

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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Important Dates

Fall Term 2018

Thursday, September 6, 2018 – Open House 8 to 10 pm

Week of September 10 – First Term Classes begin

Monday, November 19 – St. Andrew's Social

Week of December 14 – First Term Classes end

Thursday, December 27, 2018 – The Third Day of Christmas

Winter/Spring Term 2019

Week of January 7, 2019 – Second Term Classes begin

Saturday, January 26 – Burns Dinner

Tuesday, March 5 – March Social - hosted by the Tuesday Class

Thursday, April 4 – Spring Social - Hosted by the Thursday Class

Week of April 16 – Second Term Classes end

Friday to Sunday, April 26 - 28, 2019 – Spring Dance Workshop

Tuesdays, May 7, 14, 21 – Spring Dancing 2019

A Word from the Chair of COM

June 2018 has come and almost gone! I hope everyone is having a great summer so far. Please be healthy, happy and re-energized for our coming dance year!

Our first meeting of the COM was held on June 6, 2018. We welcomed our new members to our team and everyone had a chance to make a comment about their respective positions. Many of the new members had already met or spoken with their predecessors and were well versed in what was in-store for them. Our first business was to provisionally approve the minutes of the AGM, and then on to business arising and new business related to our coming dance year.

Several highlights for your information are listed below.

- **Dates** - You will see in this issue of the Light and Airy the dates that were approved for the beginning and end of first and second terms, as well as the dates for socials.
- **Open House** - The date for the Open House is Thursday, September 6, 2018 at St. Paul's, from 8-10. Registration will also start that evening. Please bring friends and family with an interest in dancing with you that evening.

- **Spring Workshop** - Around the time of our AGM, it came to our attention that 17 Wing would no longer be catering outside groups, until further notice. After several conversations with 17 Wing, we have tentatively booked the weekend of April 26-28, 2019, for our Spring Workshop. This is in the hope that they will change their policy by then. However, because this is very precarious, we have started to look at other venues for this event, as well as for the Burns Social.
- **Burns Social** - This has been “penciled in” at the Masonic Memorial Centre on Osborne Street for January 26th.
- **Masonic Memorial Centre** - Lynn McClure and Shirley Tinsley, as Co-Convenors for the Spring Workshop, Peter McClure as Teacher Representative, and myself, as Chair of COM, met with the caterer at the Masonic Memorial Centre to view the space available, rental fees and catering options on June 12, 2018. Keep watching for more information related to this venue.
- **Publicity** – Our enthusiastic publicity rep, Joyce spoke about many possibilities for increasing public awareness of Scottish Country Dancing. Watch for notices from Joyce regarding volunteer opportunities coming soon, ie. Folklorama.

Our next COM meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 7PM at St. Paul’s.

Jane Natrass, Chair COM

Branch Publicity

Our dancing season has ended and in anticipation of the coming dance season in September the major focus over the next few months is "how do we get information about our activity out to the public" and how do they find out about us and the best kept secret in town - Scottish Country Dancing?

The **purpose of publicity** is to increase awareness but most importantly is to increase membership. The future of our branch depends upon its continuing to grow.

The most recent edition of the Scottish Country Dance Magazine had 2 pages (20 and 21) devoted to the topic of Recruiting Successes. The article by Quinton Currall "Small Town Success" describes how he and his wife had danced in Auckland and then moved to the small town of Lawrence where there was no dancing. He and his wife were "brazenly evangelical" about Scottish country dancing, happy to talk about it with anyone and ask them to come and try it. They were successful in getting enough people interested and now have a group dancing.

Something for us to try with the people that we encounter in our daily lives.

If each one of you brought a friend/acquaintance to the **Open House Thursday Sept 6** imagine how many people we would have in our hall. Our most recent basic class had 16 registrants and 15 of the 16 joined as a result of contact with one of our members. Word of mouth can definitely work.

The traditional methods of publicity are **posters, flyers and announcement in the Billboard section of the Free Press.** The posters go up in libraries and any other public place that dancers can think of. A couple of our dancers have suggested getting posters up at the universities.

We will be continuing with these options and are also thinking about **new business cards.** Any of you out there who are creative and/or artistic are invited to submit ideas or designs for new cards.

We will again have a presence at the **Scottish Pavilion at Folklorama Aug 5th to 11th.** We are planning to set up a display/table and will be asking dancers to volunteer to supervise the table. Apparently the table does not have to have someone there the whole time but it would be great if we could have people there for the early part of the evening. More on this later but something to think about.

A suggestion has been made to **dance in the parks** - and we are thinking of Sunday afternoons - Assiniboine, St. Vital, Kildonan, and/or The Forks have been mentioned. How about 2 to 4 PM? We could do 2 in July e.g. 8 and 15, and 2 more in August e.g. 19 and 26. *Let us know if you would be interested in taking part.*

Another idea was to dance at Kildonan Park when Rainbow Stage is on. This summer's shows are Breaking up is Hard to Do, and Beauty and the Beast.

We are looking for support from our members and also welcome any additional ideas you may have that will help meet these goals to increase our membership.

I await feedback and I look forward to hearing from you.

Joyce Cormack
204-224-2291
rljcormack@gmail.com

A Message from Headquarters in Scotland



In 2019, Headquarters has decided to publish a second book of popular dances. They have asked that each Branch request suggestions of popular dances from their members. They have listed the Jigs, Reels and Strathspeys that were chosen for the first book, so that new dances will be chosen. The following is the letter we received. We are asking you to let us know what **your** favourite dance is.

Please send your reply to Cheryl Durnin at durninch@gmail.com Cheryl will collate the information received from the membership and will send our top 10 to Headquarters by the first week in September.

Thank you for your participation.

Jane Natrass, Chair COM.

Dear Branch Secretary

In recent months we have been reviewing the Society's publications and decided that for 2019 there will be no book of 'new dances' published by the Society. Instead we propose that the next 'new' book will be a collection of 30 popular dances. This book will complement the original "30 Popular Scottish Country Dances" published in the late 1990s and listed below.

With this in mind we would appreciate your branch's help and guidance as to what is popular!

We would like suggestions of up to 10 dances to include a mixture of Jigs, Reels and Strathspeys that are popular in your branch for consideration to be included in the book.

The dances in the original book were all traditional dances taken from RSCDS publications covering the period up to Book 27. In contrast we aim for the contents of the new book to

include a mix of traditional and non-traditional dances. We do not wish to restrict the list to dances previously published by the Society so will welcome popular dances from other sources. We will, however, have to bear in mind at the final selection phase the issue of copyright as ultimately it may not be possible to include some dances that are obviously popular but present copyright issues.

As you will appreciate we anticipate getting far more dances than we will have room for but hopefully the submitted dances will provide us with a good indication of what is popular!

We await your selections with interest - please send to 30popular@rscds.org by Friday 7th September - and remember that the emphasis is on popular!

Membership Services Committee

Dances included in the original 30 Popular Scottish Country Dances published in the late 1990's.

REELS

Corn Rigs
De'il Among the Tailors, The
Duke of Perth, The
Flowers of Edinburgh, The
Maxwell's Rant
Mrs Macleod
Montgomeries' Rant, The
Petronella
Reel of the 51st Division, The
Round Reel of Eight
Scotch Circle, The

JIGS

Duke of Atholl's Reel, The
Frisky, The
Hamilton House
Ladies' Fancy
Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel
Lamb Skinner
Linton Ploughman, The
Machine without Horse, The
St Andrew's Fair
Scottish Reform
Wild Geese, The

STRATHSPEYS

Birks of Invermay, The
Braes of Breadalbane, The
Dalkeith's Strathspey
Lady Auckland's Reel
Monymusk
Rakes of Glasgow
Seann Truibhas Willichan
Sugar Candie

Please note to send your favourite dances to Cheryl Durnin at durninch@gmail.com . She will compile the Winnipeg list to submit to Scotland.

GOOD LUCK SHEILA in your Level 5 exam!!

Summer School 2018

The deadline is past to register for Summer School and get the early registration discount. Perhaps you can still register if you have decided to attend.

Don't walk - DANCE to your computer to sign up and join lots of other dancers for a great week of dancing. You'll meet people from all over the world and make new friends that you can go back and see next year. You will be dancing in a large room with a bunch of sets and there is nothing like it. Also the live music at every class is great but the full band at the social evenings and at the Ball is wonderful to dance to. You will have 4 different teachers and therefore 4 different teaching styles and a pocket full of new dances to bring home to your teacher to try in class.

***TAC Summer School is open to ALL Scottish Country Dancers
from basic to advanced and from beginner to experienced.***

**TAC Summer School 2018
will be held at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minnesota, USA
29 July - 5 August 2018**

Teaching staff:

Antoine Rousseau from Paris, France, Ellie Briscoe from Alexandria, VA, Jody Kulas (Poapst) from Kars, Ontario, and Alan Twigg from Mountain View CA

Musical staff:

Barbara McOwen (Music Director) joined by *Tullochgorum and Friends*: Anne Hooper, Robert McOwen, Terry Traub, Campbell Webster, Laird Brown, and Don Wood

Go to <https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school> to register. Sharron Bettis and Joyce Cormack are going so perhaps you can carpool. Please contact one of them to get the details of travel times.

I hope to see a number of Winnipeg faces on the dance floor!

Sheila Careless

From the editor's desk

Hi! I am the new editor of the Light & Airy, taking the reins from John Hayles. Many thanks to John for his diligent efforts in keeping our members informed and entertained with the happenings in Winnipeg and elsewhere.

Although I have read the newsletter for many years it is an entirely different perspective when you have to put an issue together. I hope I can maintain the standard and with your contributions add to your reading pleasure.

A couple of new items might be appearing in future issues.

Maureen Burnham was presented with a Life Membership in the Winnipeg Branch in April to recognize her contributions over many years of dancing in Winnipeg. This event started Maureen thinking of some of her dancing experiences. She may put "finger to keyboard" and share a few of these from time to time.

Another possibility is a "For Sale" column for folks who might have articles of dance wear or other things they no longer wish to have about and care to sell apart from the Nearly New Shop we have at our dance socials.

I hope you enjoy the upcoming editions of the Light & Airy, and don't be shy to send in articles or suggestions.

Doug Durnin, editor

Doug.Durnin@umanitoba.ca

Class Notes

Class notes will resume with classes in the autumn.

However, in the meantime if you have any item or article you would like to have considered for inclusion in the Light & Airy newsletter send it along to the editor, Doug Durnin at 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. 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 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.

[RSCDS Winnipeg Branch](#)

[RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch](#)

[RSCDS Calgary Branch](#)

[RSCDS Edmonton Caledonian Branch](#)

[RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch](#)

[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 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.

September 28 – 30, 2018 - Saskatchewan RSCDS - 36th Workshop, Banquet and Ball,
Moose Jaw, SK. workshop@rscdssask.org

October 5 – 7, 2018 - RSCDS Calgary - Scots' Gathering in Canmore, AB
<http://www.calgaryscots.org/>

L&A Submissions

Next L&A: mid-August

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

Deadline for submissions: early August. This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are at:

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca