

Island Fling



August 2022

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society

c/o 3290 Woodburn Avenue

Victoria BC V8P 5B9

Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland

Web address: www.viscdis.ca

Executive Committee

President	Kathryn Knowles	250 598-3490	viscdspresident@shaw.ca
1st Vice President and Publicity	Louise Perry		
2nd Vice President and Membership	Barb Currie		
Secretary	Dawn Schell		
Newsletter Editor	Ray Fischer		
Treasurer	Martha Morrison		
Social Convenor Committee	Ellen Campbell		
	Donna Clements		
	Sheila Eaglestone		
	Lori Morrison		
Teacher Representative	Gordon Robinson		

The deadline for the next newsletter is **October 23rd, 2022**. Please send submissions to Ray Fischer at ray@fischerperry.com.

In This Issue: Welcome back!, Summer dancing, Autumn classes, Membership, TAC, Dem team, and Farewells

President's Comments, August, 2022

I am so glad to be able to welcome everyone back to dancing this September!

I hope you all enjoyed some summer activities; maybe you had a chance to enjoy the outdoors, get some extra visiting in, or just sit and read a book.

The dancing year starts with our Open House on Sept. 6th, an opportunity to share with family and friends one of our beginner friendly social events. Scottish Country Dancing is a multi-generational activity, so don't let age be a barrier!

I know many of you joined Bob Anderson for Summer Dancing during the break from classes, so you won't be as rusty as the rest of us.

Respectfully,
Kathryn Knowles
President

Many thanks go out to Bob for leading dancers through Monday night review classes and the Thursday socials during Summer Dancing.

At the present time the executive has stipulated that all dancers must be fully vaccinated, and the wearing of masks is strongly recommended. These health protocols will be reviewed as provincial mandates are updated. Please remember that regular hand washing (or alcohol sanitizing) also needs to be part of our preventive routine.

The City Light Church is getting a new pastor, at the moment there is no anticipated change in venue for our dance classes as a result of this change.

Remember to check the website for membership information, class details and upcoming events!

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
Winter 2022 Classes
All classes (except the afternoon class) run from 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Mondays, September 12th to December 12th, 2022

Tuesdays, September 6th to December 6th, 2022

Tuesday afternoons, September 13th to December 13th, 2022 (1:15 pm to 3:15 pm – note change of times)

Thursdays, September 8th to December 8th, 2022

All classes are held at the City Light Church, 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria V9A 1K5.

Mondays: Experienced Social. Teacher: Bob Anderson

Experienced Social for dancers with good knowledge of all common formations and who wish to dance more challenging dances and formations.

Tuesdays: Basic Class. 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.

Tuesdays 1:15 – 3:15 pm: Daytime Social. Teachers: Louise McGillivray and Joan Axford

A class for those who prefer a daytime class. We learn/review formations, work on phrasing, covering, handing and the “teamwork” in Scottish Country dancing. We do old and new favourites, and dances from upcoming socials. A friendly group that would love to have you join them, regularly or occasionally!

Thursdays: Intermediate. Teachers: Gordon Robinson and Gael Forster

This class is suitable for dancers who are comfortable with basic steps and formations, reels, and corner figures. This class will teach a range of formations in a mix of traditional favourites and different dances. Build your knowledge of Intermediate formations so you can dance with confidence and have fun! For more experienced dancers, this will be an opportunity to review dance formations and dances from upcoming social programs.

If you are new to the area or visiting from out of town, please contact us if you require directions on how to get to the classes.

Drop-in Fees

You'll find the opportunity to buy 10 drop-in classes for \$60 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.

Class Reps

Monday	Jan Beckett	beckettjanice@gmail.com	250 598-0464
	Barbara De Leebeeck	bdeleebeeck@yahoo.com	778 677-3124
Tuesday afternoon	Lori Morrison	bruce.lori.morrison@telus.net	250 478-7897
	Martha Morrison	mg.morrison@shaw.ca	250 595-6089
Tuesday evening	David Morrival	dmorr@telus.net	250 686-2811
Thursday	June Robinson	viscdspresident@shaw.ca	250 477-8317
	Louise Perry	louise@fischerperry.com	250 896-4176

Upcoming Events

Our open house is on Tuesday Sept. 6th at the City Light Church Hall at 550 Obed Ave. Please come out for a gentle welcome back dance night and remember to bring family and friends so they can see what we're all so enthused about!!

Saturday evening socials are at 7:30pm

Oct. 15th, 2022 Harvest Social
Dec. 3rd, 2022 Christmas Social
Jan. 28th, 2023 Burns' Night
Apr. 22nd, 2023 Spring Fling

Saturday afternoon socials are at 3:30pm

Nov. 19th, 2022 St. Andrew's Social
Feb. 25th, 2023 Valentine's Social

Dec. 31st, 2022 New Year's Social at 6:00pm
Apr. 1st, 2023 Workshop and Ball, venue still to be decided



Out of Town Scottish Country Dance Events

2022

Sep 30th & Oct 23rd Vancouver Ceilidh - <https://www.vancouverceilidh.org/>
Nov 4th – 6th RSCDS San Francisco Branch Asilomar Weekend, Monterey, California.
Registration forms are due by August 31st. <https://sfasilomardance.wixsite.com/asilomarweekend>.

2023

Mar 31st – Apr 2nd RSCDS Lethbridge Branch Milestones Workshop and Ball. Info (not secure) - <http://www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org/workshop.html>.

VISCDS Membership

The Returning and New member forms on the VISCDS web site have been updated for 2022/23 with the fee schedule agreed to at the last Executive Meeting. Membership fees have not increased in over a decade. Returning members class fees were increased by \$2.00 to \$110.00 for the full year. Class fees for a half year are \$60.00 and youth classes are free.

Membership fees are \$30 for adults and \$20 for youth (16 - 25).

Returning members class fees are increased \$2 to \$110 for the full year. Class fees for a half year are \$60 and youth classes are free.

New members class fees are \$95 for the full year. Sept. to Dec. class fees are \$45, and Jan. to Apr. class fees are \$60.

Drop-In Punch cards are \$60 for ten classes.

The membership forms for 2022/2023 are on the VISCDS web site

- Barb Currie, Membership

Teachers' Corner

Last December it was decided to combine the Beyond Basic and Intermediate classes into one class due to the limited attendance. We still believe that there is a need for a Beyond Basic class for dancers who have learned the basics but have not been introduced to a number of the standard formations in intermediate level dances.

The teachers will be talking to dancers over the fall to determine the level of interest for another class at this level. If you feel you would be interested in such a class, please speak to your teacher. This would apply for those in the Basic Class as well as more experienced dancers who would appreciate a class that reviewed the common formations in more detail.

- Gordon Robinson

Demonstration Team

FOLKTORIA

The team started practicing in May and performed for the first time since the pandemic at Folkloria in Centennial Square on June 5th. Folkloria is a folk festival which showcases the various ethnic dance groups and musicians in Victoria. We were privileged to share our favourite musician Mary Ross with the audience as she played for our performance. It was a true Scottish weather day as the rain poured throughout our performance but did not affect us as smiles were present throughout.

- Joan Axford

GreekFest:

The demonstration team have been invited to perform at GreekFest on September 3rd at 4 pm. This event is always lots of fun and the festival is always appreciative of our participation. GreekFest is being taking place at: 4648 Elk Lake Dr, Victoria. See their web site for more info:

<https://www.greekfest.ca/>

- Joan Axford

In general, as your dancing develops, please speak to your teacher at any time about whether you would be ready for a higher-level class. We always like to see dancers move to a new class or add an additional class (at no additional charge!) when they are ready for the next step.

Finally, as we start dancing for a new season, keep in mind that you have been away from dancing from several weeks or months. Even if you have been physically active and are in good shape, there will be muscles and joints that need a gentle reminder of what is involved in Scottish country dancing. Good warmups and a gradual start will help to avoid injuries and even just aches and pains.

We did a routine based primarily on dances from the ball program.

Thank you to Sarah Kell for stepping in at the last moment due to illness of two of our members.

The President of the Greater Victoria Folk Festival Society said it was one of our best performances. It was great to be in community sharing our music and dance. There are some videos of our performance on the VISCDs website.



The dem team in rehearsal

**TAC SUMMER SCHOOL
CALGARY, ALBERTA, JULY 24 -31, 2022**

Several dancers from the V.I.S.C.D.S. attended the TAC summer school in Calgary earlier in the summer. TAC, as you may know, stands for Teachers' Association of Canada, however it is a North American based organization for Scottish Country Dance teachers to which teachers and DANCERS from around the world can belong.

Every year the organization holds a workshop for a week beginning with a weekend specifically around the teacher's participation including dance workshops and an AGM. At the end of the teachers' weekend, dancers from clubs from all over join the event on Sunday night beginning a week of classes, evening dances and lots of wonderful music and fun.

Dancers from VISCDS attending this year were: June and Gordon Robinson, Katherine Miller, Sarah, Kell, Andree and Barbara De Leebeek, Gael Forster, and Louise McGillivray, pictured here in western dress for the Western theme night evening dance. The masked bandit look fit the theme!

Dancers were treated to excellent teaching instruction in the daily classes with teachers Raphaelle Orgeret from France, Robert Owen from Boston, and Jeanne Moody from San

- June Robinson

Diego. Fabulous musicians "play" a large part in the week's activities. Our own Mary Klektau Ross was part of the team of musicians at the workshop. Others included Ian Muir from Scotland, Judi Nicolson from Texas, and Kathy Fraser Collins from Ontario.

The TAC event was held at Mount Royal University in Calgary with accommodation in the residence. Covid protocols were very strict with masking required and consequently all participants could attend safely. This was particularly important as the workshop was postponed for two years due to the pandemic.

In addition to the workshops, the music and fun, the week also included a teacher training course for candidates planning to become Scottish Country Dance teachers. Gael Forster was instrumental in running the course this year in Calgary.

Planning for **next year's summer school**, to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia is already underway. So, if you are interested in a Maritime holiday with Scottish country dancing keep that in mind!



**THE WILD BUNCH (L TO R)
GAEL FORSTER, KATHERINE MILLER, SARAH KELL, JUNE & GORDON ROBINSON,
ANDREE & BARBARA DE LEEBECK, LOUISE MCGILLIVRAY**



**MARY ROSS
ON THE SQUEEZEBOX**

In Memoriam

Elsie Martin

Many of you will remember Elsie Martin as one of our long-time dancers. Elsie always had a smile and a kind word for those around her and danced with us in Victoria into her 90s. She passed away on July 13th, 2022 at the age of 103. There is no memorial service at her request.

- Kathryn Knowles

Edith Chapman



It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of our friend and dancing partner and Executive colleague, Edith Chapman.

Edith passed away suddenly on June 23, 2022, in Victoria. A celebration of life was held on July 5th at First Memorial Chapel when family and friends gathered to pay tribute to Edith. Master of Ceremonies was friend Colin Bonneau who kindly conducted the procedures and played the piano with a lovely selection of music. Edith's niece, Dawn Chapman, gave an emotional tribute on behalf of the family. The Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dancers performed a dance written by Edith called "Fort Worden Fun".

A lovely tribute from VISCDS was given by Sheila McCall. Matthew Baxter read the Eulogy and a message was given from Minister Jurgen Schulz. The hymns played included "Unto the Hills" and "He Leadeth Me". A reception followed the ceremony.

VISCDS wishes to extend condolences to Edith's dear sister, Margaret Chapman, her brother David, and all of her family. The Society will really miss Edith and her talents and contributions to dancing.

- June Robinson

From the Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Group newsletter of September 1977:

"Fran Clermont had a wonderful holiday in Scotland - so, also, did Edith Chapman who successfully completed her first certificate examination. Congratulations Edith!"

