

From the Chair...



Liz Clunie

Our winter events got off to an ominous start when the December 1 special class had to be cancelled because of poor weather. Keith Bark's programme of "Dances with a Difference" sounded fascinating and many of us were looking forward to the challenge of

six- and seven-couple dances.

Let's hope that the weather will co-operate with upcoming winter events.

For the January Dance, we will be returning to our usual monthly dance location at Crescent School after our last two dances being held at Branksome Hall. Snow made a threatening appearance on the afternoon of the Christmas family dance, but it didn't affect attendance. Dancers from the youth group, Association and Millennials' Classes contributed to the vibrant atmosphere throughout the evening.

Preparations for the February 15 Tartan Ball are underway. This is the pinnacle event of the year, and last year our new venue received great reviews. Don't let anxiety prevent you from attending the ball. If you take advantage of social group practices, the special series of three pre-ball classes, and avidly study the briefs and videos over the next six weeks, you will be in fine shape to have a great time. We are so fortunate in having videos of the dances readily available – quite a departure from the days when the only way to learn the dances was at practices and by studying the ball ticket. Moreover, the dances weren't even briefed at the event – that was nerve wracking!

At the St. Andrew's Charity Ball practices, Bill Barber and Rosalind Gilbert did a magnificent job of promoting SCD with information and videos of our events. As a result, Sue Ann Bryce has already received inquiries about upcoming beginner classes starting January 6th and 16th. The January dance falls between those dates on the 11th – a great way to start the New Year.

Happy dancing throughout 2020!

Liz



Glenview's 40th Anniversary



Naish and Sheila McHugh cut the cake.

On December 11, more than 60 dancers gathered to celebrate Glenview's 40th anniversary. At the reception, while enjoying wine, punch, and fine food provided by caterer Peggy Turcot, dancers from the past and present connected with one another. Valerie Fisher, chair of Glenview, welcomed everyone and shared some of the history of the group. Sheila and Naish McHugh, who were among the first members of Glenview, proudly showed their lifetime certificate and were honoured by being asked to cut the cake.

Several people brought albums with photos from the past. Nancy Matheson shared photos taken by her husband, Robin, a long-time teacher of the group. Lorna Hutchison explained the symbolism on the Glenview crest, which includes thistles and trilliums. She also mentioned that *The Thistle and the Trillium* was a signature dance for the group.

Following the reception, dancers took their places in the hall for the dance with wonderful music provided by Don Bartlett and Jim Darge. The lines stretched the length of the room and included young and older. The first few dances were old-time favourites, and many of the past dancers, who brought their dancing shoes, took to the floor. The energy was electric.

A party in the parlour followed the dance, allowing everyone to unwind and wish one another a very happy holiday season.

...Marian White and Fiona Alberti



Nancy Matheson shared photos with David Ross (L) and John Hutchinson.

Special Events

Sunday Special: Uncommon Formations

Sunday, Jan 19 ~ 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. ~ \$6



Armour Heights Community Centre,
Activity Room, 2140 Avenue Road

Tony Szeto will teach dances with formations that may be unfamiliar even to experienced dancers. Less experienced dancers may wish to watch in amusement as others fall in a heap. Come be amused and challenged.

Target: whoever is game for a challenge.

Feel free to email Tony for a preview of his programme: aszeto2010@gmail.com

South Simcoe Valentine Workshop & Tea Dance



Arlene

Colin

Saturday, Feb 8 ~ 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ~ \$50

Knox Church, 160 King Street South, Alliston

Arlene Koteff and Colin Campbell will teach, with music by Laird Brown and Don Wood. Enjoy a full day of dance and sustenance: refreshments, two workshop sessions, lunch, tea dance, and treats. Attendance limited to the first 50 registrants. Carpool to Alliston for this Valentine treat. Info: SCDAlliston@gmail.com

New Millennials' Classes Start Feb 27



Thursday Evenings
Feb 27 - May 7
7:30 - 9:30

St Thomas's Anglican Church, 383 Huron St.
Alert young adults of your acquaintance to this great opportunity to join the world of Scottish country

dance and get ready for the March Beginners' Night dance and Spring Fling in May.

West End Workshop



David

Marion

May

Saturday, Mar 28

Clarke Hall and adjacent Christ First Church, Port Credit (Mississauga)

Great new location. More details and registration available soon.

Teachers: David Queen, Cheshire, England; Marion Hamilton, Ottawa; May Divers, Toronto

Two class levels: Basic/Intermediate or Intermediate/Advanced

Tartan Ball Dances



Programme by Andrew Collins

Date: Saturday, February 15

Place: The Old Mill, Toronto

Music: Scotch Mist Tickets: www.dancescottish.ca/Tartan_Ball.html

EH3 7AF	8 x 32 J	Goldring, RSCDS Book 40
The Cabrach	8 x 32 S	Goldring, 24 Graded & Social Dances
The Highlandman's Umbrella	4 x 32 R	Holden, Glasgow Diamond Jubilee
City Lights	8 x 32 J	Scott, RSCDS Book 52
Gang The Same Gate	8 x 32 S	Levy, RSCDS Book 36
Starlight	8 x 32 R	Abdill, RSCDS Book 44

1st Interval

The Edinburgh Toy Shop	8 x 32 J	Bailey, RSCDS Book 51
Ice Crystals	8 x 32 S	de Chastelain, 25 Dances
Polharrow Burn	5 x 32 R	Foss, RSCDS Leaflet
Green Grow The Rashes	8 x 32 S	Johnson, RSCDS Book 12
The Inimitable Derek	8 x 32 R	Goldring, Three Dances, 2009

2nd Interval

The Wild Geese	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 24
The Orchards of Co. Armagh	3 x 32 S	Anderson, Belfast Platinum Anniv.
Over The Water To Charlie	8 x 32 J	RSCDS Book 34
The Banks of Clyde	8 x 32 S	MMM 1
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8 x 32 R	Goldring, RSCDS Leaflet

Extras

Flowers of Edinburgh	8 x 32 R	RSCDS Book 1
Sandy O'er the Lea	6 x 32 S	Miss Milligan's Miscellany
Miss Allie Anderson	8 x 32 J	Corson, RSCDS Leaflet

All dances will be briefed only.

Please make the Tartan Ball SCENT FREE. Several dancers are allergic.

Volunteer Awards: I nominate...

Does your social group have special people who volunteer all the time... people your group could not do without? Is there someone in the TA you think is indispensable? RSCDS Toronto wishes to honour those people. Show your gratitude to someone for exceptional unpaid service and nominate them for a Volunteer Award. Nominations may be made by the Board, social groups, or by individual TA members. At the AGM & Volunteer Dance April 25, 2020, we will display the names of all those who have contributed time and energy to RSCDS Toronto, and present framed certificates to those chosen to receive a Volunteer Award.



The criteria and a list of previous recipients are on the website — Members' Home page, under VIPs.

The deadline for submissions is **February 28, 2020**.

Send nominations to Theresa Malek: theresamalek@rogers.com

Download: dancescottish.ca/Volunteer-Award-Nomination-Form.pdf

57th Tartan Ball News



Feb. 15
Brûlé Ballroom
The Old Mill Inn

The Tartan Ball is a month away; here are some updates and reminders:

Ticket sales are well underway. Prices are:

\$140 for members

\$155 for non-member

\$120 for members attending their first Ball, youth (< 30), or non-dancer.

Admission to the Tartan Ball, or any portion of the Ball, is restricted to those who have purchased a ticket for the event. There is no balcony or viewing area in the ballroom. Non-dancers are welcome to attend the Ball, provided they have purchased a non-dancer ticket, which includes the reception, dinner, and participation in the Grand March. Non-dancers may remain at their tables after dinner to watch the dancing and socialize.

The Tartan Ball Committee looks forward to seeing you on Feb. 15 at the Old Mill.

The Tartan Ball Application Form is now live on the website:

www.dancescottish.ca/Tartan_Ball.html

...Laurie McConachie, Tartan Ball Convenor

Tartan Ball Practices

Parkway Forest CC: Sundays, Jan. 26, Feb. 2 & 9

Practices for newer dancers for the ball. 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. \$7 per class

Parkway Forest CC, 55 Forest Manor Road, 2nd floor dance studio.

You **must** reserve with Laurie McConachie:

Info: laurie-m@rogers.com

Calvin: Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30

Jan. 28: Dances that follow the 2nd Interval

Feb. 4: Dances that follow the 1st Interval

Feb. 11: Dances before the 1st Interval

Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Avenue

Info: vickyzeltins@gmail.com

Glenview: Wednesdays, 7:30-9:15

Feb. 5: First half of the programme

Feb. 12: Second half of the programme

Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Avenue

Info: v.fisher@sympatico.ca

St Clement's: Mondays, 6:45-9:00

Focusing only on the particularly challenging dances

Feb 3: *City Lights, Gang the Same Gate, Polharrow Burn, Ice Crystals, Starlight*

Feb 10: *Green Grow the Rashes, Inimitable Derek, Orchards of County Armagh,*

Over the Water to Charlie, Banks of Clyde, Reel of the Royal Scots

Bishop Strachan School, 298 Lonsdale Road

Info: teresa.lockhart@rogers.com

Association Classes



All dancers must be members of RSCDS Toronto (but beginners are excused until their 2nd term).

The ten-week classes are \$100.

Please make cheques payable to "RSCDS Toronto."

A Class Registration Form can be downloaded from www.dancescottish.ca, completed, and brought to the first class (see link below).

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

Level 1 Beginner Classes: Dancers learn the five basic steps of Scottish country dance and a variety of formations. These elements are combined in learning simple dances that incorporate the various steps and formations taught.

Mondays: St. Leonard's Anglican Church Hall* Jan. 6– Mar. 16

Teacher: May Divers

Class Rep: Cheryl Catt cherylcatt47@gmail.com 416.484-9620

Thursdays: Eastminster United Church* Jan. 16– Mar. 19

(Hurndale Room, lower level of Eastminster United Church*)

Teacher: Keith Bark

Class Rep: Anne Bishop anne.e.bishop@outlook.com 647.234 4631

Level 2 Intermediate Classes: These classes build on steps and formations learned as a beginner and introduce more complex formations. Dancers become more confident in their skills and abilities and enjoy the challenge of more complex dances.

Thursdays at Eastminster United Church* Jan. 16 – Mar. 19

(Auditorium, upper level of Eastminster United Church*)

Class Rep: Anne Bishop anne.e.bishop@outlook.com 647.234-4631

* Location Addresses:

St Leonard's Anglican Church Hall, 25 Wanless Avenue

(2 minutes north from Lawrence and Yonge subway station, east side)

Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Avenue

(2 minutes west from Chester subway station)

www.dancescottish.ca/Classes-Registration-Form-2018.doc

Classes Convenor: Sue Ann Bryce: sueann2@sympatico.ca 416.266-5423



Dancing Achievement Award Advanced Class

Toronto Association is planning to offer a Dancing Achievement Award (DAA) course, provided we have sufficient interest.

Dates: Sundays, 2-4 p.m. ~ March 15, 22, April 5, 19, 26, May 3

Location: Broadlands Community Centre

Teacher: Keith Bark

We seek qualified participants at the Advanced level. Candidates are required to attend all classes. Information on syllabus is available at www.rscds.org/article/dancingachievement-award-daa

• Potential candidates are strongly advised to ask their teachers if they are ready for such a course. Cost is \$140, for instruction (\$110) and assessment (\$30), non-refundable and payable in advance.

• If interested, please email aszeto2010@gmail.com with name and contact info, Social Group/Association Class, by **noon, Jan 15, 2020**.

We will contact you regarding next steps.

... Tony Szeto

Board Bulletins

Nominations: Board Positions

The Nomination Committee is mandated by The Toronto Association's Procedures Manual to prepare a slate of nominees for each Board position and to present its recommendations to the members for approval at the Annual General Meeting. This takes place on April 25th 2020. Members are reminded that any position can be proposed; however, currently **one Board position** is open:

Communications

If you are interested in serving on the Board, or wish to nominate someone, contact a member of the Nomination Committee, **or** download a Nomination Form from the website (Members Home page), **or** ask Fiona Alberti. Submit the form to Deirdre MacCuish Bark or Fiona Alberti by **February 20, 2020**.

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 a suitable 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 information: Deirdre MacCuish Bark (Nomination Committee Chair) barkd@rogers.com 905.822-1707 or Fiona Alberti (Secretary), fiona@alberti.ca



AGM Motions Deadline: Feb. 9

February 9 is the deadline for submission of motions from the membership for the 2020 Annual General Meeting. Submissions must have the support of 10 full members as indicated by their signature.

Send motions to: Fiona Alberti at fiona@alberti.ca
Motions received will be posted 30 days prior to AGM.

YOU could be ✨ Workshop Convenor



Attention Volunteers! We need a convenor for the Toronto Workshop.

Christy Barber is stepping down from the position of Convenor of the Toronto Workshop. Christy has been on the committee for the past 8 years and has been an excellent convenor for the last 3 years. She has put together an experienced and hard-working committee that is already geared up for the 2020 Toronto Workshop.

If you are interested in this role, and have good organizational and planning skills, please contact Kevin Moloney: kevinmoloney@sympatico.ca

We would like to fill this position as soon as possible but not later than January 30th, 2020.

Bargains ✨ New-to-you Glad Rags ✨ Fun



The Dancewear Bazaar at the Toronto Workshop was a fun addition to the wonderful dancing experience of the event. Douglas from Peterborough showed off his new kilt and kit at the Peterborough dance

the following Friday evening. Ken and Jim found tartan trews that fit perfectly. Ian from Rosedale got a new sporran. Kilted skirts flew off the rack at \$10 apiece. To top it all off, the Super Sales Crew's efforts realized the largest return ever — \$2300.

Thanks to all who donated, all who joined the fun and bought, and to my hard-working volunteers: Evelyn, John, Sue Ann, Joanne, Lorraine, and Suzanne. It's good to leave the party on a high note.

New Management: The Old Management has passed on the torch. Joanne Racic will now carry on the tradition. My thanks to her.

...Margaret Rieger

P.S. If you didn't make the sale and are looking for a kilt, Prince Charlie jacket, or other bits and bobs, we may still have some available.

The 2019 Family Christmas Dance ~ Wow!



Four set lines... at least four sets in each row... Great crowd; great music; great night!

Kenny flew in from Chicago to dance



with us. Naveen and Erika (image far right) from the Millennials' Classes were on the floor for every dance, and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. As always, experienced dancers happily asked them to dance. A chap from the Intro Class at the workshop said, "This is a lot more fun than I thought it would be." Alison, Gita, Heidi, Maureen, and others from Keith Bark's Level 1 Class braved their first monthly dance, and had a wonderful time.



Rosedale youth brought friends, parents, and grandparents. We had dancers from Peterborough. Plus, most of the usual Monthly Dance suspects, and a few less usual, attended. We danced the night away in good company and good cheer. We enjoyed abundant and tasty nosh at the Interval.

Scotch Mist welcomed on stage Dan MacDonald, a Cape Breton fiddler, in addition to Warren Beasley (percussion), Laird Brown (accordion), and Don Wood (keyboard). Their music was brilliant! We are back at Crescent School for the Jan. 11th Monthly Dance.

The 50/50 Draw: Douglas Pickett won \$146 at the Family Christmas Dance.

Millennials' Classes Update



Nine under-35-year-olds new to Scottish country dance attended the Millennials' Classes, which ended November 12. Only two, Naveen and Erika, attended regularly. Naveen was recruited via MeetUp; Erika has a connection with Gavin Keachie's family.

Our experienced millennial helpers, Erica de Gannes, Katie Menendez, and Kendra Beliveau, were wonderful role models. They also told them what to expect at the Christmas dance...clearing the floor, negotiating 1st couple position to walk the dances, how to ask for a dance. The evening worked out well for them.

Thank you to the above-mentioned helpers, and to Leo Roytman, Halyna Sydorenko, and Liz Clunie for helping to complete sets when needed.

The next set of Millennials' Classes begins February 27. The first four classes will lead up to the March Beginners' Night dance; the remaining six classes will lead up to Spring Fling in May.

...Maureen Richardson

George Brown College ESL Campus Ceilidh

George Brown College ESL Campus celebrates its diversity of students with a Caravan Cultural Festival each November. At their downtown Toronto Campus, they had 20 classrooms – each showcasing a different culture with displays, videos, food, and dance. The cultures included Kurdish, Iranian, Chinese, Japanese, and South American.

Keith was approached at a St Andrew's Ball ceilidh practice by Dorothy Van Grootheest, who works at George Brown. She asked him to run two half-hour ceilidh dance sessions during the Festival. We were assigned a corner of the main hallway – a space the size of two

classrooms and ideally placed to catch passing students and involve them in the dances.

We attracted a great deal of attention and lots of photos were taken. I took flyers for Beginner Classes, Millennials' Classes, and Spring Fling. The extras were given to Dorothy to display in her office. We also brought a banner display and several St Andrew's flags.

With the help of dancers Linda Steggle and Mike Morris, the students were persuaded to join in. They really admired Keith's and Mike's kilts and wanted to pose with them for photos.

On arrival at the Festival, everyone was provided with cutlery and a paper plate and invited to visit the various cultures and sample the foods. We made good use of the time between ceilidhs to do this. The various kinds of delicious baklava on offer were my favourite; Keith preferred the savouries.

We enjoyed ourselves immensely, as did our students, with broad smiles and laughter.

...Deirdre MacCuish Bark





A Brownie Revel

Mississauga:
Saturday, Dec. 7



Representatives from nine social groups and six members of the board attended the Social Group Liaison Meeting, Sunday, November 24, at Armour Heights Community Centre. Of the groups represented, there is wide variety in the numbers of dancers per group and the cost of running the group. Groups in the centre of the city seem to be maintaining their numbers, whereas groups to the west, in particular, are declining, some not managing to make up a four-couple set. Some groups unable to break even on a weekly basis continue to run by slowly using up their legacy funds. Discussion was held about the need to educate dancers that we have to pay for our enjoyment. Increasing fees could help groups, especially those whose rent keeps increasing. Age, injury, and relocation all play a part in the decline.

The need for an association class in the west end was discussed, as a way to increase future numbers. The board will try to meet the challenge of finding a suitable affordable space that is either easily accessible by public transit, or has decent parking facilities. It was noted that we need to try harder to get dancers from the association classes into social groups. We also need to explore the possibility of participating in Culture Days in locations other than the city centre, as people have been known to join classes after participating.

Deirdre MacCuish Bark reported on a new initiative coming from the Society called Core Training for Instructors (CTI). This would train new instructors with the emphasis on teaching skills, not on the teacher's own dancing skills. This could encourage more people to take the plunge and increase our base of teachers.

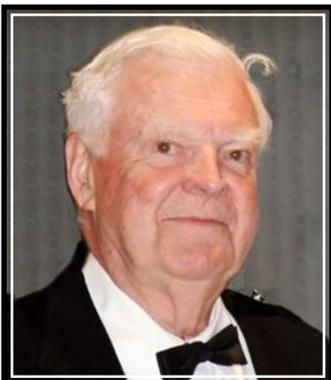
Marketing Director Ron Macnaughton shared outreach initiatives on Facebook, Instagram, and MeetUp. If any group has events to publicize or pictures to share, let him know.

Vice Chair Louis Racic shared the *Toronto Association's Policy with Respect to Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Persons*. Our policy includes a declaration that needs to be signed by teachers, social group leaders, and anyone who volunteers regularly with children. All the teachers in attendance were able to sign on the spot.

The final item of business was a discussion about our next Gala Day. It was decided that the RSCDS – TA calendar is already very full this year, so Gala Day has been postponed to a future year.

...Fiona Alberti

Grace Notes



Alex Collins, B.A.Sc. M.S. Ph.D. P.Eng
Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Toronto
7 April 1931 ~ 1 December 2019

Alex was a keen Scottish country dancer. He danced with Trinity and was well known in the Toronto area and beyond. In addition to his work at UofT, Alex was a consultant civil engineer, one of his projects being the complex computer work required for the engineering of the Ontario Pavilion at Expo 67 in Montreal.

Brown Owl Heather Nutbeam asked Keith and me to take part in a Brownie Revel. This comprised two half days (on the same day), with five activities in each. The theme was Celebrations, and they included: Mardi Gras, Hanukkah, Chinese New Year, Diwali, and Robert Burns – that's where we came in.

The girls (ages 7 and 8) would have a 30-minute experience in each session. We had over 40 children in the morning and another 50 in the afternoon, divided into groups of 12 to 14 children with four Owls (adult helpers).

To create ambience, we took St Andrew's flags to hang on the wall, tartan to drape on the table, and books and pictures of Robert Burns.

Heather began the session by talking about the St Andrew's flag, Robert Burns, haggis (described as a large sausage), and Keith's kilt. Though some guessed the word kilt, few had heard of haggis.

Keith taught *The Prince of Orange*. It's a couple-face-couple dance with clapping and stamping. We did a circle dance called *The Fairy Ring* – and Brownies, of course, are familiar with the concept of fairy rings. Keith also taught *Tam O' Shanter*, but mostly there was not enough time.

Heather led the Brownies with singing *Auld Lang Syne*, with arm movements, after which shortbread was distributed to everyone.



The children enjoyed the dancing and were happy to go into couples and make up a circle. They ended each session by giving us each a Brownie handshake.

...Deirdre MacCuish Bark and Keith Bark



Dear Editor...

Ed.: We asked Fred Moyes about his composition "Draughty Breeks", which he played for Colin Campbell's teaching of *Lord MacDonald's Reel* at the Toronto Workshop. This is Fred's response.

As you may already know, trousers or pants, as they are known in North America, are called breeks in many parts of Scotland. The word breeks, which has persisted in Scotland, is simply a form of the word breeches or britches. It is linguistically interesting because it is a double plural (which would seem appropriate since we all have two legs!). "Breeks" is used in the old saying "Ye cannae tak the breeks aff a highland-man," which has a variety of interpretations and is linked directly to the mythology relating to what is worn under the kilt.

I chose the name "Draughty Breeks" to celebrate the practice among young people of wearing jeans with threadbare holes revealing portions of their limbs (and other normally less visible portions of their anatomy), which exposes them to the vicissitudes and vagaries of the wind. An alternative title was Breezy Breeks but I preferred "draughty".

Hope this clarifies my choice of title for a good-going reel, which I really enjoy playing.



...Musically yours, Fred

Post Cards From Away

Headington School, Oxford



Highlights of Dancing in England, Part 1

A dance holiday in England, and a visit with my friend Anne Barnes, is always full of highlights, especially when I stay for almost three weeks to attend other dance events. On this trip, one of those highlights was the Oxford Ball at Headington School. Dancers come from as far away as London and Cheltenham to dance with those from Oxfordshire. Students from the University of Oxford social group also joined in the fun. The programme of 20 dances (neither walked nor briefed) was well balanced with easier dances, like *Maxwell's Rant*, and more difficult ones, like *The Dream Catcher*. For the third time on this trip, I danced *The Dancing Master* but my favourite of the evening was *The Rutland Reel*.

What added to the highlight of the ball was that for my second time I was dancing to the wonderful, put-wings-on-your-feet, music of Ian Muir & The Craigellachie Band. The first time was six years ago when Anne and three of her friends decided to organize a ball to celebrate a significant birthday that they all shared. They engaged Ian and Craigellachie to provide the music. This is Ian R Muir of England, — not to be confused with Ian T Muir of Prestwick, Scotland, leader of The Scottish Band. Many of you will know this latter Ian from when he was music director at the 2019 TAC Summer School in Calgary.



Ian R Muir
Craigellachie Band



Ian T Muir
Who was at TAC 2019

Ian R Muir & The Craigellachie Band are very popular in southern England, and as I write this (Dec. 7th) they are playing for the Abingdon and Harwell Ball. Ian also composes music for Scottish country dances. If you have danced *Doomhammer Delight* from *Book 50*, you've danced to one of his tunes, the signature tune called *Anne Barnes' Reel*. Ian has been music director for RSCDS for the last four years. It's a busy job organizing the music courses for summer school in St Andrews, and the music for each new book. He has also been instrumental in developing online teaching aids for musicians and teachers. He has played around the world but not in North America, he tells me, though would be very happy to do so. Now that his term as music director is coming to an end, before his calendar fills up, perhaps someone might invite him to take a turn being music director for a future TAC Summer School.

For the icing on the cake, Anne suggested I extend my trip for an extra day to go dancing at Abingdon Social Group one more time because Ian R Muir plays for them on the 4th Monday of the month. How could I refuse?

...Cheryl Catt

Gleneagles Ball, Vancouver

A Sunday Afternoon Formal Ball? Why not?

That was the decision made by the Gleneagles Scottish Country Dance Club to continue having their December Dance at the Fairmont Vancouver Hotel. Rental rates for both Saturday night and Friday night were simply too expensive — hence, Sunday afternoon.

Christy and I were delighted to share the reception and buffet. We danced with 100 enthusiastic dancers in the beautiful Pacific Ballroom to the music of the 16-piece Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra.

With 22 new attendees and several new dancers, all dances were briefed and walked at least once. Even so, there was still time for 18 dances and a few encores to boot. The tired dancers were treated to a heavenly table of decadent desserts before retiring for the evening. Congratulations on the 56th Annual Gleneagles Ball.

...Bill Barber

<https://rscdsgleneagles.org>



Pacific Ballroom, Hotel Vancouver

Privacy Protection for all by using Bcc

To: (Leave blank, or insert your own name to send to yourself)

Cc:

Bcc: dasher@santa.ca dancer@santa.ca prancer@pole.ca
vixen@sleigh.ca comet@swish.com cupid@darts.com
donner@fly.uk blitzen@flaps.os

Subject: **Privacy protection for all by using Bcc**

From: Your name here - yourname@yourserver.ca (automatically done)

To Bcc or Not to Bcc:
 When sending an email to a group of friends, committee members, colleagues, or students, what do you do? If you put all the recipients on the **To:** or **Cc:** (courtesy copy) line, you may be putting those addresses and individuals in jeopardy.
 In general, it is better etiquette to use the **Bcc:** (Blind courtesy copy) option for your email.
Here's the problem – If one of your contacts gets hacked, the list of addresses you exposed can potentially be sold on the Dark Net for nefarious purposes. Or, you could be sharing contact info some of your friends would rather not broadcast.
 If you are a corporation (as RSCDS Toronto is), it is technically illegal in Canada to send out email blasts without specific permission. Some of us are custodians of privileged information (that list of emails on your To/Cc line); we have an obligation to protect our members' and friends' information by keeping the information private.
 How? Use the **Bcc:** option when next you send a multi-person email.

New Message ~ On gmail.com ~

To | Cc **Bcc** Click Bcc

Subject |

New Message

To | To open Bcc

Bcc | Cc

Subject Clan MacBat :-)

Send



❄️ Some Social Groups' Christmas Cheer ❄️



Photo: Angus



Photo: Angus



Photo: Rob Lockhart

Congratulations, Catherine Shaw

Catherine Shaw (left) was presented with the RSCDS Scroll of Honour by Marie McLennan (right) at the London Branch Christmas Dance, November 30, 2019. More than 80 people came out to share the celebration that included a fun night of dancing to the music of *Scotch Mist* and a demo of *The Cottonwood Caper*, a new dance devised by Helen Bell to honour Catherine.



Catherine started dancing at a young age, and dance has continued to be a lifelong passion. She was awarded the Scroll of Honour for her ongoing dedication, love, and promotion of Scottish country dancing and music. Congratulations, Catherine, from your Toronto friends-in-dance.

A Visitor from New Zealand



Photo: Keith Farrell

Elena Lark*, from Auckland & Northland SCD, New Zealand, was in Toronto for a professional conference and, having followed events and programmes on the Shiftn' Bobbins website, she packed her dancing shoes — ready to join in the final dancing session of 2019, MC'd by Maureen Richardson. Elena (2nd from left) came well prepared, and she was quite undaunted by the exigencies of the *Twelvesome Reel*, a source of mirth for all concerned. Another dancing visitor, Keith Farrell from England, kindly took this photo.

The Shiftn' Bobbins group is now on winter break until March.

...Jon Allen-Friend

Info: <https://shiftnbobbins.webs.com>

Dashing Down the Set...

[A poem by Dawn Allaby, sung to the tune of Jingle Bells]

This was sung to Keith Bark by his Tuesday evening class at the party after last class.

Dashing down the set,
Ann and Eva hand in hand
Round the threes they go.
Isn't dancing grand?
Reeling on the side
Deb steps out not in.
Oh, watch out and don't collide.
'Cause a broken leg's a sin.

CHORUS:

Form your sets, Form your sets,
Now it's time to dance.
Don't talk now, just take a bow,
And curtsy as you can.

How's it start? How's it start?
Round the threes you go.
Don't look now – Keith's* run afoul
And stepped on Carol's toes. Oh!

A dance or two ago,
Clare thought she'd take a chance.
She stood in first man's place,
And all began to dance.
Joy turned to dismay
When Fireworks went off.
With shadow reels in disarray ~
The set was left distraught.

CHORUS

Now Keith's a patient man,
And Deirdre's staunch and true,
But even they could see
They needed something new.
So Keith altered his plans
And Deirdre led the way.
To everyone's relief, they switched
To dancing *Tar* an say.

CHORUS

Erin Mills, Tues.

* Not teacher Keith; one of the dancers in the class.



Photo: Diana Aird

Upcoming Events: NEAR

Jan 6 & 16 - **New Classes begin for Beginners & Level 2** ~ Beginner Classes at St Leonard's start Jan 6. Beginner Classes and Level 2 Classes at Eastminster start Jan 16. 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Jan 11 - **January Monthly Dance** ~ What better way to work off those holiday calories than to dance the night away with great music, great company, and a great programme of interesting dances? 8:00 - 10:30 p.m. at Crescent School.

Jan 18 - **White Cockade Tea Dance** ~ 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Delta United Church, 47 Ottawa St S, Hamilton. Complete info: <https://whitecockade.webs.com>

Jan 19 - **Sunday Afternoon Special Class** ~ Tony Szeto will teach Uncommon Formations. 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Armour Heights Community Centre, 2140 Avenue Road. \$6.

Jan 24 - **Highlands of Durham Burns Celebration** ~ Royal Canadian Legion in Port Perry. Tickets (\$60) available at the Wee Tartan Shop (905.985-6573).

Feb 8 - **South Simcoe's Valentine Workshop & Tea Dance** Arlene Koteff and Colin Campbell will teach; Laird Brown and Don Wood will play. Knox Church, 160 King St. S., Alliston. Tickets (limited to first 50!): scdalliston@gmail.com

Feb 15 - **The Tartan Ball** ~ Registration is now open. A beautiful event in our beautiful new home: The Old Mill.

Feb 27 - **New Millennials' Classes begin** ~ 18-35 yr-olds. 7:30-9:30 at St Thomas's Anglican Church, 383 Huron Street.

Mar 21 - **Beginners' Night Dance** ~ High energy fun is expected. Music by Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs. At Crescent School, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Mar 28 - **West End Workshop** ~ New location: Clarke Hall and adjacent Christ First Church, Port Credit (Mississauga) Teachers: David Queen, Cheshire, England; Marion Hamilton, Ottawa; May Divers, Toronto. Class levels: Basic/Intermediate or Intermediate/Advanced. More details soon.

Apr 25 - **AGM and April Volunteer Appreciation Dance** ~ 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. at Crescent School. Music by Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs.

May 1 - **Bluebell Spring Dance and Light Supper** ~ 7:30 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church, 100 King St. S., Alliston. Music by Laird Brown & Don Wood.

May 9 - **West Toronto Ball** ~ Sala Caboto, Toronto. Music by Scotch Mist. Details forthcoming.

May 15-17 - **Spring Fling 2020** ~ springfling2020.com/toronto

May 15-17 - **Spring Fringe 2020** ~ Details forthcoming.



RSCDS Toronto Association Board of Directors

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Donald Holmes (Chair)
Andrew Henderson
Rob Lockhart (webmaster)
Teresa Lockhart
Marian White
Judy Williams

Upcoming Events: FAR

Jan 24 - **HDSCD Burns Celebration** to be held at Royal Canadian Legion in Port Perry. Tickets (\$60) are now available at the Wee Tartan Shop (905.985-6573). Phone orders accepted.

Feb 8 - **The Ardbrae Ball, Ottawa** ~ Music by Torridon Scottish Country Dance Band. At Glebe Community Centre. Info: www.ardbrae.org

Feb 14-16 - **Isle of Wight Weekend School** ~ What better place to experience a delightful early spring than on the beautiful Isle of Wight! Teachers: Fred deMarse and Diane Rooney. Music: Robert Mackay and Ian and Judith Muir, plus, for the social dances: Ian Muir & The Craigellachie Band. Info: Catherine Packwood-Bluett at 011+44+01980 621322

Feb 14-16 - **Aloha Winter Weekend, Hawaii** ~ Guest Teacher: Rachel Pusey. Music: Humuhumunukunapua'a and Strathspey Society Band. Info: www.rscdshawaii.org

Feb 22 - **RSCDS London (Ont.) Workshop & Tea Dance** ~ Full Day Workshop, lunch and Tea Dance. Guest teachers: Moira Korus and Isobel Hunter. www.rscdslondoncanada.org

Mar 5-8 - **Belleville Ball and Workshop** at the Masonic Temple, Belleville. Teacher: Fiona Grant, Bristol, England. Programme to be announced. Registration forms and programmes will be sent out to everyone who attended in previous years. Information: Bill and Jan Cunningham drbill210@hotmail.com or David Aston david.aston@kos.net

Mar 21-22 - **Heather Ball Weekend, Vancouver** ~ Guest musicians: Colin Dewar and Alasdair Macleod. Info: www.rscdsvancouver.org

Apr 13 - **Easter Weekend School in Lyon, France** ~ Teacher: Mathias Ferber. Music: Sarah-Jane Summers (fiddle) and James Grey (piano). Info: www.rscdsparis.fr

Apr 17-19 - **SCD Weekend Away in Chambéry, France** ~ Teacher: Ron Wallace. Music: Matthias Rank and Silke Grosholz. Info: <https://rscds-lyon.fr>

Jul 26- Aug 2 - **2020 TAC Summer School** ~ Mount Royal University, Calgary. Teachers: Janet Johnston, Ron Wallace, Alan Twhigg, Barbara Johnston. Musicians: Judi Nicolson, Fred Collins, Ian Muir, Kathy Fraser-Collins, Terry Traub, Mary Ross. Registration opens March 1, 2020. Info: tac-rscds.org

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

Please join the RSCDS Toronto Facebook Group:
www.facebook.com/groups/55880122664

Keep it handy... Give it away... Repeat often

Spread the word... Download and print the .pdf of this wallet-sized bookmark/brochure:
www.dancescottish.ca/resources.html

Keep a few in your wallet, purse, or pocket and when the topic of Scottish country dance comes up (as surely it shall), pass them along. The resources page has both single side and duplex versions of the file.

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Events

Summer School 2020

4 Weeks: 19 Jul - 16 Aug, 2020
St Andrews University, Scotland

About 700 dancers from around the world will gather for wonderful teachers, talented musicians, friendship, and fun.
www.rscds.org/events/summer-school-2020

Registration is open: rscds.org
Scholarship deadline is Jan 10



- DEMO POOL PRACTICE DATES •
- All practices are Sunday afternoons, 2-4 p.m. •
- Parkway Forest Community Centre, Dance Studio •
- 55 Forest Manor Road, Don Mills •
- Jan. 5 • Jan. 12 • Mar 1 • April 5 •

Attend a Board Meeting

Members of RSCDS Toronto are welcome to audit Board meetings (i.e. sit in, and silently observe). Contact Fiona Alberti, fiona@alberti.ca for details. Scheduled Dates:
• Jan 9 • Feb 10 • Mar 12
• Apr 13 • May 14 • Jun 8



Please send submissions to Set&Link by the 10th of each month. Send to Donald Holmes deholmes@sympatico.ca

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