# RSCDS Toronto

# SET&LINK

**TORONTO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2008** 

# Chair's Message



November has been a busy month for dancing.

Thanks to Valerie Fisher and her committee, we had an excellent Toronto workshop with teachers Fiona

Grant, Claire Collier and Fiona Philip. Then Forbes Duncan and the monthly dance committee took over for a well-attended and enjoyable evening dance. Thanks, Forbes. While this was going on in Toronto, Jean Noble was being presented with the Society's Scroll of Honour at the AGM in Perth. We were pleased so many of her Toronto friends could attend.

The demo team has been busy with the usual venues plus an event at the Liberty Grand and an appearance at Illuminite at Dundas Square. November is not the best time for outdoor demos, but all went well in spite of the rain.

The St. Andrew's Ball is always another November highlight.

For the young folk, there was the Children's Workshop with teacher Joyce Kite along with a parents' class taught by Ian Paterson. Thanks to Moira Korus and her committee for organizing this well attended and fun event.

As a new venture, we have been running a set of four classes in Ceilidh Dancing, ably taught by Teresa Lockhart. These were very successful, with obvious enjoyment by all. We hope to repeat these classes.

For December, how about Tartan Ball tickets for a Christmas gift? A chance to wear those new gowns purchased at the Slightly Used clothing sale at the workshop! (Thanks Margaret Rieger and friends.) Remember the various special Christmas and Hogmanay events put on by our Social Groups. December 6 is Family Night – beginning at 7:30. Come one, come all.

I wish you and yours a merry Christmas and peace, health, happiness and much dancing in the New Year.

## A Noble Feat\*



Jean Noble accepting the Scroll of Honour from Dr. Alastair Macfadyen, president of RSCDS

. . . Jean Hamilton

Having experienced my first RSCDS AGM weekend in Perth, Scotland, I have to say it was well worth the effort, with the added bonus of witnessing the presentation of the Scroll of Honour to Jean Noble and to 2 former Society Chairs, Linda Gaul and Jean Martin by Dr Alastair Macfadyen, newly elected President.

Although the venue, the Bells Sports Arena, was somewhat spartan but sufficiently spacious to accommodate over 700 dancers at the Ball, dance classes, informal dance and the AGM, the ambiance and friendliness of the people gathered together by a common interest more than compensated for the surroundings.

ships made during our participation in past St. Andrews Summer Schools. The Headquarters Staff, AGM committee and Irene Bennett, retiring Society Chair and recent guest of the Toronto Association (Tartan Ball, 2008) were eager to ensure our comfort and enjoyment throughout the weekend.

There is an obvious endeavour to strengthen ties with all in the "dance family", to improve communication, share ideas and to promote the continuation of the RSCDS in these difficult times.

The Society needs and merits our support and appreciation of the benefits, perceived and unperceived, as a "Branch" of this worldwide organisation.

The six Toronto Association members present in Perth were proud to represent all our Association dancers and hope that others will follow suit in future years.



Representatives of the Toronto Association at the AGM in Perth included (l.-r.) Jean Noble, Deirdre MacCuish Bark, Jean Hamilton, Muriel Nicoll and Carole Skinner, as well as Keith Bark. (Photos by Keith Bark)

### January Monthly Dance

Date: Saturday, January 10, 2009

Time: 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Place: Crescent School

2365 Bayview Avenue

Music: Bobby Brown & The Scottish AccentHosts: • Hillcrest • Scarborough • Tayside

Old Nick's Lumber Room	J 8x32	Bk 26/6
Jack on the Green †	S 8x32	McConachieSCD 18th.C
Fife Ness	R 8x32	4/78/1
Bannocks and Brose †	J 8x32	Birmingham
The Spirit of the Dance †	S 8x32	Paterson Lft.
Mairi's Wedding †	R 8x40	Cosh
Interval		
Dundee Civic Jig †	J 8x32	D. Henderson
The Cuillins of Skye*	S 8x32	Bk. 4/78/2
J.B. Milne* †	R 8x32	Foss
Jean Martin of Aberdeen*	S 3x32	3/2006
Napier's Index	J 8X40	Bk. 45/8
The Montgomeries' Rant	R 8X32	Bk 10/1
Extra		
A Trip to Bavaria †	R 4x32	Collins
Mrs Stewart's Jig	R 8x32	Bk. 35/1

<sup>\*</sup> Tartan Ball dances † Non RSCDS dances

N.B. This is "Challenge Night" — dances will be briefed only, not walked.

#### **December Family Night Dance**

Date: Saturday, December 6, 2008

Time: 7:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Place: Crescent School
2365 Bayview Avenue

Music: Don Bartlett & The Scottish Heirs



Non-dancing spouses are welcome to come and watch, and see what it's all about. I know that at this time of year there are many demands on your time as most social groups have Christmas Dances, but try to get out and support the RSCDS Toronto Monthly Dance.

# Thank you

Scarborough Scottish Country Dancers have made a generous donation to the Toronto Association. It is to be used to support Dancing in the Park. Merci beaucoup, Scarborough!

# **Special Events**

# Calvin Christmas Dance

Tuesday, December 9, 2008 @ 7:30 p.m.

Calvin Social Group invites all dancers to join us at Calvin Presbyterian Church Hall, 26 Delisle Ave (Yonge and St. Clair). Get into the holiday spirit with the live music of Don Bartlett. Cost is only \$10 and includes refreshments. Contact Ken Adamson 416-763-0073 or ken.adamson@sympatico.ca

#### Glenview Christmas Dance

Wednesday, December 10, 2008 @ 8 -10 p.m.

Dance to the music of Fred Moyes at Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Ave. Dance followed by finger food buffet. Tickets \$15 at the door. Contact Ian Clunie, 416-486-6582. More info at www.glenviewscd.org

#### Erin Mills Christmas Dance

#### Friday, December 12, 2008

Making your Christmas plans? Tickets (briefsheets) at \$15 each available for the Erin Mills Dance. Music by "The Reel Thing". Light refreshments included. Contact the Hamiltons at 905-566-9599 or g.s.hamilton @ sympatico.ca

#### Scarborough Christmas Dinner Dance Monday December 15, 2008

Music by Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Tickets are \$40. At Q-Ssis Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Rd. Call Margaret at 416-283-4790.

#### Erin Mills Hogmanay Ball December 31, 2008

Reception at 7:30 p.m. Dancing from 8 p.m. until shortly after midnight to Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. There will be a complimentary Wine and Punch bar all evening. Refreshments available mid-evening. At Port Credit's beautiful, historic Clarke Hall. \$60 per person. Contact Keith R Bark 905-822-1707 barkk@rogers.com

# Glenview Hogmanay Dance & Ceilidh December 31, 2008 @ 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

Music by Fred Moyes. Dance followed by finger food buffet and ceilidh at Rosedale Presbyterian Church. Tickets \$15. Contact Ian Clunie, 416-486-6582 or www.glenviewscd.org

# Highlands of Durham Hogmanay December 31, 2008

All types of dancing including Scottish Country. Midnight Buffet. At Latcham Centre, Port Perry. Tickets \$25. Contact Marjorie Mason, 905-649-3532, mmason@bellnet.ca or Stewart Bennett, 905-985-6573, stewart@theweetartanshop.com

#### An Evening with Robert Burns

#### (as Portrayed by Stewart Bennett) January 17, 2009

Highland of Durham present a traditional roast beef dinner and entertainment. All types of dancing to favourite Scottish music. Scugog Community Centre, Port Perry. Tickets \$50. Contact Marjorie Mason, 905-649-3532, mmason@bellnet.ca or Stewart Bennett, 905-985-6573, stewart@theweetartanshop.com

# Tartan Ball 2009 Feb. 21:- This is the highlight event in the Toronto Association calendar. We'll enjoy great dances, wonderful music by Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent, and an excellent meal in the company of friends. Salad: Baby Spinach Salad, Roasted Pears, Toasted Pine Nuts, Roasted Shallot Chestnut Dressing. Entree: Wild Mushroom and Brioche Stuffed Chicken Supreme, Honey Lemon Pan Jus, Herb Roasted Chateau Potatoes. Dessert: Traditional Royal York Yule Log, Black Rum Vanilla Sauce.

#### West End Workshop / Tea Dance Saturday, March 21, 2009

Shake off those winter blues; come celebrate the joy in the Dance. Classes morning & afternoon, with a hot lunch. Afternoon break followed by a Tea Dance. Teachers are Alan Twhigg, Ian Souter and Ian Paterson. Musicians are Bobby Brown, Laird Brown, Don Bartlett. At Turner Fenton SS, North Campus, 7935 Kennedy Road, Brampton (just west of Hwy 410). \$45 for the day, or \$12 for the Tea Dance only. Contact Anna & Tom Rielly 519-927-5502 or t.rielly@rogers. com or check www.RSCDStoronto.org (What's On).

## Hallowe'en at the Kingston Weekend





Toronto's 6 Marias: Margaret Bain, Dorothy Freel, Margaret Cunningham, Pat Asada, Margaret Roper, and Muriel Nichol

Dennis Ridley, who maintained a gruesome silence, was winner of the costume prize.

#### Found

- A pair of men's black outdoor shoes size 9 left at Carassauga in May of this year. Call Pat Young at 905-632-8133.
- A pair of pink lady's dance shoes left at the Workshop. Call Forbes Duncan, 416-266-3377

#### Winter Association Classes

Beat the winter blahs! Come to an Association class to hone your dancing skills, enjoy the music, and make new friends.

#### St. Leonard's Anglican Church

25 Wanless Ave., 2 minutes from Lawrence subway.

LEVEL 1: Basic level for inexperienced dancers.

Mondays, Jan. 5 - Mar. 9, from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Teacher is Wendy Loberg.

#### Swansea Town Hall

95 Lavinia Ave., 7 minute walk from Runnymede station.

LEVEL 1: Basic level for inexperienced dancers. Wednesdays, Jan. 7 - March 11, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Teacher is Ian Paterson.

LEVEL 3: Advanced level for experienced dancers. Thursdays, Jan. 8 - Mar. 12, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Teacher is Barbara Taylor.

#### **Eastminster United Church**

310 Danforth Ave., 2 minutes from Chester station

LEVEL 1: Basic level for inexperienced dancers.
Thursdays, Jan. 8 - Mar. 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Teacher is Linda Argent, and Bobby Brown plays accordion.

LEVEL 2: For dancers wishing to improve their knowledge of basic formations, continue step practice, and expand their dance experience. Teacher is Vicky Zeltins.

Thursdays, Jan. 8 - Mar. 12.

Classes run for 10 weeks. Cost is \$80 (GST included). Cheques preferred, payable to RSCDS Toronto. For information on all classes, contact Alice Chase 416-410-7078 (leave a message) chase\_al@hotmail.com

#### **Sunday Classes**

Intermediate and advanced dancers are invited to a series of special Sunday afternoon classes featuring different teachers and dances with a difference and perhaps a challenge as well.

Sundays, 2-4 p.m. **at** Broadlands Community Centre, 19 Castlegrove Boulevard, North York. Cost is \$5/class for members, \$8/class for non-members (pay at the door).

December 7 - Paul Maloney - *Derek Haynes dances*December 14 - Carole Skinner - *Carole's favourites* 

For info: Alice Chase (416) 410-7078 chase al@hotmail.com

#### Ceilidh Classes



Yes . . . There will likely be ceilidh classes in the new year. Our experimental ceilidh classes in November were quite popular, bringing in a lot of new faces, and quite a few young people as well.

Beyond the St Andrew's Ball and the odd Burns Supper, there aren't many opportunities in a year to dance ceilidh. So think of coming out for a series of fun evenings – and bring along some not-yet-dancing friends! This is, of course, a devious plot. . .

Details of the conspiracy to be announced.









#### The 2008 Children's Workshop

The Children's Committee hosted another successful Children's Workshop November 15th, at the Swansea Town Hall. In addition to regular children's dance groups, we were joined by Lourdes Genosa's group of youngsters and their parents from Rose Avenue Public School.

Joyce Kite, a prominent teacher of Highland dance, and a former teacher of SCD at Rosedale Children's Group, put students through their paces downstairs, while Ian Paterson led a Parents' Class upstairs in the Dance Studio. With the younger dancers

Joyce concentrated on good handing, and fun. With the teens, Joyce focused on "hello, goodbye" setting – and then taught them Schottische setting, and Glasgow Highlanders setting. They loved it!

This year, there was a combined class with all ages and abilities dancing together. All had a great time.

Thanks to all the dancers, teachers and Board members who helped out. Special thanks to young dancers Jane Yearwood and Amanda Scott, who assisted cheerfully in the Parents' Class.



#### **Award Winning Scarecrow**

hildren in the primary ELL (English Language Learner's) class at Rose Ave. Public School participated in a scarecrow building competition at the Markham Fair under the "School Children's Competition" category. It was with great enthusiasm that the children put together an entry - a full-sized scarecrow with an amiable tartan face, and wearing a MacQueen kilt and a "Jimmy" hat. It was no surprise that the children unanimously decided that the scarecrow be a Scottish one as many of these children are keen members of the school's Scottish Country Dancing Club. Their scarecrow was judged as the best at the fair. The school received a trophy donated by the Girl Guides of Canada.

Aye! Winning the award was indeed a big thrill for the primary ELL class and everyone at Rose Ave. Public School.

...Lourdes Genosa

#### Toronto Workshop

Dennis Ridley took these action pictures of the Toronto Workshop, Nov. 8.



The Workshop was almost a sell-out. Thanks to the hardworking committee and the teachers and musicians.

#### What's In A Name? The Rothesay Rant

Every summer as a little lad in the Midlands of England, I spent a week or so on holiday with my parents at the "seaside", a generic term for any number of holiday venues around the coast such as Torquay, Ramsgate, Rhyl or Skegness.

Had my family been Glaswegian, it would have been a different story. We would more likely have been going "doon the watter". After taking a tram to the Broomielaw and boarding a paddle steamer, the "Waverley" perhaps, we would have steamed west between the banks of the Clyde until we reached Dunoon, Largs or, better still, Rothesay. The aforementioned "watter" was, of course, the Firth of Clyde.

Rothesay is a Scottish equivalent to those English seaside resorts I mentioned. It became a popular destination in Victorian times for all those Scots desperate to escape the grime and squalor of industrial Glasgow. Located on the Isle of Bute, Rothesay was a busy resort community with pleasant beaches, music hall entertainment at the Winter Gardens, and the requisite waterfront pavilion, causing boatloads of steamer traffic to arrive daily every summer.

While he owns no Duchy around Bute, there has existed a Duke of Rothesay for centuries. The heir apparent to the British throne has held this additional Scottish title since

#### **Barry Pipes: Resident Contributor**



Interviewed by Marie Anne Millar

s a boy in Britain, Barry Pipes
was keenly interested in history
and geography. He currently uses
these interests when writing "What's
in a Name?" for Set & Link.

His intent is simple – write a light, whimsical column explaining the

names, places, and backgrounds of some Scottish country dances we know and love. "I start with a particular dance, often from the programme for a forthcoming SCD event, such as the monthly dance." He generates the articles using his own resources on history and geography, assisted by Google. He has other sources, too. His friend, the late Roddy Nicoll, was one he could always rely on for interesting background knowledge.

Barry's first article was about the Mountain of Schiehallion, based on the Schiehallion reels that appear in several dances and that are named after the prominent mountain in Perth and Kinross. He writes an article each month for Set & Link; his latest is *Inverneill House* which began with a "For Sale" notice on the house, found during his research.

He says, "One piece I enjoyed writing was about *Cutty Sark*, and I even learned something new and a bit risqué from my research". He knew the Cutty Sark was a famous clipper ship. He knew it was a Scotch. But he didn't know it was an undergarment mentioned in the Robert Burns' poem, *Tam O'Shanter*.

I asked Barry why he writes the column. He replied, "I do it for my own enjoyment and other people's pleasure."



The Waverley paddle steamer departs Rothesay. Rothesay is on the eastern shore of the isle of Bute, overlooking the Firth of Clyde.

King Robert III conferred it on his son David in 1398. The current Duke is, of course, HRH Charles, the Prince of Wales, a royal title which would have little cachet in Scotland.

A somewhat quirky square-set jig called *The Rothesay Rant*, devised by RSCDS Birmingham's Anna Holden, can be enjoyed by all at our December Monthly Dance. . . . . *Barry Pipes* 

#### **RSCDS Volunteer Award**

We are fortunate to have so many members willing to volunteer their time to assist with various Toronto Association activities throughout the year. Without these people, it would be impossible to organize the monthly dances, prepare and produce the newsletter, hold workshops, etc.

As in past years, the volunteer committee is asking you to think of members who have volunteered their help and gone above and beyond normal expectations for the Association or a Social Group. They may be dancers or non-dancers. They must have been involved in volunteering activities within the past five years and must be active supporters of SCD and/or SCD music.

There are specific criteria to be taken into consideration when making a nomination. They may not be current Board members, Conveners, Past Chairs or someone who is paid for their services. They can, however, be past Board/Executive members, but not within the last five years.

We will be writing to teachers and contact persons to ask each Social Group to submit up to two nominees whom they feel warrant recognition. Please give a full explanation of the activities and extent to which your nominees have been involved.

The Board will be asked to name no more than five additional nominees. There will be no more than five awards overall for the dancing year 2008 – 2009. Not all nominations may be selected this year, however; anyone who is not selected may be submitted again next year.

Please send your Social Group nominations:

c/o Tom Clark, Director for Volunteers,

20 Elmhurst Avenue

North York, M2N 1S2

or e-mail: tom.clark@kos.net

Deadline for submissions is February 6, 2009.

... Jennifer Bentley, Volunteer Committee

# **Upcoming events: NEAR**

DEC. 5. Bobby's Christmas Party, at Westway United Church, 8:00 p.m. \$20. Contact Lisa Brown (905) 897-0287.

DEC. 5. South Simcoe Christmas Dance, at Knox Church Hall, Alliston 7:30 p.m. \$5 includes snacks. Contact Susan Elliotson (519) 941-2134.

DEC. 7. Derek Haynes Dances, Special Class, at Broadlands. (See page 2.)

DEC. 9. Calvin Christmas Dance. (See page 2.)

DEC. 10. Glenview Christmas Dance. (pg 2.)

DEC. 12. Erin Mills Christmas Dance. (pg 2.)

DEC. 14. Carole's Favourites, Special Class, at Broadlands. (See page 2.)

DEC. 15. Scarborough Christmas Dinner Dance. (See page 2.)

DEC. 31. Erin Mills Hogmanay Ball. (See pg 2.)

DEC. 31. Glenview Hogmanay Dance and Ceilidh. (See page 2.)

DEC. 31. Highlands of Durham Hogmanay (pg 2.)

JAN. 17. Highlands of Durham Robbie Burns **Dinner.** (See page 2.)

JAN. 24. ASTA Burns Evening is at a new location Brae Ben Golf Course, 5700 Terry Fox Way, Mississauga. Come out and be part of this elegant salute to Robert Burns! Entertainment includes John Cooper, John Middleton, RSCDS Demo Team, Joyce Kite Highland Dancers, Ceilidh with entertainment, dancing and much more. Tickets purchased early are \$44 per person; \$49 after January 5th. Call Maggie Shortt, 905-257-0941

FEB. 21. 46th Annual Tartan Ball at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. Music by Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. For tickets contact Jim Stark, 416-691-8035, jstark@sympatico.ca

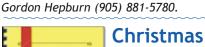
MAR. 21. West End Workshop/Tea Dance (pg 3)

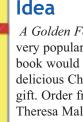
#### BURNS SUPPER AT THE

GRANITE CLUB

JAN. 23. A special night to honour Burn's 250th anniversary. Gourmet meal, entertainment, and ceilidh dancing to the 48th Highlanders. A fund-raiser for Scottish Studies. \$80. Contact

Golden Feast





A Golden Feast, our very popular cookbook would make a delicious Christmas gift. Order from Theresa Malek 416-535-4447 or send an

e-mail to theresamalek@rogers.com

# **Upcoming events: FAR**

JAN. 30 - FEB. 1 Ardbrae Ball, Ottawa. Welcome Dance, January 30, Formal buffet and ball, January 31, at the Glebe Community Centre Ballroom, with Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Brunch, February 1. Details and registration form: www.flora.org/ardbrae

FEB. 26 - MARCH 3. RSCDS Winter School 2009, Pitlochry. Info: Jill Petri at HQ, Scotland: jill. petri@rscds.org

MAR. 6-8. Belleville Workshop and Ball with Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Teachers to be announced.

MAR. 20-22. RSCDS Tokyo Branch 25th Anniversary Weekend with Ball on Saturday. Venue: Hotel Kagetsu-en, Hakone spa area approx. 2hrs from Tokyo. Teachers: Alex and Kate Gray. Cost: Approximately \$400 Canadian for classes, ball, accommodation and meals.Contact: Mrs. Noriko Nishimoto, the Branch secretary at bonaccord24wood@kfybiglobe.ne.jp

MAR. 27-29. Spring in Victoria. 33rd Annual VISCDS Workshop and Ball Weekend. Teachers: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters (Langley) and Patrick Fly (Seattle). Musicians: Julie Smith (Trio) and Mary Ross. Registrar: Jill Leslie, 250-391-3908, jleslie@uoguelph.ca. www.viscds.ca/ springball.html

MAR. 28. Blair Spring Ball, Waterloo Regional Police Association Banquet Hall. Music: Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Cost not yet known. Contact Liz Reckers, 193 Wedgewood Dr., Cambridge, N1S 4P7, reckers@sympatico.ca

APRIL 9-13. Barcelona International Dance Competition for Dance Schools/Companies, Spain. Info: http://web.tiscali.it/barcawardance

APRIL 24 - MAY 3, 2009. Budapest & Vienna Branch Joint Jubilee Celebration. A combo of touring and dancing. Teachers: Graham Donald and Susi Mayr. Musicians: Muriel Johnstone and Keith Smith. Info: www.rscdsvienna.org/jubilee2009 and/or www.bstk.hu/bal2009

#### **Demo Pool Practices**

Sundays, 2-4 p.m. at Broadlands. January 4, 11, March 1 and April 5. The demo pool welcomes interested dancers. Contact Deirdre MacCuish Bark, 905-822-1707



# Still Wanted: Dance Cartoonist

If you can draw cartoons, we want you!

Humour is always welcome, and drawings have valuable functions in our communications materials. If you can draw, speak to a member of the Communications Committee.



**RSCDS Toronto** c/o Y&E Postal Service P.O. Box 67027 2300 Yonge St. Toronto ON M4P 3C8 416 - 410 - 7078

www.rscdstoronto.org

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

CHAIR: Jane Robinson

416.463-5016 janer1@sympatico.ca

VICE CHAIR: James Graham

416.488-4490

jamesgraham@sympatico.ca

SECRETARY: Brenda Hurst

416.925-6982 brenhurst@hotmail.com

TREASURER: Wendy Fulton

wbfulton@allstream.net 416.951-5029 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR: John Clark 416.266-3609 clark62@sympatico.ca PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Ann Campbell 905.459-5213 ann.campbell@rogers.com

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR:

Carole Bell 416.221-1201

carolewbell@sympatico.ca

DIRECTOR AT LARGE, SOCIAL GROUP LIAISON/ VOLUNTEERS

Tom Clark

416.225-5222 tom.clark@kos.net **DIRECTOR AT LARGE. SPECIAL EVENTS:** 

Deirdre MacCuish Bark

905.822-1707 barkd@rogers.com

#### **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Chair: Carole Bell 416.221-1201

carolewbell@sympatico.ca

Donald Holmes: 416.226-6081

deholmes@sympatico.ca

Rob Lockhart: 416.759-9845

lockhart@roundabout.net

Marian White: 416.781-7795

marianwhite@sympatico.ca

Judy Williams: 416.924-3658

junit@pathcom.com

Junior Jig

Teresa Lockhart: 416.759-9845 Teresa-K@canoemail.com



Please send submissions to carolewbell@sympatico.ca. Deadline for the December issue is DECEMBER 10.