

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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A Word from the Chair....

We are now into February and I hope everyone is having good experiences in your classes. I must take this opportunity to thank the Robert Burns committee for the successful Burns evening we had at 17Wing on January 21. These major outings add colour to the dancing year and certainly give everyone a chance to connect regardless what class they are in. Peter's dance program provided the opportunity for guests and dancers to have a full and active evening. Now we can look forward to the class Social in February (which will be mentioned elsewhere in the L&A). Our teachers really do work hard to provide interesting and challenging dances for us in our classes and I just want to thank them for what they do on behalf of us all. Anyway, here's hoping that everyone continues to enjoy their dancing through the deep of winter.

Scott MacRae

2015/16 Dance Season

Week of 9 January 2017	Winter begin
23 February Thursday	Extra General Class
27 February Monday	Branch social
23 March Thursday	Extra General Class
29 March Wednesday	Branch social
Week of 10 April	Last Winter term classes
21-23 April, Friday – Sunday	Weekend Workshop at 17 Wing
27 April Thursday	Extra General Class
24 May Wednesday	Branch AGM Time TBA

Events are at St Paul's Hall except as noted. Events will be added to the Calendar as they are scheduled.

Class Notes

Tuesday Tech Class

January 10

We are introduced to "Blythe and Cheery" a 32 bar jig. This dance contains a 'corner chain' formation. Then we were instructed in a strathspey "Celebration Strathspey". Then we worked through a Holly Boyd reel "Reel Men wear Plaid". Cheryl gives us each a chocolate soup gift at the end of the night.

January 17

About 16 people. We are introduced to Glayva, it has the Espagnole formation that's fun. Glayva is a liqueur now made in Glasgow. Then we attempt a 32 bar strathspey named: "Slitheren House" with a very unique snake-like pattern that was fun to do. This dance must have been inspired by the Harry Potter series by J K Rowling. We finished off with "Castle in the "Air" a 32 bar reel.

January 21. Burns Night

This was a traditional evening with dancing following a maybe too-generous supper. The Officers Mess at 17 Wing is good for this activity. Kirby MacRae piped in the Haggis and Frederick Carsted gave the address in period costume!. Our own Don Johnson gave the Immortal Memory, an excellent summary of the life and importance of Robert Burns.

The dances were much the same as in 2016 and I for one, was a little more at ease, having stumbled through them in the past. "The Deuks dang Ower My Daddie" was for me the most ambitious but my partner aided me at the right times.

John Hayles

Branch News

Extra Classes

Based on the response in the first term, COM has voted to continue the Extra General Classes on Thursdays through second term – see dates on the Branch calendar above. As before, the classes will be from 8 – 10 PM at St Paul’s, and there will be no charge.

Kilt Skate

Note that the kilt skate, originally set for 28 January, has been rescheduled due to the mild weather in January, and its effect on the ice surfaces at The Forks. Weather permitting, it will now take place on 19 February, at the Duck Pond in Assiniboine Park, skating to start at 2 PM.

Branch Social Dance

Joyce Cormack and the Fort Garry Social Class will welcome members to the next Branch social dance:

Monday 27 February, 8 PM, St Paul’s Hall

Programme

Good Hearted Glasgow	32J3	Leaflet/Collins
Miss Gibson’s Strathspey	32S3	RSCDS Leaflet
The Whistling Wind	32R3	Bk 36
The Hollin Buss	32J2	Bk 24
The Braes of Breadalbane	32S3	Bk 21
The Montgomeries’ Rant	32R3	Bk10

Interval

The Captain’s House	32R3	Graded Bk 3
Cherrybank Gardens	32S3	3 cpl set Bankhead 1
Joie de Vivre	32J3	Bk 39
The Highland Rambler	40R3	Leeds Silver Jubilee

Canada’s Sesquicentennial

There was more discussion of this at the February COM meeting. The idea of a Canada themed programme for the March social dance seems to be surviving, but your editor thought he detected some wavering on the issue of cake. If you want cake, you should lobby your COM members!

The Trevenen Williams Founders Dance Evening and Ceilidh

February 25, 2017

St. Mark's Lutheran Church 600 Cambridge St.

Both John Trevenen and David Williams were actively involved in the Winnipeg Branch of RSCDS and Village Green English Dancers. **Village Green is hosting a dance evening and ceilidh in their honour and invite you to attend.** There will be English and Scottish country dancing.

Doors open at 7:00 Dancing 7:30 Refreshments will be served

The Fine Companions will be playing.

Cost: \$ 10.00

There will be a silver collection. These funds will be added to the Village Green scholarship fund.

If you are interested in participating in the ceilidh please contact Sue Stanton at 204 284-9659 or roddyth@mymts.net

Looking forward to seeing you there!

CD Launch

Speaking of ECD, Elizabeth Goossen, who is an RSCDS qualified SCD teacher, now spends her creative energy in English Country Dancing and music. She writes both dances and music, and a recording of music for fifteen of her tunes has been made by a prominent ECD band, The Flying Romanos. Great for both listening and EC dancing. The CD, titled Daisies in the Wind, vol 7, Dancing With Friends, will launch on 29 April 2017 at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 603 Wellington Crescent. Tickets are \$15, and will be available at McNally Robinson Booksellers, Grant Park.

Workshop News

Planning is now well under way for the Branch Workshop and Ball, taking place 21 – 23 April at 17 Wing. The brochure and registration form are now available on the Branch web site; why not give the Committee a thrill, by registering early.

One increasingly popular feature of the weekend is the **Friday Evening Ceilidh**, which is held in the bar in the lower level of the Officers' Mess at the base. Now is the time to plan and prepare your Ceilidh item. Help us make this evening another success with your gift of song, skit, poem or dance in the company of friends. Have something you'd like to share? Just include your entry on the application form. As well feel free to call **Ray Plaitin at 204-661-1257** with your questions or needs. Some sound equipment and a keyboard are available if required.

Name Tags

Branch members should have name tags, with their name and Branch affiliation. New members receive these tags **at no further charge** after their first membership is paid. A returning member who has misplaced their tag can get a replacement by contacting the Registrar, Sharon Plaitin. The charge for replacements is \$8.

It is a courtesy to wear your name tag in any situation where not everyone may know you, e.g., when attending an "extra class" or a social.

TAC Summer School

The time is coming to think about attending the TAC Summer School. Registration begins Feb. 15th. It's a wonderful week of dancing, dancing and more dancing! Come out and meet dancers from all over the world, learn from great teachers and dance to live music in every class and every evening! Information can be found at <https://www.tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school/summer-school-2017>. Who would not want to spend a week on this beautiful campus??

Summer School offerings include an opportunity to try for the Dancing Achievement Award, which was described in a previous issue of this newsletter. For more information and to read the requirements and expectations check the RSCDS website: www.rscds.org/article/dancing-achievement-award-daa

The Branch on Facebook

Did you know that the Branch has a Facebook page? If you're on Facebook yourself, why not visit us at RSCDS Winnipeg, and "like" us.

Here and There...

Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and Pumps

www.avriel.com

Your one stop shoe shop for all your dancing needs.

Clan Info and Scottish Shop

www.scotclans.com

SCD Online

In case you didn't know about these sites:

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.

Inter-city Scot www.intercityscot.org for travellers; lists of classes and events in places that you might be visiting in North America. For other parts of the world, use the link to SCD groups on the Strathspey site to find contact information.

There may be other useful sites that I don't know about. Let me know!

Peter

Out of Town Events

10-12 February 2017

Edmonton, AB

Annual Workshop and Ball

www.rscdsedmonton.com for details and forms

17-19 February 2016
Honolulu, Hawaii
Aloha Winter Weekend
Details at www.rscdshawaii.org

25 March 2017
Regina, SK
Saskatchewan SC Dancers Spring Workshop & Ball
Details at www.rscdssask.org

25 March 2017
Victoria, BC
VanIsle Workshop & Ball
Details & forms at www.viscds.ca

7-9 April 2017
Lethbridge, AB
Dance and Music Workshops and Ball
Details at www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org

19-21 May 2017
Berkshire Hills, Copake, NY, USA
New Pawling Weekend
Details & forms at www.rscdsnewyork.org

6-8 October 2017
Dartmouth, NS
NS Branch 35th Anniversary Workshop and Ball
Details at www.rscdsnovascotia.ca/35th-Anniversary.htm
Note that this is the beginning of Celtic Colours week in Cape Breton.

Late 2017
Dancing tour of New Zealand
Visit www.toursbychris.com for contact info.

Important Dates

COM meetings: Next meeting 8 March 2017.

Next L&A: Deadline for the next issue 10 March 2017.

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members. Please send submissions for the *Light and Airy* to Peter McClure john.mcclure@umr.umanitoba.ca. This and several past issues of the *Light and Airy* are posted on the Branch website www.rscdswinnipeg.ca