

Chair's Message



How nice it was to have the October monthly dance not fall on Thanksgiving weekend. It was an added pleasure to be a part of Petronella's 50th Anniversary celebration. Thank you to all concerned. The RSCDS Toronto family wishes you another 50 years of wonderful dancing.

The Toronto 50th Anniversary Book is now available. It will be distributed through social groups where possible. If you attended the Gala, and haven't received your book, please let me know. For those who missed that splendid occasion, the book is available from me for \$10. Many thanks to the entire book committee under Chair Judy Williams for a most attractive, interesting volume. We appreciated all the material loaned to us though we could not use it all. Thanks to Teresa Lockhart's dedication in following up missing pieces, the book gives a comprehensive picture of our past, our present, and our hopes for the future. Thanks also to Rob Lockhart for his willingness to go well beyond the call of duty.

Some of the Sunday classes at Broadlands are devoted to teaching the dances submitted for the 50th and published in *Golden Chillies* (available from me for \$12). Why not come along and see what your fellow members devised? It is always an enjoyable afternoon of interesting dances.

The Toronto Workshop is almost upon us. Teachers are Stewart Adam, former Chair of RSCDS; Ruth Jappy and Keith Bark. Come and enjoy their skill.

Ruth, assisted by husband, Alex, will teach a special Friday class in Old Time Dancing at Clarke Hall, Mississauga. We hope you will join us in welcoming them as former residents and dancers in Toronto and thus another link to our past, another part of our 50th celebration.

Miss Milligan

by Ross Floyd



Among Scottish Country Dancers no name is as evocative as "Miss Milligan". Some Branch members knew her, many know of her, and the rest instinctively know that they should know. The latter group is perplexed when the former group frequently adopts a reverential tone when they pronounce her name.

Jean C. Milligan and Ysobel Stewart [of Fasnacloich] indicated upper stratum of Scottish society] were co-founders of The Scottish Country Dance Society.

Miss Milligan taught physical education at Jordanhill Teachers' Training College. She wished to restore and revive the old social dances and music of Scotland. Since there was no printed collection of Scottish dances, both ladies researched and collected dances from friends and relatives. An announcement in The Glasgow Herald invited those interested in "Scots Country Dances" to attend a meeting on 26 November 1923, and 27 people attended.

Miss Milligan was in the ideal position to teach teacher candidates the "right" way to perform and teach Scottish Country Dancing. Jordanhill students were obliged to complete three years of Miss Milligan's training (thereby becoming certificated Society teachers) as a requisite for their phys-ed credits and hence their diplomas. It's fair to say some graduates did not regard this aspect of training as a positive experience!

Miss Milligan began teaching the Glasgow class with over 60 members.

In 1927, the co-founders were sufficiently confident of the Society's success to establish the Summer School in St. Andrews. It became Jean Milligan's passion; she directed it until the year of her death (1978), and it became central to the success of the Society and its world-wide endeavours.

Miss Milligan was three times Society Chairman and was its teacher certification examiner. Many of our Toronto Branch/Association teachers recall appearing before her critical gaze. Her comments were incisive as she zealously maintained the Society's teaching standards. This writer can recall seeing the obligatory newspaper photograph of Miss Milligan holding aloft an accordion pleated series of airline tickets trailing to the ground, representing her biennial round-the-world inspection tour.

Without doubt her contributions to the (R)SCDS are beyond measure and almost beyond description. But there exists a controversial aspect to her influence. It was she who decided, arbitrarily and without precedent, that Scottish Country Dancing should have a classical ballet foundation. If there were several versions of a dance or formation she would have each demonstrated and then decree which one was "correct". Standardization undoubtedly made it easier for teacher and student alike to recognise proper style and execution.

But what of traditional forms which have undeniable validity? Scottish immigrants who populated Newfoundland and Canada from Nova Scotia to Ontario several centuries ago, brought a great deal of Scottish culture with them. Traditional dancing, in particular, was preserved from the 20th century "cleansing" of the art form. The recent renewed interest in step-dancing in Scotland spawned derisive labelling of solo dancing as "Cape Breton step-dancing". How ironic it was that Scots were unable to recognise their own heritage!

► See *Miss Milligan: Addendum, Page 4*

December Monthly Dance

Date: Saturday, December 15, 2007

Time: 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Place: Crescent School
2365 Bayview Avenue

Music: Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs

Hosts: Don Mills, Glenview, St. Clement's

Le Papillon	8x32 J	Children's Book-2
Petronella	6x32 R	Bk. 1-1
The Balquidder Strathspey	8x32 S	Bk. 24-2
Lamb Skinnet	8x32 J	Bk. 14-12
Lady Lucy Ramsay	8x32 S	Misc. 2
Bobby Brown's Canadian Breakdown	4x32 R	Leaflet
~ Interval~		
Betty Thompson of Newtonbrook	4x32 J	Leaflet
Delvine Side	8x32 S	Bk. 2-9
A Jig for Mrs Dunn	6x32 J	Children's Book-3
My Love She's but a Lassie Yet	4x32 R	Bk. 9-4
Seann Triubhas Willichan	6x32 S	Bk. 27-9
Davy Nick Nack	8x32 R	Glasgow Assembly
~ Extras~		
The Jubilee Jig*	8x32 J	RSCDS Lft. 11
12 Coates Crescent	4x32 S	Bk. 40-5
West's Hornpipe	4x32 R	5 Trad for 65-3

* Tartan Ball dances

Note: All dances will be walked.

50th Anniversary Dances

Jean Hamilton explains the background to dances of special significance in the Monthly Dance program.

Bobby Brown's Canadian Breakdown

Reel devised by Bob Millar

Bob Millar, founder of the East York Group in 1996, was a superb dancer and teacher. He taught Branch classes and particularly enjoyed working with Beginners. He was often invited to take on the responsibilities of an M.C. at special functions such as the Tartan Ball, the West Toronto Ball and Gala Day. Bob formed a demonstration team in 1967 which delighted audiences with polished and beautifully dressed performances.

Bob devised this dance with a "Square Dance" flavour to acknowledge Bobby Brown's connection to this other form of dance, for which he supplied the music for dancing at various outdoor venues during the summer months.

Betty Thompson of Newtonbrook

Jig devised by Robert (Bob) Watters

This deviser and his late wife, Nancy, were members of the Newtonbrook Group, founded by Betty Thompson in 1969 and preceded by her class for children formed in the Spring of that year.

Betty was a well-known teacher in Toronto and many parts of North America. She was instrumental in organizing the first TAC Summer School and became Director in 1975-76. Betty was a vibrant supporter of the Toronto Association. Her party pieces were always the highlight of the Branch Weekend Ceilidhs.

Centennial Ball Gowns — Donated to RSCDS Toronto by John Moss



to the delight of the Mayor-Elect at that time, True Davidson. We were a hit, and later in the year we performed at Edwards Gardens, Dunedin Castle, Casa Loma, and the Folk Festival for All Nations at St. Lawrence Hall. We had top billing, second from the last act. Bob wouldn't allow us to have any refreshments prior to the performance, and afterwards, there was nothing left. [The Ukrainians had slipped the remaining bottles of wine into their baggy trousers.] We discovered good costuming is an important part of performance (at least Bob did). We forced him to treat us to drinks at the King Edward, next door.

The dancers, pictured above, were Elizabeth Marriot, Chris Johnston, Margaret McFeat, John Moss, Margot Murray, Bob Millar, Verdun Bourdon, and Jim Macdonald. Our piper was Frank Meredith from East York. . . . *John Moss*

[Editors note: The Centennial Gowns were worn at the 50th Anniversary Gala Dance by young dancers from Rosedale as they demonstrated the signature dance, Mrs. Hamilton of Eaglemount devised by Jean Noble. See the October Set & Link for a photo of John Moss.]

East York Scottish Country Dancers thought we should commemorate East York at the Gala Ball at the Inn On The Park on January 6, 1967. It marked Canada's Centennial, and simultaneously, the union of the town of Leaside and the Township of East York. The Gala organizer shot our idea down in flames. Upset with this attitude, we purchased tickets to the grand affair for the team and booked a suite at the Inn.

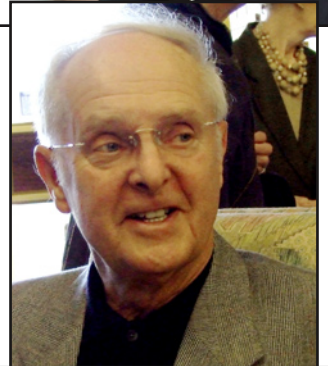
Using old photos from 100 years back to get the right effect, Bob Millar designed and made the gowns. I sewed the nylon net for each of the underskirts – 25 yards for each gown.

At the ball, we made a grand entrance down the staircase, much



Bob Millar, founder of the East York group and creator of the Centennial gowns.

THE 50TH GALA



Board of Directors

Communications: Carole Bell



I used to love train during Phys. Ed classes at school in Nottingham, England. Instead of rushing round a muddy pitch grasping hockey sticks, we girls would go inside to learn 'national dance'. There was a long gap in my dance experience as I emigrated to Canada in 1969, and it wasn't until the 1980s that I discovered Scottish country dance when Ron and I attended Frances Gray's class. The 'bug' bit both of us. While Ron retired and went onto the Executive, I continued teaching children with learning disabilities and attending Jean Noble's and Jean Hamilton's social groups until I also retired. It was then I got more involved in the Association and became Classes Convenor. It has been a privilege to get to know newer dancers over the last six years. Organizing classes gave me confidence to accept the challenge of a Board position.

Since my retirement, gardening has also become a favourite hobby, and I recently received my Horticultural Certificate from Guelph. I now belong to a Master Gardeners group, helping the public with their gardening questions. Questions, anyone?

What's in a Name?



Photo courtesy Andrew Kellier
RSCDS Headquarters, 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7AF

Edinburgh. Then I realized that *EH3 7AF* was the creation of that talented Yorkshire dance deviser, Roy Goldring, the pride of RSCDS Leeds Branch. Now *that* placed a whole different dimension on what was clearly a tongue-in-cheek piece of whimsy. Along with Canada, Britain started to introduce alpha-numeric postal codes throughout the country in 1959, finally concluding the undertaking in 1974.

So, mundane by name or not, let's give Mr. Goldring credit for adding yet another winner to his lengthy stable of outstanding RSCDS dances. The "Postal Code Dance", *EH3 7AF*, will be on the program of Toronto's November Monthly Dance for the enjoyment of all those in attendance.

There's a sad epilogue, reported in last month's *Set & Link*. Seventy-eight-year-old Roy Goldring died in September, 2007 after suffering a heart attack. He gave us much to remember him by.

EH3 7AF

This is a name? Of a dance? What will they think of next? My first thought on noting the 1999 emergence of a jig called *EH3 7AF* in RSCDS Book 40 was one of derision.

There are so many intriguing place names in Scotland that I found it hard to believe that something as mundane as a Brit postcode (that's what they are called) would surface as the name of a Scottish Country Dance, to identify the street address of RSCDS Headquarters

Edinburgh.

Miss Milligan: Addendum

(Continued from Page 1) In 1947, the then Princess Elizabeth became a Patron of the Scottish Country Dance Society. In 1951, her father, George VI, conferred the

designation "Royal". Upon succeeding to the throne in 1952, Queen Elizabeth II graciously re-confirmed both her patronage and the use of the title, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.

Membership Matters

Now is the time to renew your membership. Keep our organization strong and enjoy benefits such as this newsletter, the semi-annual magazine *Scottish Country Dancer*, and reduced fees for Monthly Dances and the Tartan Ball.

A "Keep In Touch" membership will ensure you receive *Set & Link* only. Mailing labels for the next issue will be printed by Nov. 15, so be sure to renew now.

Why sign in?

Every organization must keep records and our auditor stipulates that we must sign in at Monthly Dances or at any other Association function, incl. social group attendance lists.

... John Clark, Membership Director

St. Andrew's Ball

Ceud Mille Failte - "A Hundred Thousand Welcomes" await you at the St Andrew's Ball, co-sponsored by the 48th Highlanders and the St Andrew's Society. Join us for an elegant evening at the Royal York Hotel, Nov. 24, 2007.

Practice parties at Moss Park Armoury, Queen St. E. at Jarvis, will rehearse the complete dance program under expert instruction.

Ceilidh dancers have three practices: Tues, Nov. 6, 13, 20 at 8 p.m.

Scottish Country Dancers practice Nov. 13 and 20, starting at 7:30 p.m.



Tartan Ball

February 16, 2008

Fairmont Royal York Hotel

This is the highlight event in the Toronto Association calendar. In this, our 50th Anniversary year, we look forward to a huge turnout. We'll enjoy an excellent meal in the company of friends old and new, and celebrate a joyful, commemorative evening of dance led by Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent.

Tickets: Jim Stark (416) 691-8035

Sunday "Theme" Classes

Intermediate and advanced dancers are invited to special Sunday classes.

When: Sundays, 2-4 p.m.

Where: Broadlands Community Centre, 19 Castlegrove Boulevard, North York

Cost: \$8/class for members, \$10/class, non-members.

Nov. 4 - **Derek Haynes Dances.**

Teacher: Paul Maloney. Derek Haynes dances FLOW and are models of the dance deviser's art and great fun to dance. Some Haynes dances you probably have done include *The Black Mountain Reel*, *The Clansman*, and *The Famous Grouse* - but there are over 50 Derek Haynes dances in *Minicrib* from which to choose.

Nov. 11 - **Dances from 50th Anniversary Collection.**

Carole Skinner, a prominent teacher and choreographer of SCD will teach selected dances from the *Golden Ghillies* 50th Anniversary competition. There is a good chance she will teach her own entry, *Five Decades*, a 32-bar strathspey for five couples in a five couple set.

Nov. 18 - **Dances from 50th Anniversary Collection.** Teacher: Ian Paterson. Our Past Chair, Ian Paterson, also submitted an interesting dance to the *Golden Ghillies* 50th Anniversary competition. Surely Ian will choose to teach us his *Spring Bay Strathspey*, as well as other dances from *Golden Ghillies*

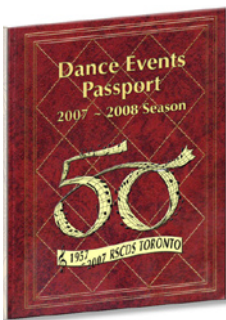
Nov. 25 - **John Drewry Dances.** Teacher: Kathleen Kynoch. There are few dance devisers more talented than John Drewry. Come and enjoy a Sunday afternoon exploring the breadth and creativity of a SCD legend.

Dec. 2 - **Interesting Three-Couple Dances.** Teacher: Moira Korus. Join talented Rosedale teacher, Moira Korus for a Sunday afternoon of 3-couple dances of unusual interest.

Dec. 9 - **Selected Dances from the Scottish Dance Archives.** Teacher: Jean Hamilton. Mrs Hamilton of Eaglemount will lead us through dances of days gone by. Some will be ancient, with misty origins in old Scotland; others will be related to the early days of RSCDS Toronto.

For information on all classes, contact Alice Chase 416-410-7078 (leave a message), chase_al@hotmail.com

Passport issues



It's not just about the stickers!

Your 50th Passport Committee is working to line up sponsors for the end-of-season draw for prizes.

The first sponsor on board is **The Duke Of York** - a very fine pub on Prince Arthur at Bedford. The prize is dinner for two, to a value of \$100. So fill up your passport and then turn it in to qualify for a prize draw (winners must be paid-up members).

Some clarification of rules:

Any RSCDS Toronto-sanctioned event counts: Branch Classes, Social Groups, Monthly Dances, the Toronto Workshop and the Tartan Ball.

Teachers may receive stickers for teaching one class per week; that is, if a teacher teaches two classes a week, s/he receives only one sticker. Demo Team members can count each performance and each practice. Executive and committee meetings also count, as does volunteer service at events.

A Christmas Gift

Celtic tenor, Peter Ian McCutcheon donated two tickets to his December 1st concert, **to be won by some lucky person at the November Monthly Dance.** The concert features seasonal songs with Celtic flair. On stage with Peter will be Rob Crabtree (Paul McCartney's piper of choice for *Mull Of Kintyre*). Tickets are \$25 each from Perth Productions: (416) 438-9458. www.petermccutcheon.com/



50th Anniversary Cookbook

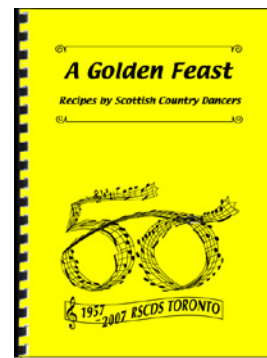


The Cookbook is in - just in time for your Christmas shopping. Cost is only \$10. Books will be available at the November Workshop and Monthly Dances.

Pre-ordered books can be picked up or you can have books delivered to your Social Group.

To order a book or arrange delivery, contact Theresa Malek: theresamalek@rogers.com

416-535-4447 (H);
416-767-9289 (W).



<http://york.thedukepubs.ca/>



Trivia Contest Winner

Monthly Dance Convener, Forbes Duncan, awarded a certificate for free entry to a Monthly Dance to Alice Chase, first winner of the Trivia Question at October's Monthly Dance. Alice knew the extra dance, *Bridge of Nairn*, on October's program is a featured dance for the upcoming season, as published in *Scottish Country Dancer*.

Alice dances at Woodglen and Hillcrest. She is Convener for Association classes and looks after the RSCDS Phone Line.

Upcoming Events

NEAR

NOV. 10, 2007. **Toronto Workshop and Dance** at Toronto French School, 318 Lawrence Ave. East (at Bayview and Lawrence). Teachers: Stewart Adams, Scotland; Ruth Jappy, B.C.; Keith Bark, Toronto. Musicians: Bobby Brown, Laird Brown, Don Bartlett. Dance from 8-10 p.m. at Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Ave. (one light north of Lawrence). Music: Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Contact Valerie Fisher, 416-497-4186, v.fisher@sympatico.ca or visit www.rscdstoronto.org

DEC. 10, 2007. **Scarborough Christmas Dinner Dance** will be held in Q-SSIS Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Road, Scarborough. Music by Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Tickets \$40. Call Margaret at 416-283-4790.



DEC. 14, 2007. **Erin Mills' Christmas Dance** will be held at 8 p.m. at Cooksville United Church. Music: Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Tickets/Crib \$18 each. For information and tickets contact the Hamiltons 905 566-9599



DEC. 31, 2007. **Erin Mills Hogmanay Dinner and Dance** at Clarke Hall. Port Credit, Mississauga. Dance to Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Tickets \$80. Contact Keith R Bark 905-822-1707 barkk@rogers.com



Ghillies Available
Ladies black ghillies, size 6b. Contact Kathryn Adams 416-463-2245

Found
A small circular broach. Contact Douglas Worling, 416-925-6982

Demo Pool: New Practices

Sundays, November 18 & December 2 from 1 - 2 p.m. have been added to the schedule of Demo Pool practices at Broadlands.

Contact Deirdre MacCuish Bark at barkd@rogers.com or 905-822-1707.

Errata — Correct your copy of the revised **Adult Social Group** Listings. Kathleen Kynoch's phone number is 905-731-3236.

In the **Golden Ghillies** dance book, correct page 8, *The Anniversary Salute* to read:
Bars 15 - 16 While 1st and 3rd couples turn with RIGHT hands.
Bars 23 - 24 While 1st couple turn with LEFT hand to finish facing each other...

FAR

FEB. 15-17, 2008. **Aloha Winter Weekend Dance and Workshop in Hawaii.** For registration form and brochure contact www.RSCDSHawaii.org Click on the link for the Aloha Winter Weekend. ALOHA, and we hope to see you there!



FEB. 21-26, 2008. **RSCDS Winter School 2008**, Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, Perthshire. Contact Jill Henderson at jill.henderson@rscds.org

FEB. 29, MARCH 1-2, 2008. **Belleville Scottish Country Dancers' Workshop and Ball** with Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Teachers: To be announced. Contact Bill and Jan Cunningham, 613-965-4212 or Michael and Linda McCarey, lmccarey@sympatico.ca or 613-967-1827

SEPT. 6-13, 2008. **Roots Festival** is to be held in Angus & Dundee, Scotland for people whose ancestors came from the area. This will be a packed programme of events with visits to ancestral sites, living history re-enactments, talks, demonstrations, film shows and much more... Contact Festival Director, Henny King, at E: hennyking1@btinternet.com, tel. +44 (0)1382 350244 or Gillian Harrower, 01738 860523 or gillian@tals.co.uk

Let's Have a Ceilidh!

March 15, 2008



We are looking for singers, musicians, dancers, and skits with a mix of serious and spoof items. The

Special Events committee is hosting a Hidden Talent/Ceilidh Night. Here dancers can showcase their other entertainment skills.

The cost will be \$10, location to be announced.

Think about what you could contribute, and contact Theresa Malek (416) 535-4447 theresamalek@rogers.com



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notice . . .

Please send submissions to carolewbell@sympatico.ca. Deadline for December is November 15.