw.ca 250-595-5868

Please contact any member of the committee if you are interested in applying for, or want to know more about any of the vacant positions. The following positions are being vacated by the current Executive members:

Secretary

Treasurer

These are essential positions that must be filled to ensure the continuation and success of our Society. Please consider contributing your expertise or skills by taking on one of these executive roles

Societies Act

In 2016, BC passed a new Societies Act. We are required to “transition” (their word, not mine) to this new Act by filing a transition application on or before November 28, 2018. We have reviewed the requirements of the new Act and have applied them to our Constitution and Bylaws, and propose to bring the changes forward for discussion at our 2018 AGM.

Under the new rules, the constitution must consist of nothing but the society’s existing name and purposes, word-for-word as they appear in the society’s constitution on file with the Corporate Registry. Anything else must be moved to the by-laws. Although we can also take advantage of this to update our by-laws at no cost, at this time we are not recommending any changes.

For the interested:

Some details, excerpted from Preparing for B.C.’s New Societies Act: A Guide to the Transition Process appear below. Also, you may go to www.gov.bc.ca/SocietiesAct or Google “BC Societies Act transition” for more information.

Briefly:

Constitution: The society should prepare a version of its constitution that consists of nothing but the society’s existing name and purposes, word-for-word as they appear in the society’s constitution on file with the Corporate Registry. There will be no opportunity to change purposes as part of the Transition Application. Any provisions of the existing constitution other than name and purposes must be relocated to the society’s bylaws.

Bylaws: The society should prepare a complete set of bylaws consisting of the society’s existing bylaws in consolidated form (that is, the society’s original set of bylaws, updated to include any amendments to the original set that have been filed with the Corporate Registry).

If you have any questions or concerns about the above, please contact Jamie Orr, Treasurer, or any member of the executive group.