

# *Light and Airy*



## Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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[www.rscdswinnipeg.ca](http://www.rscdswinnipeg.ca)

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### *Committee of Management 2019/20*

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### ***Important Dates***

#### **Fall Term 2019**

Monday, November 18 – St. Andrew's Social hosted by the Fort Garry Class

Week of December 9 – First Term Classes end

Saturday December 28 – Fourth Day of Christmas

## **Winter/Spring Term 2020**

Week of January 6, 2020 – Second Term Classes begin

Saturday, January 18 – Burns Celebration

Tuesday, February 25 – February Social - hosted by the Tuesday Class

Thursday, March 26 – March Social - hosted by the Thursday Class

Week of April 6 – Second Term Classes end

Friday April 17 – Sunday April 19, 2020 – Winnipeg Weekend Workshop

May Spring Dancing 2020 – dates to be confirmed

- All dance events are at 8pm at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall unless otherwise indicated.

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

Since our last newsletter, Winnipeg Branch has really got into the swing of things, despite some initial disappointment with our planned Open House in September. We did finally have an Open House of sorts in our Basics class and welcome some new dancers. Those of you who are receiving LIGHT & AIRY for the first time, this is our attempt to keep all branch members apprised monthly of events, past, present, and future, so we can mark our calendars and plan for the future. I know some members have moved out of province, but hopefully the new dancers will fill that gap soon. I know your teachers will have spoken to you to solicit class members who are willing to be Light & Airy scribes, track attendance or serve as social representatives. It is important that we get these persons in place as soon as possible. The Branch likes to know what dancers in the various classes, Basics, Technique and Social, are working on. Seriously consider volunteering when the opportunity arises. New members may discover this is a good way to get to know your class mates and make new friends.

Our first social of the year is coming up soon on November 18<sup>th</sup>, hosted by the Fort Garry Social Class. This will be our St. Andrews Social; come for the food and stay for the dancing! Scotch Eggs anyone?

Also, please pay your membership dues before month end. This allows us to better anticipate the number of members for branch events and accurately register our membership with headquarters in Edinburgh, Scotland prior to its annual general meeting in November.

Hope see you at the St. Andrews Social!

John Giesbrecht

Next COM meeting is November 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm at St. Paul's.

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

### ***St Andrew's Social Programme***

**November 18, 2019**

Highland Fair	J/2/32	Graded 6
Rakes of Glasgow	S/3/32	Book 11 #11
Flowers of Edinburgh	R/3/32	Book 1 #6
The Wild Geese	J/3/32	Book 14 #3
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	S/3/32	Leaflet #20 *****
The Dashing White Sergeant	R/32	Book 3 #2
St Andrew's Fair	J/3/32	5 dances/82
Shiftin' Bobbins	R/3/32	Roy Clowes *****
Monymusk	S/3/32	Book 11 #2
De'il Amang the Tailors	R/3/32	Book 14 #7

\*\*\*\*\* for experienced dancers

### ***Library***

There are well over 15000 documented Scottish country dances. Scottish country dancing has always been classless and is simply the social dancing of Scotland.

Do you need any Scottish country dance materials such as books or CD's?

They can be ordered from TacBooks or TacSound through the branch library. An order will go in October 31.

The library table has items for sale as well as books for borrowing and the odd freebie for the taking. The nearly new table will be set up beside the library table at the St. Andrew's social. If you have any gently used items you are ready to part with, please consider donating them to the table. Sales revenue goes to the branch. Items which don't sell at our socials may be donated to a Goodwill store.

Joan Curle

### ***Snow Policy***

Oh, the weather outside is frightful

And the fire is so delightful.

And since we've no place to go ...

Let it snow! Let us Dance! Let it snow!

After the early winter storm we had last week in Winnipeg which saw some 10 inches of heavy wet snow descend upon us, it seems appropriate to include our policy on class cancellation due to weather/snow. Cleanup is underway of the many trees still with foliage which had broken limbs under the weight of this accumulated snow.

### ***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 4:00 pm.

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.

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

As of the Thanksgiving weekend Winnipeggers will be well acquainted with photos such as these.



Our chokecherry tree went from looking like a mushroom under the heavy snow to a shadow of itself after many branches broke under the weight.

And yet the line between snow and rain was so distinct that 50 kms east of Winnipeg there was **NO SNOW**.



Fortunately the temperatures have stayed around freezing so the snow is melting. With warmer temps this week the snow is pretty much gone. The tree cleanup continues.

Backyard during ...



and after the snowstorm

## ***WORKSHOP 2020***

It's not too soon to mark your calendar for the 49th Branch Workshop and Ball, 17 - 19 April 2020. One notable change for this workshop, rather than having two levels of classes on Saturday, there will be a single combined class, building on the good experience the Branch has had with levels coming together at various Branch events. Teacher Ruth Jappy from BC, and musicians Ron Krug (Winnipeg) and Dennis Orr from AB have been confirmed. If you've enjoyed previous workshops, you won't want to miss this one, and if you haven't been before, this is a great opportunity.

Lynn McClure and Shirley Tinsley  
Workshop 2020 Cochairs

## ***DEMONSTRATION DANCING***

Two rehearsals have been arranged to work on new repertoire to add to our current dances for use in any upcoming demonstrations. The hall is booked for Sunday afternoons November 10 and 24th at 2 pm.

Thanks,  
Cheryl Durnin  
204-253-4213 or email [durninch@gmail.com](mailto:durninch@gmail.com).

## ***Need more dancing???***

### ***Ceilidh for ALS***

Once again, I am hosting a fundraising Scottish Ceilidh with proceeds going to ALS Manitoba in memory of my mother Doreen Mennie. This event will be held on Saturday November 9, 2019 at St Paul's Church Hall starting at 7:30. Admission is by donation at the door. Tax receipts (as appropriate) will be issued by the ALS Society of Manitoba. There will be dancing, entertainment, door prizes, and of course, light refreshments.

Please mark your calendars and join in the fun while raising some funds for a very worthwhile cause.

Thank you,  
Cheryl Durnin

## ***St. Paul's Anglican Capital Fund Initiative***

As St. Paul's Anglican Church moves toward celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, they are launching a Capital Funds Initiative to raise a total of \$120,500 to address a number of needed upgrades in their church facility, including replacing the grand piano, upgrading the kitchen facilities, hall entrance, roof repairs over the kitchen, and some exterior upgrades. Our branch has been a beneficiary of St. Paul's facilities for many years for our classes and Branch social events, and as a goodwill gesture to St. Paul's a contribution might seem appropriate. The availability of the hall and the sprung wood floor for dancing are luxuries we have become accustomed to over the years.

It was decided by COM to have a silver collection plate available at each of our socials this year with funds collected going to the Capital Initiative Fund. In addition, individual branch members may wish to make personal contributions to this Fund. Such identified donations would have the benefit of a tax receipt being issued by the church.

John Giesbrecht

## ***Class Reports***

### **Technique Class**

Our teachers are very good sleuths at coming up with interesting dances for us to try.

One such dance is from the John Drewry collection The Turkish Set for his trip to Turkey in 2000. I enjoy his sense of humour as in the naming of Ramadan-ce, certainly a play with the words, as well as the subtitle comment -A "Fast" Dance – since Ramadan is the month of fasting in the Muslim religious year. To add to the ambiance, there are figures such as a half turn and a twirl, and half reels across and then down the set, all danced to music with a Persian/Russian flair.

Both Cheryl & Sheila (when substituting) picked dances devised by Chris Ronald from New York. Cheryl's choice had a Ladies Chain for 3 couples. A beautiful formation. Sheila's choice had Balance in Line in Strathspey. Cheryl has been spending some time on familiar and not difficult dances which gave us the chance to polish them and dance them well.

Doug & Sheila

## **Basics Class**

The dancing season started off with a bit of a snag due to the hall not being available for the Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> Open House. Nine visitors turned up for the evening and were invited to come back the following week. Many of them returned as well as others which resulted in approximately 35 dancers enjoying a fun filled evening.

The first two classes after that were well attended by new people, returning dancers from the previous years, as well as some of our experienced people from other classes. So far we have two dancers from last year's Monday afternoon class plus four new dancers, with the possibility of additional new people joining us.

Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate for us last Thursday (see earlier articles on our snowstorm). I, perhaps foolishly, decided to have a class and nine stalwart dancers showed up. What troopers, especially the Grahams who came in early in the day from Altamont and then had a long journey home that night. They also brought in potatoes and carrots from their garden which they shared with us. Thank you so much Ellen and Donald for the vegetables. Darlene and Gordie have volunteered to look after the membership list. We will work on filling the Social and Light & Airy positions over the next few weeks. Hopefully there will be no more cancellations on Thursdays as these people have already missed out on a lot of dancing and it is difficult to arrange for makeup classes.

Happy Dancing!

Joyce

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

New for November? Snow Policy reminder.

Last issue I had turned the air conditioning back on. This issue I have my snow shovel out and am cleaning up broken trees in the backyard following Winnipeg's snowstorm. It's a good thing dancing is a steadfast activity to keep us going.

Doug Durnin, editor

[Doug.Durnin@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Doug.Durnin@umanitoba.ca)

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

### ***SCD Books and Music***

Anyone interested in buying books of Scottish country dances or recordings of SCD music should be aware of TACBooks and TACSound, two services maintained by Teachers' Association Canada (TAC). You can look at their catalogues on the TAC web site [www.tac-rscds.org](http://www.tac-rscds.org). If you want to order any items, please do it via the Branch Librarian, as there are discounts available to Branches, but not to individuals. In the past, the Librarian has sent in Branch orders two or three times per year.



## **Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and Pumps**

[www.avriel.com](http://www.avriel.com) Shoe shop for dancers.

## **Clan Info and Scottish Shop**

[www.scotclans.com](http://www.scotclans.com)

## **SCD Online**

In case you didn't know about these sites:

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Edinburgh, Scotland: <https://www.rscds.org>

A great site to link to other branches and everything in the world of Scottish Country Dancing.

[The Inter-City Scot](#) - lists events across Canada and the United States. For other parts of the world, use the link to SCD groups on the Strathspey site [www.strathspey.org](http://www.strathspey.org) to find contact information.

[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](#)

[RSCDS Montreal Branch](#)

[RSCDS St. John's \(Newfoundland\) Branch](#)

[Teachers Association Canada](#) : for teachers of Scottish country dancing.

Strathspey [www.strathspey.org](http://www.strathspey.org) has a database where you can search for info about dances (including cribs and videos when available), music (some clips), people and more. Also, there is a link to the Strathspey e-mail list, in case you'd like to join an online mailing list about SCD.

SCD Dictionary [www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com](http://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com) has info about steps and formations. We don't really need that, we get it in our classes; however, sometimes a video may help, and SCD dictionary has videos for steps and formations. Also, there is info about dances, as on Strathspey.

## ***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.

November 9 – Toronto – Toronto Workshop

November 23 – Edmonton – St. Andrews Workshop

November 30 – Toronto – St. Andrew's Ball

December 8 – Vancouver – 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Gleneagles Ball

February 14, 2020 – Edmonton – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Caledonian Ceilidh, Workshop & Ball  
– Hawaii – Workshop in a warmer climate

February 15, 2020 – Toronto – 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Tartan Ball

July 26 – August 2, 2020 – Calgary – Teachers' Conference AGM and Summer School

We have received information for Summer School. Contact editor Doug for more.

December 4 – 6, 2020 – Portugal – Curia 2020

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

**Next L&A:** December

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 [Doug.Durnin@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Doug.Durnin@umanitoba.ca) Deadline for submissions: November 16. This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: [www.rscdswinnipeg.ca](http://www.rscdswinnipeg.ca)