

# *Light and Airy*



**Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg**  
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## ***Important Dates***

### **Dancing in 2023**

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 ....***

Just reminded this morning of how quickly the month, and the summer is disappearing. This morning is wet, cool and tomorrow the autumn equinox arrives. The days are certainly quickly drawing in (an expression we learned during our year in Yorkshire).

As many of you are aware the Open House on Sept. 11/23 was well attended with many members and several enthusiastic newcomers. This week we were very happy to see many of the new attendees arrive for the beginning of our dance term on Monday evening along with the individuals who have regularly attended this class. Sheila Careless prepared a great program for the Open House, very accessible for the new dancers and I'm sure this led to the good turnout at the first Monday class which Cheryl Durnin taught with her usual good humour, patience and post-op fortitude! Must not

forget to say thanks to Val, Cheryl's sister, who was drawn in to be our maestro, music maker, and a great alternate in Doug's absence.

Thursday afternoon class was the second opportunity to see and reconnect with our dancing friends and catch up on summer activities. Peter McClure and Sharyl Eaglesham are the tag team teachers who took us through a programme including a couple of favourites from last term, and were not too demanding technically, as we urged our bodies back into the world of dance and movement. I'm sure several of us slept well on Thursday night!

Many of us are looking forward to the annual ALS Ceilidh organized by Cheryl Durnin which will be held on Sat Sept. 30 at CPUC 7:30 pm .... some dancing, entertainment, and enjoying good snacks. All are welcome to come and if able to make a donation to ALS services in Manitoba.

Hope to see you there, and Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

Lynn McClure

Next COM meeting – Oct. 5

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

## **Thank You to Branch**

Past Branch Chair Shirley Tinsley sent this photo of the potted begonia she received at the AGM as a token of appreciation for all the dedication and hard work she put into all the various aspects of the branch activities during her tenure as Chair of COM.

The begonia has had a good summer growing in a place of honour on her deck and she looks out on the orange blossoms every morning as she fills her coffee cup.

*“I have enjoyed it everyday as I look out my kitchen window, it’s just gorgeous.”*

Sincerely Shirley



## *Upcoming*

### **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

### *From the classes ....*

### **Open House September 11**

The Scottish Country Dance season kicked off September 11 at an Open House held at Churchill Park United Church. Attendance was very good with 53 people coming out. There were former members out to visit, current members reuniting after the summer, and new people out to see what SCD is about or just out for some ceilidh fun. There were smiles all around as everyone enjoyed a program of dances coordinated by Sheila Careless. Regular classes got underway September 18 (Monday evening) and September 21 (Thursday afternoon).

Hope to see you on the dance floor!



## **Monday Evening**

A good number of dancers came out for the first class of the season, with six new folks joining our sets. Teacher Cheryl Durnin had an interesting assortment of dances to begin the year and has much more in store to keep the dancers engaged and learning. Following a warm-up and stretches, the evening continued on with some practice of skip change of step put into figures, then danced along with Good Hearted Glasgow. Strathspey steps and Seann Truibas Willican were next. The evening was rounded out with dancing My Friend Jim, or My Friend Joe for one of the new dancers.

Cheryl

**"Instruction does much,  
but encouragement does everything."  
- Johann von Goethe**

## **Thursday Afternoon**

A lovely "welcome back" class of 21 dancers on Thursday afternoon. Peter and I were so happy to see the regular dancers and also some who were returning to dancing again. The warm-up dance and stretching exercises got us ready to jump right into a jig – *Highland Fair* from the graded book. A little rest and the strathspey *Sandy O'er the Lea* was next with some good discussion and clarifications afterward about the different formations in that dance. The time moved quickly, but we were able to dance a reel *The Old Man of Storr* and finish with *Domino Five*. Some dancers were pretty pooped after this first class, while most did very well after almost four months of no dance shoes – good for you!

Sharyl

Another perspective from the first Thursday class ....

It was great to meet again and welcome back a good number of Thursday regulars, and one member who hadn't danced last year. Sharyl and Peter went fairly easy on technique, and gave us a number of favourites, including *The Old Man of Storr*. With one of the teachers joining in, we had a seven couple set (borrowing)! With a few minutes in hand, we finished with *Domino 5*, another favourite. Looking forward to next week.

Lynn

Seems there was some mental exercise (borrowing) happening along with the dancing footwork. – ed.

## ***From the Library ...***

A few pair of gently used dance shoes were sold at the open house. I will bring our supply to dance classes when I attend and perhaps if you need a pair you will find your size.

TacSound and TacBooks carry music and books relevant to Scottish Country Dancing online. Materials can be ordered through the library. We will make orders once or twice a year.

Congratulations to Scott McRae who correctly identified the March kilt in our contest as the Colquhoun. His prize will be a donated cd. And ....

The “Guess the Tartan” Contest continues!

The kilt skirt for our Tartan or Plaid contest is shown here. It was displayed at the open house and many people entered their guesses in the jar. If we have a number of correct answers we will draw for our September winner. It has an adjustable waist to 32 inches and has a drop of 30 inches. This is just above the ankle. Usually we charge \$15 for a knee length kilt skirt and \$20 for a long one.

We have a number of donated records and cassettes with great music for instruction or for listening listed on our website which are available for free. I plan to bring some to our November social.



Joan

## ***Committee of Management 2023/24***

<b>Chair:</b>	Lynn McClure	204-489-7712
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Pat Clubb	204-774-2796
<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>	May Kong Sutherland	204-995-2388
<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 editor's desk ...***

Another dance season has begun! It is great to re-acquaint with fellow dancers and meet some new folks.

Our Branch librarian Joan is again running the "Guess that Tartan" contest. See if you know which clan she is showing off!

The Ceilidh fundraiser evening in support of ALS Manitoba is happening Saturday September 30. Come out to have some fun, kick up your heels, and enjoy some good entertainment and food, all in support of ALS Manitoba.

Note: ALS Manitoba does not receive funding from any agency – only through their own fundraising efforts and events. ***Your support certainly does make a difference!***

Doug Durnin, Editor  
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**4 things you can't get back:**  
**The stone after it's thrown.**  
**The word after it's said.**  
**The occasion after it's missed.**  
**The time after it's gone.**

## ***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 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:** November 2023 Deadline for submissions: October 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](mailto:info@rscdswinnipeg.ca) or to the editor at [Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca](mailto:Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca)

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