

Island Fling



November 2019

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 address: www.viscds.ca

Executive Committee

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--|
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President's Report, November, 2019

We are well into the Fall 2019 dancing season and I am pleased to report the classes are moving along with a bustling Basic class and new members joining the club (see the Membership Report). We were very pleased to have Maureen and Jamie Orr host a special evening on September 28 to celebrate their birthdays, the Septuagenarian Stomp. That is a word for a spelling bee I would say! Thanks again Jamie and Maureen. Looking forward to more dancing events and as I write this tonight is the annual Harvest Social. This has always been a special social in the history of VISCDs. In the day, the dance hall was adorned with an array of Fall and harvest themed decorations. We no longer decorate to the level of previous years but the theme continues with dances including Staffin Harvest and Corn Riggs. However by the time you receive this newsletter it will almost be November and the St. Andrews Social will be in the offing for November 16, sponsored by the Wednesday class. The program is in the September newsletter. Do I dare mention the Christmas Social will follow on December 14, to be contributed to by all of the classes? Enthusiastic participation by all members of the club makes these events possible and of course we thank the teachers for their contribution to our classes and events. The Van Isle Executive meets monthly to deal with the business of the club and handle the details that enable us to enjoy Scottish Country dancing in Victoria. We are always looking for opportunities to promote and invite others to join dancing. Enjoy your classes and Socials!

June Robinson, President

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the next newsletter is **Sunday, December 15, 2019**. Please submit any material to Edith Chapman at enchapma@shaw.ca.

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
2019 2020 Classes
All classes (except the afternoon class) run from 7:30 to 9:30 pm

2019

Mondays, September 9 to December 16, 2019 (*excluding Thanksgiving Oct. 14*).
 Tuesdays, September 3 to December 10, 2019 (**Open House Sept 3 2019**)
 Tuesday afternoons, September 10 to December 10, 2019 (**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**)
 Wednesdays, September 11 to December 11, 2019
 Thursdays, September 12 to December 12, 2019

2020

Mondays, January 6 to April 13, 2020
 Tuesdays, January 7 to April 21, 2020 (**Open House Jan 7, 2020**)
 Tuesday afternoons, January 7 to April 14, 2020
 Wednesdays, January 3 to April 15, 2020
 Thursdays, January 9 to April 23, 2020 (**AGM April 16, 2020**)

For details of the classes, see the September 2019 issue of the *Fling*.

Class Reps

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--|--------------|
| Monday | Jan Beckett | beckettjanice0@gmail.com | 250-598-0464 |
| Tuesday afternoon | Lori Morrison | bruce.lori.morrison@telus.net | 250-478-7897 |
| Tuesday evening | Anne Miller | annevanosmiller@outlook.com | 250-727-3548 |
| Wednesday | Kathy Grant | kmgrant1999@icloud.com | 250-478-8990 |
| Thursday | Theresa Harbidge | bharbidge@shaw.ca | 250-658-3834 |

Drop-in Fees

You'll find the opportunity to buy 10 drop-in classes for \$60.00 on the membership form; please be sure to mark Punch Card, and it will come to you through your class rep. Cards do not expire, and more can be purchased as yours runs out.

Weather Cancellation Policy

After having our classes disrupted by the snow event last February, the teachers and Executive came up with the following weather cancellation policy. Let's hope we don't have to use it too often!

If a class is cancelled due to winter weather, the president will notify members by email by 5pm (or 11am for the afternoon class). Once a class has been cancelled, it will stay cancelled for that day, even if the weather improves later on. If in doubt about whether a class is going ahead, please remember to check your email. (The teacher will telephone members without email.)

VISCDS Membership Numbers to Date

Total paid up membership: 106
 Youth members: 1
 Life members: 9
 Teachers: 7

FREE – to a good home: Ladies' kilted skirt, Anderson tartan, Waist 28" – 31"; Length 27". Dry-cleaned and ready to wear. Contact Jane Matthews, 250 478-0143. Email – patrmatt@telus.net.

Christmas Social

December 14, 2019

7:30 pm

550 Obed Avenue

Music by Mary Ross

Free



| Dance name | Bars type | Level | Source |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------|----------------------------|
| The White Cockade © | 8X32 R | B | RSCDS Book 5 |
| The Waratah Weaver © | 4X32 J | B | RSCDS Graded 2 |
| Seann Truibhas Willichan | 6X32 S | B | RSCDS Book 27 |
| The Montgomeries' Rant © | 8X32 R | I | RSCDS Book 10 |
| The Hazel Tree | 8X32 J | I | J Drewry-Brodie Book |
| MacDonald of the Isles (c) | 3X32 S | I | Haynes-Carnforth 2 |
| Polharrow Burn | 5X32 R | A | Foss Glendarroch SD Sheets |
| Roaring Jelly | 8X32 J | BB | Foss: Glendarroch |
| The Belle of Bon Accord © | 4X32 S | BB | J Drewry-Deeside Book |
| Tribute to the Borders © | 8X32 J | BB | RSCDS Leaflets |
| Sandy O'er the Lea | 6X 32 S | B | MMM Book 2 |
| Flowers of Edinburgh © | 8X32 R | B | RSCDS Book 1 |
| BREAK | | | |
| Craigleith © | 1X88 R Sq | B | RSCDS Graded 3 |
| Bratach Bana © | 8X32 R | A | Drewry-Bon Accord |
| The Robertson Rant © | 1X80S Sq | I | RSCDS Book 39 |
| Maxwell's Rant © | 8X32 R | BB | RSCDS Book 18 |
| EXTRAS | | | |
| The Reel of the Royal Scots | 8X32R | BB | RSCDS Leaflets |
| Sugar Candie © | 8X32 S | I | RSCDS Book 26 |
| St. Andrew's Fair | 8X32 J | B | RSCDS 5 for 1982 |
| © = Core Book | | | |
| All Briefed | | | |

September 3, 2019 Open House

On September 3, 2019 VISCDs hosted its semiannual Open House to begin the 2019-20 dancing season. There was excitement in the air as friends reconnected following the summer and memberships were renewed. There were 17 guests in attendance with many having been brought by members, enough to make 7 sets of dancers with a few to spare. The introduction of basic steps throughout the evening was masterfully accomplished by Sheila McCall and within minutes of completing the warm-up she had the room fully engaged in a circle dance.

It was an evening of reels, jigs and strathspey - fun, fitness and friendship. What a stellar way to begin our dancing year.

Martha Morrison

New Year's Eve

December 31, 2019

Dance: 8:00 pm

See below for further information



| Dance name | Bars/Type | Level | Source |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------|----------------------|
| Gay Gordons | | | Guide to SCD |
| The Waratah Weaver © | 4x32J | B | RSCDS 2nd Graded |
| Flowers of Edinburgh © | 8x32R | B | RSCDS Book 1 |
| Miss Gibson's Strathspey | 8x32S | I | RSCDS Leaflet Book |
| Fort Worden Fun | 8x32J | B | Fort Worden XX Coll. |
| Craikleith © | 1x88R Sq | B | RSCDS 3rd Graded |
| The Gentleman | 8x32S | I | RSCDS Book 35 |
| The White Heather Jig | 4x40J | A | Cosh 22+2 |
| The Montgomerie's Rant © | 8x32R | I | RSCDS Book 10 |
| 12 Coates Crescent | 4x32S | B | RSCDS Book 40 |
| Mairi's Wedding © | 8x40R | I | Cosh 22+2 |
| 10pm Dessert, Tea and Coffee | | | |
| Woodhaven Chase | 4x32J Sq | B | Douglas '87 |
| The Rutland Reel © | 8x40R | A | RSCDS Book 48 |
| John McAlpin © | 8x32S | BB | RSCDS 3 by Foss |
| Granville Market | 8x32J | BB | RSCDS 2nd Graded |
| 11pm: Auld Lang Syne | | | |
| Waltz of the Bells | | | |
| The New Year Jig | 8x32J | BB | RSCDS Book 51 |
| Maxwell's Rant © | 8x32R | BB | RSCDS Book 18 |
| MacDonald of the Isles © | 3x32S | I | Glendarroch #8 |
| The Deil Among the Tailors © | 8x32R | B | RSCDS Book 14 |

Our **New Year's Eve Potluck Dinner and Dance** will once again be held on December 31 at the City Light Church Hall on Obed Avenue. 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. If you are coming to the dance only, please bring a potluck donation suitable for dessert. 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.

Something to look forward to!

The 2020 VISCDS Workshop and Ball registration will be opening on February 1st, 2020.

The workshop fee is \$50. This will provide you with two classes on the morning of April 4th, with a snack break between. The classes will be offered at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. We encourage new dancers from this year to participate, as there is a class designed especially for the less experienced dancers to enjoy in a workshop setting.

Classes will be taught by Linda Henderson from San Francisco, Rebecca Blackhall Peters from Summerland, and Richard Bennett from Salt Spring Island.

Musicians Mary Ross, Julie Smith and Janet Yonge will be playing for the classes.

The evening Ball at the Edelweiss Club will feature the Tartan Players from Vancouver, and a light evening meal. The Ball program is contained in this newsletter.

Cost for the evening is \$60 for dancers, and \$40 for non-dancers.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Kathryn Knowles for the 2020 Workshop and Ball Committee

VISCDS 2020 BALL

April 4, 2020

| Dance name | Bars type | Level | Source |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------|-----------------------|
| The Waratah Weaver* | 4x32 J | B | Second Graded Book |
| The Lass of Richmond Hill | 8x32 R | BB | Second Graded Book |
| Culla Bay | 4x32 S sq | I | Book 41 |
| Tribute to the Borders | 8x32 J | BB | RSCDS Leaflets |
| The Rutland Reel | 8x40 R | A | Book 48 |
| John McAlpin | 8x32 S | BB | Three Dances by Foss |
| Farewell to Balfour Road | 96 J for 5 | A | Book 52 |
| The De'il Amang the Tailors | 8x32 R | B | Book 14 |
| Ruby Wilkinson's Farewell | 4x32 S | A | Book 52 |
| Flowers of Edinburgh* | 8x32 R | B | Book 1 |
| BREAK | | | |
| Pelorus Jack | 8x32 J | I | Book 41 |
| Midsummer Common | 8x32 S | I | Book 49 |
| Bratach Bana | 8x32 R | A | Bon Accord Book |
| Muirland Willie / The Highland Fair | 8x32 J | A/B | Book 21 / Graded Book |
| The Belle of Bon Accord | 4x32 S | BB | Deeside |
| Mairi's Wedding* | 8x40 R | I | 22 SCD's (Cosh) |

* Briefing only, no walk throughs

All the dances are in the recently updated Van Isle Core Book which is accessible online on the VISCDS website ([here](#)).

Beginners' Mini Social

On October 22, about five sets of dancers ranging in experience from "never danced before" to "have been dancing for donkey's years" enjoyed a mini-social hosted by the Basic Class. Teacher Sheila McCall led everyone through a variety of dances. Thanks go to the Sheila and the Basic Class, and to all who turned out and made the evening such a success.

RSCDS Spring Fling 2020

VISCDS will send an attendee to the 2020 Spring Fling in Toronto.

The Spring Fling is described by the RSCDS as follows:

“Spring Fling is a weekend of dance, organized by young people, for young people. Each year the event is held in a different location and 2020 is extra special, with two host cities: Saint Petersburg in Russia and Toronto in Canada. Spring Fling is open to dancers aged 12 - 35 and all those attending can look forward to a fantastic weekend of dancing, socializing and making friends.”

A request was sent out from the Toronto organizers requesting that if possible each club send a young dancer, either from their club or in the form of a scholarship to be decided upon by the organizers. VISCDS executive decided to participate and offered the scholarship to Heather Warman. Although Heather no longer lives in Victoria she is a former member. Heather has accepted the offer and will make her way to Toronto on the weekend of May 15th. We wish her a safe trip and a fun weekend filled with ‘fun, fitness, and friendship’.

To learn more about this event go to: <https://www.rscds.org/events/spring-fling-2020>

Martha Morrison

Is 2020 The Year You Go To Dancing Summer School?

Every year the Scottish country Dance Teachers Association (Canada), often referred to as TAC, hosts a week long summer school for **all levels of dancers**. The school is held in locations throughout North America. Three years ago it was in Vancouver, and last year, in Calgary. The good news is that it will be held again in 2020, at Mount Royal University in Calgary, before heading out for locations east for a few years. Dates are July 26 to August 2, 2020.

Just ask some of the Victoria folks who attended last year if the morning classes, afternoon optional/special interest classes, evening socials, a formal ball and field trips were fun!! Organizers are even now planning fun activities and excursions. Will there be a repeat of the western night with everyone wearing cowboy hats? or the line dancing class? or the Stampede pancake breakfast?

Teachers this year come from Scotland, Canada and the US, with amazing musicians from across North America (including our own Mary Ross!).

On line registration will open March 1, 2020. **Give some thought to making this the year you attend TAC summer school!**

Louise McGillivray

Passings

It is with regret that we announce the passing of *Johanna Cutcher*, earlier this year. Johanna served as the Branch’s last newsletter editor and, as a newsletter editor now, I have come to appreciate her expertise. Our condolences go to her family.

It is with great regret that we announce the recent passing of *Stella Rennie*. I first knew Stella as a dancer in Calgary. She also taught the Ellerslie Club in Edmonton. She and husband Derek moved to Victoria and joined the Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society. I remember her dancing in what is now the Tuesday afternoon class. She has not danced for a number of years now. Our sincere condolences go to Derek.

Stella Rennie and Una Lennam knew each other well as they both danced in Calgary before moving to Victoria. Derek Rennie wrote the following tribute to Una, who also passed away in August.

Well, Una has a companion wherever she is, as my Stella passed on the 25th August. So wherever they are they will probably be comparing Scottish Country Dancing notes from the past. Una was the perfect instructor of dance as she never became upset if a dancer with two left feet was constantly making a mistake, even when all her guidance was in vain. Always the ‘Don’t worry’, she would say, adding, ‘Rome was not built in a day’. Una did not dance across a floor . . . she seemed to float across the floor.

- My thanks to Anita for forwarding Derek’s note.

Harvest Social

On October 19th, we held our first social of the fall season. This was hosted by the Thursday “Beyond Basics Class” and the dances were led by Gordon Robinson.

We had 42 dancers attend and we all seemed to muddle through very nicely. Sarah Kell won the 50/50 Draw of \$34.00 – congratulations, Sarah!

There was a bounty of food to enjoy and thank you to all who brought food and those in the kitchen who helped prepare and clean up.

Thanks to all who had to put all the chairs away and out again at the end of the dance. This was a warm up and cool down exercise for sure!

The Beyond Basics Class did an amazing job and a very good time was had by all.

Next event: the Wednesday evening class will host the St. Andrew’s Dance on November 16th. Again, this will be at 7:30 pm at Obed.

Theresa Harbidge, Social Convener



Robin preparing the table at the Harvest Social



Some of the decorations



Dancers listen as a dance is being briefed



Teacher Gordon Robinson

Photos – June Robinson

FORT WORDEN
Victoria and Vancouver Island Dancers



This wonderful group of 14 dancers from Victoria and up Island attended the **45th** annual dance weekend at Fort Worden on September 6-8. It was a great weekend featuring workshops with fantastic teachers and musicians from the US and Scotland. It was a little bittersweet as the Fort Worden weekend will not be held next year and there may be a change in the venue in the future. The organizers of the event sponsored by the Seattle Branch thanked the Vancouver Island dancers for all of their faithful support of Fort Worden over the years!

- Photo and caption – June Robinson

More Fort Worden Memories



In 1999, five dancers who met in Sheila McCall's basic class went to Fort Worden for the first time: Sarah Kell, Hugh Thomson, Kathryn Knowles, Raymond Thomson and Julia Roberts. Twenty years later, at least four are still dancing. Sarah and Kathryn revisited Fort Worden this fall, and took a photo at the same spot.

Photos – Kathryn Knowles; Caption – Sarah Kell



Memories of Fort Worden

The first Fort Worden Weekend was held in 1974, and thanks to my teacher, Fran Clermont, who insisted that I go, I was there. I attended almost every weekend after that, up until a few years ago – about 42 weekends - before I had to call it a day. For a while, I held the record of having attended the most weekends. The format of the weekends has changed greatly over the years. June has asked me to write something about past weekends.

The Registrations and Welcome Dances were originally held in Building 225, one of the dormitories. Registration was in a downstairs room and the dances were held in one of the large upstairs rooms. They were always run by venerable teacher Noel Lillie, and we danced to recorded music. Then, for several years, the Registration and Welcome Dances were held at the USO Hall. It has been only in the last fifteen or so years that the Welcome Dances and Balls have been held in the hall at the Jefferson Fairgrounds.

Classes were held in several of the halls scattered throughout the Fort. I remember there being around six classes. Again, we danced to recorded music. The numbers of classes were cut as registrations fell off. Somewhere along the way, we starting have ‘live’ music for the classes.

The Balls were originally held in the USO Hall. For the first couple of years, the hall had a rather dubious wooden floor; then ‘An Officer and a Gentleman’ was filmed at the Fort and the movie company redid the floor: a small parquet square surrounded by carpeting. The floor is still that way. One became adept at ‘jumping’ over the metal rod that separates the carpet from the parquet, while dancing! We have always had ‘live’ music at the Ball, and for the first ten or so years, the band was Schiehallion from Vancouver BC. Since then, we have had a succession of musicians play for us.

For a number of years, there were formal classes on Sunday morning. Nowadays, of course, there is social dancing, with all the teachers taking turns teaching, at times, some unusual dances. Music is supplied by the Weekend musicians, augmented by other musicians who are attending the weekend as dancers.

My dance, ‘Fort Worden Fun’, was published in the “Fort Worden XX Collection”, which was published in 1994. That is about when I wrote it. The dance was designated the winner in the class for dances suitable for beginners. I chose the name because I thought that the Fort Worden weekend IS Fun! (I still do.) ‘Fort Worden Fun’ is on our New Year’s social program.

It appears that the Fort Worden weekends are to become a thing of the past. The Seattle Branch may choose to have their weekends at some other venue. I hope they continue to be successful, but it won’t be the same, and I feel saddened.

As those of you who have attended the Fort Worden weekends can see, the format of the weekends has changed a lot over the years. However, the classes have always been very informative, the dances have always been enjoyable and the music has always been fantastic – just as they are today!

Edith Chapman

Photo – Kathryn Knowles, Fort Worden 2008

Volunteers Needed: Folkloria Festival Committee

Folkloria is a two-day celebration of cultural dance and music, held in Centennial Square at the beginning of June. Folkloria grew out of the Canada 150 celebrations in 2017 and the first festival was held in 2018. It is a revival of Folkfest, which was a fixture of the summer cultural scene in Victoria from the 1970s to the early 2000s, featuring dance and musical performances and ethnic food kiosks – including VISCDS’s Scottish Castle. (VISCDS’ healthy bank account to this day is due to the vast volumes of haggis sold at the Castle in the ‘70s and ‘80s!)

Folkloria’s organizers invite all the dance groups that perform at the festival to send a representative to the Festival Committee. There are also numerous volunteer opportunities over the two-day festival in June. If you would like to get involved, please contact Sonia Grewal or Rosemary Garnet at folkfestivalinfo@gmail.com. For more information about the committee role, please contact Sarah Kell, VISCDS Teachers’ Rep at smkell@shaw.ca.

Sarah Kell



The Post Stomp Thank You Note

We (Maureen and Jamie) had a wonderful time at the dance, and want to recognize the contributions everyone made. Obviously, first on the list are all the dancers who came ready to have a fun evening – we felt that there was a great mood in the hall and hope everyone had as much fun as we did. These same dancers also brought along a ton of food for the potluck. Afraid the diet didn't do too well that night....

Of course, Mary brought the night along in fine style with her lively playing. Thanks Mary!

Thank you to all the folks who pitched in and cleaned up the hall after the dancing. Speaking for myself, (Jamie) the gas tank was empty and I just wasn't up to it by then.

And finally a huge thanks to the kitchen crew. They jumped in and took over that side of things entirely, getting the food and drinks ready then packing up the leftovers and cleaning the kitchen. I can't express how grateful we were!

**So YAY to everyone
from Jamie and Maureen**

The Piper and the Penguin



This popular dance with the quirky name is part of the 'Scotia Suite of Scottish Country Dances'. The dances in this Suite were devised by Roy Goldring as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the *Scotia*, the research ship of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition of 1902 – 1904, under the leadership of William Speirs Bruce. The Expedition had an official piper, Gilbert Kerr. The idea of having Kerr play the bagpipes for the local penguins was ostensibly an experiment to see what effect the music would have on the birds. They were unimpressed. The iconic photo of Kerr, in full highland dress, playing to an Emperor penguin – which was tethered to a large pot filled with snow – was taken by Bruce in March 1904. It has become the logo for the centenary celebrations.

- from mentalfloss.com and "The Scotia Suite of Scottish Country Dances", published by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. My thanks to Margaret Chapman for submitting the photo.

Teachers' Corner

Life Membership Granted to Pat Blair

This September, VISCDS presented a certificate of Life Membership to retired teacher Patricia Blair. Pat was nominated by the Teachers' Committee and members of the Afternoon Social class, in recognition of her long-term dedication and support for VISCDS, as well as her contributions to Scottish Country Dancing on Saltspring, and in Crofton and Chemainus.

VISCDS afternoon class members commended Pat's teaching skills and great dance programme choices. Pat organized the Zimbabwe Dances to benefit Lorraine Irvine's work there for many years, and introduced our famous Valentine's Tea Dance and coordinated it year after year. VISCDS members have many happy memories of catching up with friends over afternoon tea at this event, complete with white tablecloths, Pat's own fine china teacups, and flowers from her garden. Thank you, Pat!

Sarah Kell

There's Only One Teacher in the Class!

Scottish country dancing is above all *social* dancing, so some friendly chatter on the dance floor is encouraged at socials and classes. However, please be respectful of the presiding teacher who has taken the time to prepare the class - by not talking when he or she is teaching!

Some of our members have hearing difficulties, so keeping the background noise down helps everyone to hear the teacher. All dancers want to help others, but many voices of advice can be difficult for all in the set. Please try to help others by extending a hand or pointing in the right direction, rather than speaking, to ensure that the teacher or briefer can be heard. (The teachers' committee is also looking into purchasing headset microphones, so the teacher's voice can be amplified during classes.)

If you have a question, please direct it to the teacher, rather than to your set-mates. Chances are, a couple of other sets in the room have that same question, too. We can't always answer every question during class, but feel free to approach us after class. We're more than happy to hear your suggestions and respond to your questions.

Also, please check with your current teacher if you feel you are ready to move up to the next class level. Thank you!

The Teachers' Committee

Delta Borderers' Tea Dance

The Delta Borderers are holding a tea dance on Saturday, November 30, at the Kinsmen Centre in Tsawwassen, from 3:00 – 7:30 pm. Their teacher, Ruth Jappy writes, 'I have done many "Tribute To" Dance Programs over the last several years, so I thought it only fitting this year to have a "Tribute to Alex Jappy". We hope you will join us to dance some old and some new dances, and especially enjoy the great selections by Alex.'

Tickets are \$15.00 each and are available from Mairi Maxwell, 604.946.2448; or Ruth Jappy, 604.594.6807. Tea, coffee and a light buffet will be served at the end of the dance. The Delta Borderers invite everyone to "join us to dance, listen, and enjoy". Further information and the dance program and crib sheets may be had on Vancouver Branch's website, <https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/delta-borderers-afternoon-tea-dance/>.

Flowers of Edinburgh – many think this refers to the Princes Street Gardens, but not necessarily so. The tune was published in England around 1750, while construction of the Gardens began in the 1770's and 1780's. In the eighteenth century, the tenements of the Old Town did not have indoor sewage disposal facilities, and the citizens emptied their chamber pots by throwing the contents out the window onto the street below. The stench was considerable. Thus, one interpretation of the meaning of the title is that it is a euphemism for these unsavoury, tasteless 'blooms'. Another interpretation is that the title refers to the young ladies of the city. Take your pick!

The dance is a reel from the RSCDS Book 1; it was originally published in 'The Ballroom', 1827.
- from Wikipedia, <http://gdaebouzouki.blogspot.com/> and the Strathspey Server

EVENTS – LOCAL Scottish Country Dance Events

2019

- Nov 16th** St Andrews Social, 7:30 pm, \$10.00. The program was in the September newsletter.
Dec 14th Christmas Social, 7:30 pm, **Free**. Music by Mary Ross. The program is in this issue.
Dec 31st Tuesday. New Year's Eve Social, 6:00 pm – Midnight. The program is in this issue.

2020

- Jan 7th** Open House, 7:30 pm, City Light Church Hall. No charge.
Jan 18th Burns Social, 7:30 pm, \$15.00. Music by Mary Ross.
Feb 15th Valentine's Tea Dance, **3:00 pm**, \$10.00.
Mar 14th Ceilidh Dance. Details later.
Apr 4th Annual Workshop and Ball. See article in this issue.
Apr 18th Spring Fling Social, 7:30 pm, \$10.00.

All VISCDs Socials take place from 7:30 to 11:00 pm Saturday evening, except for the New Year's Eve social which takes place from 6:00 pm – Midnight, and the Valentine social which takes place from 3:00 – 7:00 pm. All socials are held at the City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue, except for the Workshop Ball, which will be held at the Edelweiss Hall, 108 Niagara Street.

OUT OF TOWN Scottish Country Dance Events

2019

- Nov 11th** RSCDS Vancouver Branch Lady Aberdeen Tea Dance, 1:15 pm – 5:00 pm. Adults \$15.00, children \$10.00. Info - <https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/lady-aberdeen-tea-dance-2/>.
Nov 30th Delta Borderers Afternoon Tea Dance 'A Tribute to Alex Jappy', Kinsmen Centre, Tsawwassen, 3:00 – 7:30 pm. \$15.00. Tickets – Mairi Maxwell, 604.946.2448; or Ruth Jappy, 604.594.6807. Info - <https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/delta-borderers-afternoon-tea-dance/>.
Dec 6th – 8th Scottish Country Dancing in Curia Portugal. Classes suitable for Intermediate and Advanced dancers. Info – www.moonluza.pt.
Dec 8th Gleneagles Ball, Pacific Ballroom, Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, 1:30 – 8:30 pm. Music by Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra. Tickets \$135.00; reservations - Gillian Muir, 778-279-3995 or muirnet@shaw.ca. Further info - <https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/gleneagles-56th-annual-ball/>.
Dec 28th RSCDS Vancouver Branch Betwixt and Between dance, Vancouver Scottish Cultural Centre, 7:30 – 11:00 pm. Free to Branch members; \$15.00 for non-members; Students - \$7.00. Info - <https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/betwixt-between/>.

2020

- Feb 14th – 16th** RSCDS Hawaii Branch Aloha Winter Weekend. Info - www.rscdsHawaii.org.
Feb 14th – 16th RSCDS Edmonton Caledonian Branch 50th Anniversary Ceilidh, Workshop and Ball. Further info later.
Feb 16th – 21st RSCDS Winter School, Pitlochry Scotland. Info – www.rscds.org/events.
Feb 22nd RSCDS Vancouver Branch Love to Dance Workshop, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. \$50.00. Info - <https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/love-dance-scottish-workshop-dance-2/>.
Feb 29th Comox Valley Scottish Country Dancers Snowdrop Special. Further info later.
Mar 21st – 22nd RSCDS Vancouver Branch Heather Ball Weekend. Dance on Saturday at Scottish Cultural Centre; concert on Sunday at Holy Trinity Anglican Church. Musicians – Colin Dewar and Alasdair MacLeod. Tickets for both events – RSCDS members - \$95.00; non-members - \$105.00. Info - <https://rscdsvancouver.org/dance/heather-balls-10th-anniversary-dance/>.
Apr 17th – 19th RSCDS Winnipeg Branch 49th Annual Weekend Workshop. Single combined class. Teacher - Ruth Jappy. Musicians – Ron Krug and Dennis Orr. Further info later.
Apr 28th – May 3rd RSCDS Moscow Branch Spring School of Scottish Dance, St Petersburg, Russia. Info – <https://springfling.scottishdance.ru/russian-spring-school-of-scottish-country-dancing/>.
May 1st – 3rd RSCDS Spring Fling, St Petersburg, Russia. Info - <https://springfling.scottishdance.ru/>.
May 15th – 17th RSCDS Spring Fling, Toronto ON. Info – <http://www.springfling2020.com/toronto.html>.
Jul 26th – Aug 2nd TAC Summer School 2020, Mount Royal University, Calgary. See note in this newsletter.