

# Island Fling



## August 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.viscdis.ca](http://www.viscdis.ca)

### Executive Committee

President	Kathryn Knowles	250 598-3490	<a href="mailto:viscdspresident@shaw.ca">viscdspresident@shaw.ca</a>
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	Joan Axford		

**In This Issue:** Summer dancing, Information about fall classes, the RSCDS turns 100!

### President's Comments, August 2023

As I sit here with multiple fans blowing and the windows open for a cross draft it seems hard to imagine that fall is around the corner. Classes start up the first week of September! We encourage you to bring friends and family to our "newcomer's" classes being held every Tuesday in September.

We are ever so grateful to be able to continue on at the City Light Church hall! The office administrator and the new rector have been very accommodating with our booking requests for classes and socials. You will find the class information and the dates for the socials in this newsletter.

Our first social, on the afternoon of September 30<sup>th</sup> celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RSCDS. The special dance program written by headquarters in Edinburgh includes dances through the decades, and the music will be played for us by Mary Ross!

I look forward to seeing you all again soon!!

Respectfully,  
Kathryn

**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 **October 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please submit any material to Ray Fischer at [ray@fischerperry.com](mailto:ray@fischerperry.com).

## Local Scottish Country Dance Events

**Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>** **Greek Fest.** Our VISCDs demonstration team will be performing in the afternoon, around 2pm.  
Details at <https://www.greekfest.ca/>

**Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>** We will be having an **afternoon dance to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RSCDS.** The program will feature a dance from each decade of the past hundred years. Mary Ross will be playing. 2pm at City Light Church, 550 Obed Ave, Victoria

## **September Open Houses**

This year, instead of a fall open house, the Tuesday Basic class is hosting four newcomer classes on September 5, 12, 19, and 26, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at the City Light Church. This is the perfect opportunity for you to invite friends, relatives, workmates, and neighbours to try out the dancing free of charge. You are welcome to come along with them to these classes. Sheila McCall, with the help of other teachers, will provide an introduction to the dancing at the beginning of each newcomer class, and the Basic class members will have their regular class and an opportunity to help others enjoy the dancing.

## **Class Descriptions – September 2023**

### **Experienced Social - Mondays 7:30 - 9:30 pm, Teacher: Bob Anderson.**

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

### **Daytime Social-Tuesdays 1:15 – 3:15 pm, Teachers: Louise McGillivray and Gordon Robinson**

This is the 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!

### **Basic Class - Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm, 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.

### **Intermediate - Thursdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm, Teachers: Gael Forster and Sarah Kell**

For dancers who want to move beyond basic formations and expand their repertoire, this class will teach a range of formations, work on phrasing, handling and learn a mix of traditional favourites and newer dances at the basic and intermediate levels. For more experienced dancers, this will be an opportunity to review dance formations in a social dance setting. Dances from upcoming social programs will also be included.

### **Demonstration Team – Teacher: Joan Axford**

VISCDs also offers a demonstration team to perform at community events as part of the ethnic culture in Victoria. The team dances at seniors' residences and centres, the Highland Games, Burns celebrations, Folkloria, Greekfest, etc. It is an opportunity to share our dance and music, and to encourage others to join our group. Each year, the team learns a new routine. You do not have to be an expert dancer. The team is always welcoming new members. If you like being part of a team and attending community events, this could be for you. The team meets on Tuesday at 7:30 pm about twice a month. For more information, please call Joan Axford at 250-474-1018 or e-mail at [joanaaxford@gmail.com](mailto:joanaaxford@gmail.com).

## Out-of-Town Scottish Country Dance Events

**Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>** The Seattle branch of the RSCDS will be having their **Centenary Workshop & Ball**, all day.  
Registration by Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. Details at <https://rscds-seattle.org/event/centenary-2023/>

## 32 Years and Counting!

Every year in April a terrible gloom descends on the VISCDs as the dancers realize that there will be no more Club dancing until next September.

And then Bob Anderson announces that he will host Summer Dancing with a lesson on Monday and a dance on Thursday. His amazing dedication saves the day and has for 32 YEARS! An accomplishment which he should be justifiably proud. You can see, in his patient teaching, a genuine desire to encourage all levels of dancers to be their best.



The team of Lori Morrison, Sheila Eaglestone, Ellen Campbell, David Walde, and Robin Gubby all worked seamlessly together to ensure that each night was a success.



Also pictured are dancers lucky enough to be there from the inception of Summer Dancing: Joan Axford, Heather Hermanson, Bob Anderson, Sheila McCall, Andrew and Jenny Harley.



Our thanks to Bob and hope you all will attend year 33 (that's a hint Bob)

Pat Warman

Photo: Fiona Warman



Photos: David Walde except where noted

### Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society Newsletter – August 1983

#### CEILIDH

The annual Ceilidh was held Saturday, July 30, at the Agriculture Canada Saanich Research Station near Sidney and everyone attending had a terrific time. The weather was perfect; the view, dazzling; the dancing, well chosen and great fun; and the food, (at least in our group) awesome! The displays of Highland dancing by Joan Axford and English garland dancing by the Sidney ladies group were typically well performed and most interesting to watch. While we had a good crowd, it's too bad that more did not attend as they missed a great day. Next year we will try to get it organized a little sooner, and not on a long weekend, so everyone will have time to make their plans. Thanks to Lucy Whitehouse for her efforts in organizing this year's do!