

Island Fling



June 2023

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society

c/o 3290 Woodburn Avenue

Victoria BC V8P 5B9

Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland

Web address: www.viscnds.ca

Executive Committee

President	Kathryn Knowles	250 598-3490	viscndspresident@shaw.ca
1st Vice President and Publicity	Hilary Fedoruk		
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		

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President's Comments, May 28, 2023

Greetings!

Our AGM on April 13th was well attended, we surpassed our quorum substantially! We welcome our new 1st Vice President/ Publicity person Hilary Fedoruk – we appreciate your willingness to join the fold (again). Thanks go out to Louise Perry for the excellent job she did in that position, and we wish her well in her new endeavours.

Our group is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the RSCDS on Sept. 30th with an afternoon dance. It will feature a program put together by headquarters to feature a dance from every decade. Mary Ross will be providing the tunes!!

Please mark your calendars to ensure you are available to participate.

Open House(s) will be happening either at the end of August, or in early September. Everyone is welcome, so invite your family, friends, and neighbours to join us. The dates will be posted on the website, and I will be sending out a reminder email closer to the time.

Spring classes were well received. Thanks to Sarah Kell and Gordon Robinson for instructing for those six weeks.

Edith Chapman's dance was a great success. It was a perfect balance of tributes and dancing. Thanks again to Sarah Kell for orchestrating!

Summer dancing starts May 29th, with review evenings on Mondays and the socials on Thursdays. Thank you Bob for putting together such rich dancing programs, and for taking us through our paces so we can enjoy the socials with more confidence!

Look for our demonstration team at Folkloria at 2:00 PM on Sunday June 4th.

We will be dancing on the stage in Centennial Square, rain or shine! Our gratitude goes out to Joan Axford for coaching us through the routine with infinite patience and kindness.

Respectfully,
Kathryn Knowles

Check out our Facebook group: It will have the latest dates, latest photos, latest events, and occasional videos.
Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dancers.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the next newsletter is **August 16th**. Please submit any material to Ray Fischer at ray@fischerperry.com.

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
Summer 2023 Classes
All Victoria classes (except the afternoon class) run from 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Summer dancing with Bob Anderson starts May 29th with Thursday socials starting June 1st, through July 27th

All the classes are held at the City Light Church, 550 Obed Avenue in Victoria

Local Scottish Country Dance Events

June 3rd & 4th Folkloria at Centennial Square. Our VISCDs demonstration team will be performing Sunday at 2p.m.
Poster below, details at <https://www.folkloria.ca/>

Out-of-Town Scottish Country Dance Events



TAC Summer School
July 30 – August 6, 2023



Teachers

Sharon Barker (Canada)
Gary Coull (Scotland)
Alan Twigg (USA)
Ron Wallace (USA)

Musicians

Kathy Fraser Collins (Director)
Fred Collins, Ian Muir, Judi
Nicolson, Gary Thomas, Don
Wood

*Enjoy a week of dancing in
Halifax, Nova Scotia*

Dancers of all levels welcome



Check website for updates and
online registration

tac-rscds.org

Sponsored by Scottish Country Dance Teachers'
Association (Canada)



160th Highland Games Summary: May 2023

The 160th Highland Games took place on the May Long Weekend at Topaz Park. Once again, the VISCDs tent was in the Clan area, and although the Clan space in general was smaller than in previous years, it did provide us with a visible presence.

Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers who manned the booth so enthusiastically during the 2 days. In total 132 brochures and an additional 76 small posters and an undetermined number of business cards were handed out to interested visitors. Our volunteers spoke enthusiastically about the fun and benefits of Scottish Country Dancing and the varied activities of the club. Over the course of the 2 days 16 names were taken to be added to the VISCD mailing list regarding upcoming Ceilidhs and free events the VISCDs is involved in. Although exact numbers from previous years are not known, there was a significant increase in the number of brochures handed out and the number of names and emails taken this year.

Thank you once again to the 21 enthusiastic volunteers who stood firm against the gale force winds and made the VISCDs participation in the Games a success. Also, many thanks to Louise Perry who co-chaired in spite of having stepped down from the Executive in April due to other commitments.

Martha Morrison
VISCDs Treasurer





Our annual Spring Social was held at City Light Church on Saturday, April 22, 2023. It was a great dance and although the weather wasn't very "spring like", with rain and high winds that day, dancers came out ready for a "Spring Fling." The Tuesday evening Basic class hosted the evening, some involved in hosting a Van Isle social for the first time. Sheila McCall, Basic class teacher, directed the dancing. There was an interesting selection of dances from old favorites such as "Flowers of Edinburgh", "White Heather Jig" and "De'l Among the Tailors" to a challenging run with "The Glens of Angus" and "The Hunting Horn"! Van Isle favorites included "The Enchanted Garden" written in honor of our Butchart Gardens and the popular "City of Belfast". There were eight sets on the dance floor early in the evening so the turn-out was great. It was wonderful to see beginning dancers fully participating and experienced dancers helping them along! Many thanks to Sheila and the Basic class and a special thanks to our standing social committee of Sheila, Lori, Donna and Ellen! Thanks to everyone for coming out and all who helped with the evening!

– June Robinson

SPRING DANCE CLASSES REPORT April/May 2023

This year it was decided to offer a six-week series of classes running from April 18 to May 23.

The classes were held on Tuesday evenings to encourage dancers from the Basic class to continue their dancing and to provide an evening for all dancers to participate in dancing after the completion of the winter dance season. The pre-registration cost was \$36 for 6 classes. Drop-in dancers were also invited to attend at \$8.00 a class.

Twenty-three dancers pre-registered and attendance was very consistent. Over the course of the six weeks there were 21 drop-ins (including one youth). The last class on May 23 included visiting dancers from Calgary and North Vancouver.

Sarah Kell taught the first 3 classes, April 18, 25, May 2 and Gordon Robinson the last three May 9, 16, 23. The classes included the opportunity to practice the dances for the tea dance held on May 13 in memory of Edith Chapman and an opportunity to promote the Highland Games. It was nice to have Sarah "back in the saddle" teaching this spring. June Robinson, class rep, presented Sarah and Gordon with potted spring flowers and cards from the class in thanks.

– June Robinson



VISCDS Newsletter, May 1983

FOLK FEST

Our demo team is dancing three evenings at Folk Fest. They can be seen Wednesday, June 29th at 6.45 p.m., Thursday, June 30th at 8.35 p.m. and Friday, July 1st at 7.45 p.m. Give yourself a real thrill by coming out to watch and thereby supporting our dancers. Also visit the Senior Citizens Hall adjoining Centennial Square to see the display of "things Scottish". It will be there all week from June 27th - July 3rd.

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society

AGM

April 13, 2023

The annual general meeting of the Society was held at City Light Church Hall on the evening of April 13.

It was an occasion as it was the first time in **three** years that the Society has been able to meet for the AGM in person. The annual general meetings for 2020, 2021, and 2022 were all held via Zoom. It was a wonderful turn out with 35 members in attendance. Everyone appreciated the opportunity to meet again and, of course, the attraction of dancing after the meeting added to the appeal of an AGM.

President Kathryn Knowles opened the meeting by asking for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the 2022 AGM. Assisting Kathryn with conducting the meeting was Secretary Dawn Schell.

Reports from the members of the Executive had been distributed two weeks ahead of the meeting so all that needed to be done was to ask for any questions and a motion to accept the reports was passed. Thank you to the following members for their reports.

President – Kathryn Knowles
Treasurer – Martha Morrison
Publicity and 1st Vice President – Louise Perry
Membership and 2nd Vice President – Barb Currie
Newsletter Editor – Ray Fischer
Social Convener – Lori Morrison
Teacher's Representative – Gordon Robinson
Demonstration Team – Joan Axford
Workshop/Ball - Kathryn Knowles

Kathryn continued the meeting with announcements of up-coming dance events. A questionnaire regarding Covid safety requirements was prepared for the members to complete.

Election of officers of the Executive was one of the final orders of business. The Nominating committee of Sue Langridge and Sheila Eaglestone presented the nominee for the position of first Vice President and Publicity, Hilary Fedoruk. Hilary was elected by acclamation. All other members of the Executive had agreed to stand again and all were elected by acclamation.

The VISCDS Executive members were introduced, and a big thankyou was extended to all the Executive members for their work for the Society. Kathryn thanked outgoing 1st Vice President Louise Perry and June Robinson who completed her year of being Past President.

The meeting was adjourned, and dancing commenced with the direction of teacher Gordon Robinson.

June Robinson



Victoria Workshop and Ball 2023

The annual dance workshop and ball of the VISCDS was held on April 1st at the Edelweiss Club in James Bay in Victoria. Eighty-nine dancers registered for the workshop and ball. The society was pleased to welcome guests from many clubs from the Lower Mainland, Salt Spring Island and Nanaimo as well as a great turn out of local dancers including students from Royal Roads University in Victoria.

It was wonderful to be back in pre-pandemic format again, welcoming dance teacher Linda Henderson from San Francisco. Linda had been invited three years ago, when the event was cancelled, in 2020. Linda is a fantastic teacher and her clear instruction, friendly demeanor and great humour made for a delightful day of classes both morning and afternoon. Accompanying Linda was pianist Julie Smith from Langley.



The evening Ball, also at the Edelweiss club, started promptly with the Grand March directed by Maureen Orr and piper Jamie Orr. The dancers were led into the hall and the dance began!

The Masters of Ceremony for the evening were Heather Hermanson and Rob Langridge. Our capable Van Isle teachers briefed the program throughout the evening. Music played by the Tartan Players from Vancouver was enjoyed by all and ensured a wonderful evening.



The break about halfway through the evening included a lovely spread of savories and sweets. After refreshments the dancing commenced, and the well-thought-out dance program was completed. Kathryn Knowles, Chair of the Workshop/Ball committee thanked the workshop and ball committee for all the work involved in planning the event and all others who participated to make the day a great success.



The members on the committee for this year's event were: Kathryn Knowles, Barb Currie, Gael Forster, Anita Mathur, June Robinson and a special thanks to Lori Morrison and her team from the social committee, Donna Clements, Sheila Eaglestone, and Ellen Campbell. At the end of the evening dancers were already asking about next year's event – plans will soon be underway for workshop and ball 2024!

- June Robinson



Edith's Memorial Tea Dance

Saturday the 13th of May saw several of our members gather at City Lights Church for a dance and memorial for Edith Chapman who had been a member of our branch for decades, serving in many roles in the branch, most recently as newsletter editor.



Edith's Memorial Tea Dance			
May 13, 2023			
Dance	Start Time	Level	
First Member Fun	8:30	1	
The Duke of York's	9:00	2	
Polonaise	9:30	3	
Short Break			
Old Farmer's Farewell to Auchincloss	10:00	4	
Miss Milgram's Stridway	10:30	5	
A Trip to Paris	11:00	6	
Short Break			
Musical	11:30	7	
Men's Wedding	12:00	8	
Tea Break			
Evolutionary Fun	1:00	9	
Cherry Lane Gardens	1:30	10	
Broken Ring	2:00	11	
Short Break			
Shuffleboard Contest	2:30	12	
A Luncheon Celebration	3:00	13	
The Montgomery Ward	3:30	14	
Waffle			



Mary Ross was there to provide the music, Jamie Orr provided pipe tunes, and between sets of dances people shared memories of Edith.



The dances were some of Edith's favourites and there were treats for tea. (Our photographer seems to have been distracted and there are no photos of them, but we hear that they were very nice)



Our demonstration team performed during the break for tea, starting with two couples and adding an additional couple for each of the five dances they showed us. A video of the performance can be seen on the Facebook page for the Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dancers



Present were Edith's brother, David Chapman, and sister, Margaret Chapman who joined us in a couple of dances.



Margaret is holding up a bag that Martha Morrison made for her, and it is silk screened with symbols important to the VISCDs

The certificate David is holding reads, in part:

The following has been entered into the Book of Remembrance at the Head Office of the RSCDS at 12 Coates Crescent in Edinburgh

Edith Chapman, remembered as a teacher, dance devisor, and valued executive member of the Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society

