

Island Fling



OCTOBER, 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	Bill Greig	246-1036
2nd Vice President and Membership	Mary Roberts	385-1082
Secretary	Heather Danks	477-0346
Newsletter Editor	Christine Rushforth	477-0340
Treasurer	Merle Peterson	477-8331
Social Convenor	Ian Danks	477-0346
Teacher Representative	Joan Axford	474-1018

Web address: www.viscds.ca

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Written 26th Sept

We are now into the fourth or fifth week of 2004/05 season. I am delighted at the numbers attending classes. Beginner class is always a barometer of the upcoming year and at present we have seventeen with a possible four more in October upon return from holidays. I do not expect all to get past the crucial first five weeks so I would urge members to encourage the new dancers to stay the course and enjoy what we have to offer.

Membership has increased at all levels (see Mary's report)

Core books are being distributed thanks to Joan.

Many more dancers have opted to take the newsletter from our website (www.viscds.ca) now that they realize there is a two year cache of Fling in the programme. Put the newsletter on your desktop (screen) it is much easier to find than looking through drawers for past copies

Our first social is October 16 (Harvest Ball). Hope to see you all there

James Scott, President

UPDATES TO THE CORE BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE NOW AT YOUR CLASS

EXECUTIVE COLUMN

An Executive Meeting was held at the home of Heather & Ian Danks on Sept 2.

Open House Sept 13

Fifty-one dancers including 21 new faces enjoyed an evening of instruction and introduction into our Scottish Country Dancing. Thank you Joan for a great programme

Jim Scott

Treasurer's Note

In the August-September *Fling*, I reported the values for VISCD's investment in the TD Monthly Income Fund as 490.810 units and a unit cost of \$12.16 per unit for a total fund value of \$8037.95 (\$5968.22 plus \$2069.73*). This figure included the \$2000* set aside for the March 2006 30th Anniversary Workshop and Ball. By 30 September 2004, these values have increased and the Society's fund now stands as 665.810 units for a unit cost of \$12.60 per unit and a total value of \$8389.21.

Thank you to all those Society members for prompt submission of their membership and class fees. We are off to a good start.

Merle Peterson

New Speakers

Social Convenor, Ian Danks reports that we are looking into obtaining two better speakers for our main sound system

Highland Games

Jim Scott will look into the 2005 Highland Games and see if it is feasible for us to participate. The games have a new chairman and he will be in contact with him in the near future. More to come on this.

Class Representatives

I wish to thank the dancers who have taken on the job of class rep. They don't always get the recognition they deserve. When class reps need volunteers to help at socials, please step forward. Thank you.

The Class Representatives are:

Beginners Marilyn Goldfinch.

Lower Intermediate Bette McArthur.

Upper Intermediate Riki Sato.

Advanced Technique Thelma Bell.

Advanced Social Heather Hermanson

Sick and Injured

Condolences

On Wednesday Oct 6 the father of Larry Lindahl passed away in Kelowna after a lengthy illness. Our condolences to the Lindahl family.

Jan Thorsen/Ruth Slavin

Jan and Ruth are in Germany where Jan is receiving a special treatment for his cancer. There is a very interesting five-part item by Ruth in the Vancouver Sun concerning Jan and his life.

Retired Dancers

Jamie and Ruth McKendrick, Phyliss Quissy. We thank them for their participation over the past years.

Cold and Flu Season

A reminder that the nasty season will be upon soon and I urge anyone who is sick with a cough or flu like symptoms to NOT attend any function be it class or social. Most of these bugs are passed from hand to hand contact so it is imperative that you wash your hands a couple of times during an event or use the antiseptic hand wash one can buy at the drug store. Remember the flu can wreak havoc on our "greying" population.

Jim Scott

Have you Renewed Your Membership?

Your 2004-2005 Membership Application form was mailed with the August/ September issue of the *Fling*. If by chance you mislaid the form or if you did not receive the August/September *Fling* your class rep will have extra forms. Please note that November 1 is the deadline for submitting your membership dues and class fees.

Mary Roberts

Next Executive meeting is on October 21.

Howard Hospital Benefit raises more than \$3,000

As you know the Benefit for Howard Hospital was held August 21, 2004 at St. Martin in the Fields, our 8th Annual Benefit. Our attendance was somewhat lower due to the rainstorm but a generous and exuberant group they were. Our thanks to Bob Anderson for the dance program and the Branch and VISCDS teachers who took part and talked/walked the dances.

The Silent Auction run enthusiastically by Una Lennon and Anita Mathur resulted in doubling the amount of money of the 2003 Benefit. Using the lunch room to display the donated items proved to be the right decision. Alice Anderson and her faithful crew set up the tea break and the clean up of the hall as has been their custom for the past eight years.

Having Jamie Orr pipe Lorraine and the rest of us in was a lovely surprise for her with Walter Balfour kindly directing the Grand March. Heartfelt thanks to all who donated items for the Silent Auction, brought food, medications and donated money.

To try to attempt to name all the doctors, pharmaceuticals, churches and individuals who donated precious medications, etc would be impossible. I am grateful to each one of you. Lorraine left yesterday with her allotted suitcases packed full with the medications, etc. Our final tally is:

Admission \$502.00; Silent Auction \$790.75;

Cheques \$1762.27; Total \$3,055.02

Yes, I'm still stunned, as you all know I did not

expect anything near this final amount. I am deeply appreciative.

Lorraine would love to hear from Scottish Country Dancers while at Howard Hospital. Her email address is: pthistle@healthnet.zw Her postal address is: Howard Hospital, PO Box 190, Glendale, Zimbabwe.

Diane Robinson

And from Lorraine

Thank you for another very successful and fun benefit dance, the 8th! Special thanks to Diane, Bob and Alice, teachers, Una, Anita, contributors to the silent auction, dancers and all who helped in so many ways.

This contribution means a great deal to all who attend Howard Hospital, patients mainly, but also staff.

Many of you met Paul and Pedrinah last year and I know it means a great deal to them to have our assistance and good wishes.

Going to Howard has enriched my life and I hope that you realize that your efforts and contributions do make a difference.

Sincerely, *Lorraine Irvine*

FOR SALE

Ghillies Mens 10C Ladies 8C.

Contact Paula Morewood (ex Red Deer dancer)
658-1927 for information.

Much Dancing!

A First Hand View of the TAC Summer School Teacher Training Course

Gordon Robinson

As some of you will be aware, this summer I attended the teacher training course offered at the annual TAC - Teachers' Association (Canada) – Summer School. I was registered in the preliminary examination section along with 13 other candidates from across North America. The first challenge was in fact to get accepted into the program as there were over 20 interested candidates and only 14 places. As it turned out I was accepted but Ina Wong from the Branch unfortunately was not.

Although this is a two week course, it is still quite compressed, so it was necessary to do a reasonable amount of preparation in advance. This started with doing some practice teaching in our Lower Intermediate Class. However, in addition to practical teaching, the examination also consists of a written test and well as an evaluation of one's dancing skills. Preparing for the written exam includes reading the RSCDS Manual to learn about such things as history of the Society, the characteristics of the music and the important features of dancing such as phrasing and teamwork. To sharpen up, there are

always copies of old examinations to use as practice questions! To really make sure I was ready, Una Lennam and Anne Payne of the Branch organized some practise classes from May to July so that Ina and I could dance the “prescribed dances” and get used to teaching steps and formations, and briefing dances. Special thanks have to go to the long-suffering dancers who gave up a couple of hours on a number of summer Saturday mornings to be “make believe beginners”.

The course was held during the first two weeks of August at the University of Waterloo. After a get together barbecue on Sunday evening, we had our orientation meeting and met as a group with our tutor and pianist to get our schedule for the next couple of weeks. In essence, the schedule was to meet at the dance studio ready to dance at 9:00; break for lunch at 12:00; return ready to dance from 2:00 until 4:30 and after supper, dance a couple more hours, usually practicing our prescribed dances. Our tutor for the preliminary candidates was Elinor Vandegrift from Seattle and the pianist was Ron Krug from Winnipeg (who played at our Workshop and Ball last spring). Despite the demanding schedule, their irresistible energy and spirited music maintained enthusiasm in the group notwithstanding aching muscles and for several nagging injuries.

Each day we got a homework assignment consisting of several exam questions approximating a typical written exam (which for the prelims is one and a half hours). After the first couple of days, we also had practice lessons to prepare since a key feature of the course is, not surprisingly, to learn to teach and in particular to teach in a way that would enable us to pass the exam.

On the first Saturday we got a break – not the whole day mind you – we only had classes for the morning. On Tuesday morning, we took our written exam, and Wednesday afternoon was the dancing exam. For two hours we danced one set

at a time, until we had each briefed and danced one jig, one reel and one strathspey as dancing couple twice through.

Right after the exam, we got our teaching assignments for our teaching exam the next day. So we spent the evening preparing and practicing our lesson plans. On Thursday, the practical teaching exams went on all day. We would each go in the studio with 16 or 18 dancers to do our 20 minute lesson. After two candidates taught, the two examiners, Lesley Martin from Scotland and Geofferey Selling from Philadelphia, would review our exam results individually with us. This gives the examiners a chance to review any questionable points with the candidates as well as to give some advice about what needs improving before taking the full certificate exam. However, they do not actually tell you directly whether you passed. This has to wait for the paperwork to go to Scotland and Headquarters to mail out the results.

Once we were finished our exams we were free to take part in the frivolities of the other part of Summer School such as the Ceilidh, evening dances, the odd “after party” and, of course, the ball on Saturday evening. Sunday morning it was time to pack up and say goodbyes to our new group of friends.

So was it all worth it? No doubt we all learned a great deal and made many new friends from dance groups across the continent. Although I passed, half of our group did not (much to the consternation of the tutors and course organizers). It is certainly a demanding course and takes real commitment. In the end, I am glad that I took the course.

I would like to thank the VISCDS very much both for the generous financial contribution to my expenses as well as all of the support and encouragement of many teachers, dancers and friends in our group. It would not have been possible to get through the course and exam successfully without this assistance.

VISDS NOVEMBER ST. ANDREW'S SOCIAL

November 13 2004, 8:00 p.m. St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall, Obed

St Andrew's Fair	4x32J	B
*The Button Boy	8x32R	I
James Senior of St. Andrews	4x32S	A
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32J	B
The Glens of Angus	4x32 R	A
The Gentleman	8x32S	I
The Chequered Court	8x32J	A
**The De'il Amang the Tailors	8x32R	B
Victoria Plums	4x32S	I
Pelorous Jack	8x32J	I
Northern Lights	3x32S	I
The Piper and the Penguin	88bR	B
BREAK		
*Immigrant Lass	4x32J	I
Inverneill House	8x32R	A
St John River	4x32S	B
*Shiftin' Bobbins	8x32R	I

All dances are in the Core Book 2000-2004

* No talk-through **Briefed only

FIFTY YEARS ON

40 BAR JIG 4 CPL SET

3rd AND 4TH CPLS TO CROSS TO OPPO SIDE ON 2ND CHORD

- 1-4 2nd and 3rd cpls set to and trn ptrns RH 1/2 way round, retain hands
- 5-8 2nd cpl lead up, 3rd cpl lead down, crossing over and casting back to original position
- 9-16 1st & 2nd cpls, 3rd and 4th cpls, double figs. of 8 across dance, 1st cpl cast off, 2nd cpl cross up, 3rd cpl cross down, 4th cpl cast up. 1st & 4th cpls remain facing out.
- 17-20 1M & 2M, 3M & 4M, trn LH 1 1/2 times; 1L & 2L, 3L & 4L, trn RH 1 1/2 times to change places.
- 21-24 1st & 4th cpls (in 2nd and 3rd places) 1/2 Rts and Lfts. 1M and 4M remain facing out.
- 25-32 Reels of 4 on the sides. 2M & 4M, 1L & 3L on M's side, their ptrns on the ladies side. Bars 31 and 32 – 4M and 1L, 4L and 1M do not pass LS, but trn 2H 1/2 way round to face across, 2L & 3L finish reel curving to the R to enter circle.
- 33-40 All cpls 8H round and back. Finish 2,4,1,3. 1st and 3rd cpls now on oppo sides.

RSCDS Book 43 No. 1. - Devised by John Drewry, 2002

Mark your calendar now for the first



THISTLE BALL

On the evening of **Saturday May 14th 2005**
At **Squamish Nation Recreation Centre** Capilano Road, North Vancouver

Dancing to the music of
MARIAN ANDERSON AND HER BAND from Scotland
The ball will be preceded by a cold buffet and followed by dessert and coffee.
This is the inaugural **Tri-City Ball** and is being held in Vancouver to celebrate
the **40th Anniversary** of the Vancouver Branch.

The ball will be a wonderful evening of music and dance at the very affordable price of \$35 for RSCDS members, made possible by a most generous donation from **Mary Wattum**. We extend our grateful thanks to her.

Ticket prices: **\$45** per person **\$10** discount for RSCDS members **\$10** discount for full-time students
Tickets are available from **Paul Lowe** at **604-536-7660**

Please note: A confusing error on the cost of the dance in our last newsletter has now been corrected. The ticket price is \$45 for non-RSCDS members and \$35 for RSCDS members.

COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

- Oct 16 '04** **VISCDS HARVEST SOCIAL**
- Oct 22 '05** **DANCE EVENING** sponsored by the Sons of Scotland. 7:30 pm, dancing 8:00 p.m. Henderson Hall, Oak Bay, 1632 Yale St. Old Time and Sequence Dances, Scottish Country Dances, Scottish Sequence Dances (dances talked/walked through) \$5.00 per person, plus a savoury or sweet snack. contact Keith at 652-5773 or kifeir@shaw.ca
- Oct 29-30 '04** **RSCDS VICTORIA 31ST ANNUAL WORKSHOP** Friday night welcome dance, classes and lunch on Saturday, and dance on Saturday night. Teachers: Heather Flint, Comox. Bruce Herbold, San Francisco, Irene Paterson, Seattle. Music: for Saturday evening dance: Scuttlebutt. Information: call Howard Benten 595-4220 hbenten@shaw.ca or get application form online at www.rscdsvictoria.org
- Oct 31 '04** **THE SOUNDS OF SCOTLAND** An afternoon of music for organ, bagpipes and voice. 2:00 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church 1379 Esquimalt Rd. A concert on the Church's historic pipe organ featuring music for bagpipes and organ. Guest organist Steven Benson, Pipe Major Roger McGuire, soloist Nancy Bittner. Cost: adults \$12.00, students/seniors \$10.00 includes concert and refreshments. Tickets available from St. Paul's Church 386-6833, Long and McQuade 385-3413, Munro's Books 382-2464, Ned Easton 383-0068. Proceeds go towards the maintenance of St. Paul's historic organ.
- Nov 13 '04** **VISCDS ST. ANDREW'S SOCIAL**
- Dec 11 '05** **JOINT CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** hosted by the Branch at Cadboro Bay United Church
- Jan 10 '05** **VISCDS CLASSES RESTART**
- Jan 22 '05** **VISCDS BURNS SOCIAL**
- Jan 22 '05** **BURNS DINNER AND BALL** sponsored by the Sons of Scotland and the St. Andrew's & Caledonian Society. Edelweiss Club. More details later
- Jan 30** **BURNS MEMORIAL** sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council. Statue ceremony, Tea and Concert tentatively booked for Sunday, January 30, 2005
- Feb 19 '05** **VISCDS VALENTINES SOCIAL**
- Mar 11, 12, 13 '05** **BALL WEEKEND**
- Apr 2 '05** **TARTAN BALL** Saturday at the Edelweiss Club. Details later.
- Apr 2 '05** **TARTAN WEEK MALL DISPLAY** sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council tentatively set for April 2/3, 2005 at Hillside Shopping Centre
- Apr 6 '05** **TARTAN DAY** Encourage your friends to wear their tartan.
- Apr 21 '05** **VISCDS AGM**
- Apr 30 '05** **VISCDS SPRING FLING**
- July 2 '05** **SCOTTISH FIDDLE ORCHESTRA** sponsored by the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society. Doors at 7:00 p.m. show at 7:30 p.m. University Auditorium, University of Victoria. Cost: \$45.00 inclusive, available at the UVIC Ticket Centre. For information call (250) 721-8480 or check online www.auditorium.uvic.ca

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Oct 16 '04** **WHITE ROCK FIFTY-YEAR CELEBRATION BALL** Information to follow.
- Oct 23 '04** **GLENEAGLES FALL DANCE** St. Catherine's Anglican Church 1058 Ridgewood Dr. North Vancouver. 8:00 p.m. \$10.
- Oct 24 '04** **BAIRN'S BALL** St Anne's Catholic Church Hall 33333 Mayfair Abbotsford. 2:00 p.m. \$8 adults, \$6 children.
- Oct 29-31 '04** **RSCDS MEDICINE HAT WORKSHOP AND BALL** Teachers Bob Anderson, Rebecca Blackhall Peters, Muriel Johnstone. Music Ron Krug and Ken Natrass. Contact Cynthia Mutch (403) 529-6214 cmutch@mhc.ab.ca
- Oct 30 '04** **PEARL'S PARTY** Scottish Cultural Centre 8886 Hudson St. Vancouver. 8:00 p.m.
- Nov 5 '04** **DEEP COVE DANCE** Highlands United Church 3255 Edgemont Boulevard North Vancouver 8:00 p.m. Music: Alex Jappy \$12.
- Nov 5-7 '04** **RSCDS CONFERENCE WEEKEND AND AGM, Perth Scotland**
- Nov 6 '04** **BELLINGHAM WORKSHOP** Registrar: Amy Woodfin 360-380-3854 bellinghamscd@yahoo.com
- Nov 6 '04** **BELLINGHAM BALL** Bellingham High School 2020 Cornwall Ave. 8:00 p.m. \$US 25 advance \$US30 at door.
- Nov 11 '04** **LADY ABERDEEN TEA DANCE** Scottish Cultural Centre 8886 Hudson St. Vancouver. 1:30 p.m. \$10 adults, \$5 children.
- Nov 13 '04** **NANOOSE SCD 1st ANNUAL ST. ANDREW'S DINNER AND BALL** Music by Mary Ross and Keith Malcolm. 6:00 p.m. Tickets \$35. For more info contact Anne McLeod at "annex5@hotmail.com" or phone 250 752 5864
- Nov 27 '04** **DELTA FALL DANCE** Kinsmen Centre 5410 10th Ave Tsawwassen 8:00 p.m.. Music: Alex Jappy \$15.
- Dec 5 '04** **GLENEAGLES BALL** Pacific Ballroom, Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. 1:30 p.m. Music: Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra. Call Moyra Heyerdahl to reserve a table 604-924-1694.
- Feb 18-20 '05** **ALOHA WINTER WORKSHOP 2005 HONOLULU, HAWAII.** The Complete Event Package is \$125.00 US and consists of classes, ceilidh and social, Ball and Banquet. If anyone is interested in attending please contact Heather Danks 477-0346.
- Feb 24 Mar 1 '05** **RSCDS WINTER SCHOOL, Pitlochry Scotland** Apply to RSCDS Edinburgh by Oct 17 2004.
- Mar 4-6 '05** **WINNIPEG WORKSHOP**
- May 14 '05** **THISTLE BALL** At Squamish Nation Recreation Centre Capilano Road, North Vancouver. Dancing to the music of Marian Anderson and her band from Scotland
- Aug 2005** **AGM AND SUMMER SCHOOL** Shawnigan Lake. No further details as yet.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWS LETTER, Nov. 1, 2004

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