

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg
info@rscdswinnipeg.ca www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

Volume 56, Number 6

March 2025

Important Dates

Dancing in 2025

Saturday, March 15 – Spring St. Patrick’s Social

Sunday, March 23 – challenge class (7:00 -9:00)

Monday, April 7 – last evening class

Thursday, April 10 – last afternoon class

Sunday, April 13 – challenge class (7:00 -9:00)

Saturday, April 26 – Dance Workshop

Monday, May 12 – Wind-Up Social

Thursday, May 22 – AGM

Note: all events are held at Churchill Park United Church (CPUC) 525 Beresford Ave. unless otherwise stated.

A Word from the Chair of COM

February has been unusually cold! But I say that with "tongue in cheek". We hardy folk in Winnipeg are prepared for whatever Nature throws at us! The dance classes have been smaller due to the weather and to sickness but we all had a good time!

Challenge classes continue and the next class is on Sunday, March 23rd, at CPUC (Churchill Park United Church).

We are preparing for the Spring social on March 15th. Also, keep your dancing shoes at the ready! The Spring Workshop and Ball is on April 26th!

I hope to see you there!

Pat Clubb

Next COM meeting – March 5 (via zoom)



Have you heard?

Missed Photo

This photo arrived late for the write-up on the Burns Social on January 18 and I thought it should be included along with another big Thank You to our Social Secretaries Ellen Graham and Claire Buys. They set a lovely table of goodies for the dancers to enjoy!

And a note from the Graham's –

Thank you from Donald & Ellen to our dance friends who kept track of us while we were house bound (farm bound).

Glad to have them out dancing again. – ed.



Upcoming dancing

March St. Patrick's Social - March 15

Programme

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <i>1. Circassian Circle (Warm Up) 32-J-Single Circle</i> | | <i>Collins</i> |
| <i>2. Flowers of Edinburgh</i> | <i>32-R-3</i> | <i>Bk 1</i> |
| <i>3. The Shamrock Girl</i> | <i>2-S-4</i> | <i>12 more Social Goldring</i> |
| <i>4. Machine Without Horses</i> | <i>32-J-3</i> | <i>Bk 12</i> |
| <i>5. Gramachie</i> | <i>32-S-3</i> | <i>MMM1</i> |
| <i>6. Maxwell's Rant</i> | <i>32-R-3</i> | <i>Bk 18</i> |
| <i>7. Cutty Sark</i> | <i>32-J-3</i> | <i>Bk 40</i> |
| <i>8. Triple Happiness</i> | <i>32-S-3 cple set</i> | <i>Bk 52</i> |
| <i>9. De'il Amang the Tailors</i> | <i>32-R-3</i> | <i>Bk 14</i> |
| <i>10. Waltz</i> | | |

Reminder to dancers:

Please bring your own water bottle & coffee cup to the March Social.

From the Classes ...

BRRRR! It's Cold outside!!

How about we have a zoom class???

Thursday class ...

Instructors for Thursday's class have incorporated some of the dances for the March Social. "Short Shirt", (or *Cutty Sark*, for those of you who weren't there) is an energetic jig for those who can

manage tight turns. It has an interesting corner figure which requires some fly-a-way whirling to stay with the music, but lots of fun once you know where you are going. We got to practice the elegant figure of the knot in preparation for “Triple Happiness”, a dance from Japan. “The Shamrock Girl” also came up on the dance menu. The floral name might lead you to think of a pastoral dance, but make no mistake, this one needs all brain cells firing and feet to match. The dance keeps everyone moving as both men and ladies take part in reels of four on the sides and all couples are involved in a half diamond pousette to finish.

In recognition of Valentine’s Day, we danced “The Kissing Bridge” by Romaine Butterfield. To perfect this dance, Sharyl had us pay particular attention to mirror reels, encouraging us to meet our partners shoulder to shoulder, which helped with timing and symmetry of this figure. Partners also got to do a “twirl under” on bar 4 of leading down and back. Sharyl broke this down into a basic walking route so we all knew where we were heading when we “twirled under” to music.

A couple of enjoyable “cool down” dances popped up. “Star Trek” provided lots of opportunity to get lost in outer space, but it did have a bit of narration to remind the dancer of what was coming next. “Ha! Ha! The Wo’in O’ It was an easy and fun dance to end the class before we broke for Valentine’s goodies courtesy of the social committee.

Thanks to Maestro McClure in his role as music master.

Hilary



Have you checked out the latest episode of The Blether, the monthly video from William Williamson and Gary Coull? Each month they have a blether (a chat) with a special guest. January's guest was musician Pete Clark. The special guest in February will be RSCDS Archivist Alan MacPherson. You can find all episodes so far here - [The Blether playlist](#).

**Dear Winter,
I am breaking up with you.
It is time I start seeing other seasons, like spring.
He gives me flowers.**

CANCELLATION POLICY FOR SNOW DAYS

The COM has agreed to the following policy for cancellation of classes, when necessary because of inclement weather conditions:

- A decision to cancel that day's class will be made no later than 3:00 pm on Mondays & 9:00 am on Thursdays.
- An email will be sent out to all members as soon as possible.

IF THE WEATHER IS NASTY, PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL BEFORE HEADING OUT TO CLASS.

If you do not have access to email, please let your class teacher know and leave a phone number where you can be reached. If in doubt, please call your class teacher. If you cannot contact your teacher, then call the chair of COM.

Note: This policy will also apply to extra or special classes and socials that are not on a class day.



My Grandfather told me that he saw the Titanic, and that from the beginning he warned all the people that the ship would sink, but nobody listened to him.

He was a brave man. He did not give up. He warned them again and again on several occasions ...

... until they kicked him out of the cinema.

Spring Workshop - April 26

Winnipeg Workshop
April 26 - One Day

Guest Teacher



Rebecca Blackhall-Peters

Morning classes *Lunch provided*

Evening Social - open to everybody

\$55 full price

Visit the website



www.rscd.winnipeg.ca/workshop25/index.html

Plans are underway for the Winnipeg Branch One-Day Workshop coming in April with guest teacher Rebecca Blackhall-Peters from B.C.

The poster and link for registration form is now available in both an online and downloadable version using the QR code above. The evening dance programme, crib notes, and diagrams are also available.

Watch your emails and our Branch website for more news.

James Sutherland
Workshop Committee Chair

TAC Summer School 2025

Early Bird Registration starts
February 15

**SUMMER SCHOOL IN
CANADA!**

AUGUST 3-10, 2025

Bishop's University
Sherbrooke, Quebec

For dancers of all levels
Partial week attendance options

Teaching Staff
Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, BC Canada
Linda Henderson, California USA
Andrew Nolan, UK
Cecily Selling, Pennsylvania USA

Music Director
Gary Thomas, California USA

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
tac-rscds.org

Scottish Country Dance
Teachers' Association (Canada)



from the editor's desk ...

Had we been in Toronto or Ottawa or Montreal last week (Thursday Feb. 13) for class, we certainly would have invoked our snow day policy. They received dumps of snow Wednesday and again on Friday.

Happy shovelling to those folks!

Have you registered for the Winnipeg One-Day Dance Workshop yet? Easy to do and it will be a great time!

**It always seems impossible
until it's done.**

- **Nelson Mandela**

Doug Durnin, Editor
Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca

Here and There...

Some Out of Town Events

April 5, 2025 – Victoria – Vancouver Island SCD Society - Workshop & Ball

August 3 – 10, 2025 – Sherbrooke, Quebec – 2025 TAC Weekend and Summer School

Planning to travel? If you have an internet connection, browse for RSCDS & city for dancing where you are going. For instance, RSCDS Toronto hosts workshops and monthly dances and has links to dancing events all over the world. Almost every city in Canada has an RSCDS group. Many have a Facebook site as well.

Here are links to some branch sites:

[RSCDS Winnipeg Branch](#)

[RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch](#)

[RSCDS Calgary Branch](#)

[RSCDS Edmonton Caledonian Branch](#)

[RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch](#)

www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org

[RSCDS Vancouver](#)

[RSCDS Toronto Branch](#)

[RSCDS Ottawa](#)

Took the kids to the zoo last week

**Going back this week to see how they
settled in!**

L&A Submissions

Next L&A: April 2025 Deadline for submissions: March 20.

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members.

Submissions for the *Light and Airy* can be sent to the Branch e-mail address: info@rscdswinnipeg.ca or to the editor at Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca

This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: www.rscdswinnipeg.ca