

# *Light and Airy*



**Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg**  
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Volume 53, Number 9

June/July 2022

## ***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

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

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

I am writing this message on June 3rd, a beautiful day. We have just finished watching the service from St. Paul's Cathedral celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of her majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We are indeed privileged to be part of such an historic event and toast our patron, The Queen.

Summertime, finally, and hoping the living will be easier. We have had many challenges during Covid, but our Branch can claim some positivity as we adapted to "our new normal". Establishing the Thursday afternoon class at Churchill Park United Church, supported by a core membership of 14-16

happily meeting for two hours to dance and more importantly, to reconnect and socialize. Our last class on May 19th was complete with a wee party of chocolate bars and juice boxes with Maureen Burnham ensuring that the event was captured for posterity with photographs taken of the group, complete with masks.

Another positive was our AGM on May 18th. How odd it was approving minutes from our last AGM May, 2019. Attendance (50% of our membership) was encouraging and it was good to see so many folks for the first time in a long time. Discussions focused on plans relative to the future of Branch class structure (including an evening class) and activities. The election of Lynn McClure, Vice-Chair and Ellen Graham (and Donald) as Assistant Social Secretary are welcome additions to the existing COM, Sharyl, Sharron, Doug, Barb, Joyce, Joan, Cheryl, and Sheila. We held our first meeting on June 1st and are well on our way in planning for the fall.

Winnipeg Branch will celebrate our 60th Anniversary in April 2023. Co-Chairs Jane Nattress and Gerri Stemler presented their report to the AGM regarding the Anniversary Committee plans thus far. Refreshments served at the end of the meeting.

The third positive is the fact that Winnipeg Branch was chosen to take part in the dance selection for the Society's Dance Book 2023. Good support was received for the first evening and we look forward to the next two sessions.

I would like to say thank you to the membership for your support over the last two years. Wishing you all a wonderful summer, safe travels, or enjoying another "staycation" in beautiful Manitoba. Stay well, and we look forward to seeing everyone back in September.

Shirley Tinsley

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

### **RSCDS Winnipeg Branch AGM – May 18**

#### Report

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Don Johnson @ 7:30 pm. There were 24 members present.

Committee reports were received and approved. There was a discussion regarding outdated music equipment and if no longer needed to look at possible removal. Light & Airy newsletters are currently mailed to 3 members who do not use internet access.

Special Committee reports were received from Workshop 2023, Scottish Heritage, nomination, and teacher selection committees.

Planning the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Branch and 50<sup>th</sup> Workshop Anniversaries is underway. Teachers are confirmed – Jim Stott from Scotland and Linda Henderson from California. Musicians are also booked – Mary Ross (Victoria, BC), Jeanette Polson (Vancouver Island), and Ron Krug (Winnipeg). There was a report by the vice-chair giving the latest information from St. Paul's Anglican Church on availability of the facility for dancing in the fall. After some discussion, a recommendation was made to COM that the Churchill Park United Church be booked for Thursday afternoons and Monday evenings starting in September.

The slate of officers for the Committee of Management was presented, no nominations were received from the floor, so the slate was approved.

Several possibilities were suggested by Publicity chair to raise RSCDS profile and hopefully reach out to new folks to join dancing.

### ***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 ...***

#### ***Trialing of dances***

On three Mondays in June our branch dancers had the opportunity to be together dancing to trial dance submissions for Book 53 that headquarters will be publishing in 2023.

It was great to be dancing together once again and was enjoyed by all who attended, usually 2-3 sets. Thanks to all of you for your evaluations and comments which I will forward to headquarters for their final decision. Maybe we will see one of the dances we enjoyed in the new book.

Cheryl Durnin

#### ***Thursday Afternoon***

The Thursday afternoon class at Churchill Park United Church has been a very successful venture. We averaged about 14 people each week. Peter McClure and Sharyl Eaglesham shared the teaching duties. The last two weeks were dedicated to re-visiting dances suggested as ones the class found particularly enjoyable. It is so wonderful to be dancing again. We look forward to continuing this afternoon class in September.



## **2023 Workshop**

The workshop committee is looking forward to planning this celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Branch and 50<sup>th</sup> Workshop Anniversaries. A 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 ...***

Materials from TACBooks and TACSound can be ordered and shipped to TAC for pick up in Calgary at the end of July. You can browse their stock online to see what is new. Cheryl has offered to pick up the materials at TAC and bring them home with her, thereby saving shipping charges. Branch members get a discount when ordering through 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 our first social 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 also 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.

Good news! I have decided to donate my copy of So You Want to Wear the Kilt ! It was given to me by Christine Wallace. The branch copy disappeared as did the copy owned by the cultural room of the Scottish Pavilion so it must be a popular title.

Beside the library table, the Nearly New table will showcase a lovely selection of Scottish brooches donated from Berna Cleghorn's family at the first social. 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.

Have a wonderful summer.

Joan Curle  
Librarian

## ***FOLKLORAMA***

### **Volunteers Needed !!!**

After 2 years of being under lockdown, there will be a Scottish Pavilion at Folklorama this year from July 31 to August 6, at the Caboto Centre on Wilkes Avenue, and our Branch will be hosting a display table.

Our membership has declined and Folklorama is an important venue for attracting new members. We need the support of our members to help us staff this display table and to share information about our wonderful activity with the public.

If you are able to help, please contact Joyce Cormack at [rljrcormack@gmail.com](mailto:rljrcormack@gmail.com) or phone 204-224-2291 indicating which day(s) are best for you, and a schedule will be developed.

Joyce Cormack

## *Grace Notes* — Heather Ferguson

We say goodbye to Heather Ferguson, a long time dedicated member of our branch who passed away in May.

Heather was very active supporting the Winnipeg RSCDS branch and the Scottish community in Winnipeg. She had been the branch social rep, workshop registrar, and member of the branch demonstration team under Christine Wallace.

As the long-time co-ordinator of the cultural display room at the Scottish pavilion Heather worked long hours to make sure there were many interesting displays and activities. While a member of the Scottish Heritage Council, Heather applied to have Winnipeg embroiderers of varying skill levels take part in embroidering squares for the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry designed to show communities' connections to Scotland from the perspective of explorers and emigrants. Heather later arranged to have the finished 305 squares from 34 countries brought into Winnipeg in 2016 for display in the front foyer of the Manitoba Legislative building on their tour of North America. Heather also arranged for branch members to take part in The Big Bike fundraiser for Heart and Stroke which required thirty riders and on several occasions organized the Great Canadian Kilt Skate.

She was the proud mother of a highland dancer and had accompanied her daughter several times to the world highland dancing championships in Dunoon. She was always ready to offer her Scotch eggs or other baking for a social or an event.

Comments from branch members included dedicated and hard working and she was a truly nice person with a wicked sense of humor.

Heather, you will be missed.

Joan Curle

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

Last issue I commented on our being deluged with rain from a Colorado low pressure system. We now have our umbrellas raised for the 6<sup>th</sup> low to come through in 7 weeks. Stop the rain already! Last weekend, more heavy rain and again today – this time with some hail.

<p><i>We did not change as we grew older; we just became more clearly ourselves. Lynn Hall</i></p>
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It is wonderful to have dancing news to include in the Light & Airy. Our Thursday afternoon classes have ended for now. We held our first AGM in three years with a great number of members out to participate. We have trialed some dances from HQ Scotland being considered for the next book to be published. And we have dance classes arranged to begin in the fall!

Stay safe, and stay healthy!

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.

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

**Going to be in Toronto?** – check their newsletter Set & Link for possible dance evenings.

**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**

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

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:** August/September 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: July 15. This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: [www.rscdswinnipeg.ca](http://www.rscdswinnipeg.ca)