

RSCDS Toronto SET & LINK

www.dancescottish.ca

Erin Mills Scottish Country Dancing Celebrating 50 years



Paul Barber

From the Chair...

Scottish country dancing first commenced in Toronto when a group started up in the Earls Court neighbourhood in 1950. By 1955 Toronto dancers had organized to become an Affiliated Group of the RSCDS. In September, 1957, while attending an afternoon tea-party in Toronto held in her honour, Miss Milligan declared the Toronto Group a

BRANCH of the RSCDS. This declaration assumed official status in Edinburgh on October 7, 1957. The first Friday this October will be our 65th anniversary.

The coming year will be historic, not just in marking our 65th anniversary but also in a post-pandemic return to dancing in social groups and monthly dances (respecting appropriate COVID protocols). To mark the occasion, the executive commissioned a commemorative publication of local dances. The committee's work will be led by Vice Chair Arlene Koteff. Members include David Booz, Maureen Richardson, Jane Robinson, and Theresa Malek. Rob Lockhart will provide publication assistance.

The RSCDS worldwide embarks on celebrating its 100th anniversary, although the 100-year mark does not actually arrive until November 26, 2023. A key event in the lead-up will be a Spring Fling event next May hosted in Toronto. We step onto the world stage of Scottish country dancing. Everyone can look forward to that.

A teacher candidate class organized by Tony Szeto recently concluded with examinations conducted in July. All participants, who all hold memberships in the Toronto Association, achieved success in the July exams – Sue Batt, Sarah Ferguson, Leo Roytman, Kathryn Lecoq, and Rachel Watt – and are to be congratulated. Their goal of becoming fully certified Scottish country dance teachers moved one step closer. Congratulations also go out to Tristan Gerrie, who completed his Part 1 teaching at the TAC Summer School Calgary a few weeks ago.

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership. It is that time. If you haven't renewed yet, please remember to do so. It is extremely important for the health of our organization, and there is no fee increase. Scottish country dancing remains a bargain in these inflationary times.

...Paul Barber



Left to right – Wes Clindinning, Deirdre MacCuish Bark, Keith Bark, Jean Hamilton, Doug Stephen. Photo taken in 2005.

In the Fall of 1972, Wes and Brenda Clindinning started the Erin Mills group at Brookmeade School in the Erin Mills community in what was then the Town of Mississauga. Streetsville, under Mayor Hazel McCallion was a separate town, as was Port Credit. The current City of Mississauga was formed in 1974 and assumed the boundaries of the old Township of Toronto.

That is enough history of Mississauga.

The Erin Mills group rapidly grew with Wes as the teacher and in 1979 a beginners group was added under the tuition of Jean Hamilton. It was at that time that Deirdre introduced me to SCD classes. Both groups met on Friday evenings at Pierre Laporte school in Erin Mills. The beginners ran for one hour under Jean and the skilled dancers met immediately after under Wes. The beginners were not allowed to participate in Wes's class but could remain for a short while to observe. After a few months, the beginners were permitted to participate in the first dance of the second class!

Wes retired from teaching the Erin Mills group in 1980 and Jean Hamilton took over the position. Doug Stephen took over the beginners class. Both classes were flourishing and Doug wanted more time for the beginners. He moved the beginners to another evening (Tuesday) and to another location until they were able to secure the Tuesday evening back in Pierre Laporte.

[<See Erin Mills page 3>](#)

Association Classes



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

The ten-week sessions are \$100.

Please make cheques payable to "RSCDS Toronto."

Classes Convenor: [Anne Bishop](#)

COVID related policy in place



COUNTDOWN
TO
SPRING FLING
2023
TORONTO:

SPONSORSHIPS

As we close in on the RSCDS Centenary in 2023, young dancers can look forward to at least three worldwide get-togethers at the following Spring Flings: Edinburgh (April 2023), Toronto (May 2023), and Australasia (TBA).

Forced into a pandemic cancellation in 2020 just two months before the event, Toronto's Spring Fling is coming back. Resurrected, repositioned, revamped, Toronto's Spring Fling is the first to be held in North America. Scheduled for May 26-28, 2023, the Fling will run concurrently with the Spring Fringe, an event for dancers "d'un certain âge" with oodles of youthful energy.

Toronto's Spring Fling Committee wouldn't be able to mount an international event for youth without the generous support of our friends-in-dance. Please consider ways in which you can help sponsor the event. Sponsor a musician or teacher, a Fling dancer in your group, or a venue for a class or dance. Sponsor anonymously or named, individually or as a group. Creativity is key. Start thinking about this now!

The countdown to Spring Fling/Spring Fringe Toronto is on. As of September 1, 2022, there are 267 days to go! Next update? Next month!

...Halyna Sydorenko



Classes for young adults (age 18-40)

When: Thursday evenings, Sept 15 - Dec 1 (except Sept 29)

Time: 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Where: St Thomas's Anglican Church,
383 Huron St., M5S 2G5, [<map link>](#)

Cost: \$100 for 11 classes at sign-up, or \$10 per class

Info: erica.degannes@gmail.com

These classes will prepare you for dancing Scottish anywhere around the world, but especially at the Spring Fling 2023 to be held in Toronto May 26 ~ 28 (details TBA).

Covid protocols as recommended by Public Health will be followed.

Link to video of Paris Spring Fling 2019

<http://www.dancescottish.ca/youngadults.html>

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 some of the various steps and formations taught.

Mondays at St. Leonard's Anglican Church* [<map>](#)

Pre-register and bring a **COVID ATTESTATION** to class.

Dates: Sept. 19 - Dec. 5 (Excluding Oct. 10, Thanksgiving, Oct. 24, Election Day)

Teacher: David Booz

Class Rep: [Cheryl Catt](#)

Mondays at Alderwood Community Centre, Etobicoke * [<map>](#)

(Meeting Room, Lots of free parking)

Pre-register and bring a **COVID ATTESTATION** to class.

Dates: Sept. 26 - Dec. 12 (Excluding Oct. 10, Thanksgiving, Oct. 24, Election Day)

Teacher: Alma Smith

Email contact: [Tony Szeto](#)

New West End
Location!

Thursdays at Eastminster United Church* [<map>](#)

(Gymnasium-enter east side doors, go downstairs and follow signs.)

Pre-register and bring a **COVID ATTESTATION** to class.

Dates: Sept. 22 - Nov. 24

Teacher: Keith Bark

Class Rep: [Anne Bishop](#)

Level 2 Intermediate Classes: These classes build on steps and formations learned at the beginner level 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* [<map>](#)

(Hurndale Room - enter east side door, go downstairs and follow signs)

Pre-register and bring a **COVID ATTESTATION** to class.

Dates: Sept. 22 - Nov. 24

Teacher: Deirdre MacCuish Bark

Class Rep: [Anne Bishop](#)

* Location Addresses:

St Leonard's Anglican Church Hall, 25 Wanless Avenue
(2 minutes north from Lawrence and Yonge subway station, east side)

Alderwood Community Centre, 2 Orianna Dr., Etobicoke, near Brown's Line and Horner Ave.

Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Avenue
(2 minutes west from Chester subway station)

Erin Mills *(Continued from page 1)*

Jean Hamilton was also teaching the Ceilidh Demonstration Dancers and encouraged several Erin Mills Dancers to join the group. Over the years the Ceilidh Group danced for many Seniors' Residential Homes, Hospitals as well as more formal events at theatres and dinners and performing at Gala Dances.

In the mid-1980s, Betty Pellegrin started a Children's class that ran for a number of years and then handed it to Iszzilah McKay who in turn asked if I would teach the class in their basement. Demand grew and we moved back to Pierre Laporte before moving to Meadowvale Town Centre. The class then became known as Whigmaleeries. For a number of years we had three children's classes, juniors, mid and teens with three teachers, Ishbel Thomson, Deirdre MacCuish Bark and myself. The classes lasted until 2012.

The Erin Mills group was instrumental in starting the West Toronto Ball and the West End Workshop, both of which continue each under their own committee. Erin Mills also ran a Hogmanay Ball for many years.

Jean Hamilton taught the Friday Erin Mills class until COVID forced the stoppage and unfortunately the class has since folded.

The Tuesday Erin Mills Class continued through COVID via Zoom and restarted in-person classes this past March. It has been meeting at Cooksville United Church in Mississauga for over 25 years.

...Keith and Deirdre MacCuish Bark

Erin Mills Social and Dance

In celebration of 50 years of classes, children's dance classes, and Jean Hamilton's Ceilidh demonstration team.

Date: October 15, 2022

Time: Doors open at 7 p.m.
Dancing at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Cooksville United Church [<map>](#)

Music: Laird Brown & Donny Wood

A programme of dances connected with Erin Mills teachers and dancers, with a few easier dances for those who may not have danced recently if at all!

We welcome dancers and friends of the Erin Mills Groups as well as former members of Jean Hamilton's Ceilidh Dance Teams, and the Erin Mills/Whigmaleeries children's classes.

Come to just chat - meet friends - dance. Come and look at photos and film footage of days-gone-by.

The evening is FREE to all participants, but we welcome donations to help cover our costs.

No tickets, but please let us know if you plan to attend, so we can manage our numbers. [Deirdre MacCuish Bark](#)

We're Back!

[South Simcoe](#) Fall Session: Sept 9 – Dec 11 7:30-9:30

Knox Presbyterian Church, 160 King St. South, Alliston [<map>](#)

Instructor: [Maureen Richardson](#) 905-939-2712 | Contact: [Lyn Barsevskis](#) 705-458-1006

Beginners are welcome. Please bring your own water, snacks, and sanitizer. Masks are optional.

Join us on Facebook: [South Simcoe Scottish Country Dancers - Alliston](#)

October Monthly Dance



This year's programme was devised by Pat Coyle

Saturday, October 22 (Tentative Date)

Venue and Time TBA

Music by Scotch Mist

COVID policy will be announced at beginning of October.

Miss Allie Anderson	J 8x32	3C/4C set	RSCDS Leaflet
Dalkeith's Strathspey	S 8x32	3C/4C set	RSCDS Book 9R
Red House	R 6X40	2C/3C set	Rscds Book 7
The Frisky	J 8x32	3C/4C set	Rscds Book 26
From the Broomielaw	S 4x32	4C set	Holden, TAC Sil. Anniv Dan.
Memory Lane	R 8x32	3C/4C set	McKinnon, Gene's Mem Lane

Interval

The Jubilee Jig	J 8x32	3C/4C set	RSCDS Leaflet
Miss Ogilvie's Fancy	S 8x32	3C/4C set	RSCDS Book 20
The Castle of Mey	R 8x32	3C/4C set	RSCDS Diamond Jubil. Book
Rodney's Rant	J 8x32	3C/4C set	RSCDS Diamond Jubil. Book
Saint John River	S 4x32	4C set	Edwards, A Centennial Coll.
Shiftn' Bobbins	R 8x32	3C/4C set	RSCDS Thirty Pop. Dan., Vol 2

Extra

A Trip to Glasgow	J 6x32	2C/3C set	RSCDS Leaflet
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Members: \$27; non-Members: \$32; Students (18-25): \$10;

Youth (<18) and Spectators: \$5

Set & Link Needs You!

With the new season about to begin, the *Set & Link* committee hopes to start the dancing season with some new faces - one of which we hope will be YOU!

To continue making our newsletter something interesting and informative to read, we need assistance to make it happen. By sharing the load - help to coordinate articles submitted, getting the newsletter out the door - we'll be able to ensure the process flows smoothly. We would, of course, welcome new ideas for *Set & Link*. TA needs the support of everyone so **please consider putting your name forward**. Contact sheenagilks@gmail.com



Saturday Youth Classes

Resume on Saturday, September 10

Family class	9:30-10:05 am
Young Improvers	10:05-10:30
Seniors (twens & teens)	10:15am-11:30

See Page 4~ Want to Dance With Your Children and Grandchildren?

Contact: [Moira Korus](#)

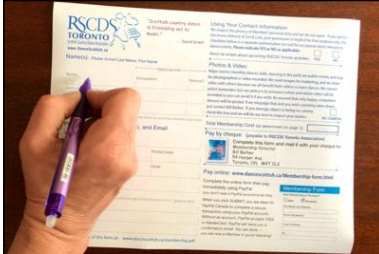


It's time to... ReMEMBER

Dust off your Dancing Shoes...

Membership is about maintaining a vibrant community of Scottish country dancers, especially under current circumstances. The Society is doing great things to keep dancers educated, trained, and connected worldwide. The Toronto Board is monitoring developments and preparing for the 2022/23 season.

This is the season we go back to dancing. Fun, fitness, and friendship will once again prevail — and won't we be HAPPY to embrace new dance opportunities with music and friends!



Membership Period: September 1 — October 30

We have three easy ways to RENEW your membership and/or to join us in this worldwide community.

We recommend fast and easy Interac e-Transfer. It's convenient, and it avoids transaction fees.

Membership Categories: (other options on Membership Forms)

- Single Adult Membership: \$68
- Joint Membership: \$126
- Young Adult Membership (18-34 yrs): \$43
- Under 18 yrs and Life Members: \$0

Payment options

1. Interac e-Transfer

Easy, if you do online banking. Transactions are usually free, and it avoids a 3% fee for TA.

Sign in to your on-line bank account and, if you are a new user, register for Interac e-Transfer.

Add RSCDSTA@gmail.com as a recipient, and complete the payment.

2. PayPal

PayPal also accepts VISA & MasterCard. There is a 3% transaction fee to RSCDS Toronto.

3. [Membership-form-paper.pdf](#)

Print, and complete.

New Members applying for the first time: Use any of the 3 payment options. You will be warmly welcomed!

• **Privacy Policy:** Your personal data will only be used for RSCDS Toronto Association and RSCDS (the Society) purposes and will not be shared with other organizations

• **Images:** Notice will be posted at events where photos and/or video may be taken. Please inform the event convenor if you do not wish your image to be used.



Want to Dance With Your Children or Grandchildren?

Have you seen Rosedale children at a monthly dance or at the youth ball? (<https://youtu.be/FbSFhjWq2vE> and <https://youtu.be/QwEq0QU99t0>). Many kids just love the joy and energy of Scottish country dance from the first try. Why don't you bring your children or grandchildren to a Rosedale class some Saturday morning? If they enjoy it, what can be better than sharing your joy and passion with them?

Rosedale children's group is running a family dance class for children of all ages with their parents or grandparents. Classes will start on **Saturday September 10**. Family class is suitable for children aged 3 1/2 + and will run from 9:30-10:05. This will be followed by a "young improvers" class from 10:05-10:30. Young improvers are older children in the family class who are beginning to be able to learn steps and formations independently. This group will be joined at 10:15 by our older children and teens (approximately 10+) who will dance from 10:15-11:30.

There is always so much energy at Rosedale on a Saturday morning! Young children love to warm up by marching to the music and playing follow my leader. Both young and older children practise their steps as they dance up and down the full length of the hall and our 10+ dancers work on perfecting their steps and formations and working towards achieving their various Scottish country dance medals. The older children will also look forward to attending next year's International Spring Fling!

Dancing teaches cooperation, counting, multi-tasking, moving to music, and patterning. It is energetic and fun. It is also the best bargain in the city. Family classes cost \$10 per family per week which includes the young improvers' classes. The 10+ classes are also a bargain price at \$250 for the year from September to May with an option to pay per term at \$125 for September to December and \$150 for January to May.

If you don't have children or grandchildren this age to bring, please reach out to friends and neighbours to tell them about our class and encourage them to come out.

Classes are held at Rosedale Presbyterian Church, 129 Mount Pleasant Road (at South Drive). [<map>](#)

For more information contact Moira Korus at moirakorus62@gmail.com

Candidate Classes at TAC Summer School



Gary Thomas (Musician), Duncan Macpherson, Deena Mills, Rebecca Blackhall-Peters (Tutor), Cathie Frise, and Tristan Gerrie

This July, I had the opportunity to attend the Teachers' Association Canada (TAC) Summer School for two weeks in Calgary, Alberta where I took the candidate classes for my Units 2 and 3 towards becoming a Scottish country dance teacher. The examination for these units included both dancing and teaching components.

Undertaking both units intensively was significant, and occasionally stressful, but our tutor, Rebecca Blackhall-Peters from British Columbia, and musician, Gary Thomas from California, were incredible sources of support and instruction. Despite the long and busy days, they managed to keep the tone positive, which helped keep us motivated. I was amazed at how much we learned - both with our own dancing and technique, as well as the skills needed to be an effective teacher. I have a deeper appreciation for the work our teachers do weekly after getting a taste of lesson planning. The balancing act of being mindful of my own technique, observing dancers in the room, and providing teaching points, all while maintaining a smooth pace and flow for the class, was a definite mental workout!

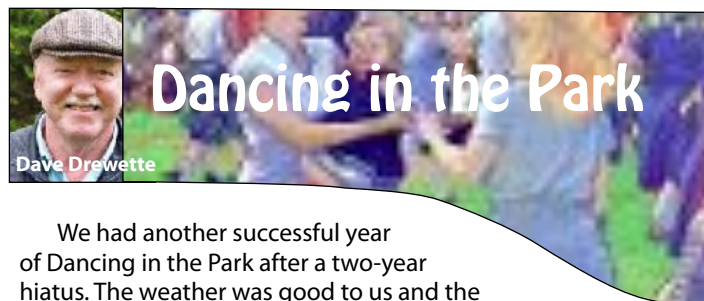
My fellow candidates were from across Canada (Ontario, Alberta, and Nova Scotia) and had a wide range of experience in their dancing and teaching. This was helpful as we worked through our assignments together, and meant that we could draw on each other's expertise. Working as part of a small group of four candidates meant that we got to know each other well, and the relationships I formed were a highlight of the week.

I was fortunate to be surrounded by friends and dancers from Toronto during my time at Summer School. It was nice to spend time with folks "off the dance floor," and to get to know some of our Toronto members better. Special thanks to David Booz, who danced with the candidates for our Unit 2 exam, and to Moira Korus, Suzanne Batt, and Vicky Zeltins, who offered support and suggestions as I worked through some of my assignments and lessons from the course. Thank you as well to the numerous Toronto dancers who wished me well leading up to the course, and e-mailed with well wishes while I was away. I feel fortunate to be a part of such a supportive group.

I am delighted to say that I passed both examinations, and am looking forward to completing my Unit 4, which involves practice teaching. I will be working with Moira and Erica de Gannes with the young adults class, and my father, Blair Gerrie, who teaches the Tayside dancers.

Thank you to the Toronto Association for awarding me a scholarship to help with my teacher training. I am very appreciative of the generosity and ongoing support of the association, and am looking forward to contributing to our Toronto dancing community. I'd also like to thank and acknowledge both TAC and the RSCDS for providing funding through the Jubilee Scholarship Fund and the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

...Tristan Gerrie



We had another successful year of Dancing in the Park after a two-year hiatus. The weather was good to us and the talented band, Scotch Mist, was inspired as always.



The dancing was enjoyed by young, old, and in-betweens.

Many thanks to the teachers who volunteered their time to brief the dances for us: Jean Noble, Moira Korus, Keith Bark, Deirdre MacCuish Bark, and Arlene Koteff. Arlene also devised the excellent dance programs for each evening. Momentum built each week, culminating in a turn-out of ten sets on the

last night, with just about the same number of spectators. There were a lot of guests who were new to Scottish country dancing, but many of them were willing to give the dances a try and went home with smiles on their faces and information on beginner classes. It was interesting to see the diverse mix of multi-generational dancers.

The Honourable Rob Oliphant, federal member of parliament for Don Valley West, accepted our invitation to attend a dance. On June 28 he arrived wearing his Oliphant kilt and enjoyed the ceilidh dances. In his brief, heartfelt address during the intermission he said he would be back next year.



The Honourable Rob Oliphant (in kilt) enjoyed the ceilidh dances.

Thanks to our volunteers who helped out:

Kevin Moloney for administration help
Joanne McConnell on the information/donation desk
Rob Lockhart for program printing and web notices
Wendy Fulton for cash collection and financing
Ron Macnaughton for marketing and visitor canvassing
Laurie McConachie for visitor canvassing

The lawn was in great shape and a good time was had by all.

We enjoyed dancing in the park on lovely June evenings and look forward to returning again next year.

...Dave Drewette, Convenor

Teacher Candidate Class

July 17, 2022, witnessed the culmination of the Teacher Candidate Class by way of exams. On behalf of Toronto Association, I wish to thank many individuals. Examiners Ron Wallace and Graham Donald travelled from afar, and gave up valuable weekends from their demanding schedules. Jean Noble was our fearless tutor, who tirelessly prepared teaching assignments tailored to bring out each candidate's strong points and remedy their weaknesses. She provided individual as well as group critiques so that everyone could benefit. Her eagle eyes in error detection and insightful advice for correction are equalled by only the most highly skilled examiners. She did a wonderful job transferring her vast teaching knowledge to our candidates, and as importantly, instilling in them her love for this dance form. Our make-believe students, aka "stooges", spent up to three Sunday afternoons to enable our candidates to practise their teaching skills.



*L to R: Cheryl Catt, Paul Barber, Sue Ann Bryce, Graham Donald, Jean Noble, Ron Wallace, Stella Henderson, Evelyn Holmberg, Suzanne Dubeau, Donny Wood, Irene Bailey, Valerie Fisher, Max Fothergill, Erica de Gannes, John Clark, Pat Brown.
Floor: Alma Smith, David Booz, Theresa Malek, Alison Booz, Sheena Gilks, Chris Elliot, Muriel Nicoll (not shown)*

David Booz and Alma Smith served as "tutor shadows", and proved most helpful to the candidates as well as to Jean. It is just as important to prepare future tutors as to recruit new teachers.

We are very fortunate in Toronto to have musicians of the



L to R: Alma Smith, Sue Batt, Jean Noble, Sarah Ferguson, Fiona Alberti, Graham Donald, David Booz, Ron Wallace, Kathryn Lecocq, Laird Brown, Leo Roytman, Rachel Watt, Donny Wood

calibre of Laird Brown and Donny Wood to work with the candidates during the exams. Music is a vital part of SCD, and Don Bartlett played for multiple weeks leading up to the exams as candidates practised teaching to live music.



We have great news. All examinees passed their units. Hearty congratulations go to Sue Batt, Sarah Ferguson, Kathryn Lecocq, Leo Roytman, and Rachel Watt.

Tristan Gerrie passed Units 2 and 3 while attending TAC Summer School in Calgary in July.

...Tony Szeto, E&T.

Midsummer Dance, July 18, 2022



*L to R: Tony Szeto, Paul Barber, Pat Brown, Jean Noble, Craig Houston, Graham Donald, Sue Ann Bryce, Muriel Nicoll, Laird Brown, Donny Wood, Max Fothergill, Suzanne Dubeau, Valerie Fisher, Wendy Fulton, Alma Smith, Irene Bailey, Ken Adamson, Glenna Macdonald, Judy Williams, Sue Batt, Fiona Alberti, Cheryl Catt.
Floor: Erica de Gannes, Lorraine Ng, Theresa Malek, David Booz, Alison Booz, Barbara McNutt, Ayla Devlin.*

Once the Teacher Candidate Class Examinations were over, thoughts turned to a dance on the following night, July 18, 2022. Examiner Graham Donald led the evening, which combined a social dance with instructional elements. It was a warm and sticky evening, the latter in clothing as well as the floor. Music provided by Laird Brown and Donny Wood was so

uplifting that most of us managed to forget about the heat, at least while dancing. We're grateful to everyone for adhering to mask wearing, which certainly didn't make for light and airy flight of feet. A number of pre-registrants had to bail out on the day, mostly because of recent exposure to covid-positive family members. Despite numerous last-minute cancellations, we had three sets plus.

...Tony Szeto



Check this link to the Scottish website for info about the centenary of RSCDS:
<https://www.rscds.org/blog/rscds-centenary>

Grace Notes



Jack DeGroot

25 October, 1938-1 June, 2022

Among his many other interests, which included building projects, canoeing, and volunteering, Jack had a great love for music, which led to dancing. He and Pam took up Scottish country dancing. Whether in Haliburton, Fallingbrook, Woodglen, or in the park,

he had his kilt and was ready to dance! Jack taught in the TDSB working as a consultant, vice-principal, and principal. Condolences to his wife Pam and their family.



David Roper

14 June, 2022

David and Margaret embraced Scottish country dance late in life, and enjoyed it to the full, attending many classes and events, including SCD tours to Scotland. David, proud of his

Welsh/English background, was also a talented woodcarver. Condolences to his wife, Margaret, and to their children and grandchildren.



Don Large

1939 - 21 June, 2022

Don danced at Trinity and Hillcrest. He will be remembered by many in the Vancouver area, and the Scottish country dance community of Toronto. Condolences to Marie-Thérèse and

Don's family.

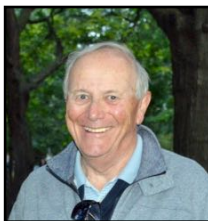


Marian Ross

6 October, 1924 - 5 July, 2022

Born in Glasgow, Marian and husband Jimmy who pre-deceased her were long time members of Newtonbrook Church, where they danced for many years, and attended many balls. Marion also

danced with Jess Houseley's Thursday group. Condolences to her daughters and their families.



Michael Taylor

19 July, 2022

Michael was a cheerful, witty chap. He was one of the Pinehurst Eight – a group of friends who golfed for a week in the spring while their wives danced or travelled elsewhere.

Michael managed the music for Barbara's association classes, and together they travelled to SCD events in Canada and abroad. Condolences to Barbara, and to Michael's children and their families..

Robin Wood

January 29, 1942- July 5, 2022



Robin was chair of The Toronto Association from 1989-91. As a member of the committee, prior to taking on the chair position, Robin played a major role in organizing the Tartan Ball and the Toronto Weekend at Geneva Park on Lake Couchiching. His attention to detail and meticulous planning were also in demand by the St. Andrew's Society as co-chair of the ball. Robin's love of dance started in 1977, when he

attended classes in Aurora and Richmond Hill. He was encouraged by fellow dancers and teachers to apply his high school teaching skills to becoming a dance teacher and he completed his full certificate in Toronto in 1993. He later became a member of the Glenview Group, where he assisted Robin Matheson with teaching duties.

It was Glenview's loss when in 2007 he and Sharon moved from King City to Wasaga Beach, where he continued to dance with, and sometimes teach, the Wasaga group. However, they were still very much a part of the Toronto Association by continuing to attend Toronto events.

Robin will be fondly remembered.

Condolences to Sharon, daughter Martha, and granddaughter Miyuki.

...Liz Clunie

Scottish Country Dancing at Calvin Comes To An End



The Calvin SCD Group announces, with great regret, that our classes can no longer continue. In the fall of 1957, a Scottish country dance group began to meet in the lower hall at Calvin Presbyterian Church. It flourished for decades, especially under the leadership of teachers Iain Macfarlane (1960–1980) and Frances Gray (1980–2010). Isabelle MacPherson taught beginners

classes in the upper hall for many years and continued to support the group after she retired. Vicky

Zeltins taught at Calvin from 2010 until Covid-19 brought an end to social dancing in March 2020. Dancers enjoyed live music at weekly classes until 2004; Don Bartlett was at the piano for many of those years and continued to play at Christmas and spring parties. The lower hall at Calvin Church was once filled with dancers on Tuesday evenings. Over the years, however, membership and attendance have progressively fallen, while costs have risen. Calvin Church will be under renovation in the fall, and when we investigated other venues, it was clear that we could not meet the expense. After so many happy years of dancing, it is with great sorrow and disappointment that we have concluded that there is no option but to discontinue the group. We hope that everyone who danced at Calvin will find another group to join and will continue to enjoy the pleasure of Scottish country dancing.

... Mary Baldwin

Upcoming Events: NEAR

Oct. 15 – Erin Mills 50th Anniversary Social & Dance~ At Cooksville United Church, 2500 Mimosa Row, Mississauga. <map>. Doors open at 7 p.m. Dance begins at 7:30 p.m. Music by Laird Brown and Donny Wood. Dance is free but donations are welcomed. Everyone welcome.

Oct. 22– October Monthly Dance~ Date will be confirmed.

May 26-28, 2023 – Spring Fling 2023 ~ This young-adult-oriented event is definitely a go! More information to follow.

For up-to-date info on events near and far, visit
dancescottish.ca

Musical Muskoka Chairs



Joanne McConnell and Dave Drewette,
convenor of DITP test the Muskoka chairs

This year we returned to Dancing in the Park "in triumph"*, overcoming the usual challenges of dancing on grass and holding our collective breath that the weather will cooperate. Mother Nature teased us on the first Tuesday, but we came through brilliantly with four spectacular evenings. Having been "parked" for two years

meant the rust needed to be brushed off, but dancers rose to the occasion.

In our absence, Edwards Gardens installed two red Muskoka chairs on a concrete slab in the middle of our "Dear Green Place"*. Perhaps they were being considerate of our need to "rest and be thankful"*. In any case, dancers did not "balk"*. We are resilient and know how to adjust and adapt to conditions at hand.

Hmmm, sounds like someone should devise a dance called *Musical Muskoka Chairs*. I put it out there for anyone who is inspired and creative.

...Arlene Koteff

**The Triumph* (R4X24, Nathaniel Gow, RSCDS Book 1), *Dear Green Place* (S8X32, Jessie Hamilton, Glasgow Diamond Jubilee), *Rest and Be Thankful* (R8X32, Jack McConachie, Grampian Collection of Scottish Country Dances), *The Balk* (J8X32, Alexander Bowman, RSCDS Book 30; the recommended music for this dance is "The Squirrel"—how appropriate!)

Upcoming Events: FAR

Sept 23-25 – Scottish Weekend ~ At beautiful Camp Louise in Cascade, Maryland. Teachers: Robert McOwen, Kate Neally, and Yvonne Yang. Info: scottishweekend.org

Nov 4-6 – Asilomar Workshop Weekend ~ Rustic elegance on the beautiful Monterey Peninsula, hosted by RSCSD San Francisco. Teachers: Jeff Corrigan, Arthur McNair, Jennifer Reiner, Helen Russell, Katherine Shearman. Features music by Tartan Ties (Ian Muir, Judi Nicolson, Kathy & Fred Collins) Info: asilomar.rscds-sf.org

Nov 4-6 – The Autumn Gathering and AGM, Glasgow, Scotland~ The Autumn Gathering allows dancers to gather over a weekend in Scotland. Dancers from the UK, North America and continental Europe take part in classes, discussion forums and workshops. Whether attending as delegates or spectators, all enjoy the social events which surround the business of the AGM. Dance with us on the Friday ahead of Saturday evening's grand ball.

Info: <https://www.rscds.org/events/autumn-gathering-2021>

Nov 5 – Kitchener-Waterloo Blair Ball ~ Celebrating 100 years of dancing in Waterloo Region. This celebratory Ball is co-sponsored by RSCDS Kitchener-Waterloo Branch (established 1960), and Blair Scottish Country Dancers (established 1980). Combine those legacies and we can celebrate 100 years of dancing. Come join us, and dance to the music of Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs on a sprung wood floor at the Alpine Club in Kitchener. Info: Kathryn.Lecocq@519.572.2741
[Brochure & programme](#)

Feb 19-24, 2023 – Winter School 2023, Pitlochry, Scotland~
Info & updates: <https://www.rscds.org/events/winter-school-2023>

For other away events, visit: dancescottish.ca/Whats-On-Far.html

TA's 65th Anniversary

RSCDS Toronto became a Branch in the fall of 1957.

Please send submissions to *Set & Link* by the 10th of each month. Send to Sheena Gilks sheena.gilks@gmail.com

Scheduled Dates of Board Meetings

2022-2023 season

Sept 7

Future dates TBA

RSCDS Toronto Association Board of Directors

Chair: Paul Barber	416.534-0516	paulbarber48@gmail.com
Vice-Chair: Arlene Koteff	416.272-7217	amkot978@gmail.com
Secretary: Fiona Alberti	416.483-2213	fiona@alberti.ca
Treasurer: Wendy Fulton	416.951-5029	wbfulton@hotmail.com
Program: Laurie McConachie	416.567-0010	laurie-m@rogers.com
Membership: Carol Ann Boothby		
Communications: Sheena Gilks	647.390-1076	sheena.gilks@gmail.com
Marketing: Ron Macnaughton	416.884-1631	macnaughton@rogers.com
Education/Training: Tony Szeto	416.566-9386	aszeto2010@gmail.com



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

Webmaster: Rob Lockhart (webmaster)

Newsletter Committee:

Sheena Gilks	647.390-1076
Marian White	416.781-7795
Judy Williams	416.924-3658



TA-TAC Representative:
Nigel Keenan
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416.759-9845 robblockhart@rogers.com

sheena.gilks@gmail.com
marianwhit26@gmail.com
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RSCDS Toronto Membership Form
2022/2023 Dance Season
1st Oct 2022 – 30th Sept 2023



SAVE THIS FORM TO YOUR DESKTOP... OPEN IN ADOBE ACROBAT READER TO PRINT

Dancer 1:	<input type="text"/>			Dancer 1 is the person submitting this form. Dancer 2 is a second person in same household.
Dancer 2:	<input type="text"/>			
Email(s):	<input type="text" value="Dancer 1"/>	<input type="text" value="Dancer 2"/>		
Occupation: (Optional)	<input type="text" value="Dancer 1"/>	<input type="text" value="Dancer 2"/>		
Phone(s):	<input type="text" value="Home"/>	<input type="text" value="Cell 1"/>	<input type="text" value="Cell 2"/>	Dancer 1 : Cell 1 Dancer 2 : Cell 2 Format: 416.123-4567
Address including Postal Code:	<input type="text"/>			
Social Group(s) or Class:	<input type="text"/>			

Privacy Policy: Your personal data will only be used for RSCDS Toronto Association and RSCDS (the Society) purposes and will not be shared with other organizations.

Images: Notice will be posted at events where photos and/or video may be taken. Please inform the event convenor if you do not wish your image to be used.

Membership Category

- ☐ Joint Membership (2 adults at same address) • \$126
- ☐ Single Adult • \$68
- ☐ Spouse of Honorary Life Member • \$63
- ☐ Young Adult Member (25-34 yrs as of July 1st) • \$43
- ☐ Young Adult Member (18-24 yrs as of July 1st) • \$43
- ☐ Keep-in-Touch (Set&Link by email) • \$25
- ☐ Free: Life Member / Youth Associate (12-17yrs) / Junior (<12 yrs) • \$0

Extra: Newsletter Delivery Options: Set&Link + Scottish Country Dancer

Set&Link delivery defaults to email (10/yr). A paper version via Canada Post is \$30 extra/yr. The Scottish Country Dancer magazine is sent twice yearly to Members worldwide. Save trees and postage by opting for email.

☐ Paper Set&Link: \$30 extra per year for paper version

Scottish Country Dancer magazine ~ choose one option (both are free) ~ ☐ Email or ☐ Paper

Extra: Type of Name Tag – if required

Dancer 1: ☐ Paper (free) ☐ Magnetic \$10 ☐ Pin-on \$10 ☐ Clip-on \$10

Dancer 2: ☐ Paper (free) ☐ Magnetic \$10 ☐ Pin-on \$10 ☐ Clip-on \$10

Completion: RSCDS Toronto Membership Renewal/Application

Cheques Payable to:
"RSCDS Toronto Association"

Post cheque with this form to:
Membership Director

More info: www.dancescottish.ca/Membership.html

12 Markwood Cres., Etobicoke M9C 1L2

2022-06-12 ~ Additional copies of this form may be downloaded from: www.dancescottish.ca/2022-23-Membership-form.pdf