

Chair's Message

It has been a strange summer this year, with many hot and humid days, and tremendous downpours. However, this did not affect Dancing In The Park, which once again proved to be a very successful event. In addition to being fun it is an ideal way to promote a pastime that we all enjoy. Together with the work done by our Demonstration Team, who has been working hard during the summer months, we hope that we have caught the attention of the general public and perhaps secured some new dancers for the Association.

Now, as autumn approaches and cooler weather is just around the corner, our 2006/2007 dance season begins. We can look forward to another round of Association Classes, and weekly Social classes.

As well, the Association Monthly Dances start in September, the Association's Annual Workshop follows on November 11. Then there are many Christmas dances and Burns suppers to look forward to, the St. Andrew's Ball, and, of course, our Association's premier event, the Tartan Ball in February 2007.

Unfortunately, due to clashes with Crescent School's events and policies, the Monthly Dances originally scheduled for September and October 2006, have had to be combined. **Therefore, the first Monthly Dance of the season will be held at Crescent School on Saturday September 30th, 2006 and there will not be an October dance.**

Welcome to a new season of dancing, and I look forward to seeing you at the Monthly Dance.

Jan

Newtonbrook Scottish Country Dancers

Submitted by Kathleen Kynoch and Donald Holmes, Newtonbrook



Betty Thompson and her husband Tom were founding members of Newtonbrook SCD

Newtonbrook Scottish Country Dance Group originated in Newtonbrook United Church in September 1969 under the direction of Betty Thompson, who had been dancing with the Petronella Group at Henderson Avenue Public School, and who received her full teaching certificate in 1967.

In addition to Betty and Tom Thompson, some of the charter members were Heather Braid, Ina Ferguson, Jean and Tom Cardwell, Betty and Lloyd McHattie, Cathy and Nan Beattie, Arthur and Frances Fancy, Bob and Nancy Watters, and Frank Calder, among others. Bob Watters says that the dancers were told that they could attend the 1970 Tartan Ball but that they could dance only three dances, one of which was "The Reel of the 51st Division". Not having learned the entire program, the group was not experienced enough to dance anything other than those three dances and they were not to mess up a set of other dancers.

On September 25, 1971, Betty wrote to Newtonbrook United Church seeking permission to teach a children's class of Scottish Country Dancers on Saturday mornings beginning in January 1972. That class continues to this day under the tutelage of Margaret Ann Hunter, who taught with Betty part-time for many years and in 2000 assumed full responsibility for the class. Betty loved children and had a great affinity with them. She saw dance as helpful for someone dealing with a life-threatening illness or depression, and she encouraged these children to enjoy the movement of dance for it brought them happiness, and she believed it was therapeutic. Her knowledge of technique was extensive and her instructions clear. To this day, parents remember her kindness to these children. Her emphasis was not on learning dances but rather on learning how to dance and how to be a comfortable dance partner.

►Please see **Newtonbrook** page 2

September Monthly Dance

Date: Saturday, September 30, 2006
Time: 8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Place: Crescent School
 2365 Bayview Ave
Music: Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent
Hosts: Woodglen
 Highlands of Durham
 Petronella
 Please note that Crescent School has a no-nut policy

Jubilee Jig	8x32J	(Leaflet)
Reel of the 51st Division	8x32R	(13/10)
The Silver Tassie	8x32S	(leaflet)
Tarry Awhile	6x32J	(Gr/20)
Anna Holden's Strathspey	8x32S	(42/2)
Swiss Lassie	8x32R	(39/1)
INTERVAL		
Alan J. Smith	8x32J	(45/3)
Dancing in the Street	4x32R	(42/4)
Balquidder Strathspey	8x32S	(24/2)
EH3 7AF	8x32J	(40/6)
Sandy o'er the Lea	6x32S	(MMM2)
Maxwell's Rant	8x32R	(18/10)
EXTRAS		
Antarctica Bound	4x32J	(Scotia Cent.)
Duran Ranger	8x32R	(13/1)

Monthly Dance Admission

Members	\$20.00
Non-members	\$25.00
Children (under 18 yrs.) and spectators	\$3.25

New West End Social Group

Humbercrest, a new social group welcomes dancers starting Wednesday, September 20 at 7:30 at Humbercrest United Church, 16 Baby Point Rd. (Jane and Annette). Contact Barbara Kalmuk at 416-766-3879 or Dorothy Lothian at 416-762-5037.

Where's the Editor?

We all owe a great big thank you to Christine Bowers and her daughter Joanna Pidhirny for all their hard work in editing and producing the newsletter for the past two years. As we know, that's no mean feat!

We are the newly formed Newsletter Committee who will continue to edit and produce the newsletter. Contact any of the following dancers to pass on your ideas, photos, suggestions, or articles, or volunteer to join us on the committee:

Donald Holmes	416-226-6081	Judy Williams	416-924-3658
Janice Richardson	905-839-8280	Rob Lockhart	416-759-9845
Carole Bell	416-221-1201	Marian White	416-781-7795

The newsletter email address is setandlink@rscdstoronto.org.

Teresa Lockhart is the new Editor of Junior Jig and may be contacted at 416-759-9845 or email teresa-k@canoemail.com with ideas, photos and articles.

The Newsletter Committee

Newtonbrook

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► Betty's contributions to the Scottish Dance community were outstanding: she started Summer School in 1973 in Kingston, ON. Her husband, Tom, ever at Betty's side, initially financed the school that continues today in various locations. She participated in Caravan, ASTA, Geneva Park, ceilidhs, and many demonstrations in seniors' homes, clubs, churches, monthly dances, gala days, tattoos, balls, and parties. On the Sunday closest to St. Andrew's Day, November 30, Newtonbrook Scottish dancers dressed in full "glittering gear" acted as ushers and greeters for the church service at Newtonbrook for many years. Following the service, the dancers were treated to lunch and a party with the Thompsons. She was guest instructor for numerous weekends in Canada and abroad. One of her favourite ones was the June 8, 1980, weekend at Eastern Kent University in Richmond, Kentucky, where she was recognized as "Honorary Colonel".

To honour Betty for her work at Newtonbrook and in Scottish Country dance circles, Davie Ferguson created music and requested Bob Watters, a charter member of the group, to "put some steps to it". Thus was born "Betty Thompson of Newtonbrook," a 32-bar jig for four couples,

Betty, a Glaswegian, taught the Newtonbrook class from 1969 to 1987 when she invited Kathleen Kynoch, who joined Newtonbrook in 1986, to share the teaching responsibilities. She hand-picked Kathleen, not because of her Aberdonian roots, but because of her good sense of humour, and they got along extremely well. They shared similar philosophies about teaching and preparation for monthly dances and balls, dances of interest, and sometimes dances just for fun. They taught month-about for a couple of years. Finally, in January 2002, Kathleen assumed full responsibility for the class and is the current teacher.

Newtonbrook enjoys the reputation of being very friendly. The dancers, following the teachers' examples, have always been and still are willing to help a novice dancer at any time of the year. We remember that we were all beginners at one time. We dance on Mondays, and we have fun.

Fall Association Classes

The time of all classes (except Advanced) is 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. All classes (including Advanced) cost \$80.00 (including GST) and run for 10 weeks. Enrolment is ongoing and will be accepted after the start date.

At Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Ave., 2 minutes from Chester station

LEVEL 1: Teacher Lorna Larmour, starting Thursday, September 28.

LEVEL 2: Teacher Steve Coombs, starting Thursday, September 28.

At Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave., 7 minute walk from Runnymede station

LEVEL 1: Teacher Sandra Scott, starting Wednesday, September 27.

LEVEL 3: Teacher Barbara Taylor, starting Thursday, September 28.

At St. Leonard's Anglican Church, 25 Wanless Ave., north of Lawrence station

LEVEL 1: Teacher Carole Skinner, starting Monday, September 25.

At Broadlands Community Centre, 19 Castlegrove

ADVANCED TECHNIQUE: Teacher Jean Noble, starting Sunday, October 1, from 2–4 p.m. Informal auditions.

For information on all classes, please contact Carole Bell (interim for Ken Adamson) at 416-221-1201. carolewbell@sympatico.ca

Can you help?

Volunteers required to host Toronto Workshop/Monthly Dance participants

A number of dancers who attend the Toronto Workshop don't attend the dance at night. One of the reasons is that there is a gap of 4 hours between the events, they live some distance from Crescent School and it takes too long for them to go home and then come back. During the interval we would like to be able to offer hospitality to people from different parts of Toronto and particularly to out-of-town guests who are here for the day and have no place to go during this time. We hope that this will encourage them to come to the dance.

► Please see **Volunteers** page 4

Year 1 Scottish Country Dancing

Submitted by Carol Wiltshire

In May 2005 at the Spirit of Speyside festival in Dufftown, I saw Scottish Country Dancing for the first time but was too cowardly to join in even the simplest dance. I just didn't get it but knew I was missing out on some fun. In June, back in Toronto I watched week after week of Dancing in the Park, and I still didn't get it. Since September I've attended beginners' classes, workshops, Tayside social group, and some monthly dances. Finally, I get it.

This May, I not only danced at a ceilidh in Dufftown, but I also had the great luck to be in Kirkwall, Orkney, on the night of their SCD social group. It was held in the community centre right across the street from St. Magnus Cathedral. There I was beyond land's end being briefed in dances new to me. I'm told to poussette - I poussette. The dance calls for a petronella turn - I can do a petronella turn! I was asked which dance I'd like to do and on my suggestion, we did Maxwell's Rant. They were gracious, friendly people, welcoming and kind to a beginner from thousands of miles away. As dancing wrapped up at 10 p.m., the sun was still shining. It was glorious to reel in the Orkneys and now I look forward to year two.

Electronic Newsletter Equals Big Savings

Submitted by Rob Lockhart

Most of us enjoy *Set & Link* and look forward to its arrival every month. The newsletter is a significant benefit of membership, with stories on the events of our day, reflections of the past, and information on Scottish Country Dance events in our area and around the region and, indeed, the world. *Set & Link* is a vital communication that helps to define our SCD community. However, production costs are significant.

Set & Link is printed for the Toronto Association at cost. We print, typically, 425 copies each month (July and August excepted). The machinery and labour are donated so the cost resides in consumables: paper and ink. Paper is cheap; ink is not. Ink comes in waxy blocks costing about \$50 each, and each issue consumes at least 3 blocks of cyan (blue). Use of other colours varies according to the number and size of photographs.

Typically, printing costs average 24¢ per side x 4 sides = 96¢ per newsletter.

Then there is stapling (labour donated) and folding and stuffing, done by kids at a school for special needs, for about 10¢ each. Add a 53¢ stamp and the individual cost to the association for each newsletter is about \$1.50.

The newsletter is printed from an Acrobat file sent to the printer. The file could as easily be sent to members

who are computer savvy. They could view it on screen and/or print it on their home printer. They would have it faster than by post and they would have a record of issues without adding to the paper clutter at home. Also, links to "What's On" websites could be made live and just a click away.

Obviously, those who prefer their newsletter on paper should continue to receive it. However, if a significant number of members would opt for electronic delivery via e-mail attachment, it could mean big savings. For example, if 200 members opted for electronic delivery, the Toronto Association would save: 200 members x 10 issues per year x \$1.50 per issue = (200 x 10) x \$1.50 = \$3000 savings per annum. That \$3000 would then be free to support our programs.

So when you are filling out your Application for Membership for 2006/2007 and you come to the check-off box that asks, "I prefer to receive *Set & Link* electronically" keep in mind that the benefits to our community could be significant.

Are you in the picture?

Check www.snapnorthtoronto.com for photos taken at Dancing in the Park in May.

Click on July 2006 and scroll down to Royal Scottish Country Dancing in the Park.

Upcoming Events



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NEAR

SEPTEMBER 2, 2006, **The Tartan Scramble** at Calerin Golf Club, Erin. A fun day for the golfer and non-golfer. Check the Association web site for further details. Contact Ian Paterson 416-346-9628; ianpat@cogeco.ca.

OCTOBER 13 - 15, 2006, **Hamilton Branch Weekend 2006**, Hilton Garden Inn, Niagara-on-the-Lake. Teachers are Irene Bennett, UK; Ian Paterson, ON and John Walton, ON. Music by Elma Grech and Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. Contact John Dinsmore 905-945-5744; dinsmore@bserv.com or visit www.hamiltonrscds.org.

OCTOBER 21, 2006, the Peterborough SCDS's 3rd annual **'Lift Lock Linkin'**. Music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. Visit www.pscds-on.org for details or contact Colin Campbell 705 652-3576.

NOVEMBER 11, 2006, 9:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m., **Toronto Association Annual Workshop**. Teachers: John Wilkinson, Berwickshire, Scotland; Carol Howe, Grimsby, ON; Georgina Finlay, Weston, ON. Musicians: Bobby Brown, Laird Brown and Don Bartlett. Contact Ann Campbell 905-459-5213; acampbell@idirect.com.

NOVEMBER 25, 2006, **St. Andrew's Ball** at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto. Contact Michael Noble 416-449-8070.

FAR

OCTOBER 21, 2006, Lunenburg NS **South Shore Scottish Country Dancers Fall Workshop, Dance & Ceilidh**. Teacher Duncan Keppie, NS. Music by the Macadians. All events \$70. Contact Barb Carthew 902-766-0334; hb.carthew@ns.sympatico.ca or Sue Kashanski 902-634-4616; skashanski@ns.sympatico.ca or visit www.rscdsnovascotia.ca.

NOVEMBER 3 - 5, 2006, **77th Annual Conference Weekend and AGM** (November 4) for the Royal Scottish Dance Society in Aberdeen, Scotland. Contact Brenda Hurst 416-925-6982; brenhurst@hotmail.com.

FEBRUARY 22 - 27, 2007, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society's **Winter School 2007**, Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, Perthshire, Scotland. Contact Jill Henderson jill.henderson@rscds.org.

JULY 25 - 29, 2007, **International Scottish Country Dance School**, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS. Teachers are Mary Murray, BC; Robert McOwen, MA; Joe Wallin, NS; Duncan and Maggie Keppie, NS; Merrill Huebach, NS. Music by Tullochgorum, MA and The Macadians, NS. Contact Lydia Hedge 902-827-2033.

Dances with a Difference: reviving some of the old figures.

Featuring DUNCAN AND MAGGIE KEPPIE of Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

An event, in the planning stage, to be held Saturday, December 9, 2006

Watch for more information in the October issue of *Set & Link*.

Last Call for Fame and Fortune

Submit your 50th Anniversary Logo design to Jane Robinson by September 30, 2006.

Reminders of the Past

We would like to have an interesting display of our past and present at the various anniversary events next year, as well as a book that all would find interesting. To do this, we need your help.

Please call Isabelle MacPherson, 416-489-0988 if you have any photos, memorabilia or interesting tales to tell.

Volunteers

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► If you live reasonably close to Crescent School and would be prepared to offer them a place to relax, freshen-up and change it would be greatly appreciated. If you are willing to offer hospitality please contact Valerie Fisher, Workshop Convenor, at 416-497-4186 or v.fisher@sympatico.ca.

Thank you
The Workshop Committee

Remember...

- Deadline for October Newsletter is September 15.
- Monthly Dance is September 30.