

RSCDS SET & LINK

THE TORONTO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ March 2012

From the Chair

We could have danced all night. . .

The 49th Tartan Ball, the highlight of our dancing year, is now a glowing memory of a magical night under the glittering chandeliers of the Concert Hall of the Royal York Hotel. Jean Hamilton was honoured by her fellow dancers, Michael MacMillan spoke eloquently on the benefits of 'society', and The Scottish Accent added wings to our feet.

The winner of the 50th Tartan Ball Dance Competition was announced – Deirdre MacCuish Bark for her reel submission. Peter Burke won the 50th Tartan Ball Getaway Package. Louis Racic and his committee are already planning for February 16, 2013. Mark your calendar now; you won't want to miss it.

The dancing season isn't over. There is still the Youth Gala/Family Fling, the Beginners' Monthly Dance, the West Toronto Workshop, the April Monthly Dance, the Annual General Meeting, the West Toronto Ball, Dancing in the Park, along with regular classes and social groups and year-end events.

Toronto dancers are phenomenal in their support of our own events, along with attending many of the workshops, dances, and balls of the surrounding dancing communities. Scottish Country Dancing brings us together, but it is the warmth and welcoming enthusiasm that makes it such a special community. Let's spread the word!

Cheers,



Margaret Rieger

Margaret

By Beatrice Creighton, Rosedale Intermediates

I have been dancing for three years, but this was my very first time at the Youth Gala and I had loads of fun. So did loads of all the other people who attended. We did group dances and free dances (where you could ask anybody to dance). There were also draws for prizes and everyone who was dancing got a medal. At the end, there were food and treats for everybody.



Beatrice Creighton

The dancers came from Woodglen, Queen Victoria Public School in Parkdale, Whigmaleeries from Mississauga, and my group, Rosedale. The children from Queen Victoria only started dancing seven weeks ago, but they practice twice a week for 20 minutes.

Not everyone there was a dancer. Ayla (9) was new to Scottish Country Dancing and really enjoyed *The Gypsy's Thread* (that is my favourite too). Some enjoyed it so much, they didn't know what their favourite part was. They just liked to dance. For example, Ian (7) from Rosedale didn't know what his favourite dance was and neither did Tina (8) from Queen Victoria. Natasha and Olivia (both 9) from Rosedale loved *The Fly Catcher*. Vanessa (11) and Rosemary (11) from Woodglen both loved the *Petronella*.

Emma (13) and Megan (15) from Whigmaleeries looked lovely in their green and tartan skirts. They have been dancing for six years and love learning new dances and performing at the Youth Gala and other dances.

It was a fun and exciting afternoon of dance and treats. I am sure that everyone loved it, even the parents. And if this was fun, the Youth Ball should be too!



182 children and adults joined in the fun at St Leonard's. Thanks to the teachers for preparing the dancers; and to my fantastic team of volunteers who made it happen. Thanks for your generous donations, and to all who contributed in so many invaluable ways. . . . Teresa Lockhart, Convenor



A big Thank You to Inga Tomas for these wonderful pictures.

To see more, visit Inga's SmugMug website: www.smugmug.com/gallery/21644329_39FwZp

April Monthly Dance

Date & Time: Saturday, April 14, 2012 at 8 p.m.
Place: Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Avenue
Music: The Scottish Accent
Host Groups: • Erin Mills (Fri.) • Scarborough • Trinity

The Chequered Court	J8x32	Bk 42 / 3
The New Petronella	R2x48	Bk 28 / 5
A Marriage Made in Dancing	S8x32	Who's Who in Toronto
Hooper's Jig *	J8x32	MMM11
Mary Hamilton	S4x32	Drewry Canadian Book
John of Bon Accord	R8x32	Bk 33 / 5
>>> Intermission		
Bea's Delight	R8x32	Bk 43 / 7
Mrs Hamilton of Eaglemount	S3x40	Golden Ghillies
The Whistling Wind	R8x32	Bk 36 / 5
The Gilly Flower	J8x32	Bk 36 / 8
Sugar Candie	S8x32	Bk 26 / 9
Maxwell's Rant *	R8x32	Bk 18 / 10

>>> Extras

Follow Me Home	J8x32	Bk 38 / 3
St Andrew's of Brampton	R4x32	Bk 37 / 5

* Brief only dance

The Monthly Dance is a scent-free and nut-free environment.
 Price of Entry (incl. HST): • Members - \$22 • Non-members - \$28
 • Student members - \$10 • Youth/Spectators - \$5

Correction: The February issue listed only ten of the twelve dances on the March monthly dance program. In the first half the missing fifth dance is *12 Coates Crescent* and in the second half the fifth dance is *Lamb Skinnet*.

Beginners' Monthly Dance

March 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Our March Dance is known as the Beginners' Dance and our Level 1 teachers have been preparing their dancers for that night. The format is geared toward new dancers and admission is only \$10 for beginners enrolled in classes. Beginners will be given ribbons to wear identifying them and experienced dancers are encouraged to dance with them. All the dances will be briefed and walked. As usual, we will enjoy the wonderful music of The Scottish Accent.

In 2007 we had a total of 203 attending the March dance. Let's try to match that number. All the fun starts at 7.30 p.m. at Crescent School. Hope to see you there.

...Forbes Duncan

Intermediate Stooges Needed

Sundays: Mar. 4, 25 • Apr. 1, 22 at Broadlands

TEACHER CANDIDATES need your help in the next step of their learning process. We need "stooges" of intermediate experience to come to Broadlands Sunday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. and be taught the steps and formations for complete dances. Each lesson will take around 35 minutes, so you should get three different lessons per afternoon. Cost is \$3 per afternoon.

Please come and we will try to put a SPRING in your step.

...Jean Noble

Special Events

Sunday Dancing at Broadlands

Sunday: 2 p.m. • Mar. 18

Enjoy an afternoon of interesting and unusual dancing at [Broadlands Community Centre](#), Don Mills (for intermediate and advanced dancers). Members: \$5.50; non members: \$8.50.

- **March 18** Paul Maloney will teach dances by Barry Priddey, deviser of *The Sands of Morar* and creator of the Tourbillon.

Old Time Dancing at Erin Mills

Fri., March 23 @ [Mississauga Seniors' Centre](#): 8 p.m.

Two-step out to Mississauga where the Erin Mills Group will welcome the return of Ruth Jappy to instruct us in the gentle art of Old Time Dancing — always fun and, with Ruth's superb teaching, an enviable addition to your dancing repertoire! \$5 N.B. The following day Ruth will be the out-of-province Guest Teacher at the West End Workshop. Her versatility is legendary! For additional information, phone (905) 566-9599.

West End Workshop

March 24, 2012 @ [Turner Fenton Secondary School, Brampton](#)

We have a new (comfortably danceable) WOOD FLOOR! Come and try it out! Teachers: Ruth Jappy, Becky Roman & David Booz. Musicians: Don Bartlett, Laird Brown/Donny Wood, TBA. \$48 (\$25 Youth) includes morning and afternoon classes, hot lunch, and tea dance. \$15 afternoon tea dance only. RSCDS Toronto shirts will be on sale and other vendors may be available. Watch the website for Application Form & other info or contact Theresa Malek (416) 535-4447 or theresamalek@rogers.com

Teachers' Workshop

March 25, 2012 at 2-4:30 p.m.

[Clarkson Community Centre, Youth/Senior Room](#)
 2475 Truscott Drive, Mississauga

Teacher: Ruth Jappy, Delta, BC
 Music by: The best of the bands
 Cost: \$15 Cdn. \$15 US

For more information call or email; Nora Sutherland (905) 276-2602 or (905) 635-4729 or NEW E-mail: nora.sutherland@cogeco.ca

Glenview Spring Dance

May 2, 2012

[Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Ave.](#)

(Yonge St. below Lawrence Ave.)

Kick up your heels to the music of Laird Brown and Donny Wood at Glenview's Spring Fling. Dancing: 8 - 10:30 p.m. followed by light refreshments. \$20/person. Contact: Liz Clunie (416) 486-6582 eclunie@rogers.com or visit: www.glenviewscd.org

Calvin Spring Dance

May 8, 2012

[Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Ave](#)

(one block north of St. Clair, off Yonge)

You are cordially invited to Calvin for a celebration of spring, and the last dance of our season. Come and dance to the wonderful music of Don Bartlett on piano (dancing to Don's piano is a unique, and delightful, dance experience). The cost is \$10 at the door and includes light refreshments at the interval. Dancing starts at 7:30 p.m. For info, contact [Nancy Stokes](#) 416-425-2195 or [Mary Baldwin](#) 416-485-8280.



Letters...

RE: The Georgina Finlay Legacy: Thank you so much for [February's] Set&Link. I was so interested in the article on Georgina Finlay, whom I have seen frequently in recent years at St Andrews. One of her protégés, Shelley [Gibbs],* now married and living in St. Andrews, I know a little better and have been meeting up with her for several years now. After a chance meeting in a pub, I encouraged her to think about taking up dancing again. Since then, she has taken her Teaching Certificate and has been playing a part in her local Branch, so obviously Georgina laid down a sound foundation in dancing.

I would like to add my good wishes to those of Ruth Beattie on the occasion of the 49th Tartan Ball. Please convey my greetings to the branch and to the organising committee. I will be with you in spirit!

... Helen Russell

RSCDS Management Board*

Dear Editor: Thank you very much again for the Set & Link which I always look forward to reading. All the very best for the BIG CELEBRATION and (how exciting!) I will note the date for next year when my diary should be very empty!

Kind regards,

Ruth Beattie, Chair, RSCDS, Scotland

Dear Editor: We send you our best wishes for a successful Tartan Ball in Toronto. You are so fortunate in having the Royal York for your annual Ball and to achieve 50 years in the same ballroom must be close to a record!

Best wishes

Wilson Nicol, Editor, The Reel, RSCDS London (England)

RE: South Simcoe's Valentine Workshop: A gigantic THANK YOU to our RSCDS Toronto Branch for constant support over the past 10 years. From Ian McHaffie, our very first real teacher, and Carole Skinner, our first bi-weekly teacher, to Maureen Richardson our present "mistress of the dance" and the many, many guest teachers who have enriched our classes and workshops with their beautiful Strathspsey steps and their perfect Pas de Basque. Thanks to all at RSCDS Toronto.

... David Wilson, South Simcoe Scottish Country Dancers

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The RSCDS Toronto Association's **Annual General Meeting and Dance** will be held at Crescent School on Saturday, April 28, 2012. Dancing begins early – at 7:30 p.m. – to allow time for the AGM during the interval. Admission for dancing is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. There is no admission charge to attend only the AGM.

The AGM will include the election of Board members for 2012-2013. The Nominating Committee has prepared a slate, published below. To put forward any additional nominations, contact Pat Clark, Secretary of the Board. You can download a Nomination Form from the website, or contact Pat Clark at (416) 225-5222 or pat.clark@kos.net. **The deadline for nominations is April 21.**

2012-2013 Board of Directors Slate of Nominees

The Nominations Committee is required under the terms of the Association's Procedures Manual to prepare a slate of nominees for each Board position and to present these names to the members for their approval at each AGM. The slate for 2012-13 is listed below.

In addition to the information gathered by the Nominations Committee to fulfill this task, all members of the Toronto Association are reminded they have the right to make additional nominations to fill any or all of the Board positions. Nomination forms are available on the website or from the secretary, Pat Clark. (416) 225-5222 or pat.clark@kos.net. Nominations must be received by the secretary by April 21, 2012.

... Jane Robinson

Slate of Nominees

Chair	Margaret Rieger
Vice Chair	John Clark
Secretary	Pat Clark
Treasurer:	Wendy Fulton
Communications and	
Promotion Director	Donald Holmes
Membership Director	Tom Clark
Program Director	Jean Lindsay
Special Events Director	Stewart Bennett
Group Liaison	
/Volunteer Director	Nancy Duffy

Travelling T-Shirts: Still fashionable

Last August, Tara Mactavish of Rosedale and her Pilling T-shirt were found at The Last Drop Pub in Edinburgh (site of the last public hanging in Scotland) wherein she addressed herself to a delicious plate of haggis, neeps, and tatties.

If you and your T-shirt are travelling to an exotic location, send us a photo, tell us about the location, and we'll try to publish it.



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New Members' Tea

Those new dancers who attended the Chair's New Members' Tea recently mingled happily with the Board and various convenors while munching on delicious eats. Catherine MacLean, from St. Leonard's Level 1, said later:

"Wonderful afternoon! The event was a terrific way to encourage beginners. Meeting other dancers gave both a sense of community and available options to improve skills."

Hostess Margaret Rieger intends to have the Tea again next year.

* See Set&Link, June, 2011, It's a Royal Romance in St. Andrews...

The 49th Tartan Ball: It was an absolutely grand evening!

The 49th Tartan Ball is now a happy memory. From the start of the evening, mingling with friends and fellow dancers at the reception, through to the last bow and curtsy, it was an absolutely grand evening. Jean Hamilton, our Scroll of Honour recipient, received a standing ovation when introduced by Margaret Rieger. Our Guests of Honour, Michael MacMillan and his wife Cathy, were both charming and gracious. Michael spoke eloquently about society and why he founded the charity Samara. They took the time to learn a number of dances and enjoyed dancing them at the ball. All in all, a spectacular evening of good food, good fun, and good dancing.

Such an evening does not come to pass without the efforts of many. Thank you to Jane Robinson, Arlene Koteff, Jon Allen-Friend, Irene Bailey, Joanne Racic, and Liz Martin for all of their hard work on the Tartan Ball Committee. Thanks also to the Board for their support; the volunteers who came early Saturday morning to help decorate the Concert Hall; our photographers Inga Tomas* and Rob Lockhart; the marshalls; the Fairmont Royal York for their usual great service; Laird Brown and The Scottish Accent for their beautiful music; the teachers for encouraging and preparing the dancers; the social groups (especially those who held Tartan Ball practices); and, of course, all of the dancers who came to make the evening a success. We could not do it without you.

Door Prize Winner – Our Tartan Ball Weekend Get-away door prize of a Free Night at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel and a pair of tickets to next year's 50th Tartan Ball was won by Peter Burke.

50th Anniversary Tartan Ball Dance Contest – Congratulations to Deirdre MacCuish Bark, winner of the 50th Tartan Ball Dance competition. Deirdre's winning dance, a reel, will be included in the dance program for the 50th Tartan Ball, and we all look forward to learning the dance.

Thanks to the judges, Donalda McDonald, Barbara Taylor, and Jean Noble, who had the difficult task of selecting only one of the 18 dances submitted. Thanks to Vicky Zeltins for teaching the dances, and to the Demo Pool dancers who came out to learn and dance them. This contest was a great deal of fun. Finally, thank you to the devisors for submitting the dances. We have some very talented and creative people in our midst. Well done!

... Louis Racic, Tartan Ball Convenor



Judges Jean Noble, Donalda McDonald, Barbara Taylor at work.



Some of the Volunteers who decorated the Concert Hall Saturday morning:

Kevin Bond, Jon Allen-Friend, Bill Barber, Jenny Bond, Jane Robinson, Arlene Koteff, Margaret Rieger, Luc Gregory, Irene Bailey, Cathy White, Graeme Jones, Heinz Rieger



Tartan Ball Dance Contest dancers with teacher, Vicky Zeltins:

Lorraine Ng, Tony Szeto, Marie Duncan, Muriel Nicoll, Cheryl Catt, Chris Elliot, Vicky Zeltins, Jane Robinson, Michael Taylor, Joanne Racic, Forbes Duncan (Missing from photo: Alicia Tarasick and Stella Henderson)

The 49th Tartan Ball – A Personal Reflection

What a difference a year makes! Last year was my first Tartan Ball. I had lots of encouragement and much practice under my belt – but so were butterflies of anxiety, knowing there would only be a brief to remind me of the dances. There were definitely some ups and downs but I persevered and made it through the evening, supported by my dear Branch classmates and the wonderful teachers I had met to date – Teresa, Moira, and Vicky. It was an inspiring evening, on many fronts – I knew I'd found my niche.



I was inspired – for sure! The following year saw me at Level 2 Intermediate class, Dancing in the Park, "stooging" for teacher candidates, Summer School in Quebec and, not one but two social groups. Currently I participate in Fiona's Level 3 technique class at Swansea, and I've joined the Volunteer Recognition Committee. I've never before smiled and laughed with others so much over a year! So this year, with much practice, I was *ready* and *confident* in attending the 49th Tartan Ball.

The best thing in arriving at the Tartan Ball was realizing how over the year I had become blessed with so many new friends and acquaintances. Greetings aside, all the women truly sparkled in their gowns, and the men – well if you're talking about a man in uniform, the kilt and doublet is at the top of my list! The grand dame Royal York was wonderfully decorated with tartans and shields by many volunteers, and the food and service were very good. The remarks from head table were both celebratory and, as Margaret Rieger noted of our guest speaker Michael MacMillan, "challenging" – making us think about leadership and the society (both macro and micro!) we live in and create.

The dance that followed was wonderful, energetic, and the main reason we were all there. Expertly accompanied by The Scottish Accent, four hours of dancing just flew by. Throughout the evening I had the pleasure of dancing beside Carole Skinner in the dance she devised, *Eternal Friendship*, and closed the evening sharing a set with dance legends David Grant and Georgina Finlay. My only sincere regret is mistakenly double-booking a dance (I see now why booking ahead is not a supported practice!) and thus letting down a genuine friend who has been a real boost to my participation in RSCDS Toronto, but I have every hope we'll dance again!

So a year has brought for me a more polished dance technique, more camaraderie and, I hope with everyone else, a commitment to support our "Society" that brings so much pleasure – whether you're a beginner or expert, lithe and bouncy or timing yourself for the really good ones!! I'm looking forward to what the next year brings, and celebrating with all of you the 50th Tartan Ball.

... Nancy White

Grand Marshall's Notebook

When asked, "Just what is the role of Head Marshall at the Tartan Ball?" I reviewed my trusty Blackberry to remind me of my agenda for the day.

7:30am: Wake, and be at the Royal York by 9:00 to help set up the hall.

9:00am: Check and cordon off the 5-metre damaged floor area directly in front of the stage and set up baton stands to ensure a safe distance to prevent dancers from tripping. Measure and tape set lines and duct tape over any obvious holes in the floor.

11:00am: Meet with assistant marshalls to confirm responsibilities and schedule and finish helping with decorations.

12:00pm: Lunch.

5:00pm: Back to the Royal York to meet out-of-towners and head table guests. Advise head table guests and partners when entering the hall. Inquire if any need assistance in mounting steps to the head table. Meet with the piper and give directions as to his role and schedule.

6:15pm: Escort the piper and guests of honour to the Salon.

6:50pm: Enter the hall, ensure head table guests have all they need.

7:00pm: Dinner.

8:25pm: Signal the piper to take his position to escort head table guests in grand procession into the Concert Hall.

8:30pm: Clear the hall and assist hotel staff in clearing and cleaning the ballroom.

8:50pm: Signal the assistant marshal to open the doors and lead the first group of four around the ballroom for the Grand March.

9:00pm: When all lines of 8 are in place, signal the piper and band to stop.

After the ball...

12:30am: Dismantle the set posts, remove all floor tape, assist with clearing and packing up everything in the hall ready for next year.

All in all, a pretty busy day but worth it to see how everyone enjoyed themselves.

... Jon Allen Friend

What's in a name? *Lamb Skinnnet*

I am not a vegan, but the thought of skinning lambs for both the wool and the exposed meat gives me a little digestive problem. Kathryn and I have always had a soft spot for members of the ovine family. It might just come from that time many years ago when we were driving through the Scottish Border country on our way to Greta Green for the purpose of marriage. No, there was not a shotgun-wielding father in pursuit, it's just that marriage in a blacksmith's shop seemed to have a certain romance attached to it. It was worth it, but that's a story for another time, and a tradition with which I'm sure many of you are familiar.

What we stopped to enjoy on our way there was the sight of a shepherd and dog going through some herding training with a large group of Scottish Blackface sheep. It being springtime, a number of lambs were present. It was a very comforting experience which we have never forgotten, and that attracted me to do a little research on the dance *Lamb Skinnnet*, which seems to have been devised about two hundred and fifty years ago.

Now, what's this I find? Lamb skinnnet is the vulgar derivation of the German word *Lansquenet*? A card game at which it was apparently easy to cheat? And, in turn, a derivation of the German *Landsknecht*, a mercenary soldier of the 17th century? This is a Scottish Country Dance? I don't get it!



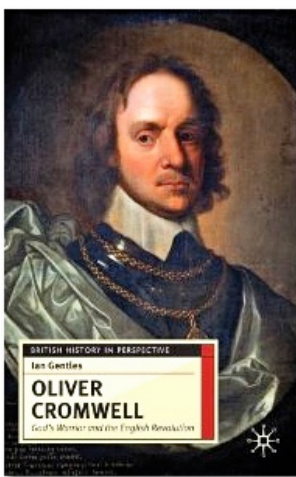
Although it also turns out that as a dance and a tune, Lamb Skinnnet has been well known to fiddlers and other performers over the years throughout the Borders and Northumbria, I must admit disappointment with this German connection.

But further information surfaced! There was a mechanical engineering professor at the University of Western Ontario named George Emmerson who was a real maven for Scottish Country Dancing. George had an innate love of the dancing and had written several books on the subject. In one of his books called *Scotland Through Her Country Dances*, he surmised that lamb skinnnet was the name of the practice by which sheep farmers could fool a ewe, one of whose lambs had died, by putting the dead lamb's skin over the back of a substitute who perhaps needed a mother. Apparently, this is an activity well known in the sheep-farming business.

As a Scottish Country Dancer, I find Professor Emmerson's suggestion much more satisfying. However, it seems to have been somewhat controversial and not necessarily accepted by other experts. Of the two choices, which would you as readers prefer? *Lamb Skinnnet* is a 32-bar jig that is part of our March Monthly Dance program. Why not dance it first, then make up your mind!

...Barry Pipes
mccallum.pipes@sympatico.ca

Correction: My February article on Polharrow Burn included a faulty reference to RSCDS Vancouver's "Mary" Coupe. I can't imagine how that happened but I do hope Rosemary Coupe will forgive me! ...Barry



Oliver Cromwell: God's Warrior and the English Revolution

Ian and Caroline Gentles are enthusiastic members of the Hillcrest and St. Clement's social groups. Ian is Visiting Professor of history at Tyndale University College.

If you are like me and enjoy history by reading about famous personalities, then Ian's recently published study of the controversial figure Oliver Cromwell may be of interest to you. I found Ian's narrative framework clear, including two

informative chapters on Oliver's invasions of Scotland and Ireland. Reviews by fellow historians have noted his balanced views of events. His fluent writing style and choice of telling detail about Cromwell's personal life and cultural interests engaged me as a reader, enabling Oliver Cromwell and his times to spring to life: warts, and strengths, and all. ...Reviewed by Carole Bell

Oliver Cromwell: God's Warrior and the English Revolution (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)

Available from Indigo/Chapters and amazon.ca.

Search for: "Oliver Cromwell: God's Warrior" (use quotations)



Ian Gentles

Breaking News ...



Jean Hamilton and Gordon will enjoy a bottle of fine wine from Tartan Ball Guest of Honour Michael MacMillan's winery in Prince Edward County.



Rosedale's Emma Woolgar (shown with friend, Sion) received news from Edinburgh – her entry in the colouring contest was "Highly Commended".



Tartan Day Fundraiser: A fundraiser for The SickKids Foundation will be held the evening of Friday, April 6, at the Royal York. RSCDS Toronto is helping with organization and members and families will be an important part of the festivities which will include entertainment, ceilidh, and Scottish country dancing. More details in our next issue and on the website.



Adult Gala Day will be celebrated on the afternoon of Saturday, May 5, at St. Leonard's. Various social groups will demo special dances, and there will be audience participation dances, and other entertainments. More details soon in our next issue, on the website, and through your social groups.

Apr 6: Tartan Day Ceilidh
Wear Tartan • Hug a Haggis • Come to the Royal York

Upcoming Events: NEAR

MAR. 4 & 25 **Stooging at Broadlands**, 2-4 p.m.
MAR. 18 **Sunday Dancing at Broadlands**: Paul Maloney teaches dances by Barry Priddey.
MAR. 23 **Old Time Dancing at Erin Mills** with Ruth Jappy. [Mississauga Seniors' Centre](#).

MAR. 24 **West End Workshop** at [Turner Fenton Secondary School](#), Brampton.

MAR. 25 **Teachers' Workshop** at Clarkson Community Centre, Youth/Senior Room, 2475 Truscott Drive, Mississauga

APR. 1 & 22 **Stooging at Broadlands**, 2-4 p.m.

APR. 28 **Annual General Meeting** at 7:30 p.m.

MAY. 2 **Glenview Spring Dance**.

MAY. 8 **Calvin Spring Dance**.

MAY. 12 **43rd Annual West Toronto Ball at Rameses Temple**.

JUN. 23 **Highlands of Durham's White Heather Ball**, [Sikorski Hall](#), Oshawa.

SEPT. 15. **Stouffville Scottish Country Dance** Fundraiser for St. James Presbyterian Church, Stouffville, Nineteen on the Park, 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville. Sprung wood floor. Briefers: Maureen Richardson and Joan Reeves. More details later. Contact: Wilma Medley 905-640-5995. Email: wilmamedley@rogers.com

Youth Ball Practices

Saturday mornings: March 31, April 14, 21

Ages 9-11: 9:15 - 10:15 **Ages 12+:** 10:00 - 11:00

The Youth Ball is Saturday April 21st at Newtonbrook Church. The Youth Ball is always enjoyed with high energy dancing and a chance to meet young dancers from as far away as Buffalo.

Young dancers are invited to attend practices for the ball at Rosedale Presbyterian Church. (nominal fee \$5/class for visiting dancers). For more info, check the website: [What's On](#).



White Heather Ball

Saturday, June 23



Welcome to the glamorous White Heather Ball hosted by The Highlands of Durham. There will be good food, good music, good company, and a great wood floor to dance on at beautiful Sikorski Hall in north Oshawa. For more info contact Marjorie Mason 905-649-3532 or call the Wee Tartan Shop 905-985-6573.

Demo Pool Practices

Sundays: 2 - 4 p.m. at Broadlands CC

19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

• March 11 • April 15

The Demo Pool welcomes interested dancers familiar with the basic formations.

Contact: Deirdre MacCuish Bark 905-822-1707

Upcoming Events: FAR

MAR. 24 **Border Cities Workshop & Ball** in Windsor, ON, at the Windsor Light Music Theatre. Music by Fred Moyes. Teacher: Carole Skinner & Fiona Philip. More info: Jennifer Levack (519) 975-0353 jennlevack@hotmail.com or www.rscdswindsor.org

MAR. 31 **Blair Scottish Country Dancers' Annual Spring Ball** in Cambridge, ON, at the Waterloo Regional Police Assoc. Banquet Hall, 1128 Rife Road, Cambridge. Music by The Scottish Accent. Dancers \$60; non-dancers \$35. More info: Liz Reckers (519) 740-3789, BlairSCD@hotmail.com or visit: www.blairscottishcountrydancers.ca

APR. 20-22 **RSCDS Ottawa's Annual Ball** at the Hampton Inn, Ottawa, 200 Coventry Road. Music by The Scottish Accent. The weekend begins with a Pre-Ball Social on Friday, the ball on Saturday, and concludes with a Brunch on Sunday. Registration Form at www.rscdsottawa.ca More info: Wilf Gilchrist or Linda Redekop at 613-731-9722 or gillie01@magma.ca

APR. 28 **John Middleton RSCDS Ball 2012**. At the beautiful Scottish Rite, Hamilton. Dinner & Dance \$65. Contact: Annette Sabourin (519) 647-3055 annette1sabourin@hotmail.com

MAY 25-27 **2012 Peterborough SCD Society Workshop and Ball**. Guest teacher is Ruth Jappy, with music by Fred Moyes. Accommodation at the Irwin Inn on beautiful Stoney Lake. Contact Barry Diceman: bdiceman@cogeco.ca

JUN. 15-17 **'Simply Scottish' on Salt Spring Is.** Teachers: Elaine Brunken, Mary Murray, Geoffrey Selling. Musicians: John Taylor (a fabulous fiddler) and David Mostardi. Info: simplyscottish@shaw.ca

OCT. 6-8 **RSCDS Calgary's Banff Workshop** Teachers: Sue Porter, Scotland: Ron Wallace and Marjorie McLaughlin, USA: Simon Scott, Vancouver. Musicians: The Scottish Accent. More info: Ilo Torgerson 1.403.273.6579 torgeri@shaw.ca or visit www.rscdscalgary.org

West Toronto Ball

Saturday, May 12



Come and dance the night away to the music of The Scottish Accent under the "starlit" sky at Rameses Temple. This is a beginners' ball, but is an enjoyable evening for all levels of dancers. An all-inclusive ticket for dinner and dancing is

\$75 / person. Download the Application Form on the website or contact Marcia Delamere at (289) 837-3557 or mjdelamere@gmail.com

Scottish Dance Masters' Conference

May 6-11, 2012

Healdsburg, CA (in Sonoma Wine Country)

This event is for teachers of Scottish dance who wish to explore the finer points of the art of teaching. It's also for musicians who play for Scottish dance classes (or would like to).

Instructors: (Dance) Ron Wallace and Janet Johnston (Music) Muriel Johnstone and Elke Baker \$750 Cdn. More info: Nora Sutherland (905) 276-2602 or Irene Paterson (425) 438-8977 scotdancemasters@gmail.com



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Please send submissions to [Carole Bell](#). Deadline for the April issue is March 10.

