

Island Fling



MARCH, 2003

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

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| 2nd Vice President and Membership | Maxine Dell | 477-2969 |
| Secretary | June Robinson | 477-8317 |
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| Teacher Representative | Monica Roots | (250) 539-5078 |

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As the end of my term in office is coming closer, I soon will not be writing this column and HOPEFULLY someone else will be.

The Bell Bus went to Courtenay for the Comox Valley club's Valentine dinner and dance. Una Lennam accompanied me and we met the Langridges there. The Rices did not attend as they were house sitting on Galiano Island. It was a lovely evening and we very much enjoyed it.

At Christmas I had cards from the John Ellis band. John has had surgery on his left hand and sounds like the healing will be a slow process. Hopefully John will be back fiddling soon.

My deepest sympathy goes out to King Wardall on the passing of Margaret. All who know her will remember her for her kind and helpful ways.

Some of us are going to be attending the Delta Borderers Spring Fling March 15 in Vancouver with the "Bobby Brown" band. We are as usual looking forward to that, and the Fort Warden weekend sounds good this year so the Bell Bus may just head off down that way again.

See you all at the ball.

Thelma Bell, President.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with Section 14, (I) of the Constitution and By-Laws of the VANCOUVER ISLAND SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY, written notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Martins in the Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

Dancing will follow after the meeting.

AGM ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE VISCDS EXECUTIVE

Elections at the AGM will be for President, First Vice-President (Publicity) and Second Vice-President (Membership). If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the Nominating Committee, Mary Hanna 479-4901 or Ruth Slavin 380-5154.

The time required to execute the duties is not excessive nor the roles demanding, but they must be filled in order for the club to run smoothly. Generally, the duties are:

President shall organize and preside at all meeting of the Society and of the Directors. As the chief executive officer, shall supervise the other officers in the execution of their duties.

1st Vice President shall act for the President when he/she is unable or unwilling to undertake his/her duties, shall publicize the club and its events and shall act as contact person for information about the club and its events.

2nd Vice President shall distribute application forms for membership and register members, and with the Social Convenor, prepare kits for Class Representatives.

If you have specific questions, please contact the outgoing officers whose numbers appear on the front page of this newsletter.

Ruth Slavin and Mary Hanna

PLEASE NOTE:

FINAL NIGHTS FOR CLASSES

Basic: Mon., Mar. 31

Lower Intermediate: Tues., Apr. 1

Upper Intermediate: Thurs., Mar. 27

Advanced Technique: Tues., Apr. 1

Experienced Social: Mon., Mar. 24

Monday Afternoon: Mon., Mar. 24

PLEASE NOTE:

CHANGE OF VENUE AND DATES FOR THROONIE NIGHTS

They are now at McKenzie School, McKenzie Avenue either in the new or the old gym.

On Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. April 8, 15, 22 and 29 and May 6 and 13.

DANCERS SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION

MONDAY AFTERNOON DANCERS

The Monday afternoon Low Impact Class is half way through the second part of the year and our leader Bob Anderson is still hanging in there with us. Our numbers vary each week as sickness and other Monday events such as Bungy Jumping and the Mount Finlayson Scramble take precedence over SCD. We have a very loyal core group both fully able-bodied dancers, and those who would have a little trouble keeping up the pace at a regular class.

Stella Rennie is our class rep. The dances Bob lays on for the class are at a level that all can do, with some more difficult than others. For those of you don't know, the dancers in this class are long time experienced dancers who would have trouble keeping up at a full social level but none the less want to continue dancing.

We would like to invite others from the general dancing population to join us from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday afternoons at St Martins In The Fields for a couple of hours of dancing and definitely a good laugh at ourselves. Great People. Great Fun.

Jim Scott

IS THIS RABBIT'S FOOT LUCKY?

A rabbit's foot kilt pin has been found at St. Martin in the Fields on Obed after a Monday class. If you have lost it, please call Merle Peterson at 477-8331 to reclaim your lucky pin.

A FINE VALENTINE'S DAY SOCIAL

The pipes were playing and the kilts were flinging at St. Martin-in-the-Fields church hall on February 22, as spirited members of VISCDs celebrated Valentine's Day. The hall was packed as the word went out that the evening promised to be a "Liz Gray" spectacular. And so it was.

The Beginners and the Advanced class sponsored the dance, and it was they who were responsible for the beautiful flower decorations and the superb and plentiful food. But let's face it. What makes a successful dance is the dancing, and it was here that Liz worked her special magic. To ensure that everyone could dance and enjoy the evening, Liz had chosen a program that, while paying proper attention to the renowned talents of many of our local dancers, still included enough easy dances that the beginners (who are known for their spirit if not their dancing) could participate. And indeed they did, strenuously and with great verve. Indeed those who knew how to dance were so impressed that they even invited some beginners to try the easy intermediate dances, which they did.

Everyone enjoyed themselves hugely and several of the dances were repeated, at the request of the floor. (I overheard one advanced dancer say "they'll repeat it until they get it right!). But I found the secret to enjoying Scottish dancing: get a partner who knows how to dance and Liz to choose the dances. Thanks to all who participated and made the evening so much fun.

Dawn and Terry (Mac) Jones

FORMATIONS OF THE MONTH Monica Roots **"Corners Pass And Turn" As Devised By John Drewry**

This figure takes 4 bars of music.

At commencement of this movement 1st Cpl are facing their own 1st corners.

Bars

- 1 1st Cpl dance out to the cnr position passing cnrs RS.
 - 2 1st Cpl curve round to the right to face in.
 - 3 1st Cpl dance in passing cnrs RS.
 - 4 1st Cpl dance as instructed in the dance concerned.
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- 1 1st Cnrs dance in passing 1M or 1L RS.
 - 2 1st Cnrs turn one another RH once around.
 - 3 1st Cnrs dance out to original cnr position, again passing 1M or 1L RS.
 - 4 1st cnrs curve round by the R to starting positions.

Note from John Drewry.

It is important that the corners do not dally in the centre of the dance or they will be in the way of 1st Cpl i.e. corners must turn on the 2nd step and be dancing out on the 3rd step.

"Corners Pass and Turn" as in The Chequered Court, a jig for 3 Cpls on the 2003 Ball Program.

Bars

- 9-12 1st cnrs dance as above instructions – Bars 1-4.
- 9-10 1st Cpls dance as above Bars 1-2.
- 11-12 1st Cpls dance in passing cnrs RS, in a straight line up or down the middle of the set to meet and pull RS back to finish back to back. They repeat bars 1-4 with 2nd cnrs dancing straight into centre through 2nd position to finish back to back, facing out to own side for double triangles.

Poussette in Strathspey Time

This formation is danced by two couples. Hands are joined with partner at shoulder height but held slightly wider than in the reel or jig poussette. The dance movements are long and sweeping and the hands are used to lead the steps.

Poussette Right Round

This is a non-progressive poussette which begins from the side lines.

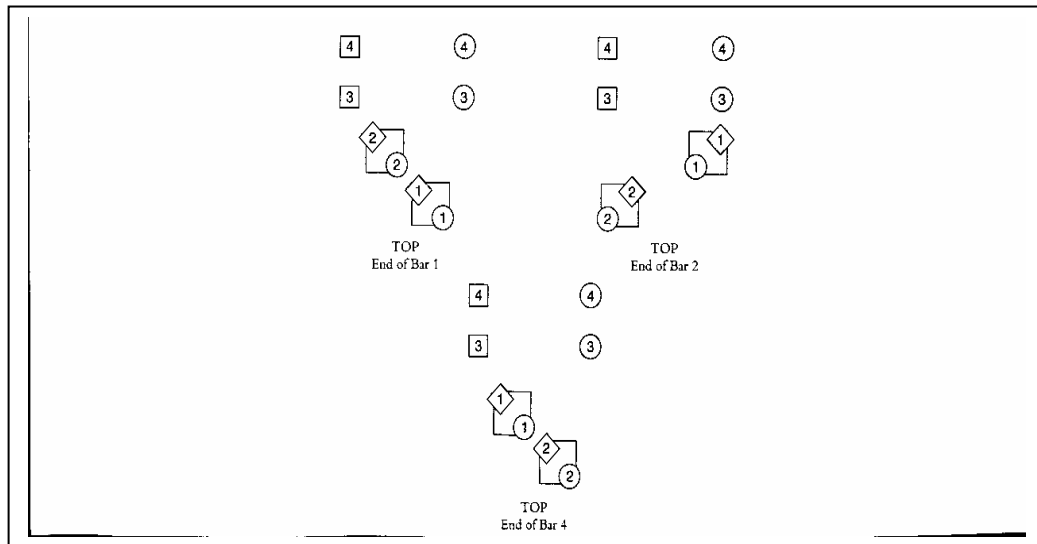
8 setting steps. 8 bars of music.

Note: 1M and 2L begin with LEFT FOOT – This is the outside foot.
1L and 2M begin with RIGHT FOOT – This is the outside foot.

Bars

- 1 1st and 2nd Cpls dance into a diagonal line to join hands with ptrns. 1L and 2M dance into the middle back to back whilst 1M and 2L dance a small step with L foot.
- 2 1st Cpl dance diagonally out to the man's side, and 2nd Cpl to the ladies' side, both Cpls dancing a 1/4 turn by the R, on the hop.
- 3 1st Cpl dance diagonally down and into the middle, while 2nd Cpl dance diagonally up and into the middle, 1M and 2L passing back to back.
- 4 1st and 2nd Cpls pulling with the RH, trn to form a diagonal line with 1st Cpl below 2nd Cpl, 1M and 2L are back to back in the middle.
- 5-6 1st and 2nd Cpls repeat bars 1 and 2, but 1st Cpl dance diagonally up and out to the ladies side, 2nd Cpl down and out to the men's side. On bar 6 1L and 2M pass back to back.
- 7 1st and 2nd Cpls pulling with RH, turn to own side of the dance covering in the middle of the set.
- 8 1st and 2nd Cpls dance 1 step backward into original position.

Diagram



This formation is a method of progression. It begins with 1st and 2nd Cpls in a diagonal line, 1L and 2M back to back in the middle facing partner. 1st Cpl are nearer the man's side and 2nd Cpl nearer the ladies side of the dance.

4 setting steps. 4 bars of music.

Note: 1st Lady and 2nd Man begin with the LEFT FOOT
 1st Man and 2nd Lady begin the RIGHT FOOT
 This is the outside foot.

Bars

- 1 1st Cpl dance diagonally out to the man's side and 2nd Cpl to the ladies side of the dance, both Cpls making a 1/4 turn by the R on the hop.
- 2 1st Cpl dance diagonally down and into the middle while 2nd Cpl dance diagonally up and into the middle. 1M and 2L passing back to back.
- 3 1st and 2nd Cpls, pulling with RH, turn to own side of the set covering in the middle.
- 4 1st and 2nd Cpls dance one step backward to own side line, having changed places.

The Poussette Right Round is danced in bars 1-8 in **The Village Reel**, a dance on the Ball Program. The Half Poussette is dance twice in **Neidpath Castle**, bars 24-32, a dance on the Ceilidh Program.

VISCDS ANNUAL BALL AND WORKSHOP 2003

FEW SPACES LEFT

As of the end of February we have reached our goal numbers which are not necessarily the maximum numbers in all events.

The Level 1 workshop numbers are down and I would encourage beginners or even those in second year to attend this class. There are still some spaces in the other venues. If you need more information please feel free to call me at home. 370-2359 or e-mail

fairfieldscotts@shaw.ca

Jim Scott Registrar VISCDS

WORKSHOP AND BALL WEEKEND

RAFFLE

Prizes for the raffle have been slowly but steadily coming in and cover a variety of terrific items.

Thank you to all those generous members who have already donated gifts. Please give us a call if you need your donation to be picked up.

Ticket sales are off to a slow start and we need the class reps to help in this department by encouraging our members to sell some more tickets. Please remember that, as well as getting the opportunity to win a wonderful prize, these tickets sales go towards helping to off-set the cost of the Workshop and Ball weekend.

Heather and Ian Danks - 477-0346

BALL ETIQUETTE

A reminder.

- Dance etiquette is simply good manners.
- Sets are made up only after the dance is announced.
- Couples join the set at the end of the line.
- The gentleman at the top of the line counts off the required numbers of couples for each set and sees that the last set in the line is complete.
- The dance starts and ends with a Bow for the man and a curtsy by the lady, even when she is dancing on the man's side of the set.
- Excessive clapping and hooting during the dance is not considered appropriate.
- At the end of the dance it is courteous to thank the other dancers in the set for their helpful participation, and then the floor is cleared.
- If you are joining the Grand March at the beginning of the Ball Program, remember that your partner will also be your partner for the first dance on the program, as the final lines of eight at the end of the Grand March will be directed into four couple sets.

Monica Roots

Kilt Etiquette - the art of sitting down decorously

The President, in the last Island Fling, in her letter about the care of the kilt made an observation (no pun intended) about the possible lack of decorum by gentlemen wearing a kilt. May I comment.

Many Scottish Country Dancers start wearing a kilt when there is no-one 'around home' to teach them manners or to give them a tip or two about the kilt. If your kilt fits you properly it is easy to sit down decorously. Here is how. As you sit down spread your knees fairly wide and sit down with them spread.

The front aprons (there are two) should fall between and below your knees. In case you don't feel secure, casually drop one hand between your knees as you sit down and push the aprons down.

A further tip: ordinary everyday cotton boxer shorts underwear comes in a variety of imitation tartans. You can easily get a fairly close match to your kilt, so if you inadvertently expose your underwear, there won't be a flash of white; it will blend in with your kilt. *Jamie MacKendrick*

GETTING READY FOR THE BALL MARCH BALL DANCE PRACTICES

St. Paul's Anglican Church (1379 Esquimalt Rd) Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

March 5

Joan Axford instructing

J Pelorus Jack
S Miss Milligan's Strathspey
R The Peat Fire Flame
S The Village Reel
J Mrs. Stewart's Jig
R The Montgomerie's Rant
S Culla Bay
J The Chequered Court

March 19

Liz Gray instructing

J The White Heather Jig
S The Village Reel
R Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder
S James Senior of St. Andrews
R Maxwell's Rant
J Pelorus Jack
S The Queen
J The Chequered Court

Teachers may substitute or add dances at their discretion

March 12

Una Lennam instructing

R Polharrow Burn
S James Senior of St. Andrews
R The Blooms of Bon Accord
S The Queen
J The Chequered Court
S Bonnie Stronshiray
R Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder
R The Reel of the Royal Scots

March 26

Sue and Rob Langridge instructing

J Mrs. Stewart's Jig
S Bonnie Stronshiray
R The Peat Fire Flame
S Culla Bay
R Polharrow Burn
R The Blooms of Bon Accord
S Miss Milligan's Strathspey
R The Montgomerie's Rant

YOUTH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE WEEKEND

Check out the latest updates to the Scottish Country Dance Youth WeekendWest website at www.rscdsvancouver.org/default.htm Dance programmes for the Saturday and Sunday dances, created by Karen Baisden and Carolyn Hutcheon of Seattle Branch, Sponsors page listing the many groups and companies generously supporting Youth Weekend West, with links to their websites. Everything is in place for a great weekend:

- top-notch teachers
- lively young musicians
- action-packed schedule of dancing, eating, and merry-making
- on-site sales team from James Senior of St. Andrews Shoemakers

Now all we need is YOU! Register now application forms can be downloaded from the website, or requested by snail-mail by calling Noam at 604-738-3037. The registration deadline for hostel accommodation is April 7th.

For the "grownups" reading this, remember that the Friday Ceilidh, May 16th, and Sunday Tea Dance, May 18th will be open to dancers of all ages! Tea Dance tickets will be available soon, and ceilidh tickets can be purchased at the door. Mark your calendars! Looking forward to seeing everyone in May,

Sarah Kell. Youth Weekend West

COMING EVENTS -- LOCAL

- Mar. 8 '03** **GAELIC CHOIR PERFORMANCE** Juan de Fuca Centre. Information e-mail Robert Bell at bobannebell@shaw.ca or phone 477-1980.
- Mar. 8 '03** **CEILIDH AT THE ARMOURIES**
- Mar. 22 '03** **TARTAN WEEK MALL DISPLAY** sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council.
- Mar. 29 '03** **VISCDS ANNUAL BALL** See additional information in this newsletter
- Apr. 3 '03** **GAELIC CHOIR PERFORMANCE** sponsored by St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society. Henderson Hall, Oak Bay.
- Apr. 5 '03** **VICTORIA JOINT SCOTTISH COUNCIL ANNUAL TARTAN BALL** at the Edelweiss Club in James Bay. Cost: \$33.00 if tickets purchased by March 24, \$38.00 for tickets purchased after that date for tickets/information call Katie at 598-6547, Irene at 652-5773, Nancy at 381-6100, or Allan at 727-6776
- Apr. 6 '03** **KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN** Sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk, Douglas at Broughton. Service at 11:00 a.m. Meet in the Kirk Hall on Courtney St. at 10:30 a.m. wearing your tartan ready to parade around the corner and into the Church.
- Apr. 7 '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields, Obed Ave.
- Apr. 24 '03** **VISCDS AGM** 7:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave. AGM meeting followed by dancing.
- Apr. 28, '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields, Obed Ave.
- May 3 '03** **SPRING FLING** Sponsored by the VISCDS. St. Martin in-the-Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave.
- May 3 '03** **Note: this event has been cancelled -- SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE MAY BALL** Sponsored by the RSCDS
- May 5 '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields, Obed Ave.
- May 10 '03** **THE BEGINNERS DANCE** Sponsored by the RSCDS. This dance was originally scheduled for April 12 and has been changed to May 10. Location now at White Eagle Hall, 90 Dock Street, Victoria at 7:30 p.m. Cost \$12.00.at the door. The program can be obtained from our web site at: www.rscdsvictoria.org under upcoming events.
- May 12, '03** **THROONIE NIGHT** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields, Obed Ave.
- May 18 '03** **VICTORIA HIGHLAND GAMES** sponsored by the Victoria Highland Games Association. All day at Bullen Park Esquimalt.
- May 19 '03** **VICTORIA DAY PARADE** entry sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council. Contact Nancy Wylie at 381-6100 or braveheart@shaw.ca
- May 24 '03** **ANNUAL GAELIC CHOIR CONCERT** sponsored by the Victoria Gaelic Choir. 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk, Douglas at Broughton. Featuring well-known award winning fiddlers Ivonne and Kalissa Hernandez as guest performers. Information/tickets email bobannebell@shaw.ca or phone 477-1980.
- June 14 '03** **WORLD DAY OF DANCE**
- Every Friday** **SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIALS** - sponsored by the RSCDS. The RSCDS holds a social every Friday night at St. Martin-in-the-Fields at 7:30 p.m. The drop-in fee is \$4.00. The last one each month usually had a special theme.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Mar. 15 '03 DELTA BORDERS SPRING FLING** 6:30 p.m. Gizeh Temple, 3550 Wayburne Burnaby; \$40. Music: Bobby Brown and the Scottish Accent. Tickets: Mairi Maxwell 604-946-2448 or Ruth Jappy 604-594-6807.
- Mar. 22 '03 SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. Duncan United Church
- Mar. 22 '03 `GLENEAGLES SPRING DANCE 8:00 p.m.** Highlands United Church, 3255 Edgemont Blvd. North Vancouver.
- Mar. 22/29 '03 SCOTTISH DANCING IN HAWAII** with Muriel Johnstone and Alasdair Fraser organized by Ken McFarland
- Mar. 26 '03 WHITE ROCK SOCIAL** 7:00 p.m. Sullivan Hall, 6306 152nd St. Surrey
- Mar. 28 '03 CEILIDH DANCE** 8:00 p.m. Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson St.
- Apr. 5 '03 SETTLE SPRING WORKSHOP** Congregational Church of Mercer Island.
- Apr. 26 '03 SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. Duncan United Church
- May 3 '03 NANAIMO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS WORKSHOP** A workshop for Basic and Intermediate dancers, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with classes for reels, jigs and strathspeys followed by a Tea dance. Dover Bay High School, Nanaimo. Teachers: Ruth Jappy and Wes Clindinning. Music by Alex Jappy. Registration forms will be mailed in early 2003. Information: David Handley (250) 758-7228 or mtebene@pacificcoast.net
- May 17 '03 SEATTLE BRANCH MAY BALL** The Polish Home Association, 1718 18th Ave, Seattle. Music Calum MacKinnon and Muriel Johnstone.
- June 3-16 '03 NORTHERN LIGHTS OF SCOTLAND TRIP** Scottish Dance trip to the remote Orkney and Shetland Islands. Contact Ken McFarland Toll Free (800) 822-3435 or e-mail farlands@ptialaska.net or #E323, 3875 Geist Rd., Fairbanks AK 99709-3549 US.
- June 21 '03 CHEMAINUS HIGHLAND GAMES**
- Oct 6-19 '03 CHINA** A journey to the classical sites of China for Scottish Dancers and other congenial travelers. Organized by Ken McFarland. Information: (800) 822-3435 or (907) 456-7556.
- Feb. '04 PITLOCHRY WORKSHOP**, If enough dancers are interested, a party might go from Van Isle to the workshop. I would welcome expressions of interest from dancers. We'll need about 20 or so to approach Air Canada for special group status. *Alex McAuley* (595-1607 or amcauley@uvic.ca)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWS LETTER, Apr. 1, 2003

PHONE 250-477-0340 e-mail crushforth@shaw.ca

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