

RSCDS SET & LINK

Toronto

www.dancescottish.ca

From the Chair...

THE TORONTO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ Vol. 14, #4 ~ December 2017

WASNT THAT A PARTY?



Jean Lindsay

Hello Dancers. Welcome to the last month of 2017. There were a lot of activities in November including commemorative ones. I hope you were able to attend as many as possible.

The *Diamond Anniversary Cookbook* is full of a wide range of recipes, and you will enjoy trying them. Many thanks to Theresa Malek and her committee for the work done on this project.

The December Monthly Dance will be lots of fun. We all look forward to Santa joining us again this year.

Christmas trees will be lighting up to add sparkle as days get darker. My family will head to the cottage for Christmas. If there's enough snow, we'll build a snowman. The best part of the fun will be watching our very lovable dog, Tallulah, playing in the snow as we all try to avoid her shaking the snow on us. Most of all, it's a great opportunity to spend time together.

Best wishes to all of you for a very merry Christmas, and a healthy, happy New Year in 2018.

Warm regards,

*"You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching.
Love like you'll never be hurt. Sing like there's nobody
listening. And live like it's heaven on earth."*

...William Watson Purkey



Over 100 dancers followed piper Peter Cotton in a Grand March into the ballroom at Sala Caboto. Once dancers were assembled, Chair Jean Lindsay welcomed our Guest of Honour, Andrew Kellett, Chair Elect of the Society. He brought us warm greetings from Coates Crescent and complimented RSCDS Toronto for our 60 years of accomplishment. Then he, too, joined the crowd and danced all evening.

Scotch Mist was on fire. Their music kept spirits high all evening, and many dances were reprised. The very do-able and meaningful programme devised by David Booz reminded us of Toronto devisors and characters and allowed us to honour them in dance.

In the foyer, Liz and Ian Clunie set up a TV screen running a video which presented an overview of our past six decades [see video at: <https://youtu.be/1wXthQnELOE>].

Other special guests included two original members of RSCDS Toronto: Sandy Bain and Georgina Finlay (whose dance, *St Andrews Links*, was on the programme). Happily, quite a few of the dancers on the floor were new faces since the 50th Gala and they were excited to join us for the 60th. Onwards to our 70th!

Tea & Chat with Andrew Kellett provided opportunity for questions and lively discussion. We

asked the Chair Elect, "What should he specifically, and Coates Crescent generally, be doing better to promote SCD?" He said one of his aims is to improve networking among the various branches (and, aptly, one of our neighbouring branches joined us). We discussed the decline of Society membership across the world (30,000 in 1990; 12,500 now) but he noted that, recently, about half of the branches have actually grown — including, especially, Toronto — and he was eager to share our success model. "Certainly," he remarked, "the glory days of the past are something to be proud of, but . . . Do not to be imprisoned by it. The standard of dancing was not better then; the teachers were not better then."

Andrew applauded each one of us as a valued member of the SCD community. "You," he said, "are the RSCDS and should feel empowered by that." But that comes with responsibilities, among which is "for each of us to always be encouraging and helpful" and "to project what is best about RSCDS Scottish country dancing". He noted these qualities were fully apparent at the wonderful 60th Anniversary Dance. Andrew then thanked all of us for everything we do individually for SCD and for our contributions to RSCDS.



TEA & CHAT WITH ANDREW

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Toronto Association

on your 60th anniversary as a Branch of
The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

with very best wishes for many more years of
happy dancing!

Alan S. Russell

CHAIRMAN OF THE RSCDS

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 7AF
+44 (0)131 225 3854

Special Events

May Divers Teaches Dances of Tom Kerr (and a wee bit o' Glasgow!)



Sunday, December 10 ~ 2-4:00 p.m. \$6
Broadlands CC, 19 Castlegrove Blvd., Don Mills
 Tom Kerr is the reason the Queen never got sea-sick—he designed hydraulic stabilizers for Royal Yacht *Britannia*. Tom also designs interesting dances, usually with a story attached (e.g., *Cape Town Wedding*). May will teach Kerr dances but she also promises a wee bit of Glasgow.

Calvin's Christmas Party



Tuesday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m.
Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Ave.
 Calvin SCD Group invites all dancers to join our Christmas Party. We'll dance to wonderful music by Don Bartlett on piano. Your \$10 entry includes light refreshments at the interval. Info: Nancy Stokes 416 425 2195 naristo@rogers.com or Mary Baldwin 416 485 8280 mbaldwin456@hotmail.com

Glenview's Christmas Dance



Wednesday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.
Glenview Presb. Church, 1 Glenview Avenue
 Join us at Glenview's annual Christmas Dance for a fun evening of dancing to the music of Fred Moyes. Refreshments provided by Glenview members will follow. \$15 at the door.

St Clement's Christmas Treat

Monday, December 18 ~ 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Bishop Strachan School, 298 Lonsdale Road



Welcome one and all to share our Christmas Treat. We'll have the extraordinary Don Bartlett to play for us in the beautiful ROYAL GYM of Bishop Strachan School. It will be a joyful end-of-season programme.

Delicious refreshments provided. \$10 at the door.

Glenview's Hogmanay Dance & Ceilidh



Sunday, December 31 ~ 8 p.m.-1:00 a.m.
Grace Church On-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd.
 Glenview's Hogmanay celebration is always a much anticipated event to end the year. Music by Scotch Mist. Enjoy bring-and-share treats about midnight, and prepare to laugh during the ceilidh afterwards.

Tickets at \$30 are limited. Reserve now from Valerie Fisher: v.fisher@sympatico.ca info: www.glenviewscdg.org

BROADLANDS

Sunday, January 21

Figure it out

Keith Bark will teach dances that contain common figures that are slightly twisted. Sounds perfectly mischievous!

Sunday Jan. 21 ~ 2-4 p.m. ~ \$6 at the door

Broadlands Centre, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

{ For Intermediate & Advanced Dancers }

January Monthly Dance



2017-18 Programme by David Booz

Date & Time: Saturday, January 20 at 8 p.m.
Place: Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Avenue
Music: Scotch Mist
Hosts: • St Andrew's of Brampton • Bloorlea • Glenview

† The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 22/10
Salute to Miss Milligan	8 x 32 R	Drewry Canadian Book
Linnea's Strathspey	8 x 32 S	RSCDS Book 47/2
β The Tri-Mariner	8 x 32 R	RSCDS Book 48/8
† MacDonald of Keppoch	(2s32+2r32) M	RSCDS Book 49/11
† The Nurseryman	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 37/7

Interval

The Compleat Gardener	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Graded 3/14
Cuillins Of Skye	8 x 32 S	RSCDS Four for 1978
β Wedderburn's Reel	8 x 32 R	RSCDS Graded Book #18
Muirland Willie	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 21/9
† The Flower of Glasgow	3 x 32 S	RSCDS Book 46/9
† Memory Lane	8 x 32 R	Gene's Memory Lane

Extra

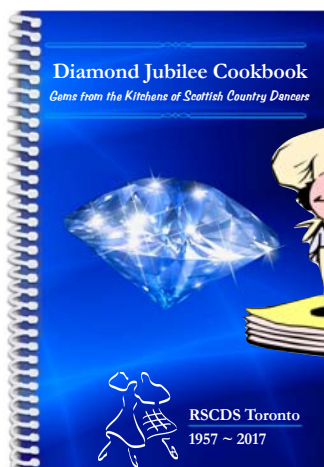
Lamb Skinnet	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 14/12
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β = Briefed only. † = Tartan Ball dance.
 Entry fee: TA Members: \$22 • Non-members: \$28
 • Students: \$10 • Youth / Spectators: \$5



fifty-fifty draw

At the November Afternoon Dance,
 Beverley Bennett won \$83.50 in the 50/50 draw.



Crave a Cookbook?

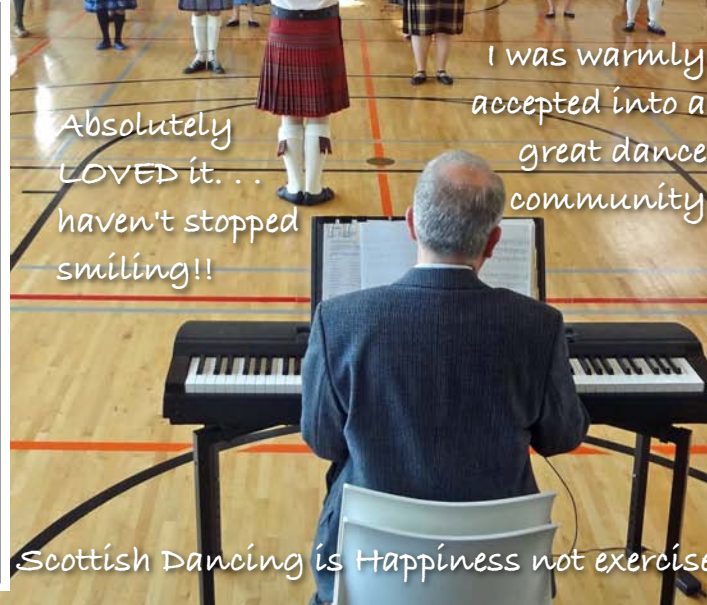
The 60th anniversary *Diamond Jubilee Cookbook* has 200 wonderful *Gems from the Kitchens of Scottish Country Dancers*. It has sold like, well, hotcakes! So if you want a print copy for yourself, or for a gift, please contact Theresa Malek ASAP. When they're gone; they're gone.

The cost is \$10 each. You can also get an ebook version for \$10 and those will continue to be available.

If you are too new to have the 50th Anniversary *A Golden Feast* cookbook, or if you have worn it out, you can order an ebook version for \$10.

Info and orders: Theresa Malek theresamalek@rogers.com

2017 Toronto Workshop and Afternoon Dance



It was... Brilliant!

The Toronto Workshop & Afternoon Dance was held for the second year at the splendid facilities of Branksome Hall.

Workshop day is always exciting, but it was also Remembrance Day. Classes were paused at 11 a.m., and we shared a collective moment of silence, honouring those who served, and continue to serve. The silence ended movingly with a solemn reading of *Ode of Remembrance*.

The dancing was exhilarating! Jim Stott passionately proclaimed, "If it's not a Scottish Strathspey ... it's nothing". He refined our technique to dance a *STRONG* Strathspey, a genuinely *SCOTTISH* Strathspey.

I was excited to see Maureen Richardson as a workshop teacher, as she was my first Scottish country dance teacher. There's a connection between a student and her or his first teacher, and I was pleased to experience her calm, reassuring instruction again.

We embraced challenging dances under Maureen's guidance, optimism, and infinite patience.

With Marion Hamilton's cheerful support, we synthesized technique with the mental aspects of dance.

The Afternoon Dance was cleverly devised and fun, and it was wonderful to be dancing in the airy, light-filled gym of the Athletics & Wellness Centre.

As a result of the hard work of the committee and volunteers, the day ran so smoothly. Many thanks! It was exhilarating!

... Elizabeth Baird





The Tartan Ball committee continues to work hard on the details of February 17 to ensure that a great time is had by all.

As you prepare for Christmas, consider buying someone a ticket to the Ball. What a great gift! Tickets are available now:

www.dancescottish.ca/Tartan_Ball.html

Volunteers Are Needed

Please consider volunteering some time to help us set up the Concert Hall the day of the Ball. We meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Concert Hall and have coffee and treats while we make the room even more beautiful for the big event. Contact Lois Adams at loisorangevan@aol.com to help decorate.

We also need line marshals that evening.

Contact Bill Barber at:
William.barber054@sympatico.ca


Special Practices for New-ish Dancers

The Tartan Ball is for EVERYONE. If you are a new-ish dancer, so that you can be well prepared, I'm excited to tell you there are three special practices on Sunday afternoons 2-4 p.m. at Broadlands Community Centre, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and Feb. 11. Please email laurie-m@rogers.com to reserve your spot. The classes will be taught by teacher extraordinaire, Barbara Taylor. The cost is \$7 per week.

The excitement and thrill of the Tartan Ball are not to be missed. ...Laurie McConachie, Tartan Ball Convenor

PHOTO FROM ROSEMARY COUPE [see opposite: Dear Editor]

Association Classes



All dancers, except for first-session beginners, must be members of RSCDS Toronto Association. The ten-week classes are \$100. Make cheques payable to "RSCDS Toronto".

Classes Convenor:
Catherine MacLean 416 996 1136
birchpoint123@gmail.com

All classes are 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Level 1 Beginner Classes: *In this class, dancers will learn the five basic steps of Scottish country dance and a variety of formations. These two elements will be combined in learning simple dances that incorporate some of the various steps and formations taught.*

Mondays: Jan. 8 - March 19 (no class Feb 19: Family Day) at St Leonard's Anglican Church*
Teacher: Jean Noble

Thursdays: Jan. 11 - March 15 at Eastminster United Church*
Teacher: Colin Philip

Level 2 Intermediate Classes: *These classes build on steps and formations learned at the beginner level and introduce more complex formations. The dancers become more confident in their skills and abilities and enjoy the challenge of more complex dances.*

Mondays: Jan. 8 - March 19 (no class Feb 19: Family Day) at Victoria Hall, Aurora*
Teacher: Tony Szeto

Thursdays: Jan. 11 - March 15 at Eastminster United Church*
Teacher: Teresa Lockhart

*** Location Addresses:**

Eastminster United Church
310 Danforth Ave. 2 minutes from Chester station
Class Representative: Margaret Roper 416 285 0367

St Leonard's Anglican Church
25 Wanless Ave. 2 minutes from Lawrence station
Class Representative:
Cheryl Catt cherylcatt47@gmail.com

Victoria Hall, Aurora
27 Mosely Street (at Victoria)
Class Representative:
Andrew Henderson hendersona033@gmail.com



✿ Ken Crowe

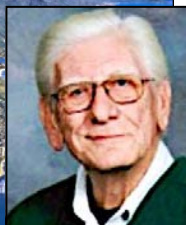
◆ John Drewry

⚙ Harley Davidson

#98 What's in a Name? Cape Town Wedding



Cape Town and Table Mountain



Barry Pipes

Before selecting this current offering for my column, I had never really given a thought to Scottish country dancing on the African continent. But why not?

We are very conscious of the fact that "Dancing Scottish" exists in such far away places as Australia and New Zealand. So why not Cape Town in South Africa?

Cape Town, on the south western tip of Africa, has a population of over three million inhabitants in its metropolitan area. Going forward from colonial days, it's quite likely the city was enhanced by any number of folk with Scottish heritage. Not only is there an RSCDS Cape Town Branch, 800 miles north, in the region once known as Orange Free State and Transvaal, but an RSCDS Branch also exists in Pretoria.

Pretoria? Wasn't that the Afrikaans capital city in the Boer War? The word *boer* is Dutch for farmer, but in today's enlightened times a Boer is more properly called an Afrikaner. Just south of Pretoria, RSCDS Johannesburg Branch serves a population of over four million people — with more than a few Scots among them. Here's another interesting fact. RSCDS Cape Town celebrated its Diamond Jubilee (aka 60th Anniversary) in 2010. Which is to say, it's seven years older than our Toronto Association. There's no doubt Scottish Country Dancing is alive and well in South Africa.

But what is this 32-bar strathspey *Cape Town Wedding* all about? It was published in 1996 in RSCDS Book 39. It's a lovely, well constructed dance devised by Tom Kerr, an ex-pat Scottish engineer who until recently was a resident of South Africa. Until now, I had not been aware of Tom Kerr's rich history but thanks to the support of others (thank you, May, Halyna, Rob), I now know a little more than somewhat about Tom. From all accounts, he is a real "character" with many tales of his experiences in South Africa and elsewhere in the world, such as Brazil and Iran, where he worked in the oil-fields. Tom actually learned to Dance Scottish in what is now known officially as The Islamic Republic of Iran.



Tom Kerr

He has an outstanding knowledge of the life of Robbie Burns, and he can rhyme off much of Robbie's poetry. A story Tom loves to tell is how he cured Queen Elizabeth of sea sickness. It seems that early in Tom's engineering career he designed stabilizers for ocean going vessels, including the Royal Yacht *Britannia*.

Cape Town Wedding is popular with dancers. Certainly a favourite of mine, this strathspey includes among other delights a tandem petronella — which reminds me that Tom Kerr has quite a story to tell about the dance. Tom, previously a widower, devised it to celebrate his second wedding. In the dance, symbolically, one is closely connected with one's partner more or less throughout the 32 bars. *Cape Town Wedding* also includes a tandem reel across the dance and concludes with, what else, the knot. I've danced plenty of knots but never considered them as tying things up in a marital sense.

Apparently, Tom's wedding did not survive the 'til-death-do-us-part principle. His marriage ended in divorce, though he and his ex remain friends. Not a bad outcome. In recognition of his divorce, Tom devised a dance sequel. He called it *Fare Thee Well*, and it has a new formation he invented: "untying the knot". For the record, one can purchase from TAC a book called simply *Tom's Book of Dances*. Although he represented Cape Town at the 2016 RSCDS AGM, Tom is now believed to be living in the UK.

For Toronto dancers, there is a nice bonus to this story. Toronto teacher May Divers will present a Sunday afternoon sampling of Tom Kerr dances (and a wee bit of Glasgow) at Broadlands, December 10, 2:00 - 4:00. Expect clever dances.

...Barry Pipes, mccallum.pipes@rogers.com



Dear Editor...

Regarding: *Lady Peak's Strathspey*

Ruth Jappy kindly sent me a copy of *Set & Link* with the articles on George Will. I was very happy to see this recognition for George. In addition to everything else he did for dancing and music, I shall never forget him as a candidate tutor.



Rosemary Coupe

I also noticed your piece on *Lady Peak's Strathspey* in which Barry Pipes asks if anyone can confirm John Drewry's presence in Vancouver in the 90s. John was here twice, in 1996 and 1998, and both times he stayed with his friend Ken Crowe, also originally from England and also a hiker and a dancer. Ken lived in the Fraser Valley, below Mt Cheam (pronounced shay-am) behind which is Lady Peak. He had his own "Glenfraser" dance group which sponsored one, and sometimes two dances a year in the 90s. In 1996 his dance was a *Salute to John Drewry* and the entire programme consisted of Drewry dances. The attached photo [see opposite page] was taken outside the Yarrow Community Hall after the dance. (Sorry it isn't sharper.) It shows Drewry in the centre and Crowe in a red kilt a few people to the left. You may notice the motorbikes: the Harley Bikers' Club members were heading into the hall as the dancers headed out!

As you may know, two dances in *Greenburn II* were dedicated to Ken Crowe: *As the Crow Flies* and *Lady Peak's Strathspey*. Unlike the easier Mt Cheam, no trails run up Lady Peak — it's a scramble, though not too difficult. Lady Peak was named for Phyllis Munday, a legendary early mountaineer in BC. The only peak in the range which requires a rope is the sharp-pointed Baby Munday, named for the Mundays' only child. It's nice to think that John Drewry enjoyed our local mountains.

... Rosemary Coupe

BROADLANDS

Sunday, December 10

Dances of Tom Kerr
(and a wee bit o' Glasgow)

May Divers invites you to a Sunday afternoon sampling of dances by Tom Kerr—and a wee bit of Glas-glow.

Tom Kerr is a jovial chap. He'll sing to you, and he'll tell you tales of his adventurous life. You don't even have to ask! Tom also devises interesting dances, usually with a story attached. For example, *Cape Town Wedding*. (And you know dances frae Glesca are grand.)

Sunday Dec. 10 ~ 2-4 p.m. ~ \$6 at the door
Broadlands Centre, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills
{ For Intermediate & Advanced Dancers }

DANCING IN PORTUGAL



A Portuguese Selfie

The international nature of Scottish country dancing allows travelling Toronto dancers the opportunity to join groups in other countries, share evenings of dance, and develop friendships with the world-wide dancing community. On a visit to Lisbon in September, Barbara and Michael Taylor and Glenna MacDonald and Ken Adamson were hosted by the Lisbon-Lapa Group, led by a dynamic teacher, Joana Ferreira.

Although their season had not started, some of

the dancers gathered to provide a wonderful evening of dance at the Church of Scotland Hall in the Lapa area of Lisbon. The challenging programme included Deirdre MacCuish Bark's *The Countess of Dunmore's Reel* in recognition of their Canadian visitors. Also included was a strathspey, *Jorge Taylor*, devised by Isabel Monteiro, another qualified teacher, who along with Joana has brought the group to an advanced level of dancing.

We were delighted by the Portuguese grace, enthusiasm, and hospitality. At the interval, they opened a bottle of champagne and plied us with cheese and delicacies. At the end of the evening and under a full moon, our charming hosts also provided transportation back to our accommodation.

The friendships developed that evening led us to reserve places at the Iberian Dance Weekend, which is an event held each year by the Spanish and Portuguese groups, with the venue next March in the beautiful Algarve Region of Portugal. Two hundred dancers are expected to attend with the Lisbon-Lapa group hosting.

Once again, this Lisbon dancing experience made us realize the rewards of being members of the worldwide Scottish country dancing community. We are indeed blessed.

...Ken Adamson



The Dancers in Portugal

ZOOMER SHOW

LIFESTYLE EXPO FOR THE 45+

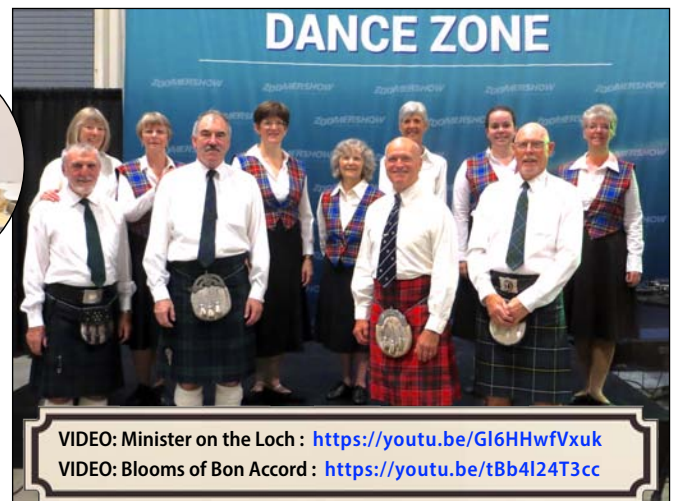
The Zoomer Show: I had heard of it but never visited it.

Lyn Barsevskis made the initial contact with the organizing management, and it appeared to be an ideal opportunity to showcase and promote Scottish country dancing. The show ran the weekend of October 28-29 and the demo pool was invited to present one 25-minute demonstration on Saturday and two on Sunday, including audience participation. The call for dancers went out and there was good response—but *only one man*. As we all know, men in kilts are irresistible, and we needed more of them to present Scottish country dancing at its best, so recruits were sought outside of the demo pool and we happily finished with a team including three men on Saturday and four on Sunday.

The show was well attended, and we had a good audience at all three time slots. We had no problem getting audience members to join us for the participation dances, and there was much laughter and controlled chaos while they were taking place. However, what was most encouraging was the number of people interested in talking to us about SCD and the quantity of promotional material we handed out. The proof of its effectiveness will be new dancers signing up for beginner classes in January; we can only hope.

Thanks go to Arlene Koteff, who helped us prepare, did the talking, and led the audience participation; Andy Henderson, who made sure the music ran smoothly; and the dancers, Sue Ann Bryce, Janet Morris, Mike Morris, Glenna MacDonald, Ken Adamson, Cheryl Catt, Kendra Beliveau, Erica de Gannes, Donald Holmes, Max Fothergill, Kevin Moloney, Fiona Alberti, Andy Henderson, Bill Barber, and me. The dancing was a joy to watch, and those dancers who were taking part in their first demo are to be congratulated. I hope they enjoyed it. Thanks also to the dancing friends who showed up to support us, helped with the audience participation, and were ready to talk to interested spectators and answer their questions. If we are invited back next year, we will bring a piper. That will really get attention!

...Stella Henderson



VIDEO: Minister on the Loch : <https://youtu.be/GI6HHwfvxuk>
VIDEO: Blooms of Bon Accord : <https://youtu.be/tBb4I24T3cc>

Back: Glenna MacDonald, Sue Ann Bryce, Fiona Alberti, Cheryl Catt, Stella Henderson, Erica de Gannes, Arlene Koteff.

Front: Ken Adamson, Kevin Moloney, Bill Barber, Andy Henderson

ZEAL FOR NEW ZEALAND DANCING



Catherine MacLean

Always bring your shoes. . .

When planning a trip to New Zealand, I was happy to discover I could attend the RSCDS Auckland Labour Day Weekend in November.

So, on an early Saturday morning, I set off, shoes in hand. It was great fun — many welcoming dancers and great music! Many

things were familiar: classes, tea breaks, and a delicious lunch. We had three teachers from New Zealand and Australia: Cairistiona Tait (Melbourne), Dianne Reyburn, and Ruth Budden (Auckland).

Cairistiona was great! She is a high school teacher, so accustomed to controlling a crowd. They don't rotate the teachers Down Under so I didn't get to experience the other teachers.

Cairistiona did an interesting exercise: we had to practice an obstacle course in strathspey. If we could dance around a backpack in 2 bars, we should be able to dance around a dancer.

Some of the dances learned were familiar, and others were new, such as *Maarten's Melbourne* and *Chasing Helen*.

Many thanks to the organizers for their hospitality!

... Catherine MacLean



PASSION, PARIS, & CHOCOLATE

Inspired by Paris, since 2008 MoRoCo has brought high adventure to chocolate — forging ahead with a passionate vision to produce the finest chocolates. MoRoCo's on a mission to give chocolate lovers the opportunity to discover and experience truly fine chocolate.

MoRoCo recently won three awards for new products: Miso Brown Sugar and Lime Caramel both won Silver awards at the Canadian National Competition and Miso Brown Sugar also won bronze in London, England **Two boutiques:**

MoRoCo downtown
215 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, ON M5R 2S6
416-929-2424

MoRoCo uptown
Bayview Village Mall
(until mid February)



www.morocochocolat.com

Grace Notes

Nora Brett

14 November 1932 – 31 October 2017

Nora passed away in her sleep in her 85th year. She endured several serious health problems for the past two years with grace and fortitude. Nora danced at Riverdale and Rosedale when Scottish country dancing started in Toronto, and she was an integral part of the Calvin group for the past 45 years.



Nora loved both Scottish and folk

dancing and could be counted on to attend regular classes, special events, monthly dances, and balls. Kind, compassionate, fun, and with a wonderful sense of humour, she was an accomplished teacher to challenged children, a playwright, and actress. She dedicated her life to helping others in any capacity she could. We will greatly miss Nora and send condolences to her family and all her friends.

... Calvin SCD group

Doreen Cleave-Hogg

14 June 14 1930 – 29 October 2017

Montreal was where Doreen started dancing in the mid 1960s and she was passionate about it. Doreen was a member of RSCDS and danced at several places in Toronto, including Trinity, Hillcrest, Erin Mills, and Brampton. She attended many balls, classes, workshops, and dancing in Sunnybrook Park. She taught Scottish dancing to seniors in Georgetown and Erin, and she went to Scottish dance events in different parts of the world, including Prague, Vancouver, an Alaskan cruise trip, and workshops around Ontario. She was on various committees over the years. Doreen loved Scottish dancing and it brought her much joy in her life. We extend our condolences to her daughter Janet Hogg and grandson Eric. ... Calvin SCD group



Ann Louise Hamilton

(Mrs Stan Hamilton)

1 April 1928 – 18 November 2017

Ann (Riley) Hamilton was a very friendly, sociable lady who unfailingly supported her husband, Stan, a well-known SCD pianist in both Scotland and Canada. They met in Ayr, Scotland, when she attended a dance where Stan played piano; she fell in love first with the music and later with the musician. They married in Dauphin, Manitoba, in 1957 and later settled in London, Ontario.



Ann & Stan Hamilton

Ann, a trained school teacher, was active throughout her life in both the Anglican Church and the Royal Canadian Legion, and she had many friends in the Scottish country dance community. Ann is survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Those who are left will always remember how Ann invariably had time for kind words and good deeds for so many along her way.

The 60th Anniversary Dance (continued from page 1)



Photo: Lou Macchiusi

VIDEO: 60 Years of Dancing in Toronto: <https://youtu.be/1wXthQnEL0E>

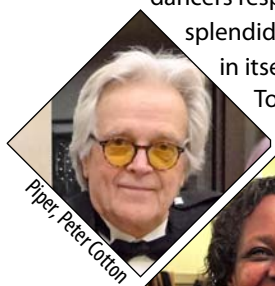


Sandy Bain

What a joyous event! A very sincere thanks for the invitation to attend the 60th Anniversary Dance and for the warm welcome. It was a pleasure meeting you, Chair Jean, and other

Association Board members. You all have to be congratulated for the exceptional organization go the Anniversary event — a first class job.

As a dancer for many years, it was a touch frustrating to spectate at an activity which had brought so many health benefits and great joy to my life. However, watching the dancers respond so well to the excellent programme, splendidly emceed, and first class music was a joy in itself. Wishing continued success to the Toronto Association in the years ahead — it appears to be in good hands.



Piper, Peter Cotton



Beverley Bennett



Heinz Rieger



Jackie Smith



David Booz



Ayla Devlin



Kim Horne



Photo: Lou Macchiusi

Liz Clunie, Vice Chair
Sandy Bain, Founding Member

Jean Lindsay, Chair
Georgina Finlay, Founding Member



Andrew Kellett

Thank you, Toronto Association for the generous invitation to your 60th Anniversary Dance, and to the other events over the weekend. I had a wonderful time.

The warmth of your welcome and the friendship you showed were perfect testimony to the fellowship and social spirit of the RSCDS. We all enjoyed the marvellous music and lively atmosphere at the dance, which was a fitting celebration of sixty years of great dancing in the Toronto Association. I am personally grateful to the emcees, numerous partners, and Deirdre's social group [Woodglen] the evening before who helped me through an unfamiliar but hugely enjoyable programme. I very much appreciated the opportunity to chat with so many members on Sunday afternoon. I learnt a lot, and it was so encouraging to hear about the good work of the Association and your determination to continue building a vibrant SCD community in Toronto.

I would like all your members to know how much I enjoyed and valued the weekend. The Toronto Association can be proud of what it has achieved over its long history and the highly significant contribution it has made to the RSCDS. It is people that make a branch, and I now know why you have been so successful. It was a genuine pleasure to meet you all and I wish you all individually, and as an Association, every success in the future. Many thanks once again.

Chair Jean Lindsay with former Chairs

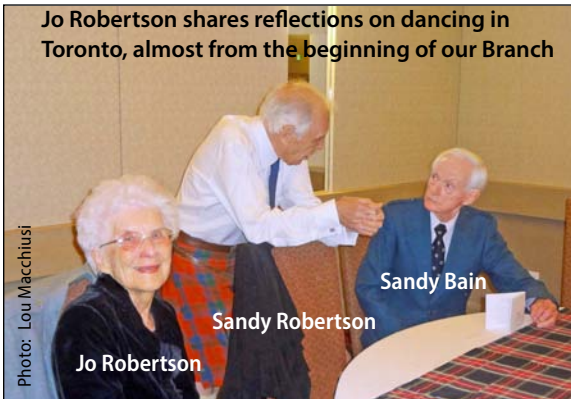


Photo: Lou Macchiusi

Robin Wood
Sandy Robertson
Keith Bark
Deirdre Bark
Andrew Collins
Margaret Rieger
Jane Robinson
John Clark
Jean Lindsay
Ron Bell

Jo Robertson shares reflections on dancing in Toronto, almost from the beginning of our Branch

Photo: Lou Macchiusi



Sandy Robertson

Sandy Bain

Jo Robertson

Didn't we have some wonderful times?!

Sandy and I went to Calvin's 60th Anniversary celebration. I mentioned this to Cathie Macfarlane and she said, nostalgically, "Didn't we have some wonderful times?" That comment brought back a flood of memories. When I first came to Toronto, I joined a small Scarborough choir that often sang at events around the city. In 1958 we were invited to sing at Twelfth Night Revels at St Paul's Anglican Church. From our vantage point in the gallery, Grace Harris, a fellow choir member, and I saw Scottish country dancing for the first time. We were captivated. By the end of the evening, we knew there was dancing at Calvin Tuesday evenings so, despite not knowing a strathspey from a reel, off we went. Somehow there was always a helping hand or a quiet cue to reel or cast off. (Reel or cast off? What did that mean?) Nevertheless we persisted and were soon enjoying ourselves.

Sandy Robertson appeared at Calvin in the spring of 1960 and one of our first dates was to a June picnic and dance in Thornton. From then on, Scottish country dancing was a huge part of our lives. By 1961, we had progressed sufficiently to take part in the filming at Calvin of the CBC TV show *On the Scene* with Rex Loring and Al Boliska. Iain Macfarlane had coached us thoroughly so we could perform dances to his exacting standard. I will forever remember Al Boliska, resplendent in what appeared to be a tartan skirt, trying out a few dance steps.

Who can forget Geneva Park weekends when we partied until the wee small hours on Friday night, attended classes all day Saturday, and were eager to dance the night away? Somehow Stan Hamilton's music always put wings on our feet and we forgot to be tired. Most of us even managed to straggle to the Sunday morning classes.

Then there were the balls, especially the Tartan Ball; but also balls in London, Hamilton, Kitchener, Niagara Falls, and many hosted by Toronto groups. One Toronto dance stands out in my memory. After dinner, we were eager to start dancing. Sets were formed, the music started, and so did the fun. Dancers began to slip and slide far beyond their own sets because the floor was so slippery. A pause ensued while someone applied "slow down" powder to the floor. Once again sets were formed and off we went — only to discover the floor was now like a skating rink. The wrong substance had been applied by mistake so a hotel employee wiped the floor with a damp mop. When that didn't help, he produced a carpet. This resulted in an exciting, even electrifying experience, as every time one reached for a hand, there was a spark. By this time, we were all in gales of laughter and one lady was heard to say, "Well, isn't this a Muldoon's picnic!" Perhaps it was, but we all enjoyed the fun.

On July 12, 1973, we were among a group of Toronto dancers fortunate enough to attend the 50th Anniversary Ball of the Society in Edinburgh, Scotland, where we met dancers from many parts of the world. Her Majesty, The Queen, His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, and Her Royal Highness, The Princess Anne were in attendance. Dances could be encored only at the Queen's pleasure and, though the plausibility was doubted by a gent from South Africa, HM must have loved *The Duke of Perth* because we danced it through, twice. It's the only time I have ever been hot in Scotland. Miss Milligan, who was a familiar figure to most of the dancers, took pleasure in the splendid event and in the recognition she was given.

We often enjoyed Scarborough group events that ranged from car rallies that were followed by dinner and dancing, to skating parties under fairy lights at an outdoor rink in the Rouge Valley. Then it was back to Margaret and John Christie's for food, conversation, and laughter. With our Glenview friends, there were picnics and dances at the Island Yacht Club. Their Christmas party and Hogmanay celebrations were [and are] a lovely tradition.

There are so many memories of dances and balls, but it is the memory of the friends we made, and the social activities arising from the friendships, that are most vivid. A group of Calvin friends, for many years, enjoyed a winter weekend at Tally Ho, where Saturday was spent skiing or snowshoeing, and then we gathered in the hall for Scottish country dancing. One memorable weekend it was forty below zero; we arrived in the hall to find a gentleman, resplendent in kilt and long johns. It caused considerable merriment, but the other men probably envied his choice of attire. Some of the same friends later began attending a matinee at the Shaw Festival followed by a long dinner with much laughter.

There are so many memories it's impossible to recount them all but I can say, "Yes, Cathie, we had some wonderful times." But there are still friends to be made and dances to learn, so on with the dance.

... Joanna Robertson

Let's get Social!



Many of us are on Facebook, but we've not all joined the Dance Scottish Toronto Group on Facebook. Please take that step. It's an efficient

way to alert members to group events, news, and items of interest. You'll get an email alert when someone posts to the group, then just click and read (or watch... or contribute comments...).

If you **LIKE** something or, better yet, **SHARE** an item it spreads awareness of Toronto Scottish country dance far and wide.

On facebook.com, search for: **RSCDS Toronto**, or **Dance Scottish Toronto**, and click **JOIN**.



Quiet Ambassadors at the Armoury

Wayne Fraser and Rosalind Gilbert were on hand again this year at St Andrew's Ball practices in Moss Park Armoury, passing out pamphlets, chatting to ceilidh dancers about Scottish country, and showing video of typical dances. They've been doing this for years and have brought in many new and enthusiastic members of RSCDS Toronto.



Upcoming Events: NEAR

Dec 10 - **Broadlands: Dances of Tom Kerr** ~ May Divers introduces some well-known, and some not-so-well known dances devised by Tom Kerr. 2-4 p.m. \$6

Dec 12 - **Calvin's Christmas Party** ~ Dance to piano music by Don Bartlett. 7:30-9:30 at Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Avenue. \$10 at the door, but give Nancy Stokes a heads-up: naristo@rogers.com

Dec 13 - **Glenview's Christmas Dance** ~ Dance to music by Fred Moyes and his bionic accordion. 7:30-9:15 at Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Avenue. \$15 at the door. Info: www.glenviewscdg.org

Dec 16 - **Family Christmas Dance** ~ One of the best nights of the year. Beginners and youngsters are welcome. Music by Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs. 7:30-11:00 at Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Avenue.

Dec 18 - **St Clement's Christmas Treat** ~ Don Bartlett will play seasonal music for this end-of-term celebration. Light refreshments included for \$10 7:00-9:00 at Bishop Strachan School, 298 Lonsdale Road.

Dec 31 - **Glenview's Hogmanay Dance & Ceilidh** ~ Live music by Laird & Donny. Dance, greet the new year, nosh up, enjoy the talent ceilidh. 8pm - 1:00 am at Grace Church-On-The-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road. Reserve with Valerie Fisher v.fisher@sympatico.ca glenviewscdg.org

Jan 21 - **Broadlands: Figure It Out** ~ Keith Bark will teach dances which feature formations with an unfamiliar twist. 2-4 p.m. \$6 at the door. Intermediate and advanced dancers only, please.

Jan 21 - **Shiftin' Bobbins: Maureen Richardson** ~ At Grace Church-On-The-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road. 2-4 p.m. Intermediate and advanced dancers only, please.

Mar 24 - **The West End Workshop** ~ Save the date. 9 a.m. - 5:00 at Turner Fenton School, Brampton.

May 12 - **The West Toronto Ball** ~ Save the date for the 49th annual West Toronto Ball held at the beautiful Sala Caboto in Villa Colombo, 40 Playfair Ave, Toronto. Music by Scotch Mist. More details anon.



**Gala Day is coming:
April 21**

**Save the date
Pick your dance**

RSCDS Toronto Association Board of Directors

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Upcoming Events: FAR

Dec 10 - **54th Annual Gleneagles Ball, Vancouver** ~ Dance to the music of the 24-member Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra in the beautiful ballroom of the historic Hotel Vancouver. Enjoy a delicious buffet lunch before dancing and decadent dessert after. www.rscdsvancouver.org

Dec 28 - Jan 5 - **New Zealand Summer School** ~ Teachers include Fred DeMarse; Musicians include Ian Muir. Info: www.rscdsnz.org.nz

Feb 9-11 - **Workshop & Grand Ball in Italy** ~ Teachers Antoine Rousseau, Paris Branch, and Olga Ivanova, Moscow Branch. Musicians include James Gray. Info: www.scotiashores.com email info@scotiashores.com

Feb 10-11 - **Ardbrae Ball Weekend, Ottawa** ~ Music by Torridon Scottish Dance Band, Winterlude time in Ottawa. www.ardbrae.org/ Info from Doug: 613 851 2874

Feb 16-18 - **Isle of Wight Weekend School** ~ Teachers Pat Houghton, Edinburgh, and Fred DeMarse, San Francisco. Musicians include Craigellachie Band and Robert MacKay. Info: catherinepb@hotmail.co.uk 44+ 01980 621322

Feb 16-18 - **Aloha Winter Weekend** ~ Guest Instructor Mary Murray from Vancouver. Music by The Humuhumunukunua'pua'a Society and Strathspey Band from San Francisco. Info: www.rscdshawaii.org or email Melissa mlindsay@hawaii.rr.com (808) 256-3347

Mar 2-4 - **Belleville Workshop Weekend** ~ Guest Instructors Mary Murray from Vancouver and Jean Noble, Toronto. Music by Scotch Mist. Info: Bill and Jan Cunningham at 613-965-4212 or David Aston at david.aston@kos.net

Mar 16-18 - **Dance Weekend, Algarve, Portugal** ~ Teacher Antoine Rousseau. Music by Luke Brady's Band. Info: scdlapa@gmail.com

Apr 6-8 - **Dancing In New Places: Nikko, Japan** ~ Teachers: Graham Donald & Yoshiaki Oyama. Music by Jim Lindsay & Hiroko Kokai. Info: Katalin Konya: kkonyakatalin@gmail.com

More events, near & far: www.dancescottish.ca



Demo Pool Needs New Convenor

The demo pool needs a new convenor for the 2018/19 season. To find out more about what is involved in this position, please contact Stella Henderson at 416 498 1940.

I will be happy to involve a replacement in planning for the rest of this season and will be available to help with the transition next season. ...Stella



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Marian White	416.781-7795
Judy Williams	416.924-3658

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Events

Winter School

18-23 February 2018

Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, Scotland

5 days of dancing and music with...

Teachers: Mervyn Short, Helen Russell,

Lindsey Ibbotson, Paul Plummer

Musicians Muriel Johnstone, Keith Smith, and others

www.rscds.org/news/winter-school-2018-2

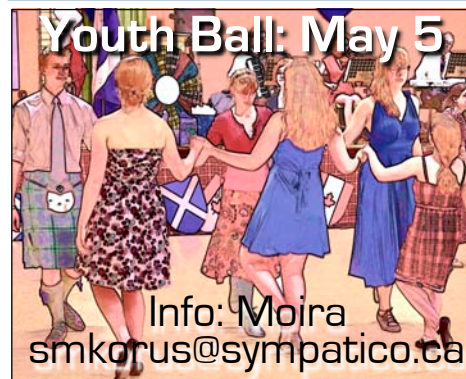
Spring Fling

20-22 April 2018

Glasgow, Scotland

Scottish Country Dance Festival for young dancers, 12-35. Subsidies and scholarships are available for young people to attend; and there is a concurrent Spring Fringe for those over 35s

www.rscds.org/article/spring-fling-2018



Youth Ball: May 5

Info: Moira
smkorus@sympatico.ca

