

# *Light and Airy*



## **Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg**

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### ***Important Dates***

#### **Dancing in 2022**

##### **Fall Term 2022**

**Monday, September 12** – Open House and Registration 7:30 – 9:30

at Churchill Park United Church

**Thursday, September 15** – Afternoon Class begins 1:30 – 3:30

at Churchill Park United Church

**Monday, September 19** – Evening Class begins 7:30 – 9:30

at Churchill Park United Church

**Saturday, September 24** – Ceilidh Fundraiser for ALS Manitoba 7:30

at Churchill Park United Church

**Monday, October 10** – Thanksgiving Day – no class

**Week of December 5** – First Term Classes end

##### **Winter Term 2023**

**April 21, – 23, 2023** – Winnipeg Anniversary Weekend Workshop

## ***A Word from the Chair of COM ....***

Greetings from the Committee of Management. Summer is flying by and we hope you have all had the opportunity to enjoy the season. We have heard stories from Cheryl Durnin, Sheila Careless as well as Ellen and Donald Graham about their TAC Summer School experiences. To those of us who stayed in Winnipeg, we had the opportunity to travel the world with the return of Folklorama. Many thanks to the Publicity Committee, Joyce Cormack, Sharron Bettess and Wendy Land for their efforts in arranging our participation at the Scottish Pavillion and to our members who volunteered at the information table.

Although the cultural room was relatively small, participation dancing took place between shows, led enthusiastically by May Kong Sutherland and James Sutherland. It's fair to say a fun time was had by all, dancers and spectators. Thanks also to Glen Colquhoun for his work with the Publicity Committee in updating our information page, bookmark and poster design (including a QR code) and to Sheila for updates on the Webpage as well.

As we look forward to the dance year we are reminded that 2023 is the 100th Anniversary of the RSCDS, the 60th Anniversary of the Winnipeg Branch and the 50th Anniversary Workshop. The Anniversary Workshop Committee chaired by Jane Nattrass and Gerri Stemler are formulating the celebrations and we are most grateful to them.

We are now less than a month away from our Open House on September 12th at Churchill Park United Church. We have distributed posters and bookmarks at Folklorama and I encourage you to print a copy of the poster that was sent to the membership and ask that it be displayed at appropriate locations of your choice.

See you in September!

Shirley Tinsley

" The question is not what you look at, but what you see."

- Henry David Thoreau

## ***Have you heard?***

### ***Committee of Management 2022/23***

<b>Chair:</b>	Shirley Tinsley	204-256-3835
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Lynn McClure	204-489-7712
<b>Secretary:</b>	Sharyl Eaglesham	204-888-6662
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Sharron Bettess	204-256-2248
<b>Social Secretary</b>	Barbara Lambert	204-256-8738
<b>Asst. Soc. Secretary:</b>	Ellen Graham	1-204-744-2857
<b>Publicity:</b>	Joyce Cormack	204-224-2291
<b>Membership:</b>	Doug Durnin	204-253-4213
<b>Library:</b>	Joan Curle	204-254-6697
<b>Light &amp; Airy:</b>	Doug Durnin	204-253-4213
<b>Teacher's Rep:</b>	Cheryl Durnin	204-253-4213
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808

## ***From the Classes ...***

### **Teacher Selection Committee**

Here are the teachers for the fall and winter classes 2022 – 2023.

1st Term fall: Monday evening – Maureen Burnham  
Thursday afternoon – Cheryl Durnin

2nd Term winter: Monday evening – Sheila Careless  
Thursday afternoon – Peter McClure and Sharyl Eaglesham

## ***RSCDS Open House and Registration***

RSCDS Winnipeg will start the dance season with an Open House and Registration evening Monday September 12 at Churchill Park United Church (525 Beresford Ave). The evening gets underway at 7:30.

Come on out to get reacquainted with dance friends, dance a jig or reel or even a strathspey, enjoy some snacks and camaraderie. Bring along your friends and neighbours to show them a fun time.

## ***Scottish Ceilidh Fundraiser for ALS***

Scottish Ceilidh fundraiser for ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) is back.

After a long covid break I am again hosting a Scottish Ceilidh on Saturday September 24, 7:30 to 10 pm. at Churchill Park United Church (525 Beresford Ave). Admission is by donation to ALS.

It will be an evening of music, dancing, entertainment, light refreshments and a chance to raise some money for the ALS Society of Manitoba. Admission is by donation to ALS.

Cheryl Durnin

## ***Tales from Summer School ...***

### **TAC Summer School 2022**

It was so good to be back at Summer School this year. Even with having to wear a mask indoors, it was still good to be with friends and to dance again. It was clear very early on in the week how out of shape I am. By the end of the first time through a reel, I was huffing and puffing. The mask made it harder as well but I can fully understand why they required them. By the end of the week, I didn't feel so out of breath until the second time through the reel so progress was made. One more week and I'd have been in good shape!

The teachers this year were all good (Robert McOwen - Boston, Jeanne Moody – San Diego & Raphaelle Orgerot – Lyon, France) but for me the musicians made the dancing so much fun. They are a fabulous group of musicians and I love to hear them play. The group was Judi Nicholson – Texas, Kathy Fraser Collins – Ontario, Ian Muir – Scotland & Mary Ross (who will be here next spring) from BC.

We only had about 100 people this year which is less than half of 2019. I know some people were away visiting friends and family since they had not been able to do that for a couple of years. But it was lovely to reconnect with those that were there and it was so nice to spend the week seeing Donald & Ellen every day.

There was a candidate class going on as well this year so I spent a number of afternoons being an angel (for once in my life), aka stooge, for the candidates – who all passed their exams.

As I've said in past SS reports, there is nothing like dancing on a large dance floor with so many people. SS is a great way to get experience from other teachers, dance with a variety of partners and to make friends from all over the world. I really hope that next year there will be others that come from Winnipeg. It's in Halifax so a lovely part of the country to visit. If people don't want to come for the week, they usually have a weekender package on the last weekend of SS.

Who will join me on the dance floor in Halifax NS?

Sheila Careless

## First Impressions

First off, we would like to thank our dance friends and our families who encouraged us to try this adventure, especially our teacher, Sheila Careless, without whom we would never have found our way to the right building, and who kept an eye on us all the way along.

We found Summer School to be a warm, welcoming, challenging environment, and we loved it. Our three teachers all inspired us and each provided us with “Aha!” moments.

We were in the Fundamentals class, a group of 10, with a wide range of dance experience. Just the right spot for us.

The musicians were a wonderful, lively, fun bunch and added so much to the energy. We are looking forward to



Ellen's self-embroidered shirt for western night!

seeing Mary Ross again in April at the Winnipeg Anniversary Workshop.

There were so many friendly, encouraging dancers, teachers, and staff who made Summer School a wonderful experience for us.

Ellen & Donald Graham

### **And a Thank You**

I would like to thank the Winnipeg Branch for their ongoing support of financial assistance to the teacher representative of the COM to attend the Teachers' Weekend at TAC.

This is an annual event where teachers can not only dance but have the opportunity to share ideas and concerns from each of our areas.

This year's weekend was held in Calgary and was followed by the annual Summer School where dancers of all ages and abilities from beginner to advanced and everything in between can learn and improve on their dance skills.

Cheryl Durnin

### ***Folklorama & Publicity***

Folklorama is over for another year, and it was felt to be a worthwhile effort in attracting new members. Thanks go to the Branch members who volunteered at our table: Marilyn Piniuta, Donna McNamara, Heather Robbins, Shirley Tinsley, Wendy Land, Barb Lambert, Agnes Brydon, Maureen Burnham, Jane Nattrass, Sharyl Eaglesham, Sharron Bettess and Joyce Cormack. James and May Sutherland were also present at an adjoining table and helped with set-up and take-down as well as initiating participation dancing several times most nights and handing out flyers for Open House. The Lads and Lassies attracted lots of attention and showed how much fun our dancing is.

Three hundred and twenty bookmarks have been printed. They are not specific to Open House but are linked through a QR code to a page on Facebook aimed specifically at attracting new members. One hundred posters have also been printed to share with interested friends and family.

### **And Another Word of Appreciation**

An email arrived from the Pavilion of Scotland:

“Now that the year has officially come to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your part in our success. Participation plays a huge part in our Pavilion going forward, and you played an integral role in that. We appreciate your hard work and look forward to another successful year in 2023. Thank you.”

Bronwyn Swanson

## **2023 Workshop**

The workshop committee is working hard in planning this celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Branch and 50<sup>th</sup> Workshop Anniversaries. The hotel venue has been booked for April 21 – 23, 2023.

Teachers are confirmed – Jim Stott, Scotland and Linda Henderson, California.

Musicians: Mary Ross – Victoria, BC, Jeanette Polson (Vancouver Island), and Ron Krug – Winnipeg.

The committee is looking to the current membership for their support in making this another successful Winnipeg event.



Victoria Inn, Winnipeg MB

Teachers: **Linda Henderson & Jim Stott**

Musicians: **Mary Ross, Janette Polson & Ron Krug**

We would love to see you in Winnipeg!  
Get a group of friends and travel together.

## **From the Library ...**

If you don't want to pay full price for CD's there will be many donated CD's available at the library table at discounted prices. I plan to send out a list of what's available beforehand. We will also have a few new CD's available for purchase.

We have had a large number of records with Scottish music donated recently. A list of available titles will be coming. These might be a good source of music that may no longer be available. A list might be better to have on hand than having to bring all the records.

In addition to the library, the Nearly New table showcases a lovely selection of Scottish brooches donated from Berna Cleghorn's family. There is also a collection of plaid skirts hanging in my garage. Unfortunately I don't know the names of many of the tartans. Skirts do sell well if the kilt name has a connection to your family and if fit and colour are to your liking. The skirts can also be used to provide material for a sash. I can give you advice on width and length of a finished sash. Prices of kilt skirts have stayed the same: \$15 for short or knee length and \$20 for long.

Joan Curle  
Librarian

## ***From the editor's desk ...***

DANCING AGAIN!

Yes, dance classes are starting up in September! Hurrah!

So dig out your shoes from the back of the closet where they have been hiding for such a long time and join in a set on the floor!

Follow the first law of holes:

If you are in one, stop digging.

Denis Healey, English  
statesman (1917-2015)

Regular classes are scheduled for Monday evening and Thursday afternoon at Churchill Park United Church from September until early December. Followed by continuing classes in the new year.

Limber up and come dance!

Doug Durnin, Editor  
[Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca](mailto:Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca)

## ***Here and There...***

### ***Some Out of Town Events***

If you have an internet connection, browse for RSCDS & city. 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.

**Fall, 2022** - dance classes hopefully resuming/continuing in various centers. Check local branch websites for specific details as restrictions permit dancing together in person.

**November 4 – 6, 2022 – Pacific Grove, Calif.** – RSCDS San Francisco Asilomar Weekend ([Asilomar.rscds-sf.org](http://Asilomar.rscds-sf.org))

**November 5, 2022 – Glasgow** – RSCDS annual general meeting

**February 10 – 12, 2023 – Edmonton** - 51st Annual Workshop and Ball

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](http://www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org)

[RSCDS Vancouver](#)

[RSCDS Toronto Branch](#)

[RSCDS Ottawa](#)

## ***L&A Submissions***

**Next L&A:** October 2022

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](mailto:info@rscdswinnipeg.ca) or to the editor at [Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca](mailto:Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca) Deadline for submissions: September 10. This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: [www.rscdswinnipeg.ca](http://www.rscdswinnipeg.ca)