

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

Volume 53, Number 3

December 2021

Important Dates

Dancing is starting has started!!!

November 11 – afternoon general class started at Churchill Park United Church 1:30 – 3:30pm

November 18 & 25 – afternoon general class at Churchill Park United Church

December 2, 9, & 16 – afternoon general class at Churchill Park United Church

A Word from the Chair of COM

Remembrance Day, 2021 will be remembered by our Branch as the day our long drought of no dancing ended. Through the cooperation of our teachers and our Committee of Management, and with the openness and welcome of Churchill Park United Church, the first Scottish Country dance class since March 2020 was held on Thursday afternoon, 11th November, in Winnipeg.

When the COM met to discuss the wonderful opportunity to dance on an afternoon in the Churchill Park Church Hall, we wondered which day of the week to choose. Thursday seemed a good choice and as it turned out our first Thursday class would be on the afternoon of Remembrance Day.

When we think of the history of Scottish Country Dancing, it seems to me that there are clearly links between the military tradition and our form of dancing. For instance, a favourite dance of our Branch is the *Reel of the 51st Division*, devised by British prisoners during the Second World War. How many

other wonderful dances have military connections, such as the *Reel of the Royal Scots*, or dances which were devised to commemorate a particular event or to honour a regiment.

In our own way, when we bring a dance like the *Reel of the 51st Division* to life on the dance floor, we are honouring the sacrifices made on our behalf by so many who served and continue to serve. In so doing, we are not glorifying war, but rather are remembering the peace which was achieved once the fighting was over. And so, with grateful hearts and profound appreciation, we say:

*“At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.”*

Don Johnson

Have you heard?

November Meeting of COM

St. Paul's is still cautiously considering opening their facility to renters. Some members of COM have been looking into alternative indoor venues for us to try.

Plans are in place to check out Churchill Park United Church as a venue for dancing. Thursday afternoons are currently available. The church is still waiting to hear from the previous Monday evening user of the hall to possibly let us use that time as well for dancing.

Registrations have been received, 38 so far.

The position of Assistant Social Secretary is open. If anyone knows of someone (or even themselves) who might like to step into the position, please encourage them to come forward. COM is not a scary group, and you could help organize our dance year.

Committee of Management 2021/22

Chair:	Don Johnson	204-885-9879
Vice-Chair:	Shirley Tinsley	204-256-3835
Secretary:	Sharyl Eaglesham	204-888-6662
Treasurer:	Sharron Bettess	204-256-2248
Social Secretary	Barbara Lambert	204-256-8738
Asst. Soc. Secretary:	vacant	
Publicity:	Joyce Cormack	204-224-2291
Membership:	Doug Durnin	204-253-4213
Library:	Joan Curle	204-254-6697
Light & Airy:	Doug Durnin	204-253-4213
Teacher's Rep:	Cheryl Durnin	204-253-4213
Webmaster:	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808

Let's Dance!!

We have some very good news to share!

Your COM has been working diligently to secure a space so we can resume dancing and we are happy to report that we have space in Churchill Park United Church at 525 Beresford Ave for dancing on Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30. There has been sufficient interest expressed and the class will go ahead. Dates booked are November 11, 18, & 25, and December 2, 9, & 16.

We are still awaiting plans and hall confirmation for an evening class.

If you plan to attend you will need to know the following:

1. You must wear a mask at all times in the building.
2. You must provide proof of vaccination.
3. You will need to wear soft soled shoes or your dancing shoes.
4. Bring your own water bottle.
5. If not feeling well please stay home.
6. Street parking is available.

We are still in negotiations with St. Paul's and awaiting news from their rentals committee as to when they might open their doors to us.



I'd Love to take you out
for coffee this week.



You spelled
wine wrong.

Membership ...

Thus far 38 registrations have been received. Thank you to all those dancers eager to get back on the dance floor. It was great to see the response for a Thursday afternoon class.

The registration form is posted on the branch website (<http://www.rscdswinnipeg.ca/>).

We are collecting only the registration fee of \$60 at this time. Class fees will be determined once dancing resumes.

From the Classes ...

Letters ...

Dear Mother Nature,
Having received my free sample of winter, I would like to cancel the remainder of my subscription.
Thank-you.

Thursday Afternoon

Thanks to Cheryl Durnin for initiating the contact, there was dancing in the park, Churchill Park United Church to be exact. Neither wind, rain nor snow could deter 16 members of our dance family from attending the inaugural class of the season. Doug Durnin greeted everyone as we entered the church and verified our vaccination cards. We proceeded to the gym complete with masks, dance shoes and water bottles.

Cheryl welcomed the class and shared details relative to the space and future availability for an evening class. We are hopeful that in the near future we will have more information from either Churchill Park or St. Paul's. We were delighted that Peter McClure agreed to teach and were cautioned to withhold our eagerness to "dance", this was strictly a walking class, an opportunity to refresh our minds and muscles.

**I haven't tried yoga.
But I have tried picking up my keys.
So I'm pretty sure I'd hate yoga.**

**Scottish Country Dancing looks fun.
I'll try that instead!**

Peter thoughtfully put together many basic figures and formations and with a good deal of enthusiasm we were off on the "right foot." It was great to see how easily we adapted to dancing while wearing our masks, hand sanitizing and keeping our social distancing.

All of us enjoyed the experience of being together again. We have booked the Churchill Park Hall, 1:30pm - 3:30pm each Thursday from Nov 18th - Dec 16th. November classes are free. Street parking available.

Fill in the riddle:

See you Th sday! What's missing? UR!

Shirley Tinsley

Thursday class - #2

Again there were sixteen dancers out, with a few unavailable but others filling the sets. Peter McClure guided us through figures and dances. We began walking the dances but later shifted to skip change of

step. WOW! Talk about being out dancing shape! We were all huffing & puffing, made worse by wearing our masks. The brains are getting back into shape for remembering figures too. We're looking forward to next week's class!

Upcoming dancing ...

The **2022 TAC Summer School** is scheduled for July 24 -31, 2022 at Mount Royal University in Calgary. A great line-up of teachers and musicians is organized.



Get ready ... get set ... and plan to join the fun at

2022 TAC Summer School
Mount Royal University, Calgary, Canada
July 24-31, 2022

Welcoming, supportive classes
For dancers of all levels
Basic | Intermediate | Advanced

Daily classes | evening social dances | formal ball and banquet |
evening after parties | ceilidh | silent auction

Teachers
Raphaëlle Orgeret (France)
Robert McOwen (USA)
Jeanne Moody (USA)
Barbara Johnston (Canada)

Musicians
Judi Nicolson, Fred Collins,
Ian Muir, Kathy Fraser Collins,
not pictured:
Terry Traub, Mary Ross

tac-rscds.org
Sponsored by Scottish Country Dance Teachers' Association (Canada)

The poster features a background image of a dance floor with silhouettes of dancers. There are two line-art illustrations of hats: a cowboy hat on the left and a Scottish kilt hat on the right. A small photograph of four people (two men and two women) is in the bottom right corner, with a Scottish flag behind them. The TAC and RSCDS logos are in the bottom left.

From the editor's desk ...

Let's All Dance!!

I am so excited to have some local dance news for the Winnipeg Branch. We have begun dancing in Winnipeg! We now have a general class on Thursday afternoon. And COM is still seeking a venue for an evening class.

The registration form is now available on the branch website.

Some Out of Town dance events are listed for those wishing to plan their travels.

Hope to dance with you soon!

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

If you choose not to find joy in the snow, you will find less joy in your life but still the same amount of snow.

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. 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.

Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and Pumps

www.avriel.com Shoe shop for dancers.

Clan Info and Scottish Shop

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 to find contact information.

Strathspey 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 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.

Fall, 2021 - dance classes hopefully resuming in various centers. Check local branch websites for specific details as restrictions permit dancing together in person.

February 18-22, 2022 – Hawaii Aloha Winter Weekend

April 2022 – Lethbridge Scottish Country Dancers 25th Weekend Workshop

June 10-12, 2022 – Beaver Dam, Wisconsin – Midwest Weekend Workshop

July 8-16, 2022 – Boston, Mass. – Pinewoods Scottish Sessions

July 17 – July 30, 2022 – Mount Royal Univ. Calgary – TAC Teacher Candidates Course

July 22-24, 2022 – Mount Royal Univ. Calgary – TAC Summer Teachers' Conference Weekend

July 24 – 31, 2022 – Mount Royal Univ. Calgary – TAC Summer School

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](#)

L&A Submissions

Next L&A: January 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 or to the editor at Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca Deadline for submissions: December 13. This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: www.rscdswinnipeg.ca