

Island Fling



MARCH, 2004

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
P.O. Box 30123, Saanich Centre Postal Outlet
Victoria, B.C. V8X 5E1 Canada
Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland

Executive Committee

President	James Scott	370-2359
Past President	Thelma Bell	652-5122
1st Vice President and Publicity	Ann Whittaker	478-4760
2nd Vice President and Membership	Mary Roberts	385-1082
Secretary	June Robinson	477-8317
Newsletter Editor	Christine Rushforth	477-0340
Treasurer	Merle Peterson	477-8331
Social Convenor	Jan Thorsen	380-5154
Teacher Representative	Joan Axford	474-1018

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Again I am sitting here wondering where did the last month go. Have you noticed as we get a little older it's always Friday. Time flies when you are having fun. Talking of fun, we are now approaching (very quickly) that time of year where it seems every day we have a new challenge or event to contend with. In this issue you will see the "V" word used a lot. A society such as ours is solely dependant on volunteers and without them all societies and clubs would collapse. We are lucky in that we have a solid base of volunteers who give their time to help keep us going and costs down. If you have not volunteered for a while please consider the executive column items. Janet, Mike and the Ball Committee are nearing the end of another hectic and successful campaign. We are completely sold out but for a few spaces in the Level 1 workshops. Our membership is at 151 as of this week with 10 new members since January going to different levels. Thelma and Joan have been busy (see their columns). I am hoping to be back dancing in the next couple weeks after a bit of rehab training at Bob's Low Impact Classes.
See you on the floor (soon)

James Scott, President

EXECUTIVE COLUMN

Executive Meeting February 26

Annual General Meeting

This is the first notice for the 2004 AGM to be held at St Martin's in The Fields on Obed Ave. April 22 at 7:30 p.m.

All members are encouraged to attend and enjoy a wee dance afterwards.

Any business and/or proposals for the AGM must be into June Robinson (secretary) in writing no later than April 12.

No new business will taken from the floor.

Jim Scott President VISCDs.

Membership Lists

The discussion on membership lists for general publication has come up again. Since the Privacy Act came into being in January we must be very careful of what information we give out.

Although I have spoken to people on the subject and a number have said no problem a number have said they would not want their information on a list held by any other than the Society Secretary, Fling Editor (for mailing purposes), membership chairman and myself. Therefore, since the list would be incomplete it loses its purpose. The executive unanimously voted to not distribute a membership list to the general membership.

Hillside Mall Display

The Victoria Joint Scottish Council is once again sponsoring a multi societies event at Hillside Mall April 3 and 4. I will ask for volunteers to help man (Lady) our table to hand out brochures and help promote SCD. Men, it's a great way to meet the lassies especially wearing your kilts.

Victoria May Day Parade

The May Day Parade is on Monday May 24 and according to those who participated under the VJSC contingent and carried our banner they enjoyed the experience. The "V" word comes up again. I will have more definite info for the April Fling.

Demonstration Team

The Dem team has had a break from practices this past month, which allowed us to attend

Monica's classes where we were able to do some of the ball dances. We are once again back at practices as we have an engagement at Gordon Head United Church March 6, and Hillside Mall April 4. We have lost two of our members due to illness, Graham Rice and Lorne Duncan. Hopefully, they will be able to join us again in the future.

Thelma Bell

Change of Guard

Our Secretary and Social Convenor have completed their three years in office and we are looking for replacements. Like every other item in this executive column I would rather have willing volunteers than "pressed members". If you have a little time to spare and would like to be in the drivers seat please contact me ASAP. I will be asking a nominating committee of two to contact all members very soon.

Jim Scott President

Victoria Highland Games

The 2004 Victoria Highland Games will be held at Bullen Park Esquimalt on May 23 2004. I intend to showcase VISCDs with a booth and handouts. Joan Axford has stated interest in putting in the Dem Team. A few volunteers will be needed. More later after I have talked to their executive again

Jim

Class Information

Lower Intermediate: last class at Obed March 30.
Advanced Technique: last class at Mackenzie April 13 (school closed during March Spring Break)

Upper Intermediate: no class on Thursday March 25 right before the Ball Weekend.

Next Executive Meeting

March 31, 2004. Any new business to be in to June Robinson by March 26 2004.

Jim Scott

HAVE A FABULOUS TIME AT THE BALL WEEKEND!

VISCDS 28TH ANNUAL WORKSHOP & BALL March 26,27,28, 2004

BALL RAFFLE TICKETS

Reminding you to buy raffle tickets to support our Ball Weekend.

Heather and Ian Danks

BALL DANCE PRACTICE NIGHTS

The remaining two Practices for Ball dances will be held at St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall on Obed Ave., on Wednesday March 10 and 17. There will be a \$2.00 per night charge. If you have any questions please call me at 655-0235 or e-mail gjrice@shaw.ca or contact Mike Hanna at 479-4901, e-mail sainfoin@shaw.ca.

The schedule of dances is as follows:

March 10	The White Heather Jig Double Dose Sarona The Blooms of Bon Accord Mrs. Stewart's Jig Gang the Same Gate Rest and Be Thankful John of Bon Accord	March 17	Machine Without Horses Bees of Maggieknockater The Silver Tassie The Jubilee Jig Double Dose Gang the Same Gate West's Hornpipe The Hazel Tree
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The order of the dances may be changed at the teacher's discretion

Janet Rice, 2004 Workshop and Ball Coordinator

A SWEETHEART OF AN EVENING

Our socials this season have been well attended and well received, by and large, and the Valentine social was no exception. The Basic and the Advanced Techniques classes sponsored the evening. The dance program was prepared and presented by Liz Gray, and it was designed to offer a good selection of dances for beginners, as well as dances to challenge other dancers. Judging by the number of dancers on the floor every time, the program was very popular. It was a pleasure to see the beginners being encouraged to try most of the dances on the program, and being helped through them by more experienced dancers. The sponsoring classes provided a lavish selection of intermission refreshments, most of which disappeared very quickly. Birthday celebrants recognized at the break included Sheila McCall and Janet Rice, with birthdays on the day, Larry Lindahl, two days later, and Ruth Slavin, two days earlier. The last social of the season, Spring Fling, will be on May 1, after the Ball is over. See you all there.

Jan Thorsen, Social Convener

INVITATION TO THE 30 + 30 DANCE

To celebrate their 30th Wedding Anniversaries Jamie and Maureen Orr and Walter and Rosemary Balfour invite you to a dance on Saturday, April 03 at 7:30 p.m., St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed. Mary Ross will be playing the music. Free admission (no cards, no presents); please bring a small plate of goodies to share. We look forward to seeing you there.

Programme for 30 + 30 Dance: Maxwell's Rant, Shiftin' Bobbins, MacDonald of the Isles, White Heather Jig**, Strip the Willow, Garry Strathspey, Bratach Bana**, Mrs. Stewart's Jig, The Moray Rant, Mairi's Wedding - *Break for Refreshments* - The De'il among the Tailors, The Chuckwagon Reel, Miss Gibson's Strathspey, Blooms of Bon Accord, The Montgomerie's Rant, Bonnie Stronshiray*, Farewell to Auchterarder. *Extras*: The Bees of Maggieknockater, The Fusilier's Dream [* Briefing only; ** no briefing or walk-through]. You can pick up "cheatsheets" with instructions for all these dances at classes in March.

DANCING ETIQUETTE

Give Everyone a Chance to Dance

Dancers, if the dances at socials are repeated a second time, please step out and give those who didn't have chance to dance the first one. This is being thoughtful and courteous to your fellow dancers who also want to dance. Thank you

Ann Whittaker

Infectious Season

It has been noted by some members of classes that members are showing up coughing, sneezing and otherwise not well enough to be in a group of people. If you or your partner have a cold, 'flu or some other type of spreading illness, I would ask that you not attend that class as hand contact is a major way of passing germs along. We have in the past month asked people to not attend after they have shown up for class. Please give this a lot of thought as the age group that we are in is extremely susceptible to this type of illness. Many thanks for your consideration.

Jim Scott

Yes, Let's Clap for that Fantastic Music

We are so lucky to be actively involved in the wonderful culture of Scotland, and as dancers we are equally lucky to have an abundance of fine recorded music to draw from, and then, on special occasions, to dance to the live sound of our local talented musicians or that of a number of high-profile visiting bands.

With our clapping, as applause, we show our appreciation. At the end of a dance, following the last chord, our applause is our expression of joy and thanks; thanks to our partner and fellow

dancers, thanks to the dance itself, but most important, thanks to the music that we have heard and that has allowed us to enjoy the dance. Music gives us the elegance of strathspey and it gives us the joy and spirit of reels and jigs. It sets the pace and it also sets the character.

For that reason, I am very saddened by the growing tendency of the standing dancers to clap repeatedly as the first couple dance down the middle and back or some similar pattern. The music gives us everything we want and need. It is a shame to cover it up, and sometimes almost obliterate it, with loud clapping in the hall. Let's listen it, and enjoy, the music that we cherish and allow the dancing couple to have the full benefit of it. Clapping at these times is not part of our dancing, nor is it in keeping with the character or etiquette of the ballroom.

Although clapping is an expression of happiness and enthusiasm, and I do understand that, it is a shame of we allow it, in this form, to become an accepted part of our dancing, when certainly it is not. Also, I believe, it passes on a very wrong example to newcomers, of what the character of our dancing is and should be.

Yes, let's clap for that fantastic music ... and show our joy and appreciation for the music and those who play it for us. Let's show our happy enthusiasm for the music of Scotland when we have enjoyed and completed the dance.

Simon Scott, The White Cockade, newsletter of the Vancouver Branch RSCDS. Reprinted with Simon's kind permission

COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

- Mar 6 '04** ANNUAL CEILIDH sponsored by the Canadian Scottish
- Mar 15 '04** THE UVIC CALEDONIAN CEILIDH 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the MichÈle Pujol Room in the UVic Student Union Building. Cost: \$4 or 1/2 price with snack item. Live Band, SCDing, Entertainment, Food. Wanna provide a ceilidh act? Contact Iona Gallagher at blarney_time@yahoo.ca or Gareth at 995-1248.
- Mar 19 '04** RSCDS ST. PATRICK SOCIAL
- Mar 26/28 '04** VISCDs BALL WEEKEND (see practice details this issue)
- Mar 28 '04** KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN - sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk
- Apr 3 '04** 30 + 30 DANCE 7:30 p.m. at St. Martine in the Fields Church Hall.
- Apr. 3 '04** TARTAN BALL Edelweiss Hall, 108 Niagra St. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dancing at 7:00 p.m. Music by Denis Jackson Trio. Cost: \$35 per person. Info from Jerry and Katie

Dunn 598-6547 or Irene Feir 652-5773. Note: the TARTAN BALL in 2005 will be held on April 2.

- Apr 16 '04** **RSCDS SPRING THEME SOCIAL**
Apr 22 '04 **VISCDS AGM** 7:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields. Dancing after the AGM.
Apr 24 '04 **RSCDS BEGINNERS BALL 7:30 p.m.** Cadboro Bay United Church Hall. Cost: \$15, student rate \$10. Live music by Alex Jappy and light refreshments at 10:00 p.m. Information contact: Andrew Harley 592-8762 aharley@shaw.ca
May 1 '04 **VISCDS SPRING FLING**
May 12 '04 **VICTORIA GAELIC CHOIR ANNUAL CONCERT** 7:30 pm, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Tickets available from choir members or at the door.
July 3 '04 **SCOTTISH FIDDLE ORCHESTRA** trip postponed until July 2005.
Oct 16 '04 **VISCDS HARVEST SOCIAL**
Nov 13 '04 **VISCDS ST. ANDREW'S SOCIAL**
Jan 22 '05 **VISCDS BURNS SOCIAL**

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Mar 13 '04** **MUSIC WORKSHOP AND DANCE** Albany California. Featuring Muriel Johnstone and Alasdair Frase. Info at hmackay@sbcglobal.net
Mar. 5-7 '04 **WINNIPEG WORKSHOP** Teachers: Ruth Taylor and John Middleton. Music: Ron Krug and Ken Natrass. Contact Christine Wallace 204-489-4595.
Mar. 20 '04 **DELTA BORDERS SPRING FLING** Gizeh Temple, 3550 Waybourne, Burnaby. Music: Bobby Brown. Contact: David Blakemore 206-524-6685.
Apr 2-4 '04 **INTERBRANCH WEEKEND WORKSHOP** Camp Cedar Glen, Julian, California. Muriel Johnstone and John Taylor. Details later.
Apr 3 '04 **NANOOSE SOCIAL** St. Stephen's Hall, Village Way, Qualicum Beach at 7:00 p.m. Dancing followed by a light supper. Cost \$5.
Apr 10 '04 **SALMON ARM WORKSHOP** Teacher: Rosemary Coupe. Contact: Margaret Zsadanvi zsadanvi@jetstream.net
Apr 17 '04 **SACRAMENTO WORKSHOP** contact: E.B. Van Otterloo 209-938-0708 sacramento-ball@sbcglobal.net
Apr 24 '04 **VERNON WORKSHOP** Contact: Ruth Hurst 250-545-2626 kenhurst@shaw.ca
Apr 24 '04 **SEATTLE STEP DANCE WORKSHOP** Contact: Elizabeth Miller 206-782-8345 martlet3@comcast.net
May 1 '04 **WORKSHOP FOR BASIC AND INTERMEDIATE DANCERS AND TEA DANCE** sponsored by the Nanaimo Scottish Country Dancers. Dover Bay High School, Nanaimo. Teachers: Ruth Jappy and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Music: Alex Jappy. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contact David Handley 758-7228.
May 1 '04 **SKAGIT BALL** Mount Vernon. Music Muriel Johnstone and Calum Mackinnon.
May 1 '04 **SAN DIEGO SPRING BALL**
May 1 '04 **NSCD WORKSHOP AND TEA DANCE** (not May 3 as previously printed)
May 7-9 '04 **PEARL HOLMBERG WORKSHOP** hosted by the Vancouver Branch.
May 14-16 '04 **YOUTH WEEKEND WEST** The second annual Youth Weekend West will be hosted by the Western Washington University SCD club in Bellingham. Contact Sophia Yeckley email: summer_solstice@hotmail.com
May 16 '04 **DAVID McPHAIL MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT AND DINNER** at Eaglecrest Golf Club, 2035 Island Highway East, Qualicum Beach. A 9 hole Texas Scramble starting at 1:00 p.m. Dinner at approx 5:00 p.m. followed by dancing. Non golfers welcome to dinner and dance. Details Jill Atwood atwood@island.net

- May 23 '04** **HYACK FESTIVAL CEILIDH DANCE** 8:00 p.m. Arenex, Queen's Park New Westminster.
- June 4-6 '04** **MONTREAL WORKSHOP** St. Anne de Bellevue. Contact Peter White 514-488-2509 scdmfl@yahoo.com
- June 19-20** **SAN DIEGO SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES** Brengle Terrace Park Vista.
- June 19 '04** **PUGET SOUND CROSSROADS DANCE** Friday Harbour. Contact Elinor Vandegrift 425-488-7643 or Bill Paterson 360-378-4992.
- July/Aug '04** **RSCDS SUMMER SCHOOL** at St. Andrews, Scotland. Check details on the website www.rscds.org
- July 28-Aug 1** **HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** Dalhousie University. Teachers: Ron Wallace, Elaine Brunken, John Drury, Jane Smarzik, Colleen Putt and Margan Dawson. Music: Keith Smith, Elam Grech, Jim Aulenbach and the Macadains. Contact Lydia Hedge 902-827-2033 lydiahedge@accesswave.ca
- Aug 6-8 '04** **RSCDS SUMMER WORKSHOP AND SOCIAL IN ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR** Dancing on the Edge. Contact: Pat Rivers at patrivers@roadrunner.nf.net or 709-579-4218
- Aug 4-16 '04** **DANCING IN SCOTTISH CASTLES AND WALKING SCOTLAND** Contact Ken McFarland 1-800-822-3435.
- Aug 8-15 '04** **TAC SUMMER SCHOOL** Waterloo, Ontario. Teachers: Marjorie McLaughlin (San Diego), Fiona Miller (Lethbridge). Contact: Marie Ziccarelli 716-826-2614 zmrezz@aol.com
- Sep 4-6 '04** **KELOWNA WORKSHOP** Teachers: Elaine Brunken (Dale City VA) and Ruth Jappy (Delta0. Contact: Davina Crowe 250-762-9930 davinacrowe@shaw.ca

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWS LETTER, April. 1, 2004

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