

Chair's Message



By the time you read this, the Christmas and New Year festivities will be over. I hope you all had a happy time.

This 50th year at monthly dances we are honouring the various categories of people who make SCD possible. In December we paid tribute to those many talented people who devise dances. Where would we be without them? We thank them for enriching our dancing experience.

We looked forward to the December dance where we welcomed and celebrated our youth and families, and our expectations were well-rewarded, despite the foul weather.

We were pleased to recognize Bob Watters, the deviser of *Betty Thompson of Newtonbrook*. Bob was to be a special guest but was thwarted by the snow, as was Davy Ferguson, who wrote the tune for the dance. However, we honoured both *in absentia*.

At the January dance we are honouring conveners and Board and committee members. These are the people who make all our Toronto Association events possible. We thank them for their commitment, for their time and for all their hard work. Check out the lists – you, too, could be part of this!

Your attendance at Association events would be a great way to say “Thank you” to hard-working fellow Members – the Tartan Ball is fast approaching, classes are resuming, monthly dances continue, the Festival of Dance and Ceilidh are being organized, and Irene Bennett is coming to teach a special class. Please join us.

I wish each of you all the best in 2008. May you have many happy hours of dancing. Let's all help make the rest of this 50th Anniversary Year special.

Jane

Children's Workshop – *It's not just for kids!*



Wee Colin Wilkes watches, fascinated, as his mum and dad try out Scottish Country Dancing. His mother, Tanya is leftmost in this picture. His father, Michael, is the chap going too fast for the camera to freeze. Meanwhile, big sister Alexa was enjoying Fiona Phillips' class.

and simple formations such as down the middle and up had been tried and understood. Linda moved along quickly to hands across and figures of eight. Finally, she introduced (gasp!) The Poussette! Smiles broke into open hilarity as the parents struggled with that demanding exercise. But there were helpers in the room, experienced dancers to ease the novices through the mysteries. Our Vice-Chair, James Graham, was gracious with his assistance, as was young Amanda Scott of the Woodglenn Children's Group. The parents loved it! Before they left to collect their youngsters, they successfully, and joyfully, danced *Swansea Riggs* (devised by Linda).

Later in the morning, it was the older students' turn. While Fiona introduced the teens to the amazingly complex Celtic Reels (which they 'got'!), Linda gave their parents a lesson in Strathspey (she felt parents of teenagers would especially appreciate the quiet strength and dignity of strathspey). Indeed, it was a delightful interlude as two parents in particular, who are from France, were able to experience this uniquely Scottish dance form, which their daughters demonstrated on stage at the Peter McCutcheon Celtic Christmas concert. Linda devised a strathspey to suit the abilities of the participants and it was wonderfully successful. Again, parents went home with smiles, and a new appreciation of their kids' accomplishments.

Comments collected afterwards, besides many “That was fun!” remarks, included “I didn't realize dancing was such good exercise,” “That was quite a challenge. I'm amazed at what my daughter can do.” Several parents vowed to sign up for Linda's Toronto Association Beginner Class at Eastminster Thursday evenings. Mums and dads also expressed an interest in parent classes in association with the regular children's classes. In the new year, Moira and Teresa will implement a test program for parents at Rosedale Saturday mornings. *Ready, and. . .*

. . . Rob Lockhart

There was something different about the Children's Workshop this year – it wasn't just for kids! Conveners Moira Korus and Teresa Lockhart decided to include a simultaneous Parent's Workshop. So, while Fiona Philip taught the little ones downstairs at Swansea Town Hall, Linda Ashe Argent taught their parents in the upstairs dance studio. Most of the parents had never really tried Scottish Country Dancing before, though they faithfully bring their kids to class. It was a good opportunity for them to discover why their kids enjoy it so much. In fact, the dance studio was a room full of smiles, as they followed Linda's masterful instruction.

Before long, a rudimentary skip change of step had been learned,

February Monthly Dance

Date: Saturday, February 9, 2008
Time: 8:00 - 10:30 p.m.
Place: Crescent School
 2365 Bayview Avenue
Music: Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent
Hosts: •Newtonbrook • Tayside • Woodglen

Over the Water to Charlie	8x32 J	Bk.34-5
The Armstrongs' Rant	8x32 S	Lft
The Reivers	8x32 R	Bk.23-7
The Gentleman	8x32 S	Bk.35-5
A Jig for Moira	8x32 J	West Toronto Ball Jigs
Kiss Me Quick My Mither's Coming	8x32 R	Bk.12-6

Interval

Kiss Under the Stairs †	8x32 J	Misc.2
Hame o' Mine	2x32S 32R	Lft
The Nurseryman	8x32 J	Bk.37-7
John Anderson's Reel	8x32 R	Glasgow Assembly
Brochan Lom	8x32 S	Lft. Iain Macfarlane
H.I.S.C.D.	8x32 H	S D Archives

Extras

Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	4x32 J	5 for '82
The Robertson Rant	1x80 S	Bk.39-8
The Balgeddie Reel	5x32 R	Memories of Fife

† Dances that will be briefed only.

50th Anniversary Dances

Jean Hamilton explains the background to dances of special significance in the Monthly Dance program.

The Reivers – Reel devised by Ronald Morton Smith and published in Book 23

Professor "Sanskrit" Smith formed and taught the Rosedale Group in 1955, a founding group in the Branch which did much to popularise the dancing in Toronto. In 1980 Professor Smith was honoured for 25 years of continuous teaching service.

John Anderson's Reel – Reel devised by Bob Campbell and published in Glasgow Assembly

The lead tune for this dance was composed by Bobby Frew for Jean Anderson's husband, John. Jean was a renowned teacher of Scottish Country dancing. She trained a demonstration group which entertained at the Royal Alexandra Theatre and the CNE, to name but two venues. Jean taught Branch classes and workshops and as an accomplished pianist often played for participants in the Children's Festivals and for Teacher Candidates at their examinations.

Brochan Lom – Strathspey devised by Iain McFarlane in 1970

Iain was Chair of the Toronto Branch from 1963 to 1965, and was considered an excellent instructor, and "Calvin's greatest influence" over twenty years. He taught Branch and Candidate classes in the 1960s, was active in the St. Andrew's Society and the Gaelic Mod held in Toronto.

Iain, a Gaelic speaker, devised this dance to work on the new formation, the Rondel, with a group of teachers in Hamilton. It was danced to a "highland style" of Strathspey indicative of Iain's ability to teach and demonstrate Highland setting steps, and has on occasion been danced to "mouth music," since the tune *Brochan Lom* is familiar to many. [To hear *Brochan Lom*, go to RSCDS Events page of our website, January Monthly Dance.]

Honouring Volunteers

As you all know, the Toronto Association is run totally by volunteers and it would cease to function were it not for the dedication and hard work of many people. Again, this year we will be honouring some of our volunteers and we have requested through the Board, the teachers and contact persons to send in names of possible people for these awards.

Many people spend many hours planning, organizing and arranging the numerous events run by the Toronto Association and the Social Groups so that we can attend the various functions and enjoy an evening of dancing.

If, when you filled in your membership form, you omitted to mark off an area or areas where you would be willing to assist, it is not too late. We will be pleased to hear from you, and will gladly add your name to the list.

Contact John Clark 416-266-3609 clark62@sympatico.ca or Gordon S. Hamilton, 905-566-9599 or g.s.hamilton@sympatico.ca . . . Gordon Hamilton



Thank You

A very warm and sincere "thank you" for all the cards, emails and messages during my recent illness and surgery. It was very humbling to receive so much love and support from all of you. Both Lisa and I, as well as Laird and all the band, appreciate your understanding and kindness while I was unable to play. Needless to say, I am delighted to be back on stage playing. Best wishes for a happy Christmas and a healthy, happy new year. . . . Bobby and Lisa Brown

The Festival of Dance
Saturday, April 5, 2008 @ 1 pm
St. Leonard's Anglican Church
25 Wanless Ave.
Cost: \$5

An enjoyable opportunity for Social Groups, Association Classes, and Demo groups to showcase favourite dance(s).

Contact Deirdre MacCuish Bark
 905-822-1707 or barkd@rogers.com

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Membership Director: John Clark

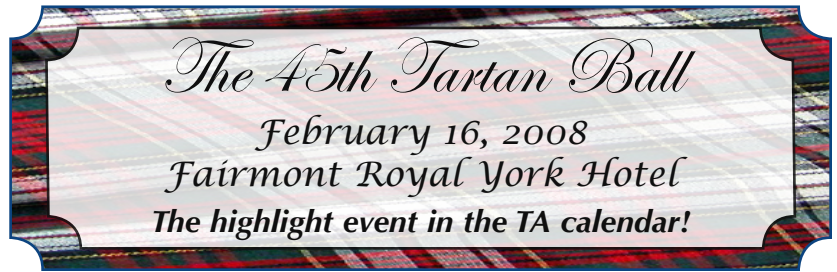


I have many interests. My nature is when I get involved, *I really get involved!* I have lived in Toronto all my life and am a second-generation Canadian. My grandparents came from Scotland in the early

1900's. I am a qualified scuba diver and was a member of The Royal Regiment of Canada, of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserve. After 23 years, I decided that the Reserves weren't for me, so I left as a Chief Warrant Officer.

The best part of being in the Reserves was meeting my wife, Susan. After leaving the army, I was without a hobby. Susan had attempted a number of times to get me to try Scottish Country dancing, but I managed to avoid it. Then, in 1999, she mentioned it again, and I reluctantly agreed to try it. Susan should have known better – for now I dance more than she does. I dance with the Demo Pool, have worked with the Monthly Dance Committee for 4 years, and stepped into the Membership Director position 18 months ago, on an interim basis, when Jane was moved to the Vice Chair position. Will I slow down? Not likely – I'm having too much fun.

... John Clark



The 45th Tartan Ball
February 16, 2008
Fairmont Royal York Hotel
The highlight event in the TA calendar!

Here we are with the Christmas festivities behind us. There are those of us deeply involved in putting the finishing touches to organizing the 45th Tartan Ball. The time is fast approaching for you all to have your table communities organized and registered, the earlier the better. You can contact Convener, Colin Gardiner, or mail your ticket order directly to Jim Stark (contact details below).

You will also be able to buy tickets at the January and February Monthly Dances. Please make cheques payable to RSCDS Toronto Association. Members should remember to include their membership number, and teachers should identify themselves as such, it makes the Convener's job a little easier.

We have not yet arranged any separate ball practices. If we do, the information will be posted on our web site: www.RSCDSToronto.org However, most social groups will feature Tartan Ball dances so everyone can be confident they know the dances.

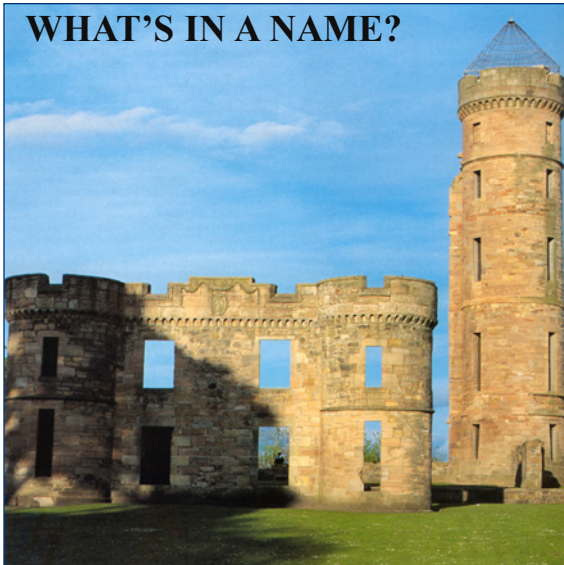
A reminder to social groups who wish to display their shields at the Ball, please bring your shield to either the January or February Monthly Dance, or call me (Colin) to confirm your group's participation.

Colin Gardiner
(905) 822-7331
marion_colin@sympatico.ca

Jim Stark
28 Kildonan Drive
Scarborough, ON
M1N 3B5
(416) 691-8935
jstark@sympatico.ca

... Colin Gardiner

WHAT'S IN A NAME?



Eglinton Castle, ancestral seat of the Montgomerie chiefs, and site of the 1839 "Eglinton Tournament", a romantic revival of the medieval sport of jousting.

The Montgomeries' Rant

As natives of Normandy in France, the Montgomery(ie) forebears were very much part of England's invasion by William the Conqueror around the time of 1066 (and all that!). The name likely derives from *Mont*, the French word for hill upon which their castle sat, and either a Roman general named Gomericus or a 9th-century Viking named Gomeri, who must surely have been interrelated somehow. Whichever, La famille de Montgomerie, also referred to back then as "Mundegumerie", hailed from an area of Basse-Normandie that is now known as Calvados after the superb apple brandy which is distilled there.

Roger de Montgomerie was granted lands in Britain, probably shouldering a lot of Saxons out of the way to do so. He also invaded Wales, where still there exists the town of Montgomery in the Welsh Border country. Roger's descendants then went on to acquire further lands in Scotland, until by marriage, the family owned the Ayrshire lands of Eglinton and Ardrossan, creating the Earldom of Eglinton.

Clan Montgomery became notable for their ongoing support of Royalist causes, and for their bitter feud with the Cunninghams. In fact, through the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries the Montgomeries always seemed to be in the forefront wherever a war or rebellion was going on. This might support the juxtaposition of their name with the bellicose word "Rant".

The Montgomeries' Rant came to light in RSCDS Book 10 during the mid-30s. It is a most exuberant reel, well suited to be danced either at the end of a Ball or just before an intermission, as you will experience at the January 2008 Monthly Dance. ... Barry Pipes



Pilling – The Wee Green Book



When Shona and I started Scottish Country Dancing in 1992, we were somewhat familiar with the basic steps and a few of the more familiar formations. However, by the end of our first evening at Keith Bark's class at Pierre Laporte School in Mississauga, our heads were spinning.

On the drive home that evening we hardly spoke a word. Instead we found ourselves deep

in thought, concentrating on the movements and formations that our fellow dancers had guided, indeed often nudged us through, and we tried to recall the names of the six or so dances we'd been taught that evening!

When we arrived home, I headed for the liquor cabinet as Shona rushed to find a couple of pens and some note paper. Each of us jotted down as much as we could remember of the geography of the dances we had been taught, and by midnight we were fairly confident we at least could commit most of the dances to memory by the time we went to our next class.

To our dismay, we were taught another six completely different dances! More formations! We also learned that if we continued with this pastime, we would have to learn hundreds of Scottish Country Dances!

Not having immediate access to RSCDS Dance Books, or handouts, for these dances, I had to come up with a simple, quick method to record the movements for each dance.

I had a flashback to the time I was studying for an Engineering Certificate. I remembered a series of Motion Study symbols developed by Frank and Lillian Gilbreth [best known through the biographical 1950 movie *Cheaper by the Dozen*, starring Clifton Webb and Myrna Loy]. The symbols were called "therbligs" [Gilbreth spelled backwards, well almost!], and although the Gilbreths' table of symbols did not exactly match my dancing needs, they would be the basis for my personal dance symbols.

Sometime later, while checking my "therbligs" before the beginning of a dance, a friend, Helen Bibic, remarked that Barbara Taylor also used "Pilling's" notes! When I was introduced to her, I learned for the first time that a book, *Scottish Country Dances in Diagrams* was available from TAC Books.

The following week Barbara gave me her spare copy of the "Wee Green Book".

Although my dance symbols and those developed by F.L. Pilling were not identical, I was surprised to find that they were relatively similar. When I look at Pilling's diagrams, I immediately see a "picture" of the dance, and "a picture is worth a thousand words".

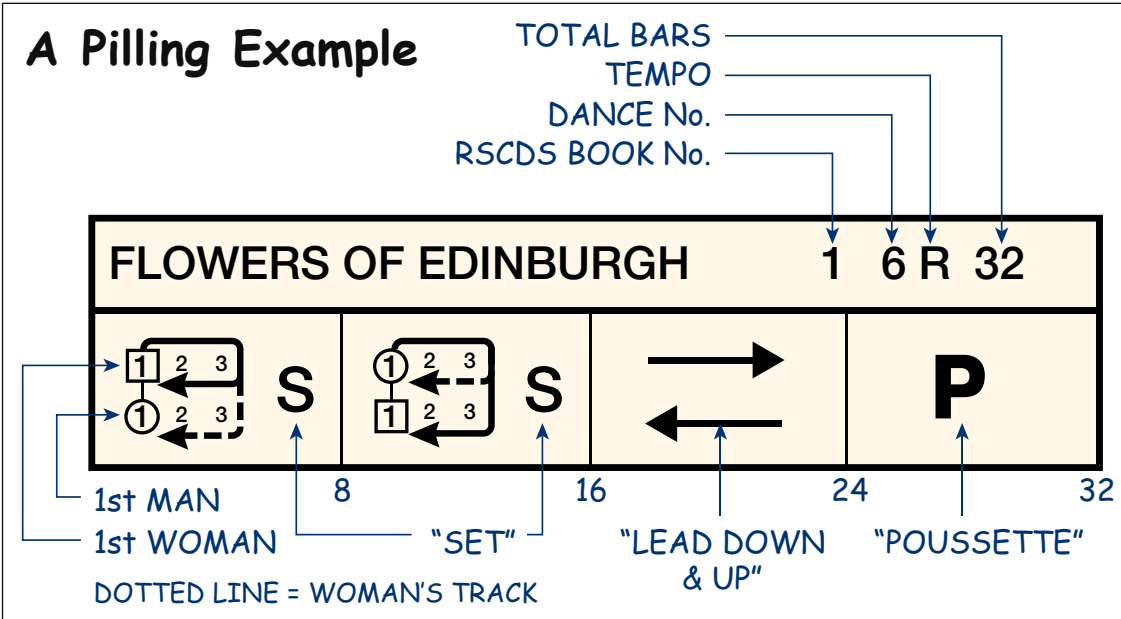
The eighth and latest edition of the "Wee Green Book", which measures 10cm x 13cm x 1.5 cm, fits easily into any sporran or purse, and contains over 760 dances in diagram form. It covers many, but not all, of the RSCDS Dances in use today, including some popular but "unofficial" dances, and a few Drewry dances.

The "Wee Green Book" is intended as an *aide-mémoire*. It should be used strictly to jog the memory. You learn the formations, steps, technique, phrasing, handing, and all the finer points of Scottish Country Dancing from the RSCDS Manual, Association Classes, and instructions from your Social Group Teachers.

For those of you who may think the Pilling system of symbols is too difficult to learn, I would direct you to www.dancenotation.org. Click "Notation Basics" and have a look at the "Lebanotation" system! You'll appreciate the elegant economy of Mr Pilling's curious diagrams.

... Ian Paterson

In the example from Pilling's, imagine that, like Miss Milligan, you are looking down from above. The top of the set is to the left. On bars 1 - 8, 1st woman casts off and followed by her partner they dance the track shown in 6 bars, leaving two bars to "set" and complete the phrase. Similarly, for bars 9 - 16, 1st man leading. In bars 17 - 24, the diagram indicates 1st couple dance down & up, or is it lead down & up? You have to know which is correct! The "P" in bars 25 - 32, doesn't mean "Park" in top place for 8 bars! Pilling's "P" represents a Poussette, danced by 1st and 2nd couples!



Let's Have a Ceilidh! March 15

We are still looking for talented performers to entertain at the Ceilidh night. We want singers, musicians, dancers, and comedians. Performer applications are on the website, or Contact Theresa Malek: 416-535-4447 theresamalek@rogers.com

Where: Cooksville United Church,
2500 Mimosa Row, Mississauga.

Time: 7 p.m. **Cost:** \$10 for adults and \$5 for children

Who Is Irene Bennett?



Irene Bennett is the Chair of the RSCDS. She is one of the Guests of Honour at the Tartan Ball. Here in her own words is a short biography:

I have lived in St. Andrews most of my life. Having started dancing in primary school, I continued during my teenage years in the Girl Guides and eventually joined my local branch (St. Andrews) in 1964.

I took my Teacher's Certificate in 1966 and thus became interested in branch committee work. For many years I was the branch representative on the RSCDS Executive Council and in latter years my main interest was in the Publications and Research area, then Membership Services.

One of my aims during my term of office is to continue to find ways of improving our communications with members. With that in mind I look forward very much to meeting many of you.

Happy Dancing!"

You will indeed be able to meet Irene when she is in Toronto. She will not only be dancing at the Tartan Ball but will be teaching a special class at Trinity, Thursday, Feb. 14. See you there!

Irene Bennett Special Class

When: Thursday, February 14, 2008

Where: Seeley Hall,
Trinity College,
University of Toronto,
6 Hoskin Ave.

Cost: \$5

Buy tickets at the Monthly Dance or contact Jane Robinson, 416-463-5016 or janer1@sympatico.ca

Space is limited – don't miss this opportunity!



Blue Jays' Scottish Night

Tuesday, July 8, 2008

Join the St Andrew's Society and the 48th Highlanders, plus various other Scottish groups, including Highland dancers for Blue Jays Scottish Night. More details to follow. Contact Deirdre MacCuish Bark at barkd@rogers.com or 905-822-1707.



Cairngorm Scottish Imports

A custom kilt or kilt skirt, courtesy Darren Purse.



CD collection signed by the musicians, courtesy Bobby Brown, Don Bartlett, Fred Moyes, and Teachers Association of Canada (who also donated two \$50 Gifts for TAC Sound)

Passport Partners

The organizations and people shown below have generously offered valuable prizes for our 50th Anniversary Passport Programme. Show them we appreciate their participation. Be sure to sign in every dance event you attend, and get stickered or stamped. Give your completed passport to Teresa Lockhart to qualify for the draw. (Note:- Winners must be a paid up Members of RSCDS Toronto.)

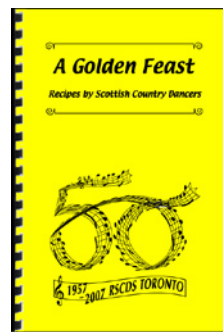


Dinner for two at this cosy pub near Bloor & Bedford.



Return airfare to Scotland
Courtesy CEO Hugh Boyle.

50th Anniversary Cookbook



A few errors have been discovered in the cookbook.

If you have noticed any, please contact Theresa Malek. Corrections will be posted on the website. Theresa has also made bookmarks

noting corrections and these will be handed out at month dances.

Theresa Malek 416-535-4447 or theresamalek@rogers.com



Winter TA Classes

Beat the winter blahs! Come to an Association class to hone your dancing skills, enjoy the music and make new friends. Classes begin the week of January 7, 2008.

Details were in the December issue of *Set & Link* and are on the website www.rscdstoronto.org. For information on all classes, contact Alice Chase 416-410-7078 (leave a message), chase_al@hotmail.com

Teacher Candidate Classes

Teacher Candidate classes will start in the fall of 2008. Units 2,3 and 5 will be offered. Unit 1 (written component) must be completed before progressing to other units. For further information, contact Jean Noble at 416-449-8070.

Upcoming Events

NEAR

DEC. 31, 2007. **Erin Mills Hogmanay Dinner and Dance** at Clarke Hall. Port Credit, Mississauga. Dance to Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Tickets \$80. Contact Keith R Bark 905-822-1707 barkk@rogers.com



DEC. 31, 2007. **Glenview Hogmanay Dance and Ceilidh**, 8-12:30 a.m. at Rosedale Presbyterian Church, 129 Mount Pleasant Rd. (South Drive and Mount Pleasant Rd.). Music by Fred Moyes. Dance followed by finger food potluck buffet and ceilidh. Tickets, \$15. Contact Ian Clunie, 416 486-6582.



DEC. 31, 2007. **Highlands of Durham Hogmanay** at Latcham Centre in downtown Port Perry. All types of dancing including Scottish Country. Midnight Buffet. Tickets \$25. Contact: Marjorie Mason 905-649-3532, mmason@bellnet.ca or Stewart Bennett 905-985-6573, stewart@theweetartanshop.com

JAN 12, 2008. **Monthly Dance**

JAN. 18, 2008. **"For Auld Lang Syne"** Join the Erin Mills Group for an informal Burns Social at 8 p.m. at Cooksville United Church. The \$15 "ticket" includes "live music" by the Reel Thing, a brief sheet, haggis, neeps and tatties. Contact the Hamiltons at 905-566-9599 for an early celebration of Robert Burns.

JAN. 25, 2008. **Burns Supper at Granite Club**, a fund-raiser for Scottish Studies hosted by Toronto Burns Club. \$85 includes a gourmet meal, lyric tensors, dancing to 48th Highlanders, and more. Contact Gordon Hepburn (905) 881-5780.

JAN. 26, 2008. **Robbie Burns Dinner & Dance** at Scugog Community Centre, Port Perry. Traditional roast beef dinner, musical entertainment by Claidhmor, ceilidh & Scottish Country dancing. Tickets \$50. Contact: Marjorie Mason, 905-649-3532 or mmason@bellnet.ca or Stewart Bennett 905-985-6573 : stewart@theweetartanshop.com

FEB. 9, 2008. **Monthly Dance**.

FEB. 9, 2008. **South Simcoe Valentine Workshop & Afternoon Tea Dance** will be held 9.00 am - 3 pm at Knox Church Hall, 180 King St. S., Alliston. Teachers are Elizabeth McDonald, London, and Keith Bark, Mississauga. \$15 per person (includes refreshments, lunch, and afternoon tea. Contact David Wilson dproto@sympatico.ca

FEB. 14, 2008. **Special Class with Irene Bennett**. See article, page 5.

FEB. 16, 2008. **Tartan Ball**. See article, page 3.

FEB. 23, 2008. **Children's Festival**. Come and enjoy demonstrations by our young dancers and join in communal dances. Adults \$5; youth \$2. 1:15pm at Westway United Church, 8 Templar Ave., Weston.

MARCH 8, 2008. **Monthly Dance, Beginners' Night**.

MARCH 15, 2008. **Ceilidh Night**. See page 4.

MARCH 29, 2008. **West End Workshop**. At Turner Fenton 2ndary School, 7935 Kennedy Rd., Brampton. Contact Anna Reilly: t.rielly@rogers.com

APRIL 5, 2008. **The Festival of Dance**. See page 2.

APRIL 12, 2008. **Monthly Dance**.

APRIL 19, 2008. **Youth Ball**. Details TBA.

APRIL 26, 2008 **RSCDS Toronto AGM & Dance**.

MAY 2-4, 2008. **Youth Weekend**. RSCDS Toronto invites young dancers to a weekend of Scottish Country Dancing at Trent University, Peterborough,

Ontario. Teachers: Cathy Bertics, California: Rebecca Roman, Buffalo: Colin Philip, Toronto. Music: Fred Moyes. Contact Deirdre Bark, 905-822-1707, barkd@rogers.com

MAY 10, 2008. **West Toronto Ball**, at Rameses Temple, Keele Street. This is commonly known as "the beginners' ball". Music by Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Contact Steve Coombs (905) 639-3534 or shcoombs@cogeco.ca

JULY 8, 2008. **Blue Jays' Scottish Night**. See pg 5.

AUG 10-17, 2008. **36th TAC Summer School** at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario. TAC is celebrating its 50th anniversary and we're having a party. Teachers: Janet Johnston, Edinburgh Scotland; Val Mitchell, Hastings, New Zealand and Geoffrey Selling, Philadelphia. Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent will play for the Ball. Brochure and registration form available on the TAC web site www.tac-rseds.org. Details of the party will be published there as they are finalised. Registrar: Teresa Lockhart (416) 759-9845 Teresa-K@canoemail.com

FAR

FEB. 2, 2008. **Annual Ball of The Tartan and Thistle** SCD group, Ann Arbor (Detroit Branch). Music: Waverly Station (Liz Donaldson and David Knight). Admission, including buffet dinner, is \$50us. Waverly Station will also play a concert on Sunday afternoon, Feb 3 (\$9). A free brunch is hosted for out-of-town guests. Contact hellmann@umich.edu or scotball@umich.edu or 734-769-1052

FEB. 29, MARCH 1-2, 2008. **Belleville Scottish Country Dancers' Workshop and Ball** with Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Teachers: Fiona Grant, Bristol, UK; James Kutznar, Melbourne, Florida. Contact Bill and Jan Cunningham, 613-965-4212 or Michael and Linda McCarey, lmccarey@sympatico.ca or 613-967-1827

MARCH 28-30, 2008. **Vancouver Island 32nd Annual Workshop and Ball** at Esquimalt, British Columbia. Teachers: Alan Twigg, Mountain View, California; Gail Michener, Lethbridge, AB; Rosemary Coupe, Vancouver, BC. Musicians: Ken Natrass, Winnipeg, MB; Ron Krug, Winnipeg, MB. Contact: Jill Leslie, 250-391-3908, jleslie@uoguelph.ca or Lesley Brennand, 250-391-6984 lesleybrennand@shaw.ca or visit www.viscds.ca/springball.html

APRIL 18-20, 2008. **Ottawa Branch Workshop and Ball Weekend** with Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent. Teachers: Jean Noble, Toronto; Mary Murray, Vancouver; Ian Souter, Hamilton. Contact Bill Low, lowbd@rogers.com or Katie Shaw, kmkbshaw@rogers.com

MAY 16-18, 2008. **The New York Branch 45th Annual Spring Weekend at Circle Lodge**, Hopewell Junction, NY. Teachers: Jean Martin, Bieldside, Aberdeen, Scotland; Muriel Johnstone and Bill Zobel, Courtney, British Columbia, Music: Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent (classes, Ball and dance) and Jim Stevenson-Mathews, New York Branch (classes). Visit the website www.rsedsnewyork.org after mid-January 2008 for the evening dance programs.

JULY 20 - AUGUST 17, 2008. **RSCDS Summer School at St. Andrews, Scotland**. A range of scholarships is available. Scholarships must be supported by a nominee and supporter and a letter of recommendation from a Branch. Deadline for applications for scholarships is Feb. 22, 2008. Contact Brenda Hurst at brenhurst@hotmail.com or 416-925-6982. Applications for Summer School are available on the website at www.rseds.org



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notice . . .

Please send submissions to carolewbell@sympatico.ca.
Deadline for the February issue is January 15.