

The Tartan Times

Volume LXIII, Number 6
July/August 2015



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Boston Branch
c/o The Folk Arts Center of New England
10 Franklin Street, Stoneham, MA 02180-1862

WHO'S WHO IN THE BOSTON BRANCH

Executive Committee *President:* Jeremy Thorpe; *Vice President:* Betty Allen;
Secretary: Susan Haines; *Treasurer:* Bob Littlehale; *Members at Large:* Dale Birdsall, John Crabtree,
Kat Dutton, Alex Hall, Merrill Henderson, Linda McJannet

Teaching & Music Committee *Chair:* Gregor Trinkaus-Randall

Nominating Committee *Chair:* Joan Hill

Highland Ball 2015 *Co-Chairs:* Ed & Sara Pokrass • **Pinewoods Benefit Ball 2015** MaryEllen Scannell
Fall Concert 2015 *Artistic Director:* Robert McOwen; *Producer:* John Crabtree

Pinewoods Scottish 2015 *Co-Chairs:* Beth Birdsall & Linda McJannet

Pinewoods ESC 2015 *Contact:* Stephen Thomforde • **NH Highlands** *Contact:* Roberta Lasnik

Demonstration Team *Teacher:* Andy Taylor-Blenis; *Administrator:* Karen Sollins

Bookstore Dawn & Mike Little • **Equipment** Peter Tandy • **Archives** Susan Haines

Membership MaryEllen & John Scannell • **Mailing List & Database** Peter Tandy

Directory John Scannell • **Keeper of the Class Listing** Barbara McOwen

TAC Representative Patti Tillotson

Webmasters Laura and Meyer Billmers • **Back-up Webmaster** Matt Billmers

The Boston Branch Website is www.rscdsboston.org

Exec Committee Class Liaisons: **Brookline, Cambridge:** Kat Dutton

Brunswick ME, Kennebunk ME, Belfast ME, Greenland NH: Merrill Henderson

Montpelier VT, Fairlee VT, Salem MA: Dale Birdsall • **Nashua NH:** Linda McJannet

Great Barrington MA, Northampton MA, Albany NY: Alex Hall

Stow, Chelmsford, Newton: Betty Allen

THE TARTAN TIMES is published by the Boston Branch for its members. A free copy is sent to every North American Branch and to nearby Affiliated groups. Annual subscriptions are available for \$10. Checks should be made payable to RSCDS Boston Branch (Canadians, please send a money order in U.S. Funds). Mail to Bob Littlehale, Boston Branch Subscriptions, 12 Wigglesworth St., Malden, MA 02148-7422.

The Tartan Times Editor, Evelyn Murray, may be reached at 617-864-8945, by email at athollbrose@verizon.net or by snail mail at 37 Blanchard Road, Cambridge, MA 02138-1010

Layout Editor Barbara McOwen; **Mailing Coordinators** Marcie Rowland & Cal Perham

IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE WEBMASTERS

Please proofread all information submitted for publication on the Branch website very carefully. The webmasters are happy to post event fliers and minicribs. However, it is considerably more work for us to have to do it more than once! If you have multiple documents to post, please try to submit them all at once, rather than piecemeal. Thank you in advance. — *Laura and Meyer Billmers*

Notes from the Executive Committee

No notes received for this issue.

RSCDS Boston Branch presents its
22th Annual Concert of Scottish Music and Dance

featuring

Fellswater



with

Elizabeth Murray, piano
Highland Dance Boston with Michelle Hurst
The Demonstration Team of the Boston Branch

3:00 PM and 7:30 PM Saturday, November 7, 2015

Museum of Our National Heritage

33 Marrett Road, Lexington, MA

Save the Date!

For more information or to volunteer*: concert@rscdsboston.org

*Half- or full-price ticket depending on job

Fellswater website: <http://www.fellswater.com>

*There is still time to sign up for **the***

New Hampshire Highlands weekend:

A Scottish Country Dance Weekend in the New Hampshire Woods

Dance Instruction by

Beth Birdsall • Lance Ramshaw • Cecily Selling

Music By

Terry Traub, piano • Catherine Miller, fiddle

Emerald Rae, fiddle • Howard Lasnik, snare

Dates: August 28-30, 2015

Location: St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center, Contoocook, NH

Cost: \$205 (dormitory) • \$370 (single rooms) • \$270 (semi-private rooms in the lodge)

For application form & information contact

Roberta Lasnik 781-643-3977 rlasnik@verizon.net

Loren Wright 603-891-2331 lonwright@concast.net

save these dates:

Dance Camp Mon-Fri July 27-31 for First Steps, Beginners & Intermediates

Highland, Cape Breton Stepdance, Scottish Ceilidh & Folk Dances, Music, Ballet, Choreography and Drama.

Teachers include Laura Scott, Lilly Pearlman, Neil Pearlman, Anna Massey, Chris Pitts, Ed Pearlman and Katie

McNally. Classes at Portland New Church, 302 Stevens Ave., Portland. Friday Concert at Portland Ballet Studio

Theater, 517 Forst Ave., Portland. Info: Laura Scott 207 750 2533 or laurascottdance@gmail.com

Maine Highland Games August 15th, 2015 at the Topsham Fairgrounds.

Competitions for solo piping, drumming, Highland dancing and athletics. SCD demonstration and general

dancing led by Patti Tillotson. Entertainment by Albannach and Charlie Zahm. General info - Bill McKeen, 207

446 8891 or bill@minutemansigns.com

NHHG Sept 19-20, 2015 Three days of piping, athletics and Highland dancing.

From Merrill Henderson the following Plea for volunteers.

New Hampshire Highland Games at Loon Mountain - The Brunswick and Kennebunk classes are sponsoring a booth at the New Hampshire Highland Games, September 18-20, 2015, to

promote the Boston Branch and Scottish Country Dancing. We are looking for volunteers to help staff the booth. If you are planning to attend the New Hampshire Games and would be

willing to help us out, please contact Merrill Henderson, crone4702@gmail.com, or Patti

Tillotson, pstillitson@gmail.com.

Brookline Class 40th Birthday party Sunday, October 4th, 2015

How time flies!! The Class is planning a celebration to commemorate 40 years of classes mostly at the Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline. More details later both on the web and next

Tartan Times. Contact Evelyn Murray at 617 864 8945 or athollbrose@verizon.net

The Brunswick Maine Class Fall Dance Dance Party – Saturday, October 17, 2015

Music by Catherine Miller and Terry Traub, in the Topsham Grange Hall, Topsham, ME. Potluck Supper at 5:45 pm followed by dancing at 7:00 pm. For further info contact Patti Tillotson, 207 833 2329 or pstillotson@gmail.com

Ed Rawson Class Awards for 2015

Cambridge Class

Molly Domino
47 Winslow Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144

bonnierankin07@gmail.com

Jessi Kittel
95 Summer St., #2
Watertown, MA 02472
jessik@umich.edu

Brunswick Class

Mary Brennan
56 Harpswell Neck Road
Harpswell, ME
207-729-7402
marykbrennan@comcast.net

Newton Class

YuFeeChin
949 Dedham Street
Newton, MA 02459
518-364-7496
aychin561@yahoo.com

Susan Chari
174 Winchester St.,
Newton, MA 02461
617-899-7516
sue.chari@gmail.com

Kennebunk Class

nominees)

Jeff and Sue Hopper

5

North Chelmsford Class

Bonnie Rankin
39 Washington Street
North Chelmsford, MA01863 774-258-1593
978-251-1596 mollydomino@gmail.com

John Salyards
57 Sherman Street
North Chelmsford, MA 01863
bug_n_buzz@netzero.net

Belfast Class

Mary and Jim Tolle
Jones Hill
Hope, ME 04847
207-763-4535
macooke01@yahoo.net

Albany

Bridget Schreiner
1524 Baker Avenue
Niskayuna, NY12309 617-969-7337
bschrein@wellesley.edu

No nominees this year from the following classes: Fairlee, Nashua, Northampton, Seacoast/Greenland,

Brookline, Salem, Montpelier, and Stow.

(All responded to request for

499 Union Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
603-502-2012
603-436-2027

tachemnstr@comcast.net

HAVE SHOES....WILL TRAVEL.....

The Ed Rawson Class Awards are given every year to newer dancers, who are recommended by their class teacher(s). The recipients receive a SCD book and CD.

The Charlotte Scottish Country Dance Society are holding A REEL SCOTTISH WEEKEND, October 30 – 31st, 2015.

The teachers are: John Wilkinson, Edinburgh (former RSCDS Chairman); Ruby Wilkinson, Edinburgh (RSCDS Director of Schools). Music by Marion Anderson's Scottish Dance Band with Max Ketchin & Bill Ewan. Location: British International School, 7000 Endhaven Lane, Charlotte, NC 28277. The Workshop Package includes Concert & dance Friday; Classes Saturday morning and afternoon; Dance on Saturday evening;

class, _____ Coffee prior to lunch; catered

Dinner; light buffet at the dance intermissions. Hotels:

Courtyard Marriot 704 846-4466 and Holiday Inn Express, must be booked by 12th Oct and mention RSCDS Scottish Dancing to obtain special rates. Registration and queries from Jack Presley at 704 814-9647 or JPres79334@aol.com

ESC WEEKEND - IS FILLING UP BUT THERE ARE STILL SPACES AVAILABLE!!!



ESCAPE fills the former ESS slot (**July 6-10**) in 2015, and is being redesigned from the ground up to offer an integrated program of English, Scottish, and Contra dancing. The teachers and musicians are chosen for their energy, enthusiasm, and facility with two or more of the ESC dance forms, and the classes are being tailored to explore the strengths, differences, and similarities of the three traditions.

2015 Teaching Staff: Brooke Friendly, Anna Rain, Jamie Berg

2015 Music Staff: Karen Axelrod, Nicholas Williams, Earl Gaddis, + others TBA

ESCape will be open to dancers age 13 and up (under 18 requires a parent or designated guardian at camp), with discounted admission for all dancers under 25.

Most important, it's going to be a blast. Come join the party, and ESCape to Pinewoods!!

Meghan Murray, Dan Blim, and Stephen Thomforde (ESC 2015 co-chairs).
ESCape is co-sponsored by CDS-Boston Centre and the RSCDS Boston Branch.

Contact Dan Blim 737-883-6460; Meghan Murray 781-775-9788 and Stephen Thomforde 267-229-1663 Registration is on the Branch web site www.rscdsboston.org

CALENDAR OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE EVENTS – local and far

July, 2015

- 6 - 10 *** English-Scottish-Contra Session, p 6
- 10 - 18 *** Scottish Sessions at Pinewoods, Session I 10-13 & Session II 13-18
- 20th *** Cambridge/Watertown Classes start following Pinewoods recess.
- 27-31 * Dance Camp organized by Laura Scott, Portland ME p 4

August

- 9 - 15 ** Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School p 10
- 11th ** Visitor's Day Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School p 10
- 15th *** Chelmsford Class Party, Rebecca Gore, 978-934-3271
- 15th * Maine Highland Games p 4
- 23rd * NH Strathspey & Reel Society annual Picnic p 10
- 28 - 30 *** NH Highlands weekend at Contocook, NH p 4

September

- 13th *** Brookline Class starts its 2015-2016 class season, Ch of Our Saviour, Brookline, MA
- 14th *** Cambridge/Watertown Class starts their 2015-2016 season Canadian/American Club
- 18 - 20 ** New Hampshire Highland Games, Lincoln NH p4

October

- 4th *** Brookline Class celebrates its 40th Birthday p 4
- 17th *** Brunswick, ME Fall Dance Party p 4
- 24th *** Fairlee VT Class Autumn Party
- 30-31 North Carolina, Charlotte SCD Society: A Reel Scottish Weekend p 6

November

- 6 - 8 Annual RSCDS AGM Weekend, Perth, Scotland
- 7th *** Annual Boston Branch Concert p 3
- 13th *** Stow Class Party, Marcia Rising 978-897-2466

Code Breaker *** an event sponsored by the Boston Branch, ** other SD events within the Branch area, and * of possible interest (perhaps a concert) within the Branch area.

Please support events; the class/branch/group members work hard to put together their event, musicians spend a lot of time preparing the music and rehearsing - and we are specially blessed in New England having so many fine musicians who are also willing to play for our events. Also the teachers spend anxious hours preparing

programs. They are well rewarded when they see a hall full of dancers all ready to put their best right (?) foot forward!

HIGHLAND GAMES IN THE LOCAL AREA

July 18th Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival, Look Park, Florence (Northampton) MS glasgowlands.org
 August 8th Central NY Scottish Games, Long Branch Park, Liverpool, NY
 August 15th Maine Highland Games, Topsham Fairgrounds, ME mainehighlandgames.org
 August 22nd Quechee Scottish Festival, Quechee Polo Field, Quechee, VT quecheescottishfestival.com
 Sept 5-6 Capital District Scottish Games Altamont, NY, scotgames.com
 Sept 18-20 New Hampshire Highland Games, Loon Mtn. Lincoln NH nhscot.org

CALENDAR FOR THE RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH 2015=16 {CLASS PARTIES, EVENTS, BALLS}

DATE			CONTACT
JULY			
6=10	ESCape (English, Scottish, Contra)	Pinewoods Camp Plymouth, MA	Meghaa Murray, meghanism@gmail.com
10-13	Scottish Session I	Pinewoods Camp., Plymouth, MA	Beth Birdsall 802-989-3147 and Linda McJannet 617-492-8180
13-18	Scottish Session II	Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth MA	Beth Birdsall 802-989-3147 and Linda McJannet 617-492-8180
AUGUST			
28-30	New Hampshire Highlands	St. Methodios Center Contoocook, NH	Loren Wright, lonwright@comcast.net
SEPTEMBER			
OCTOBER			
4	Brookline Class 40 th Party	Church of Our Saviour, Brookline, MA	Evelyn Murray, athollbrose@verizon.net
17	Brunswick Class Fall Dance Party	Topsham Grange Hall, Topsham, ME	Patti Tillotson, 207-833-2329, pstillotson@gmail.com
24	Fairlie Autumn Social	Town Hall, Fairlie, VT	Gary Apfel, 802-439-3459, garyapfel@gmail.com
NOVEMBER			
13	Stow Class Party	Old Town Hall, Stow, MA	t/b/d
DECEMBER			

SCOTTISH DANCE CLASS LOCATIONS

MASSACHUSETTS

- * **Brookline:** Sept-May, Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm, Parish House, Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline. Contact BrooklineClass@rscdsboston.org, Evelyn Murray, 617-864-8945; Heather Day, 617-244-6914
- Great Barrington:** Year-round, Wednesdays 7:15-9:15 pm, Berkshire Pulse, 410 Park St., Housatonic, 3rd floor. Contact Jean, 518-672-4243 or Ted, 413-698-2944
- * **Cambridge:** Year-round, most Mondays 7:45-10:15 pm, at the Canadian American Club (www.canadianamericanclub.com) 202 Arlington Street, Watertown. Beginners welcome! Contact Alex Bowers, CambridgeClass@rscdsboston.org
- * **Chelmsford:** First Fridays year-round, 7-9 pm at the Chelmsford Community Center at 31 Princeton St, North Chelmsford. Live music. Contact Rebecca Gore at rgore@gmail.com or 508-574-1533
- * **Newton:** Wednesday mornings 10:30 am - noon. Sept through mid-June at Newton Lower Falls Community Center, 545 Grove Street, Newton. July and Aug at VFW Post 440, 295 California St, Newton. Contact Heather Day, 617-244-6914, hdshoes14@gmail.com
- * **Northampton:** Sept-May, Thursdays 7:00-9:30 pm, Florence Civic Center, 90 Park St. (enter on Cosmian), Florence (nr. Northampton). Contact Karen Lavallee-Tente, 413-527-3407
- * **Salem (Wee Bluets):** Year-round, Thursdays 8 pm, beginners at 7:30, First Universalist Church, 211 Bridge St., Salem. Contact MaryEllen Scannell, WeeBluets@rscdsboston.org, 617-462-1925
- * **Stow:** Sept-June, 2nd and 4th Fridays. New: childrens class 7:00, adult beginners 7:30, social dancing 8:00-10:30. Old Stow Town Hall, 375 Great Road, Stow. Contact Marcia Rising, marcia.mdrising@verizon.net, 978-897-2466
- Yarmouth:** Thursdays 7:30 pm, Yarmouthport Congregational Church, 329 Main St (Rt. 6A), Yarmouthport. Contact Marla Menzies, 508-432-3711

MAINE

- * **Belfast:** Year-round, Mondays 7:30 pm, American Legion Hall, 143 High St., Belfast. Contact BelfastClass@rscdsboston.org; Kim Jacobs/Bob Klein, 207-722-3139; David Thompson, 207-469-3293
- * **Brunswick:** Sept-June, Thursdays 6:30 pm, Topsham Grange Hall, Pleasant St, Topsham. Contact Patti Tillotson, 207-833-2329, pstillotson@gmail.com
- * **Kennebunk:** Sept-June, Sundays, 5:30-7:30 pm; Community House, Temple St., Kennebunkport. Contact Merrill Henderson, 207-409-9050, crone4702@gmail.com
- Stonington:** Year-round, Wednesday 7:00 pm; Island Community Center, off School St., Stonington. Contacts Mike / Dawn Little, 207-348-9308; mjlittle2318@hotmail.com; sugarmaple111@hotmail.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- * **Greenland (Seacoast Dancers):** Oct-June, Tuesdays 7:15-9:15 pm. Beginner's class upon demand. Greenland Parish Hall, Post Road (Route 151), Greenland. Contact Laurie Stevens, 603-380-2144, SeacoastDancers@rscdsboston.org
- Lancaster:** Sept-June, Fridays 7:30 pm, Lancaster Town Hall, downtown Lancaster. Contact Bill Tobin, 802-751-7671
- * **Nashua:** August through June, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Main St., Nashua. Contact Loren Wright, nashuascd@comcast.net, 603-891-2331

VERMONT

- * **Fairlee:** Sept-June, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Fairlee Town Hall, 75 Town Common Rd. (just off Route 5, Main St.). Contact Gary Apfel, FairleeClass@rscdsboston.org, 802-439-3459
- Manchester Center:** Tuesdays 7-9 pm, First Congregational Church (on Route 7A, across from the Equinox Hotel). Contact Holly Sherman, 802-362-3471, hollyvalentine530@yahoo.com
- * **Montpelier:** Sept-May, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Union Elementary School, 1 Park Ave., Montpelier. Contact Martha Kent, mdkent@comcast.net, 802-879-7618

NEW YORK

- * **Albany:** Sundays, 6:45 pm, Newbitz House, 85 Mann Blvd, Clifton Park. Contact Lois New or Cecil Lubitz, 518-383-6580; loisanew@nycap.rr.com; clubitz@nycap.rr.com

* Indicates classes sponsored by the Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, www.rscdsboston.org.

Because of occasional weather and hall variabilities, etc, it's always advisable to get in touch in advance if you're not on a class contact list. To download this flier as a pdf, go to www.rscdsboston.org/FullFlyer.pdf. For updates, please email Classes@rscdsboston.org

5	Pinewoods Benefit Ball	t/b/d	t/b/d
JANUARY 2016			
FEBRUARY 2016			
6-8	Cardigan Weekend	Cardigan Lodge, NH	Lance Ramshaw, lance.ramshaw@gmail.com
MARCH 2016			
19	Scholarship Fund Dance	First Parish Church Weston, MA	Gregor Trinka-Randall, 978-897-3997, trink68@uwalumni.com
APRIL 2016			
MAY 2016			
14	Boston Highland Ball	t/b/d	t/b/d

MUSIC PAGE

Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School: August 9-15, 2015, at Thompson Island, Boston MA. Visitors day is Tuesday August 11, Contact the Folk Arts Center, www.scottishfiddleschool.org, 781-438-4387

SRSNH – two upcoming events: **Meeting June 28**, 1:00-5:00 pm at the Concord Community Music School. 23 Wall St., Concord, NH: Rounding Out the Year with The Music Committee. The annual meeting will be held during the tea break. The **Annual Picnic** is planned for **Sunday, August 23** 1:00-3:30 pm, gathering at the grounds of Rollins Park, 113 Broadway St., Concord (parking at 33 Bow St.). Bring a picnic lunch, something to share, a chair, your musical instrument, stand (optional), music and a smile. Rain date is the following Sunday. RSVP to Dorinda Priebe dcpriebe@comcast.net

Hanneke Cassel - There was a nice piece in the Portland (ME) *The Forecaster* on April 2nd featuring Hanneke, this year. She was scheduled to play at One Longfellow Sq., Portland, on the 8th to largely spotlight her latest CD. Scott Andrews, wrote “Hanneke fuses Scottish traditions with contemporary musical aesthetics.” He went on to say “Cassel is at the forefront of today’s Celtic music movement, known for very dynamic and thoughtful interpretations of old-time songs and newer pieces crafted in that tradition. A native Oregonian, Cassel graduated in 2000 from Boston’s Berklee College of Music and has been a fixture of The Hub’s vibrant acoustic music community ever since. She has won numerous honors for her instrumental prowess, including Berklee’s own award for top performer in the strings department. Plus she is three-time winner of the U.S. National Scottish Fiddling Championships, twice in the junior division and in 1997 in the open competition. After her Berklee days, Cassel has recorded nine albums, the most recent being ‘Dot the Dragon’s Eye.’ I have heard several cuts from this newest CD and am quite positively impressed by her technical virtuosity and artistic interpretation.”

Friends of Highland Music (formerly Friends of Balnain House) was established a number of years ago with the purpose of i) To advance the education of the general public concerning the music, literature, poetry, art and culture of the Highlands and Islands and other areas of Scotland; ii) To make either grants or donations to either individuals or organizations for educational purposes in furtherance of the first objective; iii) To accept membership of or affiliation with either organizations or companies whose objects are compatible with those of



the Society; iv) To promote interest and participation in the music, literature, poetry art, and culture not only of the Highlands and Islands but also of other areas of Scotland. For more information, contact the Secretary, Jim Leslie, The Old Manse, Avoch, IVP 8RW SCOTLAND tel: (01144)1381 620412 email jim.leslie1@tesco.net
I've been a member for a number of years, useful contact for musicians travelling in the Highlands. -- Editor.

DID YOU KNOW?

The RSCDS dance in book 4 number 2 — *The Merry Dancers* - is referring to the Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis?

The tune, *The Witches*, has been attributed to Joseph Lowe, brother to Robert and publisher of *Lowe's Collection of Reels, Strathspeys and Jigs* in 1844. But it actually dates from 1591, making it the oldest written Scottish reel. It was entered into the written transcript of the North Berwick Witch Trials, presided over by James VI of Scotland, involving an attempt on his fiancée's life. [info from SRSNH Granite Skyes]

The Saltire is another name for the Scottish National Flag— a diagonal cross of St. Andrew on a blue background.

Penny Weddings originally were where the neighbours each contributed a penny towards festivities, later they brought gifts in kind.

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

MORVEN NEIL TROOST

July 3, 1933 - June 10, 2015

Morven, a resident of Cape Porpoise, Maine, died following a brief illness. Born in London, to Scottish parents, she returned to Scotland with her family where she attended Dumfries Academy and the Scottish Library School. In 1955 she went on a one year visa to work in the Carnegie Library in Pittsburgh, PA where she met her husband Daan Troost. Among many interests and activities, she started her own business, Thistles & Things, a Scottish import shop, which she later sold to a friend. Her buying trips gave her reason to return to Scotland yearly. She took up Scottish Country Dancing in the late 70's and was secretary, organizer and often the teacher of the Kennebunk class for over 30 years. She has been Branch Bookstore Manager, served on the Teaching and Music Committee, Nominating Committee and the Hillsboro Highlands and New Hampshire Highlands Committees. A mentor, inspiration, and friend to many, she will be sorely missed.

[Thank you to Barbara McOwen for the photo; to Patti Tillotson and Merrill Henderson for the above tribute.]

The Church was full of family and friends on Wednesday, June 17th, for Morven's Memorial Service, with many Scottish Country Dancers from Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts coming to say goodbye. The service ended with the congregation singing the chorus for the soloist's rendition of *The Lord of the Dance*.

NEWS FROM THE PAST - The Tartan Times, June, 1981

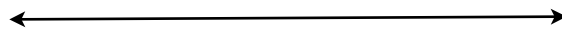
York Country Dancers - Annual Report, Morven N. Troost, Class Secretary

Scottish Country Dancing is thriving in Kennebunkport, Maine.

During the 1980-81 season class size has averaged close to 20 and the class has met at least three times each month since September. The group now has a tape recorder, paid for out of class dues, and also a record player on loan from the Branch. Our group has been well represented at parties, especially at Salem, our nearest neighbours so to speak, and 17 of us attended Burns Night in Cambridge.

One of our members, Joanne Whitney, took the teacher Candidate Class this winter and we are all delighted to hear she has passed her Preliminary Test. We enjoy all of our teachers, but it is a special pleasure to have one of our own. Joanne has also coached us for our outside performances when Iain Goddard has not been available. During this year we have responded to eight invitations, including the Thistle Club in Portland and North Berwick's Sesquicentennial celebration. During May, we made a return visit to a home for the elderly in Biddeford. One resident remarked that we looked younger than the group that had danced the previous year (it was the same group). So take note Ponce de Lyon: Scottish Country Dancing is the Fountain of Youth. *(as a result of this comment Evelyn wrote dance a for the group entitled Ponce de Lyon!)*

Results of the Candidates Classes



Boston Branch

After months of hard work the candidates were examined during the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd. The tutors were Gregor Trinkaus-Randall and Andy Taylor-Blenis for Level One and Susie Petrov for Level Two. Musicians for the classes and exams were organized by Jerome Fung and Barbara McOwen, Elizabeth Anderson and Jerome Fung.

Level One, Units 1 - 3

Katarina Dutton
Laura DeCesare
Constance Kent
Stephen Thomforde
Susie Brueckner Long

Level Two: Units 4 - 5

Andrea Aeschlimann
Cathy Fahey
Charles Liu

Level Two: Unit 4

Karen Sollins

Congratulations to all, and best wishes for their SCD teaching career.

Report made to the Boston Branch AGM - The Tartan Times

There have been major changes to both the production and to the distribution of the Tartan Times. The production changes are many, due to the efforts of Barbara McOwen, who has taken it under her wing and given generously of her time. This has involved several visits to the Apple Store to learn the "Pages" program, as well as learning some tricks to make the process simpler to manage. Now I put together the general layout, then Barbara takes over to tweak and correct as necessary. Please give Barbara her due for generously giving of her valuable time.

Distribution is now primarily by e-mail. Currently, the finished pdf file is sent directly to Kat Dutton who then sends it out via the Branch membership e-mail through Meyer Billmers. Before that, Beth Birdsall sent it out to the members.

Some copies are printed as not all members prefer electronic receipt and have requested paper copies. That is fine; members have the right to choose, but they do pay extra to cover the current cost of postage. The Tartan Times now averages a cost of \$64-\$67 per issue instead of the \$260-\$280 per issue for all hard copy distribution. Peter Tandy produces the necessary labels and Marcie Rowland and Cal Perham mail out the paper copies.

Under the new system, it is essential to report changes to your e-mail address. The editor also encourages members to send in items for publication, and notes that photographs are very welcome.

Respectfully submitted, Evelyn Murray, Editor

The following article first appeared in August, 2000 of The Rant, the Newsletter for the Hunter Valley Br., Australia. The Editor was Dr. Heinz Duewell.

THE DANCING OF REELS - "Cadgers Reels"

It is worth emphasizing that that the second reel is a right shoulder reel danced on one's own side. However, more usually we see it done wrongly with the man crossing over from the ladies side and entering the reel between second and third men. Is there any justification, other than bad habit, for dancing it that way? We think not. So let us see, how the books published by the RSCDS put it. Here is what it says in Book 9 (no. 10) for

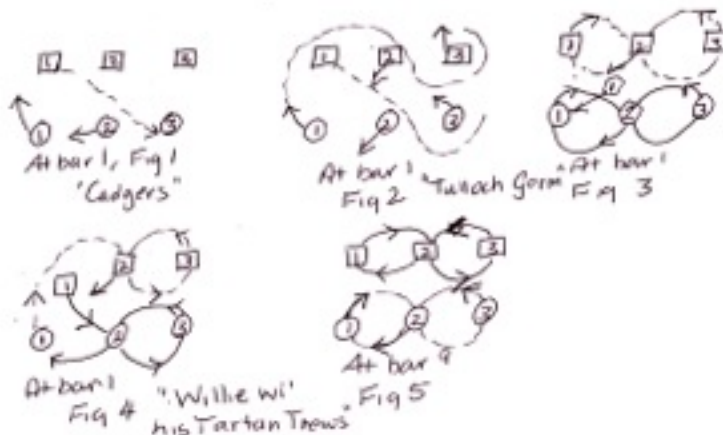
Cadgers in the Canongate:

"Bars
1 - 8
three
men,
the

9 - 16
reel
while
and

It is

13



First woman dances a reel of with the second and third while first man dances with

second and third women
First woman now dances a with second and third women, first man dances with second

third men."
expressed a little differently in Miss

Milligan's Miscellany:

- "1 - 8 First lady dances the reel of three with the second and third men while first man dances with the second and third ladies. They begin the reel by giving right shoulder to second couple and finish back in their own places.
- 9 - 16 They now dance a reel of three on their own sides of the dance beginning the reel by giving right shoulder to second couple."

One might add that the accompanying diagram shows quite definitely a right shoulder reel for bars 9 - 16. It is interesting to compare this with *Tulloch Gorm* in Book 8 (no.1). A strathspey containing the same reels. The wording for bars 1 - 16 is virtually the same as that for Cadgers.

- 1 - 8 First man dances a reel with second and third women, while first woman does the same with second and third men.
- 9 - 16 First man dances a reel with second and third men, while first woman does the same with second and third women.
- The diagram could not be more definite for showing the start of the first reel and is much better than the one for "Cadgers". As for the second reel, bars 9 - 16, it is worthwhile to see what Miss Milligan has to say in her guide "In Fig 3 the first man, in crossing over from the middle of the first reel, must get to his place, then turn round by the right to enter the second reel on his own side, with right shoulder."

In book 14 (no 1) we meet the 40 bar jig *Willie and his Tartan Trews*. It has the same double reels and instructions are even more explicit leaving little doubt as to how "Cadger Reels" should be danced.

- "1 - 8 First couple dance reels of three on opposite side - first man with second and third women and first woman with second and third men. First man passes behind his partner as they cross over to begin and in front of her as they cross back to own sides
- 9 - 16 First couple dance reels of three on their own sides - first man with second and third men and first woman with second and third women (Fig. 5)."

In honour of the D-Day invasion 71 years ago. Here is an article sent to me by Heather Day last year (2014) but I did not have room at the time. The article was published in the Economist. Bill Millin, piper at the D-Day landings, died on August 17th, 2014, aged 88.

Bill Millin

Any reasonable observer might have thought Bill Millin was unarmed as he jumped off the landing ramp at Sword Beach, in Normandy, on June 6th, 1944. Unlike his colleagues, the pale 21-year old held no rifle in his hands. Of course, in full Highland rig as he was, he had his trusty *skean dhu*, his little dirk, tucked in his right sock. But that was soon under three feet of water as he waded ashore, a weary soldier still smelling his own

vomit from a night in a close boat on a choppy sea, and whose kilt in the freezing water was floating prettily round him like a ballerina's skirt.

But Mr. Millin was not unarmed, far from it. He held his pipes, high over his head at first to keep them from the wet (for while whisky was said to be good for the bag, salt water wasn't), then cradled in his arms to play. And bagpipes, by long tradition, counted as instruments of war. An English judge had said so after the Scots' great defeat at Culloden in 1746; a piper was a fighter like the rest, and his music was his weapon. The whining skirl of the pipes had struck dread into the Germans on the Somme, who had called the kilted pipers "Ladies from Hell." And it raised the hearts and minds of the home side, so much so that when Mr. Millin played on June 5th, as the troops left for France past the Isle of Wight and he was standing on the bowsprit just about keeping his balance above the waves getting rougher, the wild cheers of the crowd drowned out the sound of his pipes even to himself.

His playing had been planned as part of the operation. On commando training near Fort William he had struck up a friendship with Lord Lovat, the officer in charge of the 1st Special Services Brigade. Not that they had much in common. Mr. Millin was short, with a broad cheeky face, the son of a Glasgow policeman; his sharpest childhood memory was being one of the "poor," sleeping on deck, on the family's return in 1925 from Canada to Scotland. Lovat was tall, lanky, outrageously handsome and romantic, with a castle towering above the river at Beaulieu, near Inverness. He had asked Mr. Millin to be his personal piper: not a feudal but a military arrangement. The War Office in London now forbade pipers to play in battle, but Mr. Millin and Lord Lovat, as Scots, plotted rebellion. In this "greatest invasion in history," Lovat wanted pipes to lead the way.

He was ordering now, as they waded up Sword Beach, in that drawly voice of his "Give us a tune, piper." Mr. Millin thought him a mad bastard. The man beside him, on the point of jumping off, had taken a bullet in the face and gone under. But there was Lovat strolling through the fire quite calmly in his aristocratic way, allegedly wearing a monogrammed white pullover under his jacket and carrying an ancient Winchester rifle, so if he was mad Mr. Millin thought he might as well be ridiculous too, and struck up "Hielan' Laddie." Lovat approved it with a thumbs-up, and asked for "The Road to the Isles." Mr. Millin inquired, half-joking, whether he should walk up and down in the traditional way of pipers. "Oh, yes. That would be lovely."

Three times therefore he walked up and down at the edge of the sea. He remembered the sand shaking under his feet from mortar fire and the dead bodies rolling in the surf, against his legs. For the rest of the day, whenever required, he played. He piped the advancing troops along the raised road by the Caen canal, seeing the flashes from the rifle of a sniper about 100 yards ahead, noticing only after a minute or so that everyone behind him had hit the deck in the dust. When Lovat had dispatched the sniper, he struck up again. He led the company down the main street of Benouville playing "Blue Bonnets over the Border," refusing to run when the commander of 6 Commando unit urged him to: pipers walked as they played.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Your current membership in the RSCDS Boston Branch ends on August 31st, To remain in close contact with Branch activities, be able to serve on any Branch committee, vote, receive the *Tartan Times*, and have access to the Members only email announcements you need to be a member. You are also supporting the activities of the Branch. So check on line at www.rscdsboston.org for the 2015-2016 Membership Flyer or contact the Chair,

THE WINDMILL BAR IN HILLTOWN, DUNDEE

First Glasgow, the ancient, all pomp and thanksgiving.
Then followed the new Cumbernauld;
From there across the glen to the ramparts of Stirling,
Then into the station at Perth we were hauled.

But the sight the most glorious in store for us to see
Was the friendly old Windwill in Hilltown, Dundee.
I recall very well the pub on the hill,
Which now I see was the old Windmill.

It wasn't the crowd coming out of the door
That caught my eye at a quarter past four,
'Twas the Ann Street windows attracted my stare;
I wondered if anyone could be living there.

Then seeing the smiles on your customers' faces,
I reckoned your pub was one of those places
Where the noise of good cheer drives off all dull cares
And makes it possible to live up those stairs.

There'll be many kindness that'll long be remembered'
From the days of the Queen's Jubilee,
But none of the functions no matter how ordered
Will quite match the verse from the Windmill, Dundee

The above poem was published in the Montreal Dancer, September, 1977, the editor at the time was Maurice Whitby. The story behind the poem as related by Maurice was that earlier that year the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh made a Jubilee tour of Scotland which included a visit to Dundee. The regulars at The Windmill Bar were inspired to compose a poem in honour of the occasion, which they handed to a royal official and then promptly forgot about. A short while later, a poem on royal stationery arrived from Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh - this is the poem printed above; Buckingham Palace confirmed that Prince Philip was indeed the author.

From: RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH
The Folk Arts Center
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

**COPY DUE DATE FOR THE SEPT/OCT 2015 ISSUE IS AUGUST 10TH.
PLEASE SEND MATERIAL FOR SUMMER AND FALL EVENTS TO THE EDITOR.
DATES OF FUTURE EVENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR
AND TO JEAN FARRINGTON FOR THE BRANCH CALENDAR
Note: Class Events flyers are limited to a half page: 8 1/2" wide by 5 1/2" deep**

RECIPE FOR SCOTCH PANCAKES (Drop Scones)

1/4 cup butter or margerine	1 cup sifted flour
1/2 cup sugar	2 teaspoon baking powder
1 egg	1/4 teaspoon baking soda
2/3 cup milk	

Cream butter and sugar together, add egg and beat well. Add the dry ingredients (which have been sifted together). Cover with a cloth and rest mixture for half an hour in a warm place. Lightly grease griddle of heavy frypan, drop batter by teaspoons onto hot griddle, leaving space for spreading. When bubbles just begin to appear, turn and brown on the other side. When cooked remove to sheet of greased paper to cool.

Serve cold with butter and jam (raspberry is particularly good!)

For double the quantity, double the amount of the ingredients. Best eaten on day of preparation.

[From the Montreal Dancer, April, 1976]