

# RSCDS Toronto

[www.dancescottish.ca](http://www.dancescottish.ca)

## From the Chair...



Liz Clunie

In Western culture, shaking hands is part of social and business protocol, showing friendliness and respect as far back as the early 5th century BC. Traditionally executed with the right hand, it was proof that you were not carrying a weapon. With the onset of Covid-19, germs have become our weapon, so now we are finding

new forms of acknowledgement such as a fist bump or elbow nudge.

Other cultures have also provided us with alternatives, *Namaste* being the most commonly known. *Adab* is not suitable as an alternative as it involves raising the right hand with the palm facing inward to almost touch the face, which, even though it is one's own face, is something that we have been warned not to do.

Hand touching in Scottish dancing is one of the deterrents in continuing to hold dances during the epidemic, apart from the fact that large gatherings are not recommended.

I wouldn't be surprised if, in light of hand-touching restrictions, even after the crisis, we don't see some creative dance devisors come up with a hands-free dance. An alternative would be if some of our dances could be modified to eliminate hand touching. Are dancers and devisors up for the challenge?

It is unfortunate that the March Beginners' dance had to be cancelled because of the virus situation. It has always been a wonderful opportunity to welcome new dancers into the association and to provide, for most of them, their first experience of Scottish dancing to live music. Thanks to Keith Bark and May Divers for providing the beginners with a great series of classes. We will look forward to seeing the fruits of your labours in the near future. I am hoping that we will be able to get back on the dance floor at the combined AGM Volunteer Appreciation Dance later this month.

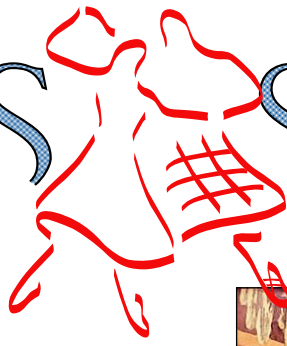
Wishing you good health. [March 13]

*Liz*

### UPDATE: MARCH 27

*How our lives have changed since March 13!* So much for my optimism that we could possibly be dancing April 25 at the AGM. The board is exploring options for the AGM, including proceeding on the 25th via **zoom** teleconferencing; or we could delay it until we can meet in person. We will try **zoom** for the board meeting April 8, after which a decision will be made on the AGM date and method. Meanwhile, see the intro to **zoom** on Page 2 to become familiar with this way of keeping in touch. Check [dancescottish.ca](http://dancescottish.ca) for announcements, and, please... stay healthy and stay at home.

...Liz



# SET & LINK

## The Order of Good Cheer



Samuel de Champlain

~ NOVEMBER, 1606 ~ PORT-ROYAL, NEW FRANCE ~  
Winters here are dark and dangerous. Venture outside at your peril. The commandant, Samuel de Champlain, asks himself: How shall I keep up community morale? His answer was *L'Ordre de Bon Temps*.\*

Its motto: *Fellowship and Good Cheer*.

Just what we need in this dark time of no dancing, and danger outside. COVID-19 has changed everything. For how long, we don't know. *We do know*, we must self-isolate, go out only by necessity, and with caution, keeping at least two metres of social distance. How then can we enjoy fellowship, and be of good cheer?

- South Simcoe is posting SCD lessons on Facebook.
- St Clement's has taken up Karen Toon's idea of a brief bi-weekly message of good cheer. *"Our stories connect us, reminding us of all the things we share and have in common, as well as those that highlight the wonderful diversity and talents that make us each unique."*

Share the good news we have, or interesting things we find. Learn. Teach. Keep in touch with those who might be alone or need help.

## Tae a Virus (with apologies to the Bard)\*



Twa months ago,  
we didna ken  
Yer name or  
ocht about ye,  
But things hae  
gang a'gley  
since then,  
I really must  
salute ye.

Yer spreading rate is quite intense,  
Yer feeding like a gannet.  
Disruption caused is so immense,  
Ye've shaken oor wee planet.

Corona used tae be a beer,  
they garnished it wi' limes,  
But noo it's filled us a' wi' fear.  
These days are feartsome times.

Nae shakin hawns, or peckin lips,  
It's whit they a' advise  
But lave 'em weel, richt tae the tips,  
That's how we'll a' survive.

Just stay inside the hoose ye bide  
Nae sneakin oot for strolls  
Just check the lavvy every hoor  
And tak stock o' your loo rolls.

Our holidays hae been pit aff  
Noo, that's the facebook patter.  
Pit oan yer thermals, hae a laugh,  
And paddle 'doon the waater'.  
Canary isles, no for a while.  
Nae need for suntan cream.  
And a' because o' this wee bug  
We ken tae be... 19.

The boredom surely will set in,  
But hae a read, or doodle,  
Or plan yer menu for the month  
Wi' nine-to-five pot noodles.

When these run oot, just look about,  
A change, it would be nice.  
We've beans and pasta by the ton,  
And twenty stane o' rice.

So dinna think ye'll wipe us oot.  
Aye true, a few have died.  
Bubonic, bird flu, and TB –  
They came, they left, they tried.

Ye might be gallus noo, ma freen,  
As ye jump frae cup tae cup.  
But when we get oor vaccine made  
Yer number will be up.

\* From Facebook via Kathleen Kynoch. Originated by Robertsons of Kinbuck.

# Special Events 😞

EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED  
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE  
EXCEPT, *PERHAPS*, THE AGM

## RSCDS Toronto Annual General Meeting

**Date & Time:** To be announced, possibly April 25

**Place:** In your home, and in cyberspace

**Cost:** zero

The RSCDS Toronto Association is legally required to have an annual general meeting — but we cannot gather until health authorities give the all-clear to end social distancing.

It is *possible* (not *determined* as we go to press) that we may have a virtual AGM using an online service called **zoom**. (see below)

**IF / WHEN the AGM is virtual...** Members will receive an email stating the **date and time**, plus a **link to click** at meeting time.

That's it! Any additional steps or options will be prompted — but it's better to prepare by installing the **zoom** client software before the AGM is called to order: [www.dancescottish.ca/zooming.pdf](http://www.dancescottish.ca/zooming.pdf)



**zoom** is a combo of software and service that permits online virtual meetings with high quality audio and video. It can host hundreds at one meeting. Of course, **zoom** is very popular at this time of stay-at-home. It's FREE for most uses and users.

**zoom** is easy to use and admirably suited to keeping in touch with family and friends, book clubs, etc. while we are all in self isolation.

**zoom** is available for your computer, iPad, tablet, or smart phone. To prepare for zooming, install the **zoom** client software:

**Detailed instructions:** [www.dancescottish.ca/zooming.pdf](http://www.dancescottish.ca/zooming.pdf)

**Example email:** Sean, You are invited to a **zoom** meeting 27 March 2020 at 7 p.m. The meeting I.D. is xxxxxx  
Click to join: <https://an.example.link.id/numbers>  
then follow the prompts to . . .

Cancel

Join a Meeting

example | Meeting ID

Join with a personal link name

Sean T Willichan

Join

If you received an invitation link, tap the link again to join the meeting

# Isolation Events

## Online Scottish Country Dance Lessons

From Rob Lockhart: Reuben Freemantle, who runs Scottish Country Dance Dictionary, has [a webpage that lists 166 SCD formations, linked to brief videos](#). [here, and throughout, bright blue text is a hyperlink]



## Scottish Country Dance Lessons on Facebook

From Hellen Bellé: South Simcoe is posting SCD lessons (and other items) to their [Facebook Group](#).

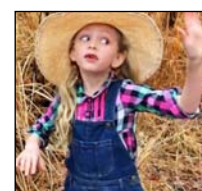
They reference lessons posted by Anna Perbellini of [SCOTIA SHORES DANZE SCOZZESI E IRLANDESI](#). Anna's lessons are in Italian, but the dancing is Scottish, and the steps and formations are in English.

## Just for fun...

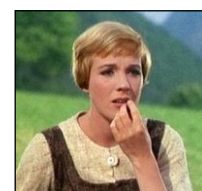
From Lorraine Hadden: "Everyone should see this." In case you haven't, here's Scottish comedian Danny Bhoy's take on SCD. Warning, it has an occasional F-bomb, but perhaps you'll not hear it for laughing. "[If you hear this sound... Get out!](#)"



From Andy Lipchak: "This will cheer anyone up." Begun in February, and posted March 20 at the start of self-isolation, it's the project of a Toronto musical family. A charming take on an old song from a Shirley Temple film: [Old Straw Hat - Family Music Video](#)



From Mervyn Short: The Sound of a Pandemic! Mervyn, who taught at the 2012 Toronto Workshop, sent us this. He says, *It's brilliant*, and so it is. It's created in self isolation by Shirley Şerban, a New Zealand school principal, who says: "[Don't worry, Maria and the Von Trappings know how to deal with it!](#)"



From The Scottish Banner: Recent issues, free. This international newspaper serving the Scottish diaspora has released its four most current issues for download:  
• [January](#) • [February](#) • [March](#) • [April](#)



*Dance Scottish*  
AT HOME

From Andrew Kellett, Chair of the RSCDS: "To help cheer us up and look forward to the time we can dance again, the RSCDS is issuing this newsletter [Dance Scottish at Home], hopefully weekly, to its members and anyone in the SCD community. Our aim is to have articles, music, games, podcasts, and even online classes that will entertain and connect us with our dancing friends across the globe."  
*If 'Dance Scottish at Home' did not arrive recently in your inbox: [Sign up here](#).*





## Spring Fling/Fringe

*It was a noble ambition — to host a gathering of young people from all over: Come to Toronto and share the joy of dance, and high-energy fun!* Ticket sales were great, accommodations and venues were booked, teachers and musicians prepared lesson plans and tune sets. Generous contributions from various organizations and individuals allowed plans for a memorable welcome to Toronto. Alas, it was not to be.

**Spring Fling 2020 Toronto has been cancelled** in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Spring Fling 2020 St. Petersburg is also cancelled. Indeed, cancellation of dance events is rampant, worldwide, with the key phrase: "Until further notice". That is the case with Spring Fling... we are optimistic for further notice that Spring Fling will be revived at some future date. A lot was learned preparing for the event. It will be easier next time – and the joy of getting back to dance will be thrilling. Thank you to those who were going to come, and to our hard-working, deeply disappointed, but still hopeful Committee.

Deirdre MacCuish Bark, Keith Bark, John Clark, Erica de Gannes, Tristan Gerrie, Moira Korus, Maureen Richardson, Leo Roytman, Halyna Sydorenko, Tony Szeto, Regina Zaripova

## Teacher Candidate Classes

Toronto Association plans to conduct a Teacher Candidate Class in 2020-21, pending sufficient interest. Jean Noble will be the tutor.

Classes will likely take place every second Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Fall and Winter, culminating in an exam in early May, 2021. The class will prepare candidates for Unit 2 & Unit 3 as well as Unit 5. Course fees are tentatively set at \$350 for Unit 2 and Unit 3 each, and \$700 for Unit 5. Exam fees are payable in addition.

Prospective candidates are invited to record their preliminary interest by emailing Tony Szeto at [aszeto2010@gmail.com](mailto:aszeto2010@gmail.com) at their earliest convenience.

Further details will be posted on our Association website when they become available, such as a firm registration deadline and other logistics.

## Grace Notes



### Ray Dugan

d. 1st March 2020

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of the passing of one of our dancers. Ray Dugan passed away Sunday, March 1. Ray taught with K-W Branch and regularly taught a class in Sarasota, Florida.

He also wrote quite a few dances that we had the pleasure of dancing. Ray made a replica of the famous Bayeux Tapestry for the Hollywood movie *The Monuments Men*, starring George Clooney and Matt Damon. There's a wonderful article about Ray and this tapestry: [www.therecord.com/news-story/4193507-waterloo-man-s-work-used-in-hollywood-movie](http://www.therecord.com/news-story/4193507-waterloo-man-s-work-used-in-hollywood-movie)

Our hearts and prayers go out to Sylvia and her family at this time.

Ray will be missed.

...Rick Macleod, Sarasota

## 2020 Dancewear Bazaar



Spring cleaning? Does that skirt, kilt, or ball gown no longer spark joy? Thank it for its service, and then let it go. Where to? The November Workshop's Dancewear Bazaar of course. The funds raised help offset costs incurred with Toronto Association events, while dancers enjoy scooping up great bargains. Newer dancers are able to outfit themselves for dancing at a fraction of the price of new items, sparking all kinds of joy! The committee greatly appreciates donations of the following items in gently used condition:

Ball gowns, long formal skirts, ladies kilted skirts (long or short), tartan sashes and shawls, dancing shoes, and Celtic/Scottish themed brooches and jewellery. Men's kilts, tartan trews, day jackets, Prince Charlie jackets, kilt hose and flashes, ghillies, kilt buckles and belts, sporrans, tartan neckties, bow ties, sgian dubhs, and kilt pins.

If you have items to donate, please contact: [joanne.racic@gmail.com](mailto:joanne.racic@gmail.com), or 289-600-4167.

Please note, because of limited storage space, we are unable to accept donations of books, CDs, DVDs, or home decor items.

Many thanks from the Dancewear Bazaar committee.

...Joanne Racic, Lois Adams, Lorraine Hadden, & Suzanne Dubeau

## Demo Volunteers:

### *Pulling together through shifting times*



The last few years have seen major changes in the demo pool as long-time dancers have stepped down. Some of our newer dancers are retired and able to dance weekdays at a Burns event. I am not retired, but flexible 'float' days allow me to dance for Burns.

Three of our dancers, however, are young professionals. I wondered – How do they manage to balance Burns demos with working life?

I discovered two of them are "weekenders", giving up personal time on weekends to dance for Burns. The third has the flexibility of working weekends and can plan a weekly schedule to allow dancing on a weekday.

This year, demo pool dancers took on new roles, learned new skills — coordinating specific demos, co-ordinating music, and emceeing. Many of us stepped up to the plate. Some demos had enough dancers only for one set. With no extras, there was no time for a break. So we emceed, played the music, led audience participation, and danced – always with a smile. It was a team effort.

At this time of year, as we traditionally acknowledge and thank the many volunteers in the RSCDS TA, let us take special note of the efforts taken by the demo pool during the past Burns season. Under the new leadership of Caroline Gentles, the guidance of our teacher Arlene Koteff, and the assistance of May Webster (demos in the west end), the demo pool really pulled together through shifting times.

When demos are again possible, come join us. The demo pool welcomes new members.

...Halyna Sydorenko



**The reason for my trip to England was to enjoy another dance holiday with my friend Anne Barnes.** This was my third time joining a Scottish Country Dancing and Walking Holiday run by the two Peters: Peter Mann and Peter Beaumont. This one took place at the Sidholme Hotel in the lovely seaside town of Sidmouth, on the south coast of Devon.

Access to the nine-acre property of the Sidholme Hotel, with its extensive garden, begins with a drive through a small grove of trees. Originally built as a Regency House in 1826, this English Heritage Grade 2 Star listed building has seen numerous additions, renos, and restorations over its 200-year history. Most notable, was the addition of the music and billiard rooms by the Earl of Buckinghamshire in the Victorian Era. The music room, with its organ, seven chandeliers, and Rococo décor, is the main reason for the building's historic importance.

Recent restorations revealed paintings and other treasures covered up by previous renovations. The Gray & Davison organ has been repaired and repainted a lovely lapis lazuli colour with funds raised by the Sidholme Organ Friends Assoc. We had the pleasure of hearing it played by Peter Mann on the last night of the holiday, which is always a dance/ceilidh evening. There is now a combined Friends of the Sidholme Music Room group who raise funds to repair the chandeliers. Phase 1 is finished with restoration of the largest chandelier, and it shines down on the many musical events that take place in this very popular venue.

For the walking part of the holiday, Peter Mann led the all-day hikes and Peter Beaumont led the half-day afternoon hikes. On this holiday, they took advantage of the South West Coastal Path for some of the hiking. Walking is a daytime option, as well as the morning master class, or something else of your own choosing. Anne and I always attend the master class and go sight-seeing on our own in the afternoon, either exploring the town or perhaps driving to a National Trust site where I can use my temporary pass. Being so close, Lyme Regis on the Jurassic Coast was a must for me this time.



**The Music Room**

The four evenings of dancing in the Music Room were in the capable hands of Geoff Entwistle, who always puts together a balanced and interesting program. He also teaches the Master Class the three mornings we are in residence, choosing dances that are less known and offer a bit of a challenge. (Some of these get sprinkled into Glenview programs.) One dance he taught was a Drewry dance called *Whiteshell Park*. I was able to tell Geoff that this is a Manitoba provincial park. The dance is from Drewry's *Bankhead 2* book of dances.

After four days and 72 different dances, it was time to return to Anne's, stopping at more National Trust sites along the way. There is no space here to list all the dances but on each holiday Geoff's favourite dance, *Mrs. Stuart Linnell*, is always included, and yes, I danced *The Dancing Master* for the first of three times on this Dancing in England trip.

...Cheryl Catt



**The Music Room**

# A Mid-Winter's Tale: Catherine Jackson at Winter School



Catherine

***In February, I had the pleasure of going to Pitlochry, Scotland, for the RSCDS 2020 Winter School. What an experience! It was my first time in Scotland and won't be my last.***

I made the trip with my sister and niece, both non-dancers. We shared a room at the Atholl Palace Hotel, built in 1878 as a luxury health resort. Back then, it was operated with temperance values — thank goodness that changed by the time we got there. The hotel sits on about 50 acres, with trails through woodlands and sheep fields. The best trail led to Black Spout — a picturesque waterfall in the forest.

The Atholl Palace has all the charm of an old building — fireplaces in the foyer, wide hallways, and one (only one) tiny, sloooow elevator for the entire hotel. Yeah, the good old days. Thankfully, we far preferred taking the stairs.

One of the best parts of this trip was meeting people. One of the organizers, William Williamson, recognized me immediately though I had only met him once, a couple years ago, at a dance workshop in Ontario. He made me feel comfortable right from the start. Dancers were mostly from the UK, but also some from North and South America, Australia, South Africa, and Europe. It was interesting to share our dancing experiences, and I came away with new friends whom I hope to meet again at other dancing events.

Dancers were divided into four groups, depending on experience level and desire for high or low impact dancing. The Atholl Palace had two rooms for lessons while the other two groups walked 20 minutes to venues in Pitlochry for theirs. Weather in Scotland was typical — sometimes we arrived a bit wet for classes.

We were rotated through all of the venues and four instructors (all very helpful), so we had the benefit of different teaching styles.

As a relatively new dancer, I was in the Intermediate group. We were seven, one man and six women. A volunteer rounded out our number to eight, which certainly helped when dancing *Postie's Jig*.

I was familiar with a few of the dances and learned many new ones. My favourite was *The Minister on the Loch*. We were told to *glide as though skating*. Funny thing... two doors down from our venue, a shop window displayed the old painting of a minister ice skating. I think it must have inspired me. A couple of dances were a bit frustrating to learn. My feet just would not cooperate with my brain (my brain has erased the names of those dances).

Lessons were every morning, Monday to Thursday; social dancing in the evenings — a good time to practise what we learned earlier. What I enjoyed most about the evening dances was that they gave me an opportunity to dance with others who were not in my group.

During the afternoons, activities were planned for us.

Whisky tasting (didn't go, else I would have slept through the evening dance), a tour of the town, a talk on the John Muir Foundation's properties and trails in Scotland, and — best of all — a tour to the Crannog Centre (Crannog is a pre-historic water village\*). The coach ride to the Crannog on Loch Tay took over an hour. Our tour guide, Ann, seemed to know every field, every house, every story, every sheep *en route*. OK, a bit of exaggeration, but she did know where to spot the Highland Cows (aka Heilan Coos) that we really wanted to see. Although the Crannog was interesting, many of us found the drive through the countryside and all the stories we were told, far more fascinating. Many thanks to Ann, who made the trip so noteworthy.



The highlight of Winter School was, of course, the Grand Ball at Blair Castle. Everyone was dressed up in fancy Scottish outfits. The men looked so good in their kilts and jackets (my non-dancing sister and niece made sure to be at the front of the hotel when we left for Blair Castle, just to look at the sight).

When we arrived at Blair Castle, I felt overwhelmed at being in the castle, surrounded by its history. It was built in the 13th century and still holds the allure of long ago. For the Grand March, I was ushered into the Great Hall by Martin, a new friend from Edinburgh. We did the first dance together, *Hooper's Jig*, after which I had a wonderful time dancing with many different and more skilled partners. And I didn't step on anybody's toes! It was a magical evening, something to remember.

So that was my experience at Winter School. I had a great time, learned new dances, and met people I now call friends. I would love to go back and take part in Summer School. Now to save the money for my airfare.

...Catherine Jackson



Liz  
(new friend)

Catherine

Elizabeth  
(sister)

# Curvaceous Reels

## The Belleville Weekend with Fiona Grant

**What a wonderful way to spend a weekend.** The Belleville Scottish Country Dancers hosted its 36th Annual Workshop and Ball on March 6-8. Jean Noble has attended 35 — now that's commitment to a weekend of dancing fun and friendships.

We started with a Friday night Welcome Dance. On Saturday, we had three excellent classes with guest teacher, Fiona Grant (from Bristol, England), followed by the dinner and ball, with music by Scotch Mist. Their music and our dancing made the wooden floor dance. A Sunday morning brunch was followed by another dance class.

Fiona did a superb job teaching the four dance classes — despite the variety of skill levels of the dancers. Her positive approach and sense of humour made everyone willing to try to master our steps — especially to lengthen the second reach of the strathspey step. She stressed timing, covering, and handing as we also remembered to smile at our partner, and the other members of our set.

Reels were to be curvaceous, not direct lines; lefts and rights were also to curve. The tourbillon could be *turn and drag your partner*, or *turn and curve with your partner into place*. Fiona's choice of dances took us from the *Crown Court* to a cargo ship named *The Baltic Voyager*; from the highlands to braes, to islands and ports, to celebrating spring with *The March Hare*, and William's dance *Bob's Chase* (Bob is William's border collie). Every dance had a story, a special tune, or an historical fact that made polishing our dances even more entertaining. Then there were the challenges, such as a six-couple square set *Strictly Scottish* and Shetland Reels with their very fast step dancing footwork.

The food (at lunch, dinner, and brunch), was homemade and delicious — especially the variety of pies.

It truly was a weekend of fun, learning, and polishing the techniques of Scottish country dancing, and meeting old and new friends from Montreal, Ottawa, Brockville, Kingston, Peterborough, Toronto, and, of course, Belleville, Picton, and Trenton. I highly recommend attending next year's weekend.

...Lyn Barsevskis

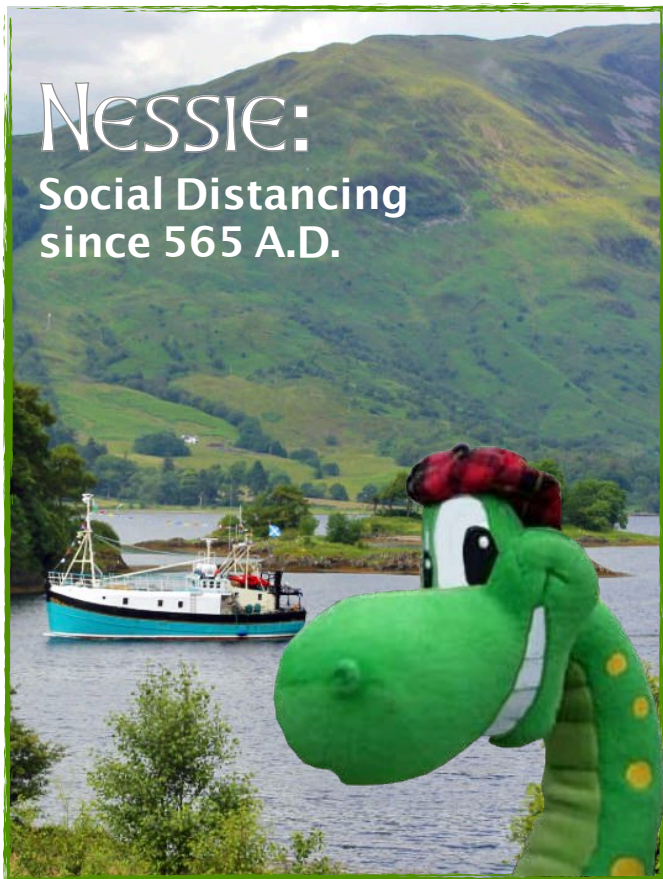


Fiona Grant



Sue Ann Bryce | Jean Noble

## Nessie: Social Distancing since 565 A.D.



Dear Editor...

Re: March Set & Link

### **An amazing RSCDS Toronto memory you can watch:**

Thanks for the link in March Set&Link to the video of the Skydome — did not know it existed — did not see Jim and me in it although we were there. But I did see a lot of the people who were dancers when we first started and who are now gone — such wonderful memories.

...Liz Stark

### **From the Sidelines:**

I wish to say how much I enjoyed reading impressions from the Tartan Ball from our regular spectators, Marian (Holmes) and — now I finally know his name — Howard Kingsland. As spectators, they are as active on the sidelines as we dancers are on the dance floor. It was very special to invite Marian and Howard to share their thoughts with all of us.

...Halyna Sydorenko

\* **CRANNOG:** Crannog is a small round, domed home built on wooden stilts on a river. It looks much like our structures that hold salt or sand for our winter roads. The earliest crannogs were built 5000 years ago, though farmers built them for their families until the 17th century. There are no original crannogs left, but some left little round islands in rivers. Artifacts have been found, which tell us how families lived back then. The crannog that we went to see was a replica building, attached to a museum that had many artifacts from the originals.

...Catherine Jackson

# Through Graigh na Dun: AN OUTLANDER EXPERIENCE

The Green Room:  
Take a picture...  
*Voilà!* You are in  
18th Century  
Scotland



Emily &  
Lyn with  
Jamie  
Fraser

Pat Asada, Jess Houseley, Ed Elliotson, Emily Jewett, Florence Milne,  
Maureen Richardson, Lyn Barsevskis, Susan Elliotson, Ron Macnaughton, David Bilton

*It was a most memorable evening experiencing Scottish culture in a magnificent facility.*

Having had previous success with two themed events, a Jane Austen evening and a Hogwarts' evening, the Vaughan Civic Centre Resource Library in Maple planned an Outlander Experience for the evening of Saturday, February 29, to celebrate the world of *Outlander*. This event, based on Diana Gabaldon's books (and TV series), aimed to transport people "back to Inverness in the 18th century for one night".

Delicious refreshments, including tea and scones, were available throughout the evening. From 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., activities and workshops included:

- Whisky Tasting\*
- Herbs in Scottish Lore
- Rock Painting
- Designing a Clan Button

Between 8:00 and 9:00 p.m., a fiddler played Scottish reels and jigs. At 9:00 p.m., the Scottish country dancing began, running until 10:30 p.m. to end the evening. The demo set included dancers from the



The St John River

South Simcoe Alliston, St. Andrew's Aurora, and Celtic Connection Richmond Hill group, who performed seven dances.

Following the performance dances, guests were invited to join us on the floor for Ceilidh and simple Scottish country dances. The floor was filled with enthusiastic participants dancing for the balance of the evening.

After the ceilidh, the Scottish dancers fanned out with SCD promotional materials to encourage the participants to join our classes and social groups and to participate at Dancing in the Park.

We offer sincere appreciation to the staff at Vaughan Civic Centre Resource Library for their gracious hospitality and dedicated planning. All in attendance agreed — it was a great event.

...Maureen Richardson, with Ron Macnaughton



Circassian Circle



\* Queen Victoria's account of an 1859 visit to Scotland:

*"I had a little whisky and water,"*  
that most proper of monarchs wrote,  
*"as the people declared pure water would be too chilling."*

[From TACtalk, June 1989]

# Board Bulletins for the AGM

## AGM Motions

At the 2020 AGM the Board will propose revisions to the *Procedures Manual*, and the By-Laws — a process that requires approval by the membership.

**BE IT MOVED** that article 5.1.1 be amended to say: (*changes in bold italics*)  
5.1.1 The RSCDS Toronto Association holds its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on a yearly basis within six (6) months of the end of the fiscal year. The Board sets the place, day and time of the meeting: the Secretary will publish this information in the newsletter **and/or on the website and/or by e-mail** at least sixty (60) days in advance of the meeting . . .

**BE IT MOVED** that article 5.1.3 of the *Procedures Manual* be amended to say:  
5.1.3 The Secretary of the Board shall advise all Full Members at least two (2) weeks in advance of the Annual General Meeting date of **final** motions to be addressed by publishing them in the Association's newsletter **and /or on the website and/or by e-mail**.

**BE IT MOVED** that article 7.2 of the *Procedures Manual* be amended to say:  
7.2 Financial **Accounts**

**BE IT MOVED** that article 7.2.1\* of the *Procedures Manual* be amended to say:  
7.2.1 At each Annual General Meeting of RSCDS Toronto Association the membership will decide by affirmative vote whether or not to appoint an accountant to conduct an Audit or Review Engagement or Compilation for the financial year, in accordance with applicable legislation. At each AGM of the RSCDS Toronto Association the Treasurer will present the financial statements.

**BE IT MOVED** that article 8.3\*\* of the By-laws be amended to say:  
8.3 Accountants – The Members shall, at each Annual General Meeting, if required, appoint an accountant or accounting firm of the Corporation, and, in default of such appointment, the Board shall make such appointment. Any accountant, or accounting firm, so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

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\* 7.2.1 currently states: There must be an audit of the books, accounts and records of the RSCDS Toronto Association at least once per year. A qualified accountant appointed at each Annual General Meeting must perform this audit. At each Annual General Meeting of the RSCDS Toronto Association, the Treasurer presents the audited financial statements.

\*\* 8.3 currently states: Auditors - The Members shall, at each Annual General Meeting, appoint an auditor or auditors of the Corporation, and, in default of such appointment, the Board shall make such appointment. Any auditor so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

### RSCDS Toronto Association Board of Directors

Chair: Liz Clunie	416.486-6582	<a href="mailto:elclunie@rogers.com">elclunie@rogers.com</a>
Vice-Chair: Louis Racic	905.430-1255	<a href="mailto:louis.racic@gmail.com">louis.racic@gmail.com</a>
Secretary: Fiona Alberti	416.483-2213	<a href="mailto:fiona@alberti.ca">fiona@alberti.ca</a>
Treasurer: Wendy Fulton	416.951-5029	<a href="mailto:wbfulton@hotmail.com">wbfulton@hotmail.com</a>
Program: Kevin Moloney	416.425-1416	<a href="mailto:kevinmoloney@sympatico.ca">kevinmoloney@sympatico.ca</a>
Membership: Bill Barber	416.540-4311	<a href="mailto:tobillbarber@gmail.com">tobillbarber@gmail.com</a>
Communications: Andrew Henderson	416.498-1940	<a href="mailto:hendersona033@gmail.com">hendersona033@gmail.com</a>
Marketing: Ron Macnaughton	416.884-1631	<a href="mailto:macnaughton@rogers.com">macnaughton@rogers.com</a>
Education/Training: Tony Szeto	416.566-9386	<a href="mailto:aszeto2010@gmail.com">aszeto2010@gmail.com</a>



RSCDS Toronto  
c/o Secretary  
647B Mt. Pleasant Road  
Toronto ON M4S 2N2

### Newsletter Committee:

Donald Holmes (Chair)	416.226-6081	<a href="mailto:deholmes@sympatico.ca">deholmes@sympatico.ca</a>
Andrew Henderson	416.498-1940	<a href="mailto:hendersona033@gmail.com">hendersona033@gmail.com</a>
Rob Lockhart (webmaster)	416.759-9845	<a href="mailto:robblockhart@rogers.com">robblockhart@rogers.com</a>
Teresa Lockhart	416.759-9845	<a href="mailto:teresa.lockhart@rogers.com">teresa.lockhart@rogers.com</a>
Marian White	416.781-7795	<a href="mailto:marianwhite@sympatico.ca">marianwhite@sympatico.ca</a>
Judy Williams	416.924-3658	<a href="mailto:junit@pathcom.com">junit@pathcom.com</a>

## April 25, 2020 ~ Draft AGM Agenda [Date and other aspects subject to change]

1. Welcome
2. Appointment of Parliamentarian and Scrutineers
3. Motion to Accept the Agenda
4. Motion to Accept the Minutes of the 2019 AGM
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
6. Reports from the Board
7. Report of the Nominations Committee
8. Election of the Board of Directors
9. New Business
  - a) Motion to update the *Procedures Manual* and the By-Laws with proposed revisions
  - b) Presentation of RSCDS Toronto Association Branch Award
10. Motion for Adjournment

## Nominations: Board Positions 2020 - 2021

The Nominations Committee is mandated to prepare a slate of nominees for Board positions and to present its recommendations for member approval at the Annual General Meeting. At the AGM on April 25, 2020, the following are proposed for Board positions.

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Louis Racic</b>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Paul Barber</b>
Treasurer	Wendy Fulton
Secretary	Fiona Alberti
Membership Director	Bill Barber
Program Director	Kevin Moloney
Marketing/Outreach Director	Ron Macnaughton
Education & Training Director	Tony Szeto

The position of **Communications Director** still unfilled.

For all Board positions, be prepared to commit to at least two consecutive one-year terms. The Secretary, Membership Director, Program Director, Communications Director, and the two Directors-at-Large (Marketing, and Education & Training) may be re-elected for up to five additional one-year terms. The Treasurer can be re-elected indefinitely until another suitably qualified person is nominated.

The Vice Chair position should be filled by someone who:

- has previously served as a member of the Board
- has been a former executive member
- has been a convenor, or
- has been a Committee Chair

The incumbent Vice Chair is expected to fill the position of Chair, with a two-year commitment in each role.

More info: Deirdre MacCuish Bark [barkd@rogers.com](mailto:barkd@rogers.com)  
905.822-1707 or Fiona Alberti [fiona@alberti.ca](mailto:fiona@alberti.ca)



Please send submissions  
to Set&Link by the  
10th of each month.  
Send to Donald Holmes  
[deholmes@sympatico.ca](mailto:deholmes@sympatico.ca)