

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg
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Important Dates

Dancing in 2023

Monday, September 11 – Open House evening, 7:30 – 9:30 Churchill Park United Church

Monday, September 18 – evening classes start 7:30 – 9:30 at CPUC

Thursday, September 21 – afternoon classes start 1:30 – 3:30 at CPUC

Saturday, September 30 – Ceilidh Fundraiser for ALS Manitoba 7:30 at CPUC

Monday, October 9 – no class. Thanksgiving Holiday Monday.

Saturday, November 18 – St. Andrew's Social

Thursday, December 7 – last afternoon class of 2023

Monday, December 11 – last evening class of 2023

Note: all events are held at Churchill Park United Church (CPUC) 525 Beresford Ave. unless otherwise stated.

A Word from the Chair of COM

I am watching the wind whip up the trees and waves today (August 19) and, as always, I'm impressed by the power and drama of nature as the gusts are in the 50-60km range. While we in southern Manitoba have been lucky to be pretty much unaffected by the summer wildfires, many have not. Certainly hope that conditions improve soon to allow for those evacuated to safely return home, realizing that for many this summer has been a nightmare of anxiety and loss.

The Com met in early July to put plans in place for the autumn term which begins with the Open House on Monday evening Sept.11/23 7:30 pm at CPUC in the gym. The following week of September evening classes and afternoon classes begin; the first evening class is on Monday Sept. 18, 7:30 to 9:30pm, and the Thursday afternoon class begins on Sept. 21, 1:30 to 3:30pm. Both classes were well attended last year and we are hopeful that this new dance year will encourage new and former members to return.

Some of us had a summer taste of SCD recently at Folklorama's Scottish Pavilion Cultural Room where May and James Sutherland organized an informal and enthusiastic group of adults and children Sunday night in some very accessible dances and carried on every evening, both indoors and out. The dance group "the Lads and Lassies" were also on hand to do some dances and to help with new participants. There was a nice space just in front of the RSCDS display area and next to the "Manitoba Living History" area so it was a great way to combine interests. Many thanks to May for setting up the schedule of volunteers for the RSCDS display table, and to James for his computer work this summer in producing wallet sized advertising cards and bookmarks designed to advertise our new season and Open House. The other source of many compliments in the Cultural Room was the large size video display of Scottish Country dance and music which held the attention of many eyes and ears as people were passing by. We owe many thanks to James for putting this great video together.

As many of you may know, Glen Colquhoun (computer wizard!) has created two collages of photographs to celebrate the anniversaries of our Branch and Workshop this year, and a second one specific to our Anniversary Workshop. The first one was sent to RSCDS Headquarters in the spring. For the display area at The Scottish Pavilion, Glen was able to reformat the two collages so that we could have two posters printed with sharp and colourful images of our recent local events. Enough for now ... but hope to see you all on Monday Sept.11/23 and enjoy what remains of summer!

Lynn McClure
Next COM meeting – August 30

THANK YOU!

I was entirely surprised to be presented with a **special membership award** by Shirley Tinsley at the AGM in May. It takes a lot to render me speechless, but that did it.

Scottish Country dancing has been a part of our lives, thanks to Lynn getting us started, for more than forty years now. I think that SCD in general, and the Winnipeg Branch in particular, have given me far more over those years than I have given back, so to be honoured in this way is beyond anything I ever could have imagined.

Thank you.

Peter McClure

Sorry Peter. Apologies for missing this in previous issue.
Doug, editor L&A

Have you heard?

Upcoming

Open House and Registration

Monday September 11 at 7:30

Come out, enjoy a few dances and catch up with dance friends as the new dance season gets underway. Bring your printed form for registration or you can register by filling out the online form.

A Wee Note re Registration Fees

You will find the registration form for the 23/24 dance season included in the L&A or on the website.

Last year's combined fee of \$160 was for one season only, and reflected the Society's 100th anniversary and the Branch's 60th. It was also set lower to encourage new dancers and former members to return after the pandemic.

The total registration fee this year includes membership (local and with Scotland Headquarters for the RSCDS), and class fees for 26 weeks of twice weekly dancing, afternoon and evening classes over the dance season. Due to an increase in the Edinburgh Headquarter membership fee this year along with raised rental costs by CPUC last April, our fees this year will be increased to \$185 if paid in full (\$5 more if paid by term). Hall rentals and teacher honorariums largely contribute to the class fee, but there are some local administrative costs to cover as well.

Except for very special occasions like this past Anniversary Workshop, we have always tried to have a balanced budget and try to set registration and class fees to try to cover these costs.

I hope you will complete the registration shortly after you receive it and deliver or email it to the registrar Doug Durnin.

Look forward to seeing you at the Open House the evening of Sept 11, or in classes very soon.

Lynn McClure

ALS Fundraising Ceilidh

The ALS Fundraising Ceilidh event is fast approaching.

Saturday September 30 7:30 pm - 10:30pm

At Churchill Park United Church

Scottish dancing, entertainment, silent auction and light refreshments

An Evening for the whole family!

Bring your family and friends & help support a great cause while having a lovely evening

Summer Events

TAC Weekend and AGM

As the Winnipeg area teacher representative I recently attended the annual Teacher conference weekend in Halifax. It was a wonderful weekend made even more special by being in beautiful Halifax by the sea.

The weekend was taught by Ron Wallace from Santa Rosa with musician Ian Muir accompanying the classes on accordion. It was also a weekend of sharing ideas with fellow teachers from all over the continent and beyond, and much dancing of course.

I want to thank the branch and members for their continued support of this annual event.

Cheryl Durnin

Summer School in Halifax

Last Year the Grahams had an adventure coming home from summer school. THIS year they had another interesting experience.

A SHORT Report on the Expedition to TAC Summer School in Halifax

by Ellen Graham

We, the Intrepid Grahams, flew to Halifax to attend the TAC Summer School, and despite it being Air Canada, managed to get there on the right day and with all our luggage.

Halifax is a beautiful city, with history on every corner it seems and full of warm and friendly people.

We attended:

the Sunday night dance

The Monday morning classes taught by Ron Wallace and Sharon Barker

The Monday afternoon Music Discussion with Ron Wallace, (LOVED THIS)

And the Monday night dance.

Our accommodation at the Dalhousie dorm was comfortable and spacious, and after Donald tested positive for Covid Tuesday morning and our roomies were immediately relocated, it became a Very Spacious unit to spend our recommended 5 day isolation time in.

The TAC organizers were very prompt responding to us and very helpful. (esp. Vicky Z)

Our Home group of Winniehooligans were Outstanding with their offers of food, shopping, deliveries of meals and messages to show that we were missed. GOLD STARS !!

Social Life in the Covid Unit was pretty quiet- we had two mystery books and my knitting. No tv.



(Vicky came by one day and asked if I was going crazy from boredom, “Oh no,” says I, “I am writing a NOVEL.”

“Are you?” she gasps

“Oh yes, its my report for Doug, to be included in the Light and Airy.”)

We were very fortunate that there was a week–long soccer tournament being held at the soccer pitch outside our living room window, and we watched many hours of that. (Shirley T’s granddaughter Kate was playing on the Manitoba team.)

(Do not get a Red Flag- that is very bad.)

Donald was just back on his feet Saturday, in time for us to fly home Sunday.

We had a chance to say hello and goodbye to our dance friends, while waiting on the sidewalk for our cab.

“See you next year!” was on everyone’s lips.

(Well. I don’t know. In Calgary, we had to buy a new car. In Halifax, we got Covid. At Brock....what could be next??)

The Adventure Continues!!

We think that the other Wpg dancers should write “The Rest of the Story” and talk about the dancing, the classes, the Tea Dance, The Ball

Even though it looks like our dance time was cut short, we did have a wonderful time – seeing people we had met in Calgary, the fantastic live music, the beautiful outfits and the wonderful dancing.

Respectfully submitted, and as SHORT as possible,

Ellen Graham

approved by Donald Graham.

Report of a different experience for TAC Summer School

Our journey to Nova Scotia began with a week of vacationing before the TAC weekend and summer school at King’s College University.

Cheryl & I arrived in a light rain in the afternoon of July 21, collected our luggage and rental car, and proceeded on our drive into Halifax. We stopped on the outskirts of Lower Sackville for first lunch of seafood chowder and lobster roll. It was raining a bit heavier as we resumed our drive to our motel.

Then

Job 37:6

For to the snow God says, ‘Fall on the earth,’

And to the downpour and the rain, ‘Be strong’.

AND IT WAS SO!

Traffic slowed to 50 kph, hazard lights were turned on, wipers on full speed. It was like driving through a car wash!

We arrived to our motel and waited for an opportunity to exit the car and get into our room. It was a pleasant room with kitchen facilities and windows to the front parking lot and the lake out behind. It continued to rain.

Jeremiah 10:13

*When God's voice is uttered, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens,
God causes the clouds to ascend from the end of the earth;
God makes lightning for the rain,*

And lightning there was! WOW! Lots of it, low and loud. The parking lot in the front was flooded with rain and runoff from across the street and up the hill. The lake out our rear window rose. Higher and higher. Eventually coming up perhaps 15 inches! We lost power about 7:30 (to return late the next morning). Having stopped for a late and filling lunch we luckily didn't need to search for food.

Genesis 6

The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water.

Some boats perhaps, but definitely cars that drove into the large washes of water flowing across the roads.

We ventured out the next morning and found breakfast at a place with power. Friends picked us up and toured us about Halifax and the waterfront amidst showers. When the rain got too heavy we sent Andrew to retrieve the car while we stayed sheltered.

It certainly was a weather phenomenon never before experienced there. And we were part of it!

The next day we tried to go to Peggy's Cove but were stopped at Blind Bay where the road was washed out for 40 ft. (A further note: the news reported that a bridge had been installed to cross this washed out section of roadway.) We returned and spent the day at the Halifax waterfront and benefitting from free admission to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

Monday we drove north to Pictou where we stayed for three nights wandering the town, driving to Caribou Lighthouse, watched the PEI ferry sail around the point, dipping our feet in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, enjoying a Nfld band Rum Ragged, touring the Museum of Industry, eating at a friend's restaurant in New Glasgow.

We returned past Halifax to Lunenburg where we spent the night before enjoying the morning cruise on the Bluenose II.



Did I mention the seafood chowder and lobster rolls?

**I'm on two simultaneous diets.
I wasn't getting enough food on one.**

Next up? Drive into Halifax to register for the dance weekend and summer school.

Our weather was great once we were done with the rain of biblical proportions (thus the references). We had sunshine with warm to hot temps – just real nice summer weather. Until the day we left. Rain started overnight and continued until the time we took off for home. But it was only ½ biblical proportions this time!

Doug Durnin

As for the TAC weekend and summer school ...

Doug and I attended Summer School of SCD in Halifax for the first time. Well, I danced. Doug drove people around, shopped, dropped off meals, and toured during the day.

A highlight of the week, besides sore legs and much visiting, was the Tuesday Afternoon Tea Dance.

This event was a combined zoom link with St Andrew's Summer School. On this side of the Atlantic we danced to the music of Tartan Ties while watching the dancers on the other side of the pond dance to Luke Brady. The first half of the program was briefed by Fiona Miller (in Halifax) who briefed for both rooms and the second half was briefed by Sue Porter (in St. Andrews). At the end of the dancing William Williamson brought greetings from headquarters. It was a wonderful event to celebrate 100 years of RSCDS, 65 years of TAC and 50th TAC Summer school. It was great to watch the projected screen on the wall of the dancers and to see familiar faces. The few technical issues were all taken care of in trial runs so we enjoyed a wonderful afternoon. Perhaps this can be done again? I highly recommend any dancer who wants to appreciate dance instruction from various teachers around the world and have a great week making new dancing friends and reacquainting with others to plan on going to Brock University in St. Catherine's Ontario next year for a very good time.

Cheryl Durnin

Ps. It has been almost 50 years since I stayed in a residence with shared washroom and ate at a cafeteria. Doug



New res friends from Hamburg, Ger.

Folklorama - Pavilion of Scotland

Bright and early Sunday, August 13, 2023, Cheryl, Doug, Lynne, Sheila, May and James arrived by 9:00 am to claim space and set up for RSCDS. Utilizing the big screen TV at the Caboto Centre was certainly a bonus, continuously playing video of the Winkler show, the VIA Rail performance and the church dances which attracted people to talk to us about our dancing and the Open House on September 11, 2023.



The whole week August 13 to 19 was very busy: sold out shows, and we led 1 - 5 indoor participation dances a night!

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the Lads and Lasses came and outside we danced 2 demonstration dances followed by 3 - 4 participation dances two to three times each night! The participation dances were really popular with 50 or more people joining in each time! Inside and outside, we handed out lots of bookmarks and cards to promote RSCDS and the Open House.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time to make the RSCDS display a success!

May Kong Sutherland

Committee of Management 2023/24

Chair:	Lynn McClure	204-489-7712
Vice-Chair:	Pat Clubb	204-774-2796
Secretary:	Sharyl Eaglesham	204-888-6662
Treasurer:	Sharron Bettess	204-256-2248
Social Secretary	Barbara Lambert	204-256-8738
Asst. Soc. Secretary:	Ellen Graham	1-204-744-2857
Publicity:	May Kong Sutherland	204-995-2388
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

From the editor's desk ...

The summer lull has passed and fall activities such as SCD are getting underway. Since returning home from Halifax, Cheryl has made blueberry jam, crabapple jelly, and baking for the ALS ceilidh. This L&A issue is a bit longer than the past few as I had so much I wanted to include from local dancing (Folklorama and registration), Summer School (various perspectives) and the ALS fundraising Ceilidh.

There are just too many pictures to share! I could have taken a picture of an empty luggage carousel as one of our dancers arrived Sunday at Summer School, but his luggage came via a different airport and arrived later Wednesday.

Hope to see you soon at the Open House on Sept. 11!

Doug Durnin, Editor
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.

Here are the flyers on the table at the door of our cafeteria at King's College displaying various upcoming dance events:



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: October 2023 Deadline for submissions: September 23.
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
This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: www.rscdswinnipeg.ca